

REFERENCE TITLE: dogs; hunting; rules; prohibition

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

HB 2552

Introduced by
Representatives Diaz: Carter P, Griffin, Heap, Nguyen

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 17-231 AND 17-301, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO HUNTING.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
2 Section 1. Section 17-231, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:
4 17-231. General powers and duties of the commission
5 A. The commission shall:
6 1. Adopt rules and establish services it deems necessary to carry
7 out the provisions and purposes of this title. **RULES ADOPTED BY THE**
8 **COMMISSION SHALL NOT PROHIBIT THE USE OF DOGS TO TAKE WILDLIFE.**
9 2. Establish broad policies and long-range programs for the
10 management, preservation and harvest of wildlife.
11 3. Establish hunting, trapping and fishing rules and prescribe the
12 manner and methods that may be used in taking wildlife, but the commission
13 shall not limit or restrict the magazine capacity of any authorized
14 firearm.
15 4. Be responsible for the enforcement of laws for the protection of
16 wildlife.
17 5. Provide for the assembling and distribution of information to
18 the public relating to wildlife and activities of the department.
19 6. Prescribe rules for the expenditure, by or under the control of
20 the director, of all funds arising from appropriation, licenses, gifts or
21 other sources.
22 7. Exercise such powers and duties necessary to carry out fully the
23 provisions of this title and in general exercise powers and duties that
24 relate to adopting and carrying out policies of the department and control
25 of its financial affairs.
26 8. Prescribe procedures for use of department personnel,
27 facilities, equipment, supplies and other resources in assisting search or
28 rescue operations on request of the director of the division of emergency
29 management.
30 9. Cooperate with the Arizona-Mexico commission in the governor's
31 office and with researchers at universities in this state to collect data
32 and conduct projects in the United States and Mexico on issues that are
33 within the scope of the department's duties and that relate to quality of
34 life, trade and economic development in this state in a manner that will
35 help the Arizona-Mexico commission to assess and enhance the economic
36 competitiveness of this state and of the Arizona-Mexico region.
37 B. The commission may:
38 1. Conduct investigations, inquiries or hearings in the performance
39 of its powers and duties.
40 2. Establish game management units or refuges for the preservation
41 and management of wildlife.
42 3. Construct and operate game farms, fish hatcheries, fishing lakes
43 or other facilities for or relating to the preservation or propagation of
44 wildlife.

- 1 4. Expend funds to provide training in the safe handling and use of
2 firearms and safe hunting practices.
- 3 5. Remove or permit to be removed from public or private waters
4 fish which hinder or prevent propagation of game or food fish and dispose
5 of such fish in such manner as it may designate.
- 6 6. Purchase, sell or barter wildlife for the purpose of stocking
7 public or private lands and waters and take at any time in any manner
8 wildlife for research, propagation and restocking purposes or for use at a
9 game farm or fish hatchery and declare wildlife salable when in the public
10 interest or the interest of conservation.
- 11 7. Enter into agreements with the federal government, with other
12 states or political subdivisions of the state and with private
13 organizations for the construction and operation of facilities and for
14 management studies, measures or procedures for or relating to the
15 preservation and propagation of wildlife and expend funds for carrying out
16 such agreements.
- 17 8. Prescribe rules for the sale, trade, importation, exportation or
18 possession of wildlife.
- 19 9. Expend monies for the purpose of producing publications relating
20 to wildlife and activities of the department for sale to the public and
21 establish the price to be paid for annual subscriptions and single copies
22 of such publications. All monies received from the sale of such
23 publications shall be deposited in the game and fish publications
24 revolving fund.
- 25 10. Contract with any person or entity to design and produce artwork
26 on terms that, in the commission's judgment, will produce an original and
27 valuable work of art relating to wildlife or wildlife habitat.
- 28 11. Sell or distribute the artwork authorized under paragraph 10 of
29 this subsection on such terms and for such price as it deems acceptable.
- 30 12. Consider the adverse and beneficial short-term and long-term
31 economic impacts on resource dependent communities, small businesses and
32 the state of Arizona, of policies and programs for the management,
33 preservation and harvest of wildlife by holding a public hearing to
34 receive and consider written comments and public testimony from interested
35 persons.
- 36 13. Adopt rules relating to range operations at public shooting
37 ranges operated by and under the jurisdiction of the commission, including
38 the hours of operation, the fees for the use of the range, the regulation
39 of groups and events, the operation of related range facilities, the type
40 of firearms and ammunition that may be used at the range, the safe
41 handling of firearms at the range, the required safety equipment for a
42 person using the range, the sale of firearms, ammunition and shooting
43 supplies at the range, and the authority of range officers to enforce
44 these rules, to remove violators from the premises and to refuse entry for
45 repeat violations.

