

From: Paul F. Noel <pfnoel22@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 1, 2023 9:34 AM
To: Charlene Dindo <CHARLENE@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: [External] 23-P15 Furbearing Species Rule

[External]

Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules--

As a member of the Fish and Wildlife Board representing Orleans County I have been witness and a part of the vast number of hours and hard work expended to craft the new proposals to furbearer management rules. These rules cover a wide range of alterations that further advance the humaneness of trapping and greatly reduce the likelihood of capture of domestic animals and other non-target species. Best management practices regarding furbearer harvest have been meticulously employed and in some cases exceeded. If these rules are adopted Vermont may now exhibit the most comprehensive and detailed trapping rules in the country and could be used as a template for other states looking to update and revise their furbearer trapping regulations.

I will not go into detail of all the trap hardware modifications and logistical changes to land trapping systems; you will be getting that from other sources. I will simply state that the proposed rules will put the stance of modern trapping and furbearer management onto solid ground. One leg firmly planted in the science of proven, humane wildlife conservation and the other leg equally planted in the vital tradition of ancient wisdom and indigenous culture. The marriage of these two arenas allow the annual regulated harvest of renewable, abundant resources for fur and food while supporting and partnering with professional biological management efforts to ensure these furbearer species will thrive within their social/biological carrying capacities and endure in perpetuity.

Regards

Paul F. Noel

Irasburg VT