
HOUSE BILL 2589

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Representatives McDonald, B. Sullivan, Buck and Kretz

Read first time 01/11/2006. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ecology & Parks.

1 AN ACT Relating to the use of dogs to pursue injured wildlife; and
2 amending RCW 77.32.450 and 77.15.240.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.32.450 and 2005 c 140 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) A big game hunting license is required to hunt for big game.
7 A big game license allows the holder to hunt for forest grouse,
8 unclassified wildlife, and the individual species identified within a
9 specific big game combination license package. Each big game license
10 includes one transport tag for each species purchased in that package.
11 A hunter may not purchase more than one license for each big game
12 species except as authorized by rule of the commission. The fees for
13 annual big game combination packages are as follows:

14 (a) Big game number 1: Deer, elk, bear, and cougar. The fee for
15 this license is sixty-six dollars for residents, six hundred sixty
16 dollars for nonresidents, and thirty-three dollars for youth.

17 (b) Big game number 2: Deer and elk. The fee for this license is
18 fifty-six dollars for residents, five hundred sixty dollars for
19 nonresidents, and twenty-eight dollars for youth.

1 (c) Big game number 3: Deer or elk, bear, and cougar. At the time
2 of purchase, the holder must identify either deer or elk. The fee for
3 this license is forty-six dollars for residents, four hundred sixty
4 dollars for nonresidents, and twenty-three dollars for youth.

5 (d) Big game number 4: Deer or elk. At the time of purchase, the
6 holder must identify either deer or elk. The fee for this license is
7 thirty-six dollars for residents, three hundred sixty dollars for
8 nonresidents, and eighteen dollars for youth.

9 (e) Big game number 5: Bear and cougar. The fee for this license
10 is twenty dollars for residents, two hundred dollars for nonresidents,
11 and ten dollars for youth.

12 (2) In the event that the commission authorizes a two animal big
13 game limit, the fees for the second animal are as follows:

14 (a) Elk: The fee is twenty dollars for residents, two hundred
15 dollars for nonresidents, and ten dollars for youth.

16 (b) Deer: The fee is twenty dollars for residents, two hundred
17 dollars for nonresidents, and ten dollars for youth.

18 (c) Bear: The fee is ten dollars for residents, one hundred
19 dollars for nonresidents, and five dollars for youth.

20 (d) Cougar: The fee is ten dollars for residents, one hundred
21 dollars for nonresidents, and five dollars for youth.

22 (3) In the event that the commission authorizes a special permit
23 hunt for goat, sheep, or moose, the permit fees are as follows:

24 (a) Mountain goat: The fee is one hundred dollars for residents,
25 one thousand dollars for nonresidents, and fifty dollars for youth.

26 (b) Sheep: The fee is one hundred dollars for residents, one
27 thousand dollars for nonresidents, and fifty dollars for youth.

28 (c) Moose: The fee is one hundred dollars for residents, one
29 thousand dollars for nonresidents, and fifty dollars for youth.

30 (4) Multiple season big game permit: The commission may, by rule,
31 offer permits for hunters to hunt deer or elk during more than one
32 general season. Only one deer or elk may be harvested annually under
33 a multiple season big game permit. The fee is one hundred fifty
34 dollars for residents and one thousand five hundred dollars for
35 nonresidents.

36 (5) Authorization to hunt the species set out under subsection
37 (3)(a) through (c) of this section or in multiple seasons as set out in

1 subsection (4) of this section is by special permit issued under RCW
2 77.32.370.

3 (6) The commission may adopt rules to reduce the price of a license
4 or eliminate the transportation tag requirements concerning bear or
5 cougar when necessary to meet harvest objectives.

6 (7) Individuals possessing a valid big game hunting license issued
7 under this section may use a leashed dog or dogs to track a deer or elk
8 injured by the individual possessing the license. Dogs may not be
9 utilized by the hunter prior to the deer or elk sustaining an injury.
10 The department may adopt rules specifying additional responsibilities
11 for hunters opting to track injured deer or elk with leashed dogs.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 77.15.240 and 1998 c 190 s 30 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 (1) Except for leashed dogs used under RCW 77.32.450(7), a person
15 is guilty of unlawful use of dogs if the person:

16 (a) Negligently fails to prevent a dog under the person's control
17 from pursuing or injuring deer, elk, or an animal classified as
18 endangered under this title;

19 (b) Uses the dog to hunt deer or elk; or

20 (c) During the closed season for a species of game animal or game
21 bird, negligently fails to prevent the dog from pursuing such animal or
22 destroying the nest of a game bird.

23 (2) Unlawful use of dogs is a misdemeanor. A dog that is the basis
24 for a violation of this section may be declared a public nuisance.

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