

TRAPPING REGULATIONS

MAJOR REGULATION CHANGES FOR 2010 - 2012

1. Various changes have been made to the table of Certified Traps, please see table on pg 94.
2. Wolf trapping season in MUs 3-12 to 3-20 and 3-26 to 3-44 has been extended to March 31.

BC'S FUR MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- ▶ In British Columbia, some 3,500 trappers actively manage 17 furbearing animal species, following standards, legislation and regulations developed by MoE. About half of the province's trappers are Aboriginal.
- ▶ The Fur Management Program includes:
 - The BC Trappers Association's (BCTA) Continuing Trapper Education Program courses for new and experienced trappers.
 - The "Furbearer Management Guidelines" available for muskrat, beaver, mink, marten, fisher, weasel, wolverine, otter, bobcat, lynx, fox, coyote, and wolf. These guidelines outline the role that trappers can play in the wise management of these species. The guidelines can be found on the F&W Branch website at: www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw

Regulating Harvest

▶ In general, appropriate trapping seasons have been developed by considering a variety of criteria including pelt primeness, relative vulnerability of age and sex classes to harvesting, abundance and capture technology.

▶ The registered trapline system continues to be the primary system for setting harvest guidelines and managing furbearing animals. Harvest levels are guided by species management strategies, with furbearers being divided into three classes:

Class 1 Species - can be managed on individual traplines. This class includes beaver, fox, marten, mink, muskrat, raccoon, skunk, squirrel and weasel.

Class 2 Species - move between and among traplines and thus are not manageable on individual traplines. Harvests will be regulated regionally, in consultation with local trappers. This class includes lynx, bobcat, wolverine, fisher and otter.

Class 3 Species - also move between and among traplines, but generally are not vulnerable to over-trapping. This class includes the wolf and coyote. Trappers will be encouraged to trap these species, especially in areas of chronic animal damage control problems.

DEFINITIONS

egg trap - means a holding device set in a manner to capture a raccoon by a front paw.

foot snare - means a snare that is designed to capture the animal for which it is set by the foot or leg.

furbearing animal or furbearer - means any fox, beaver, marten, fisher, Canada lynx, bobcat, mink, muskrat, river otter, raccoon, skunk, squirrel (excluding ground squirrels), weasel, wolverine, wolf, coyote and black bear.

killing snare - means a snare that is designed to capture the animal for which it is set by the neck.

killing trap - means a trap or trapset that is designed to kill an animal.

leghold trap - means a trap or device, other than a snare, which is set in such a way as to capture the animal for which it is set by the leg or foot.

modified leghold trap - means a trap which has a minimum space of 5 mm between the jaws of the trap when in the closed position, or has manufactured pads of a rubber-like substance fastened to the trap jaws, or has lamination of the trap jaws to increase the surface area of the jaw face.

trapping - means the act of setting or placing a trap in an operative condition or killing by the use of a firearm.

GENERAL REGULATIONS & INFORMATION

Checking Traps

▶ A holder of a licence, permit or other authorization to trap commits an offence unless that person examines the holding or non-killing traps he or she has set on a trapline at least once every 72 hours, the egg trap(s) he or she has set for raccoons at least once every 24 hours, and killing traps or killing snares that he or she has set on the trapline at least once every 14 days.

▶ A holder of a licence, permit or other authorization to trap on private property commits an offence unless that person examines the holding or non-killing traps he or she has set on private property at least once every 24 hours.

▶ It is an offence to trap a furbearing animal, and if the animal is alive when the trap is checked, fail to immediately release or kill the animal.

▶ Except as authorised by regulation, it is an offence to trap a furbearing animal, and if the animal is alive, to transport it to another area and release it without a permit.

Use of Firearms

▶ It is an offence to trap wildlife using a firearm from one hour after sunset on any day until one hour before sunrise on the

day following, unless using a firearm to kill a furbearing animal caught in a trap on a registered trapline.

Trapping Near A Dwelling Or On Private Property


▶ It is an offence to trap within 200 m of a dwelling, unless you use:

If trapping on land, a live box trap or egg trap, or

If trapping on or in water;

- a Conibear trap not larger than size #330 or equivalent, or
 - leghold traps not larger than size #2, or
 - submarine traps.
- ▶ It is an offence to trap on private property without a trapping licence and the written permission of the property owner.

