

Sec. 5.1.3. Wild Animal Feeding (~~strikethrough~~ is removed text and underline is proposed text)

[The proposed language below will replace the existing Sec. 5.1.3, Wild Animal Feeding and Sec. 5.2.2, Bear Conflict Area Standards]

A. **Findings.** The feeding of wildlife by humans creates one or more of the following risks:

1. Attracts ungulates to residential areas, which poses a significant threat to human safety and domestic pets;
2. Attracts large predators to residential areas, which poses a significant threat to human life or domestic pets;
3. Promotes unnaturally high concentrations of animals, which in turn:
 - a. Increase the potential for disease transmission,
 - b. Promote overuse of certain habitats,
 - c. Disrupt natural animal migration;
4. Promotes unnatural wildlife behavior, which can result in nuisance animals, which have to be relocated or destroyed, often at public expense, when they frequent residential areas or otherwise come into harmful or threatening contact with humans; and
5. Detracts from the wild spirit of the animals.

B. **Purpose and Intent.** The purpose of this Section is to prevent and mitigate conflicts between humans and wildlife in Teton County by establishing wildlife feeding and bear-attractant standards for residential and nonresidential uses. The intent of this Section is to protect and promote the public health, safety and welfare by:

1. Reducing the attraction of ungulates to residential areas, and thereby lessening the significant threat to human safety and domestic pets;
2. Reducing the attraction of large predators to residential areas, and thereby lessening the significant threat to human life and domestic pets;
3. Reducing unnaturally high concentrations of animals, thereby lessening ~~reducing~~ the potential for disease transmission, the overuse of certain habitats, the disruption of natural animal migration, and the domestication of wild animals;
4. Discouraging unnatural wildlife behavior, thereby reducing the number of nuisance animals that have to be relocated or destroyed when they frequent residential areas or otherwise come into harmful or threatening contact with humans; and
5. Respecting the wild essence of the animals' nature.

C. Prohibition

No person shall knowingly or intentionally provide supplemental feed attractants to the following animals, unless specifically authorized by an agency of either the State of Wyoming, or the United States of America: antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose, mountain goats, bobcats, black bears, grizzly bears, mountain lions, lynx, wild bison, wolves, coyotes, foxes and raccoons.

1. **Supplemental Feed Attractants.** Supplemental attractants are any human food, pet food, hay, forage product or supplement, grain, seed or birdseed, garbage, or other attractant made available to the following animals: antelope, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, moose, mountain goats, bobcats, black bears, grizzly bears, mountain lions, lynx, wild bison, wolves, coyotes, foxes and raccoons.

D. Exemptions

A person engaged in any of the following activities is not subject to liabilities under this Section:

1. The normal feeding of livestock and/or the practice of raising crops and crop aftermath, including hay, alfalfa and grains, produced, harvested, stored, or fed to domestic livestock in accordance with normal agricultural practices as defined in Sec 6.1.3.B; or
2. The cultivation of a lawn or garden, or the feedings of songbirds where the bird food is made unavailable to animals specified in the prohibition of this regulation any wildlife.
3. A finding that the land was taxed as agricultural land shall create a presumption that the alleged feeding is exempt from this regulation.

E. Standards

1. **Supplemental Feeding Prohibited.** No person shall knowingly or intentionally provide supplemental feed attractants to any wildlife species, unless specifically authorized by an agency of either the State of Wyoming or the United States of America. Supplemental attractants are any human food, pet food, hay, forage product or supplement, grain, seed or birdseed, garbage, salt or mineral licks, or other attractant made available to wildlife.
2. **Gardens.** Fruit and vegetable bearing non-agricultural exempt gardens (such as crabapple, berries or gardens containing food), shall not be attractive to wildlife. Food and fruit bearing gardens shall be properly fenced and maintained with exclusionary fencing such as electric wire to prohibit wildlife from entering and eating any plants. All exclusionary fencing shall be properly maintained and comply with the requirements of Div. 5.1.2 for exclusionary fencing.
3. **Bird Feeders.** Birdfeeders shall be hung at least 10 feet from the ground, deck, railing or surface and 4 feet from any structure, tree or limb and should have a catch pan attached directly underneath the feeder that is 4 inches larger in diameter than the widest diameter of the feeder itself.
4. **Bear-Resistance Standards**

- a. **Bear-Resistant Container Required.** Beginning **1/1/2023**, all trash shall be stored in a certified bear-resistant container or dumpster.
 - i. A certified bear-resistant container or dumpster is one that meets the “minimum structural design standards” published by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) in 1989 or has successfully passed the testing program and protocols recited in the Bear-Resistant Products Testing Program (October, 2005). A list of certified bear-resistant containers and dumpsters and the manufacturers that produce these products is available in the Teton County Planning and Development Department and at this website, <http://igbconline.org/bear-resistant-products/>.
 - ii. If trash is transferred from the property to a trash transfer station or landfill directly by the property owner or property lessee, trash may be stored in another container as long as the container is stored in a bear-resistant building or enclosure at all times while on the property.
 - iii. Construction sites shall have a bear-resistant containers available for trash that includes food, food wrappers, or other bear attractants; this container shall be kept closed at all times. A non-bear-resistant dumpster or trailer may be used to store other construction trash that does not contain bear-attractants.
- b. **Bear-Resistant Building or Enclosure Required**
 - i. The following attractants shall be stored exclusively inside bear-resistant buildings or enclosures.
 - a). Grease storage containers and stored foods for a nonresidential use food/drink preparation and service.
 - b). All backyard chicken operations including chicken food storage.
 - c). Apiaries
 - d). Food compost containers or piles
 - e). Livestock and fish food
 - ii. A bear-resistant building or enclosure is one that consists of and/or contains:
 - a). A framed building or enclosure with hard sides and a roof constructed of hard wood, non-reflective metal or other like product reasonably designed and manufactured to withstand an intrusion by a bear; or
 - b). Chain-link fencing no less than 6 feet in height, at the top of which is barbed wire fencing angled outwards which is fully enclosed including the top being fully covered; or
 - c). Functional and maintained electric fencing designed to exclude bears; or
 - d). A combination of the above; and

e). Functional, maintained self-latching doors and gates, or doors and gates with locks.

EXAMPLE: Examples of bear-resistant enclosures include, but are not limited to, garages, metal sheds, houses, and electrified fencing designed to exclude bears or any other building designed and constructed to prevent access by bears.

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