

Department of Natural Resources

Chapters:

Adopted Expedited Emergency Game and Fish Rules:

6230

6234

**STATE GAME REFUGES, WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS,
AND FURBEARERS SEASONS**

PUBLISHED 08-08-2011

EFFECTIVE 08-08-2011

EXPIRES 01-31-2012 (6230.0200, 6234.1700, 6234.2000, 6234.2200, 6234.2600)

and 08-01-2012 (6230.0250, 6230.0295, 6230.0400, 6230.0700, 6234.1200,
6234.1300, 6234.1400, 6234.1900, 6234.2700)

Please see enclosure for text of the expedited emergency game and fish rules package relating to state game refuges, wildlife management areas, and furbearer seasons. This rules package includes completion of validation coupons at site of kill for fisher, marten, and otter.

1.1 **Department of Natural Resources**

1.2 **Adopted Expedited Emergency Game and Fish Rules: State Game Refuges, Wildlife**
 1.3 **Management Areas, and Furbearers Seasons**

1.4 **6230.0200 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS.**

1.5 [For text of subps 1 and 2, see M.R.]

1.6 Subp. 3. **Areas closed to migratory waterfowl hunting.** The Gordon F. W. Yeager
 1.7 Wildlife Management Area and the Eastside Wildlife Management Area in Olmsted
 1.8 County and the Carl Schmidt Wildlife Management Area in Morrison County are closed
 1.9 to the taking of migratory waterfowl. On the Gordon F. W. Yeager Wildlife Management
 1.10 Area, small game taken by firearms may only be taken with shotguns using No. 4 or
 1.11 smaller diameter shot.

1.12 [For text of subps 4 to 8, see M.R.]

1.13 Subp. 9. **Areas closed to firearms deer hunting.** The Lake Blanche Wildlife
 1.14 Management Area in Otter Tail County, the Gordon F. W. Yeager Wildlife Management
 1.15 Area in Olmstead County, ~~and~~ a portion of the Timber Lake Wildlife Management Area
 1.16 (as posted) in Jackson County, and a portion of the Gores Pool Wildlife Management Area
 1.17 (as posted) in Dakota County, are closed to firearms deer hunting.

1.18 [For text of subp 10, see M.R.]

1.19 Subp. 11. **Areas with other restrictions.**

1.20 A. The Schrafel Wildlife Management Area in Mower County is closed to
 1.21 trapping and firearms hunting. ~~It is open to archery deer hunting.~~

1.22 [For text of items B to D, see M.R.]

1.23 Subp. 12. **Sanctuary areas open to ~~hunting~~ certain activities.** The following
 1.24 sanctuary areas of wildlife management areas posted with "Wildlife Sanctuary Do Not
 1.25 Trespass" signs are open for ~~hunting~~ activities as specified:

2.1 [For text of items A and B, see M.R.]

2.2 C. The Haverhill Wildlife Management Area in Olmstead County is open to
2.3 pheasant hunting on October 22 for youth ages 12 to 17 who are participating in Pheasants
2.4 Forever special mentored youth hunts. Pheasants Forever is sponsoring the hunt.

2.5 D. The posted sanctuary within the Ricehaven Wildlife Management Area in St.
2.6 Louis County is open from August 1 through September 14 to canoeing, bird watching,
2.7 and wild rice harvesting during the wild rice season.

2.8 [For text of subp 13, see M.R.]

2.9 **6230.0250 GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR USE OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**
2.10 **AREAS.**

2.11 [For text of subps 1 to 8, see M.R.]

2.12 Subp. 9. **Use of motorboats.** Motorboat use is prohibited within a wildlife
2.13 management area, except where posted or as provided in this subpart. For purposes of
2.14 this chapter, "motorboat" includes motorboats as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section
2.15 86B.005, subdivision 9, and duckboats with motors attached.

2.16 [For text of items A to K, see M.R.]

2.17 L. Spring Lake Islands Wildlife Management Area in Dakota County:
2.18 motorboats may be used with no limit on size.

2.19 Subp. 10. **General restrictions on vehicles.**

2.20 [For text of items A and B, see M.R.]

