

## State Nuisance Wildlife Control Laws

November 2016

Based on our research, the following states do not regulate NWCOs: AL, AR, CA, CO, DC, HI, ID, MS, MO, MT, NE, NJ, ND, SC, SD, UT, VT, WY. New Mexico only allows nuisance wildlife control by the Department of Game & Fish.

State	NWCO License or Permit Required?	Hunting/ Trapping License Required?	Actual damage necessary?	Handling/ Euthanasia	Onsite release/ relocation?	Training or Exam?	Sale of pelts or live animal? Bounty?	Report?	Client notice / education?	License Revocation/ Penalties for violation?	Authority / Misc.
AK	Maybe <sup>2</sup>	Maybe <sup>3</sup>	No	Handling / Euthanasia by regulation	Both	Training	No	Yes	No	Not specified	Ak. Admin. Code Tit. 5 § 92.420
AZ	Yes	No	No	Handling / Euthanasia standards by dept.	Reloc.	No, but experience required	No	Yes	No	Penalties	Az. Admin Code R12-4-421
CT	Yes	No	Not defined	AVMA euthanasia. Training for handling	Onsite allowed. Reloc. for all species except rabies vector species	Exam Training for each employee	Not specified.	Yes	Yes	Revocation procedure and penalties.	Ct. Gen. Stat. Ann. Tit. 26, Ch. 490, § 26-47
DE	Maybe <sup>4</sup>										Code Del. Regs. 7 3000 3900
FL	No, except certain species	No.	Not defined.	AVMA euthanasia. No handling standards.	Onsite allowed. Reloc. not addressed.	No	Not specified.	No	No.	X	Fl. Admin. Code 68A-9.010
GA	Yes	Trapping	Unknown	Handling standards.	Reloc.	Not specified	Not Specified	Yes	Not specified	Not specified	NWCO contract by Dept.
IL	Yes	No		Euthanasia standards by dept.	Reloc.	Exam Training for guns	No	Yes	No	Both	Il. Admin. Code 525.20 + 525.30

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IA	Yes	Trapping	No	Euthanasia standards by dept.	Reloc.	Exam + Interview	Not specified	Yes	No	Both	Iowa Admin. Code 571-114
IN	Yes	No	No	Euthanasia / Handling by regulation	Both	Exam for each employee	No	Yes	No	Revocation procedure	Recertify or 32 C.E. credits every four years.  312 In. Admin Code 9-10-11
KS	Yes	No	No	Euthanasia by regulation	Reloc.	Both for every employee	Pelts	Yes	No	Revocation procedure	Ks. Admin. Regs. 115-16
KY	Yes	No	No	Handling / Euthanasia by regulation	Both	Exam for every employee	Pelts	Yes	No	Revocation procedure	Ky. Rev. Stat. 150.275 + Ky. Admin Code 3:120
LA	Yes	Both	No	"humane" handling. AVMA euthanasia	Reloc.	Exam for every employee	Pelts	Yes	No	Revocation procedure	La. Admin. Code, tit. 76, Ch. 5, §127
ME	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Yes	Yes	No	Not specified	Minimal Training	Pelts	Yes	X	Penalties	Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 12 §12402
MD	Yes	No	Unclear <sup>6</sup>	Euthanasia / Handling via statute	Both	Exam for every employee	Pelts	Yes	Notice	Both	Code of Md. Regs. 08.03.15
MA	Yes	Trapping. Hunting if using guns.	No	No.	Onsite allowed. Reloc. not addressed	Both for every employee	No	Yes	Yes	No	Recertify every 3 years 321 Code of Ma. Regs 2:14
MI	Yes	No	Unclear <sup>7</sup>	Euthanasia / handling standards by dept.	Reloc.	No	Pelts . Live animals	Yes	No	Revocation procedure	Wildlife Conservation Orders 5.51-5.55
MN	Predator control prog. <sup>8</sup>	Proof of skill required	Damage or likely to cause damage	No	Not specified.	Training for each employee	Pelts. Bounties.	Yes	X	Revocation procedure	Many. See endnote 7 and full document

