



RULES OF  
**Department of Conservation**  
**Division 10—Conservation Commission**  
**Chapter 8—Wildlife Code: Trapping: Seasons,  
Methods**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
3 CSR 10-8.505 Trapping .....	3
3 CSR 10-8.510 Use of Traps.....	3
3 CSR 10-8.515 Furbearers: Trapping Seasons.....	4



**TITLE 3 – DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**  
**Division 10 – Conservation Commission**  
**Chapter 8 – Wildlife Code: Trapping: Seasons, Methods**

**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.

*AUTHORITY: sections 40 and 45 of Art. IV, Mo. Const. and section 252.040, RSMo 2016.\* Original rule filed Aug. 16, 1973, effective Dec. 31, 1973. Amended: Filed Aug. 1, 1980, effective Jan. 1, 1981. Amended: Filed June 29, 1981, effective Oct. 11, 1981. Amended: Filed Aug. 3, 1984, effective Jan. 1, 1985. Amended: Filed May 10, 1990, effective Jan. 1, 1991. Amended: Filed Sept. 29, 1994, effective July 1, 1995. Amended: Filed Aug. 11, 1999, effective March 1, 2000. Amended: Filed Oct. 29, 2003, effective March 30, 2004. Amended: Filed Sept. 14, 2005, effective Feb. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed March 12, 2010, effective Aug. 30, 2010. Amended: Filed March 2, 2020, effective Aug. 30, 2020.*

*\*Original authority: 252.040, RSMo 1945, amended 1989.*

**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. Traps may be used in conjunction with electronic calls.

(3) Use of Conibear® or Other Killing-Type Traps.

(A) No Conibear® or other killing-type traps with a jaw spread greater than five inches (5") shall be used in any dry land set.

(B) Conibear® or other killing-type traps with a jaw spread not greater than eight inches (8") may be set six feet (6') or more above ground level in buildings.

(C) Conibear® or other killing-type traps of any size may be set under water. Conibear® or other killing-type traps having no food, scent, or visual lure placed within one foot (1') of the trap may be partially exposed above water provided the hinges are fully submerged.

(4) Use of Snares and Cable Restraint Devices.

(A) Snares (except as provided in subsection (4)(B)) must be set in water and must have the loop at least half (1/2) submerged. Snares (as defined in 3 CSR 10-20.805) must have a loop fifteen inches (15") or less in diameter when set and must have a stop device that prevents the snare from closing to less than two and one-half inches (2 1/2") in diameter.

(B) Furbearers may be taken by trapping through the use of cable restraint devices during specified seasons (3 CSR 10-8.515). Cable restraint devices (as defined in 3 CSR 10-20.805) must have a loop size of twelve inches (12") in diameter or smaller when set, and the bottom of set restraint cable loop must be at least six inches (6") or greater above the ground. Cable restraint devices must be anchored solid or staked in a location not allowing entanglement (such as rooted, woody vegetation greater than one-half inch (1/2") in diameter), and shall not be capable of extending to within twelve inches (12") of a fence, nor shall be set using a drag, or used with a kill-pole. Cable restraint devices may not be used within one hundred fifty feet (150') of any residence, occupied building, or a driveway leading to a residence.

*AUTHORITY: sections 40 and 45 of Art. IV, Mo. Const. and section 252.040, RSMo 2016.\* Original rule filed Sept. 20, 1957, effective Dec. 31, 1957. Amended: Filed July 13, 1976, effective Dec. 31, 1976. Amended: Filed June 13, 1977, effective Dec. 1, 1977. Amended: Filed June 27, 1980, effective Oct. 11, 1980. Amended: Filed June 30, 1982, effective Oct. 11, 1982. Amended: Filed May 10, 1990, effective Jan. 1, 1991. Amended: Filed May 10, 1991, effective Jan. 1, 1992. Amended: Filed June 9, 1993, effective Jan. 1, 1994. Amended: Filed April 27, 1994, effective Jan. 1, 1995. Amended: Filed May 30, 1995, effective Jan. 21, 1996. Amended: Filed June 11, 1997, effective March 1, 1998. Amended: Filed May 9, 2002, effective March 1, 2003. Amended: Filed Oct. 9, 2003, effective March 30, 2004. Amended: Filed Sept. 29, 2004, effective Feb. 28, 2005. Amended: Filed Sept. 14, 2005, effective Feb. 28, 2006. Amended: Filed Oct. 2, 2006, effective Feb. 28, 2007. Amended: Filed March 23, 2009, effective March 1, 2010. Amended: Filed Sept. 30, 2010, effective March 1, 2011. Amended: Filed Aug. 2, 2012, effective Jan. 30, 2013. Amended: Filed Feb. 26, 2015, effective Aug. 30, 2015. Amended:*



