

REFERENCE TITLE: hunting; fishing; license; deferred prosecution

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2025

## **HB 2603**

Introduced by  
Representative Nguyen

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 17-340, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO THE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:  
2 Section 1. Section 17-340, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:  
4 17-340. Revocation, suspension and denial of privilege of  
5 taking wildlife; civil penalty; notice; violation;  
6 classification  
7 A. On conviction, **ON ENTERING A DEFERRED PROSECUTION AGREEMENT** or  
8 after adjudication as a delinquent juvenile as defined in section 8-201  
9 and in addition to other penalties prescribed by this title, the  
10 commission, after a public hearing, may revoke or suspend a license issued  
11 to any person under this title and deny the person the right to secure  
12 another license to take or possess wildlife for a period of not to exceed  
13 five years for:  
14 1. Unlawful taking, unlawful selling, unlawful offering for sale,  
15 unlawful bartering or unlawful possession of wildlife.  
16 2. Careless use of firearms that resulted in the injury or death of  
17 any person.  
18 3. Destroying, injuring or molesting livestock, or damaging or  
19 destroying growing crops, personal property, notices or signboards or  
20 other improvements while hunting, trapping or fishing.  
21 4. Littering public hunting or fishing areas while taking wildlife.  
22 5. Knowingly allowing another person to use the person's big game  
23 tag, except as provided by section 17-332, subsection D.  
24 6. A violation of section 17-303, 17-304, 17-316 or 17-341 or  
25 section 17-362, subsection A.  
26 7. A violation of section 17-309, subsection A, paragraph 5  
27 involving a waste of edible portions other than meat damaged due to the  
28 method of taking as follows:  
29 (a) Upland game birds, migratory game birds and wild turkey:  
30 breast.  
31 (b) Deer, elk, pronghorn (antelope), bighorn sheep, bison (buffalo)  
32 and peccary (javelina): hind quarters, front quarters and loins.  
33 (c) Game fish: fillets of the fish.  
34 8. A violation of section 17-309, subsection A, paragraph 1  
35 involving any unlawful use of aircraft to take, assist in taking, harass,  
36 chase, drive, locate or assist in locating wildlife.  
37 B. On conviction or after adjudication as a delinquent juvenile and  
38 in addition to any other penalties prescribed by this title:  
39 1. For a first conviction or a first adjudication as a delinquent  
40 juvenile, for unlawfully taking or wounding wildlife at any time or place,  
41 the commission, after a public hearing, may revoke, suspend or deny the  
42 person's privilege to take wildlife for a period of up to five years.  
43 2. For a second conviction or a second adjudication as a delinquent  
44 juvenile, for unlawfully taking or wounding wildlife at any time or place,

1 the commission, after a public hearing, may revoke, suspend or deny the  
2 person's privilege to take wildlife for a period of up to ten years.

3 3. For a third conviction or a third adjudication as a delinquent  
4 juvenile, for unlawfully taking or wounding wildlife at any time or place,  
5 the commission, after a public hearing, may revoke, suspend or deny the  
6 person's privilege to take wildlife permanently.

7 C. In accordance with title 41, chapter 6, article 10 and  
8 notwithstanding subsection A of this section, a person against whom the  
9 commission imposes a civil penalty under section 17-314 for the unlawful  
10 taking, wounding, killing or possession of wildlife may be denied the  
11 right to obtain a license to take wildlife until the person ~~has made full~~  
12 ~~payment of~~ PAYS the civil penalty IN FULL.

13 D. On receiving a report from the licensing authority of a state  
14 that is a party to the wildlife violator compact adopted under chapter 5  
15 of this title that a resident of this state has failed to comply with the  
16 terms of a wildlife citation, the commission, after a public hearing, may  
17 suspend any license issued under this title to take wildlife until the  
18 licensing authority furnishes satisfactory evidence of compliance with the  
19 terms of the wildlife citation.

20 E. In carrying out this section, the director shall notify the  
21 licensee, within one hundred eighty days after conviction, to appear and  
22 show cause why the license should not be revoked, suspended or denied.  
23 The notice may be served personally or by certified mail sent to the  
24 address appearing on the license.

25 F. The commission shall furnish to license dealers the names and  
26 addresses of persons whose licenses have been revoked or suspended, and  
27 the periods for which they have been denied the right to secure licenses.

28 G. The commission may use the services of the office of  
29 administrative hearings to conduct hearings and to make recommendations to  
30 the commission pursuant to this section.

31 H. Except for a person who takes or possesses wildlife while under  
32 permanent revocation, a person who takes wildlife in this state, or  
33 attempts to obtain a license to take wildlife, at a time when the person's  
34 privilege to do so is suspended, revoked or denied under this section is  
35 guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor.