

CHAPTER 348

BOUNTIES AND REWARDS

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348.01 FOR TIMBER GROWING. Every person who shall plant one acre or more of land with forest trees of any kind other than black locust, and shall keep such trees growing in a thrifty condition, and not more than 12 feet apart either way, replacing yearly such as may die, or who shall maintain and manage an existing stand of timber on one acre or more of land, the owner residing thereon, such stand of timber shall not be less than 600 forest trees per acre, well spaced, shall receive from the state \$2.50 per acre therefor for six successive years, not exceeding \$25 in any one year. This section shall not apply to any railway company, to any person who has already received such compensation, nor to any person planting trees in compliance with an act of Congress approved March 3, 1873, relating to the growth of timber on western prairies, or any act amendatory thereof.

[R. L. s. 2391; 1913 c. 76 s. 1; 1941 c. 365] (6249)

348.02 CLAIM AND PROOF. The claimant shall file with the county auditor a plat giving the government subdivision, and the position of the trees thereon. If the number of trees be increased, supplemental plats shall be filed. He shall show his ownership of the land, and make oath to the planting and maintaining of the trees, as prescribed in section 348.01; and his proof shall be supported by the affidavit of at least two freeholders residing in the same town, who have personal knowledge of the facts. Such proofs shall be filed with the county auditor between July first and July fifteenth, of the year for which compensation is claimed.

[R. L. s. 2392] (6249½)

348.03 DUTY OF ASSESSOR. The assessor of each town, at the time of making his assessment, shall ascertain if trees have been planted therein for which compensation is claimed under sections 348.01 to 348.05, and, if any such be found, he shall personally examine the same and report the area planted and the condition of the trees to the county auditor when the assessment books are returned.

[R. L. s. 2393] (6250)

348.04 PROOFS SENT TO STATE AUDITOR. Before August first the county auditor shall compare the proofs furnished by the claimant with the assessor's report, and, if they correspond in substance, he shall immediately forward to the state auditor the original proofs of claim and a certified list of all plats filed.

[R. L. s. 2394] (6251)

348.05 STATE AUDITOR TO ISSUE WARRANT. The state auditor shall audit all such claims, and, on the first Monday of October, in each year, shall issue his warrant to the several claimants for the amount to which each is entitled; but, if the aggregate of compensation due to all such claimants shall exceed the appropriation therefor, he shall distribute the available amount amongst them pro rata, which distribution shall relieve the state from further obligation to such claimants for the year.

[R. L. s. 2395] (6252)

348.06 [Repealed, 1949 c 295 s 1]

348.07 to 348.11 [Repealed, 1945 c 262 s 4]

348.071 BOUNTY FOR WOLF, FOX, LYNX OR BOBCAT. Subdivision 1. Every person who shall kill a wild wolf, lynx or bobcat in this state up to and including July 1, 1951, not having at the time spared the life of any other such wolf, lynx or bobcat which he could have killed, shall, upon compliance herewith, be rewarded in the sum of \$35 for each adult timber wolf, \$25 for each coyote or brush wolf, or cubs of any species, and \$15 for each lynx or bobcat.

Subd. 2. Every person who shall kill a wild fox in this state, not having at the time spared the life of any other such fox which he could have killed, shall, upon compliance herewith, be rewarded in such sum as the board of county commissioners of the county in which the fox is killed may have determined and established for each adult and cub fox.

Subd. 3. Wolf, lynx, bobcat and fox bounties where appropriate county action has been taken, shall be paid from the county treasury, which treasury shall be reimbursed by the state, two-thirds of such reimbursement shall be paid from the game and fish fund and one-third from the general revenue fund, provided, such reimbursement shall not exceed \$3.00 for each adult fox and \$1.00 for each fox cub.

Subd. 4. Any wolf or fox killed before September 1st of the year in which it was born shall be deemed to be a cub.

Subd. 5. Within 30 days after the killing, the claimant shall produce the entire pelt of the adult wolf or fox, or the entire carcass of the wolf or fox cub, for which bounty claim is made, to a state game warden, game refuge patrolman, or authorized agent, and make his verified statement as to the details of the killing upon such form as shall be prescribed by the commissioner of conservation and furnished by him.

