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**TITLE 12. NATURAL RESOURCES  
CHAPTER 4. GAME AND FISH COMMISSION**

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**ARTICLE 1. DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**R12-4-102. License, Permit, Stamp, and Tag Fees**

- A.** A person who purchases a license, tag, stamp, or permit listed in this Section shall pay at the time of purchase all applicable fees prescribed under this Section or the fees the Director authorizes under R12-4-115.
- B.** A person who applies to purchase a hunt permit-tag shall submit with the application all applicable fees using acceptable forms of payment as required under R12-4-104(F) and (G).
- C.** As authorized under A.R.S. § 17-345, the license fees in this section include a \$3 surcharge, except Youth and High Achievement Scout licenses.

<b>Hunting and Fishing License Fees</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Nonresident</b>
General Fishing License	\$37	\$55
Community Fishing License	\$24	\$24
General Hunting License	\$37	Not available
Combination Hunting and Fishing License	\$57	\$160
Youth Combination Hunting and Fishing License, fee applies until the applicant's 18th birthday.	\$5	\$5
High Achievement Scout License, as authorized under A.R.S. § 17-336(B). Fee applies until the applicant's 21st birthday.	\$5	Not available
Short-term Combination Hunting and Fishing License	\$15	\$20
Youth Group Two-day Fishing License	\$25	Not available

<b>Hunt Permit-tag Fees</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Nonresident</b>
Antelope	\$90	\$550
Bear	\$25	\$150
Bighorn Sheep	\$300	\$1,800
Buffalo		
Adult Bulls or Any Buffalo	\$1,100	\$5,400
Adult Cows	\$650	\$3,250
Yearling	\$350	\$1,750

Cow or Yearling	\$650	\$3,250
Deer and Archery Deer	\$45	\$300
Youth	\$25	\$25
Elk	\$135	\$650
Youth	\$50	\$50
Javelina	\$25	\$100
Youth	\$15	\$15
Pheasant non-archery, non-falconry	Application fee only	Application fee only
Turkey and Archery Turkey	\$25	\$90
Youth	\$10	\$10
Sandhill Crane	\$10	\$10
<b>Nonpermit-tag and Restricted Nonpermit-tag Fees</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Nonresident</b>
Antelope	\$90	\$550
Bear	\$25	\$150
Buffalo		
Adult Bulls or Any Buffalo	\$1,100	\$5,400
Adult Cows	\$650	\$3,250
Yearling	\$350	\$1,750
Cow or Yearling	\$650	\$3,250
Deer	\$45	\$300
Youth	\$25	\$25
Elk	\$135	\$650
Youth	\$50	\$50
Javelina	\$25	\$100
Youth	\$15	\$15
Mountain Lion	\$15	\$75
Turkey	\$25	\$90
Youth	\$10	\$10
Sandhill Crane	\$10	\$10
<b>Stamps and Special Use Fees</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Nonresident</b>
Arizona Colorado River Special Use Permit Stamp. For use by California and Nevada licensees	Not available	\$3
Bobcat Seal	\$3	\$3
State Migratory Bird Stamp	\$5	\$5
<b>Other License Fees</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Nonresident</b>
Fur Dealer's License	\$115	\$115
Guide License	\$300	\$300
License Dealer's License	\$100	\$100
License Dealer's Outlet License	\$25	\$25
Taxidermist License	\$150	\$150
Trapping License	\$30	\$275
Youth	\$10	\$10
<b>Administrative Fees</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Nonresident</b>

Duplicate License Fee	\$4	\$4
Application Fee	\$13	\$15

D. A person desiring a replacement of a Migratory Bird or Arizona Colorado River Special Use Permit Stamp shall repurchase the stamp.

**ARTICLE 3. TAKING AND HANDLING OF WILDLIFE**

**R12-4-301. Definitions**

In addition to the definitions provided under A.R.S. § 17-101, the following definitions apply to this Article unless otherwise specified:

"Administer" means to pursue, capture, or otherwise restrain wildlife in order to directly apply a drug to wildlife by injection, inhalation, ingestion or any other means.

"Aircraft" means any contrivance used for flight in the air or any lighter-than-air contrivance.

"Artificial lures and flies" means man-made devices intended as visual attractants for fish and does not include living or dead organisms or edible parts of those organisms, natural or prepared food stuffs, artificial salmon eggs, artificial corn, or artificial marshmallows.

"Barbless hook" means any fishhook manufactured without barbs or on which the barbs have been completely closed or removed.

"Body-gripping trap" means a device designed to capture an animal by gripping the animal's body.

"Cervid" means any member of the deer family (*Cervidae*); which includes caribou, elk, moose, mule deer, reindeer, wapiti, and whitetail deer.

