



LAWS: WILD ANIMAL PROPAGATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

The laws for propagation and related activities may change periodically. License holders are required to maintain a knowledge and understanding of all laws pertaining to their license and comply with all legal requirements. The current version of the law can be found at <https://codes.ohio.gov>. This summary is provided for reference and is subject to revision. The most current version of this publication can be found at <http://wildlife.ohiodnr.gov>.

OHIO REVISED CODE

1531.01 Division of Wildlife definitions.

(R) "Game" includes game birds, game quadrupeds, and fur-bearing animals.

(S) "Game birds" includes mourning doves, ringneck pheasants, bobwhite quail, ruffed grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, pin-nated grouse, wild turkey, Hungarian partridge, Chukar partridge, woodcocks, black-breasted plover, golden plover, Wilson's snipe or jacksnipe, greater and lesser yellowlegs, rail, coots, gallinules, duck, geese, brant, and crows.

(U) "Wild quadrupeds" includes game quadrupeds and fur-bearing animals.

(V) "Game quadrupeds" includes cottontail rabbits, gray squirrels, black squirrels, fox squirrels, red squirrels, flying squirrels, chipmunks, groundhogs or woodchucks, white-tailed deer, wild boar, elk, and black bears.

(W) "Fur-bearing animals" includes minks, weasels, raccoons, skunks, opossums, muskrats, fox, beavers, badgers, otters, coyotes, and bobcats.

(X) "Wild animals" includes mollusks, crustaceans, aquatic insects, fish, reptiles, amphibians, wild birds, wild quadrupeds, and all other wild mammals, but does not include domestic deer.

(RR) "Native wildlife" means any species of the animal kingdom indigenous to this state.

(VV) "Nonnative wildlife" means any wild animal not indigenous to this state, but does not include domestic deer.

(YY) "Deer" means white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*).

(ZZ) "Domestic deer" means nonnative deer that have been legally acquired or their offspring and that are held in private ownership for primarily agricultural purposes.

(DDD) "Wholly enclosed preserve" means an area of land that is surrounded by a fence that is at least six feet in height, unless otherwise specified in division rule, and is constructed of a woven wire mesh, or another enclosure that the division of wildlife may approve, where game birds, game quadrupeds, reptiles, amphibians, or fur-bearing animals are raised and may be sold under the authority of a commercial propagating license or captive white-tailed deer propagation license obtained under section 1533.71 of the Revised Code.

(EEE) "Commercial bird shooting preserve" means an area of land where game birds are released and hunted by shooting as authorized by a commercial bird shooting preserve license obtained under section 1533.72 of the Revised Code.

(FFF) "Wild animal hunting preserve" means an area of land where game, captive white-tailed deer, and nonnative wildlife, other than game birds, are released and hunted as authorized by a wild animal hunting preserve license obtained under section 1533.721 of the Revised Code.

(GGG) "Captive white-tailed deer" means legally acquired deer that are held in private ownership at a facility licensed under section 943.03 or 943.031 of the Revised Code and under section 1533.71 or 1533.721 of the Revised Code.

1531.02 State ownership of wild animals.

The ownership of and the title to all wild animals in this state, not legally confined or held by private ownership legally acquired, is in the state, which holds such title in trust for the benefit of all the people. Individual possession shall be obtained only in accordance with the Revised Code or division rules. No person at any time of the year shall take in any manner or possess any number or quantity of wild animals, except wild animals that the Revised Code or division rules permit to be taken, hunted, killed, or had in possession, and only at the time and place and in the manner that the Revised Code or division rules prescribe. No person shall buy, sell, or offer any part of wild animals for sale, or transport any part of wild animals, except as permitted by the Revised Code or division rules. No person shall possess or transport a wild animal that has been taken or possessed unlawfully outside the state.