NORTH AMERICAN FUR AUCTIONS



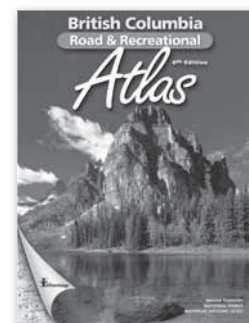
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THE AGREEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANE TRAPPING STANDARDS

On June 1, 1999, the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS, or the "Agreement") came into effect. Signed by the Government of Canada, the European Community, and the Government of the Russian Federation, the Agreement serves to protect Canada's access to the European fur market and thus protects the wild fur industry in Canada.

The AIHTS sets performance thresholds on traps for specific species. Those traps that meet the performance thresholds are then eligible for certification.

In order to comply with the Agreement, BC has made numerous regulatory changes and will make further regulatory changes to ensure that only certified traps will be legal for those species listed in the AIHTS.

WHAT DOES THE AGREEMENT MEAN FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA'S TRAPPERS?

The Agreement applies to most furbearers trapped in BC, including beaver, bobcat, coyote, ermine, fisher, lynx, marten, muskrat, otter, raccoon and wolf for the following purposes:

1. for wildlife management purposes, including wildlife conflict control;
2. to obtain furs, skins or meat;
3. for conservation purposes.

Since the 2007/2008 trapping season, a person using killing traps for beaver, fisher, marten, raccoon and muskrat and restraining traps for lynx has been required, by law, to use only species-specific traps included in BC's trapping regulations which have been certified under the Agreement. See page 94 for the list of traps. As additional traps are tested and certified for these species they will be added to this list of legal traps – traps for these species are not legal until they have been added to BC's regulations.

If no certified trap is available for a given species after June 2007, current trap types and/or models will be allowed for the given species until a reasonable number of traps have been certified through the aforementioned process.

Since 1999, the Province of British Columbia has been moving towards meeting its obligations under the Agreement. The implementation of the Agreement allows trappers to continue to market their furs internationally, and will ensure Canada continues to play a leading role in the research, development and implementation of humane trapping methods to effectively manage our fur resource.

For more information on the Agreement and to see an updated list of traps currently meeting the standards of the Agreement, please visit the Fur Institute of Canada's website at www.fur.ca or contact the Ministry of Environment at 250-387-9771.

Removal of Edible Portions and Hide

► It is an offence to kill wildlife (with the exception of grizzly bear, cougar or a fur bearing animal other than a black bear) and fail to remove from the carcass the edible portions of the four quarters and loins to the person's normal dwelling place or to a meat cutter or the owner or operator of a cold storage plant. A person who kills wildlife is exempted from the requirement to remove the edible portions if that person transfers possession of the wildlife to a recipient who complies with the requirement. Edible portions do not include meat that has been damaged and made inedible by the method of taking. Of grizzly bear, cougar or a fur bearing animal other than a black bear, the hide must be removed to the person's normal dwelling place or to a meat cutter, the owner or operator of a cold storage plant or to a taxidermist, tanner or a fur trader. A person who kills wildlife is exempted from the requirement to remove the hide if that person transfers possession of the wildlife to another person who complies with the requirement.

Use of Road-Kill Wildlife

► Trappers may pick up and transport any dead mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, moose, black bear, or any wildlife listed in Schedules B or C (see the "What is Wildlife?" section for current schedules) if:

- (a) the wildlife is dead as a result of colliding with a motor vehicle, other than a motor vehicle operated by the trapper;
- (b) the meat of the wildlife is unfit for human consumption;
- (c) the carcass of the wildlife is to be used only
 - (i) by the trapper; and
 - (ii) as bait for traps set under the authority of the trapper's licence or licence exemption; and
- (d) at the time of possession and transportation, the trapper has, on his or her person, the trapper's current trapping licence or proof of the trapper's licence exemption.

► Trappers who pick up road-kill wildlife for use as bait must, within 30 days of picking up the road kill, complete a "Trapper Road Kill Possession Report Form" (available at

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any regional office, Service BC's office, or on the ministry website at: www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/index.html and submit it to the address shown on the form.

► Trappers must retain a copy of every completed Trapper Road Kill Possession Report Form for at least 2 years after the date of pick up of the road kill described on the form.

► For more information on this regulation, please contact the F&W Branch at 250-387-9771.

Bait for traplines

Trappers may keep the carcass of a Beaver, Coyote, Ermine, Fox, Marmot (except Vancouver Island Marmots), Mink, Mole, Muskrat, Prairie dog, River Otter, Squirrel (ground, flying, Douglas, red), or wildlife described in Schedules B or C (see the "What is Wildlife?" section for current schedules) trapped out of season if:

- (a) the wildlife carcass is to be used only by the trapper; and
 - (i) as bait for traps set under the authority of the trapper's licence or licence exemption, and

TRAPPING REGULATIONS

(b) at the time of possession and transport, the trapper has, on his or her person,

- (i) his or her current trapping licence or proof of licence exemption, and
- (ii) a permit issued under section 2 (c)(iii) of the Permit Regulation, BC Reg. 253/2000, permitting him or her to trap that wildlife during the closed season.

Collared, Implanted or Ear-tagged Furbearing Animals

▶ Several furbearing animal research projects are under way within the province. Please report the harvest of any collared, implanted or ear-tagged animal and return collars or implants to the nearest MoE regional office. Radio collars and implants are property of the Crown and must be returned.

Trapline Cabins

▶ Trappers must register their trapline cabins that are on Crown Land. Cabin applications may take six months or more to process. Contact the MoE regional office in the area of the trapline for more information. See below for more information on trapline cabins in parks.

Ecological Reserves, Provincial Parks, & Recreation Areas

▶ Trapping within ecological reserves is prohibited.

▶ Registered trapline tenure within Provincial Parks is subject to the provisions of the *Park Act* and its regulations. Trappers are required to obtain a Park or Resource Use Permit to trap that part of their trapline occurring within a Provincial Park or Recreation Area. This permit can be obtained from the Permit & Authorization Service Bureau (see page 63).

Trapline cabins in Provincial Parks and Recreation Areas also require authorization by a Park Use or a Resource Use Permit.

TRAPLINE REGISTRATION USE & RELINQUISHMENT

▶ It is an offence to set a trap for, hunt, kill, take or capture a furbearing animal in any area of the province unless you are the registered holder of the trapline for that area or are authorized by regulation or permit.

▶ Registration of a trapline on Crown Land may only be granted to a person 19 years of age or older who is a citizen of Canada or has the status of a permanent resident of Canada.

▶ No more than one trapline shall be registered to a person unless traplines are adjoining, and a fur management plan is approved by the Regional Manager:

▶ Registration of a trapline does not:

- give the holder of a trapline any proprietary rights in wildlife, or
- restrict the rights of another person to hunt or capture wildlife where authorized by regulation or permit.

▶ The boundaries of a trapline are defined by the MoE Regional Manager.

▶ The relinquishment or transfer of a trapline must be approved by the Regional Manager.

▶ No person shall continue to hold a registered trapline unless he or she:

- carries on active trapping on his or her registered trapline to the satisfaction of the Regional Manager; or
- obtains permission from the Regional Manager to temporarily discontinue the use of his or her registered trapline for a period not exceeding two years, or
- uses or causes the use of his or her trapline by a licensed trapper or a person exempted from holding a licence.

▶ A person fails to use a trapline where, within a year, that person fails to take from the trapline furbearing animals of a value of \$200, or 50 pelts, except where it is unreasonable for that value of animals or number of pelts to be taken from the trapline.

▶ The Province reserves the right to remove nuisance animals from Crown Land, whether or not the Crown Land in question is under a trapline registration.

OTHER RESTRICTIONS AND INFORMATION

▶ The Assigned Trapper Number (ATN) is required by the Fur Trader when accepting, exporting and selling fur. It is also required when paying fur royalties. Please remember to write your ATN on a slip of paper or letter when shipping your fur to a fur trader. This will prevent delays in getting your furs to market and cash returns to you. Fur traders cannot ship or sell fur without recording your ATN.

