

Agenda

Natural Resource Commission

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Teleconference: 361-245-0121 PIN: 803 292 109#

Video Conference: meet.google.com/smw-cnju-drz

Rathbun Fish Hatchery Meeting Room

15053 Hatchery Place, Moravia, IA, 52571

Wednesday, April 8, 2026-Commissioners will be touring Lake Keomah State Park and the Rathbun Fish Hatchery. Please contact Alicia Plathe at Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov by Tuesday, April 7th at 4:30pm if you are interested in joining the tour.

Thursday, April 9, 2026

9:00 AM – NRC Business Meeting

Public participation begins at approximately 9:30am. If you are unable to attend the business meeting, comments regarding agenda items may be submitted for public record to Alicia Plathe at Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov or 6200 Park Ave Ste 200, Des Moines IA 50321 up to 24 hours prior to the business meeting.

1.	Approval of Agenda Consent Agenda (*within agenda indicates proposed consent agenda item) * 5. Donations *8. Chapter 16, “Docks and Other Structures on Public Waters” – Final Rule *9. Chapter 60, “State Preserves”– Final Rule *10. Chapter 76, “Unprotected Nongame” – Final Rule *12. Chapter 78, “Ginseng Harvesting and Sale” – Final Rule *13. Chapter 79, “Fish Stocking Procedures and Fees for Private Waters” – Final Rule *14. Chapter 80, “Salvage of Fish and Game” – Final Rule *15. Chapter 81, “Fishing Regulations” – Final Rule *16. Chapter 82, “Commercial Fishing” – Final Rule *17. Chapter 83, “Scuba and Skin Spearing of Rough Fish” – Final Rule *18. Chapter 84, “Promiscuous Fishing” – Final Rule *19. Chapter 86, “Turtles” – Final Rule *20. Chapter 87, “Mussel Regulations” – Final Rule *21. Chapter 89, “Aquaculture” – Final Rule *22. Chapter 90, “Aquatic Invasive Species” – Final Rule *23. Chapter 93, “Commercial Use of Captive-Reared Waterfowl” – Final Rule *24. Chapter 95, “Game Harvest Reporting and Landowner-Tenant Registration”– Final Rule *25. Chapter 98, “Wild Turkey Hunting” – Final Rule *26. Chapter 103, “Mobile Radio Transmitters” – Final Rule *27. Chapter 111, “Natural Resources Collector Permits: Research, Education, Wildlife Rehabilitation” – Final Rule *28. Chapters 104, 115, and 112, “Hunting Preserves” – Final Rule *29. Chapter 113, “Restitution for Pollution Causing Injury to Wild Animals” – Final Rule *30. Chapter 116, “Help Us Stop Hunger Program Administration” – Final Rule *34. Public Land Management Project-Easement Conveyance-Union County-Southern Iowa Rural Water Association *37. Chapter 15, “General License Regulations” (Lifetime Furharvester SF253 Addition)-Final Rule	Decision	Commission
2.	Approval of the Minutes	Decision	Commission
3.	Director’s Remarks	Information	Kayla Lyon
4.	Division Administrator’s Remarks	Information	Pete Hildreth
*5.	Donations	Decision	Pete Hildreth
6.	Iowa Forest Resiliency Partnership Program Grant Recommendations	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
7.	Chapter 15, “General License Regulations” – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid

*8.	Chapter 16, "Docks and Other Structures on Public Waters" – Final Rule	Decision	Craig Cutts
*9.	Chapter 60, "State Preserves"– Final Rule	Decision	Travis Baker
*10.	Chapter 76, "Unprotected Nongame" – Final Rule	Decision	Todd Bishop
11.	Chapter 77, "Endangered and Threatened Plants and Animal Species" – Final Rule	Decision	Travis Baker
*12.	Chapter 78, "Ginseng Harvesting and Sale" – Final Rule	Decision	Karmin Klingenberg
*13.	Chapter 79, "Fish Stocking Procedures and Fees for Private Waters" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*14.	Chapter 80, "Salvage of Fish and Game" – Final Rule	Decision	Matt Bruner
*15.	Chapter 81, "Fishing Regulations" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*16.	Chapter 82, "Commercial Fishing" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*17.	Chapter 83, "Scuba and Skin Spearing of Rough Fish" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*18.	Chapter 84, "Promiscuous Fishing" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*19.	Chapter 86, "Turtles" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*20.	Chapter 87, "Mussel Regulations" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*21.	Chapter 89, "Aquaculture" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*22.	Chapter 90, "Aquatic Invasive Species" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*23.	Chapter 93, "Commercial Use of Captive-Reared Waterfowl" – Final Rule	Decision	Todd Bishop
*24.	Chapter 95, "Game Harvest Reporting and Landowner-Tenant Registration"– Final Rule	Decision	Denise Roberg
*25.	Chapter 98, "Wild Turkey Hunting" – Final Rule	Decision	Todd Bishop
*26.	Chapter 103, "Mobile Radio Transmitters" – Final Rule	Decision	Matt Bruner
*27.	Chapter 111, "Natural Resources Collector Permits: Research, Education, Wildlife Rehabilitation" – Final Rule	Decision	Karmin Klingenberg
*28.	Chapters 104, 115, and 112, "Hunting Preserves" – Final Rule	Decision	Todd Bishop
*29.	Chapter 113, "Restitution for Pollution Causing Injury to Wild Animals" – Final Rule	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*30.	Chapter 116, "Help Us Stop Hunger Program Administration" – Final Rule	Decision	Todd Bishop
31.	Small Construction Projects: Foundation Demolition and Debris Removal at Brushy Creek SRA, Foundation Demolition and Debris Removal at Big Creek State Park, Jones Creek Pond Parking Maintenance, Cabin Window Replacement at Lake of Three Fires, Fish Barrier Project at Easter Lake Park, Culvert Repair at Viking Lake	Information	Travis Baker
32.	Large Construction Projects	Decision	Travis Baker
32.1	Rathbun Wildlife Unit – Road Maintenance – Appanoose County		
32.2	Otter Creek Marsh WMA – Road Maintenance – Tama County		
32.3	Cedar Rock State Park – Tuckpoint and Retaining Wall – Buchanan County		
32.4	Cody Shooting Complex - Phase 2 - Scott County		
32.5	Ledges State Park – Road Maintenance - Boone County		
33.	Chapter 30 - Waters Cost-Share and Grants Program, Water Trails Development Program Grant Recommendations	Decision	Travis Baker
*34.	Public Land Management Project-Easement Conveyance-Union County-Sothern Iowa Rural Water Association	Decision	Travis Baker
35.	Contract Amendment with the City of Grinnell (Arbor Lake & Lake Nyanza)	Decision	Travis Baker
36.	Camping Designation at Cedar Rock State Park for July 23-24, 2026	Decision	Sherry Arntzen

*37.	Chapter 15, "General License Regulations" (Lifetime Furharvester SF253 Addition)-Final Rule	Todd Bishop
38.	General Discussion	
Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May 14, Butch Olofson Shooting Range ● June 10-11, Cerro Gordo County 		

For details on the NRC meeting schedule, visit:

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/BoardsCommissions/NaturalResourceCommission.aspx>

Comments during the public participation period regarding proposed rules or notices of intended action are not included in the official comments for that rule package unless they are submitted as required in the Notice of Intended Action.

Any person attending the public meeting and has special requirements such as those related to mobility or hearing impairments should contact the DNR or ADA Coordinator at 515-725-8200, Relay Iowa TTY Service 800-735-7942, or Webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov, and advise of specific needs.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, English-language proficiency, disability, or age in the administration of its programs or activities in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. DNR will not tolerate discrimination, intimidation, threats, coercion, or retaliation against any individual or group because they have exercised their rights protected by federal or state law.

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION
MEETING**

March 12, 2026

**6200 Park Ave
Des Moines, IA, 50321 and
Teleconference**

Approved by the Commission **TBD**

DRAFT

RECORD COPY	
File Name	<u>Admin 01-05</u>
Sender's	<u>ap</u>
Initials	<u> </u>

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Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission (Commission or NRC) was called to order by Chairperson Tom Prickett at 9:30 am on March 12, 2026 via video/teleconference attendees.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

- Uriah Hansen
- Tom Prickett
- KR Buck
- Collin Brecher
- Laura Kudej
- Bill Moritz
- Tammi Kircher

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda included:

- *6. Management Agreement – Hickory Hills Recreation Area – Black Hawk County Conservation Board – Tama County
- *9. Contract with Group Creatives-Little Sioux River Water Trail Plan
- *10. Contract Amendment with Pheasants Forever, Inc.-Private Lands Technical Assistance One-Year Extension

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Collin Brecher.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Bill Moritz to approve the February 2026 meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Laura Kudej.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

DIRECTOR’S REMARKS

- Director Lyon provided an overview of two separate budget presentations she gave to the Legislature. She highlighted a couple of topics in her presentations, which included infrastructure updates, lake restoration, water trails and dam mitigation efforts. Director Lyon offered to share the slide deck for both presentations to Commissioners if they have interest.
- Director Lyon invited Commissioners to attend the Gift to Iowa Celebration scheduled for March 24th at the Iowa State Capitol building.

DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR’S REMARKS

- Division Administrator (DA) Pete Hildreth announced that the Conservation and Recreation bureaus held their statewide meetings for 2026.
- DA Hildreth thanked Commissioners for attending hunter listening sessions, sharing that the sessions had excellent attendance and participation. Chris Ensminger is analyzing data collected at these sessions and will provide a summary to the Commission in the near future.
- DA Hildreth also shared that we are about a month out from Spring turkey season. He gave a brief overview of the turkey season dates and the previous years’ turkey sales. DA Hildreth noted that there was a good turkey hatch in 2025 and 2024 so hunters should look forward to a good number of birds to hunt this Spring.

CONTRACT WITH IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION (INHF)-FORESTRY PROGRAM NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST; FIRE PROGRAM SPECIALISTS

Jeff Goerndt requested Commission approval for a contract with INHF for contract positions for the Forest Legacy program and Fire program. Mr. Goerndt and DA Hildreth mentioned that staff are starting to work with colleges to build on their fire science programs. Commissioner Kudej encouraged the Department to continue to expand this relationship.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Bill Moritz.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

PIKES PEAK STATE PARK, LAGOON LINER REPLACEMENT – CLAYTON COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for a lagoon liner replacement at Pikes Peak State Park.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Uriah Hansen.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CLEAR LAKE WILDLIFE UNIT, MYRE SLOUGH WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT – WINNEBAGO COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to replace a water control structure at Myre Slough within the Clear Lake Wildlife Unit.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

Motion was made by Laura Kudej to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Collin Brecher.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

TEMPLAR STATE RECREATION AREA, BOAT RAMP RESTROOM – DICKINSON COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for the replacement of a boat ramp restroom at Templar State Recreation Area.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Bill Moritz.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

BRUSHY CREEK STATE RECREATION AREA, BEACH STORMWATER RUNOFF IMPROVEMENTS – WEBSTER COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for beach stormwater runoff improvements at Brushy Creek State Recreation Area.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Bill Moritz.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Commissioners shared about their experiences at the hunter listening sessions, noting good attendance and discussions, and thanked staff for their efforts.
- A couple of Commissioners commented on the Spring migration and their Snow Goose hunting experiences.
- Commissioners are looking forward to Spring Turkey season.
- Commissioner Kudej thanked PIO Tammie Krausman for all of her work on the DNR social media platforms.

ADJOURN

Chairperson Tom Prickett adjourned the Natural Resources Commission meeting at 10:20 am on March 12, 2026.

ADJOURNED

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

***Item #5** (**indicates proposed consent item*)

Donations

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the following donations:

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:
Parks, Forests, and Preserves	\$3,070.55	Round up donations through the Iowa State Parks Reservation System: January and February 2026.	Various Donors
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$15,017.95	Round up donations through the Iowa Go Outdoors Licensing System: December 2025-February 2026	Various Donors
Prairie Rose State Park	\$2,000.00	Concrete Memorial Bench	Jodi Topp
Prairie Rose State Park	\$2,000.00	Concrete Memorial Bench	LaDonna Havick
Prairie Rose State Park	\$100.00	Life Jackets- 1- type II orange vest youth/3 youth vest type III/5-child vest type III/2-child swim vest/ 2-large/ XL vest Type III/ 2 Men's XL Type III/1-Adult XXL vest Type III/ 1-Adult Women's L Type III;4 boat bumpers, ski rope	Aaron Poldberg
Prairie Rose State Park	\$879.99	Ten-foot Quest Angler Bass Boat	Dick's Sporting Goods
Parks, Forests, and Preserves	\$100.00	Donation to Springbrook State Park in memory of Stan Grote.	Gregory Mock
Parks, Forests, and Preserves	\$40.00	Donation to Springbrook State Park in memory of Stan Grote.	Robert Evans
Lake Darling State Park	\$25,000.00	Donation to lake Darling State Park as a contribution to the purchase of a new entrance portal.	Mary Alice Anson
Lake Darling State Park	\$2,399.99	NorthStar Skid Sprayer; 100 Gallon	Friends of Lake Darling
Wildlife Diversity	\$1,000.00	Donation to support the Wildlife Diversity Fund.	Iowa Master Naturalists
Wildlife Diversity	\$100.00	Donation to support the Wildlife Diversity Fund.	Iowa Master Naturalists
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Tracy Seymour.	Kay and Jim Hendren
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Tracy Seymour.	Tim and Brenda Stephany
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Tracy Seymour.	James and Joyce Wilcox

Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Tracy Seymour.	Cheryl Ouverson
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Tracy Seymour.	Susan Wright
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Tracy Seymour.	Martin and Mary Northway
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Tracy Seymour.	Janelle and Aaron Comer
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Tracy Seymour.	David and Sue Sullivan
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$500.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Tracy Seymour.	SGH Redglaze Holdings
Wildlife Diversity	\$50.00	Donation to the Chickadee Checkoff.	Mark Hurley
Wildlife Diversity	\$25.00	Donation to the Chickadee Checkoff.	Joyce Franklin
Wildlife Diversity	\$50.00	Donation to the Wildlife Diversity Fund.	Kenneth Saunders
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$250.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Joey Meyer
Parks and Forestry Fund	\$10.00	Donation to the Parks and Forestry Fund.	David Sykora
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Tracy Skenandore
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Raymond Damaso
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Tracy Seymour.	Tyson Kohl
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Tracy Seymour.	Brandon Duff, Berglund Sheet Metal
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Tracy Seymour.	Team Short Servpro
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Tracy Seymour.	Lori Powell
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Tracy Seymour.	Lynn White
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Tracy Seymour.	Angela Leek
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Tracy Seymour.	Kelsey Balvanz
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Tracy Seymour.	Raquel Green
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$200.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund (\$50), Wildlife Diversity Fund (\$50), Big Trees Program (\$50), and Parks and Forestry (\$50).	David Oaks

Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Gregory Strait
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$250.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Tracy Seymour.	Scott Seymour
Wildlife Diversity Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Wildlife Diversity Fund in honor of Harvey Dailey.	Samuel Brintnall

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division.
NRC Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

**Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

6. Iowa Forest Resiliency Partnership Program Grant Recommendations

The Commission is requested to approve the following grant recommendations for Iowa Forest Resiliency Partnership Program.

Grant Purpose: Iowa Forest Resiliency Partnership Program is a collaborative effort between the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and County Conservation Boards (CCBs), aimed at enhancing the health and sustainability of Iowa’s forests and forest wildlife. This partnership focuses on the development of species and structural diversity in Iowa’s forests to build resilience against environmental challenges. The DNR provided a competitive opportunity open to all 99 CCBs across Iowa for 80% cost share to implement silviculture practices that promote diversity of native species and a range of age classes on more than 3,500 acres. Applications were selected based on the project’s potential to achieve the goals of this funding opportunity as well as the goals outlined within both the Iowa Forest and Wildlife Action Plans.

Funding Source(s): US Forest Service

Grant Funding Available: \$3,199,737

Summary of Selection Process: The Department solicited proposals from eligible applicants, County Conservation Boards. The grant review and selection committee (5 DNR staff) met 12/10/2025 to evaluate and score applications and provide recommendations for the grant awards.

Scoring Rubric Criteria: Existing or Potential Forest Quality, Forest Needs, Species & Structural Diversity, Wildlife Benefit, Cost Effectiveness

Grant Application Due Date: October 17, 2025

Number of Applications Received: 31 projects consisting of 32 counties

Recommendations: The committee recommends offering funding to the 30 projects and recommended award amount showing in the table below. Benton County Conservation Board was not recommended for funding due to cost-effectiveness of the project.

Ranked by Score	Percent Match	Grant Applicant (County Conservation Board)	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
81.2	20%	Jones	\$114,000	\$114,000
80	25%	Warren	\$78,075	\$78,075
79.2	20%	Winneshiek	\$153,840	\$153,840
75.4	20%	Bremer	\$80,536	\$80,536
75	20%	Hardin	\$117,316	\$76,829
73.6	20%	Dubuque	\$128,858	\$128,858
73.6	20%	Marshall	\$130,451	\$126,923
72.8	20%	Greene	\$83,900	\$83,900
72.6	20%	Buchanan	\$87,216	\$87,216
72.4	20%	Chickasaw	\$81,280	\$81,280
72.4	20%	Lucas	\$33,754	\$33,754
72	20%	Delaware	\$107,100	\$107,100
71	20%	Story	\$90,568	\$90,568
70	20%	Mitchell	\$156,600	\$131,200
69.4	20%	Fayette	\$92,640	\$63,236
58.6	20%	Mahaska	\$122,365	\$122,365
57.4	20%	Jackson	\$166,574	\$166,574
56.2	20%	Des Moines	\$89,000	\$89,000
52	20%	Monona	\$78,136	\$78,136

50.6	20%	Polk	\$436,560	\$308,160
49.6	20%	Clayton/Allamakee	\$87,612	\$87,612
48	20%	Woodbury	\$28,150	\$28,150
43.8	20%	Dallas	\$104,047	\$104,047
43.2	20%	Henry	\$84,184	\$78,501
41.4	25%	Jefferson	\$78,862	\$78,862
39.6	20%	Pottawattamie	\$170,400	\$68,000
39	20%	Linn	\$305,415	\$209,409
37.4	20%	Boone	\$90,278	\$90,278
34.4	20%	Harrison	\$80,000	\$80,000
33.6	20%	Howard	\$178,480	\$28,080
23.2	20%	Benton	\$85,248	-

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester
Conservation and Recreation Division
April 9, 2026

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

7. Chapter 15, “General License Regulations” – Final Rule

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rulemaking amending Chapter 15, “General License Regulations.”

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 15 governs hunting, fishing, and trapping license sales, fees, and general administration and a framework for license revocation and suspension. This rulemaking adopts a modest license fee increase to hunting, fishing, and trapping license privileges. No fee has been raised more than 5%, the maximum increase authorized by state law.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its February 2026 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on March 4, 2026 as ARC 0130D. A public hearing was held on March 24, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearing, but 126 comments were received. 71% (90) of the comments supported a license fee increase while 29% (36) were opposed. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 15 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby adopts Chapter 15, “General License Regulations,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 483A.1.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 483A.1 and 2025 Iowa Acts, Senate File 253.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 15 governs hunting, fishing, and trapping license sales, fees, and general administration and a framework for license revocation and suspension. This rulemaking increases hunting, fishing, and trapping resident and nonresident license fees by 5 percent, consistent with the statutory cap. These fees are only paid by persons who choose to participate in these recreational activities. License fees are deposited into the State Fish and Game Protection Fund (commonly known as the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund), which also receives certain federal funds generated by excise taxes on outdoor sporting equipment. The Trust Fund is dedicated to Iowa’s natural resources by and protected by the Iowa Constitution. The Department of Natural Resources (Department) is charged by law to use Trust Fund dollars to fund its natural resource protection, management, research, and enhancement activities.

While funded by a specific user group, the Trust Fund pays significant dividends to all Iowans. The Department’s three Trust Fund-managing bureaus (Wildlife, Fisheries, and Law Enforcement) ensure the health and abundance of Iowa’s natural resources, which underpins substantial economic activity. Simply put, the fees paid by sportsmen and sportswomen support the conservation infrastructure that benefits the State’s economy, the environment, and Iowans’ quality of life.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on March 4, 2026, as **ARC 0103D**. A public hearing was held on March 24, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

No one attended the public hearing. However, 126 comments were received. 71% (90) of the comments supported a license fee increase while 29% (36) were opposed. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Amend rule 571—15.10(483A) as follows:

571—15.10(483A) Licenses—fees. Except as otherwise provided by law, a person shall not fish, trap, hunt, harvest, pursue, catch, kill, take in any manner, use, have possession of, sell, or transport all or a part of any wild animal, bird, game, turtle, or fish, the protection and regulation of which is desirable for the conservation of resources of the state, without first obtaining a license for that purpose and paying a fee as follows:

15.10(1) Residents.

- a. Fishing license, annual — ~~\$20~~ \$21.
- b. Fishing license, three-year — ~~\$60~~ \$63.
- c. Fishing license, seven-day — ~~\$13.50~~ \$14.
- d. Fishing license, one-day — ~~\$8.50~~ \$8.75.
- e. Third-line fishing permit, annual — ~~\$12~~ \$12.50.
- f. Fishing license, lifetime, 65 years of age or older — ~~\$59.50~~ \$62.
- g. Fishing license, lifetime, disabled veteran or POW — \$5.
- h. Paddlefish fishing license, annual — ~~\$23.50~~ \$24.50.
- i. Trout fishing fee — ~~\$12.50~~ \$13.
- j. Boundary waters sport trotline license, annual — \$24 \$25.
- k. Hunting license, annual — ~~\$20~~ \$21.
- l. Hunting license, annual, including the wildlife habitat fee — ~~\$33~~ \$34.50.
- m. Hunting license, three-year, including the wildlife habitat fee — ~~\$99~~ \$103.75.
- n. Hunting license, lifetime, 65 years of age or older — ~~\$59.50~~ \$62.
- o. Combination hunting and fishing license, annual, including the wildlife habitat fee — ~~\$53~~ \$55.50.
- p. Combination hunting and fishing license, lifetime, disabled veteran or POW — \$5.
- q. Deer hunting license — ~~\$30~~ \$31.50.
- r. First antlerless deer license — ~~\$25.50~~ \$26.75.
- s. Additional antlerless deer license — ~~\$12~~ \$12.50.
- t. Wildlife habitat fee — ~~\$13~~ \$13.50.
- u. Migratory game bird fee — ~~\$10~~ \$10.50.

- v. Wild turkey hunting license — ~~\$26.50~~ \$27.75.
- w. Fur harvester license, annual — ~~\$24~~ \$25.
- x. Fur harvester license, annual, including the wildlife habitat fee — ~~\$37~~ \$38.75.
- y. Fur harvester license, annual, under 16 years of age — ~~\$5.50~~ \$5.75.
- z. Fur harvester license, lifetime, 65 years of age or older — ~~\$59.50~~ \$62.
- aa. Fur dealer license, annual — ~~\$264~~ \$277.
- bb. Aquaculture unit license, annual — ~~\$30~~ \$31.50.
- cc. Retail bait dealer license, annual — ~~\$36~~ \$37.75.
- dd. Wholesale bait dealer license, annual — ~~\$146.50~~ \$153.75.
- ee. Game breeder license, annual — ~~\$18~~ \$18.75.
- ff. Taxidermy license, annual — ~~\$18~~ \$18.75.
- gg. Trout fishing license, lifetime, 65 years of age or older — ~~\$63~~ \$66.
- hh. Trout fishing license, lifetime, disabled veteran — ~~\$63~~ \$66.
- ii. Fishing license, annual, veteran — \$5.
- jj. Combination hunting and fishing license, annual, veteran — \$5.

15.10(2) Nonresidents.

- a. Fishing license, annual — ~~\$46~~ \$48.
- b. Fishing license, seven-day — ~~\$35.50~~ \$37.
- c. Fishing license, three-day — ~~\$18.50~~ \$19.
- d. Fishing license, one-day — ~~\$10~~ \$10.50.
- e. Third-line fishing permit, annual — ~~\$12~~ \$12.50.
- f. Paddlefish fishing license, annual — ~~\$47~~ \$49.
- g. Trout fishing fee — ~~\$15.50~~ \$16.
- h. Boundary waters sport trotline license, annual — ~~\$47.50~~ \$49.75.
- i. Hunting license, annual — ~~\$129~~ \$135.
- j. Hunting license, annual, including the wildlife habitat fee — ~~\$142~~ \$149.

