

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2015

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SENATE BILL 647
Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources Committee Substitute Adopted 4/22/15
Third Edition Engrossed 4/30/15

Short Title: Amend Trapping Law.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 30, 2015

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE TRAPPING LAW RELATING TO CONIBEAR TYPE TRAPS.
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 SECTION 1. G.S. 113-291.6 reads as rewritten:

5 "§ 113-291.6. Regulation of trapping.

6 ...

7 (d) Conibear type traps that have an inside jaw spread or opening (width or height)
8 greater than seven and one-half inches and no larger than 26 inches in width and 12 inches in
9 height may only be set in the water and in areas in which beaver and otter may be lawfully
10 trapped. For the purposes of this section:

11 (1) A water-set trap is one totally covered by water with the anchor secured in
12 water deep enough to drown the animal trapped quickly.

13 (2) In areas of tidal waters, the mean high water is considered covering water.

14 (3) In reservoir areas, covering water is the low water level prevailing during the
15 preceding 24 hours.

16 (4) Marshland, as defined in G.S. 113-229(n)(3), is not considered dry land.

17 (d1) "Bucket sets" are prohibited.

18 (d2) Conibear type traps set with bait may be set on dry land only within an enclosure
19 approved by the rules of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission subject to the
20 following minimum requirements:

21 (1) No openings on the enclosure may exceed 60 square inches.

22 (2) The trap trigger shall be recessed at least eight inches from all openings.

23 (d3) Conibear type traps set without an enclosure as described in this section and without
24 bait may be set on dry land. On private lands, baited traps without an enclosure may be set in
25 buildings and structures or as authorized by a depredation permit issued by the North Carolina
26 Wildlife Resources Commission.

27"

28 SECTION 2. G.S. 113-270.5(a) reads as rewritten:

29 "(a) Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, no one may take fur-bearing
30 animals by trapping, or by any other authorized special method that preserves the pelt from
31 injury, without first having procured a current and valid trapping license. All individuals newly
32 licensed under this section after October 1, 2016, shall complete a trapper education course
33 approved by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. When the trapping license is
34 required, it serves in lieu of a hunting license in the taking of fur-bearing animals. If fur-bearing



1 animals are taken as game, at the times and by the hunting methods that may be authorized,
2 hunting license requirements apply."

3 **SECTION 3.** The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission shall adopt rules
4 to require the reporting of domestic animals taken by trapping.

5 **SECTION 3.1.** Individuals taking the trapper education course required under
6 G.S. 113-270.5(a), as amended by Section 2 of this act, may be charged a fee to cover the cost
7 of administering the education course.

8 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective December 1, 2015, and applies to
9 offenses committed on or after that date.