

**Department of Natural Resources****Adopted Expedited Emergency Game and Fish Rules: 2017 Bear Season****6232.2800 GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR TAKING BEARS.**

Subpart 1. **Bag limit.** Except as provided in part 6232.3300, a person may not take more than one bear in quota areas and ~~two bears~~ one bear in no-quota areas during any calendar year whether by firearm or archery. Bears taken may be of either sex or any age except that bear cubs may not be taken.

[For text of subps 2 to 8, see M.R.]

**6232.3000 BEAR QUOTA AREAS.**

[For text of subps 1 to 5, see M.R.]

Subp. 6. **Bear Quota Area ~~26~~ 27.** Bear Quota Area ~~26~~ 27 consists of that portion of the state lying within the following described boundary:

Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 2 and State Trunk Highway (STH) 65; thence along STH 65 to STH 1; thence along STH 1 to STH 72; thence along STH 72 to U.S. Highway 71; thence along U.S. Highway 71 to U.S. Highway 2; thence along U.S. Highway 2 to the point of beginning. County State-Aid Highway (CSAH) 46, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 46 to CSAH 4, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 4 to CSAH 25, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 25 to CSAH 8, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 8 to CSAH 27, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 27 to CSAH 12, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 12 to CSAH 27, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 27 to CSAH 20, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 20 to CSAH 39, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 39 to the intersection of the north boundary of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation; thence along the north and east boundaries of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation to STH 6; thence along STH 6 to U.S. Highway 2; thence along U.S. Highway 2 to the point of beginning.

Subp. 6a. **Bear Quota Area 28.** Bear Quota Area 28 consists of that portion of the state lying within the following described boundary:

Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 2 and State Trunk Highway (STH) 6; thence along STH 6 to the east boundary of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation; thence along the east and north boundaries of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation to the

intersection of the north boundary of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation and County State-Aid Highway (CSAH) 39, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 39 to CSAH 20, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 20 to CSAH 27, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 27 to CSAH 12, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 12 to CSAH 27, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 27 to CSAH 8, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 8 to CSAH 25, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 25 to CSAH 4, Beltrami County; thence along CSAH 4 to CSAH 46, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 46 to U.S. Highway 2; thence along U.S. Highway 2 to the point of beginning.

[For text of subps 7 and 8, see M.R.]

Subp. 9. **Bear Quota Area ~~43~~ 46.** Bear Quota Area ~~43~~ 46 consists of that portion of the state lying within the following described boundary:

Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 59 and the northern boundary of the White Earth Indian Reservation; thence along said boundary to State Trunk Highway (STH) 92; thence along STH 92 to U.S. Highway 2; thence along U.S. Highway 2 to STH 6; ~~thence along STH 6 to STH 18; thence along STH 18 to U.S. Highway 169; thence along U.S. Highway 169 to STH 23; thence along STH 23 to the Mississippi River; thence upstream along the easterly shore of said river to STH 27 at Little Falls; thence along STH 27 to U.S. Highway 71; thence along U.S. Highway 71 to U.S. Highway 10; thence along U.S. Highway 10 to U.S. Highway 59; thence along U.S. Highway 59 to the point of beginning.~~ County State-Aid Highway (CSAH) 45, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 45 to CSAH 9, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 9 to CSAH 69, Cass County; thence along CSAH 69 to CSAH 5, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 5 to CSAH 39, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 39 to County Road (CR) 94, Hubbard County; thence along CR 94 to CSAH 31, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 31 to STH 200; thence along STH 200 to U.S. Highway 371; thence along U.S. Highway 371 to the south boundary of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation; thence along the south and east boundaries of the reservation to the White Oak public access road; thence along the public access road to STH 6; thence along STH 6 to CSAH 1, Crow Wing County; thence along CSAH 1 to CSAH 2, Cass County; thence along CSAH 2 to STH 371; thence along STH 371 to STH 87; thence along STH 87 to U.S. Highway 10; thence along U.S. Highway 10 to U.S. Highway 59; thence along U.S. Highway 59 to the point of beginning.

The Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge within Area ~~43~~ 46 is not open for bear hunting.

Subp. 9a. [See repealer.]

[For text of subps 9b and 10, see M.R.]

Subp. 11. **Bear Quota Area 47.** Bear Quota Area 47 consists of that portion of the state lying within the following described boundary:

Beginning at the junction of U.S. Highway 2 and County State-Aid Highway (CSAH) 45, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 45 to CSAH 9, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 9 to CSAH 69, Cass County; thence along CSAH 69 to CSAH 5, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 5 to CSAH 39, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 39 to County Road (CR) 94, Hubbard County; thence along CR 94 to CSAH 31, Hubbard County; thence along CSAH 31 to State Trunk Highway (STH) 200; thence along STH 200 to U.S. Highway 371; thence along U.S. Highway 371 to the south boundary of the Leech Lake Indian Reservation; thence along the south and east boundaries of the reservation to the White Oak public access road; thence along the public access road to U.S. Highway 2; thence along U.S. Highway 2 to the point of beginning.

