

HF387 - 0 - Turtle Taking Provisions Modified

Chief Author: **Samantha Vang**
 Committee: **Environment And Natural Resources Finance And Policy**
 Date Completed: **2/4/2021 3:23:55 PM**
 Agency: **Natural Resources Dept**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings	X	
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium		
	Dollars in Thousands	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
Game And Fish (Operations)	-	4	4	4	4	4
Total	-	4	4	4	4	4
Biennial Total			8			8

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
Game And Fish (Operations)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
Game And Fish (Operations)	-	4	4	4	4	4
Total	-	4	4	4	4	4
Biennial Total			8			8
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Game And Fish (Operations)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Total	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Biennial Total			(2)			(2)
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Game And Fish (Operations)	-	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Total	-	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Biennial Total			(10)			(10)

Bill Description

This bill eliminates turtle sellers and apprentice licenses. It also requires a recreational turtle license in addition to an angling license to harvest turtles. It eliminates some means of allowable turtle capture, including traps. The bill also requires that an individual have a recreational turtle license to take a turtle, an angling license is no longer sufficient.

Assumptions

This proposal accelerates the phase out by immediately eliminating the need for a turtle seller license and the apprentice license. The DNR has been phasing out the turtle license by not offering new licenses, only renewals. Since 2003, turtle sellers and apprentice licenses have decreased, while the recreational turtle license have increased through 2018. Sales show a slight decrease between 2018-2020. The table below identifies recent trends.

Type	Qty 2003	Qty 2018	Qty 2020	5 yr Avg Trend
Turtle Seller License	51	22	19	-5%
Turtle Apprentice License	19	7	7	-11%
Recreational Turtle License	0	148	145	-1%

This proposal maintains the recreational turtle license fee (\$25) and requires an angling license in addition to the recreational turtle license to harvest a turtle. The proposal bans the use of turtle traps so turtle tags will no longer need to be purchased (\$800 annual savings).

We anticipate this proposal would result in increased recreational turtle licenses because the recreational turtle license is required for any personal turtle harvest, whereas previously only an angling license was required. For this note, we are using the FY2020 data and assume pre-2020 licensing trends will return if this bill passes, resulting in an observed pre-2020 4% annual increase in license sold. The assumptions account for the current lack of data of how many anglers currently take turtles with an angling license only by assuming the +4% average trend licensing increase per year. This is about 6-7 additional licenses sold per year.

Current expenditures are for tags, report forms, and staff processing time (.01 FTE), totaling \$2,130 annually.

This proposal assumes no requirement for tracking harvest data. Tracking harvest data would result in the creation of a database and would increase costs associated with this fiscal note.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

Revenues / Type	Rate	Qty	FY22	Qty	FY23	Qty	FY24	Qty	FY25
Turtle Sellers License	\$250	-19	(\$4,750)	-19	(\$4,750)	-19	(\$4,750)	-19	(\$4,750)
Turtle Apprentice License	\$100	-7	(\$700)	-7	(\$700)	-7	(\$700)	-7	(\$700)
Recreational Turtle License (existing)	\$25	145		145		145		145	
Recreational Turtle License (new)	\$25	6	\$150	12	\$300	19	\$475	25	\$625
Change in Revenue			(\$5,300)		(\$5,150)		(\$4,975)		(\$4,825)

Expenditures	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Tags	(\$800)	(\$800)	(\$800)	(\$800)

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

This may result in higher revenues, depending on the level of user interest.

Local Fiscal Impact

N/A

References/Sources

Minn. Stat. § 97A.475, Subd. 41 Turtle Licenses

Minn. Stat. § 97C.605 Turtles

MN Rules 6256.0500 Taking Turtles

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