

From: Musser, Terry
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 3:25 PM
To: Bluett, Bob
Subject: RE: dog training

Bob,

Dog trainers need a Hunting License and Habitat Stamp because of the way "hunt" and "take" are defined in the Wildlife Code.

Definitions follow:

(520 ILCS 5/1.2k) (from Ch. 61, par. 1.2k)

Sec. 1.2k. "Hunt" means the act of a person possessing a weapon or being accompanied by a dog or a bird of prey for the purpose of taking species protected by this Act in any location such species may inhabit.

(Source: P.A. 85-152.)

(520 ILCS 5/1.2o) (from Ch. 61, par. 1.2o)

Sec. 1.2o. "Take" means hunt, shoot, pursue, lure, kill, destroy, capture, gig or spear, trap or ensnare, harass, or to attempt to do so.

(Source: P.A. 81-382.)

The rationale follows: Persons accompanied by a dog for the purpose of taking (i.e., pursuing) species protected in the Wildlife Code need a Hunting License and Habitat Stamp. I've discussed this issue with several of the IDNR's legal staff over the years, and they've been consistent in this interpretation. The same rationale is used to require members of the field trial community to have a Hunting License and Habitat Stamp.

Let me know if you have further questions.

Terry

Terry L. Musser, Program Manager
Hunting Preserves, Controlled Pheasant Hunting,
Field Trials & Dog Training
Division of Parks and Recreation
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271

Office: 217/785/2262

Cell: 217/836-1728

Fax: 217/524-5612

E-mail: Terry.Musser@illinois.gov

From: Bluett, Bob
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 11:58 AM
To: Musser, Terry
Subject: dog training

Terry-

I had an inquiry from a gentleman about dog training on private land (the parcel is a Designated Dog Training Area, and the Club has a permit). A CPO told one of the members he needs a hunting license to train beagles, even if he doesn't carry a gun. I couldn't find anything that would require a hunting license, but my knowledge of regs regarding this activity is quite limited. Am I missing something?

John + Montee
This is the law