

FREE OF CHARGE

ALBERTA GUIDE TO

TRAPPING REGULATIONS

- photo Rob Miskosky

2012-2013

- 5 Important Changes
- 10 Registered Fur Management Area Quotas
- 15 Certified Traps - AIHTS Implementation
- 17 Fur-bearer Management Registration Information

Alberta 
Government

Official Summary of Alberta Government Trapping Regulations

WHAT YOU DO FOR FUN IS OUR BUSINESS!!

- Yamaha Motorcycles • Snowmobiles • ATV's • Generators • Snow Blowers • Waverunners • Sport Boats
- Sun Catcher Pontoon Boats • G3 Aluminum Fishing & Jet Boats • Zodiac Inflatables • Parts • Accessories • Financing • Service

Rhino 700 EFI



700 Grizzly (Power Steering)



Yamaha VK Professional



Yamaha 2 & 4 Stroke Outboards



- Quieter • Cleaner
- Better Fuel Economy

FX High Output



G3 Fishing Boats



Zodiac Inflatables



Yamaha EF3000ISE Generator



CALL RIVERSIDE'S 0 DOWN CREDIT HOTLINE @ 780-458-7272



WHAT YOU DO FOR FUN IS OUR BUSINESS!!



YAMAHA

#15 INGLEWOOD DRIVE HWY 2 NORTH IN ST. ALBERT

780-458-7272

www.rideRIVERSIDE.com

RiversideHonda.com

2013 TRX500FMD

Available with optional power steering and electric shift.
- liquid cooled, fuel injected

starting at **\$8,399**

prices plus freight and set up



We Take Trades & Rent Commercially

15 INGLEWOOD DR. (North on Hwy. 2)
St. Albert, Alberta T8N 5E2

(780) 458-7227 1-800-819-7433

www.riversidehonda.com

Riverside
HONDA
& ski-doo





Retail Store - Education - Fur Depot

TRAPS

PRE-BUILT SNARES

SNARE MAKING COMPONENTS

TRAP SUPPLIES

TOOLS

LURES & BAITS

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

BOOKS & DVD'S

CALL FOR YOUR FREE
CATALOGUE TODAY



AUTHENTIC NATIVE
CRAFTS & GIFTS

STANDARD TRAPPER EDUCATION

'NEW'
PHONE NUMBERS
1-855-957-3731
780-957-3731

INFO@TRAPPERGORD.COM

TOLL FREE 1-855-957-3731

VISIT US ONLINE @ WWW.TRAPPERGORD.COM

Minister's Message



Long before Alberta was a province, the original Canadian economy was fueled by trapping – beaver, fox, and weasel pelts were the currency that built this great country. Today, trapping remains an integral part of our province's heritage and provides important income and tradition to many Albertans.

Alberta has changed – and continues to change. Our landscapes have

shifted and adjusted to the modern realities of urbanization, natural resource development, and recreational activities. These changes mean both trappers and the Government of Alberta must continually adapt to the pressures of 21st century Alberta, while ensuring an ethical harvest that respects both the animals and their habitats.

At its heart, modern trapping is about respect for the land and its wildlife. Today's trapping technology, stewardship practices, regulations, and standards are the result of cooperative and collaborative conservation between government and Alberta's trapping community.

I encourage you to read the 2012-13 Alberta Guide to Trapping Regulations carefully and share the importance of sustainable trapping with your peers. Together, we can ensure trapping remains a part of Alberta's continued legacy. I wish you a rewarding trapping season.

Honourable Diana McQueen
Minister
Environment and Sustainable Resource Development



Subscribe Today!



12 issues for only \$38
780-413-0331 or online
at albertaoutdoorsmen.ca

**Check out our
Trapping Discussion
at outdoorsmenforum.ca**



Table of Contents

Important Changes for 2012 – 2013	5
Definitions.....	5
Further Inquiries.....	6
Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) Descriptions	7
Maps	7
Regulations	7
Licences	8
Registered Fur Management Licence	8
Resident Fur Management Licence.....	8
Indian Fur Management Licence	8
Métis Fur Management Licence	8
Youths Accompanying Trapper.....	8
Sale of Pelts by Youths	8
Licence Fees.....	10
Quotas	10
Regulatory Requirements for the Use of Trapping Devices.....	11
Additional Regulations	11
Trapper Education.....	11
Mandatory Requirements for First-Time Trappers.....	11
Fur Management Zone Map.....	12
Fur-bearer Seasons.....	13
Black Bear Seasons and Baiting	13
Sale of Wildlife	14
Exporting.....	14
Humane Trapping	14
Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS)	14
Certified Traps - AIHTS Implementation	15-16
Mandatory Registration	16
Natural Areas and Ecological Reserves	16
Fur Handlers.....	16
Fur-bearer Management Registration Information	17
Carcass Collection Program.....	18
Primeness of Pelts	18
Trapping and Cougar Management	18
Alberta Trappers' Compensation Program	19
Control of Problem Wildlife	19
Community Relations	20
Additional Information	20
Accidental Trapping.....	20
Trapping in Protected Areas	20
A Code for Responsible Trapping	20
Fur Institute of Canada.....	20
Diseases.....	21

NOTE: This pamphlet is neither a legal document nor a complete listing of current Alberta trapping regulations. It is a summary of the Wildlife Regulation published to assist trappers to understand the rules of trapping. Details of the regulations may be obtained from the nearest district Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 6) or by viewing the Wildlife Regulation at the Alberta Queens Printer website: www.qp.alberta.ca.

The *Alberta Guide to Trapping Regulations* is published annually by Alberta Sustainable Resource Development. It is provided free-of-charge to all Alberta trappers and others interested in the fur industry in Alberta. With the exception of short quotations for review purposes, no portion of this document may be reproduced without written permission from Alberta Sustainable Resource Development.

Pub. No. I/560 • ISBN 978-1-4601-0462-0 (Printed Edition)
• ISBN 978-1-4601-0463-7 (On-line Edition) • ISSN 1198-5089

Important Changes for 2012 - 2013

- Additional traps have been certified under the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS). Trappers are reminded that it is unlawful to use traps that do not meet the requirement of the AIHTS (pages 14-16).
- Trappers are reminded that for the voluntary fisher collection program (see page 18) only the heads of fisher are currently being requested.
- The black bear baiting closure in WMU 544 has been eliminated.
- During 2012, Environment and Sustainable Resource Development may conduct prescribed fire operations in WMUs 420, 422, 429 and 434 anytime during the year. Localized area or trail closures may be in effect as part of these operations. For further information please contact 403-845-8250 or online to: <http://www.srd.alberta.ca/Wildfire/PrescribedFires/Default.aspx>.

Definitions

The following definitions will help you understand this Guide:

Fur Management Zone (FMZ) — large tracts of land (as prescribed in legislation) having similar environmental features. There are eight such zones in Alberta.

Killing Device

1. a device designed and set in a manner to trap and kill a fur-bearing animal by the action of the trap;
2. a snare set to tighten on the neck of a fur-bearing animal in order to kill it, where the energy to tighten the snare is provided by the animal; or
3. a device that is set so that it will hold and kill a fur-bearing animal under water.

Partner — a resident, a person with written authority from the Senior Licence Holder (see below) to trap on the Senior Licence Holder's Registered Fur Management Area. A partner requires a licence, and partners who are first-time trappers must meet mandatory requirements, outlined on page 11, before their partnership agreement can be approved. For further information, contact the Fish and Wildlife Division (see page 6).

Resident — a person who either

- has his or her only or primary residence in Alberta **and**
— is a Canadian citizen or admitted to permanent residence in Canada, or

— has lived in Canada for the 12-month period immediately preceding the relevant date;

or

- is on full-time service with the Armed Forces of Canada and would, if an election were held under the *Elections Act* (Canada), be eligible to vote in Alberta under that Act.

Registered Fur Management Area (RFMA) — a parcel of public land the boundary of which is described on the original Registered Fur Management Licence.

Registered Fur Management Licence — a licence to hunt and trap fur-bearing animals on the lands described on the licence, as well as on private lands that the licence-holder owns or occupies.

Resident Fur Management Licence — a licence available for trapping on privately owned and some public lands not included in Registered Fur Management Areas. For further information contact the Fish and Wildlife Division (see page 6).

