

CHAPTER 6234
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
SMALL GAME

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6234.0900 SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS.

Subpart 1. **Scope.** The provisions of parts 6234.0900 to 6234.2400 apply to the use of traps or snares capable of taking a wild animal protected under provisions of Minnesota Statutes, sections 97B.601 to 97B.671 or 97B.901 to 97B.945.

[For text of subps 2 to 5, see M.R.]

Subp. 6. **Wolf snare.** "Wolf snare" means any snare set that:

- A. has a maximum loop diameter greater than ten inches, but less than or equal to 18 inches;
- B. has a cable diameter of at least 7/64 inches;
- C. includes stops affixed to the cable to ensure that the portion of the snare that makes up the noose loop may not be less than three inches in diameter when fully closed;
- D. includes a breakaway device that would cause the snare loop to break when pulled by a moose; and
- E. includes a diverter wire that extends 27 inches in both directions, measured perpendicular to and from the top of the snare loop. The diverter wires must be positioned at an angle no more than 20 degrees from the horizontal plane of the top of the snare, and the snare must be set within 20 yards of bait.

Statutory Authority: *L 2012 c 277 art 1 s 85*

History: *L 2012 c 277 art 1 s 90; 37 SR 374*

6234.1200 TAKING RACCOON.

Subpart 1. **Open season.** Raccoons may be taken statewide with legal firearms, bow and arrow, and by trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 22, except in the North Mink/Muskrat/Beaver/Otter Zone as described in part 6234.1000, subpart 3, where raccoon may be taken with legal firearms, bow and arrow, and by trapping beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 17. The season ends March 15.

[For text of subps 2 and 3, see M.R.]

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.605; 97B.621*

History: *36 SR 1155*

6234.1300 TAKING RED FOX AND GRAY FOX.

Subpart 1. **Open season.** Gray and red fox may be taken statewide with legal firearms, bow and arrow, and by trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 22, except in the North Mink/Muskrat/Beaver/Otter Zone as described in part 6234.1000, subpart 3, where gray and red fox may be taken with legal firearms, bow and arrow, and by trapping beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 17. The season ends March 15.

[For text of subps 2 to 4, see M.R.]

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.605*

History: *36 SR 1155*

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6234.1400 TAKING BADGER AND OPOSSUM.

Subpart 1. **Open season.** Badgers and opossums may be taken statewide with legal firearms, bow and arrow, and by trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 22, except in the North Mink/Muskrat/Beaver/Otter Zone as described in part 6234.1000, subpart 3, where badger and opossum may be taken with legal firearms, bow and arrow, and by trapping beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 17. The season ends March 15.

[For text of subp 2, see M.R.]

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.605; 97B.635*

History: *36 SR 1155*

6234.2000 TAKING OTTER.

Subpart 1. **Open season for otter in North Zone.** Otter may be taken by trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 26 to the Sunday nearest January 6 only in that portion of the state described in part 6234.1000, subpart 3.

Subp. 2. **Open season and area for otter in South Zone.** Except as provided in subpart 1, otter may be taken by trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 30 to the Sunday nearest January 6.

[For text of subps 3 and 4, see M.R.]

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.901*

History: *35 SR 2014*

6234.2300 GENERAL RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF SNARES.

[For text of subps 1 to 3, see M.R.]

Subp. 4. **Wolf snares.** Wolves may be taken with snares or wolf snares as defined in part 6234.0900.

Statutory Authority: *L 2012 c 277 art 1 s 85*

History: *37 SR 374*

6234.2400 SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF SNARES.

[For text of subp 1, see M.R.]

Subp. 2. **Farmland Furbearer Zone restrictions.** In the Farmland Furbearer Zone, a person may use snares as follows:

A. from April 1 to November 30, a person may not set, place, or operate any snare except as a waterset;

B. from December 1 to March 31, a person may not set, place, or operate any snare on public lands, including the surface of frozen water within public lands, on road rights-of-way, or in fencelines along road rights-of-way, except as a waterset.

[For text of subps 3 and 4, see M.R.]

Subp. 5. **Prohibition on snares placed in deer trails.** Snares, including wolf snares, may not be set in deer, elk, or moose trails.

[For text of subp 6, see M.R.]

Subp. 7. **Snare height.** A snare may not be set so that the top of the loop is more than 20 inches above the first surface beneath the bottom of the set snare loop. During the wolf season, licensed wolf trappers may use wolf snares but a wolf snare may not be set so that the bottom of the loop is more than 18 inches above the first surface beneath the bottom of the set snare loop.

[For text of subps 8 to 10, see M.R.]

Subp. 11. **Snare separation.** Licensed wolf trappers shall set wolf snares for wolves no closer than 500 feet to another wolf snare set by the same licensed wolf trapper.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.605; L 2012 c 277 art 1 s 85*

History: *36 SR 1155; 37 SR 374*

6234.2600 PELT TAGGING AND REGISTRATION.

Subpart 1. [Repealed, 30 SR 613]

Subp. 2. [Repealed, 30 SR 613]

Subp. 3. **Registration of pelts.** The pelt of each bobcat, fisher, pine marten, and otter and the whole carcass of each bobcat must be presented, by the person taking it, to a state wildlife manager designee for registration before the pelt is sold and before the pelt is transported out of the state, but in no event more than 48 hours after the season closes for each species, respectively. The entire carcass of bobcat and the entire head of pine marten and fisher must be surrendered to the state wildlife manager designee. The pelt of bobcat, otter, fisher, and pine marten must have been removed from the carcass.

[For text of subps 4 and 5, see M.R.]

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.605; 97B.901*

History: *35 SR 2014*

6234.2700 SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON TAKING AND POSSESSION OF FURBEARERS.

The restrictions in items A to D apply to the possession and transportation of accidental captures.

A. A person may not possess or transport a lynx or wolf that was accidentally killed or was lawfully killed while causing or threatening injury or damage until the person notifies the local conservation officer, other authorized department employee, or regional enforcement office, of the killing and receives authorization to possess, transport, or skin the animal.

B. A person may possess or transport fox, mink, muskrat, beaver, badger, opossum, or raccoon accidentally killed or lawfully killed while causing or threatening injury or damage, only if the local conservation officer or other authorized employee of the department is notified within 24 hours of such killing and before any skinning has begun.

C. A person may possess or transport a fisher, otter, or pine marten that has been accidentally killed or a bobcat that has been either lawfully killed when causing damage or accidentally killed only after notifying the local conservation officer or other authorized employee of the department of such killing. After making the required notification and taking possession of the animal, the person may not skin, transfer possession, or otherwise dispose of the animal until the person receives authorization from a conservation officer or other authorized department employee.

D. A person must report any incidental taking of a Canada lynx to the local conservation officer within 24 hours of the taking.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.605; 97B.921*

History: *36 SR 1155; L 2012 c 277 art 1 s 90*