▶ You are reminded that, under Sections 247 and 446 of the Criminal Code of Canada, it is an offence for anyone to wilfully cause, or permit to be caused, unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal or injury to a person.

▶ As approved humane traps become available, trapping regulations restricting or prohibiting the use of certain other traps in the capture of various animals will be brought into effect.

▶ A person who knowingly damages or interferes with a lawfully-set trap commits an offence.

▶ It is an offence to have live wildlife in your personal possession except under a licence or permit or as provided by regulation. A trapping licence does NOT authorize the possession of live wildlife.

▶ Any raw fur or skin of a furbearing animal shipped out of the Province for commercial purposes must be accompanied by an Export Permit.

▶ When trapping in areas near recreational areas or communities, trappers should evaluate whether lethal traps are necessary at the site. It is important to remember that the landscape is utilized by a number of different user groups and that the safety of non-target species is vital to good trapline management. Warning signs should be used to inform people of trapping activities.

COMPULSORY REPORTING & INSPECTION

▶ In order to better record the harvest of furbearing animals, the F&W Branch requires that certain species be reported or submitted to a MoE office. The information gathered is critical to the management of these populations, and trapper compliance is needed to ensure that seasons are properly set. Please review the following requirements and keep accurate records pertaining to them.

Compulsory Reporting

▶ Trappers must, within 15 days following the end of the trapping season, report the harvest of:

- **fisher** in all MUs when trapped in a fisher open season;
- **wolverine** in regions 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7;
- **lynx** in region 4 and 8;
- **bobcat** in MUs 1-14 and 1-15, and in regions 2, 4, and 8; and
- **wolf** in regions 1, 2, 4.

▶ Compulsory reporting forms are available at any MoE regional office and the MoE website. Reporting may be done by mail (to the address on the form), phone or in person. When reporting, please give the following information:

- name, address and Assigned Trapper Number (top right corner of licence),
- location and date of kill,
- type of trap and set used,
- number of days the trap was set before the animal was killed, and
- the sex and age class of the animal.

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COMPULSORY INSPECTION & INCIDENTAL (ACCIDENTAL) TRAPPING

▶ Furbearers that are killed incidentally in areas with no open season must be compulsory inspected. Trappers must submit, within 15 days following the end of the trapping season, the carcass and pelt of:

- wolverine in regions 1, 2, and 8;
- fisher in all MUs when trapped outside a fisher open season;
- weasel in region 1 and MU's 6-12 and 6-13, and a long-tailed weasel in MU's 2-3, 2-4, 2-6, 2-18 and 2-19; and
- lynx in MU's 1-14 and 1-15 and region 2.

▶ Trappers must submit the entire carcass and pelt and provide the following information to the local MoE regional office:

- name, address and Assigned Trapper Number (top right corner of licence),
- location and date of kill,
- type of trap and set used, and
- number of days the trap was set before the animal was killed.

▶ Animals submitted can not be reclaimed by the trapper and may be donated by the Province to the Trapper Education Program.

LICENCE AND REGISTRATION FEES

▶ Applications for trapping licences are available at Service BC offices, Permit & Authorization Service Bureau, or electronically from the MoE website: www.env.gov.bc.ca/pasb/applications.html. (See Wildlife Permits & Commercial Licences article, page 63.)

▶ The fees payable for the issuance of the following licences are:

1. For a trapping licence issued to a citizen or permanent resident of Canada to trap furbearing animals (includes Habitat Conservation Trust Fund surcharge)
 - One Year Licence \$40.00
 - Five Year Licence \$200.00
2. For a duplicate licence to a person who, upon satisfactory proof, shows that his/her licence has been lost or destroyed (an affidavit is also required, for a fee of \$10.70) \$10.00
3. To transfer registered trapline rights to a person or group of persons \$50.00
4. For a fur trader's licence. \$100.00
5. For a fur trader to trade from a place of business in another province. . . . \$400.00

Note: Trapping licences shall be valid from the date of issuance to June 30.