Senior Holder — the principal holder of a Registered Fur Management Area, and the person who has authority to give written consent to establish partnerships.

WMU — Wildlife Management Unit, a geographical area prescribed in legislation.



Further Inquiries

For information about these regulations or other matters concerning wildlife or fish management, please contact the sources listed below.

Telephone Numbers of Fish and Wildlife Division offices.

Office hours vary, please contact the individual office for hours of operation.

For toll-free access to most Fish and Wildlife Division offices in Alberta, dial 310-0000.

Northwest Region

Fairview	780-835-2737
Fort Vermilion	780-927-4488
*Grande Prairie	780-538-5265
*High Level	780-926-2238
High Prairie	780-523-6521
Manning	780-836-3065
*Peace River	780-624-6405
Red Earth	780-649-3853
*Slave Lake	780-849-7123
Spirit River	780-864-4101
Valleyview	780-524-3605

Northeast Region

Athabasca	780-675-2419
Bonnyville	780-826-3142
Cold Lake	780-594-7876
Edmonton	780-427-3574
Fort Chipewyan	780-697-3511
*Fort McMurray	780-743-7200
*Lac La Biche	780-623-5247
St. Paul	780-645-6313
Smoky Lake	780-656-3556

Southwest Region

Barrhead	780-674-8236
Blairmore	403-562-3289
Canmore	403-678-2373
Claresholm	403-625-1450
Cochrane	403-932-2388
Drayton Valley	780-542-6616
*Edson	780-723-8244
Evansburg	780-727-3635
Fox Creek	780-622-3421
Grande Cache	780-827-3356
High River	403-652-8330
Hinton	780-865-8264
Nordegg	403-721-3965
Pincher Creek	403-627-1116

*Rocky Mountain House	403-845-8230
Stony Plain (Spruce Grove)	780-960-8190
Sundre	403-638-3805
Swan Hills	780-333-2229
*Whitecourt	780-778-7112

Southeast Region

Brooks	403-362-1232
*Calgary	403-297-6423
Camrose	780-679-1225
Cardston	403-653-5158
Coronation	403-578-3223
Drumheller	403-823-1670
Foremost	403-867-3826
Hanna	403-854-5540
Lethbridge	403-381-5266
Lloydminster	780-871-6495
Medicine Hat	403-529-3680
Olds	403-556-4215
Oyen	403-664-3614
Ponoka	403-783-7093
Provost	780-753-2433
*Red Deer	403-340-5142
Stettler	403-742-7510
Strathmore	403-934-3422
Vegreville	780-632-5410
Vermilion	780-853-8137
Vulcan	403-485-6971
Wetaskiwin	780-361-1250

*Area Office

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Information Centre

780-944-0313, toll free 1-877-944-0313

Email: srd.infocent@gov.ab.ca

Websites — albertaregulations.ca or mywildalberta.com

Fish and Wildlife Division Head Office Mailing Address:

2 Floor, 9920-108 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2M4



WMU Descriptions

WMUs shown on the enclosed map are legally described in the *Wildlife Regulation* (AR 143/97). The *Wildlife Regulation* may be viewed either at your nearest Fish and Wildlife district office (see page 6), online under Wildlife Regulation on the Alberta Queen's Printer website (www.qp.alberta.ca) or purchased from **The Alberta Queen's Printer** at the following address:

Alberta Queen's Printer
10611 - 98 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
Telephone: (780) 427-4952

Note: The Queen's Printer does not sell maps.

Maps

The Fur Management Zone map, on page 12 of this guide, is provided to help you determine the zone and WMU in which you are trapping.

Provincial and Federal Maps

Provincial and federal access and topographical maps are available from various private map dealers throughout the province.

County and Other Municipal Maps

County and municipal offices provide detailed maps showing land ownership status. These maps are available for a nominal fee and are useful for learning land status and ownership.

Regulations

Partners on Registered Fur Management Areas

All Registered Fur Management Area Partnership Agreements shall be confirmed annually, ideally at the time of licence renewal (on or before September 30 of each year). Any subsequent agreements that occur throughout the trapping year will be approved through the normal process (see page 8).

Partners, in accordance with approved Partnership Agreements, will be issued a licence and wallet-size cards (WA188s) valid for a one (1) year period (July 1 through June 30). Partners are encouraged to carry the WA188 card and their licence while trapping or conducting trapping-related business to both identify themselves and verify their authority as granted by the approved Partnership Agreement.

In addition to written authority from the Senior Licence Holder, partners who are first-time trappers must also meet the mandatory requirements outlined on page 11 before their Partnership Agreement can be approved. For further information, contact a Fish and Wildlife Division District office (see page 6).

Fur Dealers

Fur dealers shall ensure that an approved partner as described above (including their spouse or a resident child under 18 years of age) produces a valid licence and WA188 card when selling

the pelts and parts of any fur-bearing animals. The appropriate information from the card shall be accurately recorded and maintained as part of the dealer's transaction records. Similarly, fur dealers shall ensure that the appropriate information from Registered and Resident Fur Management Licences is recorded when fur is bought from individuals authorized to sell under these authorities.

For those fur dealers authorized to conduct the registration of the pelts of lynx, fisher, wolverine and otter, the Fur-bearers Registration Certificate (WA324) shall be fully and accurately completed and appropriately submitted in a timely manner. Fur dealers are required to report monthly all wildlife taken into possession.

Also, fur dealers are required to retain on the licenced premises a copy of all records for 2 years since the wildlife was last possessed. Contact your local Fish and Wildlife District office for further information (see Page 6).

Senior Licence Holders

The holder of a Registered Fur Management Licence shall ensure that the fur harvests of a spouse, a resident child under 18 years of age, are included in the annual Report of Fur Bearing Animals Taken (WA12).

NOTICE TO TRAPPERS

The Fish and Wildlife Division frequently conducts vehicle checks to assist in the management of Alberta's fish and wildlife resources and to ensure compliance with existing legislation.

Licences

A fur management licence or trapper's identification card must be carried at all times while trapping. Resident trappers must also carry Form WA 19A signed by the landowner providing permission to trap on the lands involved. Trappers using power-neck snares and common neck snares on land owned by someone else must carry written permission from the landowner to use these snares.

Registered Fur Management Licence

There are approximately 1700 Registered Fur Management Areas (RFMAs) within Alberta. The Senior Licence Holder is authorized to trap on an RFMA for a five-year term, provided the licence is renewed each year. At the close of the five-year term, the Senior Licence Holder may apply for another five-year term.

Applications: Occasionally, RFMAs become vacant. District Fish and Wildlife Division offices (see page 6) list the vacant RFMAs in their district. Qualified adult residents of Alberta may apply for a vacant RFMA at those offices. Successful applicants will receive Registered Fur Management Licences that will authorize them to hunt and trap fur-bearing animals on the lands described on the licence and also on private lands that they may own or occupy.

Renewals: The Senior Licence Holder of a Registered Fur Management Area may apply for a renewal of that licence on or before September 30 of each year. The application for renewal must be accompanied by a report of the number and species of fur-bearing animals taken by all trappers except Partners who must submit their own report on the fur management area for the previous year.

Partners on RFMAs require a licence. The Senior Licence Holder of an RFMA may, at any time, sign on a partner by completing a Fur Management Area Partnership Agreement and having it approved in writing by a Fish and Wildlife Officer. The partnership agreement must be completed each year.

***Note:** The spouse or a resident child (under 18 years of age) of the holder of any Registered Fur Management Area Licence may hunt and trap fur-bearing animals within the RFMA without a Registered Fur Management Licence. Harvests by these persons must also be included in the annual report completed by the appropriate licence holder.

Resident Fur Management Licence

An Alberta resident 14 years of age or older may obtain a Resident Fur Management Licence. Holders of such licences may trap fur-bearing animals on lands

- they own, lease or occupy, and
- for which they have written permission — on Form WA 19A "Authorization to hunt fur-bearing animals" — from the person who owns, leases or occupies the land. Additional written permission is required for the use of power-neck snares and common neck snares, see page 11.

While hunting and trapping under the authority of this licence, resident trappers must always carry their licences and relevant Permission to Trap form, and must produce them upon the request of a Fish and Wildlife Officer.