A person doing anything prohibited or neglecting to do anything required by this chapter or Chapter 1533. of the Revised Code or contrary to any division rule violates this section. A person who counsels, aids, shields, or harbors an offender under those chapters or any division rule, or who knowingly shares in the proceeds of such a violation, or receives or possesses any wild animal in violation of the Revised Code or division rule, violates this section.

1533.07 Protection afforded nongame birds.

No person shall catch, kill, injure, pursue, or have in the person's possession, either dead or alive, or purchase, expose for sale, transport, or ship to a point within or without the state, or receive or deliver for transportation any bird other than a game bird, or have in the person's possession any part of the plumage, skin, or body of any bird other than a game bird, except as permitted in Chapter 1531. and this chapter of the Revised Code, or disturb or destroy the eggs, nest, or young of such a bird.

This section does not prohibit the lawful taking, killing, pursuing, or possession of any game bird during the open season for the bird. Bald or golden eagles and ospreys shall not be killed or possessed at any time, except that eagles or ospreys may be possessed for educational purposes by governmental or municipal zoological parks, museums, and scientific or educational institutions. European starlings, English sparrows, and common pigeons, other than homing pigeons, may be killed at any time and their nests or eggs may be destroyed at any time. Blackbirds may be killed at any time when doing damage to grain or other property or when they become a nuisance.

Each bird or any part thereof taken or had in possession contrary to this section constitutes a separate offense.

1533.71 License to raise or keep game birds and animals.

(A) Unless otherwise provided in this section or by division rule, any person desiring to engage in the business of raising and selling game birds, game quadrupeds, reptiles, amphibians, or fur-bearing animals in a wholly enclosed preserve of which the person is the owner or lessee, or to have game birds, game quadrupeds, reptiles, amphibians, or fur-bearing animals in captivity, shall submit an application to the division of wildlife for a license to do so. This section does not apply to a person who possesses wild animals under the authority of a license for a wild animal hunting preserve or a commercial bird shooting preserve.

The division, when it appears that the application is made in good faith and the applicant is in compliance with division (B) of this section, if applicable, and upon the payment of the fee for each license, may issue to the applicant any of the following licenses that may be applied for:

(1) "Commercial propagating license" permitting the licensee to propagate game birds, game quadrupeds except captive white-tailed deer, reptiles, amphibians, or fur-bearing animals in the wholly enclosed preserve the location of which is stated in the license and the application therefor, and to sell the propagated game birds, game quadrupeds except captive white-tailed deer, reptiles, amphibians, or fur-bearing animals and ship them from the state alive at any time, and permitting the licensee and the licensee's employees to kill the propagated game birds, game quadrupeds except captive white-tailed deer, or fur-bearing animals and sell the carcasses for food subject to sections 1533.71 to 1533.79 of the Revised Code. The fee for such a license is forty dollars per annum.

(2) "Noncommercial propagating license" permitting the licensee to propagate game birds, game quadrupeds except captive white-tailed deer, reptiles, amphibians, or fur-bearing animals and to hold the animals in captivity. Game birds, game quadrupeds except captive white-tailed deer, reptiles, amphibians, and fur-bearing animals propagated or held in captivity by authority of a noncommercial propagating license are for the licensee's own use and shall not be sold. The fee for such a license is twenty-five dollars per annum.

(3) "Captive white-tailed deer propagation license" permitting the licensee to propagate captive white-tailed deer, hold the animals in captivity, and sell the animals and carcasses. The fee for such a license is forty dollars. The license is valid until a licensee ceases to hold captive white-tailed deer or the license is revoked, whichever occurs earlier.

(B)(1) A person who wishes to obtain a captive white-tailed deer propagation license, prior to applying for the license, shall construct an authorized enclosure that is surrounded by a fence that is eight feet in height with a minimal deviation not to exceed four per cent, is constructed in a manner that prevents ingress and egress of deer, and is constructed of materials that are approved by the chief of the division of wildlife in consultation with the animal and plant health inspection service in the United States department of agriculture, the department of agriculture, and representatives of the cervid industry in this state.

