

IC 14-22-6

Chapter 6. Regulation of Birds and Mammals

IC 14-22-6-1

Taking of wild animals governed by laws and rules

Sec. 1. A person may not take, chase, or possess a wild animal, except as provided by:

- (1) a statute; or
- (2) a rule adopted under IC 4-22-2 to implement this article.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15.

IC 14-22-6-2

Migratory birds; taking governed by article

Sec. 2. A person may not:

- (1) take, possess, sell, offer for sale, purchase, or offer to purchase;
- (2) ship, transport, or carry; or
- (3) deliver or receive for shipment, transportation, or carriage in any manner outside Indiana;

a migratory bird designated in this article or a part, nest, or egg of a migratory bird, except as otherwise permitted by this article.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15.

IC 14-22-6-3

Migratory birds; permit or license requirement

Sec. 3. A person may not take or possess for any purpose, during the closed season, a migratory bird or the nest, eggs, or increase of a migratory bird without having a permit or license issued by the director under this article.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15. Amended by P.L.69-2009, SEC.7.

IC 14-22-6-4

Trapping; tending traps

Sec. 4. A person may not do the following:

- (1) Tend or visit a trap or remove a furbearing animal from a trap that is not the person's property without the permission of the owner.
- (2) Fail to tend or visit or have tended or visited a trap and remove a furbearing animal from a trap that is the person's property within a period not exceeding twenty-four (24) hours.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15.

IC 14-22-6-5

Trapping; underwater box traps

Sec. 5. A person may trap furbearing animals with an underwater box trap during trapping season.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15.

IC 14-22-6-6

Trapping; snares

Sec. 6. (a) A person may not use a snare for the trapping of animals, except upon land owned by the user or with the written permission of the owner.

(b) A snare that permits a circumference of more than fifteen (15) inches may not be used for the trapping of animals unless:

(1) at least fifty percent (50%) of the loop of the snare is covered by water; or

(2) the snare employs a relaxing snare lock.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15. Amended by P.L.183-1995, SEC.1.

IC 14-22-6-7

Jacklighting prohibited

Sec. 7. (a) This section does not apply to an employee of the department or an employee of a federal wildlife management agency who:

(1) is acting in the performance of the employee's duties; and

(2) has received the express written consent of the director for the employee's action.

(b) A person may not knowingly throw or cast the rays of any spotlight or other artificial light:

(1) not required by law on a motor vehicle; and

(2) in search of or upon any wild bird or wild animal;

from a vehicle while the person possesses a firearm, bow, or crossbow, if by throwing or casting the rays a wild bird or wild animal could be killed. This subsection applies even though the animal is not killed, injured, shot at, or otherwise pursued.

(c) A person may not take any wildlife, except furbearing mammals, with the aid of illumination of any spotlight, searchlight, or other artificial light.

(d) A person may not shine a spotlight, searchlight, or other artificial light for the purpose of taking, attempting to take, or assisting another person to take a deer.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15. Amended by P.L.13-2007, SEC.1.

IC 14-22-6-8

Sale of wild birds or mammals governed by article

Sec. 8. (a) As used in this section, "sell" includes serving as a part of a meal by a restaurant, a hotel, a boardinghouse, or an eating house keeper.

(b) A person may not sell, offer to buy, trade, or offer to trade a wild bird or mammal, or meat from a wild bird or mammal, that:

(1) is live or dead; and

(2) is taken in:

(A) Indiana; or

(B) another state and brought into Indiana;

except as otherwise provided in this article.

(c) Proof that a bird or mammal was served constitutes prima facie evidence that the bird or mammal was served in violation of this article. However, a restaurant, a hotel, a boardinghouse, or an eating house keeper may prepare and serve during open season to:

(1) a guest, patron, or boarder; and
(2) the family of the guest, patron, or boarder;
a bird or mammal legally taken by the guest, patron, or boarder
during the open season.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15.

IC 14-22-6-9

Shooting from or across public highways prohibited

Sec. 9. A person may not:

- (1) hunt, shoot, shoot at, or kill an animal; or
- (2) shoot at an object;

from within, into, upon, or across a public highway in Indiana.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15.

IC 14-22-6-10

Shooting into or across waters of the state

Sec. 10. A person may not shoot into or across:

- (1) the waters of the state; or
- (2) the boundary waters of the state;

except in the lawful pursuit of wild animals.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15.

IC 14-22-6-11

Silencers prohibited

Sec. 11. (a) This section does not apply to an employee of the department or an employee of a federal wildlife management agency who:

- (1) is acting in the performance of the employee's duties; and
- (2) has received the express written consent of the director for the employee's action.

(b) A person may not:

- (1) use or possess an apparatus designed for use with or on a firearm commonly called a silencer; or
- (2) use or possess a device used as a silencer;

in Indiana while in the act of hunting.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15. Amended by P.L.13-2007, SEC.2.

IC 14-22-6-12

Taking of coyotes

Sec. 12. A person:

- (1) who possesses land; or
- (2) designated in writing by a person who possesses land;

may take coyotes on the land at any time.

As added by P.L.1-1995, SEC.15.

IC 14-22-6-13

Controlled hunts in state parks

Sec. 13. (a) If the director:

- (1) determines that a species of wild animal present within a state park poses an unusual hazard to the health or safety of one

- (1) or more individuals;
 - (2) determines, based upon the opinion of a professional biologist, that it is likely that:
 - (A) a species of wild animal present within a state park will cause obvious and measurable damage to the ecological balance within the state park; and
 - (B) the ecological balance within the state park will not be maintained unless action is taken to control the population of the species within the state park; or
 - (3) is required under a condition of a lease from the federal government to manage a particular wild animal species;
- the director shall establish a controlled hunt for the species within the state park.
- (b) An order issued by the director under this section must set forth the conditions of the hunt.
- As added by P.L.47-1995, SEC.2. Amended by P.L.18-2009, SEC.1.*

IC 14-22-6-14

Control of deer population; landowner assistance program

- Sec. 14. (a) The:
- (1) division of fish and wildlife of the department; and
 - (2) division of soil conservation established within the Indiana state department of agriculture by IC 15-11-4-1, through the soil and water conservation districts established under IC 14-32;
- shall, in cooperation with other conservation education organizations and one (1) or more organizations of hunters, establish a program to help landowners with problems determined by the director to be caused by localized deer population.
- (b) The program established under this section must educate landowners concerning the means by which a landowner can:
- (1) control; or
 - (2) obtain assistance in controlling;
- the deer population on the landowner's tract of land.
- (c) Under the program established under this section, one (1) or more hunters or organizations of hunters may, upon request by a landowner, work with the department and the landowner to alleviate problems caused by localized deer populations.
- (d) In each county, the division of fish and wildlife, in cooperation with the soil and water conservation district established within the county under IC 14-32, shall disseminate information about the program established under this section.
- As added by P.L.47-1995, SEC.3. Amended by P.L.1-2006, SEC.213; P.L.2-2008, SEC.30; P.L.120-2008, SEC.7.*