- Holders of a Resident Fur Management Licence are asked to complete a Resident Fur Harvest Report (WA12A) on or before

September 30 to report the number, WMU and species of fur-bearing animals taken during the previous year.

Note:

- A resident under 16 years of age who's parent is the holder of a Resident Fur Management Licence must have written permission from the landholder — on Form WA 19A — in order to hunt and trap fur-bearing animals on land that the parent may trap. The child does not need a licence.
- Holders of Resident Fur Management Licences may not take fisher, otter, lynx, or wolverine, and they may not take marten in FMZ 3.
- In the case of weasel (ermine), it will be necessary to distinguish between those with tails less than 100 millimetres (4 inches) and those with tail lengths greater than 100 millimetres (4 inches). This will provide much needed status information for long-tailed weasel.

Indian Fur Management Licence

This licence authorizes Indians to hunt and trap fur-bearing animals within the boundaries of the Indian Reserve in which they live. These licences may be obtained from Band Administration Offices.

Métis Fur Management Licence

This licence authorizes Métis Settlement members to hunt and trap fur-bearing animals within the boundaries of the Métis Settlement in which they live. These licences may be obtained from Métis Settlement Supervisors.

Youths Accompanying Trapper

Family or non-family members 12 years of age or older are permitted to accompany and trap with an adult who holds a valid licence (until the youths are eligible to obtain a licence). Written permission from the youth's parents or guardian is required.

Sale of Pelts by Youths

Any youth that may lawfully trap may also sell the pelts and parts of fur-bearing animals taken (as described on page 14).





NORTH AMERICAN FUR AUCTIONS

65 SKYWAY AVE, TORONTO, ON M9W 6C7 CANADA
TEL: 1.416.675.9320 | FAX: 1.416.675.6865 | WWW.NAFA.CA

567 HENRY AVE WINNIPEG, MB R3A 0T8 CANADA
TEL: 1.204.774.1705 | FAX: 1.204.943.2941 | WWW.NAFA.CA



ALBERTA RECEIVING DEPOTS

c/o Halford Hide & Leather
Co. Ltd
8629 126 Avenue Edmonton,
AB, T5B 1G8
Tel: 1.800.353.7864
Email: order@halfordhide.com

c/o Alberta Trappers Association
HWY 44 Industrial Park, Lot 14
P.O. Box 6020, Westlock,
AB T7P 2P7
Tel: 780.349.6626
Email: info@albertatrappers.com

c/o The North West Co.
(Brian Finlayson)
Storage Bay # 6 3618 - 49th St
Wetaskiwin, AB T9A 2Y5
Tel: 780.361.5591
Cell: 780.518.5132

c/o Marty & Marilyn Senneker
Box 58 Hays, AB
T0K 1B0
Tel: 403.725.2283
Fax: 403.725.2299
Email: coyklr@hotmail.com

LAST RECEIVING DATES

December 3, 2012
January 7, 2013
April 8, 2013
June 3, 2013

SALE DATES

January 2013 (TBA)
February 17-23, 2013
May 28-June 4, 2013
September 4-5, 2013

(Wild fur with sufficient quantities only)

The artwork is a detail from The Winter Hunter by Paul Calle is courtesy of the artist & art publisher Mill Pond Press.

Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association

Presenting Conservation and Hunter Education to Albertans

Programs available:

- Alberta Conservation & Hunter Education
- Alberta Fishing Education
- Outdoor Camp Programs
- 1st Time Hunter Certification & Programs
- Canadian Firearms Safety Courses & Challenges
- Outdoor Youth Seminars
- Outdoor Woman's Seminars
- Wildlife Seminars
- Fishing Seminars

For more information on any of our programs contact us at:

Calgary

911 Sylvester Cr. SW
Calgary, AB T2W 0R8
Phone (403) 252-8474
Fax: (403) 252-3770
Email: info@aheia.com
Toll Free: 1-866-852-4342

Edmonton

#88, 4003 - 98 Street
Edmonton, AB T6E 6M8
Phone: (780) 466-6682
Fax: (780) 431-2871
Email: edmontoninfo@aheia.com
Toll Free: 1-866-252-4342



Web Site: www.aheia.com

Licences Fees

All licences are subject to the federal Goods and Services Tax (GST), which has not been added to the fees listed in the table below. Please note requirements for first-time trappers on page 11.

Five dollars from each Registered Fur Management Licence funds the Alberta Trappers' Compensation Program. See page 19 for details.

Licence	Fee	Licence	Fee
Resident Fur Management Licence	\$20.00	6 Townships (more than 466 sq. km or 180 sq. mi.) add'l fee	\$40.00
Registered Fur Management Licence - Senior Holder	\$40.00	Indian Fur Management Licence	N/A
Registered Fur Management Partner Licence	\$20.00	Métis Fur Management Licence	N/A
3 Townships (189 to 260 sq. km or 73 to 108 Sq. mi) add'l fee	\$10.00	Damage Control	N/A
4 Townships (281 to 373 sq. km or 109 to 144 sq. mi) add'l fee	\$20.00	Class 1 Fur Dealer Permit	\$100.00
5 Townships (374 to 466 sq. km or 145 to 180 sq. mi) add'l fee	\$30.00	Class 2 Fur Dealer Permit	\$500.00
Maximum fee for Registered Fur Management Licence and Area is \$80.00 plus GST.			

Quotas

The various species of fur-bearers differ in abundance, distribution and opportunity to harvest. Registered Fur Management Areas (RFMAs) also vary in size. To allow trappers a greater opportunity to manage fur-bearers, varied quotas exist.

Quotas for fisher, lynx and otter within each RFMA have been linked to the size of the trapping area. A basic quota for these species will apply for all RFMAs up to two townships in size. Additional increments will be added for additional townships (or parts of a township).

These increments vary according to WMU, (please note: the higher quota applies when an RFMA falls into WMUs having different quotas). The following table lists the quotas and increments applicable to RFMAs lying in the designated FMZs or WMUs (see map).

Registered Fur Management Area Quotas

Zones	Fisher		Canada Lynx		River Otter		Wolverine
	Basic Quota	Increase for excess Twp*	Basic Quota	Increase for excess Twp*	Basic Quota	Increase for excess Twp*	Basic Quota
Zone 1 WMU 511, 512, 516-519, 529	10	3	10	4	10	3	1
WMU 530-532	10	3	10	5	8	2	1
Zone 2 WMU 357-359, 522-527, 534-537, 539	10	4	12	5	2	1	1
WMU 520, 528, 540-542, 544	10	4	12	5	6	3	1
Zone 3	6	4	4	2	10	3	1
Zone 4 WMU 320-328, 332, 334, 429	3	1	5	2	0	0	1
WMU 330, 336-342, 348, 507, 508	3	1	5	2	1	0	1
WMU 344, 346, 347, 352	3	1	5	2	2	1	1
WMU 349, 353-356, 360, 521	10	4	6	3	2	1	1
WMU 350, 351	10	4	6	3	2	1	1
Zone 5	1	1	4	2	0	0	1
Zone 6	0	0	3	1	0	0	1
Zone 7 & 8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

* Increase for each Township (Twp), or part of it, in excess of two Townships.

Regulatory Requirements for the Use of Trapping Devices

- Foothold traps may not be used to harvest fur-bearers other than bobcat, coyote, fox, lynx or wolf. Other fur-bearing species must be taken in a killing device or in a live-trap set to capture the animal by holding it in a container (see pages 14-16).
- Foothold traps that may be used for trapping bobcat, coyote, fox, lynx or wolf include traps manufactured or modified to have the following features: (i) Laminated jaws - 2 steel parallel jaws that are at least 9 mm thick, (ii) Offset jaws - jaws that do not touch over their full length when closed on each other, or (iii) Padded jaws - jaws designed or modified to prevent any metallic surface from contacting the animal.
- Traps that are not killing devices must be checked at least once every 48 hours, or at least once every 24 hours if set under the authority of a Resident Fur Management Licence.
- Foothold traps that are not defined as killing devices may not be used in trees or on poles.
- Foothold traps with toothed jaws or a jaw-spread of 23 cm (9 in.) or more may not be used to trap fur-bearing animals.
- Snares* for taking fur-bearing animals may only be set by holders of Registered Fur Management Licences or — by holders of Resident Fur Management Licences for bobcat, coyote, fox, squirrel or wolf (provided they meet the requirements listed in this section) and for beaver (provided the snare loop is completely under water).
— by residents for rabbit or hare on lands to which they have right-of-access (provided the snare wire is not larger than 20-gauge and the snare loop is not more than 13 cm (5 in.) in diameter).
- * Snare devices include neck snares, power-neck snares and foot snares.
- Slide-wire sets must be equipped with a lock. The slide-wires and weight must be properly anchored, and set in water that is deep enough to ensure that the largest animal that may be captured will be totally submerged.
- Neck snares must be equipped with a locking device that is designed and set to prevent the snare loop from loosening again after it has tightened on the neck of the fur-bearing animal, except when:
— set to hold, with the intent to kill, beaver under water; or
— made of a single strand of wire and are set to capture squirrel, rabbit or hare.