"Confinement trap" means a device designed to capture wildlife alive and hold it without harm.

"Crayfish net" means a net that does not exceed 36 inches on a side or in diameter and is retrieved by means of a hand-held line.

"Dip net" means any net, excluding the handle, that is no greater than 3 feet in the greatest dimension, that is hand-held, non-motorized, and the motion of the net is caused by the physical effort of the individual.

"Drug" means any chemical substance, other than food or mineral supplements, which affects the structure or biological function of wildlife.

"Evidence of legality" means the wildlife is accompanied by the applicable license, tag, stamp, or permit required by law and is identifiable as the "legal wildlife" prescribed by Commission Order, which may include evidence of species, gender, antler or horn growth, maturity and size.

"Foothold trap" means a device designed to capture an animal by the leg or foot.

"Instant kill trap" means a device designed to render an animal unconscious and insensitive to pain quickly with inevitable subsidence into death without recovery of consciousness.

"Land set" means any trap used on land rather than in water.

"Minnow trap" means a trap with dimensions that do not exceed 12 inches in depth, 12 inches in width and 24 inches in length.

"Muzzleloading handgun" means a firearm intended to be fired from the hand, incapable of firing fixed ammunition, having a single barrel, and loaded through the muzzle with black powder or synthetic black

powder and a single projectile.

"Muzzleloading rifle" means a firearm intended to be fired from the shoulder, incapable of firing fixed ammunition, having a single barrel and single chamber, and loaded through the muzzle with black powder or synthetic black powder and a single projectile.

"Nonprofit organization" means an organization that is recognized as nonprofit under Section 501(c) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

"Paste-type bait" means a partially liquefied substance used as a lure for animals.

"Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, non-governmental organization or club, licensed animal shelter, government entity other than the Department, and any officer, employee, volunteer, member, or agent of a person.

"Pre-charged pneumatic weapon" means an air gun or pneumatic weapon that is charged from an external high compression source such as an air compressor, air tank, or external hand pump.

"Sight-exposed bait" means a carcass or parts of a carcass lying openly on the ground or suspended in a manner so that it can be seen from above by a bird. This does not include a trap flag, dried or bleached bone with no attached tissue, or less than two ounces of paste-type bait.

"Simultaneous fishing" means taking fish by using two lines and not more than two hooks or two artificial lures or flies per line.

"Sinkbox" means a low floating device with a depression that affords a hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water.

"Trap flag" means an attractant made from materials other than animal parts that is suspended at least three feet above the ground.

"Water set" means any trap used and anchored in water rather than on land.

**R12-4-305. Possessing, Transporting, Importing, Exporting, and Selling Carcasses or Parts of Wildlife**

- A.** An individual shall ensure that evidence of legality remains with the carcass or parts of a carcass of any wild mammal, bird, or reptile that the individual possesses, transports, or imports until arrival at the individual's permanent abode, a commercial processing plant, or the place where the wildlife is to be consumed.
- B.** In addition to the requirement in subsection (A), an individual possessing or transporting the following wildlife shall ensure each:
  - 1. Big game animal, sandhill crane, and pheasant has the required valid tag attached as prescribed under R12-4-302;
  - 2. Migratory game bird, except sandhill cranes, has one fully feathered wing attached;
  - 3. Sandhill crane has either the fully feathered head or one fully feathered wing attached; and
  - 4. Quail has attached a fully feathered head, or a fully feathered wing, or a leg with foot attached, when the current Commission Order has established separate bag or possession limits for any species of quail.
- C.** An individual who has lawfully taken wildlife that requires a valid tag when prescribed by the Commission may authorize its transportation or shipment by completing and signing the Transportation and Shipping Permit

portion of the valid tag for that animal. A separate Transportation and Shipping Permit issued by the Department is necessary to transport or ship to another state or country any big game taken with a resident license. Under A.R.S. § 17-372(B), an individual may ship other lawfully taken wildlife by common carrier after obtaining a valid Transportation and Shipping Permit issued by the Department. The individual shall provide the following information on the permit form:

