



**INSTRUCTIONS/REQUIREMENTS – Taxidermist License**  
**Annual Fees: \$44 – Commercial Taxidermist License (22.83)**  
**\$20 – Noncommercial Taxidermist License (22.82)**

**A taxidermist license expires June 30 of each year.**

**LEGAL AUTHORITY:** NRS 501.097; 501.379-.380; 502.370; 503.620  
NAC 502.430 – 502.455 inclusive; 50 CFR §§ 10.13, 20.11, 20.24

**DEFINITIONS:**

“Commercial taxidermist” means a person who provides taxidermic services for any person for compensation. [ref. NAC 502.430]

“Noncommercial taxidermist” means a person who provides taxidermic services for any other person without compensation. [ref. NAC 502.430]

“Taxidermic services” includes preparing, stuffing, and mounting the skins of wildlife or any parts, nests, or eggs of wildlife. [ref. NAC 502.430]

“Taxidermic item” means *any* part of wildlife upon which taxidermic services can be, are being, or have been performed. [ref. NAC 502.430]

“Wildlife” means any wild mammal, wild bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, mollusk, or crustacean found naturally in a wild state, whether indigenous to Nevada or not and whether raised in captivity or not.

**LICENSE/PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:**

A license to practice taxidermy is required before any person may perform taxidermal services on any wildlife, or their parts, nests, or eggs. In addition to a state-issued taxidermist license, a person must possess a taxidermist permit issued by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service before performing taxidermic services for another person on any species of migratory bird or their parts, nests, or eggs protected by federal law (songbirds, shorebirds, crows, ravens, woodpeckers, owls, hawks, eagles, falcons, waterfowl, etc.) NOTE: North American and native species of quail, grouse, partridge, pheasants, and turkey are not classified as migratory birds, therefore a federal permit is not required for these species. Additional written authorization will be required from the Department in order to lawfully possess any federally protected migratory bird species other than migratory “game” birds (i.e. ducks, geese, swans, wild dove and pigeons, little brown cranes, rails, coots, gallinules, snipe, and woodcock), or the common crow. Contact a Department office if you have questions.

**RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS:** An annual taxidermist license expires on June 30 of each year. If an application for the renewal of a taxidermist license is not received by the Department on or before June 30, taxidermic items in the possession of a taxidermist shall be deemed to be unlawfully possessed and are subject to seizure by the Department, and the taxidermist will be considered to be practicing taxidermy without a license. If an application for renewal of a taxidermist license is received by the Department on or before June 30, the license will remain in effect until the Department completes its review of the application and renews or denies the application to renew the taxidermist license.

**WHERE TO OBTAIN APPLICATION:** Application for a taxidermist license may be obtained from any office of the Nevada Department of Wildlife or on the website at [www.ndow.org](http://www.ndow.org) under the License Office section. The completed application, signed and dated, with the appropriate fee and, if required, a copy of the federal taxidermist permit (or proof that one is pending) must be submitted to the appropriate region office of the Department of Wildlife. Addresses are also provided on the application.

**DENIAL OF APPLICATION:** Whenever an application is denied, the Department shall notify the applicant in writing of the reason for the denial.

## **PERTINENT STATUTES AND REGULATIONS**

### **NRS 502.370 Licensing of taxidermists.**

1. A license to practice taxidermy is required before any person may perform taxidermal services for others on any wildlife or their parts, nests, or eggs.
2. *(License term and fees - - see page 1)*
3. Any person who wishes to obtain a license to practice taxidermy must apply for the license on an application form provided by the Department. The applicant must provide such information on the form as the Commission may require by regulations.
4. The Commission may adopt regulations governing the licensing of taxidermists and the practice of taxidermy, including:
  - (a) The receipt, possession, transportation, identification, purchase, and sale of wildlife or parts thereof to be or which have been processed by a taxidermist;
  - (b) The maintenance and submission of written records; and
  - (c) Any other matter concerning the practice, conduct, and operating procedures to taxidermists as the Commission may deem necessary.
5. A person who is authorized to enforce the provisions of this Title may enter the facilities of a licensee at any reasonable hour and inspect the licensee's operations and records.
6. If a licensee is convicted of a violation of any provision of this Title or the regulations adopted by the Commission, the Commission may revoke his license and may refuse to issue another license to him or her for a period not to exceed 5 years.
7. The provisions of this section do not apply to institutions of learning of this State or of the United States, or to research activities conducted exclusively for scientific purposes, or for the advancement of agriculture, biology, or any of the sciences.

