

SENATE FILE NO. SF0140

Trapping education requirements.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Dockstader and Representative(s)
Erickson

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; requiring any person born
2 on or after January 1, 2000 to obtain a certificate of
3 trapping education to be qualified to trap wildlife;
4 providing for a person to receive special authorization to
5 trap or snare wildlife when accompanied by a qualified
6 mentor as specified; making conforming amendments;
7 requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective dates.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-2-308 is created to read:

12

13 **23-2-308. Trapper education required; exceptions.**

14

1 (a) Except as otherwise authorized by law or rule of
2 the commission, no person born on and after January 1,
3 2000, shall take any wildlife by the use of any trap or
4 snare on land other than that of the person's own family,
5 unless the person possesses or can demonstrate they have
6 obtained a certificate of trapper education approved by the
7 department.

8
9 (b) Any person who has not received a certificate of
10 trapper education as provided by subsection (a) of this
11 section may apply to the department for a special
12 authorization to take wildlife by the use of any trap or
13 snare while being accompanied by a person who has attained
14 the age of majority, acting as a mentor, who possesses or
15 can demonstrate they have obtained a certificate of trapper
16 education, unless otherwise exempted, and who possesses a
17 valid Wyoming hunting license. A mentor shall not provide
18 supervision for more than one (1) person, other than
19 immediate family members, at any one (1) time. The special
20 authorization shall be valid for not more than one (1)
21 year. A person may reapply or renew the special
22 authorization as provided by this section and pursuant to
23 rule of the commission.

1

2 (c) The commission shall promulgate rules and
3 regulations to carry out the purposes of this section.

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5 **Section 2.** W.S. 23-2-303(a)(intro) and 23-3-103(a)
6 are amended to read:

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8 **23-2-303. Trapping licenses; tagging; traps and**
9 **snares; penalty; confiscation; inspection; interference**
10 **with trapping.**

11

12 (a) Any person who qualifies under W.S. 23-2-308 may,
13 in the discretion of the department upon application and
14 the payment of the proper fee, receive a license to trap
15 any furbearing animal. The department shall issue a
16 trapping license to a nonresident only if his state issues
17 licenses to Wyoming residents to trap the same species for
18 which residents of that state may be licensed to trap in
19 that state. Any nonresident applying for a Wyoming trapping
20 license shall furnish:

21

1 **23-3-103. Taking predatory animals, predacious birds**
2 **and trophy animals; taking furbearing animals and game**
3 **birds without license prohibited.**

4
5 (a) Predatory animals and predacious birds may be
6 taken without a license in any manner and at any time
7 except as provided by W.S. 23-2-303(d) and (e), 23-2-308,
8 23-3-112, 23-3-304(b), 23-3-305, 23-3-306(b) and 23-3-307.
9 The department shall report annually to the Wyoming
10 department of agriculture the number of predatory animals
11 and predacious birds taken by the department's animal
12 damage control agents, and include in the report the area
13 where taken and the control method used.

14
15 **Section 3.** The game and fish commission shall
16 promulgate all rules necessary to implement the provisions
17 of this act not later than January 1, 2026.

18

1 **Section 4.**

2

3 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
4 section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

5

6 (b) Sections 3 and 4 of this act are effective
7 immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a
8 bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of
9 the Wyoming Constitution.

10

11

(END)