(2) After constructing an authorized enclosure in accordance with division (B)(1) of this section and division rules, the person may submit an application for a captive white-tailed deer propagation license.

(3) Not later than thirty days after the submission of the applica-

tion, a representative from the division shall inspect the authorized enclosure to ensure compliance with division (B)(1) of this section and division rules. If the applicant's authorized enclosure is not in compliance with all of the applicable requirements, the representative shall inform the applicant in writing of the deficiencies not later than ten business days after the inspection. If the applicant corrects the deficiencies, the applicant shall request a reinspection. The reinspection shall be conducted in accordance with this division not later than thirty days after the request for reinspection.

If the applicant's authorized enclosure complies with all of the applicable requirements, the chief shall review the application and shall issue or deny the license. If the chief denies the license, the chief shall return the application to the applicant with an explanation of the reasons for denial. The applicant may correct the deficiencies in the application and submit a revised application. If the applicant corrects the deficiencies, the chief shall issue the license as provided in this section.

(4) Upon receipt of a captive white-tailed deer propagation license, receipt of a license under section 943.03 or 943.031 of the Revised Code, and a demonstration to the chief or the chief's designee that each captive white-tailed deer held by the licensee was legally acquired, the licensee may place all of the licensee's deer in the authorized enclosure. The licensee thereafter shall comply with this chapter and Chapter 1531. of the Revised Code, division rules, sections 943.20 to 943.26 of the Revised Code, and rules adopted under section 943.24 of the Revised Code.

(C) The division may inspect a facility to which a captive white-tailed deer propagation license has been issued only at reasonable times and when the inspection is in connection with a criminal investigation.

(D) The chief, with the approval of the director of agriculture, may suspend or revoke a captive white-tailed deer propagation license issued to a person who also has been issued a valid license under section 943.03 or 943.031 of the Revised Code for the same facility if the person fails to comply with this chapter and Chapter 1531. of the Revised Code, division rules, sections 943.20 to 943.26 of the Revised Code, and rules adopted under section 943.24 of the Revised Code.

(E) Except as provided by law, no person shall possess game birds, game quadrupeds, or fur-bearing animals in closed season, provided that municipal or governmental zoological parks are not required to obtain the licenses provided for in this section.

(F) Except for a captive white-tailed deer propagation license, all licenses issued under this section shall expire on the fifteenth day of March of each year.

(G) The chief shall pay all moneys received as fees for the issuance of licenses under this section into the state treasury to the credit of the fund created by section 1533.15 of the Revised Code for the use of the division in the purchase, preservation, and protection of wild animals and for the necessary clerical help and forms required by sections 1533.71 to 1533.79 of the Revised Code.

(H) This section does not authorize the taking or the release for taking of the following:

(1) Game birds, without first obtaining a commercial bird shooting preserve license issued under section 1533.72 of the Revised Code;

(2) Game or nonnative wildlife, without first obtaining a wild animal hunting preserve license issued under section 1533.721 of the Revised Code.

(I) A license shall not be issued under this section to raise or sell a dangerous wild animal or restricted snake as defined in section 935.01 of the Revised Code.

1533.74 Tag or seal required for animals sold for food.

No game birds, game quadrupeds, or fur-bearing animals held under the authority of a license issued under section 1533.71, 1533.72, or 1533.721 of the Revised Code shall be sold for food unless the carcass of each game bird, game quadruped, or fur-bearing animal is tagged with a suitable tag or seal approved by the division of wildlife. Game birds, game quadrupeds, and fur-bearing animals so killed and tagged may be possessed, bought, or sold at any time. Common carriers shall receive and transport game birds, game quadrupeds, and fur-bearing animals so tagged, but to every package containing them shall be affixed a tag or label upon which shall be plainly printed or written the name of the person to whom the license was issued, the name of the person to whom they are to be transported, the number of game birds, game quadrupeds, or fur-bearing animals contained in the package, and a statement to the effect that they were killed and tagged in accordance with sections 1533.71 to 1533.79 of the Revised Code.