2.21 C. A person may use a motor vehicle, for ice fishing purposes only, on the
2.22 following lakes, except where posted closed to motor vehicles:

2.23 [For text of subitems (1) to (4), see M.R.]

3.1 (5) North Lake in the Gores Pool Wildlife Management Area, Goodhue
3.2 County; ~~and~~

3.3 (6) Boot Lake in the Bootleg Lake Wildlife Management Area, Jackson
3.4 County; ~~and~~

3.5 (7) Spring Lake in Spring Lake Islands Wildlife Management Area, Dakota
3.6 County.

3.7 [For text of item D, see M.R.]

3.8 [For text of subs 11 to 18, see M.R.]

3.9 Subp. 19. **Abandonment of trash and property.** The disposal or abandonment
3.10 of garbage, trash, spoil, sludge, rocks, vehicles, carcasses, or other debris and the
3.11 abandonment or storage of property within a wildlife management area is prohibited.
3.12 Boats, decoys, or other property may not be left unattended overnight, except as follows:

3.13 A. traps lawfully placed; and

3.14 B. fish houses or dark houses on the following lakes:

3.15 [For text of subitems (1) to (4), see M.R.]

3.16 (5) North Lake in the Gores Pool Wildlife Management Area, Goodhue
3.17 County; ~~and~~

3.18 (6) Boot Lake in the Bootleg Lake Wildlife Management Area, Jackson
3.19 County; ~~and~~

3.20 (7) Spring Lake in Spring Lake Islands Wildlife Management Area, Dakota
3.21 County.

3.22 [For text of subs 20 to 23, see M.R.]

3.23 **6230.0295 VERMILLION HIGHLANDS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA.**

4.1 Subpart 1. **Hunting.** The Vermillion Highlands Wildlife Management Area located
4.2 in Dakota County is closed to all hunting and trapping except:

4.3 A. archery, firearms, and muzzleloader deer hunting by special permit only;

4.4 B. pheasant and Canada goose hunting starting on the day following the close
4.5 of the muzzleloader deer season through the end of the respective statewide ~~pheasant~~
4.6 ~~season~~ seasons;

4.7 ~~C. late season goose hunting;~~

4.8 ~~D. C. trapping and predator hunting by special permit only; and~~

4.9 ~~E. D. spring turkey hunting.~~

4.10 [For text of subp 2, see M.R.]

4.11 **6230.0400 SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR STATE GAME REFUGES.**

4.12 [For text of subp 1, see M.R.]

4.13 Subp. 2. **Bemidji Game Refuge, Beltrami County.** The Bemidji Game Refuge
4.14 in Beltrami County is open to:

4.15 A. small game hunting, except waterfowl, through the Thursday nearest
4.16 November 4 and after November 13;

4.17 B. Canada goose hunting during the early goose season, except on Lake
4.18 Bemidji, the Mississippi River, and Stump Lake;

4.19 C. trapping for beaver, mink, otter, and muskrat only; and

4.20 D. deer hunting during the muzzleloader season as prescribed in part 6232.2100
4.21 and deer and bear hunting by archery.

4.22 [For text of subps 3 to 9, see M.R.]

5.1 Subp. 10. **Erhard's Grove Game Refuge, Otter Tail County.** The Erhard's Grove
5.2 Game Refuge in Otter Tail County is open to:

- 5.3 A. deer and bear hunting by firearms; ~~and~~
5.4 B. deer and bear hunting by archery; and
5.5 C. small game hunting, except waterfowl.

5.6 [For text of subps 11 to 20, see M.R.]

5.7 Subp. 21. **Lac qui Parle Game Refuge, Chippewa and Lac qui Parle Counties.**
5.8 The following special provisions apply to the Lac qui Parle Game Refuge, Chippewa and
5.9 Lac qui Parle Counties:

5.10 A. Those portions within the Lac qui Parle Mission Site are closed to hunting.
5.11 The remainder of the refuge is open to:

5.12 (1) waterfowl hunting only ~~during~~ from the third Thursday in October
5.13 through the open Canada goose season ~~in the West Central Goose Zone, and~~ only at
5.14 designated hunting stations as provided by parts 6230.0500 to 6230.0700;

5.15 (2) deer hunting; and

5.16 (3) small game hunting other than waterfowl, except from the second
5.17 Saturday in October through ~~the last day of the open Canada goose season in the West~~
5.18 ~~Central Goose Zone~~ November 30, when small game hunting is allowed and only at
5.19 designated hunting stations as provided by parts 6230.0500 to 6230.0700. Small game
5.20 hunting is not allowed on closed Canada goose hunting days during a split goose season.

