

NDF&G January 4th Newsletter

Snowmobile Riders Reminded to Stay Clear of Wildlife

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department reminds snowmobile enthusiasts to stay clear of wildlife and its habitat so animals do not suffer additional stress.

“Running snowmobiles near, through or around winter habitat such as thickets, cattails, and wooded areas may inadvertently scare wintering wildlife, causing them additional stress or injury,” said Greg Link, assistant wildlife chief. “Plus, it is illegal. Snowmobiles cannot be used to flush, chase or pursue wildlife.”

Snowmobiles can be used off an established trail while fox or coyote hunting, but chasing a fox or coyote through cover or across an open field on a snowmobile is illegal.

Observers witnessing harassment or chasing of wildlife are encouraged to call the Report All Poachers hotline at (800) 472-2121.

Riders are encouraged to use snowmobile trails and avoid situations that could disturb wildlife. Information on the North Dakota trail system is available at the Snowmobile North Dakota website at snowmobilend.com.

Nonresident Any-Deer Bow Licenses

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department will have 1,305 any-deer bow licenses available to nonresidents in 2010.

The number of nonresident any-deer bow licenses available is 15 percent of the previous year’s mule deer gun license allocation. The Game and Fish Department issued 8,700 mule deer licenses in the 2009 deer gun lottery.

The department will begin issuing any-deer bow licenses March 1. All applications received on or before March 1, 2010, will be treated equally. If more applications are received than there are licenses, each application will be assigned a number. Numbers will be drawn to issue the licenses. Applicants who request to apply together as a party will receive one number. Additional numbers will be drawn to establish a waiting list. If returned licenses become available, these applicants will be offered the licenses.

If licenses remain after March 1, these will be issued daily on a first-come, first-served basis.