

NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT[561]

Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 561—Chapter 12
“Special Nonresident Deer and Turkey Licenses”

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 483A.24 as amended by 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2800

State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code section 483A.24 as amended by 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2800

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

September 22, 2026
1 to 2 p.m.

Suite 200
6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa

Free language assistance: If you need assistance in a language other than English, contact the Department of Natural Resources (Department) at denise.roberg@dnr.iowa.gov or civilrights@dnr.iowa.gov or by telephone at 515.571.4010 at least seven days before the event.

Asistencia lingüística gratuita: Si necesita ayuda en un idioma que no sea inglés, comuníquese con el Departamento al denise.roberg@dnr.iowa.gov o civilrights@dnr.iowa.gov o por teléfono a 515.571.4010 al menos siete días antes del evento.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

Denise Roberg
6200 Park Avenue, Suite 200
Des Moines, Iowa 50321
Email: denise.roberg@dnr.iowa.gov

Free language assistance: If you speak a non-English language, the Department offers language assistance services free of charge. Contact the Department at denise.roberg@dnr.iowa.gov.

Servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística: Si habla un idioma que no sea el inglés, los servicios de asistencia lingüística están disponibles de forma gratuita. Comuníquese con el Departamento al denise.roberg@dnr.iowa.gov.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 12 establishes the process to issue special nonresident deer and turkey licenses to individuals as part of statewide or local efforts to promote the State and its natural resources. Three amendments are proposed to implement 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2800, which allocates a nonresident deer license to the Iowa State Fair Foundation.

Analysis of Impact

1. Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:

- **Classes of persons that will bear the costs of the proposed rulemaking:**

No costs are anticipated to result from this proposed rulemaking beyond those anticipated to result from the changes to the Iowa Code.

- **Classes of persons that will benefit from the proposed rulemaking:**

Individuals who receive the special license, nonprofit organizations and their local communities will benefit.

2. Impact of the proposed rulemaking, economic or otherwise, including the nature and amount of all the different kinds of costs that would be incurred:

- **Quantitative description of impact:**

There is no economic impact or cost beyond what is anticipated as a result of the changes to the Iowa Code.

- **Qualitative description of impact:**

Nonprofit organizations and local communities benefit from providing these hunting opportunities to nonresidents. Individuals who receive these special licenses benefit from hunting in which they otherwise may not qualify to engage as a nonresident. These activities promote the State and Iowa's natural resources.

3. Costs to the State:

- **Implementation and enforcement costs borne by the agency or any other agency:**

Department staff currently administer the program, including reviewing applications and answering questions from organizations and applicants. No additional implementation or enforcement costs are expected under this rulemaking.

- **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

The proposed rulemaking does not have any effect on State revenues beyond what is anticipated to result from the changes to the Iowa Code.

4. Comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rulemaking to the costs and benefits of inaction:

The costs are minimal compared to the benefits to the State of Iowa.

5. Determination whether less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking:

There are no less costly or less intrusive methods.

6. Alternative methods considered by the agency:

- **Description of any alternative methods that were seriously considered by the agency:**

No alternative methods were seriously considered by the agency.

- **Reasons why alternative methods were rejected in favor of the proposed rulemaking:**

Not applicable.

Small Business Impact

If the rulemaking will have a substantial impact on small business, include a discussion of whether it would be feasible and practicable to do any of the following to reduce the impact of the rulemaking on small business:

- Establish less stringent compliance or reporting requirements in the rulemaking for small business.

- Establish less stringent schedules or deadlines in the rulemaking for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

- Consolidate or simplify the rulemaking's compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

- Establish performance standards to replace design or operational standards in the rulemaking for small business.

- Exempt small business from any or all requirements of the rulemaking.

If legal and feasible, how does the rulemaking use a method discussed above to reduce the substantial impact on small business?

There is no substantial impact on small business.

Text of Proposed Rulemaking

ITEM 1. Rescind the definition of “Statewide signature event organization” in rule **561—12.2(483A)**.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 12.3(2) as follows:

12.3(2) ~~A statewide signature event organization~~ The Iowa state fair foundation shall receive one special nonresident deer license ~~upon application~~. ~~The statewide signature event organization~~ Iowa state fair foundation shall return to the department the greater amount of either one-half of the proceeds from its sale of the special nonresident deer license or the fee for a nonresident deer license as set forth in Iowa Code section 483A.1. The department’s proceeds shall cover the cost of the special nonresident deer license. A license made available to ~~a statewide signature event organization~~ the Iowa state fair foundation in accordance with this subrule may be valid for up to two years ~~after selection of the organization by the director or the director’s designee~~. ~~The statewide signature event organization~~ Iowa state fair foundation shall notify the coordinator immediately following the sale of the special nonresident deer license of which year and for what season the special nonresident deer license will be used.

ITEM 3. Amend rule 561—12.10(483A), introductory paragraph, as follows:

561—12.10(483A) License costs for promotional special licenses. With the ~~exception~~ exceptions provided in 12.3(2) and 12.6(2) for the Iowa state fair foundation and conservation organizations, a nonresident who obtains a special license issued pursuant to this chapter shall pay the applicable fee as follows: