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DOMESTICATED ELK AMENDMENTS
2024 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Chief Sponsor: Keven J. Stratton
Senate Sponsor: Scott D. Sandall

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies provisions related to the Domesticated Elk Act.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- repeals an expired requirement to study the importation of domesticated elk;
- establishes requirements for the importation of domesticated elk from east of the 100 degree meridian;
- authorizes the Department of Agriculture and Food to stop importation of an elk or quarantine an elk in which the department identifies the spread of meningeal worm; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

4-39-303, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 110

REPEALS:

4-39-308, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 110

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **4-39-303** is amended to read:

4-39-303 . Importation of domesticated elk -- Enforcement.

(1) A person may not import domesticated elk into the state for use in domesticated elk

- 28 facilities without first obtaining:
- 29 (a) an entry permit from the state veterinarian's office; and
- 30 (b) a domesticated elk facility license from the department.
- 31 (2) The entry permit shall include the following information and certificates:
- 32 (a) a health certificate with an indication of the current health status;
- 33 (b) proof of genetic purity as required in Section 4-39-301;
- 34 (c) the name and address of the consignor and consignee;
- 35 (d) proof that the elk are:
- 36 (i) tuberculosis free; or
- 37 (ii) enrolled in a tuberculosis herd monitoring accreditation program administered by
- 38 the United State Department of Agriculture or the Canadian Food Inspection
- 39 Agency;
- 40 (e) the origin of shipment;
- 41 (f) the final destination;
- 42 (g) the total number of animals in the shipment; ~~[and]~~
- 43 (h) for an elk imported from east of the 100 degree meridian, proof that the elk has been
- 44 dewormed in accordance with Subsection (3)(a); and
- 45 ~~[(h)]~~ (i) any other information required by the state veterinarian's office or the department.
- 46 (3) ~~[No domesticated elk will be allowed into the state that originates east of the 100 degree~~
- 47 ~~meridian, to prevent introduction of the meningeal worm.]~~ In addition to the
- 48 requirements described in Subsections (1) and (2), a person importing a domesticated
- 49 elk from east of the 100 degree meridian shall:
- 50 (a) deworm the elk within 60 days before arrival in the state;
- 51 (b) deworm or harvest the elk no later than 150 days after arrival in the state;
- 52 (c) for a bull sent to an elk ranch:
- 53 (i) hold the bull for harvest until the bull has completed a slaughter withdrawal
- 54 period; or
- 55 (ii) be able to demonstrate that the elk is free from dewormer residue; and
- 56 (d) make the elk available to the department for monitoring and inspection upon request
- 57 by the department.
- 58 (4) The department may stop the importation of a domesticated elk or quarantine a
- 59 domesticated elk if the department identifies the spread of meningeal worm in the elk or
- 60 the elk's domesticated herd.
- 61 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) A person who imports domesticated elk into the state from an international herd:

- 62 (a) may only import domesticated elk:
- 63 (i) that are male; and
- 64 (ii) to an elk ranch for use in the elk ranch; and
- 65 (b) shall ensure that the domesticated elk are harvested in the same season in which the
- 66 domesticated elk enter the state.

67 [~~5~~] (6) For the purpose of enforcing Subsection [~~4~~] (5), the department may make rules,
68 in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, for the
69 use of radio frequency identification tags to track male elk imported into the state from
70 an international herd.

71 Section 2. **Repealer.**

72 This bill repeals:

73 Section **4-39-308, Study of importation of domesticated elk.**

74 Section 3. **Effective date.**

75 If approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, this bill takes
76 effect upon approval by the governor, or the day following the constitutional time limit
77 of Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's signature, or in the
78 case of a veto, the date of veto override.