It should be noted that raccoon and skunk are classed as non-licence animals and may be hunted or trapped (see page 19 for these provisions). Traps meeting requirements of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards for raccoon are outlined on page 14.

Additional Regulations

No one may remove, damage, spring or in any way interfere with traps set by another person for the taking of fur-bearing animals. (Exception: Holders of Registered Fur Management Licences may remove traps or snares found within the limits of their trapping areas if they are set unlawfully. Any such removal must be reported immediately to a Fish and Wildlife officer.)

It is unlawful to:

- use traps that do not meet the requirements of the AIHTS;
- use a poison or drug for taking a fur-bearing animal, except as authorized by the *Agricultural Pest Act*;
- use sharp hooks or similar devices to capture fur-bearers; or
- trap in a wildlife sanctuary. Please refer to the map for locations of these sanctuaries. Some exceptions exist for Registered Fur Management Areas — RFMAs, (for further information, contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife district office [see page 6]);
- harvest fur-bearing animals within 100 metres of Highway 1A in WMU 410, except with the use of traps.
- In WMUs 102 – 166, 200 – 260, 300 – 351, 354 – 360, 400 – 446, 507, 508, 514, 521, 522, 526 and 841, it is unlawful to carry a weapon on an off-highway vehicle between one hour before sunrise and the following noon during an open season for big game (see current Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations). However, this prohibition does not apply to persons hunting on privately owned lands, and it does not apply to those trapping under the authority of a Registered Fur Management Licence or a Resident Fur Management Licence.

Trapper Education

Where there is enough interest to justify the program, Standard Trapping and Conservation courses are held at various locations throughout Alberta during the fall and winter. In these courses, lasting a total of 28 to 30 hours, participants receive information on humane trapping techniques, fur management regulations, fur handling and marketing. Expert fur handlers provide instruction on fur quality and grading.

Registration is limited to a maximum of 20 people, and the registration fee is payable in advance. Registrants receive a course manual and a variety of relevant brochures.

Information on program locations may be obtained from the Alberta Trappers' Association, Box 6020, Westlock, Alberta T7P 2P7, phone 780-349-6626, fax 780-349-6634 or www.albertatrappers.com. When courses are not available, potential first-time licence holders may purchase the Alberta Wild Fur Management Study Guide to prepare themselves for writing the required examination. These guides are available at district Fish and Wildlife Division offices and the Alberta Trappers' Association office.

Mandatory Requirements for First-time Trappers

A "first-time trapper" is a person who has:

- 1) never before held a licence in Alberta or elsewhere that authorized the trapping of fur-bearing animals, or
- 2) not completed a fur management course.

Before obtaining any fur management licence, first-time trappers must either:



- pass a test which deals with humane trapping and fur management, or
- complete a Trapper Education course (page 23).

Appointments to write tests may be made at Fish and Wildlife Division district offices. Testing times vary with each office.



Alberta
Government

Fur Management Zones

-  Fur Management Zones
-  Roads
-  Cities
-  Wildlife Management Units

Fur-bearer Seasons

The following table lists the seasons in each Fur Management Zone (see enclosed map).

O – October • N – November • D – December • J – January • F – February • M – March • Ap – April • Ma – May

Species	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5	Zone 6	Zone 7	Zone 8
Badger	CLOSED	CLOSED	D1 - Ap15	D1 - Ap15	D1 - Ap15	D1 - Ap15	D1 - Ap15	D1 - M31
Beaver	O1 - Ma15	O1 - Ma15	O1 - Ma15	O1 - Ma15	O1 - Ma31	O15 - Ma15	O15 - Ap30	O15 - Ap30
Bobcat	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	D1 - J31	CLOSED	N1 - F28
Coyote	O1 - F28	O1 - F28	O1 - F28	O1 - F28 ³	O1 - F28 ³	O1 - F28 ³	O1 - F28	O1 - F28
Fisher	N1 - J31 ^{2,4}	N1 - J31 ^{2,4}	N1 - J31 ²	N1 - J31 ²	N1 - J31 ²	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Fox	O1 - J31 ⁴	O1 - J31 ⁴	O1 - F28	O1 - F28	O1 - F28	O1 - F28	O1 - F28	O1 - F28
Lynx	D1 - F15 ²	D1 - F15 ²	D1 - F15 ²	D1 - F15 ²	D1 - F15 ²	D1 - F15 ²	CLOSED	CLOSED
Marten	N1 - J31 ⁴	N1 - J31 ⁴	N1 - J31 ²	N1 - J31	N1 - J31	N1 - J31	CLOSED	CLOSED
Mink	N1 - J31 ⁴	N1 - J31 ⁴	N1 - J31	N1 - J31	N1 - J31	N1 - J31	N1 - J31	N1 - J31
Muskrat	O1 - Ma15	O1 - Ma15	O1 - Ma15	O1 - Ma15	O1 - Ma15	O15 - Ma15	O15 - Ap30	O15 - Ap30
Otter	D1 - Ma15 ¹	D1 - Ma15 ¹	D1 - Ma15 ¹	D1 - Ma15 ^{1,6}	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Squirrel	N1 - F28	N1 - F28	N1 - F28	N1 - F28	N1 - F28	N1 - F28	N1 - F28	N1 - F28
Weasel	N1 - F28	N1 - F28	N1 - F28 ⁵	N1 - F28	N1 - F28	N1 - F28	N15 - F14 ⁵	N15 - F14 ⁵
Wolf	O1 - M31	O1 - M31	O1 - M31	O1 - M31 ³	O1 - M31 ³	O1 - F28 ^{3,7}	O1 - F28	O1 - F28
Wolverine	N1 - J31 ^{1,4}	N1 - J31 ^{1,4}	N1 - J31 ¹	N1 - J31 ¹	N1 - J31 ¹	N1 - J31 ¹	CLOSED	CLOSED

- 1 This season is provided only for those who are authorized under the authority of a Registered Fur Management Licence.
- 2 This season is provided only for those who are authorized under the authority of a Registered Fur Management Licence, Indian Fur Management Licence or Métis Fur Management Licence issued under the Métis Settlements Act.
- 3 For the period of October 1 to November 30 the use of snares is allowed only in WMUs 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 330, 332, 334, 336, 337, 338, 348, 360, 410, 412, 414, 416, 417, 418, 507, 508 and 521.
- 4 Season extended to February 15, 2013, in WMUs 524, 532, 534, 536, and 539.
- 5 Weasel may not be harvested in that part of the province described as ranges 1 – 5, west of the 4th meridian, from the international boundary to the north boundary of township 63. This does not apply to Indian Reserves and Métis Settlements set aside under the *Métis Settlements Act*, which fall within the area described.
- 6 This season applies only to WMUs 330, 336 to 360, 507, 508 and 521.
- 7 This season does not apply in WMUs 314, 316, 318, 410, 412, 414, 416, 417 and 418. The season for wolves in these WMUs is from October 1 to March 31.