The chief of the division of wildlife may adopt rules under section 1531.10 of the Revised Code necessary to administer this section.

This section and rules adopted pursuant to it do not apply to meat that has been inspected by the department of agriculture under Chapter 918. of the Revised Code and rules adopted under it and that has been marked with an official inspection mark, stamp, or brand pursuant to that inspection.

1533.77 Records of holder of propagating license – inspection of records.

(A) Each holder of a noncommercial or commercial propagating license issued under section 1533.71 of the Revised Code shall keep the license prominently displayed at the place of business specified in the license, and shall keep accurate written records that shall include the total number of game birds, game quadrupeds, or fur-bearing animals possessed on the date of application for the license, the number subsequently propagated or acquired by purchase or gift, the number that escaped, the number that were released, the number that died, and the name and address of each person or corporation from whom or to whom game birds, game quadrupeds or fur-bearing animals were received as a gift or given as a gift or purchased or sold alive or sold for food, and the date of each transaction. These records shall be kept permanently on the premises stated in the license, and shall be open for inspection by any authorized representative of the division of wildlife at all reasonable times.

(B) Each holder of a captive white-tailed deer propagation license issued under section 1533.71 of the Revised Code shall maintain all records that are required in rules adopted under section 943.24 of the Revised Code. The records shall be kept permanently on the premises stated in the license and shall be open for inspection by any authorized representative of the department of agriculture at all reasonable times and of the division of wildlife at all reasonable times in conjunction with an active criminal investigation.

(C) The holder of a captive white-tailed deer propagation license shall not knowingly falsify any record or tag that is required in rules adopted under section 943.24 of the Revised Code or in rules adopted under section 1531.10 of the Revised Code.

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1501:31-1-02 Definition of terms.

(C) "Amphibians" include *Acris crepitans crepitans* (Eastern cricket frog), *Ambystoma barbouri* (streamside salamander), *Ambystoma jeffersonianum* (Jefferson salamander), *Ambystoma laterale* (blue-spotted salamander), *Ambystoma maculatum* (spotted salamander), *Ambystoma opacum* (marbled salamander), *Ambystoma texanum* (small-mouthed salamander), *Ambystoma tigrinum* (Eastern tiger salamander), *Anaxyrus americanus americanus* (American toad), *Anaxyrus fowleri* (Fowler's toad), *Aneides aeneus* (green salamander), *Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis* (Eastern hellbender), *Desmognathus fuscus* (Northern dusky salamander), *Desmognathus ochrophaeus* (Allegheny mountain dusky salamander), *Eurycea bislineata* (Northern two-lined salamander), *Eurycea cirrigera* (Southern two-lined salamander), *Eurycea longicauda longicauda* (long-tailed salamander), *Eurycea lucifuga* (cave salamander), *Gyrinophilus porphyriticus duryi* (Kentucky spring salamander), *Gyrinophilus porphyriticus porphyriticus* (Northern spring salamander), *Hemidactylium scutatum* (four-toed salamander), *Hyla chrysoscelis* (Cope's gray treefrog), *Hyla versicolor* (gray treefrog), *Lithobates catesbeianus* (American bullfrog), *Lithobates clamitans* (green frog), *Lithobates palustris* (pickerel frog), *Lithobates pipiens* (Northern leopard frog), *Lithobates sphenoccephalus* (Southern leopard frog), *Lithobates sylvaticus* (wood frog), *Necturus maculosus maculosus* (common mudpuppy), *Notophthalmus viridescens viridescens* (red-spotted newt), *Plethodon cinereus* (Eastern red-backed salamander), *Plethodon glutinosus* (Northern slimy salamander), *Plethodon richmondi* (Southern ravine salamander), *Pseudotriton montanus diastictus* (midland mud salamander), *Pseudotriton ruber ruber* (Northern red salamander), *Pseudacris brachyphona* (mountain chorus frog), *Pseudacris crucifer* (spring peeper), *Pseudacris triseriata* (Western chorus frog), *Scaphiopus holbrookii* (Eastern spadefoot).