**6232.3055 BEAR LICENSE QUOTAS.**

The number of available licenses for quota areas for the 2017 bear hunting season is 3,350 and is divided as follows:

- A. Bear Quota Area 12: 125;
- B. Bear Quota Area 13: 225;
- C. Bear Quota Area 22: 50;
- D. Bear Quota Area 24: 175;
- E. Bear Quota Area 25: 400;
- F. Bear Quota Area 27: 225;
- G. Bear Quota Area 28: 60;
- H. Bear Quota Area 31: 500;
- I. Bear Quota Area 41: 125;
- J. Bear Quota Area 45: 175;
- K. Bear Quota Area 46: 350;

L. Bear Quota Area 47: 40; and

M. Bear Quota Area 51: 900.

**6232.3100 BEAR NO-QUOTA AREA.**

Licenses for the no-quota area are not limited in number and may be purchased at an electronic licensing system (ELS) agent, ELS-Internet, or ELS-Telephone. A person may purchase a license for both a quota area and the no-quota area in the same year. No-quota licenses are valid only in the no-quota area. When a no-quota license is purchased after the start of the bear season, the license is not valid until the day after purchase.

**6232.3200 BAIT STATIONS AND GARBAGE DUMPS.**

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

Subp. 2. **Registration of bait station.** A person may not establish a bear bait station without registering the site as provided in this subpart.

A. The following information must be provided on a form provided by the commissioner or on an 8-1/2 inch by 11 inch sheet of paper:

(1) name, address, Minnesota DNR number, and telephone number of person who established the bear bait station; ~~and~~

(2) if being placed for someone else, the name and Minnesota DNR number of the person for whom the bait is established; and

~~(2)~~ (3) county, township, range, and section in which the bear bait station is established.

[For text of item B, see M.R.]

Subp. 3. **Display of sign.** A person establishing a bear bait station must display a sign at the site meeting the following requirements.

[For text of item A, see M.R.]

B. The sign must contain:

(1) for unguided hunters, the full name and ~~either~~ address, the Minnesota DNR number, or the Minnesota driver's license number of the person on whose behalf the bait is placed and the full name and address, the Minnesota DNR number, or the Minnesota driver's license number of the person who is placing the bait; or

(2) if placed by a bear hunting outfitter for a client, the outfitter's Minnesota driver's license number or bear hunting outfitter license number.

[For text of items C to F, see M.R.]

[For text of subps 4 to 7, see M.R.]

**6232.3300 NUISANCE BEARS.**

Nuisance bears may be taken by licensed bear hunters ~~from July 1 to August 31~~ or by permit under the conditions in this part.

A. Wildlife managers or conservation officers may authorize licensed hunters to take nuisance bears after the manager or officer has verified that a nuisance problem exists. For the purpose of identifying licensed hunters available to take nuisance bears, applicants for the bear drawing may select the option identified in the application for taking nuisance bears as their second choice. The commissioner must include hunters identified by this selection in a list of individuals for wildlife managers and conservation officers to contact for taking a nuisance bear. The list must include the hunters' names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, and Minnesota DNR numbers.

B. Only hunters licensed for the area where damage is occurring will be authorized to take bears. Only one hunter may hunt under a license. Authorized hunters are restricted to the location specified on the license.

C. If no licensed hunter identified on the list under item A is available to take a nuisance bear, the commissioner must issue on a first-come, first-served basis one or

more permits to take nuisance bears to any person eligible for a bear license. A permit to take nuisance bears authorizes lethal taking of black bears in an area where a verified nuisance problem exists. A permit to take nuisance bears is issued through the electronic licensing system (ELS), but must be validated by a wildlife manager or conservation officer. A permit to take nuisance bears is valid for any area where a wildlife manager or conservation officer verifies that a nuisance problem exists.

~~E.~~ D. A licensee or permittee taking a nuisance bear prior to the season must register it with the authorizing wildlife manager or conservation officer within 48 hours after taking.

~~D.~~ E. A licensee or permittee who takes a nuisance bear may not take another bear in that year unless issued a nuisance bear permit under item C that allows taking an additional bear.

~~E.~~ F. A licensee or permittee taking a nuisance bear is subject to all provisions of parts 6232.2600 to 6232.3500 not inconsistent with this subpart and all laws relating to the taking of wild animals.

**REPEALER.** Minnesota Rules, part 6232.3000, subpart 9a, is repealed.

**EFFECTIVE PERIOD.** Minnesota Rules, part 6232.3055, expires December 31, 2017. The expedited emergency amendments to Minnesota Rules, parts 6232.2800, 6232.3000, 6232.3100, 6232.3200, and 6232.3300, expire December 31, 2017. After the emergency amendments expire, the permanent rules as they read before the amendments again take effect, except as they may be amended by permanent rule.