Black Bear Seasons and Baiting

Six black bear may be hunted but not trapped in each Registered Fur Management Area north of the Red Deer River during the open season for black bear. Registered trappers who are permitted to hunt black bear on their RFMA may use bait for that purpose in the following WMUs: 322, 330 – 338, 348, 358 – 360, 500 – 507, 509, 510, 512 – 520, 522, 523, 529 – 536, 539 – 544 and portions of 320, 324, 357, 521, 526 and 528. Baiting is prohibited within 1.6 km (1 mi) of occupied dwellings (owners or occupants of dwellings are exempted from this restriction if they have permission

to bait from the owner or occupant of all other dwellings within 1.6 km of the bait), provincial parks, provincial and forest recreation areas and some industrial sites. Each bait site must have a readily observable sign legibly showing the owner's name or Registered Fur Management Area number. Furthermore, each bait must be posted with surrounding signs to warn other people of its presence. Also, baiting is restricted to the open season and preceding 2 weeks in each specific WMU. See the current **Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations**.

Sale of Wildlife

In Alberta anyone may sell the following:

- processed (tanned or otherwise permanently preserved, but not dried, salted or frozen) skins of fur-bearing animals;
- black bear skins, provided they have been taken lawfully (black bear claws may only be sold if they remain attached to the whole skin);
- the skins of most animals, including skunk and raccoon, for which a licence is not required;
- skinned beaver carcasses including the tail; or
- the claws, skulls and teeth of lawfully taken furbearing animals.

Sale of Pelts and Parts

No pelt of any fur-bearing animal, except one taken according to the regulations listed under Control of Problem Wildlife (page 19), may be wasted, destroyed or spoiled. No raw skins of fur-bearing animals may be sold to anyone who is not a fur dealer. Anyone in legal possession of a beaver may sell the skinned carcass of the beaver to use as bait or animal food. Except as noted under Exporting (page 14), it is unlawful to export from Alberta all, or any part of, the skin or pelt of a fur-bearing animal, without first obtaining a provincial Export Permit.

The claws, skulls and teeth of lawfully taken fur-bearing animals may be sold without restriction (note that black bears are not included as they are big game animals). These parts of fur-bearing animals may also be exported without a provincial export permit (note that Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna — CITES permits are required for exporting any part of a wolf, lynx, bobcat or otter across an international boundary).

Exporting

With some exceptions noted below, those wishing to export fur-bearing animals from Alberta must have a provincial export permit. These permits may be obtained from any Fish and Wildlife Division district office (see page 6).

Persons exporting wolf, lynx, bobcat, otter or black bear products out of Canada must also obtain a federal export permit issued according to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Information about CITES permits may be obtained at Environment Canada offices in Edmonton (780-951-8891) or Calgary (403-292-4103).

The following products* may be exported **without a provincial** export permit:

- beaver castor,
- beaver oil glands, claws, skulls and teeth of fur-bearing animals, and
- processed (tanned or otherwise permanently preserved, but not dried, salted or frozen) skins of fur-bearing animals.
- coyote skins lawfully possessed.

*The above products must have been harvested under a lawful authority in Alberta or elsewhere.

(**Note:** Black bear are classified as big game, not as fur-bearing animals. Most black bears taken from an RFMA require provincial export permits. For more information on export conditions for black bear, please contact the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division district office [see page 6]. CITES permits are still required for exporting any part of a black bear, wolf, lynx, bobcat or otter across an international boundary.)

*Persons exporting fur directly to the European Union without

using the services of Canadian fur auction houses, should be aware that special documents may be required. Please contact the receiving jurisdiction for applicable information.

Commercial Export of Wildlife to the United States

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS) regulates commercial shipments of wildlife that enter or leave the U.S. In particular, taxidermists, trappers and outfitter-guides may experience difficulties transporting wildlife to the U.S. unless such businesses are licenced with the US FWS for transporting commercial shipments of wildlife across the U.S. border. For more information, contact the US FWS at 1-800-344-9453 or view information at: www.fws.gov/

Humane Trapping

Fur-bearing animals must be trapped using methods that are proven to avoid unnecessary pain and suffering. The manner in which animals are trapped is a concern of many Albertans, including trappers. Those who follow the Code for Responsible Trapping (page 20) will help to ensure that the harvest of this resource is done in a way that is socially acceptable.

Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards

The *Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards* (AIHTS) came into force in Canada on June 1, 1999. It is a binding agreement between the European Union (EU), Canada and Russia. The United States and the EU have signed a similar commitment, which unifies the North American wild fur market. Canada signed the AIHTS only after careful consultation with trappers, provincial and territorial governments and fur industry representatives. Alberta has agreed to implement the AIHTS standards. Implementation is an ongoing process, and trappers will be kept informed of any new developments.

The AIHTS:

- Allows for continuing export of wild fur products into the EU.
- Commits all parties to applying the AIHTS standards to all trapping, including commercial use.
- Supports further research and testing for the ongoing improvement of trapping devices.
- Provides for other elements such as product certification, trap certification and trapper education.
- Will allow for the use of jaw-type leg/foothold restraining traps in submersion sets for semi-aquatic fur-bearers.
- Allows for the use of design-approved snares.
- Allows for the use of traditional wooden dead-fall traps.
- Will allow for the use of cage or box traps on land for the listed fur-bearing species provided these devices meet the restraining trap standard by 2007.
- Prohibits the use of all jaw-type leg/foothold restraining traps (including padded traps) on land for badger, beaver, ermine, fisher, marten, muskrat and otter. Alberta adopted similar legislation for these species, and others before the AIHTS became effective.
- Prohibits the use of conventional steel-jawed leghold restraining traps on land for bobcat, coyote, lynx, raccoon and wolf.

It should be noted that the adequacy of trapping devices must be properly tested. The Fur Institute of Canada (FIC) has taken the lead role in this regard. Killing and restraining traps that have undergone testing and have met the AIHTS requirements and the certification status of these traps are outlined below and are also listed on the FIC web site: www.fur.ca/

Certified Traps - AIHTS Implementation

The Canadian Wildlife Directors, Competent Authorities for implementation of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS), have approved a 2-phase process for implementing the AIHTS in Canada. The following lists show the three phases for regulating species-specific traps: (1) the **certified** traps regulated for specific species; (2) **certified** traps that are not regulated at this time, pending development of testing technologies. The traps listed by name have all been certified as meeting the requirements of the AIHTS for specific species, through Canadian trap-testing program administered by the Fur Institute of Canada.

Phase 1. STARTED IN FALL 2007 - Certified Traps are regulated for trapping the following species:

KILLING TRAPS			
Species	Certified Traps Regulated For Use		
Beaver	Bélisle Classique 330 Bélisle Super X 280 Bélisle Super X 330 B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper B.M.I. 330 Body Gripper 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	Bélisle Super X 120 Bélisle Super X 160 B.M.I. 126 Magnum Body Gripper LDL B120 Magnum	Koro #1 Northwoods 155 Rudy 120 Magnum Rudy 160 Plus	Sauvageau C120 Magnum Sauvageau 2001-5 Sauvageau 2001-6 KP120 (Russia)
Raccoon	Bélisle Classique 220 Bélisle Super X 160 Bélisle Super X 220 Bélisle Super X 280 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 Bridger 160	Bridger 220 Duke 160 Duke 220 Koro #2 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
Muskrat (On Land)	Bélisle Super X 120 B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper B.M.I. 120 Magnum Body Gripper B.M.I. 126 Magnum Body Gripper Bridger 120 Duke 120	Koro Muskrat LDL B120 Magnum Ouell 4-11-180 Rudy 110 Rudy 120 Rudy 120 Magnum	Sauvageau 2001-5 Sauvageau C120 Magnum Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend" Triple M Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120
Muskrat (Underwater)	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.		

RESTRAINING TRAPS			
Species	Certified Traps Regulated For Use		
Canada Lynx	Bélisle Footsnare #6 Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil springs	Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs Bélisle Sélectif	Oneida Victor #3 equipped with 8mm thick, non-offset steel jaws, 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate

CERTIFIED trap models are given exclusive identification letters that manufacturers must mark on their traps. Trappers who purchased these same trap models before the implementation of the AIHTS (2007) may still legally use them, regardless of whether they bear this mark.

Note: New additions to this list are marked in **BOLD**.

Certified Traps continued on next page

Phase 2. YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION TO BE DETERMINED - Certified Traps to be regulated in the future for trapping the following species: Although the traps listed in Phase 2 are certified for the following species and trap categories, the year of entry into force of the obligation to use only AIHTS Certified traps has not yet been determined. This date, which could vary from one species to another, will be known at least 3 years in advance. Until then, traps that are currently legally permitted can still be used.