FUR ROYALTY REGULATIONS AND SCHEDULE

▶ Royalty must be paid by a person to keep the pelt or skin of a furbearing animal (not raised in captivity) lawfully taken under their TRAPPING licence, unless that person sells the pelt or skin to a licensed fur trader:

▶ Royalty fee payments may be submitted by mail or courier with cheque (payable to The Minister of Finance), money order or credit card to: Permit & Authorization Service Bureau, 4th Floor 2975 Jutland Road, PO Box 9372 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9M3 or by fax: 250-387-1814.

▶ If the pelt or skin of a furbearing animal was lawfully taken under a person's HUNTING licence, a royalty does not need to be paid, unless that person intends to offer the pelt or skin for sale.

SCHEDULE OF ROYALTIES

▶ Royalty per pelt or skin:

Beaver	\$.66	Muskrat	\$0.11
Black Bear	\$2.76	Otter	\$1.29
Bobcat	\$6.35	Raccoon	\$.36
Coyote	\$.76	Skunk	\$.23
Fisher	\$2.13	Squirrel	\$.04
Fox	\$.74	Weasel	\$.16
Lynx	\$4.59	Wolf	\$3.38
Marten	\$1.80	Wolverine	\$7.84
Mink	\$.45		

TRAPPER EDUCATION PROGRAM

▶ British Columbia is committed to regulating humane traps as they become available and ensuring that trappers are educated in the use of humane traps. All trappers have a responsibility to ensure they are trained and use the most humane traps available, that furbearing animals in their trapping areas are managed wisely, and pelts are handled professionally.

▶ It is an offence to trap unless you have completed a Trapper Education Program (TEP) approved by the Director of the F&W Branch. Approved TEP courses include those obtained in British Columbia since July 1, 1982; from Quebec since July 1, 1988; and from the Yukon, Alberta and Ontario since July 1, 1989.

▶ In cooperation with MoE, the BC Trappers Association (BCTA) delivers TEP.

▶ TEP courses are 3 days in length.

▶ The cost of the TEP course is \$290.00.

▶ The BC Trapper Education Manual is available from the BCTA (who produced and published it) at TEP courses for \$35.00.

▶ Instructors are located around the Province. The demand for TEP courses continues to be high and the delivery of a

course is subject to instructor availability. Plan in advance!

▶ If you are interested in TEP, please contact: BC Trappers Association
PO Box 1063, Prince George, BC V2L 4V2
Phone: 250-962-5452, fax: 250-962-5462.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT FISHERS

▶ Fishers are blue-listed by the BC Conservation Data Centre (for description of the provincial listing process, please go to the BC Conservation Data Centre's website at www.env.gov.bc.ca/cdc). Trapping seasons for fisher are open in areas of the province that can support a harvest. Therefore, fisher trapping seasons were re-opened in areas of the province that can support a harvest. All fisher trapped during an open season must be Compulsory Reported, and those incidentally trapped in areas or at times with no open season must be Compulsory Inspected (see Compulsory Reporting/Inspection requirements, page 92). Fisher populations will continue to be assessed as new data becomes available. Trappers are encouraged to help provide this data by ensuring all fishers taken are compulsory reported or inspected in a timely manner.

▶ Strategies to minimize incidental capture of fisher in marginal areas and to enhance populations are summarized below:

Harvest Reduction Efforts

▶ Modify marten boxes by making them longer and the entry hole smaller (2.5 - 3" in diameter).

▶ Avoid trapping around fisher den sites, near large cottonwoods and fir snags.

▶ Avoid trapping marten or mink where fisher sign is evident.

Population Enhancement

▶ Establish food sites for fisher (helps marten and weasel also). Hang carcasses in trees to reduce competition by other land predators.

▶ Complete marten trapping as early in the season as possible to help reduce the incidental capture of adult female fisher.

▶ Establish non-trapping or refuge sites on your trapline.



