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S.F. No. 4142 – Game and Fish Law Technical Bill

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Sections 1 through 11 [Treatment of Native Rough Fish] adds “native rough fish” to various statutes so that treatment of and concern for native rough fish is on par with the treatment and concern provided in statute for game fish. Removes common carp from the definition of rough fish.

Section 12 [Definition of Taxidermist] adds a definition of taxidermist to the game and fish statutes.

Sections 13 through 15 [Treatment of Native Rough Fish] adds “native rough fish” to various statutes so that treatment of and concern for native rough fish is on par with the treatment and concern provided in statute for game fish. Removes common carp from the definition of rough fish.

Section 16 [Disposal of Cervid Carcasses] requires taxidermists to dispose of all cervid carcasses, cervid parts, and related biosolids, that are not returned to the customer to a disposal facility or transfer station that is permitted to accept it. Requires retention of related records.

Section 17 [Rulemaking Authority] extends existing rulemaking authority to include matters related to the disposal of cervid carcasses.

Sections 18 [Treatment of Native Rough Fish] adds “native rough fish” to a statute so that treatment of and concern for native rough fish is on par with the treatment and concern provided in statute for game fish.

Section 19 [Importation of Cervidae Carcasses] allows importation of fixed taxidermy mounts as well as antlers attached to skull caps and whole skulls when cleaned of brain tissue. Requires Cervidae heads transported into Minnesota to be delivered to a taxidermist within 48 hours of entering the state.

Sections 20 [Treatment of Native Rough Fish] adds “native rough fish” to a statute so that treatment of and concern for native rough fish is on par with the treatment and concern provided in statute for game fish.

Section 21 [Creation of Apprentice Trapper Certification] creates an apprentice trapper certification, which would allow a person to purchase a trapping license without having completed trapper education if they were accompanied by a licensed trapper over age 18 while setting or tending traps.

Section 22 [Conforming Change] makes a confirming change to reflect the creation of apprentice trapper certification.

Sections 23 through 24 [Treatment of Native Rough Fish] adds “native rough fish” to various statutes so that treatment of and concern for native rough fish is on par with the treatment and concern provided in statute for game fish. Removes common carp from the definition of rough fish.

Section 25 [Ground Blind Blaze Orange Requirements] makes the blaze orange requirements for ground blinds on public lands applicable to deer hunters only and not to turkey, waterfowl, or bear hunters.

Section 26 [Treatment of Native Rough Fish] adds “native rough fish” to a statute so that treatment of and concern for native rough fish is on par with the treatment and concern provided in statute for game fish.

Section 27 [Repeal of Elk Herd Population Caps in Certain Counties] repeals language prohibiting an increase in the elk herd population in Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, or Beltrami Counties.

Section 28 [Notice and Meeting Changes for Experimental Waters] repeals language requiring the DNR to hold a public meeting before establishing, vacating, or modifying the designation of experimental waters and replaces it with language authorizing the meeting to be virtual. Makes various related changes to notice requirements.

Section 29 [Notice and Meeting Changes for Special Management Waters] repeals language requiring the DNR to hold a public meeting before establishing, vacating, or modifying the designation of special management waters and replaces it with language authorizing the meeting to be virtual. Makes various related changes to notice requirements.

Sections 30 through 42 [Treatment of Native Rough Fish] adds “native rough fish” to various statutes so that treatment of and concern for native rough fish is on par with the treatment and concern provided in statute for game fish. Removes common carp from the definition of rough fish. Some of these sections also standardize angling season dates.

Section 43 [Trout Fishing Season Modification] modifies trout fishing seasons.

Sections 44 through 53 [Treatment of Native Rough Fish] adds “native rough fish” to various statutes so that treatment of and concern for native rough fish is on par with the treatment and concern provided in statute for game fish.

Section 54 [Rulemaking] authorizes the DNR to use the good cause rulemaking exemption to amend rules to reflect the statutory changes made in the bill.

Section 55 [Revisor Instruction] instructs the revisor to make certain technical statutory changes.