5.21 B. ~~A person may not trespass on any part of the refuge which is posted with~~
5.22 ~~signs prohibiting trespass during the dates posted, except that fishing is permitted in the~~
5.23 ~~posted closed area within the Lac qui Parle Goose Zone, except from the second Saturday~~
5.24 ~~in October through the last day of the open Canada goose season in the West Central~~

6.1 ~~Goose Zone.~~ No unauthorized person may trespass during the dates posted on any part of
6.2 the refuge posted with "State Wildlife Sanctuary - Do Not Trespass" signs, except for:

6.3 (1) ice fishing; or

6.4 (2) open water fishing in the posted closed area from the close of the
6.5 Canada goose season until the second Saturday in October.

6.6 [For text of items C and D, see M.R.]

6.7 [For text of subps 22 to 32, see M.R.]

6.8 Subp. 33. **Ocheda Lake Game Refuge, Nobles County.** The Ocheda Lake Game
6.9 Refuge in Nobles County is open to:

6.10 [For text of items A to C, see M.R.]

6.11 D. Canada goose hunting during the early ~~and late seasons~~ season and from
6.12 the first Saturday in December through the end of the statewide goose season, except that
6.13 hunting is prohibited within 100 yards of surface water during the early goose season; and

6.14 [For text of item E, see M.R.]

6.15 Subp. 33a. **Orwell Game Refuge, Otter Tail County.** The Orwell Game Refuge
6.16 in Otter Tail County is open to pheasant hunting on October 22 for youth ages 12 to 17
6.17 who are participating in Pheasants Forever special mentored youth hunts. Pheasants
6.18 Forever is sponsoring the hunt.

6.19 [For text of subp 34, see M.R.]

6.20 Subp. 35. **Paul Bunyan Game Refuge, Hubbard County.** The Paul Bunyan Game
6.21 Refuge in Hubbard County is open to:

6.22 A. small game hunting, except waterfowl, through the Thursday nearest
6.23 November 4 and after November 13;

6.24 [For text of items B to D, see M.R.]

7.1 [For text of subps 36 to 51, see M.R.]

7.2 Subp. 52. **Anoka and Isanti Counties Game Refuge, Anoka and Isanti Counties.**

7.3 The Anoka and Isanti Counties Game Refuge in Anoka and Isanti Counties is open to
7.4 ~~firearms and~~ archery deer hunting and archery turkey hunting.

7.5 [For text of subps 53 to 59, see M.R.]

7.6 Subp. 60. Cedar Lake Game Refuge, Stearns County. The Cedar Lake Game
7.7 Refuge in Stearns County is open to archery, firearms, and muzzleloader deer hunting.

7.8 Subp. 61. Warroad Game Refuge, Roseau County. The Warroad Game Refuge in
7.9 Roseau County is open to archery deer hunting as described in part 6232.0600.

7.10 Subp. 62. Lake Vermilion State Park, St. Louis County. Lake Vermilion State
7.11 Park in St. Louis County is open for taking ruffed and spruce grouse as described in
7.12 part 6234.0200.

7.13 **6230.0700 LAC QUI PARLE SPECIAL PROVISIONS.**

7.14 Subpart 1. **Time periods for special provisions.** In addition to the regulations
7.15 provided by part 6230.0500, the following subparts apply to all persons in the Lac qui
7.16 Parle Controlled Hunting ~~Zones~~ Zone during the open season for taking Canada geese in
7.17 ~~the Lac qui Parle Goose~~ that zone.

