

## Furbearer Trapping Seasons

*Public Hearings will be held on these proposed changes on April 18. See [www.iowadnr.com/wildlife/files/ICN2006.html](http://www.iowadnr.com/wildlife/files/ICN2006.html) for a list of places to attend. The final rule will go to the Natural Resource Commission on June 8<sup>th</sup> at Whiterock Conservancy in Guthrie County.*

- 1) The river otter was removed from the list of species with a Continuous Closed Season.
- 2) A River Otter Trapping Season is proposed.
  - Trappers would need a furharvester license & pay the habitat fee to trap otter.
  - The season will be open statewide.
  - The statewide quota will be 400 otters, plus any that are trapped in a 72-hour grace period after the quota is reached.
  - Season Limit: 2 otters per trapper
  - Season Dates: November 4 until the quota is filled and the grace period ends.
- 3) Reporting Requirements
  - Trappers must call a Conservation Officer within 24 hours of capturing an otter.
  - The conservation officer will call the DNR's Harvest Reporting System to report the otter
  - DNR will post the quota remaining daily on their web site and on a telephone Hot Line.
  - The web site and hot line will contain messages updated daily for when the seasons ends, the grace period begins and when it ends.
  - Once the grace period starts, trappers may keep any otter captured in the next 72 hours
  - Otter captured after the grace period must be turned over to DNR without penalty.
  - Carcasses will be collected by DNR for further study.
- 4) Tagging Requirements
  - Trappers must meet with the C.O. within 72 hours of reporting an otter to receive and apply a CITES tag.
  - CITES tags must be applied before the otter is skinned and remain attached to the hide until it is sold. Animals kept for taxidermy or other display or educational purposes must have the CITES tag retained with the pelt at all times.