Rules of  
Department of Conservation  
Division 10—Conservation Commission  
Chapter 10—Wildlife Code: Commercial Permits:  
Seasons, Methods, Limits  

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PURPOSE: This rule requires persons commercializing in wildlife to possess the prescribed permit and to keep records of their transactions available for inspection.

Wildlife may be bought, sold, offered for sale, exchanged, transported, or delivered only under the conditions of the prescribed permit, or as otherwise provided in this chapter. No affidavit, receipt, or other document may be issued or used in lieu of the required permit. Any permit issued or obtained by false statement or through fraud, or while permits are revoked or denied by the commission, shall be invalid. The commission may suspend, revoke, or deny a permit or privilege for cause, but not until an opportunity has been afforded for a hearing before the commission or its authorized representative. Hearings under this section shall be contested before the commission or its authorized representative. Any person aggrieved by a final decision shall be entitled to judicial review as provided in Chapter 536, RSMo and any person aggrieved by a final decision shall be conditioned on compliance with this rule and receipt by the department of satisfactory reports for the preceding permit period.


3 CSR 10-10.708 Nonresident Fur Dealer’s Permit

PURPOSE: This rule establishes a new permit for nonresident fur dealers. Privileges were previously provided under a Fur Dealer’s Permit, which is being modified to identify resident and nonresident status.

To buy, sell, possess, process, transport and ship the pelts and carcasses of furbearers from July 1 through June 30. Nonresident fur dealers shall conduct business only at the locations in Missouri specified on the permit, with resident fur dealers at their business location and at established fur auction sites. Fee: three hundred dollars ($300).


3 CSR 10-10.710 Resident Fur Buyer’s Permit

(Rescinded August 30, 2006)


3 CSR 10-10.711 Resident Fur Handlers Permit

(Rescinded July 1, 2011)


3 CSR 10-10.715 Resident and Nonresident Fur Dealers: Reports, Requirements

PURPOSE: This rule establishes reporting and other requirements to be met by fur dealers and fur buyers.

(1) Each fur dealer shall keep an up-to-date, accurate record of all furbearer pelts purchased, sold, consigned or stored. For each transaction, the seller’s name, address and permit number shall be recorded immediately in a fur record book furnished by the department. All such records and furs shall be made available for inspection by an authorized agent of the department at any reasonable time.

(2) Each fur dealer shall submit annually a notarized report on forms furnished by the department. Printed copies of these forms can be obtained from the Missouri Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180 and online at www.missouriconservation.org. All fur dealers’ reports shall include all transactions in furbearer pelts for the twelve (12) months preceding April 10 of the current year and an inventory of furs held in storage. Such reports shall be submitted by April 20.

(3) Nonresident fur dealers shall conduct business only at the location in Missouri specified on the permit, with resident fur dealers at their business locations and at established fur auction sites.

(4) Fur dealers and employees specified on their permit, who are buying, selling, possessing or transporting pelts or carcasses of furbearers shall have a copy of the prescribed permit in his/her possession.

(5) Furbearer pelts may be shipped or transported into Missouri without a Missouri fur dealer permit for consignment or sale at an established fur auction site or to the location specified on a Missouri fur dealer permit if the pelts are accompanied by the appropriate permit or other proof of legality in the state of origin.

(6) Issuance of a permit after the first year shall be conditioned on compliance with this rule and receipt by the department of satisfactory reports for the preceding permit period.
3 CSR 10-10.716 Resident Fur Handlers: Reports, Requirements  
(Rescinded July 1, 2011)  


3 CSR 10-10.717 Transactions in Furs; Reports Required  
(Rescinded January 1, 1980)  


3 CSR 10-10.720 Commercial Fishing Permit  
PURPOSE: This rule establishes a commercial fishing permit for residents of the state and sets fees for commercial fishing gear.

(1) To take and possess commercial fish from commercial waters and to sell such fish in accordance with 3 CSR 10-10.725.

Resident fee: $25  
Nonresident fee: $200

(2) In addition to this permit, each commercial fishing permittee shall tag each net, seine or group of fifty (50) hooks for juglines, trotlines, bank lines, limb lines or throwlines at the following fees:

(A) Each trammel net one hundred (100) yards or less—thirty dollars $30
(B) Each gill net one hundred (100) yards or less—thirty dollars $30
(C) Each seine one hundred (100) yards or less—thirty dollars $30
(D) Each hoop net—five dollars $5
(E) Each fifty (50) hooks or fraction thereof—five dollars $5

(3) Equipment tags are not transferable and tagged equipment must be personally attended by the permittee to whom the tags were issued, or by another licensed commercial fisherman authorized in writing by the permittee as his/her assistant. The assistant must have on his/her person this written authorization while tending the equipment of another and may attend equipment of only one (1) other permittee on any one (1) day.