### **NAC 502.440 License: Application; validity; renewal.**

1. An application for a taxidermist license may be obtained from any office of the Department. The applicant shall include on his application:
  - (a) His name, residential and mailing addresses, and telephone number.
  - (b) The name and telephone number of his taxidermic business and, if different from his residential address, the address from which taxidermic services will be provided;
  - (c) Whether or not the taxidermic services are provided for compensation;
  - (d) If the applicant must possess a federal taxidermist permit, a copy of the permit or proof satisfactory to the Department that federal approval of such a permit is pending;
  - (e) The name of each state where he holds or has held a taxidermist license or permit to perform taxidermic services;
  - (f) If the applicant has been convicted of violating laws or regulations relating to taxidermy or commercialization of wildlife of any state or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service within the 5 years immediately preceding the date of the application, a description of each violation, a description of the penalty imposed for each violation and the name of the state in which the conviction occurred;
  - (g) Whether, at the time of the application, the privileges granted to the applicant by another state or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to taxidermy are suspended or revoked; and
  - (h) His signature and the date on which he signed the application.
2. A taxidermist license issued by the Department pending the issuance of a federal permit to perform taxidermic services on:
  - (a) A migratory bird that is protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 703 et seq.; or
  - (b) A species of wildlife that is listed as threatened or endangered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service,is not valid for the purpose of performing taxidermic services on the migratory bird or the endangered or threatened species until the federal permit has been issued by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to the licensee.
3. A completed application and required fees must be submitted to the Department.
4. *(Renewal requirements are explained on page 1.)*

### **NAC 502.445 Commercial taxidermist: Authorized acts.**

1. A person licensed in Nevada as a commercial taxidermist may:
  - (a) Receive, transport, ship by common carrier, hold and perform taxidermic services on lawfully acquired wildlife.

(b) Receive compensation for taxidermic services.

(c) Purchase or otherwise legally acquire for taxidermic purposes the raw skins or hides of furbearing or game mammals which are lawfully taken.

(d) Sell or consign to another person for sale the following mounted or permanently preserved wildlife which was lawfully acquired:

(1) Properly marked migratory waterfowl raised in captivity;

(2) The head and nonedible parts of any game mammal;

(3) Properly identified game mammals;

(4) Upland game birds, other than those birds which are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 703 et seq.;

(5) Game fish, or any part of a game fish;

(6) Game amphibians;

(7) Furbearing mammals; and

(8) Unprotected wildlife.

2. A taxidermist (*commercial or noncommercial*) may ship the raw skins and raw furs of any wildlife for which a tag is required to a tannery without obtaining a transportation permit if the shipment is labeled pursuant to subsection 7 of NRS 503.040 or 50 C.F.R. §§ 14.81 and 14.82, as those regulations exist on October 1, 1996. (see page 4)

3. As used in this section, "nonedible parts" means the hide, skin, fur, antlers, horns, skeleton, and hooves of an animal.

#### **NAC 502.450 Noncommercial taxidermist: Authorized acts.**

A person licensed in Nevada as a noncommercial taxidermist may receive, hold, and perform taxidermic services on lawfully acquired wildlife, if such activity is not contrary to the provisions of federal law or regulations relating to migratory birds that are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 703 et seq.

#### **NAC 502.455 Taxidermic records; identification tags for taxidermic items.**

1. A person licensed as a taxidermist in Nevada shall maintain accurate written or computerized records, on a form provided by the Department or in a format which is substantially similar to that form, for each licensing year which show:

(a) The name, telephone number, and address of each person from whom wildlife or parts, nests or eggs of wildlife, upon which taxidermic services were performed, were received.

(b) The name, telephone number, and address of each person to whom wildlife or parts, nests or eggs of wildlife, upon which taxidermic services were performed, were delivered.

(c) An accurate description of the taxidermic item, including the species and parts thereof received.

(d) If required for the species of wildlife received, the number of the tag, seal or permit.

(e) The date on which the taxidermist receives the taxidermic item and the date on which that item is returned to its owner.

The taxidermist shall record the required information immediately upon receipt and delivery of a taxidermic item, as appropriate.

