

## **FO - 224.08**

### **REGULATIONS ON THE TAKE OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**

Under the authority of sections 43509, 48702 and 48705 of 1994 PA 451, as amended, being sections 324.43509, 324.48702, and 324.48705 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources on December 6, 2007, ordered that:

It shall be unlawful to kill, take, trap, possess, buy, sell, offer to buy or sell, barter, or attempt to take, trap, possess or barter any reptile or amphibian from the wild, or the eggs of any reptile or amphibian from the wild, except as provided within this order.

#### **GENERAL**

1. The following species of reptiles and amphibians shall not be taken from the wild and possessed except as authorized under a permit from the director:

Six Lines Racerunner (*Cnemidophorus sexlineatus*)

Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake (*Sistrurus catenatus catenatus*)

Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*)

Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*)

Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina carolina*)

Black Rat Snake (*Elaphe obsoleta obsoleta*)

Blanchard's Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans blanchardi*)

Boreal Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata maculata*)

Those reptiles and amphibians protected under the Endangered Species Act, Part 365 of Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994.

2. A person may collect reptiles and amphibians or their eggs for research studies or other special use under a permit issued by the director's designated fisheries representative. The permit shall be valid only for the species, number, manner and time specified on the permit.
3. A person may take certain species of reptiles and amphibians for personal use. See items listed under personal use.
4. The taking of reptiles and amphibians for commercial purposes is prohibited.
5. Reptiles may be taken only by hand, trap, seines up to 12 x 4 feet overall dimension, hand net, or hook and line as defined in Section 48703 of Act 451 of 1994.
6. Amphibians may be taken by hand, hook and line, hand net or trap where not otherwise prohibited by law. In addition, frogs may be speared. As provided by Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, frogs shall not be speared with the aid of an artificial light.
7. Traps used or possessed in areas frequented by reptiles must have a plate or tag attached bearing the name and address of the user in legible English.
8. It is illegal to possess or transport in the field, dressed or processed reptiles or amphibians that cannot be measured or identified.

9. A person shall immediately release to the wild any reptile or amphibian that is taken during a closed season, is under the legal size, or is otherwise protected.
10. Snapping and softshell turtles may only be taken each year from July 15 to September 15.
11. A person may only take and possess snapping turtles with a carapace length of 13 inches or more.
12. Reptile eggs may not be disturbed or removed from the wild except as authorized under a permit by the Director.

**PERSONAL USE**

1. Traps used for the taking of turtles shall be limited to no more than 3 traps, shall be constructed and set in a manner to allow turtles to surface and breathe, and shall be constructed of mesh at least 1 inch wide at the narrowest measurement.
2. All reptiles and amphibians taken for personal use shall not be bought, sold or offered for sale.
3. The following table lists the regulations that apply to the taking of reptiles and amphibians for personal use:

<b>Species</b>	<b>Season</b>	<b>Minimum Size (inches)</b>	<b>Daily Possession Limit</b>	<b>Total Possession Limit</b>
Frogs, toads, salamanders, mudpuppies	Last Sat. in May - Nov. 15	None	10 in any combination	10 in any combination
Snapping turtles	July 15-Sept. 15	13 inch minimum carapace length	2 in combination (no more than 1 of either species)	4 total in combination (no more than 2 of either species)
Softshell turtles		None		
All other turtles (painted, musk, map, red-eared slider); snakes and lizards	Open all year	None	3 in combination (However, no more than 2 turtles and no more than 1 of any one turtle species)	6 total in combination (However, no more than 4 turtles and no more than 2 of any one turtle species)

This order shall be assigned number FO-224.08, and is entitled “Regulation on the Take of Reptiles and Amphibians.”

This order supersedes the order entitled “Regulation on the Take of Reptiles and Amphibians” effective October 12, 2001, and assigned number FO-224.02.

This order shall take effect April 1, 2008, and shall remain effective through March 31, 2013.