(4) Any person who holds the prescribed sport fishing permit or who is exempted from sport fishing permit requirements in 3 CSR 10-5.205 may accompany and assist a licensed commercial fisherman; provided, that a licensed commercial fisherman must be present in each boat.


3 CSR 10-10.722 Resident Roe Fish Commercial Harvest Permit  
PURPOSE: This rule establishes a special permit required in addition to the Commercial Fishing Permit for residents of the state to harvest shovelnose sturgeon from the Mississippi River.

Required in addition to the Commercial Fishing Permit to take, possess, and sell bowfin, paddlefish, and shovelnose sturgeon and their eggs from the Mississippi River in accordance with 3 CSR 10-10.725. Fee: Five hundred dollars ($500).


3 CSR 10-10.723 Nonresident Commercial Fishing Permit  
(Rescinded January 1, 1991)  


3 CSR 10-10.724 Nonresident Mississippi River Roe Fish Commercial Harvest Permit  
PURPOSE: This rule establishes a special permit required in addition to the Commercial Fishing Permit for nonresidents of the state to harvest shovelnose sturgeon from the Mississippi River.

Required for nonresidents of Missouri in addition to the Commercial Fishing Permit to take, possess, and sell bowfin, paddlefish, and shovelnose sturgeon and their eggs from the Mississippi River in accordance with 3 CSR 10-10.725; except that any person properly licensed to harvest shovelnose sturgeon by the state of Illinois may fish within, and harvest shovelnose sturgeon from the Missouri portion of the Mississippi River adjacent to Illinois as permitted by this Code. Fee: Three thousand five hundred dollars ($3,500).

AUTHORITY: sections 40 and 45 of Art. IV, Mo. Const. and section 252.240, RSMo...
Section 3 CSR 10-10.725 Commercial Fishing: Seasons, Methods

PURPOSE: This rule provides for commercial fishing in certain streams and establishes restrictions on the use of commercial fishing gear.

1. Commercial fish and live bait may be taken and possessed in any numbers by the holder of a commercial fishing permit from commercial waters with seines, gill nets, trammel nets, hoop nets with or without wings, trotlines, throwlines, limb lines, bank lines, or jug or block lines, and any number of hooks, except:
   (A) On the Missouri River upstream from U.S. Highway 169 where hooks may not be used.
   (B) Endangered species as listed in 3 CSR 10-4.111(3), including lake sturgeon and pallid sturgeon, may not be taken or possessed, and must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.

2. Trammel nets and gill nets must be attended at all times by the permittee's immediate presence where nets are set. For purposes of this section, immediate presence is defined as within sight of the location of set equipment in order to personally claim or identify such equipment during inspection by an agent of the department. Hoop nets may be left set and unattended for not more than forty-eight (48) hours. All other commercial fishing equipment may be left set and unattended for not more than twenty-four (24) hours.

3. On the Missouri River or banks thereof, game fish (including channel, blue, and flathead catfish; paddlefish; and shovelnose sturgeon) may not be possessed or transported while fishing by commercial methods or while possessing commercial fishing gear and shall be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.

4. On that part of the St. Francis River which forms the boundary between the states of Arkansas and Missouri, the following may not be possessed or transported while fishing by commercial methods or while possessing commercial fishing gear and shall be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught:
   (A) Channel, blue, and flathead catfish less than fifteen inches (15") in total length; and
   (B) Other game fish (including paddlefish and shovelnose sturgeon).

5. From May 16 through October 14 on the portions of the Mississippi River defined as commercial waters, the following may not be possessed or transported while fishing by commercial methods or while possessing commercial fishing gear and shall be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught:
   (A) Channel, blue, and flathead catfish less than fifteen inches (15") in total length;
   (B) Paddlefish less than twenty-four inches (24") in length (measured from eye to fork of tail);
   (C) Shovelnose sturgeon; and
   (D) Other game fish.