(1) "Collectable amphibians" include *Ambystoma barbouri* (streamside salamander), *Ambystoma jeffersonianum* (Jefferson salamander), *Ambystoma maculatum* (spotted salamander), *Ambystoma opacum* (marbled salamander), *Ambystoma texanum* (small-mouthed salamander), *Ambystoma tigrinum* (Eastern tiger salamander), *Anaxyrus americanus americanus* (American toad), *Anaxyrus fowleri* (Fowler's toad), *Desmognathus fuscus* (Northern dusky salamander), *Desmognathus ochrophaeus* (Allegheny mountain dusky salamander), *Eurycea bislineata* (Northern two-lined salamander), *Eurycea cirrigera* (Southern two-lined salamander), *Eurycea longicauda longicauda* (long-tailed salamander), *Gyrinophilus porphyriticus duryi* (Kentucky spring salamander), *Gyrinophilus porphyriticus porphyriticus* (Northern spring salamander), *Hyla chrysoscelis* (Cope's gray treefrog), *Hyla versicolor* (gray treefrog), *Lithobates catesbeianus* (American bullfrog), *Lithobates clamitans* (green frog), *Lithobates palustris* (pickerel frog), *Lithobates pipiens* (Northern leopard frog), *Lithobates sphenoccephalus* (Southern leopard frog), *Lithobates sylvaticus* (wood frog), *Necturus maculosus maculosus* (common mudpuppy), *Notophthalmus viridescens viridescens* (red-spotted newt), *Plethodon cinereus* (Eastern red-backed salamander), *Plethodon glutinosus* (Northern slimy salamander), *Plethodon richmondi* (Southern ravine salamander), *Pseudacris brachyphona* (mountain chorus frog), *Pseudacris crucifer* (spring peeper), *Pseudacris triseriata* (Western chorus frog), *Pseudotriton ruber ruber* (Northern red salamander).

(ZZZZ) "Reptiles" includes *Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen* (Northern copperhead), *Apalone mutica mutica* (midland softshell turtle), *Apalone spinifera spinifera* (Eastern spiny softshell turtle),

Carphophis amoenus amoenus (Eastern wormsnake), Carphophis amoenus helenae (Midwestern wormsnake), Chelydra serpentina serpentina (snapping turtle), Chrysemys picta marginata (midland painted turtle), Clemmys guttata (spotted turtle), Clonophis kirtlandii (Kirtland's snake), Coluber constrictor constrictor (Northern black racer), Coluber constrictor foxii (blue racer), Crotalus horridus (timber rattlesnake), Diapophis punctatus edwardsii (Northern ring-necked snake), Emydoidea blandingii (Blanding's turtle), Graptemys geographica (Northern map turtle), Graptemys ouachitensis (ouachita map turtle), Heterodon platirhinos (Eastern hog-nosed snake), Lampropeltis getula nigra (Eastern black kingsnake), Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum (Eastern milk snake), Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta (copper-bellied watersnake), Nerodia sipedon sipedon (common watersnake), Nerodia sipedon insularum (Lake Erie watersnake), Opheodrys aestivus aestivus (Northern rough snake), Opheodrys vernalis (smooth greensnake), Pantherophis alleghaniensis (Eastern ratsnake), Pantherophis gloydi (Eastern foxsnake), Plestiodon fasciatus (common five-lined skink), Plestiodon laticeps (broad-headed skink), Podarcis muralis (common wall lizard), Regina septemvittata (queensnake), Sceloporus undulatus (Eastern fence lizard), Scincella lateralis (little brown skink), Sistrurus catenatus catenatus (Eastern massasauga), Sternotherus odoratus (Eastern musk turtle), Storeria dekayi dekayi (Northern brownsnake), Storeria dekayi wrightorum (midland brownsnake), Storeria occipitomaculata occipitomaculata (Northern red-bellied snake), Terrapene carolina carolina (Eastern box turtle), Thamnophis brachystoma (short-headed gartersnake), Thamnophis butleri (Butler's gartersnake), Thamnophis radix (plains gartersnake), Thamnophis sauritus sauritus (common ribbonsnake), Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis (Eastern gartersnake), Trachemys scripta elegans (red-eared slider), Virginia valeriae valeriae (Eastern smooth earthsnake).