Filed Aug. 29, 2017, effective March 1, 2018. Amended: Filed Aug. 26, 2019, effective Feb. 29, 2020. Amended: Filed Dec. 10, 2021, effective June 30, 2022.

*\*Original authority: 252.040, RSMo 1945, amended 1989.*

### 3 CSR 10-8.515 Furbearers: Trapping Seasons

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

(1) Badger, beaver, bobcat, coyote, gray fox, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, raccoon, red fox, river otter, 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.

*AUTHORITY: sections 40 and 45 of Art. IV, Mo. Const., and section 252.040, RSMo 2016.\* Original rule filed July 23, 1974, effective Dec. 31, 1974. Amended: Filed July 13, 1976, effective Dec. 31, 1976. Amended: Filed June 13, 1977, effective Dec. 1, 1977. Amended: Filed Aug. 4, 1978, effective Nov. 1, 1978. Amended: Filed June 25, 1979, effective Oct. 1, 1979. Amended: Filed Aug. 1, 1980, effective Oct. 1, 1980. Amended: Filed June 29, 1981, effective Aug. 14, 1981. Amended: Filed June 30, 1982, effective Aug. 12, 1982. Amended: Filed June 24, 1983, effective Aug. 11, 1983. Amended: Filed July 5,*

*1984, effective Aug. 11, 1984. Amended: Filed Aug. 6, 1985, effective Jan. 1, 1986. Amended: Filed Sept. 2, 1987, effective Jan. 1, 1988. Amended: Filed July 6, 1988, effective Jan. 1, 1989. Amended: Filed Aug. 8, 1989, effective Sept. 11, 1989. Amended: Filed May 10, 1990, effective Jan. 6, 1991. Amended: Filed May 10, 1991, effective Jan. 1, 1992. Amended: Filed April 28, 1992, effective Jan. 15, 1993. Amended: Filed April 21, 1993, effective Jan. 1, 1994. Amended: Filed Sept. 29, 1994, effective July 1, 1995. Amended: Filed May 30, 1995, effective Jan. 21, 1996. Amended: Filed May 6, 1998, effective March 1, 1999. Amended: Filed May 10, 1999, effective March 1, 2000. Amended: Filed April 24, 2000, effective Nov. 1, 2000. Amended: Filed May 9, 2002, effective March 1, 2003. Amended: Filed Aug. 1, 2003, effective Aug. 15, 2003. Amended: Filed Oct. 9, 2003, effective March 30, 2004. Amended: Filed Sept. 29, 2004, effective Feb. 28, 2005. Amended: Filed Aug. 24, 2005, effective Nov. 1, 2005. Amended: Filed Oct. 13, 2005, effective March 30, 2006. Amended: Filed Oct. 2, 2006, effective Feb. 28, 2007. Amended: Filed Sept. 27, 2007, effective Feb. 29, 2008. Amended: Filed Oct. 10, 2008, effective April 30, 2009. Amended: Filed March 23, 2009, effective March 1, 2010. Amended: Filed Sept. 25, 2009, effective March 1, 2010. Amended: Filed March 12, 2010, effective Aug. 30, 2010. Amended: Filed Jan. 4, 2011, effective July 1, 2011. Amended: Filed March 2, 2020, effective Aug. 30, 2020. Amended: Filed Dec. 10, 2021, effective June 30, 2022. Amended: Filed May 16, 2025, effective April 1, 2026.*

*\*Original authority: 252.040, RSMo 1945, amended 1989.*