Skunk

KILLING TRAPS

(This list will be updated as additional traps are certified check www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw)

SPECIES	CERTIFIED TRAPS	
BEAVER <i>Underwater or on land</i>	B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper B.M.I. 330 Body Gripper Bélisle Classic 330 Bélisle Super X 280 Bélisle Super X 330 Bridger 330 Duke 330 LDL C280 LDL C280 Magnum LDL C330 LDL C330 Magnum	Rudy 280 Rudy 330 Sauvageau 1000-11F Sauvageau 2001-8 Sauvageau 2001-11 Sauvageau 2001-12 Species-Specific 330 Dislocator Half Magnum Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half Magnum Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
FISHER	Bélisle Super X 120 Bélisle Super X 160 Bélisle Super X 220 Koro #2 LDL C160 Magnum LDL C220 Magnum	Rudy 120 Magnum Rudy 160 Plus Rudy 220 Plus Sauvageau 2001-5 Sauvageau 2001-6 Sauvageau 2001-7 Sauvageau 2001-8
MARTEN	B.M.I. 126 Magnum Body Gripper Bélisle Super X 120 Bélisle Super X 160 Koro #1 LDL B120 Magnum Northwoods 155	Rudy 120 Magnum Rudy 160 Plus Sauvageau C120 Magnum Sauvageau 2001-5 Sauvageau 2001-6
RACCOON	B.M.I. 160 Body Gripper B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper B.M.I. 280 Magnum Body Gripper Bélisle Classic 220 Bélisle Super X 160 Bélisle Super X 220 Bélisle Super X 280 Bridger 160 Bridger 220 Duke 160 Duke 220 LDL C160 LDL C220	LDL C220 Magnum LDL C280 Magnum Northwoods 155 Rudy 160 Rudy 160 Plus Rudy 220 Rudy 220 Plus Sauvageau 2001-6 Sauvageau 2001-7 Sauvageau 2001-8 Species-Specific 220 Dislocator Half Magnum Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 160 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220 Koro #2
MUSKRAT <i>On land only</i>	B.M.I. 120 B.M.I. 120 Magnum B.M.I. 126 Magnum Bélisle Super X 120 Bridger 120 Duke 120 Koro Muskrat Trap LDL B120 Magnum Ouell 4-11-180	Rudy 110 Rudy 120 Rudy 120 Magnum Sauvageau 2001-5 Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend" Sauvageau C120 Magnum Triple M Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120
MUSKRAT <i>Underwater only</i>	Any jaw type trap (body gripping or leghold) set as a submersion set that exerts clamping force on a muskrat and that maintains a muskrat underwater.	

LEGHOLD RESTRAINING TRAPS

(This list will be updated as additional traps are certified check www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw)

SPECIES	CERTIFIED TRAPS	
LYNX	Bélisle Footsnare #6 Bélisle Sélectif Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil springs Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs Oneida Victor #3 equipped with a minimum of 8 mm thick, non-offset steel jaws, 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate	

TRAPPING METHODS

	Killing Snare	Modified Leghold	Leghold - Submerging	Killing Trap	Live Box Trap	Foot Snare	Rifle, Shotgun or Bow	Egg Trap
Beaver	X		X	X ⁵	X		X	
Black Bear*							X ^{3,4}	
Bobcat	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Coyote	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Fisher	X			X ⁵	X		X	
Fox	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Lynx	X	X ⁶		X	X	X	X	
Marten	X			X ⁵	X		X	
Mink	X		X	X	X		X	
Muskrat	X		X ²	X ⁵	X		X	
Otter	X		X	X	X		X	
Raccoon	X			X ⁵	X		X	X
Skunk	X			X	X		X	
Squirrel	X			X	X		X	
Weasel	X			X	X		X	
Wolf	X	X ¹		X	X	X	X ³	
Wolverine	X			X	X		X	

“X” means that this is a legal trapping method in BC

* black bear may not be trapped by placing bait or by using a dead animal or part of it as bait.

- For solidly-fastened leghold traps designed to trap wolves, no more than 60 cm of chain between the trap and the point to which it is fastened may be used.
- A minimum weight of 150 g must be securely attached to all muskrat submerging sets smaller than size #1 1/2
- It is an offence to shoot/kill a black bear; or a wolf not caught in a trap or a snare, with a rifle using a rimfire cartridge, or with a shotgun with a bore size of less than 20 gauge, or using shells of shot size smaller than No. 1 Buck.
- Refer to the Hunting Methods table, page 16, for firearm and archery requirements for black bear, the Bears section page 8, and the Important Notice for Bear Hunters page 63.
- Only killing traps certified under the AIHTS may be used see list on page 94.
- Only leghold restraining traps certified under the AIHTS may be used see page 94.