KILLING TRAPS			
Species	Traps Certified But Not Yet Mandatory		
Otter	Bélisle Super X 220 Bélisle Super X 280 LDL C280 Magnum LDL C220 Magnum	Sauvageau 2001-8 Sauvageau 2001-11 Sauvageau 2001-12 Rudy 280	Rudy 220 Plus Rudy 330 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
Weasel	B.M.I. #60 B.M.I. 120 Magnum Body Gripper B.M.I. 126 Magnum Body Gripper Bridger 120 Koro Muskrat Koro Rodent	LDL B120 Magnum Ouell 4-11-180 Ouell 3-10 Rudy 120 Magnum Sauvageau C120 Magnum Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend"	Sauvageau 2001-5 Triple M Victor Rat Trap Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120 Bélisle Super X 120
Canada Lynx	Bélisle Super X 280 Bélisle Super X 330 B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper B.M.I. 220 Magnum Body Gripper	B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper B.M.I. 280 Magnum Body Gripper Bridger 220 LDL C280 Magnum	Rudy 330 Sauvageau 2001-8 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330

RESTRAINING TRAPS			
Species	Traps Certified But Not Yet Mandatory		
Coyote	Bélisle Footsnare #6	Bélisle Sélectif	
	Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil springs		
	Bridger #3 equipped with 5/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on top side of jaw and 1/4-inch on underside of jaws), with 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate.		
Wolf	Bélisle Footsnare #8	Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs, a minimum 8mm thick base plate and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate.	
Bobcat	Bélisle Footsnare #6	Bélisle Sélectif	
Raccoon	Duffer	Lil' Grizz Get'rz	Egg Trap
	Cage and Box Traps Ramconct Dura-Poly Box Trap Havahart Cage Trap 1079 Havahart Cage Trap 1081	Havahart Cage Trap 1085 Tomahawk Cage Trap 108 Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.5	Tomahawk Cage Trap 608 Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.5

Mandatory Registration

If fisher, lynx, otter or wolverine are killed during an open season they must be registered within 30 days of the close of that season. If they are killed outside of an open season they must be registered within 30 days of the kill. In all cases they must be registered before being sold, processed or exported.

All wolves taken in any of WMUs 300 – 318, 324 – 330, 339 or 400 – 434 under any authority must be registered within 14 days of harvest.

All bobcat taken under any authority must be registered within 14 days after the close of the open season or 30 days after the date which the animal was killed, whichever occurs first.

Registration is a way of recording information about the harvest of fur-bearers. This information helps fur managers set seasons and quotas for following years. Registration provides information such as:

- the size and number of males, females and juvenile animals captured;
- the time of the season they were caught; and
- where they were caught.

Trappers benefit from the mandatory registration requirement because it allows for appropriate changes in quotas and seasons. Accurate data prevents the overharvest of sensitive species of fur-bearers, ensuring a viable resource for the future (see page 16 for registration information).

Natural Areas and Ecological Reserves

In Alberta, special parcels of public land, such as natural areas and ecological reserves, have been set aside for conservation purposes. Trapping is prohibited within ecological reserves. For information about ecological reserves and natural areas, contact Parks and Protected Areas Division, Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture in Edmonton at 780-427-3582 (toll-free 1-866-427-3582).

Fur Handlers

A person may skin and prepare another person's furs for market, provided the handler maintains on premises records for inspection purposes. These records no longer have to be submitted to the Fish and Wildlife Division. If you have specific questions contact a Fish and Wildlife Division District office (see page 6).

Fur-bearer Management Registration Information

Mandatory registration of fisher, lynx and wolverine has been in effect since 1989; river otter was added in 1996 and bobcat in 2006. The information gained allows annual harvest comparisons to be made immediately after the trapping season so required changes in harvest quotas can be made for the next season. The following table provides a comparison of the number of fur-bearers registered during past seasons. More specific information can be obtained from regional Fish and Wildlife Division Area offices (see page 6).

2007-2012 Annual Fur Production and 5-Year Average Based on Export Permits

Species	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	5-Year Average
Badger	373	133	172	358	362	280
Beaver	13,757	12,179	10,618	9,743	14,079	12,075
Black Bear	57	63	56	70	110	71
Bobcat	18	8	21	14	27	18
Coyote	25,224	18,965	14,401	14,970	35,050	21,722
Fisher	1,344	1,143	1,271	1,251	2,095	1,421
Fox	1,608	1,089	966	938	1,940	1,308
Canada Lynx	846	1,019	1,346	1,491	2,486	1,438
Marten	11,201	10,072	9,485	9,402	12,883	10,609
Mink	1,064	464	591	564	613	659
Muskrat	12,687	8,801	9,283	6,411	15,453	10,527
River Otter	165	176	265	284	316	241
Raccoon	94	58	83	85	216	107
Skunk	134	27	31	14	75	56
Squirrel	24,063	12,101	19,058	9,601	24,175	17,800
Weasel (Ermine)	7,306	3,825	3,243	3,822	4,132	4,466
Wolf	280	276	360	430	586	386
Wolverine	26	26	51	54	41	40

Alberta 2011 - 2012 Fur Production Based on Export Permits (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012)

Species	Number of Pelts	Mean Price Per Pelt \$	Total \$ Value	
Badger	362	25.41	9,199.94	
Beaver	14,079	34.14	480,673.62	
Black Bear	110	143.93	15,832.26	
Bobcat	27	408.50	11,029.60	
Coyote	35,050	48.63	1,704,445.75	
Fisher	2,095	106.88	223,919.60	
Fox	Silver	9	24.21	217.92
	Cross	38	33.54	1,274.36
	Red	1,893	41.57	78,685.73
Canada Lynx	2,486	136.93	340,402.78	
Marten	12,883	93.81	1,208,522.31	
Mink	613	25.43	15,591.27	
Muskrat	15,453	7.73	119,423.47	
River Otter	316	95.25	30,099.08	
Raccoon	216	8.97	1,937.33	
Skunk	75	4.18	313.26	
Squirrel	24,175	.81	19,512.13	
Weasel (Ermine)	4,132	3.07	12,673.08	
Wolf	586	159.47	93,447.51	
Wolverine	41	260.58	10,683.73	
Total \$ Value			4,377,884.71	

Number of Registered Trappers – 1543

Number of Resident Trappers – 914

Fisher Head and Wolverine Carcass Collection Program

Mandatory registration of certain pelts of fur-bearers provides valuable information to wildlife managers. However, there is a need for additional biological information on **fisher and wolverine** to determine the age structure, reproductive capability and general health of these populations.

Fish and Wildlife Division district offices (see page 6) will issue a direct payment of \$5.00 to trappers for each fisher head and wolverine carcass submitted. Each item should be individually labelled with the date of harvest, the trapper's name, and the RFMA number. **In order to provide the greatest benefit, carcasses must be submitted by March 10 of each year.** Your participation in these programs is encouraged and appreciated. The information trappers provide allows quotas to be more accurately set, thus ensuring sustainability of the resource.

During the 2011 - 12 trapping season, trappers continued to support

the ongoing monitoring of the fisher population through fisher carcass collection. The fisher carcass collection program resulted in the analysis of 612 carcasses from across the province. The fisher carcasses submitted represents approximately 30% of the fishers harvested from this past trapping season.

From the samples submitted there were 182 adult females, 128 adult males, 171 juvenile females and 131 juvenile males. The 2011-12 season yielded a juvenile to adult female ratio of 1.7 :1. This ratio indicates a lower reproduction rate than the target of 3:1, juveniles to adult females.

The continued support of Alberta trappers is essential so that a meaningful analysis can be completed annually for the provincial fisher population, ensuring the continuation of the resource for future years.

Primeness of Pelts

Furs that are at their peak in quality (their prime) offer trappers the greatest financial return. Successful trappers concentrate their efforts so that they collect most of their furs when pelts are in their prime.

The pelt of a fur-bearing animal is in its prime when the underfur is dense, deep and well covered by the longer guard hair. The leather side should be clear and white or slightly blue, and pliable. Each species reaches its prime during a short period of the season. The grey shading in the following table shows the approximate time of the year when each species is in its prime.

