



## **FACT SHEET:**

### ***Taxidermy in Arkansas***

**June 2020**

#### **Permits**

The AGFC does not require that taxidermists receive a permit from the Commission in order to carry out taxidermy services.

#### **What can be sold in Arkansas**

Legally taken furbearers, squirrel tails and pelts, rabbit pelts, turkey bones, deer antlers or clean skulls, elk antlers or clean skulls, deer hides, elk hides and feathers not protected by federal regulation 50 CFR §20. (Code 5.04)

Mounted or tanned wildlife may be bought or sold when accompanied by a bill of sale. The bill of sale will state the purchase date, number and description of item and full name and address of the previous owner. This bill of sale will be made available to a Wildlife Officer upon request for a period of 1 year from the date of sale/purchase. (Code 5.04)

#### **Record Keeping Requirements**

Taxidermists must maintain legible records of specimens they obtained with name, address, number, species, date harvested, game check number (as applies to big game) and hunting license or AGFC customer identification number of person transferring game (Code 05.22). Each record shall be maintained for one year from the date wildlife is harvested and made available for inspection upon request by a Commission employee. (Code 5.24)

Migratory bird preservation facilities meeting those standards as defined in 50 CFR § 20, Subparts B and I are exempt from the AGFC record-keeping standards.

#### **Alligators**

Alligator farmers/dealers may sell the hides, feet, viscera or skeletal parts of (Code 01.03)

No person shall sell any hide or other product manufactured from a crocodilian species (other than an American alligator) that has been declared to be endangered or threatened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service without prior written approval from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. (Code 01.03)

Any cured and mounted trophies and articles manufactured from the lawfully acquired alligator skins or hides or other parts of any alligator or other crocodilian species may be sold. (Code 12.01)

#### **Bobcat and Otters**

Any bobcat or otter, whether in the form of a pelt, carcass, or taxidermy mount that enters Arkansas must have a CITES tag affixed to it at the time of entry. Any bobcat or otter that leaves Arkansas must have a CITES tag affixed by the AGFC. (Code 17.06)

Bobcat that are legally trapped in Arkansas do not need to have a CITES tag on them unless they are going to leave the state. It is unlawful for any person to possess an untagged otter (other than mounted specimens, tanned pelts, or animals in the possession of a taxidermist) from April 1 to the beginning of otter hunting and trapping seasons (Code 17.06)

#### **Deer Products**

Finished deer, elk, and other cervid taxidermy and antler products are not subject to restrictions on importation of cervid parts related to Chronic Wasting Disease. (Code 5.26)

#### **Endangered Species**

These may be mounted by those with appropriate federal permits however these permits are not needed to possess legally acquired endangered species held by a public zoo or museum, wildlife taken legally outside the state, or articles manufactured before Jan. 1, 1973. (Code 5.27)

#### **Furbearers**

Anyone wishing to buy green furbearer pelts or whole carcasses for use in making taxidermy mounts that will later be sold must purchase an Arkansas furdealer permit. (Code 17.07)

#### **Migratory Birds**

Taxidermists need a permit from the US Fish and Wildlife Service to mount all migratory birds that belong to others. For more information, contact them at 404-679-7070.

Falconry birds that die while in possession of a permitted falconer's may be kept by the falconer so that the feathers are available for imping or the falconer may have the body mounted by a taxidermist and the mount used in educational programs. Bands must remain on the body and microchips must left in place. (Code F1.07)

An AGFC wildlife officer may issue a letter authorizing possession of migratory birds for taxidermy purposes by those with a US Fish and Wildlife Service permit or that are exempt from USFWS permit rules. This permit is issued for educational display of mounted specimens.