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NH	Yes	Trapper education course	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Training	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	N.H. Fish and Game Dept. Website
NY	Yes	No	No, except bears	Training for handling	Not specified	Training for each employee	Not specified	Yes	No	Revocation procedure	NY Env. Conservation Laws 11-0521 - 0524
NV	Yes	See letter from 1999 <sup>9</sup>									
NC	Yes	No	Yes	Generic "humane" for both.	Both	Both for each employee.	Pelts, in certain conditions	Yes	No	Revocation procedure	15 NC Amin. Code 10B
OH	Yes	Hunting	No	None	Reloc.	Not specified	Pelts	No	No	Revocation procedure	Oh. Admin. Code 1501:31-15-03
OK	Yes	Both	No	AVMA	Reloc.	Exam	No	Yes	Both	Revocation procedure	Okla. Admin. Code 800:25-37-1 through 800:25-37-1
OR	Yes	No	No	AVMA	Both	Exam	No	Yes	No	Not specified	Or. Admin. Rules Ch. 635 Div. 435
PA	Yes	No	No	Standards by Dept.	Both	Exam	Pelts, in season and w/ license	Yes	No	Not specified	Penn. Code T. 58 §147.721
RI	Yes	Trapping, Hunting w/ gun	No	AVMA	Onsite	Exam for each employee	No live animals.	Yes	No	Both	R.I. Code R. 12 080 058
TN	Yes	No	No	No	Reloc	Show Knowledge	No	Yes	No	Penalties	Rules of Tn. Wildlife Resources Agency 1660-1-21-.01
TX	Letter of Authorization <sup>10</sup>										
VA	Yes	No	No	Handling / Euthanasia standards by department	Onsite release. Reloc. for squirrels	Exam for each employee	Pelts, with proper license	Yes		Revocation "subject to review"	Dept. publication <a href="http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/forms/PERM/PERM-">http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/forms/PERM/PERM-</a>

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											<a href="#">nuisance.pdf</a>
WA	Certification by dept.	Trapping	No	Handling by regulation	Not Specified	Certification course		Yes	Yes	Both	Wa. Admin. Code 232-12-086
WV	Yes	No	No	“humane” manner	Onsite + reloc w. approval	Exam	Pelts - w/ license and in season	Yes	Yes	Both	Recertification every 5 years.  W. Va. Code St. R. §§ 58-41-1 through 58-41-11
WI	Case by case <sup>11</sup>	Case by case	No	No	Reloc.	X	Pelts, with license	X	X	X	Wi. Admin. Code Nat. Resources Chapter 12

<sup>1</sup> Hawaii has a regulatory scheme that makes it difficult for NWCOs to operate. No active NWCOs can be found in the state.

<sup>2</sup> See Alaska Admin. Code T. 5 § 92.420 – The state *may* issue a license to individuals meeting certain requirements, but it is unclear when such a license is necessary.

<sup>3</sup> See Alaska Admin. Code T. 5 § 92.420 – The state *may* issue a license to individuals meeting certain requirements, but it is unclear when such a license is necessary.

<sup>4</sup> The Division may designate licensed pest control operators as cooperators to control nuisance wild animals. These cooperators must follow agency guidelines, but unable to locate agency guidelines.

<sup>5</sup> Given on a case-by-case basis after a game warden’s investigation.

<sup>6</sup> Whether animals need to be causing actual damage to be controlled is not specified in language of statute, but the title of the statute does specify wildlife “damage” control, as opposed to nuisance.

<sup>7</sup> Permit for specific damage, but leaves determination of need for control up to a special investigator. Undefined “nuisance” term is used in reference to NWCOs.

<sup>8</sup> Minnesota does not issue typical NWCO permits. Special permits are issued for damage control on an individual case basis. There is also statewide predator control program that individuals may become a part of by demonstrating their hunting and trapping skills. A member of the predator control program may then hunt certain predators causing damage, or likely to cause damage, to private property

<sup>9</sup> Nevada regulates NWCOs, but the specifics of regulation are not set out by any code or statute. Details are available in the letter received by HSUS as part of the 1999 survey of state NWCO laws.

<sup>10</sup> Texas requires a letter of authorization to trap or relocate nuisance furbearing animals.

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd\\_br\\_w7000\\_0637.pdf](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_br_w7000_0637.pdf). No further information is readily available.

<sup>11</sup> Wisconsin does not issue generic NWCO permits. There is a complex set of regulations governing nuisance wildlife control, depending on the species of animal involved, the circumstances of the nuisance, and who will engage in the actual acts of control. Please see Wisconsin Administrative Code NR12.