1. Number and description of the wildlife to be transported or shipped;
  2. Name, address, license number, and license class of the individual who took the wildlife;
  3. Tag number;
  4. Name and address of the individual receiving a portion of the carcass of the wildlife as authorized under subsection (D), if applicable;
  5. Address of destination where the wildlife is to be transported or shipped; and
  6. Name and address of transporter or shipper.
- D.** An individual who lawfully takes wildlife under a tag may authorize another individual to possess the head or carcass of the wildlife by separating and attaching the tag as prescribed under R12-4-302.
- E.** An individual who receives a portion of the wildlife shall provide the identity of the individual who took and gave the portion of the wildlife.
- F.** An individual shall not possess the horns of a bighorn sheep, taken by a hunter in this state, unless the horns are marked or sealed as prescribed under R12-4-308.
- G.** Except as provided under R12-4-307, before an individual may sell, offer for sale, or export the raw pelt or unskinned carcass of a bobcat taken in this state the individual shall:
1. Present the bobcat for inspection at any Department office, and
  2. Purchase a bobcat seal by paying the fee established under R12-4-102 at any Department office or other location as determined and published by the Department. Department personnel or an authorized agent shall attach and lock the bobcat seal only to a pelt or unskinned carcass presented with a validated transportation tag.
- H.** An individual who takes bear or mountain lion under A.R.S. § 17-302 during a closed season may retain the carcass of the wildlife if the individual has a valid hunting license and the carcass is immediately tagged with a nonpermit-tag as required under R12-4-114 and R12-4-302, unless the individual has already taken the applicable bag limit for that big game animal. An animal retained under this subsection shall count towards the applicable bag limit for bear or mountain lion as authorized by Commission Order. The individual shall comply with inspection and reporting requirements established under R12-4-308.
- I.** An individual may possess, transport, or import only the following portions of a cervid lawfully taken in another state or country:
1. Boneless portions of meat, or meat that has been cut and packaged;
  2. Clean hides and capes with no skull or soft tissue attached, except as required for proof of legality;
  3. Clean skulls with antlers, clean skull plates, or antlers with no meat or soft tissue attached;
  4. Finished taxidermy mounts or products; and

5. Upper canine teeth with no meat or tissue attached.
- J.** A private game farm license holder may transport a cervid lawfully killed or slaughtered at the license holder's game farm to a licensed meat processor.
- K.** An individual may possess or transport only the following portions of a cervid lawfully killed or slaughtered at a private game farm authorized under R12-4-413:
1. Boneless portions of meat, or meat that has been cut and packaged;
  2. Clean hides and capes with no skull or soft tissue attached;
  3. Clean skulls with antlers, clean skull plates, or antlers with no meat or soft tissue attached;
  4. Finished taxidermy mounts or products; and
  5. Upper canine teeth with no meat or tissue attached.
- L.** An individual who obtains buffalo meat as authorized under R12-4-306 may sell the meat.
- M.** Except for cervids, which are subject to requirements established under subsections (I), (J), and (K), an individual may import into this state the carcasses or parts of wildlife, including aquatic wildlife, lawfully taken in another state or country if transported and exported in accordance with the laws of the state or country of origin.
- N.** An individual in possession of or transporting the carcass of any freshwater fish taken within this state shall ensure that the head, tail, or skin is attached so that the species can be identified, numbers counted, and any required length determined.
- O.** An individual shall not transport live crayfish from the site where taken, except as permitted under R12-4-316.
- P.** An individual in possession of a carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), buffalofish (*Ictiobus* spp.), or crayfish (families *Astacidae*, *Cambaridae*, and *Parastacidae*) carcass taken under Commission Order may sell the carcass.

**R12-4-307. Trapping Regulations: Licensing; Methods; Tagging of Bobcat Pelts**

- A.** An Arizona trapping license permits an individual to trap predatory and fur-bearing animals. The Department shall issue a registration number to a trapper and enter the number on the trapping license at the time the trapper purchases the license. The trapper registration number is not transferable.
- B.** A trapping license is required for any individual 14 years of age and older. An individual under the age of 14 is not required to purchase a trapping license, but shall apply for and obtain a registration number.
- C.** An individual born on or after January 1, 1967 shall successfully complete a Department-approved trapping education course before applying for a trapping license.
- D.** An individual applying for a trapping registration number or trapping license shall pay the applicable fees established under R12-4-102.
- E.** An individual applying for a trapping registration number or trapping license shall apply using a form furnished by the Department. The form is available at any Department office and online at [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov). The individual shall provide all of the following information on the form:
1. Applicant's:
    - a. Full name, address, and telephone number;