(1) "Collectable reptiles" includes Carphophis amoenus amoenus (Eastern wormsnake), Carphophis amoenus helenae (Midwestern wormsnake), Chrysemys picta marginata (midland painted turtle), Coluber constrictor constrictor (Northern black racer), Coluber constrictor foxii (blue racer), Diapophis punctatus edwardsii (Northern ring-necked snake), Graptemys geographica (Northern map turtle), Heterodon platirhinos (Eastern hog-nosed snake), Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum (Eastern milk snake), Nerodia sipedon sipedon (common watersnake), Pantherophis alleghaniensis (Eastern ratsnake), Plestiodon fasciatus (common five-lined skink), Plestiodon laticeps (broad-headed skink), Podarcis muralis (common wall lizard), Sceloporus undulatus (Eastern fence lizard), Sternotherus odoratus (Eastern musk turtle), Storeria dekayi dekayi (Northern brownsnake), Storeria dekayi wrightorum (midland brownsnake), Storeria occipitomaculata occipitomaculata (Northern red-bellied snake), Thamnophis butleri (Butler's gartersnake), Thamnophis sauritus sauritus (common ribbonsnake), Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis (Eastern gartersnake), Trachemys scripta elegans (red-eared slider).

(CCCCC) "Wild Boar" or "feral swine" means members of the Suidae family to include but not limited to wild pig, wild hog, feral hog, feral pig, Old world swine, razorbacks, European wild boar, Russian wild boar, and members of the Tayasuidae family to include but is not limited to collared peccary or javelina.

1501:31-15-02 General hunting and trapping provisions.

(R) It shall be unlawful for any person to release a deer or wild boar in Ohio without first obtaining written permission from the

chief of the division of wildlife or his representative, except on a licensed wild animal hunting preserve.

1501:31-25-04 Reptiles and amphibians.

This rule does not apply to American bullfrogs and green frogs possessed at a permitted aquaculture production facility as provided in section 1533.632 of the Revised Code and in rule 1501:31-39-01 of the Administrative Code. Provided further, this rule does not apply to American bullfrogs and green frogs legally acquired from the holder of an aquaculture permit issued under section 1533.632 of the Revised Code and as provided in rule 1501:31-39-01 of the Administrative Code.

(A) Season dates

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to take bullfrogs or green frogs from May first through six p.m. on the second Friday of June each year.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person to take snapping turtles or softshell turtles from January first through the last day of June each year.

(3) It shall be unlawful to take, collect or possess the eggs of snapping turtles or softshell turtles unless legally acquired from outside the state, or propagated under the authority of a commercial or noncommercial propagating license issued under section 1533.71 of the Revised Code.

(B) Bag and size limits

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to take more than fifteen bullfrogs or green frogs, singularly or in the aggregate, in any one day.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person to possess more than fifteen bullfrogs or green frogs, singularly or in the aggregate, at or between the place where taken and a residence or place of lodging.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person to take snapping turtles or softshell turtles with a straight-line carapace length of less than eleven inches.

(4) It shall be unlawful for an Ohio resident to take or possess more than four total individuals of each species of collectible reptiles or collectible amphibians from the wild in Ohio.

(5) It shall be unlawful to take any reptile or amphibian not listed as a collectible reptile or collectible amphibian from the wild in Ohio except bullfrogs, green frogs, snapping turtles and softshell turtles.

(6) It shall be unlawful to take or possess any reptile or amphibian from any area under agreement with, owned, controlled or administered by the division of wildlife, except for:

(a) Persons who have received written permission from the chief of the division of wildlife, provided they carry and exhibit said permission upon request.

