

Subject DNR Policy

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### Overview

This bill contains a number of policy provisions being proposed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as well as other provisions impacting the department.

### Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <b>Priorities; report.</b><br>Changes the date the DNR must submit an annual report listing the projects funded with money from a natural resource asset preservation and replacement appropriation from January 15 to March 1.                                  |
| 2 | <b>Insecticides on state lands.</b><br>Prohibits a person from using certain insecticides (neonicotinoids and chlorpyrifos) in a wildlife management area (WMA), state park, state forest, aquatic management area (AMA), or scientific and natural areas (SNA). |
| 3 | <b>State Park Open House Days.</b><br>Exempts registered overnight guests in state parks and state recreation areas from state park permit requirements during State Park Open House Days until after check-out time the following day.                          |
| 4 | <b>Turtle license.</b><br>Eliminates the turtle seller's license fee and turtle seller's apprentice license fee.   |
| 5 | <b>Restrictions related to motor vehicles.</b><br>Prohibits a person from shooting a firearm or arrow from a motor vehicle at a decoy of a wild animal placed by a licensed peace officer.   |

<b>Section</b>	<b>Description</b>
6	<p><b>Clothing and ground blind requirements; blaze orange or blaze pink.</b></p> <p>Eliminates the option of wearing blaze pink while hunting in order to meet certain clothing requirements. Requires a person in a fabric or synthetic ground blind on public land during the open deer hunting season to have a blaze orange safety covering on the blind visible for 360 degrees around the blind or have at least 144 square inches of blaze orange material on each side of the blind.</p>
7	<p><b>Requirements for hunters and handlers.</b></p> <p>Technical related to the elimination of the blaze pink option in the previous section.</p>
8	<p><b>Nontoxic shot required for taking small game in certain areas.</b></p> <p>Requires the use of nontoxic shot when hunting small game on a WMA in the farmland zone beginning July 1, 2022. The farmland zone is a portion of the state that falls south and west of a line that follows Highway 70 westward from the Wisconsin border to Highway 65 to Highway 23 to U.S. Highway 169 at Milaca to Highway 18 at Garrison to Highway 210 at Brainerd to U.S. Highway 10 at Motley to U.S. Highway 59 at Detroit Lakes northward to the Canadian border.</p>
9	<p><b>Restrictions on certain motorized decoys.</b></p> <p>Removes restrictions on the use of motorized decoys designed to attract migratory waterfowl that apply during a portion of the duck season and within WMAs. Allows the DNR to adopt rules designating wetlands and lakes closed to the use of motorized decoys during the entire duck season.</p>
10	<p><b>Taking turtles; requirements.</b></p> <p>Requires a recreational turtle license to take turtles (in addition to a resident angling license which is required under current law). Prohibits turtles taken from the wild from being sold and makes other conforming changes needed due to the elimination of the turtle seller's license.</p>
11	<p><b>License exemptions.</b></p> <p>Modifies exemptions from the recreational turtle license requirements to conform to the removal of the turtle seller's license. Provides an exemption from licensing requirements for a person with an aquatic farm license with a turtle endorsement or private fish hatchery license with a turtle endorsement.</p>
12	<p><b>Taking methods prohibited.</b></p> <p>Prohibits a person from taking turtles with traps, commercial equipment, firearms and ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows, spears, harpoons, or other implements that can impale turtles. Makes changes to conform to the removal of the turtle seller's license.</p>

<b>Section</b>	<b>Description</b>
13	<b>Turtle species; limits.</b> Restricts the possession of turtles by: establishing limits and restrictions for the possession of western painted turtles (no more than three and they must be between 4 and 5½ inches in shell length); prohibiting the possession of spiny softshell turtles after December 1, 2021, without an aquatic farm or private fish hatchery license; and prohibiting the possession of turtles other than snapping, western painted, and spiny softshell without an aquatic farm or private fish hatchery license.
14	<b>Turtle seller's licenses; transfer and renewal.</b> Prohibits the DNR from renewing or transferring turtle seller's licenses.
15	<b>Appropriation; nontoxic shot.</b> Appropriates \$10,000 in fiscal year 2022 from the general fund to the DNR for implementation of the new nontoxic shot requirements in section 8.
16	<b>Repealer.</b> Repeals statutory provisions establishing turtle seller licensing requirements and the associated rules as well as rules regulating the use of traps and other equipment prohibited under the bill.



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