- k.* Hunting license, annual, under 18 years of age — ~~\$30~~ \$31.50.
- l.* Hunting license, annual, under 18 years of age, including the wildlife habitat fee — ~~\$43~~ \$45.
- m.* Hunting license, five-day (not applicable to deer or wild turkey seasons) — ~~\$75~~ \$78.50.
- n.* Hunting license, five-day, including the wildlife habitat fee (not applicable to deer or wild turkey seasons) — ~~\$88~~ \$92.
- o.* Deer hunting license, antlered or any-sex deer — ~~\$345.50~~ \$362.75.
- p.* Deer hunting license, antlerless-deer-only, required with the purchase of an antlered or any-sex deer hunting license — ~~\$146.50~~ \$153.75.
- q.* Deer hunting license, antlerless-deer-only — ~~\$263.50~~ \$276.50.
- r.* Preference point issued under Iowa Code section 483A.7(3) “*b*” or 483A.8(3) “*e*” — ~~\$58.50~~ \$61.
- s.* Holiday deer hunting license issued under Iowa Code section 483A.8(6), antlerless-deer-only — ~~\$88~~ \$92.
- t.* Wildlife habitat fee — ~~\$13~~ \$13.50.
- u.* Migratory game bird fee — ~~\$10~~ \$10.50.
- v.* Wild turkey hunting license, annual — ~~\$117~~ \$122.75.
- w.* Fur harvester license, annual — ~~\$232~~ \$243.50.
- x.* Fur harvester license, annual, including the wildlife habitat fee — ~~\$245~~ \$257.
- y.* Fur dealer license, annual — ~~\$586.50~~ \$615.75.
- z.* Fur dealer license, one-day, one location — ~~\$292.50~~ \$307.
- aa.* Location permit for fur dealer — ~~\$66~~ \$69.
- bb.* Aquaculture unit license, annual — ~~\$66~~ \$69.
- cc.* Retail bait dealer license, annual — ~~\$146.50~~ \$153.75.
- dd.* Wholesale bait dealer license, annual — ~~\$292.50~~ \$307.
- ee.* Game breeder license, annual — ~~\$30.50~~ \$32.
- ff.* Taxidermy license, annual — ~~\$30.50~~ \$32.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***8. Chapter 16, “Docks and Other Structures on Public Waters” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rulemaking amending Chapter 16, “Docks and Other Structures on Public Waters.”

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 16 regulates docks on water bodies open to the public for boating and other recreational activities. It includes a permitting system and rules that seek to balance the needs of dock owners with those of the general public, and to reduce conflicts between neighboring dock owners. Among these rules are limitations on enclosing docks and hoists with sides and roofs as well as restrictions on what materials may be used for such purposes. 2025 Iowa Acts, House File 710, created a new Iowa Code section that allows for a person with a Class I or III dock permit to construct a roof over a slip or hoist, subject to a number of requirements including material requirements, size limits, limits on what structures may be enclosed, a prohibition on habitation, and an insurance requirement. These new provisions of the Iowa Code supersede existing Chapter 16 provisions. As such, this rulemaking is necessary in order to bring the relevant Chapter 16 provisions into harmony with the Iowa Code.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9889C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 3, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the hearing and no comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Craig Cutts, Law Enforcement Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 16 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to docks

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby amends Chapter 16, “Docks and Other Structures on Public Waters,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 461A.4 and 462A.3.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 461A.4 and 461A.18 and 2025 Iowa Acts, House File 710.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 16 regulates docks on water bodies open to the public for boating and other recreational activities. It includes a permitting system and rules that seek to balance the needs of dock owners with those of the general public and to reduce conflicts between neighboring dock owners. Among these rules are limitations on enclosing docks and hoists with sides and roofs as well as restrictions on what materials may be used for such purposes. 2025 Iowa Acts, House File 710, created a new Iowa Code section that allows for a person with a Class I or III dock permit to construct a roof over a slip or hoist, subject to a number of requirements including material requirements, size limits, limits on what structures may be enclosed, a prohibition on habitation, and an insurance requirement. These new provisions of the Iowa Code supersede existing Chapter 16 provisions. As such, this rulemaking is necessary in order to bring the relevant Chapter 16 provisions into harmony with the Iowa Code.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9889C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 3, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Amend subrule 16.3(7) as follows:

16.3(7) ~~No enclosure~~ Enclosure of private docks. ~~Private docks and docks in dock management areas shall not be enclosed by roofs or sides. Hoists may be enclosed by roofs and sides constructed of soft-sided natural fiber or synthetic fiber materials for the purpose of protecting watercraft.~~

a. Class I and Class III docks. Hoists may be enclosed by roofs and sides constructed of soft-sided natural fiber or synthetic fiber materials for the purpose of protecting watercraft, or by a roof constructed pursuant to Iowa Code section 462A.27B.

b. Class II, Class IV, and dock management area docks. Docks, hoists and slips shall not be enclosed unless authorized by the relevant dock or slip permit. Authorization may be restricted as needed to minimize adverse visual impact on owners of other property and the public or to ensure public safety, navigation, and access as appropriate.

ITEM 2. Rescind subrule **16.7(5)**.

ITEM 3. Renumber subrule **16.7(6)** as **16.7(5)**.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***9. Chapter 60, “State Preserves”– Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed Rule for Chapter 60, “State Preserves.” This Final Rule is the result of Land & Waters Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This rulemaking reflects dissolution of the State Preserves Advisory Board by the Iowa Legislature effective on July 1, 2024 and simplification of the previous rules into a single chapter governing state preserves under the Natural Resource Commission. The rules were further reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9890C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the hearings and no comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Travis Baker, Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 77 – Final Rule

PRESERVES, STATE ADVISORY BOARD FOR[575]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to agency realignment

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 1, “Organization and Operation”; adopts a new Chapter 1, “State Preserves,” and transfers Chapter 1 as 571—Chapter 60; and rescinds Chapter 2, “Management of State Preserves,” and Chapter 3, “Public Records and Fair Information Practices,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 455A.5(6)“a” and 465C.8.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code chapter 465C.

Purpose and Summary

Agency [575] of the Iowa Administrative Code contains chapters regulating State preserves. Preserves are the highest classification of public land and exist to protect significant natural, geological, historical, archaeological, and scenic sites in Iowa. The rules also govern the State Preserves Advisory Board and include provisions for its membership, operation, reporting requirements, and recordkeeping procedures. Recent changes to the Iowa Code eliminated this Board and transferred its authority and duties to the Commission. For this reason, many of the existing provisions in Chapters 1 through 3 are now no longer relevant. This rulemaking removes those irrelevant provisions and then consolidates the remaining provisions into a single “State Preserves” chapter. This new chapter is transferred to the Commission’s jurisdiction under 571—Chapter 60. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9890C**. Two public hearing were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026

These hearings were held as joint hearings, also covering Chapter 77, “Endangered and Threatened Plant and Animal Species” (ARC 9910C). Three individuals attended the January 28 hearing and two individuals attended the February 4 hearing. None of the individuals present commented on this rulemaking, and no written comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee’s meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 575—Chapter 1 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

STATE PRESERVES

575—1.1(465C) Duties as to state preserves. The natural resource commission is charged with the responsibility of locating, identifying, evaluating, and dedicating areas as state preserves.

575—1.2(465C) Types of preserves. There shall be five major classes of preserves.

1.2(1) *Natural preserves.* These areas contain natural communities; habitats; native flora and fauna; or endangered, threatened, or rare organisms.

1.2(2) *Archaeological preserves.* These areas contain significant deposits left by prehistoric or early historic peoples.

1.2(3) *Historical preserves.* These are sites that contain structures or places that are of significance in studying the tenure of humans in Iowa since the advent of the first Euro-American explorers.

1.2(4) *Geological preserves.* These are areas that contain rare or distinctive landforms, fossils, stratigraphic sections, mineral deposits or examples of mining history; type or reference sections; or other special features or deposits that represent the events and processes of Iowa's earth history.

1.2(5) *Scenic preserves.* These are areas that contain scenic features of aesthetic, scientific, or educational value.

575—1.3(465C) Management provisions.

1.3(1) *Administration and management.* The administrative and management authority for a preserve shall be agreed upon by the commission, the property owner, and the manager.

1.3(2) *Management plan.* For each preserve, an authorized representative of the owner shall prepare a management plan in consultation with department staff. The management plan shall be consistent with the articles of dedication and shall include identification of uses of the preserve that are compatible and incompatible with its dedication as a preserve. The management plan shall be amended periodically, as appropriate, in response to new information. The management plan and amendments shall be submitted to the commission for approval. The department shall keep a copy of the current management plan. A management plan for a new preserve shall be submitted for approval by the commission in conjunction with approval of dedication of the

preserve. Management plans for existing preserves shall be prepared and submitted for approval as resources are available.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 465C.8.

ITEM 2. Transfer **575—Chapter 1** as **571—Chapter 60**.

ITEM 3. Rescind and reserve **575—Chapter 2**.

ITEM 4. Rescind and reserve **575—Chapter 3**.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***10. Chapter 76, “Unprotected Nongame” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to rescind Chapter 76, “Unprotected Nongame” and adopt a new Chapter 76 with the same name. This is the result of the Wildlife Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 76 lists the nongame species allowed to be killed in Iowa without a permit.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9900C. Two public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 76 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 76, “Unprotected Nongame,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 76 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39 and 481A.42.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39 and 481A.42.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 76 lists the nongame species allowed to be killed without a permit. Under Iowa Code section 481A.38, it is unlawful for any person to take, pursue, kill, trap, or conduct other listed activities against nongame animals except upon terms, conditions, limitations, and restrictions set forth in the Iowa Code or by administrative rule. The Commission has authority under Iowa Code section 481A.42 to designate species of nongame that shall not be protected due to their abundance or habits. This chapter was reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9900C**. Public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 76 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

SEASONS, LIMITS, METHODS OF TAKE

TITLE VIII

CHAPTER 76

UNPROTECTED NONGAME

571—76.1(481A) Species. Certain species of nongame shall not be protected.

76.1(1) Birds. The European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) and the house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) shall not be protected.

76.1(2) Reptiles.

a. Common garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*).

b. Timber rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) within 50 yards of houses actively occupied by humans.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, and 481A.42.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

11. Chapter 77, “Endangered and Threatened Plants and Animal Species” – Final Rule

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed Rule for Chapter 77, “Endangered and Threatened Plants and Animal Species.” This Final Rule is the result of Land & Waters Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 77 implements Iowa Code Chapter 481B, “Endangered and Threatened Plant and Animal Species.” The rule identifies plant and animal species that are protected due to being endangered or threatened in Iowa and provides for limited, regulated exceptions to those provisions. The intent of Chapter 77 is to conserve rare natural resources held in the public trust, provide predictable rules about which plant and wildlife species are protected, and clarify what actions are allowed or prohibited under state law. The final rule updates the list of plant and animal species known to be endangered and threatened in Iowa and removes “special concern” species from the rule ensuring the rule is consistent with Chapter 481B.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9910C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: Approximately 50 oral and written comments were received during the two public meetings and comment periods on this rule. These comments all objected to removal of the “special concern” species categories. These comments are further discussed in the Final Rule document.

Changes made to the rules since publication of the NOIA include correction of a typographical error in subrule 77.4(3), changing “Iowa Code 481A.6” to “Iowa Code 481A.65”, and non-substantive changes to common and scientific animal names to reflect current taxonomy, taxonomic order, and naming conventions.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Travis Baker, Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 77 – Final Rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to endangered and threatened species

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 77, “Endangered and Threatened Plant and Animal Species,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 77 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 481B.3.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code chapter 481B and Executive Order 10.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 77 implements Iowa Code chapter 481B. The chapter identifies plant and animal species that are protected due to being endangered or threatened in Iowa and provides for limited, regulated exceptions to those provisions.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9910C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

Three individuals attended the January 28 hearing and two individuals attended the February 4 hearing. All individuals who attended these hearings provided oral comments. Additionally, 46 written comments were received. All public comments focused on the same topic. The commenters unanimously object to the removal of the “special concern animal species” and “special concern plant species” categories and lists from chapter 77. The Commission has considered these comments and decided to proceed with removing these categories from Chapter 77. The reasons for this decision are:

- 1) “Special concern” is not a category created or authorized by Iowa Code Chapter 481B, unlike the categories of “endangered” and “threatened.” Removing this language from the rules is consistent with the directives of Executive Order 10 (2023).

2) The “special concern” provisions have no legal effect. Listing a species as “special concern” provides no legal or regulatory protection for that species.

3) A “special concern” list will continue to be maintained on the Department of Natural Resources’ (Department) website and in the Iowa Wildlife Action Plan for purposes of public awareness and Department monitoring and research purposes.

Several minor changes are made from the Notice. A typographical error in subrule subrule 77.4(3) is corrected, changing “Iowa Code 481A.6” to “Iowa Code 481A.65.” Additionally, non-substantive changes to the lists of common and scientific animal names are made to reflect recent changes in taxonomy, taxonomic order, and naming conventions and to correct one typographical error.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee’s meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 77 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 77

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES

571—77.1(481B) Definitions. As used in this rule:

“*Endangered species*” means any species of fish, plant life, or wildlife that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant part of its range.

“*Threatened species*” means any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

571—77.2(481B) Endangered and threatened animals. The natural resource commission, in consultation with scientists with specialized knowledge and experience, has determined the following animal species to be endangered or threatened in Iowa:

77.2(1) Endangered animal species:

Common Name

Scientific Name

Mammals

Southern Bog Lemming

Synaptomys cooperi

Northern Myotis

Myotis septentrionalis

Indiana Myotis

Myotis sodalis

Plains Spotted Skunk

Spilogale interrupta

Birds

Piping Plover

Charadrius melodus

Fish

Lake Sturgeon

Acipenser fulvescens

Pallid Sturgeon	<i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>
Western Silvery Minnow	<i>Hybognathus argyritis</i>
Sturgeon Chub	<i>Macrhybopsis gelida</i>
Sicklefin Chub	<i>Macrhybopsis meeki</i>
Northern Pearl Dace	<i>Margariscus nachtriebi</i>
Pugnose Shiner	<i>Miniellus anogenus</i>
Blacknose Shiner	<i>Notropis heterolepis</i>
Ghost Shiner	<i>Paranotropis buchanani</i>
Starhead Topminnow	<i>Fundulus dispar</i>
Plains Topminnow	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>
Crystal Darter	<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>
Bluntnose Darter	<i>Etheostoma chlorosoma</i>
Least Darter	<i>Etheostoma microperca</i>

Reptiles

Great Plains Skink	<i>Plestiodon obsoletus</i>
Western Hog-nosed Snake	<i>Heterodon nasicus</i>
Eastern Copperhead	<i>Agkistrodon contortrix</i>
Prairie Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus viridis</i>
Eastern Massasauga	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>
Western Massasauga	<i>Sistrurus tergeminus</i>
Wood Turtle	<i>Glyptemis insculpta</i>
Yellow Mud Turtle	<i>Kinosternon flavescens</i>

Amphibians

Blue-spotted Salamander	<i>Ambystoma laterale</i>
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Bumble Bees

Rusty Patched Bumble Bee

Bombus affinis

Butterflies

Mottled Duskywing

Gesta martialis

Arogos Skipper

Atrytone arogos

Dusted Skipper

Atrytonopsis hianna

Dakota Skipper

Hesperia dacotae

Ottoo Skipper

Hesperia ottoe

Poweshiek Skipperling

Oarisma poweshiek

Mulberry Wing

Poanes massasoit

Damselflies and Dragonflies

Prairie Bluet

Coenagrion angulatum

Land Snails

Bluff Vertigo

Vertigo meramecensis

Iowa Pleistocene Snail

Discus macclintocki

Fresh Water Mussels

Slippershell

Alasmidonta viridis

Spectaclecase

Cumberlandia monodonta

Purple Wartyback

Cyclonaias tuberculata

Spike

Eurynia dilatata

Sheepnose

Plethobasus cyphus

Round Pigtoe

Pleurobema sintoxia

Salamander Mussel

Simpsonaias ambigua

77.2(2) Threatened animal species:

Common Name

Scientific Name

Mammals

White-tailed Jackrabbit

Lepus townsendii

Plains Pocket Gopher

Geomys bursarius

Plains Pocket Mouse

Perognathus flavescens

North American Least Shrew

Cryptotis parvus

Little Brown Myotis

Myotis lucifugus

Tricolored Bat

Perimyotis subflavus

Birds

Chuck-will's-widow

Antrostomus carolinensis

King Rail

Rallus elegans

Least Tern

Sternula antillarum

Black Tern

Chlidonias niger

Forster's Tern

Sterna forsteri

Long-eared Owl

Asio otus

Short-eared Owl

Asio flammeus

Fish

Chestnut Lamprey

Ichthyomyzon castaneus

American Eel

Anguilla rostrata

Skipjack Herring

Alosa chrysochloris

Weed Shiner

Alburnops texanus

Redfin Shiner

Lythrurus umbratilis

Topeka Shiner	<i>Miniellus topeka</i>
Freckled Madtom	<i>Noturus nocturnus</i>
Pugnose Minnow	<i>Opsopoeodus emiliae</i>
Pirate Perch	<i>Aphredoderus sayanus</i>
Redfin Pickerel	<i>Esox americanus</i>
Trout-perch	<i>Percopsis omiscomaycus</i>
Banded Killifish	<i>Fundulus diaphanus</i>
Mottled Sculpin	<i>Cottus bairdii</i>
Western Sand Darter	<i>Ammocrypta clara</i>
Burbot	<i>Lota lota</i>

Reptiles

Slender Glass Lizard	<i>Ophisaurus attenuatus</i>
Western Wormsnake	<i>Carphophis vermis</i>
Speckled Kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis holbrooki</i>
Plain-bellied Watersnake	<i>Nerodia erythrogaster</i>
Diamond-backed Watersnake	<i>Nerodia rhombifer</i>
Gophersnake	<i>Pituophis catenifer</i>
Graham's Crayfish Snake	<i>Regina grahamii</i>
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>
Ornate Box Turtle	<i>Terrapene ornata</i>
Eastern Musk Turtle	<i>Sternotherus odoratus</i>

Amphibians

Mudpuppy

Necturus maculosus

Eastern Newt

Notophthalmus viridescens

Butterflies

Two-spotted Skipper

Euphyes bimacula

Crossline Skipper

Limochores origenes

Leonard's Skipper

Hesperia leonardus

Olympia Marble

Euchloe olympia

Regal Fritillary

Argynnis idalia

Baltimore Checkerspot

Euphydryas phaeton

Damselflies and Dragonflies

Taiga Bluet

Coenagrion resolutum

Sioux Snaketail

Ophiogomphus smithi

Westfall's Snaketail

Ophiogomphus westfalli

Plains Emerald

Somatochlora ensigera

Land Snails

Midwest Pleistocene Vertigo

Vertigo arthuri

Fresh Water Mussels

Mucket

Ortmanniana ligamentina

Higgins' eye pearly mussel

Lampsilis higginsi

Yellow Sandshell

Lampsilis teres

Monkeyface

Theliderma metanevra

Pistolgrip

Tritogonia verrucosa

571—77.3(481B) Endangered and threatened plants. The natural resource commission, in consultation with scientists with special knowledge and experience, determined the following plant species to be endangered or threatened in Iowa.

77.3(1) Endangered plant species:

Common Name	Scientific Name
Pale false foxglove	<i>Agalinis skinneriana</i>
Roundleaf serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier sanguinea</i>
Raccoon grape	<i>Ampelopsis cordata</i>
Pearly everlasting	<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>
Sand bluestem	<i>Andropogon hallii</i>
Round-lobed hepatica	<i>Anemone americana</i>
Carolina anemone	<i>Anemone caroliniana</i>
Bearberry	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>
Virginia snakeroot	<i>Aristolochia serpentaria</i>
Black chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>
Fringed sagewort	<i>Artemisia frigida</i>
Mead's milkweed	<i>Asclepias meadii</i>
Showy milkweed	<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>
Green antelopehorn	<i>Asclepias viridis</i>
Wall-rue	<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>
Field milkvetch	<i>Astragalus agrestis</i>
Prairie milkvetch	<i>Astragalus laxmannii</i>

Fern-leaved false foxglove	<i>Aureolaria pedicularia</i>
Water marigold	<i>Bidens beckii</i>
Matricary grape fern	<i>Botrychium matricariifolium</i>
Little grapefern	<i>Botrychium simplex</i>
Swamp moonwort	<i>Botrychium tenebrosum</i>
White-tinged sedge	<i>Carex albicans</i>
Back's sedge	<i>Carex backii</i>
Cordroot sedge	<i>Carex chordorrhiza</i>
Fringed sedge	<i>Carex crinita</i>
Raven's-foot sedge	<i>Carex crus-corvi</i>
Star sedge	<i>Carex echinata</i>
Shoreline sedge	<i>Carex hyalenolepis</i>
Hoplike sedge	<i>Carex lupuliformis</i>
Intermediate sedge	<i>Carex media</i>
Plantain-leaved sedge	<i>Carex plantaginea</i>
Drooping sedge	<i>Carex prasina</i>
Cyperus-like sedge	<i>Carex pseudocyperus</i>
Reflexed sedge	<i>Carex retroflexa</i>
Rocky Mountain sedge	<i>Carex saximontana</i>
Fireweed	<i>Chamaenerion angustifolium</i>
Pipsissewa	<i>Chimaphila umbellata</i>
Drooping woodreed	<i>Cinna latifolia</i>
Purple clematis	<i>Clematis occidentalis</i>
Blue-eyed mary	<i>Collinsia verna</i>

Spotted coralroot	<i>Corallorhiza maculata</i>
Golden corydalis	<i>Corydalis aurea</i>
Large-bracted corydalis	<i>Corydalis curvisiliqua</i>
Pale corydalis	<i>Corydalis flavula</i>
Pink corydalis	<i>Corydalis sempervirens</i>
Silky prairie-clover	<i>Dalea villosa</i>
Tree clubmoss	<i>Dendrolycopodium dendroideum</i>
Sessile-leaved tick trefoil	<i>Desmodium sessilifolium</i>
Roundleaved sundew	<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>
Marginal shield fern	<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>
Elliptic spikerush	<i>Eleocharis elliptica</i>
Few-flowered spikerush	<i>Eleocharis quinqueflora</i>
Wolf's spikerush	<i>Eleocharis wolfii</i>
Wiegand's wildrye	<i>Elymus wiegandii</i>
Downy willowherb	<i>Epilobium strictum</i>
Slender cottongrass	<i>Eriophorum gracile</i>
Tawny cottongrass	<i>Eriophorum virginicum</i>
Wood spurge	<i>Euphorbia commutata</i>
Forked aster	<i>Eurybia furcata</i>
Large-leaved aster	<i>Eurybia macrophylla</i>
Schreber's aster	<i>Eurybia schreberi</i>
Queen of the prairie	<i>Filipendula rubra</i>
False mermaid	<i>Floerkea proserpinacoides</i>

Rough bedstraw	<i>Galium asprellum</i>
Black Huckleberry	<i>Gaylussacia baccata</i>
Hairy goldenaster	<i>Heterotheca villosa</i>
Povertygrass	<i>Hudsonia tomentosa</i>
Rock clubmoss	<i>Huperzia porophila</i>
Canadian St. Johnswort	<i>Hypericum canadense</i>
Pineweed	<i>Hypericum gentianoides</i>
Flax-leaved aster	<i>Ionactis linariifolia</i>
White morning-glory	<i>Ipomoea lacunosa</i>
Black-based quillwort	<i>Isoetes melanopoda</i>
Alpine rush	<i>Juncus alpinoarticulatus</i>
Edged rush	<i>Juncus marginatus</i>
Vasey's rush	<i>Juncus vaseyi</i>
Creeping juniper	<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>
Intermediate pinweed	<i>Lechea intermedia</i>
Hairy pinweed	<i>Lechea mucronata</i>
Wild lupine	<i>Lupinus perennis</i>
Bog clubmoss	<i>Lycopodiella inundata</i>
Hairy waterclover	<i>Marsilea vestita</i>
Millet grass	<i>Milium effusum</i>
Sensitive briar	<i>Mimosa nuttallii</i>
Partridge berry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>
Naked miterwort	<i>Mitella nuda</i>
Mat muhly	<i>Muhlenbergia richardsonis</i>

Small sundrops	<i>Oenothera perennis</i>
Fragile prickly-pear	<i>Opuntia fragilis</i>
Frenchgrass	<i>Orbexilum onobrychis</i>
Clustered broomrape	<i>Orobanche fasciculata</i>
One-sided shinleaf	<i>Orthilia secunda</i>
Rough-leaved ricegrass	<i>Oryzopsis asperifolia</i>
Cinnamon fern	<i>Osmundastrum cinnamomeum</i>
Philadelphia panic grass	<i>Panicum philadelphicum</i>
Arrow arum	<i>Peltandra virginica</i>
Cobaea beardtongue	<i>Penstemon cobaea</i>
Slender beardtongue	<i>Penstemon gracilis</i>
Tube beardtongue	<i>Penstemon tubaeiflorus</i>
Wild dill	<i>Perideridia americana</i>
Long beechfern	<i>Phegopteris connectilis</i>
Fameflower	<i>Phemeranthus parviflorus</i>
Rough-seeded fameflower	<i>Phemeranthus rugospermus</i>
Mountain ricegrass	<i>Piptatherum pungens</i>
Wood orchid	<i>Platanthera clavellata</i>
Hooker's orchid	<i>Platanthera hookeri</i>
Green fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera lacera</i>
Eastern prairie fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera leucophaea</i>
Woodland Bluegrass	<i>Poa saltuensis</i>
Clammyweed	<i>Polansia jamesii</i>
Crossleaf milkwort	<i>Polygala cruciata</i>

Pink milkwort	<i>Polygala incarnata</i>
Purple milkwort	<i>Polygala polygama</i>
Hairy Solomon's-seal	<i>Polygonatum pubescens</i>
Jointweed	<i>Polygonella articulata</i>
White-stemmed pondweed	<i>Potamogeton praelongus</i>
Silverweed	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>
Pennsylvania cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla pensylvanica</i>
Stem flower dewberry	<i>Rubus caulifloris</i>
Washington dewberry	<i>Rubus celer</i>
Swamp dewberry	<i>Rubus hispidus</i>
Recurved blackberry	<i>Rubus recurvans</i>
New England blackberry	<i>Rubus semisetosus</i>
Bottomland dewberry	<i>Rubus serratus</i>
Uniform bristleberry	<i>Rubus uniformis</i>
Shining willow	<i>Salix lucida</i>
Smith's bulrush	<i>Schoenoplectiella smithii</i>
Downy skullcap	<i>Scutellaria incana</i>
Veined skullcap	<i>Scutellaria nervosa</i>
Wild stonecrop	<i>Sedum ternatum</i>
Meadow spikemoss	<i>Selaginella eclipses</i>
Knotweed bristleglass	<i>Setaria parviflora</i>
Annual skeletonweed	<i>Shinneroseris rostrata</i>
Three-toothed cinquefoil	<i>Sibbaldiopsis tridentata</i>
Needle-pointed blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium mucronatum</i>

Rough-leaved goldenrod	<i>Solidago patula</i>
Bog goldenrod	<i>Solidago uliginosa</i>
Yellow-lipped ladies-tresses	<i>Spiranthes lucida</i>
Hooded ladies-tresses	<i>Spiranthes romanzoffiana</i>
Little ladies-tresses	<i>Spiranthes tuberosa</i>
Spring ladies-tresses	<i>Spiranthes vernalis</i>
Rough-leaved hedge-nettle	<i>Stachys aspera</i>
Pickering morning-glory	<i>Stylisma pickeringii</i>
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Waxy meadowrue	<i>Thalictrum amphibolum</i>
Western spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia occidentalis</i>
Small bladderwort	<i>Utricularia minor</i>
Sessile-leaf bellwort	<i>Uvularia sessilifolia</i>
Low sweet blueberry	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>
Velvetleaf blueberry	<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i>
American brookline	<i>Veronica americana</i>
Maple-leaved arrowwood	<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>
Spurred violet	<i>Viola adunca</i>
Large-leaved violet	<i>Viola blanda</i>
Frost grape	<i>Vitis vulpina</i>
Rusty woodsia	<i>Woodsia ilvensis</i>
Oregon woodsia	<i>Woodsia oregana</i>

77.3(2) Threatened plant species:

Common Name

Scientific Name

Slender three-seeded mercury	<i>Acalypha gracilens</i>
Northern wild monkshood	<i>Aconitum noveboracense</i>
Round-stemmed false foxglove	<i>Agalinis gattingeri</i>
Inland serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier interior</i>
Fragrant false indigo	<i>Amorpha nana</i>
Woolly milkweed	<i>Asclepias lanuginosa</i>
Oval-leaved milkweed	<i>Asclepias ovalifolia</i>
Narrow-leaved milkweed	<i>Asclepias stenophylla</i>
Pawpaw	<i>Asimina triloba</i>
Water parsnip	<i>Berula erecta</i>
Watershield	<i>Brasenia schreberi</i>
Poppy mallow	<i>Callirhoe triangulata</i>
Water-starwort	<i>Callitriche heterophylla</i>
Low bindweed	<i>Calystegia spithamea</i>
Assiniboine sedge	<i>Carex assininboinensis</i>
Carey's sedge	<i>Carex careyana</i>
Fibrous-root sedge	<i>Carex communis</i>
Spreading sedge	<i>Carex laxiculmis</i>
Delicate sedge	<i>Carex leptalea</i>
Yellow sedge	<i>Carex lurida</i>
Sterile sedge	<i>Carex sterilis</i>
Quill sedge	<i>Carex tenera</i>
Shaved sedge	<i>Carex tonsa</i>
Wood's sedge	<i>Carex woodii</i>

Pink turtlehead	<i>Chelone obliqua</i>
Marsh cinquefoil	<i>Comarum palustre</i>
Dayflower	<i>Commelina erecta</i>
Bunchberry	<i>Cornus canadensis</i>
Fireberry hawthorn	<i>Crataegus chrysocarpa</i>
Waxy-fruited hawthorn	<i>Crataegus pruinosa</i>
Showy lady's slipper	<i>Cypripedium reginae</i>
Shrubby cinquefoil	<i>Dasiphora fruticosa</i>
Silvery spleenwort	<i>Deparia acrostichoides</i>
Northern panic-grass	<i>Dichanthelium boreale</i>
Slim-leaved panic-grass	<i>Dichanthelium linearifolium</i>
Narrow-leaved spleenwort	<i>Diplazium pycnocarpon</i>
Glandular wood fern	<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i>
Oval spikerush	<i>Eleocharis ovata</i>
Woodland horsetail	<i>Equisetum sylvaticum</i>
Yellow trout lily	<i>Erythronium americanum</i>
Upland boneset	<i>Eupatorium sessilifolium</i>
Slender fimbry	<i>Fimbristylis autumnalis</i>
Blue ash	<i>Fraxinus quadrangulata</i>
Bog bedstraw	<i>Galium labradoricum</i>
Oak fern	<i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>
Needle-and-thread grass	<i>Hesperostipa comata</i>
Green violet	<i>Hybanthus concolor</i>
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>

Twinleaf	<i>Jeffersonia diphylla</i>
Green rush	<i>Juncus greenii</i>
Dwarf dandelion	<i>Krigia virginica</i>
Prairie bush clover	<i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i>
Cleft conobea	<i>Leucospora multifida</i>
Twinflower	<i>Linnaea borealis</i>
Whiskbroom parsley	<i>Lomatium foeniculaceum</i>
Western parsley	<i>Lomatium orientale</i>
Running clubmoss	<i>Lycopodium clavatum</i>
Bunchflower	<i>Melanthium virginicum</i>
Ten-petaled blazingstar	<i>Mentzelia decapetala</i>
Bog buckbean	<i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i>
Northern lungwort	<i>Mertensia paniculata</i>
Rock sandwort	<i>Minuartia michauxii</i>
Pinesap	<i>Monotropa hypopithys</i>
Southern adder's-tongue	<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>
Royal fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>
Purple cliffbrake	<i>Pellaea atropurpurea</i>
White beardtongue	<i>Penstemon albidus</i>
Broad beech fern	<i>Phegopteris hexagonoptera</i>
Northern bog orchid	<i>Platanthera aquilonis</i>
Western prairie fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>
Purple fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera psycodes</i>
Bog bluegrass	<i>Poa paludigena</i>

Nodding rattlesnake-root	<i>Prenanthes crepidinea</i>
Canada plum	<i>Prunus nigra</i>
Sand cherry	<i>Prunus pumila</i>
Pink shinleaf	<i>Pyrola asarifolia</i>
Meadow beauty	<i>Rhexia virginica</i>
Northern currant	<i>Ribes hudsonianum</i>
Wood's rose	<i>Rosa woodsii</i>
Garden dewberry	<i>Rubus aboriginum</i>
Short-stalked dewberry	<i>Rubus curtipes</i>
Southern dewberry	<i>Rubus enslenii</i>
Iron River dewberry	<i>Rubus ferrofluvius</i>
Common dewberry	<i>Rubus flagellaris</i>
Fuller's bristly dewberry	<i>Rubus fulleri</i>
Downy dewberry	<i>Rubus satis</i>
Widgeon grass	<i>Ruppia cirrhosa</i>
Bog willow	<i>Salix pedicellaris</i>
Leathery grapefern	<i>Sceptridium multifidum</i>
Low nutrush	<i>Scleria verticillata</i>
Buffaloberry	<i>Sheperdia argentea</i>
Scarlet globemallow	<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i>
Rush aster	<i>Symphyotrichum boreale</i>
Large arrowgrass	<i>Triglochin maritima</i>
Small arrowgrass	<i>Triglochin palustris</i>
Black arrowwood	<i>Viburnum molle</i>

Lance-leaved violet	<i>Viola lanceolata</i>
Macloskey's violet	<i>Viola macloskeyi</i>
Kidney-leaved violet	<i>Viola renifolia</i>
Summer grape	<i>Vitis aestivalis</i>
Yellow-eyed grass	<i>Xyris torta</i>

571—77.4(481B) Exemptions. Notwithstanding the foregoing list and the prohibitions in Iowa Code chapter 481B, a person may import, export, possess, transport, purchase, barter, buy, sell, offer to sell, hold for processing or process a species of animal or plant that is listed as endangered or threatened on the state list or as listed in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, part 17 as amended to December 30, 1991, according to the following rules:

77.4(1) Trophies lawfully taken by persons licensed to hunt or fish (not including trapping or commercial harvest licenses) in another state, country or territory may be brought into this state and possessed, held for processing and processed but may not be sold or offered for sale.

77.4(2) Furs or skins of wildlife species appearing on the state list of endangered and threatened species that were lawfully taken or purchased in another state, country or territory may be imported, exported, purchased, possessed, bartered, offered for sale, sold, held for processing, or processed in this state if they are tagged or permanently marked by the state, country, or territory of origin.

77.4(3) Species of live animals appearing on the state list of endangered and threatened species may be imported, exported, possessed, purchased, bartered, offered for sale, or sold under the terms of a scientific collecting permit or educational project permit issued pursuant to Iowa Code section 481A.65 and administrative rules adopted by the department.

77.4(4) Plants, seeds, roots, and other parts of plants that appear on the state list of endangered and threatened plants that were lawfully taken or purchased in another state, country or territory may be imported, exported, purchased, possessed, offered for sale or sold in this state.

77.4(5) A part or product of a species of fish or wildlife appearing on the state list of endangered or threatened species that enters the state from another state or from a point outside the territorial limits of the

United States may enter, be transported, exported, possessed, sold, offered for sale, held for processing or processed in accordance with the terms of a permit issued by the agency of jurisdiction in the state of origin or, if entering from outside the United States, a federal permit issued by the United States government. If proper documentation is available, a person may buy or offer to buy a part or product of a species of fish or wildlife appearing on the state or federal lists as long as it is imported from a legal source outside this state and proper documentation is provided.

77.4(6) If a person possesses a species of fish or wildlife or a part, product or offspring of such a species, proper documentation such as receipt of purchase and the permit from the state of origin or the U.S. government must be presented upon request of any conservation officer. Failure to produce such documentation is a violation of this chapter and will constitute grounds for forfeiture to the Iowa DNR.

77.4(7) A species of plant, fish or wildlife appearing on the state list of endangered and threatened species may be collected, held, salvaged and possessed under the terms of a scientific collecting permit issued pursuant to Iowa Code section 481A.6 and administrative rules adopted by the department.

77.4(8) Drainage district repairs and improvements to existing open ditch facilities are excluded from the department's protection efforts for the Topeka shiner. This includes facilities of levee and drainage districts established and maintained under Iowa Code chapter 468. This exclusion does not apply to new channelization, deepening, or leveeing of existing streams and rivers with permanent flow or existing streams with off-channel water areas capable of supporting fish.

77.4(9) The department may enter into an agreement with a private landowner for habitat improvements that benefit endangered and threatened species while limiting the potential impacts to the landowner arising when a covered species becomes more numerous due to the voluntary improvements to the habitat. If any covered species becomes more numerous as a result of the landowner's voluntary actions, a private landowner who commits to implement voluntary conservation measures for a listed species will not be required to implement additional measures, and additional land, water, or resource use restrictions will not be imposed.

a. The department will provide participating landowners with technical assistance to develop landowner habitat improvement agreements. Each agreement shall include the following:

- (1) Landowner's name.
- (2) Legal description of the property covered by the agreement.
- (3) Length of agreement period.
- (4) Species covered by the agreement.
- (5) Baseline conditions: the estimated number of listed species and the size and condition of habitat for each species covered.
- (6) Conservation measures to be implemented and implementation schedule.
- (7) Financial commitment of the department and the landowner.
- (8) Measures to determine if the agreement has been fulfilled.
- (9) Any property use restrictions.
- (10) Terms for the termination of the agreement prior to its scheduled expiration.

b. The landowner, through normal lawful activities, may return the property to the baseline or a mutually agreed-upon condition above the baseline at any time after expiration of the landowner habitat improvement agreement.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 481B.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***12. Chapter 78, “Ginseng Harvesting and Sale” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 78 “Ginseng Harvesting and Sale.” This is the result of Customer and Employee Services Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 78 contains rules related to ginseng propagation, harvest, and sale of root to allow and maintain the lawful take of American Ginseng. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 456A.24(11), the Department and the Commission are charged with establishing rules to govern its ginseng program in a manner that is compliant with federal law. This is because American Ginseng is a federally regulated species subject to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023). In an attempt to reduce and simplify regulatory burdens, the new chapter defines, clarifies, and minimizes the redundancies found in the previous version.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 8, 2025 as ARC 9909C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the hearings and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Karmin Klingenberg, Administrative Assistant II
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 78 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to mussel regulations

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 78, “Ginseng Harvesting and Sale,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 78 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 456A.24.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 456A.24; Executive Order 10 (2023); and 50 CFR Parts 13 and 23.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 78 contains rules related to ginseng propagation and harvest and the sale of the root. These rules are necessary to allow and maintain the lawful take of American Ginseng in the State. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 456A.24(11), the Commission and the Department are charged with establishing rules to govern its ginseng program in a manner that is compliant with federal law. This is because American Ginseng is a federally regulated species subject to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023). In an attempt to reduce and simplify regulatory burdens, the new chapter defines, clarifies, and minimizes the redundancies found in the previous version.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9909C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 78 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 78

GINSENG HARVESTING AND SALE

571—78.1(456A) Definitions. All words and phrases used in these rules shall have their ordinary and customary meaning, except that the following words and phrases shall be defined as follows:

“*Controlled conditions*” means an environment that is manipulated by human intervention for the purpose of plant production. Characteristics of controlled conditions include but are not limited to tillage, fertilization, weed and pest control, irrigation, or artificial shade or light or nursery operations such as potting, bedding, or protection from weather.

“*Cultivated or artificially propagated ginseng*” means ginseng that is nurtured, propagated or maintained under controlled conditions from a seed, cutting, division, callus tissue, root, rhizome, other plant tissue, spore, or other propagule that has been derived from cultivated parental stock.

“*Cultivated parental stock*” means plants grown under controlled conditions that are used for reproduction and must be maintained in sufficient quantities for propagation.

“*Cutting*” or “*division*” means a plant grown from the root, rhizome, stem, or leaf of another plant and is considered to be artificially propagated if the specimen comes from cultivated parental stock.

“*Dealer*” means any person who deals in ginseng, which includes without limitation buying, selling, purchasing, holding, brokering, billing for, bartering, trading or otherwise receiving payment for wild or cultivated ginseng in Iowa for the purpose of selling or otherwise transacting wild or cultivated ginseng. “*Dealer*” includes any person, including without limitation a harvester, who sells ginseng to any person other than a dealer licensed pursuant to these rules or lawfully licensed in another state.

“*Dealer’s permit*” means a permit issued to a dealer by the department under these rules.

“*Department*” means the Iowa department of natural resources.

“*Director*” means the director of the Iowa department of natural resources or a designee.

“*Ginseng*” means all parts of the American Ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*) plant, including without limitation roots, rhizomes, leaves and seeds, which may be cultivated or wild. “*Ginseng*,” for purposes of these rules, does not mean those parts of the American Ginseng plant that have been processed.

“*Green ginseng*” means a root of ginseng from which the moisture has not been removed by drying. For the purposes of these rules, the amount of dried ginseng rhizome that can be derived from green ginseng rhizome shall be calculated using a ratio of three and three-tenths to one (3.3:1) by weight.

“*Grower*” means a person who grows cultivated ginseng for the purpose of selling the ginseng.

“*Grower’s permit*” means a permit issued under these rules to a grower.

“*Harvester*” means any person who harvests, possesses, transports, cuts, gathers, destroys, digs or uproots wild ginseng for the purpose of selling the ginseng or for personal use.

“*Harvester’s permit*” means a permit issued under these rules to a harvester.

“*Nonresident*” means a person other than a resident as defined by Iowa Code section 483A.1A.

“*Permits*” means dealer’s permits, grower’s permits and harvester’s permits issued under these rules.

“*Resident*” means a resident as defined by Iowa Code section 483A.1A.

“*Root*” means the ginseng rhizome and its roots.

“*True leaves*” or “*prongs*” means compound leaves that include five leaflets consisting of three large leaflets and two small leaflets.

“*Wild ginseng*” means an unprocessed plant, dry or green root, rhizome, seed or other part of ginseng, which is growing in or has been collected from its native habitat, including wild ginseng plants that have arisen from a wild seed that is planted in the wild or that have been transplanted into native habitat. Wild ginseng is ginseng that has not been grown or nurtured by a person beyond planting of seeds or plant.

“*Wild simulated*” ginseng means an unprocessed plant, dry or green root, rhizome, seed or other part of ginseng that is propagated, planted or collected in an environment with some level of human intervention for the purpose of plant production. All “wild ginseng” rules shall apply to this classification.

571—78.2(456A) Season for legal harvest. The season for legally harvesting ginseng is September 1 through October 31.

571—78.3(456A) General prohibitions.

78.3(1) Harvest. From November 1 through the following August 31, no person shall harvest, dig, cut, uproot, gather, intentionally disturb, or destroy ginseng, whether the ginseng is wild, wild simulated, or

cultivated ginseng. This prohibition shall not apply to the transplantation or intentional disturbance of cultivated ginseng when such activities are incidental to the cultivation and growing of cultivated ginseng in a nursery business.

78.3(2) *Sale.* A person, other than a dealer licensed pursuant to these rules, shall not sell ginseng from March 16 through August 31.

78.3(3) *Sale and possession of green ginseng.* A person shall not possess or transact business in green ginseng from November 21 through August 31 unless otherwise provided for by these rules.

78.3(4) *State-owned and state-managed lands.* In an effort to conserve and protect native stands of wild ginseng, the introduction of nonnative ginseng stock on state-owned or state-managed lands under the jurisdiction of the commission is prohibited, except in narrow circumstances as described in these rules. As such, a person shall not, at any time, possess, harvest, dig, cut, uproot, gather, plant, propagate, intentionally disturb or destroy ginseng or ginseng seed on state-owned or state-managed lands under the jurisdiction of the commission. Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit the department from taking measures on state-owned or state-managed lands under the jurisdiction of the commission to conserve and protect native wild ginseng, which may include without limitation planting and possessing seeds, or from carrying out other land management practices in areas where ginseng may be present.

571—78.4(456A) Ginseng permits. The department shall issue a dealer's permit upon receipt of a signed and complete application. An application shall be submitted on the form provided by the department, and payment of the appropriate fee shall be included with the application. Grower's and harvester's permits are available for sale through the department's electronic licensing system. The department shall not issue a permit if the department determines that the permit will be detrimental to the survival of ginseng or will otherwise be in contravention of the laws of this state or applicable federal laws. A person shall not carry, possess or use any other person's permit issued pursuant to these rules, except as specifically provided by these rules.

78.4(1) *Duplicate permits.* A duplicate grower's permit, harvester's permit or dealer's permit may be issued upon application to the department and the payment of a \$4.50 fee plus any charges associated with the department's electronic licensing system.

78.4(2) *Grower's permits.*

a. A person must obtain a permit from the department to legally grow cultivated ginseng and make the permit available upon request by any peace officer. There is no fee for the permit, except for the charge associated with the department's electronic licensing system.

b. A grower's permit shall be valid for five years from the date of issuance.

78.4(3) *Harvester's permits.*

a. Any person who harvests wild ginseng must have a valid harvester's permit issued by the department and shall produce such permit upon request to any peace officer or the owner or person in lawful control of the land upon which the permittee may be harvesting wild ginseng while the person is engaged in harvesting activities, including the person's moving to or from the harvest site, transporting ginseng and selling of the harvested ginseng.

b. A harvester's permit may be obtained through the department's electronic licensing system for a fee of \$35 for residents and \$65 for nonresidents plus any charges associated with the department's electronic licensing system.

c. A harvester's permit shall be valid from September 1 through March 15 of the following year.

d. A harvester who has a valid harvester's permit may sell wild ginseng from September 1 through March 15 of the following year.

e. A harvester with a valid harvester's permit may retain no more than four ounces of dry wild ginseng for personal consumption for one year beyond the expiration date of the permit. All wild or wild simulated ginseng possessed pursuant to this paragraph shall be for the harvester's personal use only and cannot be lawfully sold.

f. No person may sell, barter or otherwise offer for sale any ginseng that has been unlawfully collected, obtained or possessed in violation of this chapter, the Iowa Code, or the Code of Federal Regulations.

78.4(4) *Dealer's permits.*

a. A dealer in Iowa must have a valid dealer's permit issued by the department and make the permit available upon request by any peace officer. A dealer's paid employees and family members who work at a dealer's primary place of business as identified on the dealer's permit may operate legally under the dealer's permit. For

purposes of this subrule, family members include a dealer's spouse, domestic partner, parents, siblings, and children.

b. In order to be considered, an application for a dealer's permit shall be made on the form provided by the department, be complete, and be executed by the person seeking the dealer's permit.

c. Dealer's permits shall be issued that authorize a person to deal in any amount of ginseng in a license year. The permit application shall be accompanied by a \$250 permit fee for Iowa residents and a \$500 permit fee for nonresidents plus any charges associated with the department's electronic licensing system.

d. A dealer's permit shall be valid for a license year, from April 1 until March 31 of the following year.

e. A dealer's permit must be shown to the department when the department is certifying ginseng and must be shown to harvesters or other dealers when the dealer is buying ginseng.

571—78.5(456A) Dealers—prohibitions. A dealer shall not buy, deal, purchase, sell, or otherwise transact business of ginseng, its seeds, or its parts:

1. If the dealer knows or should have known that the ginseng was harvested illegally.
2. Without inspecting the permit of the harvester or dealer.
3. If the dealer knows or should have known that the harvester or dealer has violated this chapter.

571—78.6(456A) Dealers—recordkeeping.

78.6(1) *Contents of records.* Each permitted ginseng dealer shall keep individual, accurate, legible and complete records of each ginseng transaction. The records shall be on forms prescribed by the department and completed in their entirety by the ginseng dealer or a representative of the department. The department will provide a reasonable number of these forms at no cost to the dealer. The dealer's record of each ginseng transaction shall include:

- a. The date of transaction;
- b. The name and address of the buyer or seller, whichever is applicable for the transaction;
- c. The harvester's permit number or dealer's permit number if a dealer is buying ginseng in the transaction;

d. A description of the ginseng transacted, including the actual weight of the ginseng transacted and whether the ginseng is dried or green. If the ginseng is green ginseng, the weight shall also be converted to the dried weight of ginseng according to the ratio in 571—78.3(456A);

e. The name of the county or counties where the ginseng was harvested if the ginseng is purchased from a harvester;

f. A copy of the ginseng's certificate of origin, signed by the seller, if applicable;

g. The year of harvest for the ginseng bought or sold; and

h. Any additional information as requested by the department and included on the department's form.

78.6(2) *Monthly reporting.* Each dealer shall submit to the department copies of all records required by 78.7(1) on a monthly basis, no later than the fifteenth day of each month.

78.6(3) *Carryover report.* The dealer must complete an inventory of any roots remaining in the dealer's possession in Iowa as of April 1, including the roots' certified weight and designation as either wild, wild simulated, or cultivated ginseng, or a statement that the dealer has no roots remaining in the dealer's possession. Any certification regarding a root's weight as required by this subrule shall be completed through the department's agent upon appointment. Any roots carried over from one license year to the next shall be documented on the following license year's reports.

571—78.7(456A) Dealer locations.

78.7(1) *Transact business.* Ginseng dealers shall transact business only at the location specified on the dealer's permit or at the place of business specified on the permit of any other dealer who holds a dealer's permit in Iowa and is involved in the transaction.

78.7(2) *Location permits.*

a. A dealer who wishes to transact business at a location other than the locations provided for in 78.8(1) may obtain a location permit from the department. Each location permit shall be valid only for the location specified, on the dates and times listed on the location permit, and shall entitle the dealer to operate at that location in addition to the location specified on the corresponding dealer's permit.

b. The department shall, upon application and payment of the applicable location permit fee, furnish a location permit to the dealer. The location permit fee shall be \$5 for residents and \$50 for nonresidents plus any charge associated with the department's electronic licensing system.

78.7(3) *Duplicate location permits.* A duplicate location permit may be issued upon application to the department and the payment of a \$4.50 fee plus any charge associated with the department's electronic licensing system.

571—78.8(456A) Certificates of origin.

78.8(1) *Shipments.* Every shipment of ginseng to a location outside the state of Iowa by a grower, harvester or dealer shall be accompanied by a certificate of origin, or shipping certificate, that certifies that the ginseng was lawfully harvested.

a. The department will issue a certificate of origin for cultivated ginseng to a grower or dealer on a form provided by the department based upon the permit holder's compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

b. The department will issue a certificate of origin for wild or wild simulated ginseng to a harvester on a form provided by the department based upon the permit holder's compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

c. The certificate of origin for cultivated, wild simulated, and wild ginseng will be issued by the department's agent after the roots have been weighed and certified upon appointment.

78.8(2) *Wild ginseng originating in another state.*

a. No person may ship in or out of this state to or from another state or foreign country any ginseng that originates in another state or foreign country without a valid certificate of origin issued by that other state or foreign country.

b. If a resident dealer receives wild ginseng that originated in another state and if a certificate of origin issued by that state does not accompany the wild ginseng, the dealer shall return the wild ginseng to the sender immediately upon its receipt.

c. A dealer shall maintain a copy of the certificate of origin with the record of the transaction.

d. It shall be lawful for any person to have in possession any ginseng lawfully harvested or purchased outside Iowa and lawfully brought into the state so long as the person possesses a valid certificate of origin for the ginseng.