7.18 Subp. 2. **Hunting stations.** A. ~~Waterfowl and small game hunters may reserve~~
7.19 ~~designated hunting stations in accordance with regulations available at the Lac qui Parle~~
7.20 ~~Wildlife Management Area headquarters. Reservation dates may not be changed. Only~~
7.21 ~~one hunting group, consisting of no more than three hunters, may occupy a designated~~
7.22 ~~hunting station at one time. Not more than six hunting groups per day may occupy a~~
7.23 ~~designated hunting station.~~

7.24 B. From the third Thursday in October through November 30, waterfowl and
7.25 small game hunters may reserve designated hunting stations according to regulations

8.1 available at the Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area headquarters. Reservation
8.2 dates may not be changed.

8.3 C. From December 1 through the end of the Canada goose season, waterfowl
8.4 hunters must use designated hunting stations. Use of the hunting stations is on a
8.5 first-come, first-served basis.

8.6 Subp. 3. **Entry permit required.** From the third Thursday in October through
8.7 November 30, on public lands, a person may not hunt migratory waterfowl or small game
8.8 in the controlled hunting zone without first registering at the check station and obtaining
8.9 an entry permit. Entry permits must be displayed as specified on the permit. Hunters age
8.10 18 or older will be charged a \$3 daily fee for the Lac qui Parle entry permit. Failure to
8.11 comply with the provisions of the permit or special provisions relating to the controlled
8.12 hunt will result in immediate revocation of the permit for that day.

8.13 Subp. 4. **Limitation on number of shells possessed.** Only persons hunting may
8.14 bring shotgun shells into the controlled hunting zone. A waterfowl or small game
8.15 hunter may not bring in more than 12 shells per trip or have in possession more than 12
8.16 shells at any one time, except that small game hunters may possess more than 12 shells
8.17 beginning December 1.

8.18 Subp. 5. **Firearms must be cased.** Waterfowl and small game hunters must have
8.19 firearms cased, except within ten feet of assigned hunting stations.

8.20 Subp. 6. **Actions after taking bag limit.** Within one hour of hunt completion, each
8.21 party member must ~~submit any geese taken for inspection at the Lac qui Parle Wildlife~~
8.22 ~~Management Area headquarters and, if hunting on public lands, personally return their~~
8.23 entry permit to the check station and report the harvest of geese.

8.24 Subp. 7. **Limitation on number of trips.** Hunters are limited to ~~two trips per day~~
8.25 one trip to the hunting stations before noon and one trip to the hunting stations after
8.26 noon each day.

9.1 Subp. 8. **Restrictions on occupancy of designated parking lots and hunting**
9.2 **stations.** A person may not park in or otherwise occupy any designated controlled hunting
9.3 zone parking lot or occupy any hunting station from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.

9.4 Subp. 9. **Closed hunting stations.** A person may not occupy or hunt from any
9.5 hunting station that is posted closed.

9.6 **6234.1200 TAKING RACCOON.**

9.7 Subpart 1. **Open season.** Raccoons may be taken statewide ~~with~~ by legal firearms,
9.8 bow and arrow, and ~~by~~ trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 22 to
9.9 March 15~~;~~, except in the North Mink/Muskrat/Beaver/Otter Zone as described in part
9.10 6234.1000, subpart 3, where raccoon may be taken by legal firearms, bow and arrow,
9.11 and trapping beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday after October 14. The season ends
9.12 March 15.

9.13 [For text of subps 2 and 3, see M.R.]

9.14 **6234.1300 TAKING RED FOX AND GRAY FOX.**

9.15 Subpart 1. **Open season.** Gray and red fox may be taken statewide ~~with~~ by legal
9.16 firearms, bow and arrow, and ~~by~~ trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October
9.17 22 to March 15~~;~~, except in the North Mink/Muskrat/Beaver/Otter Zone as described in
9.18 part 6234.1000, subpart 3, where gray and red fox may be taken by legal firearms, bow
9.19 and arrow, and trapping beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday after October 14. The
9.20 season ends March 15.

9.21 [For text of subps 2 to 4, see M.R.]