It's Unlawful

You should know that it is unlawful to:

- Use a leghold trap which has teeth or other projections on the jaws of the trap.
- Use a killing snare on land, unless the snare is equipped with a locking device, or is designed to catch squirrels or hares, or is a mechanically-powered killing snare.
- Use a snare made of wire heavier than 20 gauge unless licenced or authorized to trap.
- Use a snare made of braided wire unless licenced or authorized to trap.
- Set spring poles or running poles unless they are equipped with a killing trap.
- Use a trap equipped with a spearing device.
- Use any Conibear trap larger than, but not including, #220 for land sets within any municipality in Region 2.
- Use a rat trap unless the bait and trigger are completely covered, with an opening not larger than 4.5 cm wide and 5 cm high.
- Trap with a rifle using a full metal jacketed non-expanding bullet, or a tracer, incendiary, or explosive bullet, or with a shotgun using a tracer or incendiary shot shell.
- Use electronic or recorded calls for trapping furbearing animals other than for trapping wolf, coyote, bobcat or lynx.

Trappers should be aware of the restrictions described in the It's Unlawful section (page 14) and the Hunting Methods and Restrictions sections (pages 16 to 18).

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2010 - 2012 PROVINCIAL TRAPPING SEASONS

Note: The following open seasons apply to the entire region unless specific Management Units (MUs) are stated.

SPECIES/REGIONS (MUs)	SEASON DATES	SPECIES/REGIONS (MUs)	SEASONS DATES
BEAVER		MUSKRAT	
Region 1	Oct 1 - Apr 30	Regions 1, 3, 4, 5, 8	Oct 15 - Apr 30
Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, 8	Oct 15 - Apr 30	Region 2	Nov 15 - Feb 15
Regions 6, 7	Oct 1 - May 31	Regions 6, 7	Oct 1 - May 31
BLACK BEAR		RACCOON	
Region 4, 5 (except MUs 5-2, 5-15) and MUs 6-3, 6-11 to 6-14	Oct 15 - May 15	Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (except MUs 6-12, 6-13), 7, 8	Oct 1 - Mar 31
Region 6 (except MUs 6-3, 6-11 to 6-14), and Region 7, and MUs 3-34 to 3-44 and MUs 5-2, 5-15	Oct 1 - May 31	MUs 6-12, 6-13	Jan 1 - Dec 31
<i>Quota = 2 black bear in one year</i> <i>See the "Bears" and "It's Unlawful" section for general regulations concerning bear parts.</i>		RIVER OTTER	
BOBCAT		Region 1	Nov 15 - Mar 31
Regions 2, 3, 4♦, 5, 8	Nov 15 - Feb 15	MUs 2-2 to 2-5, 2-12 to 2-16	Nov 15 - Feb 28
♦ <i>Quota = 2 in one year</i>		MUs 2-6 to 2-11, 2-17 to 2-19 and Regions 3, 4, 5	Oct 15 - Apr 30
COYOTE		Regions 6, 7	Oct 1 - May 31
Region 2	Sept 10 - Jun 15	Region 8	Nov 1 - Apr 15
Regions 3, 4♣, 5, 6, 7★, 8 and MUs 1-14, 1-15	Oct 15 - Mar 31	SKUNK	
♣ <i>In MU 4-1, open season is Dec 1 - Mar 31 if using a killing snare. In MU 4-1, it is illegal to place bait between Mar 31 - Dec 1 of a kind/quantity that could reasonably be expected to attract a coyote to an area in which a killing snare is used.</i>		MUs 1-14, 1-14 and Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	Oct 15 - Feb 28
★ <i>There is no closed season for coyote in MUs 7-19 to 7-22, 7-31 to 7-36, 7-42 to 7-58 below 1100 m elevation.</i>		SQUIRREL	
FISHER		Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8	Nov 1 - Mar 15
MUs 3-27 to 3-33, 3-38 to 3-41, 5-1 to 5-6, 5-10 to 5-15, 6-1 to 6-11, 6-19 to 6-27, 7-5 to 7-58	Nov 1 - Feb 15	Regions 6, 7	Nov 1 - Mar 30
<i>See Compulsory Inspection & Reporting requirements, page 92</i>		WEASEL	
FOX		Regions 2♣, 3, 4, 5, 8	Nov 1 - Feb 15
Regions 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and MUs 1-14, 1-15	Oct 15 - Feb 28	Regions 6, 7 (except MUs 6-12, 6-13)	Nov 1 - Feb 28
Region 5	Oct 15 - Mar 31	♣ <i>There is no open season on long-tailed weasel in MUs 2-3, 2-4, 2-6, 2-18 & 2-19</i>	
LYNX		WOLVERINE	
Regions 3, 5, 6, 7, 8	Nov 15 - Feb 15	Regions 3, 4, 5	Nov 1 - Jan 31
Region 4	Nov 15 - Dec 31	Region 6, 7 (except MUs 6-3, 6-11, 6-14)	Nov 1 - Feb 28
MARTEN		MUs 6-3, 6-11, 6-14	Nov 1 - Feb 15
Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8	Nov 1 - Feb 15	WOLF	
Regions 6, 7 (except MUs 7-49 to 7-54)	Nov 1 - Feb 28	Region 1	Nov 1 - Jun 30
MUs 7-49 to 7-54	Nov 1 - Mar 15	MUs 2-5, 2-6, 2-11 to 2-16	Sept 10 - Jun 15
MINK		MUs 3-12 to 3-20, 3-26 to 3-33, 3-34 to 3-44	Oct 15 - Mar 31
Regions 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 (except MUs 7-49 to 7-54)	Nov 1 - Feb 15	Regions 4*♣, 5, 6	Oct 15 - Mar 31
Region 2 and MUs 6-3, 6-11, 6-14	Nov 15 - Feb 15	Region 7★	Oct 15 - May 31
Region 6 (except MUs 6-3, 6-11, 6-14)	Nov 1 - Feb 28	* <i>There is no closed season on wolf in the East Kootenay Trench below 1100 m elevation.</i>	
MUs 7-49 to 7-54	Oct 15 - Feb 15	♣ <i>In MU 4-1, open season is Dec 1 - Mar 31 if using a killing snare. In MU 4-1, it is illegal to place bait between Mar 31 - Dec 1 of a kind/quantity that could reasonably be expected to attract a wolf to an area in which a killing snare is used.</i>	
		★ <i>There is no closed season for wolf in MUs 7-19 to 7-22, 7-31 to 7-36, 7-42 to 7-58 below 1100 m elevation.</i>	

