

Small Game, Furbearer, and Trapping - Decision

Anis Aoude, Game Division Manager,
Wildlife Program





WAC 220-416-010 Small game and other wildlife seasons and regulations.

Recommended Adjustment

Remove the proposed rimfire rifle fall turkey season under Section (8)(b).

(8) FALL TURKEY GENERAL SEASONS:

(b) HUNTING METHOD RESTRICTION: It is unlawful to hunt turkeys with rifles during the fall season EXCEPT rimfire rifles may be used from October 15 – November 15.



Public Comment

Comments received prior to briefing:

- Through online survey – 1,553
 - Agree 976 (63%)
 - Disagree 161 (10%)
 - Neutral 416 (27%)
- Several respondents expressed mixed responses



Public Comment

Comments received: March 26 Commission meeting

- 4 of 10 individuals spoke specific to the proposed changes in this rule (220-416-010) during the session
 - 2 - opposed the addition of a rimfire rifle turkey season; but would support the proposed limited time frame (October 15-November 15)
 - 1 - supported rimfire rifle turkey season.
 - 1 - requested a spring grouse season to offset the proposed two-week delay of fall season.





WAC 220-417-010 Trapping seasons and regulations

Recommended Adjustment

Remove the proposal to add season requirements, daily bag limits, and possession limits for:

- Eastern cottontail,
- Nuttall's cottontail, and
- Snowshoe hare.



These species will not be added to the trapping regulations



Public Comment

Comments received prior to briefing

- Through online survey – 1,501
 - Agree 676 (45%)
 - Disagree 140 (9%)
 - Neutral 685 (46%)
- Letters/email correspondences
 - Requesting closure of beaver trapping on public land



Public Comment

Comments received: March 26 Commission meeting

Six Individuals provided verbal comments specific to this proposal

- No comments about the change in marten season or bag limit.
- Four individuals requested restricting beaver trapping to areas of reintroduction, wetland restorations, or eliminating trapping
- Two individuals spoke in favor of beaver trapping



Motion:

“I move to adopt the recommended changes as presented by staff for WACs 220-416-010 and 220-417-030.”

Is there a “second”?

