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3 CSR 10-8.505 Trapping

PURPOSE: This rule requires any person engaged in trapping to possess the prescribed permit.

Any person, to exercise the privilege of trapping, shall obtain and have on his/her person the prescribed permit or temporary permit authorization number(s), unless exempt under provisions of 3 CSR 10-5.205. The temporary permit authorization number(s) and picture identification must be carried at all times while trapping until the actual permit(s) is received. Furbearers may be purchased and sold only under provisions of Chapter 10, 3 CSR 10-4.135, and this rule. No person shall accept payment for furbearers taken by another. Furbearers may not be held alive under trapping permits, except as provided in 3 CSR 10-10.789 by residents who also possess the prescribed Resident Commercial Live Coyote and Fox Trapping Permit in accordance with 3 CSR 10-10.788.


3 CSR 10-8.510 Use of Traps

PURPOSE: This rule specifies the types of traps that are permitted and the restrictions on their use.

(1) Traps shall have smooth or rubber jaws only, and may include foot-hold traps, Conibear® or other killing-type traps, foot-enclosing traps, cage-type traps, colony traps with openings no greater than six inches (6") in height and six inches (6") wide, snares (as defined in 3 CSR 10-20.805) set in water only, and cable restraint devices (as defined in 3 CSR 10-20.805). From March 1 through April 14 only foot-hold traps, foot-enclosing traps, and cage-type traps may be used to trap coyote, opossum, raccoon, and striped skunk. From August 1 through October 15 only foot-enclosing traps and cage-type traps may be used to trap opossum, raccoon, and striped skunk. Use of pitfalls, deadfalls, snares set in a dry land set, and nets are prohibited.

(2) Traps, snares, and cable restraint devices shall be plainly labeled, on durable material, with the user’s full name and address or Conservation Number. Wildlife held in traps, snares, or cable restraint devices may be killed or removed only by the user. Conibear® or other killing-type traps set under water, colony traps set under water, and drowning sets shall be attended and wildlife removed at least once every forty-eight (48) hours. All other traps, snares, and cable restraint devices must be attended daily and wildlife removed or released. Traps may not be set in paths made or used by persons or domestic animals, and Conibear® or other killing-type traps may not be set along public roadways, except under water in permanent waters. Except as provided in 3 CSR 10-4.130, only cage-type traps or foot-enclosing-type traps may be set within one hundred fifty feet (150') of any residence or occupied building located within the established boundaries of cities or towns containing ten thousand (10,000) or more inhabitants. Homes, dens, or nests of furbearers shall not be molested or destroyed. Conibear® or other killing-type traps may not be used within one hundred fifty feet (150') of any residence, occupied building, or a driveway leading to a residence.


PURPOSE: This rule establishes the open seasons for trapping and for selling pelts and carcasses of furbearers.

(1) Badger, bobcat, coyote, gray fox, mink, opossum, raccoon, red fox, and striped skunk may be taken in any numbers by trapping only in accordance with the following:

(A) Statewide Seasons—
   1. Badger, gray fox, and red fox from November 15 through January 31;
   2. Bobcat, coyote, mink, muskrat, and river otter from November 15 through the last day of February;
   3. Opossum, raccoon, and striped skunk from August 1 through October 15 and November 15 through the last day of February; and
   4. Beaver and nutria from November 15 through March 31; and

(B) Special Harvest Season on Private Lands. Coyote, opossum, raccoon, and striped skunk may also be taken on private lands from March 1 through April 14.

(2) Traps may not be placed or set before midnight of the first day of the applicable trapping season and must be removed by midnight of the last day of the applicable trapping season.

(3) Pelts of furbearers may be possessed, transported, consigned for processing, and sold only by the taker with a valid permit throughout the year. Bobcats and otters or their pelts shall be delivered by the taker to an agent of the department for registration or tagging. Bobcats and otters shall be registered or tagged before selling, transferring, tanning, or mounting but not later than April 10. Tagged bobcats and otters or their pelts may be possessed by the taker throughout the year. It shall be illegal to purchase or sell untagged bobcats and otters or their pelts. After tanning, pelts may be possessed, bought, or sold without permit. Skinned carcasses of legally taken furbearers may be sold by the taker throughout the year. (Certain Department of Health and Senior Services’ rules also govern how furbearer carcasses might be utilized.)

(4) Rabbits may be taken by trap from November 15 through January 31 within prescribed hunting limits, but carcasses may not be sold.

(5) Restrictions on possession shall not apply to tanned pelts, mounted specimens, or manufactured products.
