

Docket #2025-R-F-0011 proposed amendments to DE Wildlife regulations

From Ryan Maloney <rmaloney387@gmail.com>

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To HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources) <DNRECHearingComments@delaware.gov>

Good evening,

I'd like to submit the below responses for public comment regarding the public hearing (Docket #2025-R-F-0011) on proposed amendments to DE Admin. Code 3900.

1. Expanding the age range for the participation of youth hunters in special hunt days for waterfowl, turkeys, and deer

The language for the proposed age range changes for special youth hunt days for waterfowl, turkey, and deer helps to encourage early wildlife education, promotes the learning of outdoor skills, and fosters conservation awareness along with helping a wider range of families have access to hunting experiences.

2. Updating text related to hunting game birds on Sundays

Makes Delaware regulation congruent with federal regulations. No comment necessary.

3. Eliminating outdated text related to harvest reporting

No comment necessary

4. Permitting motorized carts on lands administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife

Allowing electric motorized game carts on public land enables more hunters to access remote areas, and promotes responsible hunting while minimizing environmental impact. This can help hunters with physical limitations retrieve game. I believe that the use of these carts should be limited or restricted to the retrieval of game rather than the transport of equipment to help minimize environmental impact, as well as to limit the disturbance to wildlife, and mitigate potential conflict between hunters.

5. Fixing typos related to method of take and issuance of permits for releasing gamebirds

No comment necessary

6. Extending the hunting season for coyotes to better manage the species and provide increased opportunity for hunters

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Coyotes are a smart and adaptive invasive species, extending the season will allow hunters to better manage the population, and help prevent the negative impact coyotes can pose to local ecosystems and native wildlife. I think some clarity could be added to the proposed language if the intent is to not allow the use of straight wall pistol cartridges for coyotes during deer season above the C&D Canal.

That being said, the logic for allowing centerfire rifles up to .25 caliber (which would include .223) to be used above the C&D Canal for hunting coyotes, while restricting the use of straight wall pistol caliber rifles for coyotes (or deer) completely eludes me.

V/R,

Ryan Maloney

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