



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT
LANSING



SUBMITTED: December 13, 2010
RESUBMITTED: January 18, 2011
RESUBMITTED: February 14, 2011

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Field Dog Trials
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 03 of 2011

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director and the Commission to issue orders to manage wild animals in this state.

Discussion and Background:

Current regulations require the possession of a permit to conduct field dog trials during the dog training season. This amendment eliminates the permit requirement during the dog training season and restates the need for a permit only for dog training that takes place outside of the dog training season provided for in Section 14.3 of the Wildlife Conservation Order. Field dog trials on public lands may require an event or commercial use permit by the Department.

This amendment was brought forward at the request of dog training and hunting organizations.

Recommendation:

This order was submitted for information on January 13 and February 10, 2011 at the Natural Resources Commission Meeting. This item appeared on the Department's December 2010 and January 2011 calendars and may be eligible for approval on March 10, 2011.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest Management Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Recreation Division

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Kelley D. Smith, Ph.D., Chief
Fisheries Division

Mindy S. Koch, Deputy Director
Resource Management

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the Chief of Staff has authority.

Rodney A. Stokes
Chief of Staff

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 03 of 2011

By authority conferred on the Natural Resources Commission and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment by sections 40107 and 40113a of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.40107 and 324.40113a, it is ordered that effective March 11, 2011, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

15.3 Field dog trial, director's authority.

Sec. 15.3 (1) A person shall not conduct a field dog trial on public land without first obtaining written authorization from the director upon an application form approved by the director.

(2) A person shall not conduct a field dog trial on private land from April 16 through July 8 without first obtaining written authorization from the director upon an application form approved by the director.

(3) It shall be unlawful for a person to make a false statement upon the application form authorized in this section.

(4) In fox and raccoon field dog trials, live fox or raccoon that are legally possessed may be used provided that such animals are not dragged, led on a leash, submerged in water, or allowed to come in contact with dogs.

(5) A person shall not shoot live birds in a field dog trial unless specifically authorized in writing by the director and shall comply with the following:

(a) It shall be unlawful to allow more than 4 persons to take live birds in a field dog trial, or to allow a person to take a bird if that person is not authorized to do so by the land administrator, or to use a kind of bird, number of birds, or source of birds other than those authorized by the director. Birds may be temporarily confined in a small portable cage for training purposes. Birds lawfully taken may be sold providing a receipt is issued by the sponsor of the field dog trial to the buyer. The receipt must be retained by the buyer until disposal of the bird carcasses.

15.4 Field dog trial, unlawful acts.

Sec. 15.4 (1) It shall be unlawful to conduct a field dog trial from April 16 through July 8 without maintaining a list of all trial participants at trial headquarters. The list shall be kept throughout the duration of the trial and shall be available for inspection at any time by any peace officer.

(2) Subject to section 43510, subsections (2) and (3), of Part 435, as amended, hunting and fishing licensing, MCL 324.43510, it shall be unlawful for a person to possess a firearm other than a shotgun, pistol, or revolver or ammunition other than blank cartridges while engaged in field dog trials, unless otherwise specifically authorized in writing by the director.

Issued on this 10th day of March, 2011.

Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Timothy L. Nichols, Chairman
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Chief of Staff has authority.

Rodney A. Stokes
Chief of Staff