

**House File 473 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 473  
BY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL  
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 107)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to operation of all-terrain vehicles or off-road  
2 utility vehicles on public hunting areas.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 321I.10, Code 2025, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 8. Notwithstanding any other provision of  
4 law to the contrary, a registered all-terrain vehicle or off-road  
5 utility vehicle may be operated on a public hunting area, as  
6 defined in section 481A.123, subsection 4, for the express  
7 purpose of transporting a lawfully taken deer carcass out of  
8 the public hunting area. Any operator or passenger of the  
9 all-terrain vehicle or off-road utility vehicle on the vehicle  
10 pursuant to this subsection must wear apparel described in  
11 section 481A.122, subsection 1, until the deer carcass has been  
12 transported out of the public hunting area.

13 EXPLANATION

14 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
15 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

16 This bill relates to the operation of all-terrain vehicles or  
17 off-road utility vehicles on a public hunting area. The bill  
18 allows for the operation of all-terrain vehicles or off-road  
19 utility vehicles on a public hunting area for the express purpose  
20 of removing a lawfully taken deer carcass. The bill requires  
21 the all-terrain vehicle or off-road utility vehicle operator and  
22 all passengers to wear a visible blaze orange vest, coat, jacket,  
23 sweatshirt, sweater, shirt, or coveralls until the deer carcass  
24 has been removed from the public hunting area.

25 Under current law, the natural resource commission (NRC)  
26 may prohibit operation of all-terrain vehicles or off-road  
27 utility vehicles on public lands, public ice, or designated  
28 riding trails in the interest of safety for persons, property,  
29 or the environment. Additionally, barring limited exceptions,  
30 operation of an all-terrain vehicle or off-road utility vehicle  
31 is prohibited in any park, wildlife area, preserve, refuge, game  
32 management area, or navigable stream, except on designated riding  
33 areas and trails.

34 Under current law, a person in violation of relevant  
35 all-terrain vehicle or off-road utility vehicle prohibitions is

1 guilty of a simple misdemeanor punishable by a scheduled fine of  
2 \$135. A person convicted may also be assessed a civil penalty  
3 of \$250 to be deposited in the special all-terrain vehicle  
4 fund, may be ordered to pay restitution for damage caused by  
5 the violation, and may have registration and permit privileges  
6 revoked or suspended.

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