571—78.9(456A) Records retention. Any records required by this chapter to be maintained or submitted shall be produced for inspection upon request by the department, director, officer appointed by the department, or peace officer. All records under this chapter must be retained for a period of three years after the expiration of the grower's, harvester's, or dealer's permit. Failure to maintain records or to submit reports as required by these rules is a violation of these rules.

571—78.10(456A) Restrictions and prohibitions for harvesting wild ginseng.

78.10(1) No person shall harvest a plant unless the plant possesses three or more true leaves or prongs and a flowering or fruiting stalk with red berries. If, after a person removes a plant from the soil with the requisite leaves or prongs, it is determined the root has less than five stem scars, the person shall return the plant to the soil at the same location and make best efforts to return the plant and the surrounding area to their condition prior to harvest of the plant. In no event shall a person harvest or possess a wild ginseng root unless the root has at least five stem scars.

78.10(2) When a person harvests ginseng, the entire plant, except the fruit and seeds, shall be retained until the plant is taken to the harvester's residence or place of business, as identified in the harvester's permit.

571—78.11(456A) Additional restrictions and prohibitions for ginseng.

78.11(1) All persons harvesting wild or wild simulated ginseng shall plant all seeds collected from such plants within 100 feet of the parent plant. Seeds collected for planting pursuant to this subrule should be collected from the fruit by gently pressing the fruit of the ginseng.

78.11(2) A person shall use no tool other than the person's finger to plant ginseng seeds and shall not push seeds to a depth greater than one inch into the soil.

78.11(3) A person shall not possess or transport seeds of wild or wild simulated ginseng more than 100 feet from the site of the parent plant.

571—78.12(456A) Compliance with laws. A person shall not violate any state, federal or local laws in harvesting, dealing or shipping ginseng.

571—78.13(456A) Violations of this chapter.

78.13(1) A person violating this chapter shall be subject to a scheduled fine pursuant to Iowa Code section 805.8B(4) and permit suspension, modification and revocation pursuant to 571—78.17(456A).

78.13(2) Each ginseng plant or part thereof, including any ginseng, unlawfully harvested, dealt, or shipped shall be a separate offense. More than one person per plant may be guilty of violating this chapter.

78.13(3) Materials determined by the department's law enforcement personnel to be contraband or to have been taken in violation of this chapter may be seized and disposed of in conformance with Iowa Code chapter 809.

571—78.14(456A) Possession.

78.14(1) When a person is in possession of ginseng, including the shipping or transporting of ginseng, if one or more parts of ginseng are deemed unlawful, the entire contents of possession shall be deemed unlawful.

78.14(2) Any person or dealer who has in possession any ginseng or parts thereof shall upon request by the department, director, any officer appointed by the department, or peace officer show the ginseng to the department, director, or officer; a refusal to do so is a violation of this chapter.

571—78.15(456A) Valuation. The value of seized ginseng that was harvested or possessed in violation of these rules shall be based on the current market value, as determined by the department.

571—78.16(456A) Revocation of permits. Any permit issued pursuant to this chapter may be revoked, in whole or in part, by written notice if the department determines that the permit holder has violated any provision of this chapter and determines that continuation of the permit is not in the public interest. Such revocation shall become effective upon a date specified in the notice. The notice shall state the extent of the revocation and the reasons for the action. Within 30 days following receipt of the notice of a revocation, the permit holder may file a notice of appeal, requesting a contested case pursuant to 561—Chapter 7. The notice of appeal shall specify the basis for requesting that the permit be reinstated.

571—78.17(456A) Reciprocity. Nonresident harvesters, growers and dealers from states that regulate American Ginseng by allowing the harvesting, cultivating and dealing in American Ginseng but that prohibit Iowa harvesters, growers and dealers to lawfully operate in those states are not eligible for permits issued by the department.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 456A.24(11).

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***13. Chapter 79, “Fish Stocking Procedures and Fees for Private Waters” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 79, “Fish Stocking Procedures and Fees for Private Waters.” This is the result of Fisheries Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 79 is rescinded. The Department no longer produces nor provides fish for private waters. Discontinuation of Department-produced fish for stocking private waters was initiated by the Iowa legislature. Rescinding this rule chapter may benefit small businesses by allowing private aquaculture producers to fulfill the role of providing fish for private water bodies in Iowa.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9913C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the hearings and no public comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 79 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to fish stocking

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 79, “Fish Stocking Procedures and Fees for Private Waters,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 456A.24 and 481A.78.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 456A.24 and 481A.78 and Executive Order 10.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 79 contained procedures and fees for the stocking of fish into private waters. This chapter is antiquated and unnecessary. The Department no longer produces nor provides fish for private waters. Consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023), this chapter is rescinded.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9913C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind and reserve **571—Chapter 79**.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (indicates proposed consent item*)**

***14. Chapter 80, “Salvage of Fish and Game” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to rescind Chapter 80, “Salvage of Fish and Game” and adopt a new Chapter 80 with the same name. This is the result of the Law Enforcement Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 80 provides rules for the lawful salvage, distribution, and possession of fish and game that are either accidentally killed by motor vehicles, confiscated by authorities, or found dead. The chapter ensures that salvaged resources are used appropriately (primarily for human consumption or animal feed) and not exploited for commercial gain or illegal purposes. In addition, the chapter also clarifies procedures for collecting found-dead deer (“deadheads”) and shed antlers during different times of the year.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 Meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9919C. Two public hearings were held on Wednesday, January 28 and Wednesday, February 11, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the hearings. One public comment was received. The comment sought a change to require affixing the authorization number or physical tag to the deadhead for identification. The Final rule was amended to clarify affixing the authorization number or physical tag to the deadhead.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Matt Bruner, Captain
Law Enforcement Bureau
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 80 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 80, “Salvage of Fish and Game,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 80 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.11, 481A.38 and 481A.39.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.11, 481A.38 and 481A.39.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 80 establishes rules for the lawful salvage, distribution, and possession of fish and game that are either accidentally killed by motor vehicles, confiscated by authorities, or found dead. The chapter ensures that salvaged resources are used appropriately (primarily for human consumption or animal feed) and not exploited for commercial gain or illegal purposes. The chapter also outlines procedures for collecting shed antlers and found-dead deer (“deadheads”) during different times of the year. This chapter was reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as **ARC 9919C**. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 11, 2026. No one attended the hearings. One public comment was received. The comment sought to require affixing the authorization number or physical tag to the deadhead for identification. The Final rule was amended to clarify affixing the authorization number or physical tag to the deadhead.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 80 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 80

SALVAGE OF FISH AND GAME

571—80.1(481A) Salvage. Salvage authorizes the possession of confiscated fish or game or game accidentally killed by a motor vehicle on a public highway for the purpose of human consumption or the feeding of domestic animals. Any other benefits derived from the possession of legally salvaged game (such as legal sale of hides, plumage, or antlers) is a secondary benefit only. Peace officers are not to salvage game solely for the purpose of financial gain or commercial taxidermy.

80.1(1) The following game when accidentally killed by a motor vehicle shall not be considered salvageable: spotted fawn deer and hen pheasants.

80.1(2) All salvaged game or fish shall be accompanied with a salvage tag signed by the holder and a peace officer or designee of the director of the department of natural resources and shall be valid for the time period assigned on the tag. The salvage tag shall remain with the game or fish until the game or fish is consumed. All salvage tags referred to in this chapter are not transferable.

571—80.2(481A) Game killed by motor vehicle.

80.2(1) Any person wanting to possess game accidentally killed by a motor vehicle on a highway shall immediately contact the nearest conservation officer, Iowa state trooper, sheriff's department, or police department to request and receive a salvage tag prior to taking possession of said game. The whole carcass of the game animal must be removed from the scene.

80.2(2) When a request is made for game accidentally killed by a motor vehicle, the game shall, when salvageable, be disposed of in accordance with the following priorities:

- a.* Individuals involved in the accident;
- b.* Public institutions;
- c.* Nonprofit organizations;
- d.* Others.

571—80.3(481A) Confiscated fish or game.

80.3(1) The following conditions shall apply to a person being allowed to take possession of fish or game confiscated by the department of natural resources or a court.

80.3(2) Confiscated fish or game, when salvageable, shall be disposed of in accordance with the following priorities:

- a.* Public institutions.
- b.* Nonprofit organizations.
- c.* Others.

571—80.4(481A) Deadheads and shed-antlers.

80.4(1) Naturally shed deer antlers may be collected and possessed at any time of year.

80.4(2) Found-dead deer heads with attached antlers, also known as deadheads, may be collected and possessed by individuals who possess a valid hunting license and have paid the habitat fee pursuant to Iowa Code section 483A.1 unless exempt under Iowa Code section 483A.24(1) or 483A.24(8). Collection is permitted during the following time periods under the following conditions:

a. February 1 through July 31: an individual must electronically complete and submit a deadhead report and possession authorization through the department's website prior to collecting and possessing each deadhead. The unique authorization number shall be affixed to and remain with the deadhead.

b. August 1 through January 31: an individual must contact the local conservation officer and request a physical deadhead tag prior to taking possession. Verbal or electronic authorization from a conservation officer is sufficient for temporary possession until a physical tag can be issued and affixed by a conservation officer. The physical tag shall remain affixed to the deadhead.

80.4(3) This rule does not apply to deer that have been shot or killed by unlawful methods or means. These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.11, 481A.38, and 481A.39.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***15. Chapter 81, "Fishing Regulations" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 81, "Fishing Regulations." This is the result of the Fisheries Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This rule chapter establishes seasons, territories, daily bag limits, possession limits, and length limits for Iowa sport fishes.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9916C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 81 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to fishing regulations

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 81, “Fishing Regulations,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 81 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.67 and 481A.76.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.67 and 481A.76.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 81 establishes seasons, territories, daily bag limits, possession limits, and length limits for Iowa sport fishing. The regulation of fisheries ensures sustainable populations and recreational opportunities for Iowans into the future. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9916C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee’s meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 81 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 81

FISHING REGULATIONS

571—81.1(481A) Seasons, territories, daily bag limits, possession limits, and length limits.

		INLAND WATERS			BOUNDARY RIVERS
Lake Sturgeon	Closed	0	0	0	Same as inland waters

Shovelnose Sturgeon	Continuous	None	None	None	Same as inland waters except no harvest allowed in the Big Sioux River and aggregate daily bag limit 10, aggregate possession limit 20, in the Missouri River
Paddlefish*	Continuous	2	4	None	Mississippi River— Same as inland waters except for an open season and length limit; see below* Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers—Special regulations; see below*
Yellow Perch	Continuous	25	50	None	Same as inland waters except no bag or possession limit in the Missouri River
Trout	Continuous	5	10	None*	Same as inland waters
Catfish*	Continuous	8 Lakes 15 Streams	30	None	Same as inland waters except no bag or possession limit in the Mississippi River
Black Bass (Largemouth Bass) (Smallmouth Bass) (Spotted Bass)	Continuous	3	6	See below*	Continuous open season; aggregate daily bag limit 5, aggregate possession limit 10 See below*
		In Aggregate			
Combined Walleye, Sauger and Saugeye	Continuous*	5*	10*	None*	Continuous open season; aggregate daily bag limit 6, aggregate possession limit 12; except aggregate daily bag limit 4, aggregate possession limit 8, in the Big Sioux and Missouri Rivers See below*

Northern Pike	Continuous*	3	6	None	Continuous open season; daily bag limit 5, possession limit 10; except daily bag limit 6, possession limit 12, in the Big Sioux River
Muskellunge or Hybrid Muskellunge	Continuous*	1	1	40"	Same as inland waters
Crappie	Continuous	25*	None	None	Same as inland waters except 50 in possession
Bluegill	Continuous	25*	None	None	Same as inland waters except in aggregate with pumpkinseed on the Mississippi River
All other fish species*	Continuous	None	None	None	See below*
Frogs (except Bullfrogs)	Continuous	48	96	None	Same as inland waters
Bullfrogs <i>(Lithobates catesbeiana)</i>	Continuous	12	12	None	Same as inland waters

*Exceptions noted in 571—81.2(481A).

571—81.2(481A) Exceptions to seasons and limits, set in 571—81.1(481A).

81.2(1) Exception closed season. In lakes West Okoboji, East Okoboji and Spirit, there shall be a closed season on walleye beginning February 15 each year through the first Saturday in May. Open season for muskellunge and tiger muskie shall be from May 21 through November 30.

81.2(2) Black bass. The department may post season, bag or possession limits, length limits, and catch and release regulations specific to a body of water at that body of water. For bodies of water without posted regulations, the following regulations apply to black bass:

a. A 15-inch minimum length limit shall apply in all public lakes.

b. A 12-inch minimum length limit shall apply in all interior streams, river impoundments, and the Missouri River including chutes and backwaters.

c. A 14-inch minimum length limit shall apply to the Mississippi River including chutes and backwaters.

81.2(3) Walleye.

a. *West Okoboji, East Okoboji, Spirit, Upper Gar, Minnewashta, and Lower Gar Lakes in Dickinson County; Storm Lake in Buena Vista County; Clear Lake in Cerro Gordo County; and Big Creek Lake in Polk County.*

The daily bag limit shall be three, with a possession limit of six.

b. *Length limits.* Length limits shall apply to walleye in public waters that have length limits posted or published.

81.2(4) Paddlefish snagging is permitted in waters of the state designated in 571—81.1(481A) except as follows:

a. There shall be no open season above the Interstate 29 bridge in the Big Sioux River, nor in any tributary of this stream within 200 yards immediately upstream of a tributary confluence.

b. Snagging for paddlefish on the Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers is limited to Iowa waters only, beginning in the Big Sioux River below the Interstate 29 bridge to the Big Sioux River's confluence with the Missouri River and in the Missouri River, including all backwaters and sloughs and any tributary of the Missouri River, beginning at the Big Sioux River confluence and extending to the Hamburg Landing boat ramp.

(1) There shall be an open season from February 1 through April 30.

(2) Snagging hours are from sunrise to sunset.

(3) Bag limit is one paddlefish per paddlefish fishing license.

(4) Paddlefish fishing license quota is 950 for resident anglers and 50 for nonresident anglers. Anglers may purchase one paddlefish license from December 15 through December 31 and either a first or second license between January 1 and January 7.

(5) Each angler fishing for paddlefish and any species listed in 81.2(11) on the Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers shall have a valid paddlefish license and unused tag.

(6) Immediately upon an angler's taking into possession a legal paddlefish, a valid transportation tag issued with the license shall be visibly attached to the fish's lower jaw. The transportation tag shall remain affixed to the paddlefish until the paddlefish is processed for consumption. The transportation tag shall be proof of

possession of the carcass by the above-mentioned licensee. During the closed season, the possession of paddlefish on the Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers is prohibited unless the paddlefish are legally taken in Nebraska or South Dakota.

(7) A gaffe hook or other penetrating device cannot be used as an aid in the landing of a snagged fish.

c. Snagging for paddlefish on the Mississippi River is restricted to the area within 500 yards below the navigation dams and their spillways. The open season on the Mississippi River is the period from March 1 through April 15.

d. On the Mississippi River, a 33-inch maximum length limit shall apply; any paddlefish measuring 33 inches or more when measured from the front of the eye to the natural unaltered fork of the tail must immediately be released alive. On the Missouri and Big Sioux Rivers and on each Missouri River tributary from its confluence and extending to below its Interstate 29 bridge, a 35-inch to 45-inch protected-slot limit shall apply; a paddlefish measuring 35 inches to 45 inches when measured from the front of the eye to the natural unaltered fork of the tail shall immediately be released alive. To measure a paddlefish, the angler shall use a flexible tape and measure along and over the center line contour of the fish while it is lying flat.

81.2(5) Trout regulations. The department may post season, bag or possession limits, length limits, catch and release regulations, and tackle restrictions specific to a body of water at that body of water. On bodies of water posted as artificial lure only, “artificial lure” means a lure that does not contain or have applied to it any natural or synthetic substances designed to attract fish by the sense of taste or smell. For bodies of water without posted regulations, the following regulations apply to trout:

a. Open season is continuous.

b. A five-fish daily bag limit and ten-fish possession limit shall apply to any combination of brown trout, brook trout, rainbow trout, and their hybrids.

c. A trout fee is required to fish for and possess trout.

81.2(6) Exception border lakes. In Little Spirit Lake, Dickinson County; Iowa and Tuttle (Okamanpedan) Lakes, Emmet County; Burt (Swag) Lake, Kossuth County; and Iowa Lake, Osceola County, the following species have a continuous open season and daily bag and possession limits as set forth below:

- a. Walleye—daily bag and possession limit 3;
- b. Northern pike—daily bag and possession limit 3;
- c. Largemouth and smallmouth bass—daily bag and possession limit 3;
- d. Channel catfish—daily bag and possession limit 8;
- e. Yellow perch—daily bag and possession limit 25;
- f. Crappie species—combined daily bag and possession limit 25;
- g. Sunfish (bluegill, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, orangespotted sunfish, longear sunfish, warmouth, and hybrids)—combined daily bag and possession limit 25;
- h. Muskellunge—daily bag and possession limit one. Open season shall be May 21 through November 30. A 40-inch minimum length limit shall apply on all border lakes;
- i. Spears and bow and arrow may be used to take carp, buffalo, bowfin, gar, freshwater drum, and quillback with a continuous open season;
- j. All species not listed above are subject to the inland regulations of the state and have a continuous open season.

81.2(7) DeSoto Bend Lake. All fishers shall conform with federal refuge regulations as posted under the authority of 50 CFR Section 32.34(a) effective as of [effective date of this rulemaking]. The text of the rules will be contained on the signs as posted.

81.2(8) General restriction. Anglers must comply with the most restrictive set of regulations applicable to the water on which they are fishing. Where length limits apply, fish less than the legal length must be immediately released into the water from which they were caught.

81.2(9) Catfish. For the purpose of this rule, stream catfish bag and possession limits apply at the federal flood control impoundments of Rathbun Lake, Red Rock Lake, Saylorville Lake, and Coralville Lake.

81.2(10) Identification of catch. No person shall transport or possess on any waters of the state any fish unless (a) the species of any such fish can be readily identified and a portion of the skin (at least 1 square inch) including scales is left on all fish or fillets and (b) the length of fish can be determined when length limits apply. “On any waters of the state” includes from the bank or shoreline in addition to wading and by boat.

81.2(11) Method of take. Artificial light may be used in the taking of any fish. The following species of fish may be taken by snagging, spearing, and bow and arrow: common carp, bighead carp, grass carp, silver carp, black carp, bigmouth buffalo, smallmouth buffalo, black buffalo, quillback, highfin carpsucker, river carpsucker, spotted sucker, white sucker, shorthead redhorse, golden redhorse, silver redhorse, freshwater drum, shortnose gar, longnose gar, dogfish, gizzard shad, and goldfish. All other species of fish not hooked in the mouth, except paddlefish legally taken by snagging, must be returned to the water immediately with as little injury as possible. Snagging is defined as the practice of jerking any type of hook or lure, baited or unbaited, through the water with the intention of hooking fish in an area other than the mouth. No hook larger than a 5/0 treble hook or measuring more than 1¼ inches in length when two of the hook points are placed on a ruler are permitted when snagging. Exceptions to snagging as a method of take are as follows:

a. No snagging is permitted in the following areas:

- (1) Des Moines River from directly below Saylorville Dam to the Southeast 14th Street bridge in Des Moines.
- (2) Cedar River in Cedar Rapids from directly below the 5 in 1 Dam under Interstate 380 to the 1st Avenue bridge.
- (3) Cedar River in Cedar Rapids from directly below the “C” Street Roller Dam to 300 yards downstream.
- (4) Iowa River from directly below the Coralville Dam to 300 yards downstream.
- (5) Chariton River from directly below Lake Rathbun Dam to 300 yards downstream.
- (6) Spillway area from directly below the Spirit Lake outlet to the confluence at East Okoboji Lake.
- (7) Northeast bank of the Des Moines River from directly below the Ottumwa Dam, including the catwalk, to the Jefferson Street Bridge. Snagging from the South Market Street Bridge is also prohibited.
- (8) Missouri River, any Missouri River tributary beginning at its confluence and extending below its Interstate 29 bridge and the Big Sioux River from the Interstate 29 bridge to the confluence with the Missouri River, with the exception of snagging paddlefish or any of the species listed in 81.2(11) during the paddlefish open season.
- (9) Des Moines River from directly below the Hydroelectric Dam (Big Dam) to the Hawkeye Avenue Bridge in Fort Dodge.

(10) Des Moines River from directly below the Little Dam to the Union Pacific Railroad Bridge in Fort Dodge.

(11) Skunk River from directly below Oakland Mills Dam to the downstream end of the 253rd Street boat ramp.

b. No snagging, bow and arrow fishing, or spearing of fish is permitted in the following areas:

(1) Clear Lake and Ventura Marsh from the Ventura Grade, Jetties and Bridge.

(2) Lost Island Lake Inlet within 300 feet of the concrete culvert and metal fish barrier.

(3) Lost Island Lake Outlet within 300 feet of the outlet structure and metal fish barrier.

(4) Barringer Slough Outlet within 300 feet of the outlet and metal fish barrier.

(5) The outlet area of Lower Gar Lake beginning at 230th Avenue and extending downstream to the signed Iowa Great Lakes Sanitary District property line.

81.2(12) Panfish. The daily bag limit for crappie and bluegill applies only to public waters of the state. In all waters of the Mississippi River, the daily bag and possession limit applied individually to crappie, yellow perch and rock bass shall be 25 and 50, respectively. In all waters of the Mississippi River, the daily bag and possession limit applied in the aggregate for bluegill and pumpkinseed and for white bass and yellow bass shall be 25 and 50, respectively.

81.2(13) Culling. It is prohibited to sort, cull, high-grade, or replace any fish already in possession. Participants in permitted black bass fishing tournaments are exempted, as are participants in catch and release catfish fishing tournaments if the participants are fishing from a boat with a functioning aerated or water-circulated live well. Any fish taken into possession by holding in a live well, on a stringer, or in other fish-holding devices is part of the daily bag limit. Once the daily bag limit of a particular species is reached, fishing for that species is permitted as long as all fish of that species caught are immediately released.

571—81.3(481A) Trotlines and throw lines.

81.3(1) *Where permitted.* It shall be lawful to use trotlines or throw lines in all rivers and streams of the state, except in Mitchell, Howard, Winneshiek, Allamakee, Fayette, Clayton, Delaware, Dubuque, and Jackson counties. Trotlines or throw lines may be used in the above nine counties in the following stream segments:

Mississippi River; Maquoketa River, mouth to Backbone State Park Dam; North Fork Maquoketa River, mouth to Jones-Dubuque County line; Turkey River, mouth to the Elkader Dam; and Upper Iowa River, mouth to the first dam upstream in Winneshiek County.

81.3(2) *Removal of lines.* All trotlines and parts thereof shall be removed from the shore when not being actively fished. A trotline shall be considered actively fished if at least once daily the trotline is left with at least one baited hook in the water.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.67 and 481A.76.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***16. Chapter 82, "Commercial Fishing" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 82, "Commercial Fishing." This is the result of the Fisheries Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This rule chapter provides for the commercial harvest of fishes on public waters. The Department is directed to implement permits for such harvest by Iowa Code.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9914C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the hearings and no public comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 82 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to commercial fishing

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 82, “Commercial Fishing,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 82 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 482.1.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 482.1, 482.3, 482.5 and 482.14.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 82 allows for and regulates the commercial harvest of fishes from public waters. The Department of Natural Resources (Department) is directed to implement permits and regulate such harvest by the Iowa Code. The rules provide a transparent process for those who wish to bid on the limited commercial harvest opportunities on inland waters. The rules also contain regulations for commercial harvest from the border rivers, including designating those species that may be commercially harvested, size/length limits, open and closed seasons and locations, and gear and licensing requirements. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9914C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 82 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 82

COMMERCIAL FISHING

INLAND WATERS

571—82.1(482) Contract policy. All contracts for removal of fish from inland waters shall be awarded on a competitive basis to the maximum practical extent subject to the following provisions. Commercial fishers

licensed with the state may enter into contract with owners of private water bodies for the removal of injurious fish provided approval is received from the director or staff of the department prior to any sampling or removal operations. Owners of private water bodies need not comply with 82.1(1) through 82.1(5).

82.1(1) *Invitation for bids.* Sealed bids must be solicited for all fish removal operations under contract. Prospective bidders shall be informed by an advertisement via the state's public solicitation portal in sufficient time to enable prospective bidders to prepare and submit bids. Specifications of the contract shall be provided to all prospective bidders as provided in the invitation for bids.

82.1(2) *Contract award.* The contract shall be awarded to the firm or individual whose bid is believed to be the most advantageous to the state. Bids may be rejected if they do not appear to be reasonable or if there is reason to believe that the firm or individual is not sufficiently qualified to accomplish the desired work.

82.1(3) *Contract approval.* All contracts for fish removal operations shall be approved by the director.

82.1(4) *Failure to receive a bid.* In the event that no sealed bids are received, the fisheries bureau chief or staff at the direction of the fisheries bureau chief may negotiate a contract with a qualified contractor.

82.1(5) *Contract period.* Contracts shall have a maximum duration of 12 months. A contract may be extended, with the mutual consent of both parties, on an annual basis for a period up to and including three years from the time of the original contract. All terms and conditions existing in the original contract will apply during the extended contract period.

MISSISSIPPI AND MISSOURI RIVERS

571—82.2(482) Commercial taking. Fish may be taken for commercial purposes from the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers subject to the following regulations.

82.2(1) *Permissive catch.* Except for channel catfish, flathead catfish, and shovelnose sturgeon, which cannot be taken from the Missouri River, it shall be lawful to take with licensed commercial fishing gear the following species: carp, smallmouth buffalo, largemouth buffalo, black buffalo, channel catfish, flathead catfish, black bullhead, yellow bullhead, brown bullhead, freshwater drum, northern redhorse, silver redhorse, spotted sucker, white sucker, river carpsucker, quillback, highfin carpsucker, grass carp, bighead carp, silver carp, shovelnose sturgeon, longnose gar, shortnose gar, bowfin, gizzard shad, goldeye, and mooneye.

82.2(2) *Size limits.* Fish shorter than a minimum length or longer than the maximum length shall be returned to the water unharmed. The minimum total length for all catfish is 15 inches. The minimum fork length for shovelnose sturgeon, measured from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail, is 27 inches. No shovelnose sturgeon longer than 34 inches fork length may be harvested from waters of the Mississippi River bordering Wisconsin. No shovelnose sturgeon less than 27 inches fork length may be possessed in Iowa waters.

82.2(3) *Permitted gear.* Hoop nets, trap nets (fyke nets), gill nets, trammel nets, slat nets (basket traps), seines, and trotlines (setlines) may be used by licensed commercial fishers.

82.2(4) *Mesh size restrictions.*

a. Hoop nets. An escape hole with a minimum diameter of 1½ inches all directions shall be provided within 12 inches beyond the last hoop to the tail-line.

b. Trap nets. An escape hole with a minimum diameter of 1½ inches all directions shall be provided within 12 inches beyond the last hoop to the tail-line.

c. Gill nets. The webbing shall have a mesh size not less than 3½ inches square measure.

d. Trammel nets. The webbing shall have a mesh size not less than 2 inches square measure.

e. Seines. There are no mesh size restrictions.

f. Slat nets. An escape hole with a minimum diameter of 1½ inches all directions shall be provided in the end opposite the throat.

82.2(5) *Gear attendance.* All commercial gear shall be lifted and emptied of catch at the following time intervals, except during periods of inclement weather. Inclement weather is defined as that threatening to life, health, or safety.

a. Hoop nets shall be attended at least once every 96 hours and slat nets at least once every 48 hours during open water conditions. Hoop nets shall be attended at least once every 20 days during ice cover conditions.

b. Trap nets and trotlines shall be attended at least once every 24 hours.

c. Gill nets and trammel nets shall be attended at least once every 24 hours during open water conditions and at least once every 96 hours during ice cover conditions.

82.2(6) *Report of catch.* Licensed commercial fishers must comply with the reporting requirements as set forth in Iowa Code section 482.14.

82.2(7) *Duplicate operator's license.* An owner making a request for a duplicate operator's license will be issued one only after records show the owner has purchased a limit of five operator's licenses. The duplicate helper's license will be issued to one individual and is not transferable. The issuing fee is \$1.

82.2(8) *Seasons.* There is a continuous open season for commercial fishing of all species listed in 82.2(1), except there is a closed season for shovelnose sturgeon from May 16 through October 14. No shovelnose sturgeon may be harvested from gear set prior to midnight on October 15.

82.2(9) *Special shovelnose and bowfin regulations.* Shovelnose sturgeon and bowfin must remain intact until the fish reach the final processing facility or business. For the purposes of this subrule, a final processing facility does not include vessels or vehicles.

82.2(10) *Closed areas.* The use of entanglement gear, including gill and trammel nets, is prohibited from that area extending 600 feet downstream of the 900-foot existing closed areas (Iowa Code section 482.9(2)) located below each of the locks and dams on the Mississippi River. Shovelnose sturgeon caught in entanglement gear within 600 feet of the mouth of any stream or tributary shall be returned to the water unharmed.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 482.1, 482.3, 482.5, and 482.14.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***17. Chapter 83, "Scuba and Skin Spearing of Rough Fish" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 83, "Scuba and Skin Spearing of Rough Fish." This is the result of the Fisheries Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This rule chapter provides for the scuba and skin spearing of rough fish on certain Iowa public waters. The Department is directed to implement permits for such harvest by the Iowa Code.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9915C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 83 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to rough fish

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 83, “Scuba and Skin Spearing of Rough Fish,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 83 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39 and 481A.67.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 482.1, 482.3, 482.5 and 482.14.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 83 authorizes the taking of rough fish by scuba and skin divers. The chapter contains provisions designating off-limits areas and allowable and not-allowable gear and requiring the use of a diver’s flag. These requirements are to ensure public and diver safety. The Iowa Code requires that these activities be authorized via rulemaking, so this chapter is necessary for these recreational activities to be lawful in Iowa. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9915C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 83 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 83

SCUBA AND SKIN SPEARING OF ROUGH FISH

571—83.1(481A) When permitted. The spearing of rough fish by scuba and skin divers will be permitted in accordance with the following seasons and rules.

571—83.2(481A) Prohibited areas. Scuba and skin spearing for rough fish shall be lawful in all natural lakes and state-owned meandered streams in Iowa year-round.

83.2(1) Scuba and skin spearing shall be permitted in streams or impoundments on private land where access is permitted by owner or lessee.

83.2(2) Scuba and skin spearing is prohibited in all state-owned artificial lakes.

83.2(3) Scuba and skin spearing is prohibited in all state-owned strip mines, county conservation board areas and fish and game management areas where posted as such.

83.2(4) Scuba and skin spearing is prohibited within 100 feet of any swimming beach area.

83.2(5) A valid fishing license shall be required of all individuals engaged in scuba and skin spearing unless the individual is exempt under the provisions of Iowa Code section 483A.17.

571—83.3(481A) Permitted equipment. Permitted equipment to be used in scuba and skin spearing shall be:

1. Hand and pole spears.
2. Spear guns powered by rubber bands, springs, or pneumatically powered springs.
3. If used on powered spear guns, attached to the gun by a cord lanyard or other device.

The overall length of spear gun and cord shall not exceed 20 feet.

571—83.4(481A) Prohibited equipment.

1. No power or exploding spear heads will be permitted.
2. No guns powered by gunpowder explosive or explosives or compressed gas will be permitted.

571—83.5(481A) Diver's flag. The "International Diver's Flag" shall be displayed by each diver or group of divers on a buoy, float or boat during any underwater spear fishing activity. The diver or group of divers must stay within a 100-foot circle of the flag.

571—83.6(481A) Employees exempt. Underwater scuba and skin spearing regulations shall not apply to authorized agents of the department of natural resources when engaged in research or management studies or enforcement.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, and 481A.67.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***18. Chapter 84, "Promiscuous Fishing" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 84, "Promiscuous Fishing." This is the result of the Fisheries Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This rule chapter provides for promiscuous fishing when there is imminent danger of fish loss through natural causes.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9906C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 84 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to promiscuous fishing

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 84, “Promiscuous Fishing,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 84 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39 and 481A.76.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38 and 481A.76.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 84 regulates the taking of imperiled fish populations by licensed anglers. “Imperiled” refers to situations where there is an imminent danger of fish loss (die off) through natural causes. This chapter allows the Commission to issue an order allowing the public to salvage these fish before they die and go to waste by authorizing more permissive methods of take than are generally allowed. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9906C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 84 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 84

PROMISCUOUS FISHING

571—84.1(481A) General. The natural resource commission may, after an investigation, when it is found there is imminent danger of loss of fish through natural causes, authorize by public order the taking of fish from any area and by such means as the commission may deem advisable to salvage such imperiled fish populations.

84.1(1) Method of take. Fish may be taken by any means except by use of dynamite, poison, electric shocking devices or any stupefying substances.

84.1(2) Commercial purposes. This rule shall not authorize the taking of fish for commercial purposes.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 481A.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***19. Chapter 86, "Turtles" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 86, "Turtles." This is the result of the Fisheries Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This rule chapter provides regulations for the taking and possession of turtles from the public waters of the state.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9903C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 86 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to turtles

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 86, “Turtles,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 86 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.67, 482.1, 482.5 and 482.11.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.67, 482.1, 482.4, 482.5 and 482.11.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 86 regulates the taking and possession of turtles from the waters of the State. These regulations ensure a sustainable harvest, which protects turtle populations from overharvest. This is accomplished by providing daily catch and possession limits, providing gear and method of take provisions, and designating open season dates. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9903C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 86 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 86

TURTLES

571—86.1(481A,482) Harvesting. Turtles may be harvested from waters of the state subject to the following regulations.

86.1(1) *Species and season.* It shall be lawful to commercially and noncommercially (recreationally) harvest spiny softshell *Apalone spinifera*, smooth softshell *Apalone mutica*, and painted *Chrysemys picta* turtles from July 16 through May 14. Common snapping turtles *Chelydra serpentina* may be harvested commercially from

July 16 through May 14 and recreationally year-round. Harvesting turtle eggs from wild nests is prohibited. Turtles shall not be harvested from gear set prior to midnight on July 15.

86.1(2) *Methods.* Harvest of turtles shall only be by hand, turtle hook, turtle trap, licensed commercial fishing gear in the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers only, and hook-and-line. Turtle traps shall be constructed with no more than one throat or funneling device. The last hoop to the tail-line of turtle traps shall have an unobstructed, functional escape hole with a minimum diameter in all directions of 7½ inches to allow passage of fish and small turtles. Barrel- and floating-type turtle traps must also meet the unobstructed, functional escape hole criterion.

86.1(3) *Daily catch and possession limits.*

a. The following daily catch limits apply to commercial and recreational harvesters, while the possession limits apply only to commercial harvesters:

Turtle Species	Daily Catch Limit (commercial and recreational)	Possession Limit (commercial only)
Common snapping turtle	4	20
Spiny softshell and smooth softshell turtle, in aggregate	1	5
Painted turtle	1	5

b. The possession limit for recreational harvesters is a maximum of 100 pounds of live turtles or 50 pounds of dressed turtles pursuant to Iowa Code section [483A.28](#). A recreational harvester’s daily catch limit shall not exceed this possession limit.

86.1(4) *Culling.* It is unlawful to sort, cull, high-grade, or otherwise replace any turtle in possession.

86.1(5) *Tags.* All harvesters shall affix a weather-resistant gear tag above the waterline to each piece of gear. The gear tag must plainly show the name, address, and license number of the licensee.

86.1(6) *Gear attendance.* All turtle traps shall be set with the top of the trap visible above the waterline at all times and shall be checked and completely emptied of catch at least once every 72 hours. When a trap is checked, turtles shall either be taken into possession up to the daily catch limit or immediately released.

86.1(7) *Exclusions.* Iowa Code chapter 482 does not apply to turtles taken and imported from outside the state. The boundary waters are considered to be within the state.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.67, 482.1, 482.4, 482.5, and 482.11.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***20. Chapter 87, "Mussel Regulations" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 87, "Mussel Regulations." This is the result of the Fisheries Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This rule chapter provides regulations for the taking and possession of mussels from the public waters of the state.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9903C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 87 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to mussel regulations

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 87, “Mussel Regulations,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 87 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 482.1 and 482.3.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 482.1, 482.3 and 483A.28.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 87 regulates the taking and possession of mussels. Methods of take, open and closed locations and hours, possession limits, and licensing requirements are provided to ensure use of the resource in a sustainable manner. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9903C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 87 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 87

MUSSEL REGULATIONS

571—87.1(481A) Seasons, areas, methods, species, limits. The taking and possession of mussels from the public waters of the state shall be limited to the following regulations.

87.1(1) Seasons. There shall be an open season for taking mussels throughout the year. The taking of mussels is restricted to the hours between sunrise and sunset.

87.1(2) Species. Species other than those listed as threatened or endangered may be lawfully taken and possessed. Zebra mussels shall not be taken and possessed.

87.1(3) *Areas.* Live mussels may be harvested only from the Mississippi River and connected backwaters. Dead mussels may be harvested from all waters of the state.

87.1(4) *Limits.* The possession limit is 24 whole mussels or 48 shell halves. The sale of mussels or shells is not permitted. Licensed commercial fishers, licensed sport anglers, and children younger than 16 years of age may take and possess mussels.

87.1(5) *Methods.* Mussels may be taken by hand, pole and line, diving, and crowfoot bar not to exceed 20 feet in length.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 482.1, 482.3 and 483A.28.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***21. Chapter 89, "Aquaculture" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 89, "Aquaculture." This is the result of the Fisheries Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: 89 regulates the sale and propagation of fish, reptiles, and amphibians within the aquaculture industry. The rules include a list of species that are approved for use in aquaculture and a list of diseases that require monitoring and reporting. Additional provisions allow for the permitting of species not on the approved list, while prohibiting the possession and importation of certain species. These rules are intended to reduce the risk of invasive species introductions or the spread of disease from captive to wild populations.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9904C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 89 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to aquaculture

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 89, “Aquaculture,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 89 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.142 and 481A.143.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.142 and 481A.143 and Executive Order 10..

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 89 regulates the sale and propagation of fish, reptiles, and amphibians within the aquaculture industry. The rules include a list of species that are approved for use in aquaculture and a list of diseases that require monitoring and reporting. Additional provisions allow for the permitting of species not on the approved list, while prohibiting the possession and importation of certain species. These rules are intended to reduce the risk of invasive species introductions or the spread of disease from captive to wild populations. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9904C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 89 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 89

AQUACULTURE

571—89.1(481A) Approved aquaculture species. The following approved aquaculture species may be propagated and sold:

FISH

American Eel	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>
Banded Darter	<i>Etheostoma zonale</i>
Banded Killifish	<i>Fundulus diaphanus</i>
Bigmouth Buffalo	<i>Ictiobus cyprinellus</i>
Bigmouth Shiner	<i>Ericymba dorsalis</i>
Black Buffalo	<i>Ictiobus niger</i>
Black Bullhead	<i>Ameiurus melas</i>
Black Crappie	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>
Blackchin Shiner	<i>Miniellus heterodon</i>
Blacknose Dace	<i>Rhinichthys atratulus</i>
Blackside Darter	<i>Percina maculata</i>
Blackstripe Topminnow	<i>Fundulus notatus</i>
Blue Catfish	<i>Ictalurus furcatus</i>
Blue Sucker	<i>Cycleptus elongatus</i>
Bluegill and Hybrids	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>
Bluntnose Minnow	<i>Pimephales notatus</i>
Bowfin	<i>Amia calva</i>
Brassy Minnow	<i>Hybognathus hankinsoni</i>
Brook Silverside	<i>Labidesthes sicculus</i>
Brook Stickleback	<i>Culaea inconstans</i>
Brook Trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>
Brown Bullhead	<i>Ameiurus nebulosus</i>
Brown Trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>

Bullhead Minnow	<i>Pimephales vigilax</i>
Central Mudminnow	<i>Umbra limi</i>
Central Stoneroller	<i>Campostoma anomalum</i>
Channel Catfish	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>
Common Carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>
Common Shiner	<i>Luxilus cornutus</i>
Creek Chub	<i>Semotilus atromaculatus</i>
Crystal Darter	<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>
Emerald Shiner	<i>Notropis atherinoides</i>
Fantail Darter	<i>Etheostoma flabellare</i>
Fathead Minnow and Hybrids	<i>Pimephales promelas</i>
Flathead Catfish	<i>Pylodictis olivaris</i>
Flathead Chub	<i>Platygobio gracilis</i>
Freshwater Drum	<i>Aplodinotus grunniens</i>
Ghost Shiner	<i>Paranotropis buchanani</i>
Gilt Darter	<i>Percina evides</i>
Gizzard Shad	<i>Dorosoma cepedianum</i>
Golden Redhorse	<i>Moxostoma erythrurum</i>
Golden Shiner	<i>Notemigonus crysoleucas</i>
Goldeye	<i>Hiodon alosoides</i>
Goldfish	<i>Carassius auratus</i>
Grass Carp	<i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i>
Gravel Chub	<i>Erimystax x-punctatus</i>
Greater Redhorse	<i>Moxostoma valenciennesi</i>

Green Sunfish	<i>Lepomis cyanellus</i>
Highfin Carpsucker	<i>Carpionodes velifer</i>
Hornyhead Chub	<i>Nocomis biguttatus</i>
Iowa Darter	<i>Etheostoma exile</i>
Ironcolor Shiner	<i>Alburnops chalybaeus</i>
Johnny Darter	<i>Etheostoma nigrum</i>
Lake Chub	<i>Couesius plumbeus</i>
Largemouth Bass	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>
Largescale Stoneroller	<i>Campostoma oligolepis</i>
Longear Sunfish	<i>Lepomis megalotis</i>
Longnose Dace	<i>Rhinichthys cataractae</i>
Longnose Gar	<i>Lepisosteus osseus</i>
Mimic Shiner	<i>Paranotropis volucellus</i>
Mississippi Silvery Minnow	<i>Hybognathus nuchalis</i>
Mooneye	<i>Hiodon tergisus</i>
Western Mosquitofish	<i>Gambusia affinis</i>
Mottled Sculpin	<i>Cottus bairdii</i>
Mud Darter	<i>Etheostoma asprigene</i>
Muskellunge and Hybrids	<i>Esox masquinongy</i>
Northern Hog Sucker	<i>Hypentelium nigricans</i>
Logperch	<i>Percina caprodes</i>
Northern Pike	<i>Esox lucius</i>
Rock Bass	<i>Ambloplites rupestris</i>
Orangespotted Sunfish	<i>Lepomis humilis</i>

Ozark Minnow	<i>Miniellus nubilus</i>
Pallid Shiner	<i>Hybopsis amnis</i>
Pirate Perch	<i>Aphredoderus sayanus</i>
Plains Minnow	<i>Hybognathus placitus</i>
Plains Topminnow	<i>Fundulus sciadicus</i>
Pugnose Minnow	<i>Opsopoeodus emiliae</i>
Pumpkinseed	<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>
Quillback	<i>Carpionodes cyprinus</i>
Rainbow Darter	<i>Etheostoma caeruleum</i>
Rainbow Smelt	<i>Osmerus mordax</i>
Rainbow Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>
Red Shiner	<i>Cyprinella lutrensis</i>
Redear Sunfish and Hybrids	<i>Lepomis microlophus</i>
Redfin Shiner	<i>Lythrurus umbratilis</i>
Redside Dace	<i>Clinostomus elongatus</i>
River Carpsucker	<i>Carpionodes carpio</i>
River Darter	<i>Percina shumardi</i>
River Redhorse	<i>Moxostoma carinatum</i>
River Shiner	<i>Alburnops blennius</i>
Rosyface Shiner	<i>Notropis rubellus</i>
Sand Shiner	<i>Miniellus stramineus</i>
Sauger and Hybrids	<i>Sander canadensis</i>
Shorthead Redhorse	<i>Moxostoma macrolepidotum</i>
Shortnose Gar	<i>Lepisosteus platostomus</i>

Shovelnose Sturgeon	<i>Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus</i>
Sicklefin Chub	<i>Macrhybopsis meeki</i>
Silver Chub	<i>Macrhybopsis storeriana</i>
Silver Lamprey	<i>Ichthyomyzon unicuspis</i>
Silver Redhorse	<i>Moxostoma anisurum</i>
Silverband Shiner	<i>Paranotropis shumardi</i>
Skipjack Herring	<i>Alosa chrysochloris</i>
Slender Madtom	<i>Noturus exilis</i>
Slenderhead Darter	<i>Percina phoxocephala</i>
Slimy Sculpin	<i>Cottus cognatus</i>
Smallmouth Bass	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>
Smallmouth Buffalo	<i>Ictiobus bubalus</i>
Southern Redbelly Dace	<i>Chrosomus erythrogaster</i>
Speckled Chub	<i>Macrhybopsis aestivalis</i>
Spotfin Shiner	<i>Cyprinella spiloptera</i>
Spottail Shiner	<i>Hudsonius hudsonius</i>
Spotted Bass	<i>Micropterus punctulatus</i>
Spotted Sucker	<i>Minytrema melanops</i>
Starhead Topminnow	<i>Fundulus dispar</i>
Stonecat	<i>Noturus flavus</i>
Striped Bass and Hybrids	<i>Morone saxatilis</i>
Sturgeon Chub	<i>Macrhybopsis gelida</i>
Suckermouth Minnow	<i>Phenacobius mirabilis</i>
Tadpole Madtom	<i>Noturus gyrinus</i>

Topeka Shiner	<i>Miniellus topeka</i>
Trout-perch	<i>Percopsis omiscomaycus</i>
Walleye and Hybrids	<i>Sander vitreus</i>
Warmouth	<i>Lepomis gulosus</i>
Western Silvery Minnow	<i>Hybognathus argyritis</i>
White Bass and Hybrids	<i>Morone chrysops</i>
White Crappie	<i>Pomoxis annularis</i>
White Sucker	<i>Catostomus commersonii</i>
Yellow Bass	<i>Morone mississippiensis</i>
Yellow Bullhead	<i>Ameiurus natalis</i>
Yellow Perch	<i>Perca flavescens</i>

AMPHIBIANS

Bullfrog	<i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i>
Leopard Frog	<i>Lithobates pipiens</i>

REPTILES

Common Snapping Turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina serpentina</i>
Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>
Smooth Softshell	<i>Apalone mutica</i>

571—89.2(481A) Importation permit. An importation permit is required to receive, propagate or sell in the state any aquaculture species not listed in 571—89.1(481A). In addition, aquaculture units shall not import live fish, viable eggs, or semen of any species of the salmonid family (trout, salmon or char) and ictalurid family (catfishes and bullheads) unless the owner or operator possesses a fish importation permit. Importation permits may be applied for on forms provided by the department.

571—89.3(481A) Disease-free certification. Importation permits will not be issued for live fish, viable eggs, or semen of any species of the salmonid family (trout, salmon or char) unless the owner or operator of an aquaculture unit provides a statement certifying the fish, eggs or semen to be free of the following diseases.

89.3(1) *Diseases detrimental to the state's fishery resources.*

Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS)

Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis (IPN)

Whirling Disease (*Myxosoma cerebralis*)

Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis (IHN)

Ceratomyxosis (*Ceratomyxa shasta*)

Bacterial Kidney Disease (*R. salmoninarium*)

Proliferative Kidney Disease (PKD)

Enteric Redmouth (*Yersinia ruckeri*)

Vibriosis (*vibrio sp.*)

89.3(2) *Reportable diseases.* Reportable diseases are detrimental to individual aquaculture units and may be detrimental to wild fish populations. Reportable diseases are Enteric Septicemia of Catfish (*Edwardsiella ictaluri*) (ESC), Channel Catfish Virus Disease (CCVD) and Furunculosis (*Aeromonas salmonicida*). Disease certification statements are required for the diseases prior to importation of any live fish, viable eggs, or semen of any species of the Ictalurid (catfishes and bullheads) and Salmonid (trout, salmon and char) families. Importation permits will be considered on a case-by-case basis for fish with reportable diseases.

89.3(3) *Certified pathologists for inspection.* All disease certification statements must be issued by approved certified pathologists. A list of approved certified pathologists will be made available to the owner or operator of the aquaculture unit requesting a fish importation permit.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.142 and 481A.143.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***22. Chapter 90, "Aquatic Invasive Species" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 90, "Aquatic Invasive Species." This is the result of the Fisheries Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This rule chapter defines aquatic invasive species. Invasive fish and plant species can negatively impact fisheries and recreational boating; these impacts can be expensive to mitigate.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9917C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 90 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to aquatic invasive species

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 90, “Aquatic Invasive Species,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 90 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 456A.37.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 456A.37.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 90 contains restrictions related to aquatic invasive species and provides a list of those species. The purpose of this chapter is to prevent introductions of invasive species and limit the spread of invasive species that have already been detected in Iowa. Aquatic invasive species can negatively impact native species; interfere with recreational activities, such as boating and fishing; and interfere with water supply infrastructure. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9917C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 90 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 90

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

571—90.1(456A) Definitions. As used in this chapter:

“*Commission*” means the natural resource commission.

“*Department*” means the department of natural resources.

“*Director*” means the director of the department of natural resources.

“*Introduce*” means to release a species into waters of the state. “Introduce” does not include the immediate return of a nonnative species to waters of the state from which it was removed.

“*Transport*” means to move a species into or within the state and includes accepting or receiving the species for transportation or shipment. “Transport” does not include the unintentional transport of a species within a water of the state or to a connected water of the state where the species being transported is already present.

“*Watercraft*” means a device used or designed for navigation on water.

571—90.2(456A) Aquatic invasive species. For the purposes of this rule, the following species and any hybrids, cultivars, or varieties of the species are designated as aquatic invasive species.

