

Public Correspondence*

Furbearer Trapping and Hunting Regulations for 2008-09 and 2009-10

**2008 Oregon United Sporting Dog Association
Furbearer Regulations Proposal**

Raccoon Pursuit Season

OUSDAs first proposal is a year round pursuit season for raccoon. We the OUSDA feel simply pursuing and treeing a raccoon with hound's year around will have zero impact on the coon population. OUSDA has done extensive research to find information on raccoon seasons and populations from other states and has found that most states have either a year around pursuit and or a year around kill for raccoon. All states have reports of very healthy raccoon populations.

State	Season
Montana	year around
North Carolina	year around
South Carolina	year around
Mississippi	year around
Michigan	closed April 1 – July 15
Florida	year around
Indiana	February 15-October 14 / November 8-January 31
New Hampshire	year around
East Virginia	year around
West Virginia	August 1-May 31
New Mexico	year around
Vermont	June 1-December 31
Wisconsin	closed April 15-June 30
Pennsylvania	year around
Alabama	year around
Missouri	year around
Arkansas	closed April 1-July 1 on public, open year around on private
Ohio	year around
North Dakota	year around
Idaho	year around
Utah	year around
Wyoming	year around
Oregon	September 1-March 15
Washington	September 2-March 15
California	year around
Kentucky	year around
Georgia	year around
Maine	July 1-December 31

State	Season
Minnesota	year around
Nevada	year around
Arizona	August 1-March 31
Colorado	year around
South Dakota	year around
Nebraska	
Kansas	March 1-November 1 / November 14-February 15
Oklahoma	year around
Texas	year around
Iowa	closed on public April 15-July 15, open on private year around
Illinois	year around
Tennessee	year around
Louisiana	
New York	closed May and June
Maryland	year around
Delaware	
Connecticut	
New Jersey	
Massachusetts	September 1-March 31

Proposal #1

A Year around pursuit season on raccoon

Bobcat Harvest card

OUSDA's second proposal is regarding the bobcat harvest card. With bobcat hunters and trappers increasing due to higher and higher fur prices each winter OUSDA has become very watchful and concerned for bobcat numbers. OUSDA hopes to always have a healthy population of bobcats for all sportsmen to enjoy for future generations so we would like to see harvest card numbers reduced. We would like to see the Eastern Oregon harvest card reduced from 7 to 5 cats, and we would like to see the Western Oregon harvest card have a limit put on it of 15 cats instead of the unlimited number that it is today.

Proposal#2

Eastern Oregon harvest card reduced from 7 to 5 cats.

Western Oregon harvest card limit of 15 cats instead of unlimited.

Coyote and Rabbit

OUSDA's third and final proposal is for sportsmen to be able to run they're hounds and beagles year around on coyote and rabbit. Coyote and rabbit are already a predator or unprotected animal all across the state and can be hunted all year long. Coyotes and rabbits are problems in most area's having an impact on crops and livestock and other wildlife species. The use of dog's year around would be a good tool to help control farmer and livestock problems. The use of dog's year around for coyote and rabbit would also create more recreational opportunities for houndsmen across the state.

Proposal#3

Year around use of dogs to hunt coyote and rabbit

The Oregon United Sporting Dog Association considers all of these requests to be very reasonable and non threatening to any species. We at OUSDA want to and try to create more opportunity for future generations of sporting dog owners and sportsmen alike. The OUSDA would like to thank the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for any or all considerations of what we have proposed hear today.

Thank You
Tim Cook
OUSDA President

Public Correspondence

Topic furbearers

Liz Bueffel

From: ODFW Comments
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2007 10:16 AM
To: Thomas Thornton
Cc: Liz Bueffel
Subject: FW: resource use
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

From: spallard [mailto:spallard@smt-net.com]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2007 9:19 AM
To: ODFW Comments
Subject: resource use

OHA speaks for me, and please don't forget the harvest of furbearers in our plans. Consumptive use is very important to the economic interest of me and mine.
Thankyou! Steven Allard

Public Comment
Topic Furbear Reg

February 12, 2008

RECEIVED
FEB 15 2008
WILDLIFE DIVISION

Dear Sir:

Done Please send me the current Oregon
Furbearer Trapping and Hunting Regu-
lations.

I will be moving back to Oregon to
live this summer. I was wonder-
ing if you could please help me
out. I would like to know where
cougars are most populous.
Where the most kills were made
in the last five years or so.

Please include what specific part
of the wildlife management Unit
they were reported killed in.

Are there such statistics available?
I would be more than willing to
pay for this knowledge.

Also, is it legal to hunt for cougar
using bait or scent lures?

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Fred Von Sokat
1455 West Prince Road #19
Tucson, AZ 85705

Don Whittaker

From: Dan Kenagy [dkenagy@harborside.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2007 11:11 AM
To: Don Whittaker
Subject: Furbearer Questions

Hi Don,

I just left you a voicemail and I wanted to followup with an email. I had a couple of questions/suggestions that I wanted to run past you regarding furbearer regulations.

1) I was wondering what the reason was for leaving fox, both red and gray, off the list of species it is permissible to hunt at night with a light. It seems to me that if the others could be safely hunted that way then fox should be too. In my experience there is not a lot of pressure on fox and adding night hunting would not be a problem from a management standpoint.

Were this just an oversight or is there a reason for not allowing night hunting?

My suggestion would be to allow night hunting of all furbearers during the season in which they are open for trapping. Unprotected and predatory animals that don't have a season might need to be closed on public land during big game seasons to avoid the potential for poaching of big game under the guise of hunting furbearers.

