

APPENDIX II-G

COVER SHEET FOR FINAL PROPOSAL

Notice Number 2022-69

Rule Number Fis 303.02 and Fis 303.03

<p>1. Agency Name & Address:</p> <p>NH Fish and Game Department 11 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301</p>	<p>2. RSA Authority: RSA 206:10, I; RSA 207:56; RSA 210:23</p> <p>3. Federal Authority: N/A</p> <p>4. Type of Action:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adopt</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Amendment (only if Initial Proposal was filed before 9/27/20.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Repeal</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Readoption</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Readoption w/amendment</p>
---	--

5. Short Title: **Furbearing Animals**

6. Contact person for copies and questions:

Name:	Dan Bergeron	Title:	Wildlife Division Chief
Address:	NH Fish & Game Department 11 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301	Phone #:	271-1439

7. The rulemaking notice appeared in the Rulemaking Register on **April 28,2022**

**SEE THE INSTRUCTIONS--PLEASE SUBMIT ONE COPY OF THIS COVER SHEET
AND ONE COPY OF THE FOLLOWING:
(optional to number correspondingly)**

8. The "Final Proposal-Fixed Text," including the cross-reference table required by RSA 541-A:3-a, II as an appendix.
9. Yes ☐ N/A ☒ Incorporation by Reference Statement(s) because this rule incorporates a document or Internet content by reference for which an Incorporation by Reference Statement is required pursuant to RSA 541-A:12, III.
10. Yes ☐ N/A ☒ The "Final Proposal-Annotated Text," indicating how the proposed rule was changed because the text of the rule changed from the Initial Proposal pursuant to RSA 541-A:12, II(d).
11. Yes ☐ N/A ☒ The amended fiscal impact statement because the change to the text of the Initial Proposal affects the original fiscal impact statement (FIS) pursuant to RSA 541-A:5, VI.

Notice Number 2022-69

Rule Number Fis 303.02 and Fis 303.03

1. Agency Name & Address:
**NH Fish and Game Department
11 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301**

2. RSA Authority: **RSA 206:10, I; RSA 207:56;
RSA 210:23**

3. Federal Authority: **N/A**

4. Type of Action:
Adoption _____
Repeal _____
Readoption **X**
Readoption w/amendment _____

5. Short Title: **Furbearing Animals**

6. (a) Summary of what the rule says and of any proposed amendments:

This proceeding proposes to readopt Fis 303.02, entitled “Muskrat, Mink, Weasel, Otter, and Beaver”, and Fis 303.03, entitled “Fox, Red and Gray, Raccoon, Opossum, and Skunk”. These sections implement the provisions of RSA 207:56 to set the seasons for the taking of small furbearing game in the state of New Hampshire.

Fis 303.02 and Fis 303.03 are set to expire 06-05-22. However, pursuant to RSA 541-A:14-a, I, the existing rules will continue in effect for the duration of this readoption proceeding.

6. (b) Brief description of the groups affected:

Any commercial or recreational hunters or trappers of small fur-bearing animals in the state of New Hampshire.

6. (c) Specific section or sections of state statute or federal statute or regulation which the rule is intended to implement:

Rule	Specific State Statute the Rule Implements
Fis 303.02	RSA 206:10, I; RSA 207:56; RSA 210:23
Fis 303.03	RSA 206:10, I; RSA 207:56; RSA 210:2; RSA 210:23

7. Contact person for copies and questions including requests to accommodate persons with disabilities:

Name: **Dan Bergeron**

Title: **Wildlife Division Chief**

Address: **NH Fish & Game Department
11 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301**

Phone #: **271-1439**

Fax#: **271-5829**

E-mail: **Daniel.h.bergeron@wildlife.nh.gov**

TTY/TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964 or dial 711 (in NH)

8. Deadline for submission of materials in writing or, if practicable for the agency, in the electronic format specified: **June 2, 2022**

☒ Fax

☒ E-mail

☐ Other format (specify):

9. Public hearing scheduled for:

Date and Time: **Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 12:00 pm**
Place: **Conference Room
Fish & Game Headquarters
11 Hazen Drive
Concord, New Hampshire**

10. Fiscal Impact Statement (Prepared by Legislative Budget Assistant)

FIS # 22:056 , dated 04/07/2022

1. Comparison of the costs of the proposed rule(s) to the existing rule(s):

There is no difference in cost when comparing the proposed rules to the existing rules.

2. Cite the Federal mandate. Identify the impact on state funds:

No federal mandate, no impact on state funds.

3. Cost and benefits of the proposed rule(s):

A. To State general or State special funds:

None.

B. To State citizens and political subdivisions:

None.

C. To independently owned businesses:

None.

11. Statement Relative to Part I, Article 28-a of the N.H. Constitution:

This proposal does not mandate any new, expanded, or modified programs or responsibilities to any political subdivision in such a way as to necessitate additional local expenditures by the political subdivisions, and therefore does not violate Part I, Article 28-a of the New Hampshire Constitution.

Readopt Fis 303.02 and Fis 303.03, effective 6-5-12 (Document #10142), to read as follows:

Edit: can use the acronym like in 303.03 (defined in earlier rules)

Fis 303.02 Muskrat, Mink, Weasel, Otter, and Beaver.

(a) The open season for taking muskrat, mink, weasel, otter, and beaver by use of traps shall be:

(1) October 15 through April 10 in wildlife management units A, B, C, D, E, and F; and

(2) November 1 through April 10 in wildlife management units G, H, I, J, K, L, and M.

(b) The open season for taking muskrat, mink, and weasel by use of firearms or bow and arrow shall be:

(1) October 15 through April 10 in wildlife management units A, B, C, D, E, and F; and

(2) November 1 through April 10 in wildlife management units G, H, I, J, K, L, and M.

(c) The season limit for otter shall be 10 otters.

Fis 303.03 Fox, Red and Gray, Raccoon, Opossum, and Skunk.

(a) The season for taking red and gray fox, raccoon, opossum, and skunk by use of traps shall:

(1) Open in WMUs A, B, C, D, E, and F on October 15 and close on December 31; and

(2) Open in WMUs G, H, I, J, K, L, and M on November 1 and close on January 15.

(b) The season for taking raccoon, red and gray fox, opossum, and skunk by use of firearms or bow and arrow shall open on September 1 and close on March 31.

(c) In addition to the provisions of Fis 303.03 (b), raccoons may be taken at night during the open season in accordance with the provisions of RSA 210:2.

APPENDIX

Rule	Specific State Statute the Rule Implements
Fis 303.02	RSA 206:10, I; RSA 207:56; RSA 210:23
Fis 303.03	RSA 206:10, I; RSA 207:56; RSA 210:2; RSA 210:23