90.2(1) *Aquatic invasive plants.*

Brittle naiad	<i>Najas minor</i>
Curlyleaf pondweed	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>
Eurasian watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
Flowering rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria, Lythrum virgatum</i>
Salt cedar	<i>Tamarix spp.</i>

90.2(2) *Aquatic invasive fish.*

Bighead carp	<i>Hypophthalmichthys nobilis</i>
Black carp	<i>Mylopharyngodon piceus</i>
Round goby	<i>Neogobius melanostomus</i>
Rudd	<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>
Ruffe	<i>Gymnocephalus cernuus</i>
Silver carp	<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>
White perch	<i>Morone americana</i>

90.2(3) *Aquatic invasive invertebrates.*

Fishhook waterflea	<i>Cercopagis pengoi</i>
New Zealand mudsnail	<i>Potamopyrgus antipodarum</i>

Quagga mussel	<i>Dreissena bugensis</i>
Rusty crayfish	<i>Orconectes rusticus</i>
Spiny waterflea	<i>Bythotrephes cederstroemi</i>
Zebra mussel	<i>Dreissena polymorpha</i>

90.2(4) *Federal noxious weed list.* For purposes of this rule, the aquatic plants listed in 7 CFR Section 360.200 as amended to [effective date of this rulemaking] are also designated as aquatic invasive species.

90.2(5) *Injurious wildlife species.* For purposes of this rule, aquatic species listed in 50 CFR Sections 16.11 through 16.15 as amended to [effective date of this rulemaking] are also designated as aquatic invasive species.

571—90.3(456A) Restrictions.

90.3(1) A person shall not possess, introduce, import, purchase, sell, barter, propagate, or transport aquatic invasive species in any form in this state, except:

- a. By written permission of the director;
- b. For disposal as part of a harvest or control activity;
- c. When a species is being transported to the department, or to another destination as directed by the department, in a sealed container for purposes of identifying the species or reporting the presence of the species;
- d. When the specimen has been lawfully acquired dead and, in the case of plant species, when all seeds are removed or are otherwise secured in a sealed container;
- e. In the form of herbaria or other preserved specimens;
- f. When a species is being removed from watercraft and equipment or when a species is caught by an angler and immediately returned to the water from which it came; or
- g. When an individual angler possesses a species that has been caught and immediately killed.

90.3(2) A conservation officer, other licensed peace officer, or employee of the department may seize or dispose of all specimens of aquatic invasive species unlawfully possessed, introduced, imported, purchased, sold, bartered, propagated, or transported in the state.

571—90.4(456A) Infested waters.

90.4(1) *Designation of infested waters.* The department will designate infested waters of the state and publish the names of infested waters in the fishing regulations brochure and on the department webpage, www.iowadnr.gov/programs-services/aquatic-invasive-species, and will provide notice through other available means where practical. At any time, the department may designate additional waters or remove from designation those waters that are no longer infested.

90.4(2) *Restricted activities on infested waters.* The department may restrict boating, fishing, swimming, and trapping in infested waters of the state. When determining when to restrict activities in infested waters, the department will consider:

- a.* The extent of a species' distribution within the state;
- b.* The likely means of spread for a new species; and
- c.* Whether restrictions specific to infested waters containing a specific species will effectively reduce that species' spread.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 456A.37.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***23. Chapter 93, “Commercial Use of Captive-Reared Waterfowl” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to rescind Chapter 93, “Commercial Use of Captive-Reared Waterfowl” and adopt a new Chapter 93 with the same name. This is the result of the Wildlife Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 93 establishes the commercial use of captive-reared waterfowl and the regulations that apply.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9918C. Two public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 93 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 93, “Commercial Use of Captive-Reared Waterfowl,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 93 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 455A.5(6)“a,” 481A.55, 481A.126 and 484B.8.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.55, 481A.126 and 484B.8 and 50 CFR 21.63.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 93 establishes the commercial use of captive-reared waterfowl and the regulations that apply. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9918C**. Public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 93 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 93

COMMERCIAL USE OF CAPTIVE-REARED WATERFOWL

571—93.1(481A) General. Nothing in this chapter authorizes the taking of live waterfowl or their eggs from the wild.

571—93.2(481A) Required markings. All waterfowl released for shooting purposes or sold by a licensed taxidermist must be captive-reared and marked pursuant to Iowa Code section 481A.22 and these rules.

571—93.3(481A) Definitions.

“Bred in captivity” or *“captive-reared”* means waterfowl, including eggs hatched in captivity from parents that mated or otherwise transferred gametes in captivity.

“Captivity” means that live waterfowl are held in a controlled environment that is intensively manipulated by man for the purpose of producing waterfowl of selected species, and that has boundaries designed to prevent waterfowl, eggs or gametes of the selected species from entering or leaving the controlled environment.

General characteristics of captivity may include but are not limited to artificial housing, waste removal, health care, protection from predators, and artificially supplied food.

“*Form 3-186*” means the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service form titled “Notice of Transfer or Sale of Migratory Waterfowl.”

“*Waterfowl*” means any goose, brant, or duck.

571—93.4(484B) Marked for shooting. All waterfowl released for shooting purposes shall be physically marked by removal of the hind toe from the right foot at not more than four weeks of age.

571—93.5(481A) Commercial sale of captive-reared waterfowl by a taxidermist.

93.5(1) Taxidermist permit required. No person may perform taxidermy services on migratory birds or their parts, nests, or eggs for any reason other than personal use without a taxidermist permit.

93.5(2) In addition to the records required by Iowa Code section 481A.126, the permittee must maintain files containing the original of federal Form 3-186 as required by 50 CFR 21.63 (as amended through May 6, 2025). Properly marked, captive-reared mallards are exempt from this requirement.

93.5(3) All captive-reared waterfowl being purchased or held by a taxidermist for mounting and resale shall have been physically marked by at least one of the following methods:

a. Removal of the hind toe from the right foot.

b. Pinioning of a wing by the removal of the metacarpal bones of one wing or a portion of the metacarpal bones, which renders the bird permanently incapable of flight.

c. Banding of one metatarsus with a seamless metal band.

d. Tattooing of a readily discernible number or letter or combination thereof on the web of one foot.

93.5(4) When any mounted captive-bred waterfowl (except captive-reared, properly marked mallards) are acquired from a taxidermist, the taxidermist shall furnish a copy of federal Form 3-186, indicating all information required by the form and the method or methods by which individual birds are marked as required in 93.5(3).

93.5(5) The buyer shall retain Form 3-186 on file for the duration of the buyer’s possession of such mounted, captive-reared waterfowl.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.55, 481A.126, and 484B.8.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***24. Chapter 95, "Game Harvest Reporting and Landowner-Tenant Registration" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to rescind and replace Chapter 95. This is the result of Wildlife Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 95 establishes the harvest reporting process for deer and turkey hunters and the eligibility verification process for free landowner or tenant licenses. In accordance with Executive Order 10 (2023), the rules have been edited for length and clarity by removing outdated provisions. The rules also include two additional methods for hunters to report harvests, bringing a total of five methods available to hunters to increase efficiency and convenience.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9924C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 2, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the hearings and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Denise Roberg, Specialty License Manager
Customer and Employee Services Bureau
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 95 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 95, “Game Harvest Reporting and Landowner-Tenant Registration,” Iowa Administrative Code, and to adopt a new Chapter 95 with the same name.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1, 483A.8, 483A.8A, and 483A.24.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1, 483A.8, 483A.8A, and 483A.24 and Executive Order 10.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 95 establishes the harvest reporting process for deer and turkey hunters and the eligibility verification process for free landowner or tenant licenses. The chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023). The chapter includes two new methods for hunters to report harvests, bringing a total of five methods available to hunters to increase efficiency and convenience.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as **ARC 9924C**. Two public hearings were held January 28, 2026 and February 2, 2026 from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

No members of the public attended the hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571–Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

Item 1. Rescind 571-Chapter 95 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 95
Game Harvest Reporting and Landowner-Tenant Registration

571—95.1(481A) Harvest reporting system. Deer and turkey hunters must report each deer and wild turkey harvested to the department of natural resources (DNR) harvest reporting system. The hunter whose name is on the transportation tag is responsible for making the report. Hunters who do not bag a deer or wild turkey do not report.

95.1(1) Reporting deadlines for deer and turkey. A harvest report must be made by midnight on the day after the animal is tagged or before the animal is taken to a locker or taxidermist, is processed for consumption, or is transported out of state, whichever occurs first.

95.1(2) Method of reporting. Hunters may report the harvest in one of five ways:

- a. Through the electronic licensing system for Iowa (ELSI) application
- b. By texting the registration number to 1.800.771.4692 and following the prompts.
- c. By calling the DNR toll-free harvest reporting telephone number at 1.800.771.4692.
- d. By reporting through the Internet using the DNR online harvest reporting system.
- e. By visiting an ELSI license agent during the license agent's normal business hours.

95.1(3) Report confirmation. The hunter will be given a confirmation number to write on the harvest report tag to verify that the hunter has reported the kill. The harvest report tag and confirmation number must remain attached to the deer or wild turkey until the deer or wild turkey is processed for consumption.

571—95.2(481A) Verifying eligibility for free landowner or tenant licenses. Eligibility for free and reduced-fee deer and wild turkey hunting licenses, hereafter referred to as free licenses, is defined in Iowa Code section 483A.24 and rules 571—98.6(483A) and 571—106.17(481A). The ELSI will not issue free licenses to persons who have not registered their eligibility with ELSI.

95.2(1) Farm unit. As provided in 571—subrule 106.17(6), all the land under the lawful control of the landowner or tenant is considered one farm unit no matter how it is subdivided for business purposes. No one may be registered as eligible for free licenses on more than one farm unit. Registering on one parcel of land within the farm unit will allow the landowner, tenant or family member to hunt on all land in the farm unit.

95.2(2) Who may obtain free licenses. One member of the landowner family (the landowner or an eligible family member) may obtain a free any-deer license. Members of the landowner family may divide the free antlerless-deer-only licenses for which the family is eligible among themselves in any way they choose. If there is a tenant on the same property, one member of the tenant family (the tenant or an eligible family member) may also obtain a free any-deer license. Members of the tenant family may divide the free antlerless-deer-only licenses for which they may be eligible among themselves in any way they choose. One member of the landowner family and one member of the tenant family may each obtain one free spring turkey hunting license and one free fall turkey hunting license.

95.2(3) Method of registration. A landowner or tenant may register on the Internet through ELSI or by mailing an affidavit obtained from DNR. The online system is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. An online registrant may obtain a free license once the registration process is complete. A person who registers through the mail or by fax may have to wait up to ten business days after the form is received by DNR to obtain a free license.

95.2(4) Information verifying eligibility. In order to register, a landowner, tenant or qualifying family member must have a customer record in ELSI. When registering, landowners, tenants and family members will be required to provide their ELSI customer number or their Iowa driver's license number or social security number and their date of birth to identify their ELSI customer record.

- . *Landowners.* A landowner shall provide the parcel identification number (PIN) from the landowner's current property tax statement for one parcel of qualifying land owned by the landowner and the number of the county where the land is located. Qualifying family members shall be registered to the same parcel of qualifying land as the landowner.
- a. *Partnerships, corporations or other forms of joint land ownership.* Each owner of a jointly owned farm unit and the owner's qualifying family members who wish to receive free licenses for that farm unit shall register with the same county number and PIN. Only one joint owner or family member may obtain the one any-deer license available for the farm unit. The other joint owner(s) and family members may divide any other free licenses to which they are entitled among themselves in any way they choose.
- b. *Tenants.* A tenant shall provide an affidavit that contains the name, address, and telephone number of the owner of the qualifying land rented by the tenant; the county number where the land is located; and the landowner's PIN from one parcel of that qualifying land. If a tenant rents land from more than one landowner, the tenant shall provide the required information about only one landowner. The tenant's qualifying family members shall be registered to the same parcel of qualifying land as the tenant.
- c. *Signature required.* Pursuant to Iowa Code section 483A.24(2)"f," all affidavits submitted to register eligibility for free licenses shall bear the signature of the landowner, tenant, or family member attesting that the information contained therein is true.

95.2(5) Forms. Instructions and affidavits may be obtained online at www.iowadnr.gov, at DNR offices, or by calling 515.725.8200.

95.2(6) Registration expiration and renewal. A registered landowner, tenant, or eligible family member may obtain free licenses as allowed in subrule 95.2(2) provided the registration information and eligibility status remain valid. If the registration information or eligibility status of a registered landowner, tenant, or eligible family member changes, that individual must mail a DNR affidavit form or contact the DNR by telephone. The DNR will periodically review registration information to verify eligibility status and will inactivate registrations when the registration information fails to indicate eligibility.

95.2(7) Penalties. Free licenses will not be issued to an applicant until a legible and complete affidavit is received by DNR. An illegible or incomplete affidavit will be returned to the applicant for correction. A person who has made a false attestation in obtaining a license in violation of Iowa Code Supplement section 483A.24(2)"f" shall be guilty of a simple misdemeanor and subject to license revocation, as provided in Iowa Code section 483A.21, Iowa Code supplement section 483A.24(2)"f" and 571—subrule 106.8(3).

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1, 483A.7, 483A.8, 483A.8A, and 483A.2.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***25. Chapter 98, "Wild Turkey Hunting" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to implement 2025 Iowa Acts, Senate File 148. This legislation amended Iowa Code section 483A.24 to remove the requirement that a landowner or tenant, as defined by Iowa Code chapter 483A, select a method of take. Now, resident turkey hunting licenses are valid until filled during the applicable time of year.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 98 governs spring and fall wild turkey hunting by residents and nonresidents.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9888C. Two public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 98 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby adopts Chapter 98, “Wild Turkey Hunting,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1, 483A.7 and 483A.24.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1, 483A.7 and 483A.24 and 2025 Iowa Acts, Senate File 148.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 98 governs spring and fall wild turkey hunting by residents and nonresidents. Four amendments are adopted to implement 2025 Iowa Acts, Senate File 148, which removed the requirement that a landowner or tenant, as defined by Iowa Code chapter 483A, select a method of take and instead makes resident turkey hunting licenses valid until filled during the applicable time of year.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9888C**. Public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Amend paragraph **98.1(1)“d”** as follows:

d. Number of fall licenses. No one may apply for or obtain more than two wild turkey fall hunting licenses. ~~A hunter may obtain no more than two combination shotgun or archery licenses, or two archery only licenses, or one of each. One license of either type may be free to eligible landowners or tenants.~~

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 98.2(4) as follows:

98.2(4) Archery-only licenses. The total number of available fall archery-only licenses shall not be limited by zones or quotas.

ITEM 3. Amend subrule 98.2(5) as follows:

98.2(5) Landowner/tenant licenses. The total number of available fall landowner/tenant licenses shall not be limited by zones or quotas.

ITEM 4. Amend subrule 98.3(2) as follows:

98.3(2) Landowner/tenant licenses. An eligible resident landowner or tenant may obtain ~~a combination shotgun or archery license or a~~ one free archery-only spring turkey license or one free fall turkey license that is valid until filled using an appropriate method of take as defined for the season and only on the farm unit of the landowner or tenant. One combination shotgun-or-archery license or one archery-only license may be obtained in addition to the free spring or fall license. Nonresident landowners are not eligible for resident or landowner turkey hunting licenses.

a. —~~Spring combination shotgun or archery licenses.~~ A spring combination shotgun or archery license will be issued by season and will be valid only on the farm unit of the landowner or tenant.

b. —~~Spring archery-only licenses.~~ A spring archery-only license will be valid for all seasons but only on the farm unit of the landowner or tenant.

c. —~~Number of spring licenses.~~ One combination shotgun or archery license or one archery-only license may be obtained in addition to the free shotgun or archery license or the free archery-only license. If an archery-only license and a combination shotgun or archery license are obtained, the shotgun or archery license must be for season 4. If a free shotgun or archery license and a paid shotgun or archery license are obtained, one of the licenses must be for season 4.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***26. Chapter 103, "Mobile Radio Transmitters" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to rescind Chapter 103, "Mobile Radio Transmitters." This rulemaking is the result of the Law Enforcement Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This chapter defines one-way and two-way mobile radio transmitters and outlines the legal use of these transmitters for falconry and hunting with dogs. This chapter is redundant to Iowa Code section 481A.24.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 Meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9920C. One public hearing was held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the hearing and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Matt Bruner, Captain
Law Enforcement Bureau
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 103 – Final

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to mobile radio transmitters

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby proposes to rescind Chapter 103, “Mobile Radio Transmitters,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 481A.24.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 481A.24.

Purpose and Summary

This chapter defines one-way and two-way mobile radio transmitters and outlines the legal use of these transmitters for falconry and hunting with dogs. This chapter is redundant to Iowa Code section 481A.24. Accordingly, this rule is rescinded consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9920C**. A public hearing was held on January 28, 2026. No one attended the public hearing and no comments were received.

No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is proposed:

ITEM 1. Rescind and reserve **571—Chapter 103**.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***27. Chapter 111, “Natural Resources Collector Permits: Research, Education, Wildlife Rehabilitation” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to rescind and replace Chapter 111 with the new title of “Natural Resources Collector Permits: Research, Education, Wildlife Rehabilitation.” This is the result of Customer Employee and Services Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 111 explains the process for members of the public to obtain permits to take, acquire, or possess wildlife or plants for educational projects, scientific collecting, wildlife rehabilitation, and wildlife salvage. The rules also formally adopt standards as identified by the National Wildlife Rehabilitator’s Association, the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10. Definitions and rules have been revised to align with State and federal law.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its November 2024 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 8, 2025 as ARC 9921C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the hearing and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Karmin Klingenberg, Administrative Assistant II
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 111 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to natural resource collection regulations

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 111 and adopts a new Chapter 111 with the new title, “Natural Resources Collector Permits: Research, Education, Wildlife Rehabilitation.”

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 461A.41, 481A.39, and 481A.65

State or Federal Law Implemented

State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code sections 461A.41, 481A.39, and 481A.65; 50 CFR Part 10; 50 CFR Part 20; and 50 CFR Part 21.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 111 explains the process for members of the public to obtain permits to take, acquire, or possess wildlife or plants for educational projects, scientific collecting, wildlife rehabilitation, and wildlife salvage. The rules clarify compliance with state and federal law and adopt standards as identified by the National Wildlife Rehabilitator’s Association, the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10. Definitions and rules have been revised to align with state and federal law. Specific publication titles have been added with dates certain to clarify the standards that apply to applicants and permittees. In an attempt to reduce and simplify regulatory burdens, the new chapter defines, clarifies, and minimizes the redundancies found in the previous version.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as ARC 9909C. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 111 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 111

NATURAL RESOURCES COLLECTOR PERMITS: RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND WILDLIFE

REHABILITATION

571—111.1(481A) Definitions.

“Department” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 481A.1.

“Educational project permit” means a permit to take, acquire and possess live wildlife for natural resource-based educational programs and displays.

“Permit” means a license for the purpose of this chapter.

“Permittee” means an organization or person that possesses a valid permit issued by the department under Iowa Code section 481A.65.

“Scientific collector’s permit” means a permit to take, for scientific purposes only, any birds, nests, eggs, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, fish, invertebrates, plants or parts thereof that are protected by state regulations.

“Wildlife rehabilitation permit” means a permit to take and temporarily possess injured, sick or orphaned authorized wildlife species with the sole intent to return the animal to its natural habitat as soon as possible.

“Wildlife salvage permit” means a permit to possess, for natural resource education programs or scientific studies, authorized protected wildlife species that have died as the result of natural causes or accidents, were legally taken, or were donated specimens that have been legally obtained.

571—111.2(481A) General conditions for permits.

1. Applications will not be approved for private collections or for commercial use of protected species.
2. Any costs incurred by the permittee for the administration of any permit authorized by this chapter are the responsibility of the permittee.
3. Scientific collecting permits, wildlife salvage permits, and educational project permits unless for migratory birds are generally issued in the name of the institution or organization. The principal collector or permittee will be listed on the permit and be responsible for administering the permit. All persons collecting or working under the authority of the permit shall carry a copy of the permit and a letter of authorization from the principal permittee.
4. Educational project permits for migratory birds and wildlife rehabilitation permits may list an institution or organization but also must list the person or persons with the qualifications for that particular permit. These permits do not necessarily continue with the institution or organization if the person or persons listed on the

permits leave. If replacement personnel with the proper qualifications for the permit or permits are found, then the permit or permits may stay in the institution's or organization's name.

5. Specimens collected or possessed under any permit authorized by this chapter remain the property of the state of Iowa. The department reserves the right to determine the disposition of all specimens collected under authority of these permits.

6. Records, facilities and inventories must be made available for inspection by the department's agents during reasonable hours.

7. Records of collections and the manner in which specimens have been acquired and their disposition must be kept current at all times.

8. Authorization to collect or possess endangered or threatened species requires special permission and must comply with provisions established in Iowa Code chapter 481B.

9. A representative of the department must be notified within 72 hours of a permittee taking or holding threatened or endangered species that are found dead and within 24 hours for those that are injured or sick.

10. A permitted rehabilitator or veterinarian must determine if a migratory bird is permanently crippled before it may be held under an educational project permit.

11. Permit fees will be \$5 for one year, \$10 for two years, and \$15 for three years.

12. Applicants for scientific collectors, wildlife rehabilitation, and educational projects must be at least 18 years old or provide written permission from a parent or guardian.

13. No animals being rehabilitated may be used for educational programs.

14. Applicants for scientific collector, wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife salvage, and educational project permits that are requesting permission to collect, possess, or hold wildlife species as listed in 50 CFR Parts 10, 20, and 21 as amended through August 4, 2025, must follow provisions set forth and may be required to obtain a federal permit issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

15. Any native mammals, reptiles, amphibians, or fish that are not state-listed endangered or threatened species and are obtained from legal sources outside the state of Iowa are exempt from these permit requirements. Proof of origin of each animal is the responsibility of the owner.

571—111.3(481A) Scientific collector's permit. A scientific collector's permit may, after investigation, be issued to any business, organization, university, college or person engaged in a scientific project approved by the department.

This permit may be issued for a period of up to three years.

The application narrative shall include the reason for study, expected conservation benefit for Iowa, species, number of specimens to be collected, geographic location, time frame and collection methods subject to department approval.

571—111.4(481A) Wildlife salvage permit. A wildlife salvage permit may be issued to any business, university, college, school, public agency, other organization or person engaged in a natural resource education or research program approved by the department.

This permit may be issued for a period of up to three years.

Special approval is required for the salvage of migratory birds, including nests and eggs.

571—111.5(481A) Educational project permit. The following classes of educational project permits may be issued by the department:

111.5(1) A general educational project permit for protected animal species, other than migratory birds, may be issued to any university, college, school, public agency, other organization or person engaged in a natural resource education program approved by the department. The limitation on the number of animals in possession shall be established by the ability of the applicant to provide adequate facilities and care.

This permit may be issued for a period of up to three years.

111.5(2) A migratory bird apprentice educational project permit may be issued to a person interning to meet the requirements of the federal special purpose possession permit and being sponsored by a person possessing the following: a master wildlife rehabilitation permit and two years' experience using migratory birds under a state or federal educational project permit, a master class falconry permit or a migratory bird general educational project permit for at least five years. Sponsorship information shall be submitted with the apprentice application

on a form prescribed by the department. An apprentice will be limited to the possession of one American kestrel and one screech owl that are permanently crippled or human imprinted. In the case where an apprentice will be in charge of an existing facility with additional birds, the sponsor and the conservation officer must approve the possession of the additional species and individuals.

This permit may be issued for a period of up to two years.

111.5(3) A migratory bird general educational project permit for migratory birds may be issued to a person who has served the appropriate apprenticeship and is recommended by the person's sponsor, has previously held an educational project permit for migratory birds issued by the department or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or has held a master class state and federal falconry permit within the last five years.

This permit may be issued for a period of up to three years.

571—111.6(481A) Wildlife rehabilitation permit. The following classes of wildlife rehabilitation permits may be issued by the department:

111.6(1) An apprentice wildlife rehabilitation permit may be issued to a person serving a one-year internship with and being sponsored by a person possessing a master wildlife rehabilitation permit or to a person serving a two-year internship with and being sponsored by a person possessing a general wildlife rehabilitation permit. Sponsorship information shall be submitted with the apprentice application on a form prescribed by the department.

This permit may be issued for a period of up to two years.

111.6(2) A general wildlife rehabilitation permit may be issued to a person who has served the appropriate apprenticeship; has graduated with a degree in veterinary medicine; or has previously held a rehabilitation permit issued by the department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or any other state natural resource agency.

A general wildlife rehabilitator may sponsor up to four apprentices at a given time.

This permit may be issued for a period of up to three years.

111.6(3) A master wildlife rehabilitation permit may be issued to a person who has completed five consecutive years of extensive rehabilitation work and has received a recommendation from the local state

conservation officer assigned to the person’s resident county or who is a licensed veterinarian with specific training and experience in wildlife rehabilitation. The department may issue a master wildlife rehabilitation permit to individuals who have demonstrated special ability, knowledge, training and experience in wildlife rehabilitation.

A master wildlife rehabilitator may sponsor up to six apprentices at a given time.

This permit may be issued for a period of up to three years.

571—111.7(481A) Application qualifications. All applicants for any permit defined herein must possess adequate qualifications and experience and facilities to house and properly confine species held under the permit if applicable. Applicants are subject to the following standards:

Standards/Publications	Association/Society Name
Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation, Fourth Edition 2012	International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (IWRC) National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (NWRA)
Migratory Bird Permit Memorandum, MBPM-12, December 31, 2024	Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
Buhl G. Wildlife in Education: A Guide for the Care and Use of Program Animals. Second. Buhl G, Schlieps J, Smith L, editors. Bloomington, MN: National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association, 2018	NWRA
Animal Welfare Act and Animal Welfare Regulations Blue Book, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, July 2023	United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Arent, Lori, “Raptors in Captivity: Guidelines for Care and Management,” Hancock House, 2007	FWS

For scientific collectors permits, the applicant must certify to following the guidelines set forth by the organization’s Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee or the organization overseeing the research.

