## Rules of Department of Conservation
### Division 10—Conservation Commission
#### Chapter 8—Wildlife Code: Trapping: Season, Methods

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Snares 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. Snares must be constructed of cable that is at least five-sixty-fourth inches (5/64") and no greater than one-eighth inch (1/8") in diameter, and must be equipped with a mechanical lock and anchor swivel. Homes, dens or nests of furbearers shall not be molested or destroyed.


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) Racoon, opossum, striped skunk, badger, red fox, gray fox, bobcat, otter, mink and muskrat may be taken in any numbers by trapping from November 20 to January 20; provided, that bobcat may be taken only in that part of the state west and south of a line running west from the Illinois border on Interstate Highway 70 to U.S. Highway 63; north on U.S. Highway 63 to U.S. Highway 36; west on U.S. Highway 36 to U.S. Highway 65; north on U.S. Highway 65 to the Iowa border. Beaver may be taken in any number by trapping from November 20 to March 31. Killer or Conibear-type traps with a jaw spread less than eight inches (8") and leghold traps smaller than number three (3) are prohibited for trapping beavers after January 20. Coyotes may be taken in any numbers by trapping from November 20 to February 15. Traps may not be placed or set before November 20 and must be removed by midnight of the last day of the trapping season. Pelts of furbearers may be possessed, transported and sold only by the taker from November 20 to February 4, except that pelts of coyotes may be possessed, transported, consigned for processing and sold by the taker from November 20 to February 25, pelts of beaver may be possessed, transported, consigned for processing and sold by the taker from November 20 to April 10, and tagged bobcats and otters or their pelts may be possessed throughout the year. Bobcats and otters or their pelts shall be delivered by the taker to an agent of the department in the county of harvest or any open county for registration or tagging before selling, transferring, tanning or mounting, but not later than February 4. It shall be illegal to purchase or sell untagged bobcats and otters or their pelts. Other pelts may be delivered or shipped and consigned by the taker to a licensed taxidermist or tanner before the close of the possession season for pelts. These pelts must be recorded by the taxidermist or tanner and shall not enter the raw fur market. 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.

(2) Rabbits may be taken by trap from November 20 to January 20 within prescribed hunting limits, but carcasses may not be sold.

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

(4) Red fox, gray fox and coyotes may be taken alive during established seasons by prescribed methods and held in captivity. They may not be exported and may only be sold or given to holders of a valid Hound Running Area Operator’s Permit. Red fox and gray fox may not be possessed after February 4; coyotes may not be possessed after February 25. These animals may be held for no longer than twenty-four (24) hours after capture, except when confined in facilities and cared for as specified in 3 CSR 10-9.220. Complete and current records of all transactions must be maintained showing the county of origin, the species, date captured, date of transfer and name and permit number of the hound running area operator receiving each individual animal. These records shall be kept on forms provided by the department and submitted to the department by March 15. Records shall be made available for inspection by an authorized agent of the department at any reasonable time.