Species	November	December	January	February	March	April
Badger						
Beaver						
Bobcat						
Coyote						
Fisher						
Fox (Red/Arctic)						
Canada Lynx						
Marten						
Mink						
Muskrat						
River Otter						
Squirrel						
Weasel (Ermine)						
Wolf						
Wolverine						

Trapping and Cougar Management

In recent years, the number of cougars accidentally killed by trappers in Alberta has increased. Cougars are carefully managed as a hunted game animal Alberta, and no trapping season exists. In areas where incidental mortality of cougars is high, hunting quotas for cougars may need to be reduced to prevent population declines. As important stewards of Alberta's wildlife resources, trappers should take precautions to limit the number of cougars and other non-target species that are accidentally captured.

Most cougars are captured in snares set for wolves or coyotes, or in large conibears set for lynx, bobcats, or wolverines. Cougars are not trap-shy and are much more easily captured than wary species such as wolves. Therefore, trappers should take steps to reduce the chance that a cougar will find their traps. Avoid placing snares or large conibears in areas where ungulates are wintering. When possible, place your sets in open areas where cougars will feel

uncomfortable. Keep snares and traps well away (>200 m) from baits; use canid-specific gland lures, urine, and scats to lure wolves and coyotes to your sets. If you see cougar tracks near your sets, close the snares or pull the traps until the cougar has moved on. Consider moving your sets to a new area if you're seeing regular cougar activity. By taking these few simple precautions, trappers can reduce the chance that they will accidentally catch a cougar, leaving more of these animals for enjoyment by all Albertans. For more information on cougars and cougar management in Alberta, download the Management Plan for Cougars in Alberta at: www.srd.alberta.ca/FishWildlife/WildlifeManagement/

Reminder: All cougar harvests (even accidental) must be registered at a Fish and Wildlife Division District office immediately!

Accurate harvest information helps in managing the fur-bearer resource, and ultimately benefits the trapping industry. Your full cooperation is both required and appreciated.

Alberta Trappers' Compensation Program

The Alberta Trappers' Compensation Program provides a framework to compensate operators (trappers) of Registered Fur Management Areas for trapping business losses related to industrial activity on Crown lands, and cabins lost to naturally caused forest fires.

A seven-member Board manages the program with members appointed from:

- Alberta Forest Products Association (AFPA)
- Alberta Trappers' Association (ATA)
- Alberta Treaty Indian Trapping Community
- Alberta Metis Trapping Community
- ATCO Electric
- Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP)
- Independent Chairman selected by the stakeholders

In 1997, stakeholders in the program agreed that the Alberta Trappers' Association (ATA) would administer the program that was established by the Alberta government in 1981. Industry and government jointly share funding. The role of the Board is to:

- review program specifications and make recommendations to program participants for adjustments to compensation rates, payment schedules, etc.,
- review, adjust and settle trapper claims,
- mediate and resolve claim-related disputes,
- document undisputed claim settlements, and
- review fund status, financial statements, submit annual reports and make recommendations for disbursement of funds to settle claims.

The program recognizes claims in five (5) categories:

- Damage to trapper assets;
- Theft, vandalism, and arson;
- Temporary disruptions to normal trapping operations;
- Long-term loss of income caused by industrial disturbances;
- Cabins lost to naturally caused forest fires (funded by trappers).

For claims related to the damaged asset and temporary disruption categories, the trapper must first negotiate directly with the company responsible. Should this action fail, the claim must be submitted through a district Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 6) to the Alberta Trappers' Compensation Board to receive consideration. All theft and vandalism must be promptly reported to the RCMP. A corresponding file number must then be provided to a Fish and Wildlife Officer who, in turn, forwards the claim to the Board. Requests for compensation must be made on the approved ATA Claim Form (ATA #02-01), available at district Fish and Wildlife Division offices, and include any attachments relevant to the claim. This may include:

- Photographs — especially for theft, vandalism, and arson, or trail disruptions, etc.;
- Description of equipment stolen and estimated value of items;
- Dates of disturbance and/or when discovered;
- Names of companies involved or others that can verify loss.

The Stakeholders [Alberta Trappers' Association (ATA), Alberta Forests Products Association (AFPA), Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Atco Electric, and Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP)] meet annually to review the compensation program and to make the required changes to the memorandum of understanding (Policy and Procedures).

Trappers must cooperate with industry to ensure the success of the program. If you have any questions about this program, please contact a Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 6) or the Alberta Trappers' Association, Box 6020, Westlock, Alberta T7P 2P7 (phone 780-349-6626 or fax 780-349-6634).

Control of Problem Wildlife

Regulations allow landholders (residents only) to take immediate action to control some problem wildlife. The following privileges are beyond those permitted under fur management licences during the seasons set out on page 13.

Please contact your district Fish and Wildlife Division office when fur-bearers other than the species shown in this section are destroying property. A damage control licence may be necessary.

Section 38 of the *Wildlife Act* specifies that no person shall hunt wildlife or discharge firearms on or over occupied lands, or enter on such lands for the purpose of doing so without the consent of the owner or occupant.

Beaver may be hunted and trapped, without a licence and during all seasons, on privately owned land by the owner or occupant of the land, or by a resident with written permission from the owner or occupant of the land.

Wolf¹ may be hunted (but not trapped) without a licence during all seasons, as follows:

- on privately owned land by the owner or occupant of the land, or by a resident with permission from the owner or occupant.
- on public land by a person authorized to keep livestock on that land, or by a resident who has written permission from that authorized person.

The above authorities to hunt wolves extend to lands within 8 km (5 mi.) of the land described above, provided the authorized person or resident has right of access.

Coyotes¹ may be hunted (but not trapped), without a licence, at all times of the year throughout the province:

- a) by a resident who has right of access to hunt on lands that are not public lands within the Green Area;
- b) by the owner or occupant of privately owned land, on the privately owned land;
- c) by a person maintaining livestock on public land, on that public land; or
- d) *on lands described in c) that are in the Green Area, by a resident who is authorized in writing by the person described in c).

* These pelts must be salvaged.

¹ For further information and other seasons regarding the hunting of wolf and coyote, including the use of bait for hunting wolf and coyote, please refer to the current *Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations*.

Red fox may be hunted (but not trapped), without a licence and during all seasons, by a resident on privately owned land to which the resident has the right of access.

Badger and Red Squirrel may be hunted or trapped, without a licence and during all seasons, by a resident on privately owned land to which the resident has the right of access.

Skunk and raccoon may be hunted or trapped during all seasons by the owner or occupant of land, or by a person authorized by the owner or occupant, or by the holder of a licence authorizing the trapping of fur-bearing animals.

Rabbit or hare may be hunted (but not trapped), throughout the province, at any time of year, without a licence on land which the person has the right of access for hunting. A resident may use snares to take rabbit or hare, provided the snare meets the requirements set out on page 11.

Bobcat may be hunted (but not trapped) by a resident on land which the resident has the right of access for hunting in WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118 and 119 and that part of WMU 110 east of Highway No. 2 and south of Highway No. 3 from November 1 to February 28.

Community Relations

To foster and maintain good relations within their communities and to gain public support, trappers should:

- respect the rights and property of others;
- protect and conserve wildlife and wildlife habitat;
- help farmers and other landowners who are having problems with nuisance animals;
- encourage and support trapper education and public awareness programs;
- support trappers and other wildlife conservation organizations;
- support and cooperate with government wildlife agencies; and
- report illegal activities.

Additional Information

Trappers are encouraged to:

- make sets that are designed to capture only the intended species of fur-bearer;
- make only as many sets as they can manage effectively;
- anchor traps or snares securely to hold the largest animal that they may catch; and
- install a centre-mounted, swivelling, short chain (no longer than 30 cm, or 12 in., equipped with a shock absorber) for land foothold trap sets that are solidly anchored.

Accidental Trapping

Trappers **who accidentally take a fur-bearing animal during a closed season, after a quota has been filled or a species they are not licensed to trap**, are required to deliver it to the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division district office as soon as possible (see page 6). The trapper will be required to complete a statutory declaration and the pelt will be registered and tagged. Circumstances will determine whether the animal may be returned to the trapper for sale purposes. The animal does not have to be skinned.

Swift Fox has been reintroduced into Fur Management Zone 8, and trappers are encouraged to take all reasonable care to prevent accidental capture, and to report any contact with this species. Injured swift fox should be immediately delivered to the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office, or a qualified veterinarian for care.