1 14. Solicit and accept grants, gifts or donations of money or other
 2 property from any source, which may be used for any purpose consistent
 3 with this title.

4 C. The commission shall confer and coordinate with the director of
 5 water resources with respect to the commission's activities, plans and
 6 negotiations relating to water development and use, restoration projects
 7 under the restoration acts pursuant to chapter 4, article 1 of this title,
 8 where water development and use are involved, the abatement of pollution
 9 injurious to wildlife and in the formulation of fish and wildlife aspects
 10 of the director of water resources' plans to develop and utilize water
 11 resources of the state and shall have jurisdiction over fish and wildlife
 12 resources and fish and wildlife activities of projects constructed for the
 13 state under or pursuant to the jurisdiction of the director of water
 14 resources.

15 D. The commission may enter into one or more agreements with a
 16 multi-county water conservation district and other parties for
 17 participation in the lower Colorado river multispecies conservation
 18 program under section 48-3713.03, including the collection and payment of
 19 any monies authorized by law for the purposes of the lower Colorado river
 20 multispecies conservation program.

21 Sec. 2. Section 17-301, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
 22 read:

23 17-301. Times when wildlife may be taken; exceptions; methods
 24 of taking

25 A. A person may take wildlife, except aquatic wildlife, only during
 26 daylight hours unless otherwise prescribed by the commission. A person
 27 shall not take any species of wildlife by the aid or with the use of a
 28 jacklight, other artificial light, ~~or~~ or AN illegal device, except as
 29 provided by the commission.

30 B. A person shall not take wildlife, except aquatic wildlife, or
 31 discharge a firearm or shoot any other device from a motor vehicle,
 32 including an automobile, aircraft, train or powerboat, or from a sailboat,
 33 A boat under sail, ~~or~~ or a floating object towed by powerboat or sailboat
 34 except as expressly permitted by the commission. No person may knowingly
 35 discharge any firearm or shoot any other device upon, from, across or into
 36 a road or railway.

37 C. Fish may be taken only by angling unless otherwise provided by
 38 the commission. The line shall be constantly attended. In every case the
 39 hook, fly or lure shall be used in such manner that the fish voluntarily
 40 take or attempt to take it in their mouths.

41 D. A PERSON MAY TAKE WILDLIFE WITH THE AID OF DOGS.

42 ~~D.~~ E. It shall be unlawful to take wildlife with any leghold trap,
 43 WITH any instant kill body gripping design trap, or by a poison or a snare
 44 on any public land, including state owned or state leased land, AND lands
 45 administered by the United States forest service, the federal bureau of

1 land management, the national park service, the United States department
2 of defense, the state parks board and any county or municipality. This
3 subsection shall not prohibit:

4 1. The use of the devices prescribed in this subsection by federal,
5 state, county, city, or other local departments of health which have
6 jurisdiction in the geographic area of such use, for the purpose of
7 protection from or surveillance for threats to human health or safety.

8 2. The taking of wildlife with firearms, with fishing equipment,
9 with archery equipment, ~~or~~ or WITH other implements in hand as may be
10 defined or regulated by the Arizona game and fish commission, including
11 but not limited to the taking of wildlife pursuant to a hunting or fishing
12 license issued by the Arizona game and fish department.

13 3. The use of snares, traps not designed to kill, ~~or~~ or nets to take
14 wildlife for scientific research projects, FOR sport falconry, or for
15 relocation of the wildlife as may be defined or regulated by the Arizona
16 game and fish commission or the government of the United States, or both.

17 4. The use of poisons or nets by the Arizona game and fish
18 department to take or manage aquatic wildlife as determined and regulated
19 by the Arizona game and fish commission.

20 5. The use of traps for rodent control or poisons for rodent
21 control for the purpose of controlling wild and domestic rodents as
22 otherwise allowed by the laws of the state of Arizona, excluding any
23 fur-bearing animals as defined in section 17-101.