- b. Date of birth and physical description;
  2. Identification number assigned by the Department;
  3. Category of license:
    - a. Resident,
    - b. Nonresident, or
    - c. Juvenile, and
  4. The applicant's signature.
- F.** A trapper may only trap predatory and fur-bearing animals during trapping seasons established by Commission Order.
- G.** A trapper shall:
  1. Inspect traps daily;
  2. Kill or release all predatory and fur-bearing animals;
  3. Possess a choke restraint device that enables the trapper to release a javelina from a trap when trapping in a javelina hunt unit, as designated by Commission Order;
  4. Possess a device that is designed or manufactured to restrain a trapped animal while it is being removed from a trap when its release is required by this Section; and
  5. Release, without additional injury, all animals that cannot lawfully be taken by trap.
  6. Subsections (G)(3) and (G)(4) do not apply when the trapper is using a confinement trap.
- H.** A trapper shall not:
  1. Bait a confinement trap with:
    - a. A live animal;
    - b. Any edible parts of small game, big game, or game fish; or
    - c. Any part of any game bird or nongame bird.
  2. Set any trap within:
    - a. One-half mile of any of the following areas developed for public use:
      - i. Boat launching area,
      - ii. Camping area,
      - iii. Picnic area, or
      - iv. Roadside rest area.
    - b. One-half mile of any occupied residence or building without permission of the owner or resident.
    - c. One-hundred yards of an interstate highway or any other highway maintained by the Arizona Department of Transportation.
    - d. Fifty feet of any trail maintained for public use by a government agency.
    - e. Seventy-five feet of any other road as defined under A.R.S. § 17-101.
    - f. Subsections (H)(2)(b), (H)(2)(c), (H)(2)(d), and (H)(2)(e) do not apply when the trapper is using a confinement trap.
  3. Set a foothold trap within 30 feet of sight-exposed bait.

4. Use any:
  - a. Body-gripping or other instant kill trap with an open jaw spread that exceeds 5 inches for any land set or 10 inches for any water set;
  - b. Foothold trap with an open jaw spread that exceeds 7 1/2 inches for any water set;
  - c. Snare, unless authorized under subsection (I);
  - d. Trap with an open jaw spread that exceeds 6 1/2 inches for any land set; or
  - e. Trap with teeth.
- I.** A trapper who uses a foothold trap to take wildlife with a land set shall use commercially manufactured traps that meet the following specifications:
  1. A padded or rubber-jawed trap or an unpadded trap with jaws permanently offset to a minimum of 3/16 inch and a device that allows for pan tension adjustment;
  2. A foothold trap that captures wildlife by means of an enclosed bar or spring designed to prevent the capture of non-targeted wildlife or domestic animals; or
  3. A powered cable device with an inside frame hinge width no wider than 6 inches, a cable loop stop size of at least 2 inches in diameter to prevent capture of small non-target species, and a device that allows for a pan tension adjustment.
- J.** A trapper who uses a foothold trap to take wildlife with a land set shall ensure that the trap has an anchor chain equipped with at least two swivels as follows:
  1. An anchor chain 12 inches or less in length shall have a swivel attached at each end.
  2. An anchor chain greater than 12 inches in length shall have one swivel attached at the trap and one swivel attached within 12 inches of the trap. The anchor chain shall be equipped with a shock-absorbing spring that requires less than 40 pounds of force to extend or open the spring.
- K.** A trapper shall ensure that each trap has either the name and address or the registration number of the trapper marked on a metal tag attached to the trap. The number assigned by the Department is the only acceptable registration number.
- L.** A trapper shall immediately attach a valid bobcat transportation tag to the pelt or unskinned carcass of a bobcat taken in this state. The trapper shall validate the transportation tag by providing all of the following information on the bobcat transportation tag:
  1. Current trapping license number,
  2. Game management unit where the bobcat was taken,
  3. Sex of the bobcat, and
  4. Method by which the bobcat was taken.
- M.** The Department shall provide transportation tags with each trapping license. Additional transportation tags are available at any Department office at no charge.
- N.** A trapper shall ensure that all bobcats taken in this state have a bobcat seal attached and locked either through the mouth and an eye opening or through both eye openings no later than 10 days after the close of trapping season.

1. When available, bobcat seals are issued on a first-come, first-served basis at Department offices and other locations at those times and places as determined and published by the Department.
  2. The trapper shall pay the bobcat seal fee established under R12-4-102.
  3. Department personnel or an authorized agent shall attach and lock a bobcat seal only to a pelt or unskinned carcass presented with a validated transportation tag and a complete lower jaw identified with labels provided with the transportation tag. Department personnel or authorized agents shall collect the transportation tags and jaws before attaching the bobcat seal.
- O.** Department personnel shall attach a bobcat seal to a bobcat pelt seized under A.R.S. § 17-211(E)(4) before disposal by the Department to the public.
- P.** A licensed trapper shall file the annual report prescribed under A.R.S. § 17-361(D).
1. The trapper shall submit the report to Arizona Game and Fish Department, Game Branch, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086 by April 1 of each year.
  2. A report is required even when trapping activities were not conducted. The report form is available at any Department office and online at [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov).
  3. The Department shall deny a trapping license to any trapper who fails to submit an annual report until the trapper complies with reporting requirements.
- Q.** Persons suffering property loss or damage due to wildlife and who take responsive measures as permitted under A.R.S. §§ 17-239 and 17-302 are exempt from this Section. This exemption does not authorize any form of trapping prohibited under A.R.S. § 17-301.