

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H. F. 2920

DATE: March 22, 2002

Version: Third engrossment

Authors: Ozment

Subject: DNR Omnibus Wildlife and Forestry

Analyst: John Helland, 651-296-5039

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Section

- 1 **Turtles.** Adds turtles to the definition of "private aquatic life."
, 3,3, and **Timber sale amendments.** Reinstates a time limit (60 days) within which a timber purchaser
4 must sign a timber permit. Clarifies the alternatives to posting a bond for the value of the
timber to be removed from the cutting block.
- 5 **Clarification.**
, 10,10, **Prairie chicken lottery.** Provides clear authority to establish a "limited entry" hunt through a
16, and 17 lottery drawing of applicants. This new authority would parallel existing authorities for deer
(M.S. 97B.305), wild turkey (M.S. 97B.623), and bear (M.S. 97B.405). Minnesota's current
prairie chicken population is about 3,000, and has been stable to increasing in the past
decade, largely due to the beneficial effects of native prairie protection and grassland
establishment under state and federal farm and land retirement programs. The proposed fee
for a lottery application is \$3 and for a license is \$20.
- 878 **Lifetime archery license.** Allows lifetime archery deer licenses to be issued.
- 9 **Technical.**
, 20,20, **Turtle harvest.** Allows changes in licensing, raises the fees, the ability to have an apprentice,
and 21 making it unlawful to tamper with turtle operations and equipment, allowing the taking of
turtles for personal use only by resident anglers with a recreational license, and only taking
certain-sized snapping turtles.
- 12 **Consumed game.** Creates record-keeping requirements for donated game to nonprofit
organizations.
- 13 **Trapper education.** Allows the commissioner to enter into an agreement with a nonprofit
group to conduct trapper education.
- 14 **Firearms to take big game.** Clarifies legal use of firearm cartridges.
- 15 **Flexible deer license.** Allows a resident to take both one buck and one doe by firearm or

bow.

- 18 **Private fish hatcheries.** Allows DNR posted private hatcheries and aquatic farms to have certain restrictions for the taking of fish.
- 19 **Fishing contests.** Allows up to 10 additional permits for fishing contests on lakes over 10,000 acres.
- 22 **Timber selling.** Allows only St. Louis county to sell timber for the highest price under section 90.14.
- 23 **Study.** Requires the DNR commissioner to review certain statutes and an operational order on the enforcement authority of DNR employees to issue citations and report back to the legislative committees.
- 24 **Repealer.** Repeals Minnesota Statutes, sections 90.50, 97C.003, and 97C.605, subd. 4, eliminating the requirement that live bait be allowed and barbless hooks used on all experimental trout streams in Houston, Fillmore, Mower, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Wabasha, and Goodhue counties; leasing of certain lands for decorative tree harvesting; and issuing turtle taking permits with artificial lights.