

PROPOSAL 203

5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping.

Extend the trapping season for muskrat in Unit 17 as follows:

I would propose that the muskrat season be changed to mirror the beaver season in the spring so they can be taken simultaneously making it more efficient and effective for trappers. The new regulations would be as follows:

Muskrat

November 10 - May 31 [NOVEMBER 20 - MARCH 31]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The season for muskrats in Unit 17 is currently November 10 - March 31. This gives us a very limited amount of time to trap muskrats some years, and virtually no time without drilling through substantial amounts of ice most years. During the majority of this season muskrats are under the ice and hard for trappers to find in any volume.

There are plenty of muskrats in Unit 17 but they are generally available to trap ice free in the spring April and May months. Extending the season to mirror the beaver season would give trappers added opportunity to take muskrats along with beaver. Unit 17 is one of the few units in the state and the only western unit that does not have a spring muskrat season so those of us who use their fur or consume them must trap them through the ice which is very time consuming and quite unproductive overall.

PROPOSED BY: Todd Fritze

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