

Laws And Regulations For Fur Dealers

LICENSE AND ELIGIBILITY. A fur dealer's license authorizes the licensee to purchase or contract to purchase the skins of furbearing animals or unskinned furbearing animals, including jackrabbits, for the purpose of resale or other commercial purpose, to the extent and in the manner provided by state law and regulations.

FEES. 1) **Resident** license is \$100.00.
2) **Nonresident** license is \$500.00.

A fur dealer shall list each employee or agent on their application who will engage in purchasing or contracting to purchase fur-bearing animals. No person other than one who is registered as an agent or an employee of the licensed fur dealer may exercise the privileges conveyed in the license in accordance with § 41-6-25. The department may refuse to issue or amend a fur dealer's license to any fur dealer who employs an individual or has an agent exercising those privileges and either:

- a) During the previous or current calendar year, has had their fur dealer license suspended or revoked; or
- b) During the previous or current calendar year, has been denied a fur dealer's license.

The period of ineligibility of a person to be employed by a fur dealer for a cause pursuant to this section may not exceed one calendar year.

STORAGE AND SHIPMENT. Licensed fur dealers have the authority to hold and store raw furs during closed season, and the agent of any common carrier may accept such furs for shipment at any time upon evidence that the consignor is duly licensed under the provision of state law.

RECORDS REQUIRED. Records required of fur dealers--Open to inspection--Violation as misdemeanor. Each fur dealer licensee, licensed pursuant to the provisions of § 41-6-25, shall keep a permanent record of each purchase made. The purchase record shall show the kind of each skin purchased, the date and place of each purchase, the full name and address of the vendor, and the price paid. The record shall also contain copies of all invoices of sales made by the licensee. Each

invoice shall disclose the kind of each skin sold, date and place of sale, the name and address of the purchaser, and the place and mode of shipment and delivery. The record is subject to inspection at all times by the secretary of game, fish and parks or any conservation officer or law enforcement officer.

PURCHASE OR SALE OF LIVE FURBEARER PROHIBITED. No person may offer for sale, sell, or purchase a live furbearing animal.

LICENSE REVOCATION. The Game, Fish and Parks Commission may in its discretion revoke any fur dealer's license when it has been made to appear to the satisfaction of the Commission that the holder of the license has violated any provision of state law relating to fur dealers or has purchased any skin out of season. No person whose license has been so revoked can receive another license within two years from the date of the revocation.

LICENSE PERIOD. The licensing period for resident and nonresident fur dealers is from July 1 through June 30. Application for license may be made at any time of the year.

RECORDS--REPORTING. Resident fur dealers shall record total number and kind of each skin purchased, average buying-season price paid for each kind of skin, and full name and address of each trapper and hunter vendor, on forms supplied by the Department. The records shall be submitted to the Department office in Pierre no later than June 1 of each year.

RULE VIOLATIONS. Violation of any Department rules on licensing and records-reporting shall be cause for refusal to issue a fur dealer licensee to that individual or firm in the year following the violation.

BOBCAT PURCHASING AND SELLING. No person may buy or sell bobcats unless they are legally tagged according to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service specifications. In South Dakota, bobcat tagging is done only by Conservation Officers or Wildlife Damage Specialists.