(b) Persons lawfully taking bullfrogs, green frogs, snapping turtles and softshell turtles.

(7) It shall be unlawful for a nonresident to take any collectible reptile or collectible amphibian from the wild in Ohio.

(C) Methods

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to take reptiles or amphibians by shooting; except bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken with a longbow or crossbow and arrow.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person to set, use or maintain a turtle trap having mesh measuring less than four inches on a side unless such traps are provided with an escape ring of at least six

inches in diameter, leading out of the trap, held open at all times.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take turtles by means of a trap, placed in the water, having wings or leads.

(4) It shall be unlawful for any person to take reptiles or amphibians with a foot hold or body-gripping trap.

(5) It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to inspect or maintain their trap once every twenty-four hour period.

(6) It shall be unlawful for any person to set, use or maintain traps unless they have attached thereto a durable waterproof tag bearing the name and address of the user legible in the English language.

(7) It shall be unlawful for any person to disturb or molest a legally set trap of another person without permission from the traps owner or user.

(8) It shall be unlawful to take reptiles or amphibians with the aid or use of chemicals, deleterious or stupefying substances, smoke, explosives, winches, jacks or other device or material that may cause damage to or destroy the den, hibernaculum, nest, or immediate surroundings thereof.

(D) Permits

(1) It shall be unlawful to buy, sell, barter or trade any reptile or amphibian taken from the wild in Ohio except snapping turtles and softshell turtles.

(2) It shall be unlawful to export live snapping turtles or live softshell turtles taken from the wild in Ohio, except for live snapping turtles or live softshell turtles possessed under the authority of a commercial or noncommercial propagating license issued under section 1533.71 of the Revised Code.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person eighteen years of age or older to fail to apply to the division of wildlife for a propagating license under section 1533.71 of the Revised Code after taking possession of a reptile or amphibian, except:

(a) Bullfrogs and green frogs legally acquired from outside the state, or propagated under the authority of a commercial propagating license issued under section 1533.71 of the Revised Code, that are accompanied by a bill of sale, receipt, record of acquisition or invoice, legible in the English language, and are possessed and sold solely for consumption as food.

(b) Snapping turtles and softshell turtles legally acquired from outside the state, or legally obtained from within the state, that are accompanied by a bill of sale, receipt, record of acquisition or invoice, legible in the English language, and are possessed and sold solely for consumption as food.

(c) Snapping turtles and softshell turtle heads, shells and feet legally acquired from outside the state, or legally obtained from within the state, that are accompanied by a bill of sale, receipt, record of acquisition or invoice, legible in the English language.

(d) Wildlife ornamental products.

(4) It shall be unlawful for an Ohio resident seventeen years of age or younger to possess, without applying for a propagating license under section 1533.71 of the Revised Code, more than four individuals or more than twenty-five eggs, tadpoles, or larvae of each species of reptile or amphibian.

(E) Records

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person possessing, buying, selling, trading, bartering, receiving or gifting reptiles or amphibians to fail to maintain accurate records, legible in the English language, which include the scientific and common names and the following, when applicable:

(a) The date of acquisition or transactions.

(b) The number of reptiles or amphibians by species.

(c) The birth dates of reptiles and amphibians propagated while in possession, by species.

(d) The location of capture and length of all reptiles and amphibians taken from the wild by species.

(e) The complete name and address of the person from whom the reptile or amphibian was purchased or otherwise acquired.

(f) The complete name and address of the person to whom the reptile or amphibian was sold, traded, bartered or given as a gift.

(g) The weight of snapping turtles or softshell turtles sold solely for consumption as food by species.

(h) The date of death or escape.

(i) The unique passive integrated transponder identifier of any implanted reptile.

(2) It shall be unlawful to fail to retain a certificate of origin, a bill of sale, receipt, record of acquisition or invoice legible in the English language, for each individual reptile or amphibian produced in captivity or legally obtained from out of state which includes:

(a) Both the scientific and common name.