Subd. 6. If such warden, patrolman, or agent be satisfied of the correctness of the statements; or has verified its correctness by going to the place where the animal was alleged to have been killed, he shall seal or otherwise identify the pelts or carcasses in such manner as the commissioner may prescribe, and shall sign his approval to the payment of bounty upon the statement. All animals produced at any time may be included in one statement, which shall be in triplicate.

Subd. 7. When the statement has been signed by the warden, or patrolman, or agent, two copies shall be presented by the claimant to the county auditor who shall issue to claimant a warrant upon the county treasurer for the sum due. The auditor shall further certify by endorsement upon both copies of the statement that the foregoing provisions of this section have been complied with, stating also the number, date and amount of each warrant issued. The county auditor shall then transmit one of the copies of the statement and a copy of the warrant to the state auditor, requesting reimbursement therefor.

Subd. 8. Every person who shall fraudulently claim or obtain any reward for the killing of a fox or a wolf, or issue any fraudulent or unauthorized certificate or warrant therefor, or claim reward upon a wolf or fox which he has in any way protected or upon any tame or captive wolf or fox which he has protected or harbored, either full-blood or crossed, or upon the offspring of any wolf or fox which he theretofore protected or harbored, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and punished by a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000, or imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 90 days or more than one year.

[1945 c 262 s 1, 2, 3; 1949 c 727 s 1, 2]

348.073 BOUNTY FOR BEAR. Subdivision 1. Every person who shall kill a wild bear in this state, not having at the time spared the life of any other such bear he could have killed, shall be rewarded in such sum as the board of county commissioners of the county in which the bear is killed may have determined and established for each adult and cub bear, to be paid from the county revenue fund. The state shall annually at the end of the state fiscal year reimburse from the general revenue fund only each county for one-half of all rewards for bear so killed therein but the amount of state reimbursement shall not in any event exceed \$10 for each adult bear and \$5.00 for each cub bear.

If the total state appropriation shall be insufficient to reimburse each county in full, the amount of the appropriation shall be pro-rated to the various counties.

Subd. 2. All bear shall be considered cubs until after they have emerged from their second period of hibernation.

Subd. 3. The procedure for collection of bounties on bear shall be the same as provided by law for the collection of bounties on wolves, provided that in no event shall any bounty be paid until a state game warden or refuge patrolman has viewed the bear on the premises where it was killed.

Subd. 4. Every person who shall fraudulently claim or obtain any reward for the killing of a bear, or issue any fraudulent or unauthorized certificate or warrant therefor, or claim reward upon a bear which he has in any way protected or upon any tame or captive bear which he has harbored, or upon the offspring of any tame or captive bear, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor, the punishment for which shall be a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 or imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 90 days nor more than one year.

[1945 c 350 s 1, 2, 3, 4]

348.12 COUNTY BOUNTIES ON CERTAIN BIRDS AND ANIMALS. Any county board or board of town supervisors may, by resolution, offer a bounty for the destruction of gophers, ground squirrels, ground hogs, or woodchucks, rattlesnakes, crows, or blackbirds. The resolution may be made to cover the whole or any part of the county, and may be annually renewed, but it shall have force and effect only during the calendar year in which it was adopted or renewed. The bounty shall in no case exceed five cents for each pocket gopher; three cents for each common gopher or ground squirrel; 15 cents for each ground hog or woodchuck; 50 cents for each rattlesnake, and ten cents a dozen for blackbirds, and ten cents for each crow killed during such months, as may be designated by the county board or board of town supervisors by resolution.

[R. L. s. 2402; 1909 c. 48 s. 1; 1939 c. 40] (6259)

348.13 WHAT MUST BE PRODUCED TO SECURE BOUNTIES PAID BY TOWN BOARDS. The four feet of striped and gray gophers and woodchucks, both front feet of pocket gophers, the heads and rattles of rattlesnakes, and the bodies of birds and reptiles other than rattlesnakes shall be produced to the chairman of the town board of the town where they were killed, and, if he shall be satisfied that they were killed within the designated territory and by the person producing them, he shall certify to the county auditor the number of each kind so killed. The certificate shall be issued by the chairman of the town board at the end of each month and shall show the names of all persons entitled to bounty for the preceding month, the number of each kind of animals, reptiles and birds so killed, and the amount of bounty that each person is entitled to receive. The county auditor shall issue thereon a warrant on the county treasurer payable to the chairman of the town board who issued the certificate, for the full amount of the bounty allowed by law according to the certificate, and upon receipt of the warrant the chairman shall pay the proper persons the bounty allowed by law for the preceding month.

