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Maine State Constitution

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Article 1: BEAR SEASONS

§11251. Open and closed seasons

1. Open season on bear; commissioner's authority. This subsection governs the open and closed seasons on bear.

A. There is an open season on hunting bear from the first Monday preceding September 1st to November 30th annually. The commissioner may, pursuant to section 10104, subsection 1, adopt rules prohibiting the use of bait to hunt black bear during any portion of the open bear hunting season. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. [2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §155 (AMD); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. There is an open season on using a dog or dogs in conjunction with bear hunting from the first Monday preceding September 1st to the day preceding the open firearm season on deer provided in sections 11401 and 11402. [2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 (NEW); 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF).]

C. [2013, c. 408, §14 (RP).]

D. [2013, c. 408, §14 (RP).]

[2013, c. 408, §14 (AMD) .]

2. Youth bear hunting day. There is a youth hunting day for hunting bear without a dog or dogs on the Saturday prior to the opening day of the bear hunting season established under subsection 1, paragraph A. A person who holds a valid junior hunting license may hunt bear with a firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow during youth bear hunting day. An adult supervisor, parent or guardian accompanying a youth on youth bear hunting day may not possess a firearm, bow and arrow or crossbow while the youth is participating in the bear hunt.

[2015, c. 79, §1 (NEW) .]



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