2. A taxidermist shall:

(a) Immediately upon receipt, label each taxidermic item with a tag that clearly identifies the owner of the item. The tag may be removed from the item only during the actual performance of taxidermic services on the item. The tag must be reattached to the item when the taxidermic service is not being performed. Once the taxidermic services are completed on the taxidermic item, the tag must be reattached and remain attached to the item until the item is delivered to or claimed by the owner of the item.

(b) If required by the Department, submit a copy of his records for the previous licensing year to the Department at the end of each licensing year. If the records are computerized, the taxidermist shall submit a hard copy of the computerized records to the Department.

(c) Retain his records for a licensing year for at least 2 years after the end of the licensing year to which those records pertain.

(d) During any reasonable hour, upon the request of any agent of the Department authorized to enforce the provisions of Title 45 of NRS, present his records kept in accordance with this section and any taxidermic item which the taxidermist is keeping at his place of business.

3. As used in this section, "licensing year" means a period beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 of the following calendar year.

## State & Federal Shipping, Transportation & Marking Requirements *(in part)*

### **NRS 503.040 Transportation of wildlife or raw furs taken within State. *(in part)***

Subsection 7. Any package or container in which game birds, raw furs, wild mammals taken by trapping, game mammals or game fish are being transported by common carrier must have the name and address of the shipper and of the consignee (*person it is going to*) and an accurate statement of the number and kinds of game birds, raw furs, wild mammals taken by trapping, game mammals or game fish contained therein attached to the outside thereof (*in an envelope is OK; though interstate shipments may require additional marking, see below*).

### **50 C.F.R. §§ 14.81 Marking requirement.**

Except as otherwise provided in this subpart, no person may import, export or transport in interstate commerce any container or package containing any fish or wildlife unless he/she marks each container package conspicuously on the outside with both the name and address of the shipper and consignee (*person it is going to*). An accurate and legible list of its contents by species scientific name and the number of each species ..... must accompany the entire shipment.

### **50 C.F.R. §§ 14.82 Alternatives and exceptions to the marking requirement. *(in part)***

(a) The requirements of 14.81 may be met by complying with one of the following alternatives to the marking requirement:

(1) (i) Conspicuously marking the outside of each container or package containing fish or wildlife with the word "fish" or "wildlife" as appropriate for its contents, or with the common name of its contents by species, and

(ii) Including an invoice, packing list, bill of lading, or similar document to accompany the shipment which accurately states the name and address of the shipper and consignee, states the total number of packages or containers in the shipment, and for each species in the shipment specifies:

(A) The common name that identifies the species and whether or not the listed species is venomous; and

(B) The number of that species.

The invoice, packing list, bill of lading, or equivalent document must be securely attached to the outside of one container or package in the shipment or otherwise physically accompany the shipment in a manner which makes it readily accessible for inspection; OR

(2) Affixing the shipper's wildlife import/export license number preceded by the three letters "FWS" on the outside of each container or package containing fish or wildlife, if the shipper has valid wildlife import/export license issued under authority of 50CFR part 14. For each shipment marked in accordance with this paragraph, the records maintained under §§ 14.93(c) must include a copy of the invoice, packing list, bill of lading, or other similar document that accurately states the information required by paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section.

(3) In the case of sub-containers or packages within a larger packing container, only the outermost container must be marked in accordance with this section. ....

(4) A conveyance (truck, plane, boat, etc.) is not considered a container for purposes of requiring specific marking of the conveyance itself, provided that: (i) The fish or wildlife within the conveyance is carried loosely or is readily identifiable, and is accompanied by the document required by paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of this section, or (ii) the fish or wildlife is otherwise packaged and marked in accordance with this subpart...

## WHERE TO SEND APPLICATION AND FEES

### **Western Region**

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Special Licenses and Permits  
1100 Valley Rd, Reno, NV 89512  
Telephone: (775) 688-1506  
Counties: Carson City, Churchill, Douglas,  
Humboldt, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey,

### **Southern Region**

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
3373 Pepper Ln.; Las Vegas, NV 89120  
Telephone: (702) 486-5127  
Counties: Clark, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Nye

### **Eastern Region**

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
60 Youth Center Road; Elko, NV 89801  
Telephone: (775) 777-2300  
Counties: Elko, Eureka, Lander, White Pine, Washoe