
SENATE BILL 5963

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Dansel and Warnick

Read first time 02/13/15. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring the department of fish and wildlife
2 to manage wolf-related wildlife interactions using lethal means when
3 certain conditions are satisfied; and adding a new section to chapter
4 77.36 RCW.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 77.36
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) The department must manage wolf-related wildlife interactions
9 using lethal means when all of the following conditions are
10 satisfied:

11 (a) The department has confirmed to its satisfaction that wolves
12 from the same pack were involved in at least two wildlife
13 interactions involving livestock during the previous six-month time
14 period;

15 (b) The department has determined that the wildlife interactions
16 were not associated with intentional feeding or other activities that
17 resulted in an unnatural attraction of wolves by the owner of the
18 affected livestock;

19 (c) The department has confirmed that at least one of the
20 wildlife interactions resulted in the death of a livestock animal;

1 (d) The owner of the affected livestock appropriately employed at
2 least one nonlethal prevention method; and

3 (e) In the opinion of the department, future wildlife
4 interactions involving livestock and the same wolf pack are likely to
5 continue.

6 (2) This section only applies in department-identified recovery
7 zones where:

8 (a) Lethal management actions are legally allowed under federal
9 law; and

10 (b) The department has documented the existence of at least four
11 wolf packs.

12 (3) This section provides the conditions where the department
13 must manage wolf-related wildlife interactions using lethal means.
14 Nothing in this section prohibits the department from utilizing
15 lethal management techniques under different conditions when, in the
16 opinion of the department, lethal management techniques are
17 appropriate and available.

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