



BEAR HUNTING IN SELECTED STATES

By: Janet Kaminski Leduc, Senior Legislative Attorney

ISSUE

Does New York, New Jersey, or any New England state allow bear hunting?

SUMMARY

Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, and Vermont each allow bear hunting. Rhode Island and Connecticut do not.

In the states allowing bear hunting, bear hunters need to obtain a state permit. Bear hunting season generally occurs in the fall, but specific dates vary by location and hunting method. The maximum number of bears a hunter may take in a given period (i.e., the bag limit) also varies by state.

Table 1 lists the 2016 general season for bear hunting and the applicable bag limit in the selected states and provides links to additional information.

Table 1: Bear Hunting in Selected States

State	2016 General Season	Bag Limit
Maine	Late-August to late-November	Two bears each fall, one by hunting and one by trapping
Massachusetts	Mid-September and mid-November to mid-December	One bear each calendar year
New Hampshire	September to mid-November	One bear each calendar year
New Jersey	October 10-15 (Segment A) December 5-10 (Segment B)	Two bears, one per permit (a hunter needs a permit for each zone, up to two zones) and per segment
New York	Mid-September through December	One bear each license year
Vermont	September to mid-November	One bear each calendar year

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