For education and rehabilitation permits, the applicant and officer will be provided the appropriate Permit Inspection Sheet based on the guidelines set forth by the appropriate governing body and the appropriate governing body's permit resources.

If they are housing animals, wildlife rehabilitation and educational project applicants must provide a completed and signed Consulting Veterinarian Agreement on the form provided by the department from a licensed veterinarian that will provide professional counsel to the applicant. Applicants must list species or groups of species, such as but not limited to rabbits, squirrels, migratory birds, snakes or turtles, for which they will be providing rehabilitation services on the applicants' permit application narrative.

The application narrative for an educational project permit must list the species and number of each species that will be held. Facilities for migratory birds must meet the design and size criteria set forth by the standards listed above.

If an applicant has been found in court to have committed an act of animal cruelty or neglect, the applicant shall not be eligible for a license for at least five years from the date of the conviction or guilty plea.

571—111.8(481A) Evaluation committee. For the purpose of evaluating facilities, standards of care, study design, sample numbers, and impacts to wild populations from applications requested by applicants under this rule, the director may establish an ad hoc committee of persons with expertise in wildlife, rehabilitation, veterinary medicine, research or education. Upon request by the director, the committee shall inspect the facilities, procedures and educational programs and provide the department with appropriate recommendations. The committee may also consider the National Wildlife Rehabilitator's Code of Ethics for its recommendations. The recommendations may be used as a basis for placing certain conditions on a permit or modifying or terminating a permit.

571—111.9(481A) Disposition of animals, parts, eggs or nests. Injured or orphaned animals that cannot be returned to their natural environment shall be transferred to someone with an educational project permit or, after being euthanized by or under the guidance of a licensed veterinarian, handled as follows:

111.9(1) The animals will be transferred to someone with a scientific collector's permit or a wildlife salvage permit after obtaining permission from the department, or

111.9(2) Disposition of carcasses must be in accordance with local ordinances and according to Iowa Code chapter 167.

All threatened and endangered species that have died, that must be euthanized, or that cannot be released shall be referred to the department for further determination of proper disposition.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 461A.41, 481A.39, and 481A.65.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***28. Chapters 104, 115, and 112, “Hunting Preserves” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to rescind Chapters 104 and 115, and to rescind and replace Chapter 112 with the same title (“Hunting Preserves”). This is the result of the Wildlife Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Adopted Chapter 112 consolidates two chapters related to private hunting preserves in the State of Iowa. Specifically, the Iowa Code authorizes private hunting preserves for game birds and whitetails and other ungulates. This adopted chapter sets forth general operation, registration, and fees for hunting preserves; signage and fencing requirements; recordkeeping and reporting requirements; tagging and transportation requirements; and health and disease testing requirements, both generally and for whitetails specifically. The substance of these chapters has been revised to eliminate redundancies, improve efficiency, and align with the Iowa Code, all as required by Executive Order 10 (2023). This rulemaking also rescinds Chapter 104, which contains antiquated provisions related to farm deer, which are now under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9923C. Two public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 112 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 104, “Wildlife Importation, Transportation and Disease Monitoring”; rescinds Chapter 112, “Hunting Preserves,” and adopts a new Chapter 112 with the same title; and rescinds Chapter 115, “Whitetail Hunting Preserves,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code chapters 484B and 484C.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code chapters 484B and 484C and section 481A.6.

Purpose and Summary

Adopted Chapter 112 consolidates two chapters related to private hunting preserves in the State of Iowa. Specifically, the Iowa Code authorizes private hunting preserves for game birds and whitetails and other ungulates. This adopted chapter sets forth general operation, registration, and fees for hunting preserves; signage and fencing requirements; recordkeeping and reporting requirements; tagging and transportation requirements; and health and disease testing requirements, both generally and for whitetails specifically. The substance of these chapters has been revised to eliminate redundancies, improve efficiency, and align with the Iowa Code, as mandated by Executive Order 10 (2023).

This rulemaking also rescinds Chapter 104, which contains antiquated provisions related to farm deer, which are now under the jurisdiction of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9923C**. Public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind and reserve **571—Chapter 104**.

ITEM 2. Rescind 571—Chapter 112 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 112

HUNTING PRESERVES

571—112.1(484B,484C) Definitions. In addition to the definitions in Iowa Code sections 484B.1 and 484C.1, the following definitions apply:

“Accredited veterinarian” means a Category II-accredited veterinarian as authorized by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the state veterinarian in accordance with 9 CFR Part 161 as amended through February 25, 2020, to perform functions required by cooperative state/federal animal disease control and eradication programs.

“Annual activity report” means the Annual Report Form provided by the department.

“Approved laboratory” means an American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD)-accredited laboratory or the National Veterinary Services Laboratories in Ames, Iowa.

“Boundary sign” means a sign prescribed by the department that, when posted, designates the registered hunting preserve’s boundaries.

“Cervidae” or *“cervids”* means any member of the Cervidae family, whether free-ranging or captive, except those classified as farm deer by Iowa Code section 481A.1(21) *“h.”* “Farm deer” does not include any unmarked free-ranging elk, moose or mule deer.

“CWD” means chronic wasting disease, an infectious prion disease of cervids.

“Department” means the Iowa department of natural resources.

“Hunting preserve operator’s registration” means the authority of the holder to establish a hunting preserve for the purpose of holding, propagating, and releasing game birds or privately owned whitetails or other ungulates for hunting purposes. “Registration” means both the license created in Iowa Code section 484B.4 and the registration created in Iowa Code section 484C.7.

“Lease” means a land-lease document for hunting preserve purposes.

“Privately owned” means the propagation and holding of whitetails whose origins are from privately owned populations.

“Quarantine” means an imposed restriction prohibiting movement of whitetails to any location without specific written permits.

“Registrant” means a person or organization that is registered to possess a hunting preserve operator’s registration issued by the department.

“*Transportation tag*” means a self-adhesive, numbered tag for marking individual game birds and whitetails and other ungulates prior to transportation.

“*Tissue sample*” refers to the medial retropharyngeal lymph node, which is the preferred tissue type for CWD testing in whitetail deer and mule deer, or the lymph node and obex (caudal brainstem) in other cervid species. When damaged or degraded, the obex can be substituted in deer, though individual deer in early disease can be missed.

DIVISION I

GENERAL HUNTING PRESERVE OPERATIONS

571—112.2(484B,484C) Hunting preserve registration. A hunting preserve operator’s registration may, following review and inspection, be issued to a person or organization that, upon application, complies with all requirements established in Iowa Code section 484B.4 or 484C.7, as applicable, and this chapter.

571—112.3(484B,484C) Land leases required. All hunting preserve applications that include leased tract(s) of land shall be accompanied by a legible copy of the land-lease document(s). The lease document(s) shall include but not be limited to the following information: name/address of the lessee and lessor, term of the lease (not less than five years), purpose of the lease, description/location of the leased tract(s) (acreage—section—township—county), one copy of the plat map depicting the location of leased tract(s), and dated signatures by both parties.

571—112.4(484B,484C) Boundary signs required. All registered hunting preserves shall provide, post, and maintain boundary signs that meet the following minimum specifications: 160-square-inch surface area; sign material of wood, steel, aluminum or heavy poly-plastic; and white/red sign color combination with the message “Registered Hunting Preserve.” Boundary sign spacing shall be no more than 500 feet apart. Boundary signs shall be posted at each entrance and perimeter gate and at every boundary corner. If the facility operated prior to September 1, 2005, and was signed as a “Licensed Hunting Preserve,” those signs will satisfy the signing requirement. However, once existing sign supplies are depleted, new signs must read “Registered Hunting Preserve.”

571—112.5(484B,484C) Fencing required. All registered hunting preserves for whitetails or other ungulates shall construct and maintain a “deer-proof” boundary fence. Such fence shall be constructed and maintained with a minimum fence height of eight feet above ground level. Fencing shall be inspected and approved by officers of the department prior to registration. Follow-up fence inspections by the department shall be allowed at any reasonable time by appointment or by providing the landowner or preserve registrant with at least 48 hours’ notice. Boundary fence gates shall remain closed at all times except for preserve maintenance activity, at which time no open gate shall be left unattended.

571—112.6(484B,484C) Records and annual report. All registered hunting preserves shall submit to the department a completed annual activity report on forms provided by the department. All registered hunting preserves shall retain sales/shipping receipts involving the purchase and delivery of any game birds or whitetails or other ungulates to the registrant. All registered hunting preserves shall record any transaction involving the sale of game birds or whitetails or other ungulates by the registrant. All original sales receipts for harvested game birds and whitetails and other ungulates shall remain with the registrant as a part of the permanent record and a copy shall be provided to the purchasing hunter. This record requirement shall also apply to any sale of live birds or whitetails or other ungulates for private or commercial use, and the sale must be recorded immediately following the event.

Any registered hunting preserve having a registration for ungulates shall maintain an inventory record of all ungulates released and being held on the property at any given time.

571—112.7(484B) Game bird transportation tags. Tags shall be placed on a leg of all birds harvested on a registered hunting preserve prior to the bird being transported from the registered area. The tag shall remain attached to the bird until the time it is processed for consumption. Tags are available from the department at a cost of \$5 per 100 tags.

571—112.8(484B,484C) Whitetail and other ungulate transportation tags. Tags shall be placed on a leg of each whitetail or other ungulate harvested on a registered hunting preserve prior to moving the carcass in any manner. The hunter shall, upon taking a whitetail or other ungulate, immediately validate the tag by including

the following information in the space provided: species and sex of animal taken and the hunter's signature. The hunter shall also notch or punch a hole in the corresponding blocks on the tag designating the year, month and day the animal was taken. The tag shall remain attached to the animal until the animal is processed for consumption. Tags are available from the department at a cost of \$1 per tag.

571—112.9(484B) Processed game birds. Registered hunting preserves may prepare game birds for hunters by cleaning, dressing, preserving, and packaging whole birds or bird parts. Packaging material shall be a see-through plastic bag. The plastic bag shall be sealed and the tag placed around the opening of the bag or attached to the bag in such a manner so that the tag number(s) is completely legible. The number of game birds or combination of bird parts shall correspond to the number of tags affixed to the clear plastic bag.

571—112.10(484B,484C) Processed whitetails or other ungulates. Registered hunting preserves may prepare whitetails or other ungulates for hunters by cleaning, dressing, preserving, and packaging the meat. Packaging material shall bear the species name, date the animal was killed, and hunting preserve name in a legible fashion on the outside of the package. The tag shall remain with the meat during processing and shipment.

571—112.11(484B,484C) Health requirements. No game birds or whitetails or other ungulates shipped or transported into Iowa shall be affected with, or recently exposed to, any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease, or originate from a quarantined area.

112.11(1) *Game birds.* All game birds and their hatching eggs shipped or transported into Iowa shall have proof of origination from flocks or hatcheries that have a pullorum-typhoid clean rating given by the official state agency of the National Poultry Improvement Plan or its equivalent and shall be in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture and the Iowa department of agriculture and land stewardship.

112.11(2) *Whitetails.* All whitetails shipped or transported into or within Iowa for hunting preserve purposes must be in compliance with all movement requirements, including but not limited to health certificate requirements, as prescribed by the department and the department of agriculture and land stewardship as established in 21—65.9(163) and 21—66.14(163). Whitetails are also subject to the rules in Division II of this chapter.

112.11(3) *Other ungulates.* All other ungulates shipped or transported into Iowa for hunting preserve purposes shall be accompanied by an approved Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. All veterinary inspection certificates shall be retained by the registrant for a period of no less than five years.

571—112.12(484B,484C) General conditions for registrants.

112.12(1) Records and facilities shall be available for inspection by officers of the department during reasonable hours. The department may conduct an annual site visit and visual inventory of whitetails or other ungulates observed.

112.12(2) All records and reports must be kept current and reflect a true and accurate account of the registrant's activities.

112.12(3) The department must be notified within 30 days in writing if the registrant ceases operation as a hunting preserve, at which time all unused transportation tags shall be returned to the department.

112.12(4) Whitetail or other ungulate hunting preserves that cease operation shall not remove boundary fencing without approval from the department. Whitetail or other ungulate hunting preserves shall be depopulated prior to any boundary fence removal.

112.12(5) Game bird and ungulates-other-than-whitetail hunting preserves.

a. Registrants must seek to renew their hunting preserve operator's registration within 30 days following the expiration date. Renewal requests received after this period may be considered a new application pursuant to 571—112.2(484B,484C) and 571—112.3(484B,484C).

b. All new hunting preserve operator's applications shall be considered on a first-come, first-served basis following April 30 of each year.

112.12(6) Whitetail preserves.

a. A registrant shall renew the hunting preserve operator's registration and recertify no later than June 30. Registration renewal and recertification requests received by the department after June 30 shall be considered delinquent.

b. The department shall not renew a hunting preserve operator's registration unless a completed annual report, including all documented events for the reporting period, has been received by the department prior to the reporting deadline.

c. For purposes of this chapter, there shall be a continuous open season on whitetails enclosed on registered preserves.

d. Individuals may use centerfire rifles, pistols, crossbows, modern or traditional archery equipment, muzzleloaders, or shotguns to hunt and harvest preserve whitetails.

DIVISION II

WHITETAIL DISEASE MONITORING

571—112.13(481A,484C) CWD in whitetails.

112.13(1) *Testing required.* A person who keeps preserve whitetails in this state shall have CWD tests performed on any preserve whitetail that dies or is killed on the premises. Whenever any person receives a laboratory test result for CWD, that person shall immediately report that result to the department. The person shall report by telephone, email, fax or other rapid means within one day after receiving the test result and shall report in writing within ten days. The person shall provide a copy of the test result to the owner of the tested whitetail. This reporting requirement applies to any laboratory test result for CWD.

112.13(2) *Collecting tissue samples.* One of the following persons shall collect a tissue sample and submit it for testing:

a. An accredited veterinarian.

b. A trained employee of the department authorized by the department.

112.13(3) *Reporting disease findings.* Accredited veterinarians unaffiliated with the department shall share results of CWD or other disease testing by phone or email as soon as received. Accredited veterinarians unaffiliated with the department shall also provide a copy of the test result to the owner of the tested whitetail.

571—112.14(481A,484C) Official whitetail CWD tests. The following are recognized as official cervid tests for CWD:

1. Immunohistochemistry.

2. Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.
3. Any other tests performed by an approved laboratory to confirm a diagnosis of CWD.

571—112.15(481A,484C) Duration of quarantine. A positive test result for CWD will result in a minimum of a five-year quarantine on the preserve and all remaining animals located within the infected preserve. No animal movement in or out of the preserve can occur during the quarantine period.

571—112.16(481A,484C) Herd plan. The registered hunting preserve owner, the owner's veterinarian, if requested, and a designated epidemiologist shall develop a plan for eradicating CWD in affected herds. The plan must be designed to reduce and then eliminate CWD from the herd and prevent spillover into wild cervids. The herd plan must be developed and signed within 60 days after the determination that the herd is affected. The plan must be formalized as a memorandum of agreement between the owner and program officials within the department.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 481A, 484B and 484C.

ITEM 3. Rescind and reserve **571—Chapter 115**.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***29. Chapter 113, "Restitution for Pollution Causing Injury to Wild Animals" – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule for Chapter 113, "Restitution for Pollution Causing Injury to Wild Animals." This is the result of the Fisheries Bureau's Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: This chapter pertains to persons who cause, by water pollution, the destruction of or injury to wild animals held in trust by the state for the public.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9922C. Two public hearings were held on January 28, 2026 and February 4, 2026.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. The final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 113 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

Rulemaking related to pollution restitution

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 113, “Restitution for Pollution Causing Injury to Wild Animals,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 113 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 481A.151.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 456A.23, 481A.2 and 481A.151.

Purpose and Summary

The Iowa Code requires the Department of Natural Resources (Department) to obtain restitution for damages to natural resources caused by water pollution. This restitution serves as funding to remediate the damages and serves as a deterrent to future prohibited activities. Chapter 113 includes provisions identifying how investigations are to be conducted and how damages are to be assessed, designating restitution amounts for fish and other aquatic life, and providing procedures for how compensation for damages will be obtained. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9922C**. Public hearings were held on January 28, 2026, and February 4, 2026.

No one attended the public hearings. No public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 113 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 113

RESTITUTION FOR POLLUTION CAUSING INJURY TO WILD ANIMALS

571—113.1(481A) Applicability. These rules apply to persons who cause, by water pollution, the destruction of or injury to wild animals held in trust by the state for the public. These rules relate to the compensation to the state and public for the natural resource damages and are in addition to any other legal recourse for the event or action that caused the destruction or damage.

571—113.2(481A) Definitions.

“*AFS*” means the 2017 Special Publication 35, “Investigation and Monetary Values of Fish and Freshwater Mollusk Kills,” published by the American Fisheries Society.

“*Damages*” means the costs of restoration, rehabilitation, and replacement of resources or acquisition of equivalent resources as determined in accordance with this chapter; the reasonable and necessary costs of the assessment, to include the cost of performing the assessment and administrative costs and expenses necessary for, and incidental to, the assessment; lost services to the public; and, in the event the damages claim is not resolved within six months after the incident leading to the damages, interest at the current rate published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin by the department of revenue pursuant to Iowa Code section 421.7. The interest amount shall be computed from the date the amount of the claim is confirmed by a final ruling of the commission in a contested case decision.

“*Priority watershed*” means a watershed for which:

1. The department of natural resources, in partnership with other state or federal agencies, the agriculture community or nonprofit organizations, creates and implements plans, programs or projects to sustain and enhance watershed and stream functions; and
2. The principal objective is to manage wild animals and their habitats.

“*Surface water resources*” means the waters of the state, including the sediments suspended in water or lying on the bank, bed, or shoreline. This term does not include groundwater or water or sediments in ponds, lakes, or reservoirs designed for waste treatment under applicable laws regulating waste treatment.

“*Wild animals*” means fish, wildlife and other biota belonging to, managed by, held in trust by, appertaining to, or otherwise controlled by the state of Iowa, the United States, or local government. Fish and wildlife include freshwater aquatic and terrestrial species; game, nongame, and commercial species; and threatened and endangered species. Other biota encompass shellfish and other living organisms not otherwise listed in this definition.

571—113.3(481A) Liability to the state. Persons who cause by water pollution the destruction of or injury to wild animals of the state shall be liable to the state as provided in Iowa Code section 481A.151. These rules establish the methodologies and criteria for evaluating the extent and value of the destruction or injury and

establish the methods of compensation. If the person and the department cannot agree to the proper resolution of a particular case, the issues of liability, damage and compensation will be established through contested case proceedings as provided by 571—Chapter 7.

571—113.4(481A) Assessment. When wild animals are destroyed or injured by an identifiable source of water pollution, the degree and value of the losses shall be assessed by collecting, compiling, and analyzing relevant information, statistics, or data through prescribed methodologies to determine damages, as set forth in this rule.

113.4(1) General. For species other than fish, the professional judgment of fish and wildlife staff and available literature and guidance normally relied on in the fish and wildlife professions may be used to assess the injuries.

113.4(2) Fish loss. Assessment of damages for fish kills shall be in accordance with the following:

a. Normally investigators will follow the methods prescribed by AFS to determine, by species and size, numbers of fish killed.

b. During periods of ice cover, where local conditions prevent using the methods in 113.4(2) “a,” or in other appropriate circumstances; for example, when the resources are known to have been diminished by prior incidents, investigators will utilize the best information available to determine, by species and size, numbers of fish killed. Information may include existing or prior data on population levels in the affected water body or a nearby water body with similar characteristics, including any historical fish kill data.

c. The monetary valuation of fish shall be the replacement values as published in AFS for all fish lost, except the following: channel catfish, flathead catfish, blue catfish, northern pike, muskellunge, northern pike/muskellunge hybrid, rainbow trout, brown trout, brook trout, white bass, yellow bass, white bass/striped bass hybrid, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, spotted bass, crappie, rock bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, warmouth, pumpkinseed, freshwater drum, yellow perch, walleye, sauger and walleye/sauger hybrid. The value of these fish shall be \$15 each unless AFS establishes a higher value. Notwithstanding the above, the value of each fish classified by the department as an endangered or threatened species shall be \$1,000.

d. The value of lost services to the public shall be the number of fishing trips lost over the period of the resource loss as determined through local creel survey information or through interpolation from the most recent statewide creel survey. Each trip shall be valued at \$30.

e. The cost of the investigation shall include:

(1) Salaries plus overhead of staff, including support staff, involved in investigating the fish kill and performing the assessment.

(2) Any meals and lodging of staff while they are in the field conducting the assessment.

(3) Mileage valued at the current rate established pursuant to Iowa Code section 8A.363.

(4) Costs borne by the department associated with containment or cleanup operations.

(5) Any other costs directly associated with the investigation and assessment.

571—113.5(481A) Compensation. The department will extend to the responsible person the opportunity to reach voluntary agreement as to the amount of damages and the compensation method. The method of compensation shall be solely in the discretion of the department. If the person disputes liability or the damage amount, these issues will be resolved through contested case proceedings.

113.5(1) *Direct monetary payment.* Compensation shall normally be by direct monetary payment to the department for projects in priority watersheds selected by the department. To the extent reasonable and practical, the money received will be used to replace, restore or rehabilitate the lost or injured animals. Resource enhancement projects, support of educational programs relating to resource protection or enhancement, or resource acquisition of equal or greater value also may be funded. If practical, such alternatives should provide similar services to the public.

113.5(2) *Indirect monetary payment.* In cases where the destruction of or injury to wild animals is in a selected priority watershed, an equal or greater amount of compensation may be made by monetary payment to another government agency or private nonprofit group in the natural resource field for the same purposes as provided in 113.5(1).

113.5(3) *Direct funding of projects.* With the approval and oversight of the department, the person may be allowed to contract directly for the same purposes as provided in 113.5(1).

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 456A.23, 481A.2 and 481A.151.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***30. Chapter 116, “Help Us Stop Hunger Program Administration” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to rescind Chapter 116 and adopt a new Chapter 116 with the same title. This is the result of the Wildlife Bureau’s Executive Order 10 rule review.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 116 establishes the procedures for the administration of the Help Us Stop Hunger (HUSH) program.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9967C. Two public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 116 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby rescinds Chapter 116, “Help Us Stop Hunger Program Administration,” Iowa Administrative Code, and adopts a new Chapter 116 with the same title.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 481A.38 and 483A.1.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 483A.8(1) and 483A.8(3).

Purpose and Summary

Adopted Chapter 116 establishes the procedures for the administration of the Help Us Stop Hunger (HUSH) program. The HUSH program is established in the Iowa Code to encourage hunters, especially during periods of excessive deer populations, to harvest more deer than needed for personal consumption so as to donate those deer to a program to feed Iowans in need. This chapter has been reviewed and edited consistent with Executive Order 10 (2023).

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9967C**. Public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Rescind 571—Chapter 116 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 116

HELP US STOP HUNGER PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

571—116.1(483A) Purpose. This chapter establishes the procedures for the administration of HUSH.

571—116.2(483A) Definitions.

“Deer” means any wild deer legally taken in Iowa and deer confiscated as legal evidence if the confiscated carcass is considered by a conservation officer to be in good condition for donation.

“Department” means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 483A.1A.

“Distributor” means the Food Bank of Iowa or other venison distribution service provider as shall be designated by future contract with the department.

“Field-dressed” means that the deer has been properly bled and cleaned of its internal organs.

“Food Bank of Iowa” means the private, nonprofit charitable organization incorporated under that name, whose mission is to alleviate hunger and reduce food waste in Iowa.

“*HUSH*” means the help us stop hunger program.

“*Meat processor*” means any business that is licensed by the department of agriculture and land stewardship’s bureau of meat and poultry inspection, the USDA, or a neighboring state’s department that is similar to Iowa’s, to process meat for retail customers.

571—116.3(483A) Restrictions. Deer is the only species of wildlife that shall be covered by the HUSH program. The entire deer carcass must be donated, but the hunter may keep the antlers, head and cape.

571—116.4(483A) HUSH council. There is hereby created a HUSH council. Members shall serve without compensation.

116.4(1) Membership. The HUSH council shall include the following voting members:

- a. The HUSH coordinator, who shall serve as the chairperson;
- b. An additional department representative designated by the department’s wildlife bureau chief;
- c. A representative of the Food Bank of Iowa appointed by its executive director.

116.4(2) Duties.

a. To set a fair market price, the council shall consider prices for similar services paid by retail customers in Iowa and nearby states and shall recommend to the department an annual per-deer processing payment to be made to meat processors.

b. The council shall recommend to the department an annual per-deer administrative payment to be made to the Food Bank of Iowa. The Food Bank of Iowa shall provide information to assist in this determination but shall not participate in any vote of the council regarding the recommendation of the annual per-deer administrative payment to the Food Bank of Iowa.

c. The council shall make recommendations to the department to resolve conflicts or disputes in the operation of the HUSH program as brought to it by any person or entity.

d. The council shall adopt standards for participating lockers to meet in terms of their record of violations of rules of the bureau of meat and poultry inspection and the department of natural resources.

e. The council shall advise the department in the administration of HUSH.

