



HOUSE BILL 991: Fox Trapping Local Omnibus.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:		Date:	August 8, 2018
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Kyle Evans Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	S.L. 2018-10		

OVERVIEW: *S.L. 2018-10 makes various changes to local acts pertaining to the hunting and trapping of foxes and coyotes.*

The act becomes effective October 1, 2018.

CURRENT LAW: Fox trapping is allowed in 43 counties. In some counties, trappers are exempt from tagging requirements, and in some counties, the sale of foxes is prohibited.

G.S. 113-291.4(g) requires the Wildlife Resources Commission to implement a system of tagging foxes and fox furs with a special fox tag. The fox tag must be procured before taking foxes.

G.S. 113-133.1 provides for the Statewide regulation of conservation of wildlife resources by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Subsection (e) of G.S. 113-133.1 retains certain local laws and statutes for individual counties that were repealed by G.S. 113-133.1(b).

BILL ANALYSIS:

This act makes the following changes in Cabarrus, Gaston, McDowell, Mitchell, Montgomery, Rowan, Rutherford, and Stokes Counties:

- Provides for an open season for taking foxes with weapons.
- Provides for the trapping of foxes and coyotes during trapping seasons set by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- Provides for no tagging requirements prior to or after sale.

This act also repeals the following local acts pertaining to fox trapping:

- S.L. 1947-333 – Davie County: Provides an open season on foxes; prohibition on importation and release of foxes in Davie County.
- S.L. 1973-114 – Rutherford & McDowell Counties: Unlawful for any person to take by gun, trap, or otherwise, or to kill or destroy by any means, any red fox, unless fox was committing depredations to property or may become a menace to the public health or safety.
- Sections 1 and 3 of S.L. 1977-1142 – Montgomery County: No closed season for hunting foxes with dogs or guns; lawful to take or attempt to take foxes with dogs.
- S.L. 1989-134 – Jones County: Open season for the hunting, taking, or killing of foxes with firearms from November 1 through December 31 of each year.
- Sections 1 and 2 of S.L. 2008-102 – Stokes County: Open season for taking foxes with weapons and by trapping from the first Saturday in January through the last Saturday in January of each year, with no tagging requirements prior to or after sale; no bag limit applies to taken foxes.

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Director



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- Section 3 of S.L. 1975-219 – Greene County: Unlawful to hunt fox, either red or gray, with firearms during the two-week deer season. (As repealed in S.L. 2010-82. Section 2 of this bill would remove this section from the list of retained local acts.)

This act also makes the following changes in Davie County and in those portions of Forsyth County outside the city limits of the City of Winston-Salem:

- Provides for an open season for taking coyotes and foxes with weapons.
- Provides for the trapping of foxes and coyotes during trapping seasons set by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- Provides for no tagging requirements prior to or after sale.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act becomes effective October 1, 2018.

BACKGROUND: More information on fox trapping seasons for different counties can be found at: <http://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Regs/Documents/fox-season-dates.pdf>.

More information on coyote trapping can be found at: <http://www.ncwildlife.org/Portals/0/Regs/Documents/Trapping-Regulations.pdf>.

Jessica Sammons, Staff Attorney, contributed substantially to this summary.