

WCC 55.750- 55.790	Current Language	Amendment Focus
<p>WCC 55.750: Definition of Dangerous Dog</p>	<p>One Category= Dangerous</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Behaved menacingly two times in 18 months (without provocation + off owner’s premises) 2. Killed or inflicted substantial bodily harm upon human (on or off owner’s premises) 3. Killed or injured domestic animal (without provocation + off owner’s premises) 4. Law enforcement agency can declare dangerous if dog used to commit crime 	<p><u>Goals:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More closely comply with state law • Ease compliance requirements for dog v. dog interactions that result in mild/moderate injury. <p><u>Proposal: Two Categories</u></p> <p><u>Dangerous:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Behaved menacingly two times in 18 months (w/o provocation + off owner’s premises) 2. Seriously injured domestic animal (w/o provocation + off owner’s premises) <p>(Examples of serious injury: lacerations requiring sutures/staples/glue; internal injuries requiring surgery; broken bones)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Bit human being two times in 18 months (w/o provocation + off owner’s premises) 4. Law enforcement agency can declare dangerous if dog used to commit crime <p><u>Vicious:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Killed domestic animal (w/o provocation + off owner’s premises) 2. Killed or inflicted substantial bodily harm upon human (on or off owner’s premises) 3. After declared dangerous, dog engaged in further DD behavior

New Section: Definitions	N/A	Defining “animal”, “substantial bodily harm” (using NRS), “provocation”
New Section:	N/A	After 3 years, owner may petition to have dangerous dog designation removed. Would not apply to vicious dogs.
WCC 55.750: Definition of Dangerous Dog	Dog can only be declared dangerous for attacking “domestic animal” (pet) versus livestock.	<u>Goal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include livestock (goats, sheep, etc.) • Exclude birds, fish, rodents, rabbits
WCC 55.750: Exceptions	Cannot declare dog dangerous: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solely based on breed 2. Because of a defensive act against a person committing a crime. 3. Because person provoked the dog 	<u>Goal:</u> Added-- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trespassers= person committing willful trespass upon the premises occupied by dog’s owner • Dog is on leash & defending itself from attack by unrestrained animal • Dog is working as agricultural guardian
WCC 55.750: Exceptions	Dangerous dog provisions do not apply to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Animal shelters 2. Commercial animal facilities 3. Rescue/sanctuary animal facilities which have qualified as commercial animal facilities 4. Licensed vet clinics 	<u>Goal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change verbiage to “commercial animal establishments” (pet store, kennel, boarding facility) • Rescue/sanctuary by definition are not “commercial animal establishments”. Must be 501(c)(3).
55.750: Relocating a dangerous dog within Washoe County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 days written notice • Approval from WCRAS 	<u>Goal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify requirements: • 30 days written notice • Register for the new address (pay fee, inspection, comply with all requirements of current status) • Cannot move dog until compliant

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impound at WCRAS pending compliance (pay associated fees)
55.750: Introducing dog declared dangerous in another jurisdiction into Washoe County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 days written notice Approval from WCRAS 	<u>Goal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify requirements 30 days notice Send copy of order from other jurisdiction If dog classified as dangerous, vicious, etc. in another jurisdiction due to behaviors which would constitute a classification in Washoe County, previously ordered restrictions may apply in Washoe County.
55.750: Transferring dangerous dog outside of Washoe County	30 days notice	<u>Goal:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify requirements 30 days notice WCRAS provides courtesy notice to incoming jurisdiction Verification that dog moved to include: proof of change of address, proof of licensing in new jurisdiction, proof of updated microchip
55.760: Dangerous dog requirements: signage	Clearly visible warning sign (letters 2 inches high) that dangerous dog on property + sign with warning symbol for children	<u>Goal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department-issued sign to provide proper warning for public & law enforcement
55.760: Dangerous dog requirements: enclosure	Kennel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 gauge chain link Posts: concrete footings at least 24 inches deep Perimeter walls: concrete at least 12 inches deep Securely fixed roof Fencing/gates at least 6 feet tall 	<u>Goal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate requirements for dangerous v. vicious dog Vicious dog enclosure requirements will be the same as current dangerous dog enclosure requirements Dwelling as Enclosure: Based on particulars of dwelling (security

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheltered areas inside enclosure Gate secured by padlock Size/dimensions determined by weight of dog(s) 	<p>measures to prevent entry of children & escape of dog as deemed appropriate by WCRAS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kennel as Enclosure: Largely the same as previous DD kennel requirements Except: Dimensions: Removed weight of dog as factor (10 x 5 feet for 1 dog; Add 5 ft. width for each add'l dog in kennel)
55.760: Dangerous dog requirements: surety bond/liability insurance	\$250,000 surety bond or liability insurance per dangerous dog with WCRAS listed as an additional interest	<u>Goal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate requirements for dangerous v vicious dog Dangerous: \$100,000 \$150K Vicious: current law
55.760: Dangerous dog requirements: signed statement	<p>Owner must provide signed statement promising that owner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will not cancel surety bond/liability insurance during dog's life Shall immediately notify WCRAS if dog escapes, attacks another animal or person, or dies Shall not transfer/give away a dangerous dog 	<u>Goal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simplify Remove signed statement & simply make these requirements mandatory Specify penalty Prohibit transferring of vicious dog (per NRS) Allow transferring of dangerous dog w/ WCRAS approval (new owner must comply w/ requirements).
55.760: Dangerous dog requirements: deadline for compliance	30 days of determination	<u>Goal:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give WCRAS some discretion to extend deadline if owner working toward compliance & needs more time Additional 30 days

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If cannot come into compliance w/in 60 days- misdemeanor
55.770: Unlawful Acts	<p>Specifies leash/muzzle requirements for owner to take dangerous dog outside enclosure</p>	<p><u>Goal:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to “owner or other responsible adult” so that owner is not only person who can handle dangerous dog Add that at no time may a dangerous/vicious dog be left unattended while off owner/custodian’s premises Clarify leash/muzzle requirements (Martingale-style collar; lead not exceeding 6 feet)
55.780: Impoundment of dangerous dog	<p>Dangerous dog immediately impounded when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog not validly registered Owner does not secure and maintain surety bond/ insurance policy Dog outside owner’s dwelling or enclosure & not under required leash/muzzle Dog attacks animal or person Dog in violation of this “chapter” <p>Dog may be impounded pending dangerous dog hearing in interests of public safety</p>	<p><u>Goal:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify impoundment rules during different stages Pending hearing: May be impounded for injury to animal; shall be impounded for injury to human Post-hearing: Same as current requirements + relocating/reintroducing dog into Washoe County & new address not in compliance Failure to turn over dog for impoundment= misdemeanor Impound fees: If dog not declared dangerous/vicious, no impound fee Declared dog may be impounded & held in interests of public safety pending court disposition

<p>New section: Euthanasia of vicious dog</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>If AHO declares dog vicious, has authority to determine if dog should be euthanized. Appeal process, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarifies that only basis for AHO to order dog euthanized is “killed or inflicted SBI upon human being” • Bringing back old pre-2015 provision that states if already declared vicious dog attacks human being or animal, WCRAS can impound pending court order for dog’s euthanasia
<p>55.800: Process</p>	<p>Process for adjudicating violations of WCC Chapter 55 and assessing penalties</p>	<p><u>Goal:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update to reflect current practice & use of Administrative Hearing Office • Add any exceptions to WCC Chapter 125