2) I would like to see the Eastern Oregon bobcat card be made a statewide card. You would still limit it to 7 bobcats with no multiple cards, but it would now be good statewide. There would be no change to the Western Oregon card. This would allow the small volume hunters/trappers to hunt or trap on both sides of the mountains without making much of a dent in the eastern population.

Is there going to be a comment period for making changes to the regulations? The ODFW website seems to be having trouble right now so I can't look it up if it is listed. Also, I would like your feedback on these questions so I have a better understanding of why the regulations are written the way they are.

Thank you in advance for your time,

Dan Kenagy

Public Correspondence
Topic: *Furbearers*

Fur Bearers

---Original Message---

From: Dan Kenagy [mailto:dkenagy@harborside.com]

Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2007 4:49 PM

To: ODFW Comments

Subject: Furbearer Regulation Comments

I have two suggested changes to the furbearer regulations. If there's a reason why either of these would not be advisable, I would like a response so I can possibly modify or retract my suggestions.

1) I would like to see the Eastern Oregon bobcat record card changed to a Statewide record card. It would still be good for only 7 cats, but would allow the holder to harvest bobcats throughout the state. This would allow western hunters and trappers to make a trip east while still hunting or trapping on the west side. The limited number of cats on the card would prevent overharvest on the east side. I propose that no change be made to the Western Oregon bobcat record card.

2) The night hunting regulations are currently a patchwork that leaves out some species of furbearers for no apparent reason. For example, bobcats, opossum and raccoon can be hunted at night with a light, but not from a vehicle. Coyotes can be hunted with a light on private property, but not on public land. Fox and other furbearers can't be hunted with a light at all. I would like to see lights made legal for all furbearers during the legal harvest season on both public and private ground. Unprotected and predatory animals that don't have a closed season could be hunted with a light on public or private land during the season for other furbearers.

Thank you,
Dan Kenagy

PS - On page 3 of the furbearer regulations the words "harvest" and "harvested" are spelled incorrectly and have been for at least the past several regulations publications. Maybe that could be corrected in the 2008-2010 regulations.

Public Correspondence
Topic Trapping Loop

P.O. Box 6886
Bend, OR 97708
April 2, 2008

APR - 7 2008

Director
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
3406 Cherry Ave., NE
Salem, OR 97303

Re: Trapping Reform

Below is the text of my letter sent to the Bend Bulletin today. I would like ODFW to consider my proposals.

“Over the last several months there have been letters to several newspapers both pro and con for trapping in Oregon. In isolated cases trapping is probably necessary because of predation and disease. Traps are nonselective and can torture any animal caught until it is either freed, dies or is killed.

However, eight states have now banned leghold traps. They are Arizona, California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Washington, Florida, New Jersey and Rhode Island.

Conibear traps are banned in all the above states and also in Connecticut, Maryland, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota and West Virginia. Some of these states allow limited use of conibear traps in water sets for beaver.

Snares are restricted in all of the above states (except South Dakota) and in Alabama, Illinois, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont. More than half of these states allow the use of snares in specific situations.

I recommend that you go to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife office and pick up a copy of the Trapping Regulations. It is very interesting to read through.

Suggestions for the ODFW Commission:

1. Charge more for trapping licenses, commensurate with the cost of resident hunting and fishing licenses.
2. The number of trappers increased from 1,000 in 2006 to 2,700 in 2007. Do they all know what they are doing? Is the test they have to take adequate? Comprehensive?
3. All traps should have to be checked every 24 to 48 hours. As it is now some traps only need to be checked every 30 days!
4. Each county should be divided into trapping and no trapping zones. This would mainly involve public lands. Print a map, sell it to cover costs. People and their dogs should have places where they can hike in safety. If the maps are available and they don't buy or use a map it is their fault—unless there are illegal traps set. Branding traps allows these people to be apprehended.
5. Set traps should to be plainly marked as an early warning to hikers and dog owners. In the late sixties when I lived in Frenchglen poison bait was used. Of course it

was non-selective and many other life forms besides coyotes died. The bait was marked with a red post so you could see it from a long ways off; at minimum one could avoid having their dog get into it.

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission needs to be proactive in finding workable solutions to the trapper versus hikers- with- dogs issue now. The problems will only get worse as humans and dog populations continue to increase.

Dallas Coon
Bend OR”

Sincerely,

Dallas J. Coon
Dallas J. Coon

ATTN: DON WHITTAKER

Public Correspondence
Topic Furbearer Reg

MY OBSERVATIONS FOR THE 2007-2008
FURBEARING SEASON ARE AS FOLLOWS

- ① CENTRAL OREGON BOBCATS AROUND
THE METOLIOUS, BEND & SOUTH AREAS
ARE POOR, I FEEL THE HARVEST
TOTALS FOR EASTERN OREGON
SHOULD BE LIMITED TO 1- BOBCAT
- ② TRAPPERS ARE ALLOWED 7 CATS
PER TAG HOLDER BUT... MANY &
KIDS ALL HAVE TAGS FOR 7 BOBCATS.
THAT IS WAY TOO MANY BEING
HARVESTED. WE SHOULD HAVE 9 mos
PURSUIT & TRAINING SEASON, AND CUT
THE HARVEST NUMBERS, THIS WOULD
HELP RESTORE THE CAT POPULATIONS.
I HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER THIS
AND PUT THE GAME FIRST THAN
TAG SALES SECOND!

Thank you
MIKE MARTELL
541-536-2726