



HOUSE BILL 65: Wilkes/New Hanover/Cherokee Fox Trapping

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources	Date:	May 6, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Elmore, Stevens, Zachary	Prepared by:	Chris Saunders Committee Counsel
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H65-CSTQ		

SUMMARY: *House Bill 65 would permit fox trapping in Wilkes County, New Hanover County, and Cherokee County during the trapping season set by the Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) and allow for the sale of foxes legally taken by trapping.*

The PCS adds New Hanover and Cherokee Counties.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S76, as introduced by Sen. Randleman, which is currently in Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources.]

CURRENT LAW: Fox trapping currently is not permitted in Wilkes, New Hanover, or Cherokee Counties. Year-round fox hunting with weapons is permitted in Wilkes County. In New Hanover County, fox hunting with weapons is permitted from November 17 to January 1. Cherokee County does not have a season for fox hunting with a weapon. Fox trapping is allowed in 38 counties. In some counties, trappers are exempt from tagging requirements, and in some counties, the sale of foxes is prohibited.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 65 would allow fox trapping in Wilkes, New Hanover, and Cherokee Counties during the general trapping season set by the WRC, which runs from November 1 to February 28 in those counties. There would be no bag limit on foxes taken by trapping. The act also directs the WRC to provide for the sale of foxes taken legally pursuant to this act. There would be no tagging requirements before or after sale. This act would apply only to Wilkes, New Hanover, and Cherokee Counties.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would become effective when it becomes law.

BACKGROUND:

More information on fox trapping seasons for different counties can be found at:

http://www.ncwildlife.org/Regs/documents/fox_seasons_dates.pdf