6. From October 15 through May 15 on the portions of the Mississippi River defined as commercial waters unless further restricted, the following may not be possessed or transported while fishing by commercial methods or while possessing commercial fishing gear and shall be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught:
   (A) Channel, blue, and flathead catfish less than fifteen inches (15") in total length;
   (B) Paddlefish less than twenty-four inches (24") in length (measured from eye to fork of tail);
   (C) Shovelnose sturgeon upstream from Melvin Price Locks and Dam less than twenty-four inches (24") or more than thirty-two inches (32") in length (measured from tip of snout to fork of tail);
   (D) Shovelnose sturgeon downstream from Melvin Price Locks and Dam; and
   (E) Other game fish.

7. While on waters of the state and adjacent banks, the head and tail must remain attached to all fish, bowfin, and shovelnose sturgeon must remain whole and intact, and the ovaries of paddlefish must remain intact and accompany the fish from which they were removed.

8. Commercial fishing gear may not be used or set within three hundred (300) yards of any spillway, lock, dam, or the mouth of any tributary stream or ditch, or in waters existing temporarily through overflow outside the banks of the specified rivers except as specified in 3 CSR 10-20.805(14), and may not be used to take fish underneath or through the ice.

9. Commercial fishing gear must meet the following requirements:
   (A) Seines, gill nets, and trammel nets having a mesh smaller than two inches (2") bar measure, measured when wet, may not be used;
   (B) Hoop nets having a mesh smaller than one and one-half inches (1 1/2") bar measure, measured when wet, may not be used.

10. The possession of game fish except as defined as commercial fish in 3 CSR 10-20.805(13) while in the act of using commercial fishing gear or aboard a boat transporting fish taken by commercial fishing gear is prohibited.

11. The possession of extracted eggs of any fish species, except as provided in section (7) of this rule, is prohibited while on waters of the state and adjacent banks.

12. Bighead carp, common carp, grass carp, and silver carp that jump from the water on or into a watercraft, or onto land, may be taken and possessed in any number.


3 CSR 10-10.726 Reciprocal Privileges: Commercial Fishing; Commercial Waters

PURPOSE: This rule establishes license reciprocity for commercial fishermen in certain boundary streams.

(1) Any person possessing a valid commercial fishing license issued by the state of Illinois, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kansas, or Nebraska, or who is legally exempted from the license requirement without further permit or license, may fish as permitted by this Code in commercial waters within the boundary of Missouri and adjacent to the state where the fisherman is licensed. Bowfin, paddlefish, and shovelnose sturgeon may not be harvested except as permitted in 3 CSR 10-10.722, 3 CSR 10-10.724, and 3 CSR 10-10.725.

(2) All other Missouri regulations shall apply to commercial fishing in the Missouri portion of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

(3) Regulations of the state where the fisherman is licensed shall apply in the St. Francis River.

(4) Commercial fishermen not licensed in Missouri may not fish in the tributaries, bayous, or backwaters of commercial waters; nor may they fish from or attach any device or equipment to land under the jurisdiction of Missouri. Fishermen who hold Illinois licenses, when fishing in waters in which they are not licensed to fish by Missouri, shall comply with the most restrictive laws and regulations of the two (2) states.

(5) All reciprocal privileges shall be contingent upon a grant of like privileges by the appropriate neighboring state to the duly licensed commercial fishermen of Missouri; provided, that reciprocal commercial fishing privileges on the St. Francis River are limited to residents of Missouri.


3 CSR 10-10.728 Roe Fish Dealer Permit

PURPOSE: This rule establishes a permit needed to buy and subsequently sell shovelnose sturgeon, paddlefish, bowfin, or any parts of these species legally taken by commercial methods.

To buy or possess for the purpose of selling, processing, transporting, or shipping legally-acquired bowfin, paddlefish, and shovelnose sturgeon or any parts of these species. While on waters of the state and adjacent banks, the head and tail must remain attached to all fish; bowfin and shovelnose sturgeon must remain whole and intact; and the ovaries of paddlefish must remain intact and accompany the fish from which they were removed. Commercial establishments that buy directly from a holder of a roe fish dealer permit and that sell directly to the general public are excluded from this permit requirement. Resident fee: Five hundred dollars ($500). Nonresident fee: One thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500).
3 CSR 10-10.730 Resident Wholesale Fish Dealer Permit
(Rescinded August 15, 1978)


3 CSR 10-10.732 Tag and Release Fishing Promotion Permit

PURPOSE: This rule establishes a tag and release fishing promotion permit for individuals tagging fish for promotions, contests or other events on selected impoundments.

