

CHAPTER 21

WILD ANIMALS.

AN ACT to Encourage the Destruction of Predatory Wild Animals, and for Other Purposes.

Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wyoming:

SECTION 1. For the purpose of encouraging the destruction of coyotes and gray and black wolves, mountain lions and bear within the Territory of Wyoming, the county commissioners of the various counties in said territory are hereby authorized and required to make payment out of the general fund of their respective counties the sums of money as herein designated, viz: For each coyote so destroyed, seventy-five cents, and for each gray or black wolf so destroyed, three dollars, for each mountain lion so destroyed, six dollars, and for each bear so destroyed, six dollars. Bounty.

SEC. 2. The person so engaged who may desire the com- Affidavit.

pensation above named shall present to the county clerk of the county in which the animal or animals were killed the entire skin of each animal or animals together with all the paws attached, accompanied by an affidavit stating that he is a citizen of Wyoming Territory and that the animal or animals from which the skin or skins were taken were killed in this territory and within the county where the claim is made and that said animal or animals were not killed before the passage of this act. It shall thereupon be the duty of the county clerk to give the person who shall produce the evidence hereinbefore required a certificate stating the number of animals of each kind killed and to what sum the person is entitled under this act, which certificate shall be filed with the clerk of the board of county commissioners as a claim against such county, to be by him presented at their next meeting at which time the board of county commissioners may order a warrant drawn upon the county treasurer as in other cases.

Duty of clerk. SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the county clerk in the presence of two other officers of the county who shall attend as witnesses at the request of the county clerk to punch a hole at least one-half inch in diameter in each ear and each paw and to lay the certificate and affidavit of the killing of the animal or animals before the board of county commissioners with the name and date when such claim was made. No county clerk shall issue a certificate for any skin of any animal which may be presented bearing any mark or hole in either ears or paws or any other mark showing that a bounty has been paid on said animal.

county has been paid on said bounty.

No fees. SEC. 4. The respective counties in the territory shall furnish all necessary blank affidavits and certificates required to carry into effect the provisions of this act and all affidavits required to be made shall be sworn to before the county clerk of the county in which such claim is presented, or before a deputy clerk of said county and no costs, fees or charges shall be made or collected therefor.

Penalty. SEC. 5. Any person or persons offering for the purpose of obtaining said bounty the skin of any coyote, gray or black wolf, mountain lion or bear that had been killed prior to the passage of this act or that was killed outside of the boundaries of this territory shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall pay a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars and of not more than fifty dollars for each such offense together with all costs attending upon such suit, one half of such fine to be paid to the informer and the other half into the general school fund of the county wherein such conviction was obtained.

Disallowance. SEC. 6. That nothing contained in this act shall be construed to prevent the board of county commissioners from disallowing any claim should it appear in any way to have been fraudulently obtained.

County officers. SEC. 7. The different duties herein provided for to be performed by the different county officers are duties to be by them performed in addition to the duties defined by the Revised Statutes of Wyoming.

In force. SEC. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 1, 1890.