9.22 **6234.1400 TAKING BADGER AND OPOSSUM.**

9.23 Subpart 1. **Open season.** Badgers and opossums may be taken statewide with legal
9.24 firearms, bow and arrow, and by trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October

10.1 22 to March 15~~7~~, except in the North Mink/Muskrat/Beaver/Otter Zone as described in
10.2 part 6234.1000, subpart 3, where badger and opossum may be taken by legal firearms,
10.3 bow and arrow, and trapping beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday after October 14.
10.4 The season ends March 15.

10.5 [For text of subp 2, see M.R.]

10.6 **6234.1700 TAKING FISHER AND PINE MARTEN.**

10.7 Subpart 1. **Open season.** Fisher and pine marten may be taken by trapping from the
10.8 first Saturday following Thanksgiving ~~to the Sunday nearest~~ through December ~~12~~ 4.

10.9 Subp. 2. **Bag limits.** The combined limit for fisher and pine marten is five per
10.10 season, in aggregate, but may include no more than two fisher. A person may not take
10.11 more than five fisher and pine marten, combined, but no more than two fisher, per season
10.12 or possess more than five fisher and pine marten, combined, but no more than two fisher,
10.13 at a time, except that a person may possess additional pelts that the person lawfully took,
10.14 tagged, and registered during previous seasons.

10.15 Subp. 3. **Validation and tagging.** Each pine marten or fisher must be validated on a
10.16 site validation coupon issued by the commissioner. The person taking the animal must
10.17 validate the coupon at and prior to removing the animal from the kill site. Coupons must
10.18 be obtained and validated according to part 6234.2600. Pelts and skinned carcasses of
10.19 fisher and pine marten are subject to the provisions of part 6234.2600.

10.20 [For text of subp 4, see M.R.]

10.21 **6234.1900 TAKING BEAVER.**

10.22 Subpart 1. **Open season and bag limits for beaver in North Zone.** Beaver may
10.23 be taken and possessed without limit by trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest
10.24 October 26 to ~~May 15~~ April 30.

11.1 Subp. 2. **Open season and bag limits for beaver in South Zone.** Beaver may be
11.2 taken and possessed without limit by trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest
11.3 October 30 to ~~May 15~~ April 30.

11.4 **6234.2000 TAKING OTTER.**

11.5 Subpart 1. **Open season for otter in North Zone.** Otter may be taken by trapping
11.6 from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October 26 to the Sunday nearest January 6 only in
11.7 that portion of the state described in part 6234.1000, subpart 3.

11.8 Subp. 2. **Open season and area for otter in South Zone.** Except as provided in
11.9 subpart 1, otter may be taken by trapping from 9:00 a.m. on the Saturday nearest October
11.10 30 to the Sunday nearest January 6 ~~only in that portion of the zone lying north of Interstate~~
11.11 ~~Highway 94 beginning at the west boundary of the state; thence along Interstate Highway~~
11.12 ~~94 to U.S. Highway 10; and thence along U.S. Highway 10 to the east boundary of the~~
11.13 ~~state.~~

11.14 [For text of subp 3, see M.R.]

11.15 Subp. 4. **Validation and tagging otter.** Each otter must be validated on a site
11.16 validation coupon issued by the commissioner. The person taking the animal must validate
11.17 the coupon at and prior to removing the animal from the kill site. Coupons must be
11.18 obtained and validated according to part 6234.2600. Pelts are subject to the provisions
11.19 of part 6234.2600.

11.20 **6234.2200 USE OF TRAPS.**

11.21 [For text of subps 1 to 11, see M.R.]

11.22 Subp. 12. **Authorized agent.** A trapper may authorize, in writing, an agent who
11.23 possesses all necessary licenses to check, pick up, and reset, at the same site, traps set by
11.24 the trapper. Authorized agents may remove trapped animals and, if the animal removed
11.25 from the trap is required to be ~~tagged~~ validated as provided by part 6234.2600, must

12.1 ~~affix their own tag to the animal as prescribed~~ validate their own site validation coupon at
12.2 and prior to removing the animal from the site of the kill according to part 6234.2600,
12.3 subpart 7.