(1) To engage in tagging and releasing fish in association with a fishing promotion, contest or other event. Fee: Two hundred fifty dollars ($250).

(2) A tag and release fishing promotion permit authorizes the holder to tag and release one (1) fish into an impoundment of the state, in accordance with the following:

(A) Only one (1) valid permit per impoundment may be possessed by the holder at any one time. No more than two (2) permits shall be valid for the same impoundment at any one time.

(B) Only crappie, black bass and catfish species may be tagged.

(C) Events shall be restricted to Lake of the Ozarks, Stockton Lake, Table Rock Lake and Truman Lake. Tag and release fishing promotion permits may be further restricted for areas within five (5) miles of any portion of an impoundment with an active department fishery research project.

(D) Fish to be tagged shall be obtained from the impoundment specified in the permit in compliance with established seasons, methods and limits.

(E) Fish shall be tagged in the presence of an agent of the department using a technique approved by the department.

(F) Contest rules shall comply with established fishing seasons, methods and limits.

(G) There shall be no fee, registration or other consideration beyond a valid Missouri fishing permit as required by this Code to enter or participate in the event.

(H) Maximum duration of any event shall be thirty (30) days.

3 CSR 10-10.733 Nonresident Fish Dealer Permit
(Rescinded August 15, 1978)


3 CSR 10-10.734 Privileges of Fish Dealers
(Rescinded August 15, 1978)


3 CSR 10-10.735 Sale of Live Bait

PURPOSE: This rule establishes a registration requirement for sellers of live bait and consolidates other regulations regarding bait sales.

(1) Any person, group, or business that sells live bait, as defined in 3 CSR 10-6.605, must register annually with the department as a live bait dealer. Initial registration may occur at any time. Annual registration in successive years shall occur on or after January 1, but prior to March 1. Registration forms can be obtained from the Missouri Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180 and online at www.missouriconservation.org.

(2) Live bait may not be sold if obtained from the waters of the state except when taken by a licensed commercial fisherman from commercial waters. Live bait purchased or obtained from a licensed commercial fisherman or other legal sources must be species listed in the Approved Aquatic Species List (3 CSR 10-9.110(3)(H)).

3 CSR 10-10.740 Reports Required
(Rescinded August 15, 1978)


3 CSR 10-10.743 Commercial Establishments

PURPOSE: This rule authorizes retail establishments to buy and sell certain forms of wildlife and wildlife products.

Resident commercial establishments, when possession is accompanied by a valid invoice or bill of sale, may buy, possess, transport, and sell legally purchased and plainly marked dressed or processed pheasants, exotic partridges, quail, game bird eggs, bear, deer except white-tailed and mule deer, elk, moose, caribou, wild boar, live bait and...
frogs, and fish. Skinned furbearer carcasses and fish eggs may be sold at retail only.


**Op. Atty. Gen. No. 32, Geekie, 5-23-54.** The state of Missouri extends its ownership or control of wildlife not only to that found or reduced to possession within this state, but also to that which may have been imported hereto, and the Conservation Commission may lawfully require persons engaged in retail merchandising of fish to obtain a permit even though such fish may have been lawfully acquired from sources outside the state of Missouri.

3 CSR 10-10.744 Commercial Deer Processing: Permit, Privileges, Requirements

**PURPOSE:** This rule establishes a permit for commercial processors of deer meat and sets requirements for those establishments.

(1) To commercially process and store legally acquired deer taken from the wild stock of the state. Fee: twenty-five dollars ($25).

(2) The commercial processor shall post a notice and inform patrons of the provisions of this rule and shall keep accurate records of all deer processed and stored. These records shall be retained for twelve (12) months. All records and stored deer shall be made available for inspection by an authorized agent of the department at any reasonable time.

(3) For the purposes of processing specialty deer meats, commercial processors are exempt from provisions of 3 CSR 10-4.137. For purposes of storing specialty deer meats, commercial processors are exempt from provisions of 3 CSR 10-4.137 and 3 CSR 10-4.140(2), but only from September 15 through March 31. These exemptions do not apply to raw, packaged venison.