The chairman to whom such feet, heads, bodies, and rattles are produced shall immediately cause such heads, feet, bodies, and rattles to be destroyed and shall cause the removal of one foot from each bird.

Any town board may also offer a bounty for the destruction of the animals, birds, and reptiles described in section 348.12 and adopt rules for the payment thereof, which bounty so offered by a town shall be in addition to any bounty which may be offered by the board of county commissioners.

[R. L. s. 2403; 1909 c. 48 s. 2; 1911 c. 220 s. 1; 1915 c. 357 s. 1; 1917 c. 290 s. 1] (6260)

384.14 [Repealed, 1945 c 262 s 4]

348.15 CLAIMANT TO PRODUCE CARCASS. Within 30 days after the killing, the claimant shall produce the entire carcass of the animal, in the presence of two witnesses, to the clerk of the town wherein the animal was killed, or, if the animal was killed in unorganized territory, to the nearest town clerk in the same county, and shall make and deliver to the town clerk a written statement of his claim, under oath, in duplicate, describing the animal as adult or cub, as the case may be, specifying the time and place of the killing thereof by the claimant, and stating that he did not on that occasion spare the life of any gray or red fox he could have killed. All animals produced at any one time shall be included in one statement.

The clerk shall examine each carcass produced in the presence of the witnesses, and shall make such further investigation as may be necessary to verify the statements of the claimant. For the purposes of such investigation, the clerk may

examine under oath with respect to any pertinent matter the claimant and any other persons having knowledge of the facts and attach a statement of such investigation and examination to the statement of the claim. The toes of both front feet of the animal shall then be removed in the presence of the clerk and the two witnesses.

The claimant may then remove the hide, including the scalp and ears, and shall then bury, destroy, or otherwise properly dispose of the remainder of the carcass.

[1931 c. 309 s. 2; 1939 c. 258 s. 2] (6260-2)

348.16 TOWN CLERK TO MAKE CERTIFICATE. The town clerk, if satisfied that the statements of the claimant are true, that the requirements of the law have been complied with, and that the claimant is entitled to the bounty claimed, shall make a certificate, in duplicate, so stating, and specifying that the requirements of the preceding section have been complied with. Both duplicates of the certificates shall be attested by the two witnesses and one shall be attached to each duplicate of the statement of the claim. All animals produced at any one time shall be included in one certificate. Both duplicates of the certificate and statement shall be delivered to the claimant, who shall pay a fee of 35 cents therefor. The clerk shall keep a record of all certificates issued by him, showing the date of issuance of each certificate, name of claimant, number and kind of animals killed, and date and place of the killing thereof.

[1931 c. 309 s. 3; 1939 c. 258 s. 3] (6260-3)

348.17 PRESENT PROOF TO COUNTY AUDITOR; ISSUE; WARRANT. The claimant shall produce both duplicates of the statement and certificate, together with the hide of each animal described therein, with scalp and ears intact, to the county auditor. The auditor shall examine the same, and if he finds that the statement and certificate are in proper form, and if he is satisfied that the hides produced are those of the animals described in the statement and certificate, that the requirements of the law have been complied with and that the claimant is entitled to the bounty claimed, he shall punch a three-eighths inch hole in each ear of each hide presented and issue to the claimant a warrant upon the county treasurer for the sum due.

The county auditor shall keep a record of all claims for such rewards allowed and paid by him, showing the same items as hereinbefore specified for the records of the town clerk, also the numbers, dates, and amounts of all warrants issued in payment of such claims, specifying whether for state or county rewards.

[1931 c. 309 s. 4; 1939 c. 258 s. 4] (6260-4)

348.18 PENALTY FOR FRAUDULENT CLAIM. Every person who shall fraudulently claim or obtain any bounty for the killing of a gray or red fox, or issue any fraudulent or unauthorized certificate or warrant therefor, or claim reward upon a gray or red fox which he has in any way protected, or upon any tame or captive gray or red fox, or upon the offspring of any tame or captive gray or red fox, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor, the punishment for which shall be a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 60 days nor more than six months or both such fine and imprisonment; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not be deemed to supersede or to exclude the operation of any other penal law which may be applicable.

[1931 c. 309 s. 5; 1939 c. 258 s. 5] (6260-5)