12.4 **6234.2600 ~~PELT TAGGING~~ SITE VALIDATION AND REGISTRATION.**

12.5 Subpart 1. [Repealed, 30 SR 613]

12.6 Subp. 2. [Repealed, 30 SR 613]

12.7 Subp. 3. **Registration of pelts.** The pelt of each bobcat, fisher, pine marten, and
12.8 otter ~~and the whole carcass of each bobcat~~ must be presented along with completed site
12.9 validation coupons for each fisher, pine marten, or otter, by the person taking it, to a state
12.10 wildlife manager designee for registration before the pelt is sold and before the pelt is
12.11 transported out of the state, but in no event more than 48 hours after the season closes for
12.12 each species, respectively. The entire carcass of bobcat and the entire head of pine marten
12.13 and fisher must be surrendered to the state wildlife manager designee. The pelt of bobcat,
12.14 otter, fisher, and pine marten must have been removed from the carcass.

12.15 Subp. 4. **Prohibition on validation or tagging animals not personally taken.** A
12.16 person may not validate a site validation coupon or affix any tag or seal to the pelt or
12.17 carcass of any animal that the person did not take or is not authorized to take.

12.18 Subp. 5. **Requirement for tags and seals to remain affixed.** Registration tags or
12.19 seals must remain affixed to the raw pelt until the pelt is tanned or mounted.

12.20 **Subp. 6. Obtaining site validation coupons.**

12.21 A. Fisher, otter, and pine marten site validation coupons may be obtained at no
12.22 cost through the electronic licensing system.

12.23 B. The site validation coupon is part of the trapper's license to take fisher, otter,
12.24 and pine marten and must be in the trapper's possession while taking and transporting
12.25 these species.

13.1 C. Site validation coupons are not transferrable.

13.2 Subp. 7. **Validating coupons.** Site validation coupons must be notched with a knife
13.3 or other sharp instrument in the appropriate locations indicating the species for fisher or
13.4 marten and the month, date, and time (a.m./p.m.) the animal was taken. The coupon must
13.5 be validated at and prior to removing the animal from the kill site.

13.6 **6234.2700 SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON TAKING AND POSSESSION OF**
13.7 **FURBEARERS.**

13.8 The restrictions in items A ~~and B~~ to D apply to the possession and transportation of
13.9 accidental captures.

13.10 A. A person may not possess or transport a ~~fisher, otter, pine marten, fox,~~
13.11 ~~bobcat,~~ lynx, or gray wolf that was accidentally killed or was lawfully killed while causing
13.12 or threatening injury or damage until the person notifies the local conservation officer,
13.13 other authorized department employee, or regional enforcement office, of the killing and
13.14 receives authorization to possess, transport, or skin the animal.

13.15 B. A person may possess or transport fox, mink, muskrat, beaver, badger,
13.16 opossum, or raccoon accidentally killed or lawfully killed while causing or threatening
13.17 injury or damage, only if the local conservation officer or other authorized employee of the
13.18 department is notified within 24 hours of such killing and before any skinning has begun.

13.19 C. A person may possess or transport fisher, otter, or pine marten accidentally
13.20 killed or bobcat lawfully killed while causing damage or accidentally killed only after
13.21 notifying the local conservation officer or other authorized employee of the department of
13.22 the killing. After making the required notification and taking possession of the animal, the
13.23 person may not skin, transfer possession of, or otherwise dispose of the animal until the
13.24 person receives authorization from a conservation officer or other authorized department
13.25 employee.

14.1 D. A person must report any incidental taking of a Canada lynx to the local
14.2 conservation officer within 24 hours.

14.3 **EFFECTIVE PERIOD.** The expedited emergency amendments to Minnesota Rules,
14.4 parts 6230.0200, 6234.1700, 6234.2000, 6234.2200, and 6234.2600, expire January 31,
14.5 2012. The expedited emergency amendments to Minnesota Rules, parts 6230.0250,
14.6 6230.0295, 6230.0400, 6230.0700, 6234.1200, 6234.1300, 6234.1400, 6234.1900,
14.7 and 6234.2700, expire August 1, 2012. After the emergency amendments expire, the
14.8 permanent rules as they read prior to those amendments again take effect, except as they
14.9 may be amended by permanent rule.