3 CSR 10-10.750 Wildlife Breeder Permit (Moved to 3 CSR 10-9.350)

3 CSR 10-10.753 Wildlife Breeder: Records Required (Moved to 3 CSR 10-9.359)

3 CSR 10-10.755 Privileges of Wildlife Breeder (Moved to 3 CSR 10-9.353)

3 CSR 10-10.760 Licensed Shooting Area Permit (Moved to 3 CSR 10-9.560)

3 CSR 10-10.765 Licensed Shooting Area: Privileges (Moved to 3 CSR 10-9.565)

3 CSR 10-10.767 Taxidermy; Tanning: Permit, Privileges, Requirements

**PURPOSE:** This rule establishes a taxidermy and tanning permit with specified privileges and requirements.

(1) To engage in the business of wildlife taxidermy or tanning. Fee: thirty dollars ($30).

(2) Wildlife legally possessed may be shipped or delivered to a licensed taxidermist or tanner and may be mounted or preserved by him/her, except as provided under 3 CSR 10-4.135.

(3) Legally taken and possessed furbearers may be purchased by licensed taxidermists or tanners only from the taker or a licensed fur dealer and only for mounting or tanning. Only mounted or tanned specimens, and not raw pelts, may be sold by taxidermists and tanners.

(4) All licensed taxidermists and tanners shall keep accurate, up-to-date records of the number and species of all wildlife received, the full name and address of the consignor (or seller of furbearers), and the dates of all transactions and disposition of all wildlife on a form approved or provided by the department. Printed copies of this form can be obtained from the Missouri Department of Conservation, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180 and online at www.missouriconervation.org. These records and wildlife shall be available for inspection by an authorized agent of the department at any reasonable time. All completed records required by this rule shall be retained for three (3) years. Renewal of a permit shall be conditioned upon compliance with this rule.

(5) Raw pelts held under this permit after possession season for pelts shall not enter the raw fur market. All wildlife held by a licensed taxidermist or tanner shall be identifiable to the consignor. Unused parts of wildlife may be disposed of or sold by licensed taxidermists or tanners, but not for human consumption. Federal regulations apply to the mounting of migratory birds and endangered species.

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3 CSR 10-10.768 Sales and Possession of Wildlife Parts and Mounted Specimens

PURPOSE: This rule authorizes the sale of certain wildlife parts and mounted specimens.

(1) Subject to federal regulations, legally obtained feathers, squirrel pelts, rabbit pelts, groundhog pelts, turkey bones, turkey heads and deer heads, antlers, hides or feet may be bought, sold or bartered when accompanied by a bill of sale showing the seller’s full name, address and the number and species of these parts, and the full name and address of the purchaser. Legally taken wildlife and wildlife parts, after mounting or tanning, may be bought and sold.

(2) The recipient or purchaser of deer heads and/or antlers attached to the skull plate must retain a dated bill of sale identifying the seller while the heads or antlers are in his/her possession.

(3) Any person who finds a dead deer with antlers still attached to the skull plate while afield and takes those antlers into possession must report the taking to a conservation agent. Shed antlers not still attached to the skull plate while afield and taken into possession must report the taking to a conservation agent. Shed antlers not attached to the skull plate found while afield may be possessed, bought and sold by any person without possession authorization.


3 CSR 10-10.770 Guide’s Permit: Privileges and Requirements

(Rescinded December 31, 1976)


3 CSR 10-10.771 Commercial Permits: How Obtained, Replacements

PURPOSE: This rule establishes procedures for obtaining commercial permits and replacement permits.

Commercial permits and replacements for them may be issued only through the department office in Jefferson City upon receipt of proper application and the required permit fee. A service fee of three dollars ($3) is required for a replacement commercial permit.


3 CSR 10-10.775 Fee Fishing Area Permit

(Rescinded August 15, 1978)


3 CSR 10-10.777 Fee Fishing Area: Privileges and Qualifications

(Rescinded August 15, 1978)


3 CSR 10-10.780 Commercial Musseling Permit

(Rescinded March 1, 2010)


3 CSR 10-10.782 Commercial Musseling: Seasons, Methods

(Rescinded March 1, 2010)


3 CSR 10-10.783 Mussel Dealer’s Permit

(Rescinded March 1, 2010)


3 CSR 10-10.784 Mussel Dealers: Reports, Requirements

(Rescinded March 1, 2010)


3 CSR 10-10.787 Reports Required: Commercial Musselers

(Rescinded March 1, 2010)


3 CSR 10-10.781 Commercial Musseling Helper Permit

(Rescinded March 1, 2010)