

## Two Bills Currently Proposed in the Wisconsin Legislature

### Removing Restrictions on Hunting with Dogs in Spring in the Northern Zone

[2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 512](#)  
[2023 SENATE BILL 545](#)

These bills repeal current Department of Natural Resources administrative code provisions that generally prohibit a person from hunting or pursuing any free-roaming wild animal with the aid of a dog from May 1 to June 30 in a portion of the state north of certain east-west highways. The bills also repeal DNR administrative code restrictions on dog training and dog trialing on any free roaming wild animal in that area and during that period.

Current status: As of 11/3/2023, both bills were introduced in the legislature in mid-October and referred to the *Assembly Committee on Sporting Heritage* and the *Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Sporting Heritage*. The text of the Assembly and Senate bills call for identical Administrative Code changes.

The links in the bill numbers at the top of this page will bring up the actual bill language listing the authors and sponsors. The members of both committees and their emails are listed below.

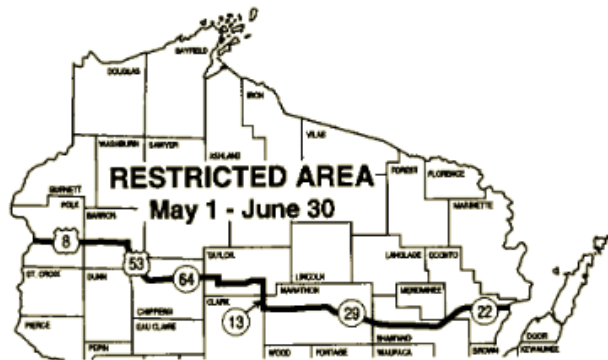
#### **Here is the language of the specific Administrative Code sections that would be repealed:**

SECTION 1. NR 10.07 (1) (i) of the administrative code is repealed.

#### **NR 10.07 General hunting.**

(1) PROHIBITED METHODS. No person shall:

(i) *Dog use.* Hunt or pursue any free-roaming wild animal with the aid of dog or dogs May 1 to June 30 in that portion of the state north of the highways shown on the following map except for dog trials and training under permit as established by ch. [NR 17](#):



SECTION 2. NR 13.30 (2) (g) 6. of the administrative code is repealed.  
Refers back to NR 10.07 (1) (i) given above

SECTION 3. NR 17.001 (7) of the administrative code is repealed.  
Definition of the Northern Restricted Zone in NR 10.07 (1) (i) shown above

SECTION 4. NR 17.04 (2) (b) of the administrative code is repealed.  
(b) *Northern restricted zone.* Dog training on any free roaming wild animal is prohibited May 1 to June 30 on all lands within the northern restricted zone except as described in sub. [\(3\) \(a\)](#).

SECTION 5. NR 17.04 (3) (a) of the administrative code is repealed.

(a) *Northern restricted zone hound dog training on raccoon and rabbits.* A person may train dogs on captive or free-roaming raccoons and rabbits in the northern restricted zone May 1 to June 30 provided all the following apply:

1. The licensee applies for and receives a hound dog training license.
2. The licensee shall list no more than 3 townships in the same or adjoining counties.
3. The department approves the property locations listed.
4. No more than 2 dogs in a single pack may be used to pursue raccoon or rabbit regardless of the number of persons assisting or accompanying the hound dog training license holder and regardless of the dog ownership.
5. The licensee complies with any restrictions placed on a license to prevent the intentional or unintentional pursuit of wild bear.

SECTION 6. NR 17.04 (4) of the administrative code is repealed.

**(4) REVOCATIONS.** Pursuant to s. [169.45 \(7\)](#), Stats., the department may revoke a dog training license issued under s. [169.20](#), Stats., when dogs are found to be running bear in the northern restricted zone at times other than the July 1 to August 31 bear dog training period established under s. [NR 10.101 \(2\) \(b\)](#).

SECTION 7. NR 17.08 (2) (b) of the administrative code is repealed.

(b) *Northern restricted zone.* Dog trialing on any free roaming wild animal is prohibited May 1 to June 30 on all lands north of the highway described in s. [NR 10.07 \(1\) \(i\)](#) except as described in sub. [\(3\) \(a\)](#).

SECTION 8. NR 17.08 (3) (a) of the administrative code is repealed.

(a) *Northern restricted zone hound dog trialing on raccoon and rabbits.* An individual may trial dogs on captive or free-roaming raccoons and rabbits May 1 to June 30 provided all the following apply:

1. The individual applies for and receives a hound dog trial license.
2. The location of the master of hounds and the name of any approved state properties where the dog trials are to be held shall be listed on the hound dog trial license.  
**Note:** Private lands need not be listed on the trial license.
3. The applicant complies with any restrictions placed on a license to prevent the intentional or unintentional pursuit of wild bear.

SECTION 9. NR 17.08 (4) of the administrative code is repealed.

**(4) REVOCATIONS.** Pursuant to s. [169.45 \(7\)](#), Stats., the department may revoke a dog trialing license issued under s. [169.21](#), Stats., when dogs owned or under control of the licensee are found to be running bear in the northern restricted zone at times other than the July 1 to August 31 bear dog training period established under s. [NR 10.101 \(2\) \(b\)](#).

Here are the respective Committee Members: (links lead to their official websites)

2023 Assembly Committee on Sporting Heritage:

[Representative Pronschinske \(Chair\)](#)

[Representative Tittl \(Vice-Chair\)](#)

[Representative Bodden](#)

[Representative Brooks](#)  
[Representative Callahan](#)  
[Representative Green](#)  
[Representative Mursau](#)  
[Representative Sortwell](#)  
[Representative Shelton](#)  
[Representative Shankland](#)  
[Representative McGuire](#)  
[Representative Conley](#)

2023 Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Sporting Heritage

[Senator Stafsholt \(Chair\)](#)  
[Senator Felzkowski \(Vice-Chair\)](#)  
[Senator Tomczyk](#)  
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Legislators for the area where the Namekagon Barrens is located:

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Governor Tony Evers: <https://evers.wi.gov/pages/connect.aspx>