

3. 'Winnebago zone' — Beginning on the Saturday nearest October 28 and continuing through March 15.

4. 'Mississippi River zone'— Beginning on the second Monday in November or the day following the close of the open season for ducks as established under sub. (1) (b) 1., whichever occurs first, and continuing through the last day of February.

Mink & Muskrat Zones



Do you favor opening the muskrat and mink season statewide beginning on the third Saturday in October and continuing through the Sunday nearest March 7, except that season dates would not change in the Mississippi River Zone?

4. Yes _____ No _____

QUESTION 5. Establish that, when the bear hunting season is open, hunting hours apply to people who are training bear hunting dogs as well as to people who are hunting bears.

Currently, there are no restrictions on the time of day for training dogs used to hunt bears. In the past, training dogs by trailing wild bears was not legal during the hunting season for bears. With the passage

of 2011 ACT 28, training dogs to pursue wild free-roaming bear is also allowed whenever the season is open for hunting bear with dogs.

This proposal will require that all bear pursuit activities take place only during daylight hours (normal bear hunting hours) when the bear hunting season is open in order to eliminate the need for conservation wardens and others to determine who is hunting and who is only training dogs to pursue bear. Consistent hours for hunting and training activity also addresses fairness concerns between groups of people who are pursuing the same species in the same areas.

Bear dog training typically is done during daylight hours so this will not result in a significant loss of dog training opportunity.

5. Do you favor establishing that, when the bear hunting season is open, it is only legal to train dogs to pursue free-roaming wild bear during the same hours that are legal for hunting bears?

5. Yes _____ No _____

QUESTION 6. Establish that certain traps placed for weasels need to be checked by the trapper every four days instead of daily (2014).

Trappers in Wisconsin normally use enclosures to trap weasels in winter. These enclosures are generally a shoebox sized container with small opening on one end, a body grip trap positioned near the front of the enclosure by the opening, and bait placed in the rear of the enclosure. These trap types were found to meet humane standards, with weasels usually expiring soon after entering the enclosure. Because this is a dry land set, it currently needs to be checked daily. Some trappers would like to have more time to tend these specific types of traps.

Weasels in these enclosed, body grip traps in winter expire quickly, are chilled and preserved, out of sight from the public and unavailable to scavengers. If the enclosure is securely fastened to an immovable object, any non-target species that could reach through the small opening with a front paw could pull it out without harm.

6. Would you support allowing trappers four days to check weasel enclosures if the enclosure meets the following requirements:

- The opening is not larger than 1 3/8 inches diameter (this size restriction would specifically target weasels and effectively eliminate the accidental take of other furbearers including the American marten)
- The enclosure set uses a bodygrip trap
- The enclosure is secured to an immoveable object to allow non-target furbearers to self-release without harm?

6. Yes _____ No _____