116.4(3) *Administration.* The HUSH coordinator shall convene the council as needed to conduct business. A majority vote shall be required for action or decision by the council. The chief of the department's wildlife bureau shall have the right to overrule the council for cause and shall provide the council with justification for the reasons. A quorum to conduct business shall consist of three council members, one of whom shall be the HUSH coordinator.

571—116.5(483A) Duties of the department. During periods of excessive deer populations, the department shall promote the harvest of deer by hunters and the donation of deer at meat processors participating in HUSH. During periods of nonexcessive deer populations, HUSH may continue with less emphasis on promotion to hunters. The department shall enlist as many meat processors as available to participate in HUSH and shall enter into uniform agreements with them. The department shall contract with the Food Bank of Iowa and pay a per-deer rate for administrative services provided.

571—116.6(483A) Partnerships with other organizations. The department, at its own discretion, may enter into agreements with other organizations for the purpose of expanding the deer donation program. The department may include the offer of matching grants to pay for deer processing to organizations that acquire funding from sources other than the state of Iowa.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 483A.

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Information Item

31. Construction - Small Projects

The following Engineering managed projects:

Bid Date	Project No.	Location	County	Summary	Cost Estimate	Bids
3/26/26	26-02-94-03	BRUSHY CREEK STATE RECREATION AREA	WEBSTER	FOUNDATION DEMOLITION AND DEBRIS REMOVAL This project involves removing the remaining portions of the residence.	\$25,000	\$13,944.00 \$14,500.00 \$16,850.00 \$16,940.00 \$18,350.00 \$18,729.00 \$21,000.00 \$22,000.00 \$22,500.00 \$23,000.00 \$23,000.00 \$24,694.00 \$31,250.00
3/19/26	26-02-77-03	BIG CREEK STATE PARK	POLK	FOUNDATION DEMOLITION AND DEBRIS REMOVAL This project consists of demolishing the remaining foundation, fences, outbuildings, and miscellaneous debris.	\$25,000	\$16,950.00 \$17,770.00 \$18,300.00 \$18,425.00 \$20,500.00 \$20,750.00 \$22,000.00 \$22,100.00 \$22,495.00 \$23,000.00 \$24,000.00 \$26,287.00 \$27,900.00 \$50,290.00
3/12/26	25-01-43-01	LOESS HILLS STATE FOREST	HARRISON	JONES CREEK POND PARKING MAINTENANCE This project involves the regrading of the existing gravel parking lot and access road to address recurring erosion issues.	\$36,000	\$22,280.00 \$23,397.44 \$33,953.32 \$41,512.00 \$44,145.00 \$47,315.00

2/26/26	26-04-87-03	LAKE OF THREE FIRES	TAYLOR	CABIN WINDOW REPLACEMENT Replace all windows on the six park cabins. Thirty-six windows total.	\$80,000	\$84,600.00 \$87,000.00 \$88,016.00 \$103,907.00
2/26/26	25-05-77-05	EASTER LAKE PARK	POLK	FISH BARRIER This project includes a 20' extension of the existing fish exclusion barrier at the spillway.	\$25,000	\$17,900.00 \$22,795.00 \$24,500.00 \$25,000.00 \$47,950.00 \$48,500.00
2/26/26	20-04-69-06	VIKING LAKE	MONTGOMERY	CULVERT REPAIR This project includes culvert rehabilitation (lining) under the campground road.	\$74,500	\$79,999.80 \$123,420.00 \$134,292.00 \$166,520.00

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

32. Construction Items

32.1 Rathbun Wildlife Unit – Road Maintenance – Appanoose County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Background: This project is in the Rathbun Wildlife Management Area and the Sedan Bottoms Wildlife Management Area (WMA). These gravel roads are essential for providing public access for hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities. In the Rathbun WMA, we will be improving two roads that lead to boat ramps on the South Fork of Rathbun Lake. In the Sedan Bottoms WMA, one road leading to a wetland near the Chariton River will be upgraded.

Design Summary:

The existing roads currently require maintenance, and two damaged culverts need replacement. To restore the roads to good condition, the project will include:

- Application of new rock
- Blading and shaping for a smoother surface
- Replacement of two culverts

These improvements will enhance stormwater drainage, ensure a smoother experience for users, and prevent further erosion to the roadway embankments.

Engineering Project #: 25-05-04-04

Cost Estimate: \$135,000

Operating Bureau: Wildlife

Funding Source: Parks and Institutional Roads Fund

Bid Letting Date: 3/19/2026

Construction Completion Date: 9/18/2026

Number of Bids Received: 6



Bidders

DCLI LLC	Leon, IA	\$89,566.40
Nagel Construction LLC	Allerton, IA	\$103,552.20
Wettstein Concrete LLC	Bloomfield, IA	\$124,700.20
AGE, LLC	Earlham, IA	\$125,618.60
Ludovissy Enterprises	Guttenberg, IA	\$142,160.80
Laubenthal Excavation	Bradgate, IA	\$163,060.56

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to DCLI LLC.

32.2 Otter Creek Marsh WMA – Road Maintenance – Tama County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Background: The Otter Creek Marsh Wildlife Management Area (WMA), located east of Tama/Toledo, includes approximately 3,500 acres of wetland, timber, and upland habitat. The area is adjacent to the Iowa River and Highway 30, and gravel roads are available to provide access for hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities.

Design Summary:

The existing gravel roads used to access the east and west portions of the WMA are currently in poor condition and require maintenance. The goal of this project is to restore the roads to good condition and prevent further damage from erosion or poor drainage. The scope of work includes:

- Applying new rock
- Blading and shaping
- Replacing one culvert
- Clearing ditches to ensure proper roadway drainage

Engineering Project #: 25-05-86-01

Cost Estimate: \$260,000

Operating Bureau: Wildlife

Funding Source: 100% Parks and Institutional Roads Fund

Bid Letting Date: 3/19/2026

Construction Completion Date: 9/18/2026

Number of Bids Received: 11



East Access Road, seen from the bridge over Otter Creek

Bidders

Boomerang Corp	Anamosa, IA	\$135,430.50
Brian Miller Excavating LCC	Marengo, IA	\$141,935.20
Nagel Construction LLC	Allerton, IA	\$160,157.80
Kupka Excavating & Trucking LLC	Chelsea, IA	\$179,147.00
Ludovissy Enterprises	Guttenburg, IA	\$183,019.20
Ground Line Company, LLC	Onslow, IA	\$196,031.03
Hatch Grading & Contracting, Inc	Dysart, IA	\$196,798.50
Con-Struct	Marshalltown	\$198,638.00
AGE, LLC	Earlham, IA	\$249,314.85
Bears Bulldozing/Excavating	Traer, IA	\$255,209.41
Wettstein Concrete LLC	Bloomfield, IA	\$265,407.30

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Boomerang Corp.

32.3 Cedar Rock State Park – Tuckpoint and Retaining Wall – Buchanan County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Background: Cedar Rock State Park features the historically significant Lowell and Agnes Walter Residence, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Positioned on a limestone bluff overlooking the Wapsipinicon River, the home is a beautiful example of Wright’s work. The DNR is pleased to welcome visitors from around the world to Cedar Rock State Park each year. The Department has a history of responsibly maintaining this property, including the restoration of the riverside boathouse in 2016.

Design Summary: The current project focuses on repairing the property’s retaining walls through masonry tuckpointing and structural stabilization. A minor roof repair is also included. To ensure high-quality results, bidding contractors were required to submit their qualifications and a portfolio of historical renovation work to DNR engineering staff. The project was designed by Peter Rott of Pittsburgh, PA, a specialist in historic renovation.

Engineering Project #: 25-03-10-01

Cost Estimate: \$370,000

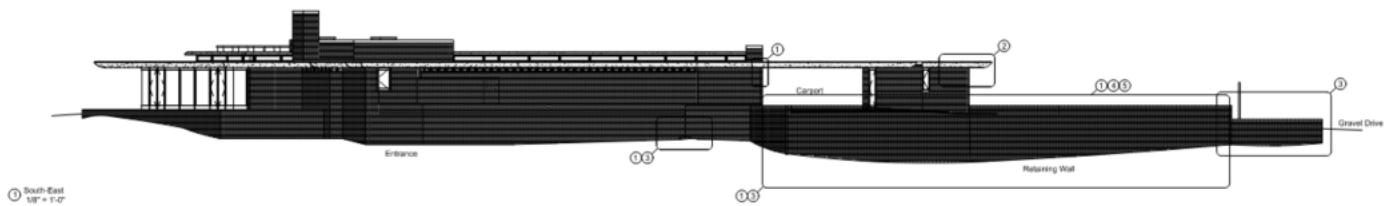
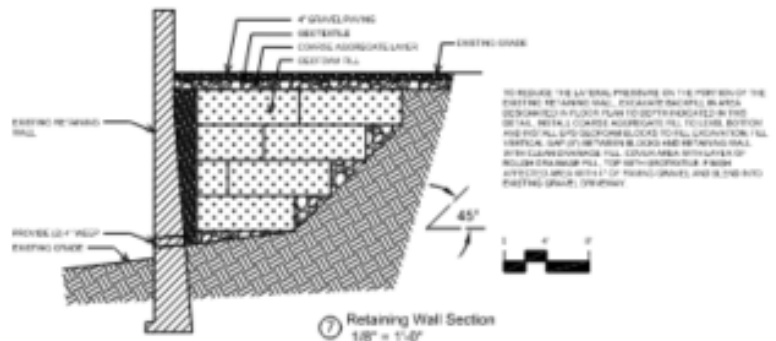
Operating Bureau: Parks, Forests and Preserves

Funding Source: Cedar Rock Walter Trust Fund

Bid Letting Date: 3/19/2026

Construction Completion Date: 09/30/2026

Number of Bids Received: 1



Bidders

TNT Tuckpointing & Building Restoration, LLC

Stockton, IA

\$368,035.10

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to TNT Tuckpointing & Building Restoration, LLC.

32.4 Cody Shooting Complex - Phase 2 - Scott County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Background: The Cody Shooting Complex has been around since the 1960s, first serving as a private trap and skeet club. The facility was eventually donated to the State . A previous phase of upgrades in 2023 involved removing non-functioning buildings, building new backstops, two new shooting structures (30 yard and 100 yard) and a storage garage.

Project Summary:

This project is a second phase of improvements to the Cody Shooting Range. This phase of the project consists of:

- Construction of a new shooting complex control center building, including offices, range control, sales, classroom, public restrooms and supporting spaces.
- Alterations to two (2) existing pole barn buildings consisting of new roofing, new siding, and replacement of overhead doors.
- Installation of new entrance signage.

Engineering Project #: 25-06-82-02

Cost Estimate: \$1,690,000

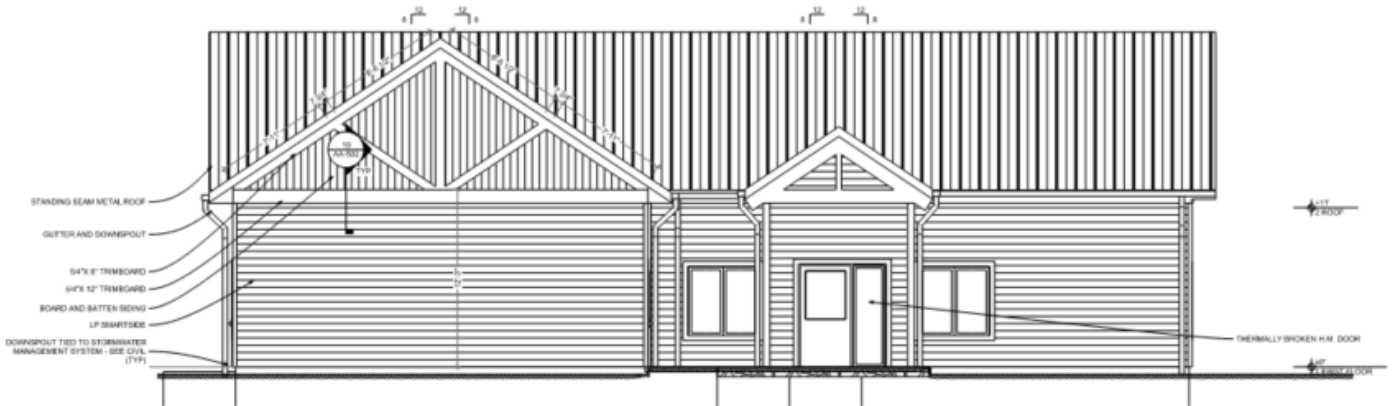
Operating Bureau: Communications, Outreach, and Marketing

Funding Source: Federal 90% / Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund 9% / Marine Fuel Tax 1%

Bid Letting Date: 3/19/2026

Construction Completion Date: 10/31/2026

Number of Bids Received: 2





DOCUMENTS

Bidders

Brus Construction LLC
 Bill Bruce Builders, Inc.

Blue Grass IA
 Eldridge IA

\$1,775,537.19
 \$1,911,032.46

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Brus Construction LLC.

32.5 Ledges State Park – Road Maintenance - Boone County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Background: Ledges State Park is one of Iowa’s most historic and unique destinations, particularly for hikers and outdoor enthusiasts. The park features a four-mile trail system that winds through steep slopes and scenic overlooks, with sandstone ledges towering 100 feet above the Des Moines River. Visitors can also explore numerous 1930s CCC structures throughout the park, including the iconic stone bridge spanning Peas Creek.

Design Summary: The existing paved roadways, originally constructed in the 1970s and 1980s, have significantly deteriorated over recent years. Current issues include pavement oxidation (process that significantly affects durability and performance), rutting, and asphalt cracking.

Required maintenance for approximately 5.5 miles of asphalt pavement of varying widths includes:

- Replacing culverts
- Patching and overlaying
- Crack cleaning and sealing
- Chip sealing and micro surfacing
- Rocking shoulders



Engineering Project #: 23-02-08-01

Cost Estimate: \$2,578,000

Operating Bureau: Parks, Forests and Preserves

Funding Source: 92% Parks and Institutional Roads Fund, 8% Parks Infrastructure

Bid Letting Date: 3/19/2026

Construction Completion Date: 8/31/2026

Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders

InRoads LLC	Des Moines, IA	\$1,817,011.92
Manatts, Inc	Ames, IA	\$2,146,442.33
Grimes Asphalt and Paving Corporation	Des Moines, IA	\$2,304,055.50

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to InRoads LLC.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
April 9, 2026

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

33. Chapter 30 - Waters Cost-Share and Grants Program, Water Trails Development Program Grant Recommendations

The Commission is requested to approve the following grant recommendations pursuant to Chapter 30, Waters Cost-share and Grants Programs.

Grant Purpose: The purpose of the Water Trails Development Program Grant is to offer funds to water trails infrastructure projects, such as water accesses, parking areas, restrooms, and paddlecraft campsites. Eligible applicants include any local divisions of Iowa government. Although Iowa code does not require cost-share for development projects, it is strongly encouraged. This grant cycle advertised a 20% minimum cost-share from the applicant. As outlined in rule, grants are issued at least annually if funding is available. The last grants were approved in February 2025.

Funding Source(s): Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF)

Grant Funding Available: \$450,000

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 30, the grant review and selection committee met on March 3, 2026, to evaluate and score applications and to provide recommendations for the grant awards.

Number of Applications Received: 4

Selection Committee Members: The review and selection committee consisted of five members:

- Citizen stakeholders (2)
- DNR Staff (3)

Recommendations: The committee recommends funding to the top ranked projects. If the highest ranked projects decline the funding, the Department requests authority to offer those funds to the next highest scored projects that meet the grant criteria or return the funds to the grant program for distribution in the next grant cycle.

DEVELOPMENT GRANT					
Ranked by Score	Grant Applicant	Project Description	Total Project Cost	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
1	Story County Conservation	This grant will fund 100% construction of C.J. Shrek Access on the South Skunk River Water Trail in Story County. This is the last access on the water trail, and was originally constructed as a quick hit project by the DOT while they were working on a bridge project more than 20 years ago. It's always been difficult to use and maintain as there is very little structure present. The project will be completed likely by fall this year.	\$261,261	\$190,000	\$190,000
2	Jackson County Conservation	This grant funds the full design of the new Joinerville Access on the Maquoketa River Water Trail in Jackson County. The existing primitive ramp is deteriorating and has broken into two sections creating a safety hazard for users. A new design that works with the river rather than against it is	\$41,700	\$33,360	\$33,360

		needed. This is a heavily used area and is critical infrastructure for the county.			
3	Jackson County Conservation	This grant funds the full design and cost-estimate for a new Canton Access on the Maquoketa River Water Trail in Jackson County. The existing ramp consists of a deteriorating narrow concrete ramp that has fractured and broken apart, creating a hazardous, uneven, sharp surface. The Canton Access is the first access on the Maquoketa River Water Trail in Jackson County. It's upstream of arguably the most scenic section of the river in the county where high tree-lined ridge are punctuated with large rock bluffs and outcroppings.	\$29,900	\$9,100	\$9,100
4	City of Spencer	This grant funds the construction improvements of a pair of heavily used accesses within the city of spencer on the Inkpaduta Canoe Trail of the Little Sioux River. A mobile visitation study indicated that the river segment between Stolley Park and West Leach Park is the most heavily used river segment on the Little Sioux River. Currently, there lacks a formal ramp from top of bank to riverbed, making it very inconvenient if not very difficult to access the river.	\$258,335	\$206,668	\$206,668
DEVELOPMENT GRANT TOTALS			\$591,196	\$439,128	\$439,128

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (** indicates proposed consent item*)

***34. Public Land Management Project**

Land Management Project – Easement Conveyance – Union County – Southern Iowa Rural Water Association

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve an easement conveyance for the installation of water line infrastructure at the Green Valley State Park near Creston, Iowa.

Project Description: Southern Iowa Rural Water Association is requesting an easement to install a underground water line across a portion of Green Valley State Park. The easement will be ~40 feet. Local Parks staff have reviewed the request and given their approval.

Compensation: \$100.00

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

35. **Contract Amendment with the City of Grinnell (Arbor Lake & Lake Nyanza)**

Commission approval is requested for a contract amendment with the City of Grinnell, Iowa (Poweshiek County).

Contract Terms:

Amount: Total DNR contract value not to exceed \$736,545.00; Amendment 1 value not to exceed \$136,245.00

Dates: April 9, 2026 – December 31, 2027

DNR shall have the option to extend this Contract for up to six years from the beginning date of the original contract by executing a signed amendment prior to the expiration of this Contract.

Funding Source(s): Lake Restoration Program

Background: Arbor Lake and Lake Nyanza complex (totaling 27 acres) are two linked impoundments that anchor popular city parks in Grinnell, Iowa. Lake Nyanza drains directly into Arbor Lake; therefore, any improvements made to Lake Nyanza will also benefit Arbor Lake. Both lakes are popular local destinations, supporting a variety of recreational uses.

Arbor Lake is currently on the State of Iowa’s impaired waters list for algae (high chlorophyll-a concentrations), which has been attributed to high phosphorus levels in the lake and sedimentation. The Iowa DNR’s Watershed Improvement Section produced a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Report in 2003 to identify sources of pollution to Arbor Lake and suggested ways of improving water quality with the goal of removing the impairment at the Lake. The TMDL cited that phosphorus being transported to the lake from the watershed needed to be reduced by 56% to reach water quality goals. Additionally, sedimentation in the last 20 years alone has resulted in the max depth of the lake going from 20 feet in 2003 to 16.5 feet in 2022 and losing a foot of mean depth (going from 7 feet in 2003 to 5.9 feet in 2022).

DNR and other project partners began meeting with the City to address water quality concerns and recreational opportunities at both lakes in 2021, forming a small working group to address concerns and start formulating a plan to improve one or both lakes. Project partners included city staff, DNR watershed improvement and lake restoration, IDALS, and several interested citizens from the community. In 2022, the City hired FYRA Engineering (now HEI) to complete a water quality monitoring study at Arbor Lake and Lake Nyanza. Monitoring results showed high concentrations of total phosphorus in both lakes that fuel frequent summer algae blooms. Additionally, both lakes have accumulated about 50,000 CY of soft sediment each, reducing depth and function in each of the lakes. Using the preliminary information collected as a part of the monitoring study, the City and DNR hired HEI to complete a full diagnostic and feasibility study for both lakes (\$122,800; City \$61,400; LRP \$61,400). Recommended best management practices (bmp’s) and preliminary costs estimates were provided in the final report. The DNR and City intend to partner on a comprehensive restoration plan for to improve water quality and recreational opportunities.

Contract Purpose: The purpose of this agreement is to work with the City of Grinnell to amend our current agreement for additional engineering services, including geotechnical services and additional design necessary for reconstruction of the dam. The current dam structure does not meet dam safety requirements and will need to be reconstructed as a part of the larger project. This amendment also includes design services for additional amenities including a jetty and ADA access, parking lot and boat ramp design, and changes to several watershed BMPs.

Budget for Amendment 1:

DNR Contribution	\$ 136,245.00
City of Grinnell	\$ 91,365.00
Total budget	\$ 223,840.00
Total Contract Value (includes both DNR (72%) and City (28%) Contributions):	Not to exceed \$1,028,010.00

Anticipated Future Work: Future work will include implementation of watershed bmp’s and in-lake restoration practices including complete reconstruction of the Arbor Lake dam, targeted dredging in Arbor Lake, shoreline stabilization and a variety of recreational amenities. Total anticipated costs for construction is around \$5 million. The City is also completing numerous park improvements to complement the lake restoration project including an accessible jetty and boat access and shelter.

Selection Process Summary: Intergovernmental contracting with the City of Grinnell is authorized under 11 IAC 118.4.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

36. Camping Designation at Cedar Rock State Park for July 23-24, 2026

Commission approval is requested to designate limited camping at Cedar Rock State Park for an event sponsored by the Friends of Cedar Rock to coincide with RAGBRAI.

Purpose:

Commission approval is sought to approve camping in the designated area on the included map for July 23 and July 24, 2026 and without being subject to the traditional 571 IAC chapter 61 administrative rules that would otherwise be applicable.

Background:

Cedar Rock State Park encompasses the historic estate of Agnes and Lowell Walter, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright (FLW). The Walter House is the focal point of Cedar Rock, surrounded by lovely gardens and trails as part of the park's landscape.

The Cedar Rock Historic Structure Report (HSR) was commissioned to develop recommendations for sustained preservation, adhering to the National Park Service Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The HSR outlines phased preservation efforts for Cedar Rock which include the restoration of the FLW-designed entrance gate and council fire, as well as necessary work on the historic house's roof. The cumulative estimated cost for these projects exceeds \$200,000.

Special Event for RAGBRAI:

To secure funding for these preservation projects, the Friends of Cedar Rock (FCR) propose a fundraising camping event, strategically timed to coincide with RAGBRAI LIII's overnight stop in the nearby city of Independence on July 23, 2026. The objective is to facilitate a supervised group camping experience for a RAGBRAI team to generate financial contributions toward the subsequent phases of the Cedar Rock preservation plan.

Commission approval is needed for this 24-hour camping designation to ensure compliance with Iowa law. Specifically, Iowa Code section 461A.48 stipulates that camping within any state park area is restricted to locations prescribed or designated by the Commission. Cedar Rock State Park lacks a designated campground. The Lowell E. Walter and Agnes N. Walter Trust has a management agreement with the DNR for this property.

Commission approval is one of several steps for this event to occur. The FCR will submit a formal special event permit application for this proposed camping activity. DNR and the FCR also intend to execute a Memorandum of Understanding to stipulate that all funds generated must be utilized in accordance with the established Cedar Rock preservation plans. Consistent with the special event process, the FCR will assume responsibility for all costs associated with the event.



Detra Dettmann, Parks, Forests and Preserve Bureau, District Park Supervisor
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***37. Chapter 15, “General License Regulations” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to approve the Adopted and Filed rule to implement 2025 Iowa Acts, Senate File 253, which created a new lifetime fur harvester permit for disabled veterans.

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 15 governs hunting, fishing, and trapping license sales, fees, and general administration and a framework for license revocation and suspension.

NOIA: The Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) was approved by the Commission at its December 2025 meeting. The NOIA was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026 as ARC 9891C. Two public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

Changes from NOIA: No one attended the public hearings and no comments were received. The Final rule is identical to the NOIA.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 17, 2026

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
Meeting Date: April 9, 2026

Attached: Chapter 15 – Final rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby adopts Chapter 15, “General License Regulations,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 483A.1.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 483A.1 and 2025 Iowa Acts, Senate File 253.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 15 governs hunting, fishing, and trapping license sales, fees, and general administration and a framework for license revocation and suspension. One amendment is adopted to implement 2025 Iowa Acts, Senate File 253, which created a new lifetime fur harvester permit for disabled veterans.

Public Comment and Changes to Rulemaking

Notice of Intended Action for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 7, 2026, as **ARC 9891C**. Public hearings were held on January 28 and February 2, 2026, from 1 to 2 pm at 6200 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

No one attended the public hearings and no public comments were received. No changes from the Notice have been made.

Adoption of Rulemaking

This rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on April 9, 2026.

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the state of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

This rulemaking is subject to the waiver provisions of 571—Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

Effective Date

This rulemaking will become effective on June 17, 2026.

The following rulemaking action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Reletter paragraphs **15.10(1)“aa”** to **15.10(1)“jj”** as **15.10(1)“bb”** to **15.10(1)“kk”**.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following **new** paragraph **15.10(1)“aa”**:

aa. Fur harvester license, lifetime, disabled veteran — \$59.50.