BAIT STATIONS AND SNARE-SET RECOMMENDATIONS

Bait Stations

Bait stations are strategically placed baits used to attract animals, particularly wolves and coyotes, to locations where they can be trapped. They are often established a week or two prior to trapping at the site.

Bait stations may alter bear behaviour by potentially delaying the onset of hibernation. Because of this, bait stations should only be set up after local bears have begun hibernating. You are reminded that it is illegal to hunt a bear by placing bait or using a dead animal or part of it as bait.

Snares

Currently, killing snares may be used to trap all furbearers except Black Bear. Proper snaring techniques are important to master to trap these animals in a humane and efficient manner. When setting snares, please remember:

1. snares must be constructed from high quality material and be assembled with care,
2. the snare cable cannot be twisted when making the snare,

3. snare cables and wires should not be re-used after the capture of an animal,

4. loop size and height of the loop off the ground are critical to the humane and effective operation of a snare. Large loops and snares set at improper heights have the potential to inhumanely trap both target and non-target species. This is especially true when trapping WOLVES, COYOTES, or FOXES. Do not set snares with excessively large loops,

5. record the locations of all your snares and be sure none are left out after the end of the trapping season,

6. snares set for wolves and coyotes should be set only after bears have begun hibernating and should be pulled prior to bears coming out of hibernation in the spring.

The BC Trappers Association's Trapper Education Manual describes guidelines for establishing bait stations, as well as for assembling and setting snares for various species. Please consult this publication to ensure you are following proper, humane snaring practices. Contact the BC Trappers Association at 1-250-962-5452 to obtain a copy of the manual.