(b) Number of reptiles and amphibians by species.

(c) Date of acquisition or transaction.

(d) The complete name and address of the person from whom the reptile or amphibian was purchased or otherwise acquired.

(e) The propagating license number as issued under section 1533.71 of the Revised Code, when applicable.

(3) It shall be unlawful to fail to maintain on the premises as stated on the license, for a period of less than five years any:

(a) Records required by this rule.

(b) Certificate of origin, a bill of sale, receipt, record of acquisition or invoice required by this rule.

(4) It shall be unlawful to fail to make available for inspection, by an authorized representative of the division of wildlife, at any reasonable time:

(a) Reptiles and amphibians possessed.

(b) Records required by this rule.

(c) Certificate of origin, a bill of sale, receipt, record of acquisition or invoice required by this rule.

(5) Records shall not be required for:

(a) Retail store and restaurant sales of snapping turtles, softshell turtles, bullfrogs and green frogs to persons solely for their own consumption as food.

(b) Persons who purchase snapping turtles, softshell turtles, bullfrogs and green frogs solely for their own consumption as food.

(c) Wildlife ornamental products.

(F) Passive integrated transponders

(1) It shall be unlawful to possess any live reptile not permanently implanted with a unique passive integrated transponder with a frequency of 125 kHz, 134.2 kHz or 400 kHz in each:

(a) Snake with a snout-vent length of eighteen inches or greater.

(b) Turtle with a straight-line carapace length of four inches or greater, except:

Snapping turtles and softshell turtles legally acquired from outside the state, or legally obtained from within the state, that

are accompanied by a bill of sale, receipt, record of acquisition or invoice, legible in the English language, and are possessed and sold solely for consumption as food.

(2) It shall be unlawful to sell, barter, trade or gift any reptile, regardless of size, to another person that is not permanently implanted with a unique passive integrated transponder with a frequency of 125 kHz, 134.2 kHz or 400 kHz in each specimen, except:

Snapping turtles and softshell turtles legally acquired from outside the state, or legally obtained from within the state, that are accompanied by a bill of sale, receipt, record of acquisition or invoice, legible in the English language, and are possessed and sold solely for consumption as food.

(G) Release into the wild, unless otherwise authorized by a permit issued by the chief of the division of wildlife:

(1) It shall be unlawful to release any reptile or amphibian into the wild obtained from outside the state.

(2) It shall be unlawful to release any reptile or amphibian into the wild that has been raised in captivity, except for those amphibians propagated and reared under the authority of an aquaculture permit issued under section 1533.632 of the Revised Code and only with the landowners permission.

(3) It shall be unlawful to release any reptile or amphibian into the wild that was taken from the wild in Ohio and was held in captivity for more than thirty days.

(4) It shall be unlawful to release any reptile or amphibian into the wild at any place other than the location of capture.

(5) It shall be unlawful to release any reptile or amphibian into the wild that has been held in captivity, in the same enclosure with any other species of reptile or amphibian.

(H) Special areas

Pymatuning lake

It shall be unlawful to take frogs and turtles in any manner or by any method except as provided in rule 1501:31-13-07 of the Administrative Code.

(I) All definitions set forth in rule 1501:31-1-02 of the Administrative Code apply to this rule.

GENERAL INFORMATION

For more information concerning captive white-tailed deer propagation, refer to ODNR Division of Wildlife **Publication 5453**, *Captive White-tailed Deer Propagation*.

All game birds must be banded prior to release on a dog training ground and banded after being taken on a commercial bird shooting preserve.

To obtain approval for tags or seals required by ORC 1533.74 contact the district office for a form **DNR 8850**, *Wild Animal Food Tag Approval Application*.

Dangerous wild animal and restricted snake information can be obtained by calling the Ohio Department of Agriculture at **(614) 728-6220**.

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE DISTRICT OFFICES



CONTACT INFORMATION

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