

HOUSE BILL NO. 33

INTRODUCED BY T. WASHBURN

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING CLASSIFICATION OF LARGE PREDATOR INCIDENTS; SPECIFYING DEPARTMENT RESPONSES TO LARGE PREDATOR INCIDENTS; REQUIRING WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM A LANDOWNER BEFORE A LARGE PREDATOR IS TRANSPLANTED ONTO PRIVATE PROPERTY; AND AMENDING SECTION 87-5-725, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Large predator incidents -- classification -- department response. (1)

The department shall classify reported incidents involving a large predator, as defined in 87-1-217, into one of the following categories:

- (a) an incident resulting in human injury or immediate threat to human safety;
- (b) an incident resulting in depredation of livestock, including beehives and domestic animals; or
- (c) an incident involving other circumstances.

(2) If the department classifies a large predator incident subject to subsection (1)(a), the department shall:

- (a) notify emergency medical services personnel;
- (b) notify county commissioners and the sheriff in the county where the incident occurred; and
- (c) destroy the large predator.

(3) If the department classifies a large predator incident subject to subsection (1)(b), the department shall:

- (a) notify county commissioners and the sheriff in the county where the incident occurred; and
- (b) destroy the large predator.

(4) If the department classifies a large predator incident subject to subsection (1)(c), the department shall attach identification tags to the large predator before transplantation.

Section 2. Section 87-5-725, MCA, is amended to read:

"87-5-725. Notification of transplantation or introduction of wildlife. (1) When the decision to

1 introduce or transplant a wolf, bear, or mountain lion is made pursuant to this part, the department shall:

2 (a) provide public notice on its website and, when practical, by personal contact in the general area
3 where the animal is released; and

4 (b) notify the public through print and broadcast media of the availability of release information on the
5 department's website.

6 (2) Prior written permission from the landowner is required before any animal may be transplanted onto
7 private property."

8
9 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
10 integral part of Title 87, chapter 1, part 2, and the provisions of Title 87, chapter 1, part 2, apply to [section 1].

11 - END -