

## GAME, FISH, AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

### Furbearer Seasons and Methods

Chapter 41:08:01

<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>April 4-5, 2024</b>	<b>Pierre</b>
	<b>Public Hearing</b>	<b>June 6, 2024</b>	<b>Yankton</b>
	<b>Finalization</b>	<b>June 6-7, 2024</b>	<b>Yankton</b>

**COMMISSION PROPOSAL**

**Duration of Recommendation:** Beginning in 2024

**Season Dates and Open Areas:**

- Statewide:
- Residents – year-round.
  - Nonresidents – December 1 to March 15.

**Licenses:** Unlimited

**Daily and Possession Limit:** Unlimited

**Requirements and Restrictions:**

1. Hunting and trapping are legal methods of take for raccoons.
2. Nonresidents may not use a dog as an aid in the taking of a raccoon.
3. A habitat stamp and one of the following licenses is required to hunt raccoons: predator/varmint license, furbearer license, any hunting license other than nonresident private shooting preserve license.
4. A habitat stamp and a furbearer license are required to trap raccoons.
5. Exceptions when residents do not need a license to hunt or trap raccoons:
  - a. Youth under 18 years of age.
  - b. Between April 1 and August 31.
  - c. Landowners or lessees upon land they own or lease.

**Proposed Changes:**

1. Allow nonresidents to use a dog as an aid in the taking of a raccoon.

**DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED CHANGES FROM PROPOSAL**

None

**SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION**

A petition (#203) was received during the October 2023 GFP Commission meeting stating the desire to allow nonresidents to use dogs as an aid in tracking raccoons during competitions to count the number of raccoons that could be bayed, usually in a tree, by a dog within a certain time interval. While this activity is currently legal for residents, the use of dogs as an aid in the taking of raccoons is not allowed per administrative rule § 41:08:01:12. Removal of this restriction will allow nonresidents with the appropriate licenses to use dogs in tracking competitions, in addition to attempted harvest of raccoons. Although the change is not expected to result in notably increased

competition with resident hunting opportunities nor an increased raccoon harvest, any additional raccoon harvest may result in benefits to waterfowl and upland bird nesting success.

### DRAFT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES

41:08:01:12. Nonresident restrictions. Notwithstanding the season dates established in this chapter, no nonresident may take any mink or weasel from February ~~4 first~~ through November ~~30 thirtieth~~, or take any muskrat, beaver, or raccoon from March ~~16 sixteenth~~ through November ~~30 thirtieth~~, or take any bobcat from February ~~16 sixteenth~~ through the Friday preceding the second Saturday of January. ~~No nonresident may use a dog as an aid in the taking of a raccoon.~~

### RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
  - Nonresidents are not allowed to use dogs to aid in the taking of a raccoon.
2. Historical Considerations NA
3. Biological Considerations
  - Removal of additional raccoons may enhance waterfowl and game bird nesting success rates.
4. Social Considerations
  - Nonresidents will aid in the removal of nest predators by removing restrictions of their methods of take.
5. Financial considerations
  - More nonresidents may purchase habitat stamps, hunting, and furbearer licenses.

### RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? No.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Yes, it provides additional opportunity for nonresidents to take raccoons.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? This regulation would provide an increase in opportunity for current and new raccoon trappers and hunters.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Yes.

### FISCAL IMPACT

Additional revenue may be generated if additional nonresidents purchase habitat stamps, hunting, and furbearer licenses.

APPROVE	_____	MODIFY	_____	REJECT	_____	NO ACTION	_____
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