Trappers who accidentally capture any wildlife that are not fur-bearing animals are reminded to report the incident as soon as practical to the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division Office. In addition, permission must first be obtained from an officer to use such an animal as bait.

Trapping in Protected Areas

In certain cases trapping is allowed within specific protected areas where this activity is not normally allowed. This may involve a Provincial Park or Recreation Area (or portions of such areas) that fall within an RFMA. If trapping is allowed in such an area individuals who wish to trap on those portions of the RFMA may be required to obtain a Firearms Carry and Discharge Permit from Alberta Parks. Please contact your local Alberta Parks Office to confirm if trapping is allowed in a protected area and if this permit is required.

A Code for Responsible Trapping

During trapping operations, trappers should:

- show compassion for the animals they capture;
- develop skills so that furs are properly prepared for market;
- know and practice proper releasing and killing methods;
- record all trap-set locations and captures of fur-bearers;
- dispose of animal carcasses properly; and
- report the presence of diseased animals to a district Fish and Wildlife Division office.

Fur Institute of Canada



The Fur Institute of Canada (FIC) is a non-profit organization, established in 1983 on the initiative of the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Wildlife Ministers, to pursue the work of the Federal-Provincial Committee For Humane Trapping. The Institute is an umbrella organization for the Canadian fur industry and its mandate ensures that all sectors are represented, particularly on the Board of Directors.

The overall mission of the FIC is to promote the sustainable and wise use of Canada's fur resources. The Institute supports the following values:

- The sustainable use and conservation of renewable resources;
- The continued improvement of animal welfare through ongoing research and the development of national and international trapping standards;
- The conservation and management of natural resources based on scientific evidence and traditional knowledge;
- Professionalism through continued education, licensing and research;
- Respect for people, animals and the environment;
- Respect for tradition, heritage and culture;
- Respect for the right of Aboriginal people to pursue their aboriginal and treaty rights.

Five operational committees develop programs and deliver project activities within the structure of the Institute. These programs are trap research and development, communications, sealing, aboriginal communications and international relations and conservation.

The Fur Institute of Canada is committed to delivering information to the media, the general public and governments pertaining to the economic, social, cultural and environmental contributions made by today's fur trade.

For further information, contact the Fur Institute of Canada

- by mail: Suite 701, 331 Cooper Street
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0G5
- by telephone: 613-231-7099
- by fax: 613-231-7940
- by e-mail: info@fur.ca
- visit website: www.fur.ca

Diseases

Diseases and parasites are normal parts of the life of a fur-bearer. Usually, they are not a problem either for the fur-bearer or for the person trapping an infected animal. Indeed, most parasites and diseases go completely unnoticed by trappers. However, there are situations where an animal may be infected with a disease that can be transferred to people. Such diseases are most often caused by bacteria and can be recognized readily by the presence of small white spots in the liver and spleen of an infected fur-bearer. Such animals should be handled carefully (preferably with gloves on). Any person who handles wildlife and then has persistent “flu-like” symptoms or redness, swelling, heat or pain in hands or arms should contact a medical doctor. Remember to tell the doctor the person has handled wildlife. Carcasses from all fur-bearers suspected of being diseased should be submitted for examination to the nearest district Fish and Wildlife Division office (see page 6).

Campfires

Summer or Winter

Make Sure Your Fire Is Out!

Nearly half of the forest fires in Alberta are caused by people. Nobody means to start a forest fire and most never know the blaze was a result of their carelessness. Campfires built in a poor location, left unattended or not completely extinguished can cause forest fires. Even when there’s water nearby or snow on the ground!

Make sure your fire is out and if you see smoke or fire in a forested area, call the hot line —

310-FIRE

Call Collect Call Immediately

TRAPPER BULLETIN

RELEASE OF NON-TARGET SPECIES

Trapping has been a part of Alberta’s heritage for over a century. People across the province are involved in trapping as licenced Registered or Resident trappers and harvest over \$2 million in fur each year. All trappers in Alberta must meet mandatory requirements to obtain a licence including either having passed a test which deals with humane trapping and fur management, or have completed a Trapper Education course.

A Code for Responsible Trapping

During trapping operations, trappers should:

- show compassion for the animals they capture;
- develop skills so that furs are properly prepared for market;
- record all trap-set locations and captures of fur bearers;
- carefully select trap-set locations to reduce capture of non-target species;
- report the presence of diseased animals to a Fish and Wildlife Division district office; and
- know and practice proper killing and releasing methods.

Trappers should be prepared to release non-target animals that are not seriously injured. Carefully assess the risk factors involved in releasing an animal or bird to ensure personal safety and the welfare of the animal or bird.

Methods of releasing animals include:



Using a forked stick

- position the stick around the animal’s neck and apply only enough pressure to immobilize the animal.
- the capture device can then be released from the animal.



Using a snare pole

- the noose of the snare pole is slipped over the animal’s jaws or neck and tightened to immobilize the animal.
- the capture device can then be released from the animal.

Using a tarp, coat or blanket

- this method is especially useful for releasing small animals or birds, particularly Birds of Prey.
- the material should be large and strong enough only to immobilize the animal or bird without harm.
- once immobilized, the animal or bird can be released from the capture device.

Trappers who accidentally capture any wildlife that are not furbearing animals are reminded to report the incident as soon as practical to the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division Office. Accidental captures of Birds of Prey, i.e. Eagles, or Endangered Species such as Swift Fox that cannot be readily released due to injury should be delivered to the nearest Fish and Wildlife Division office or a qualified veterinarian for care.

Never Compromise.

The new fully featured, high performance riflescopes.
No compromises on anything, including the value.
Prices From \$399.99

MINOX

VISIBLE INNOVATION



ZA3 Models: 3-9x40, 3-9x50

ZA5 Models: 1.5-8x32, 2-10x40, 2-10x50, 3-15x42,
3-15x50, 4-20x50 and 6-30x56 (30mm tube)

MINOX ZA Riflescopes

- Glass from SCHOTT, Germany
- M² lens coating
- Long 4 inch plus eye relief
- Fast focus eyepiece
- Variable power ring
- Objective parallax side focusing adjustment (select ZA5 models)
- Precise windage and elevation adjustments
- Scopecoat™ cover
- German design and engineering
- Assembly and servicing in the USA
- Lifetime total coverage warranty
- Available MINOPLEX, Versaplex, German #4, BDC and XR-BDC reticles

Canadian Outdoor Distributing Inc.

www.canodi.ca · sales@canodi.ca · Phone (866) 966-0406 · Fax: 289-252-0632

Award Winning Performers!

MeoStar® B1 10x42 HD *New*



MeoPix® iScoping Adapter *New*
Fits eyepiece dia.: 42mm | 49mm



MeoStar® 3-12x56 RD | Illuminated Reticles: 4K, 4C

Meopta® sports optics have gained a well-deserved reputation for being among the finest in the world – and the test editors at Outdoor Life and Field & Stream magazine seem to agree! Our optics feature proprietary MeoBright 5501™ ion assisted lens multi-coatings to assure maximum brightness in all conditions. While our extra-wide, flat field of view is sharp to the edge and a hallmark of our impressive European in-house optical engineering and manufacturing. Comfortable ergonomics make our products a pleasure to use in the field. All with a lifetime transferable warranty. Meopta®. A better view of the world... since 1933.



CANADIAN OUTDOOR
DISTRIBUTING INC.

866-966-0406

www.canodi.ca

www.meoptasportsoptics.com



facebook.com/meopta

meopta

EUROPEAN | AMERICAN OPTICS
Tradition Since 1933

Wolverine GUNS & TACKLE

NEWLY EXPANDED 2500 SQ FEET TO SERVE YOU BETTER



FISHING

- ▶ Quantum
- ▶ Berkley
- ▶ Redington
- ▶ Sage
- ▶ Fenwick

BULLETS

- ▶ Barnes
- ▶ Hornady
- ▶ Sierra
- ▶ Berger

GUNS

- ▶ Remington
- ▶ Weatherby
- ▶ Thompson Centre
- ▶ Baikal
- ▶ Kimber
- ▶ Marlin
- ▶ CZ

Everything for the Outdoor Enthusiast!

- ▶ Alps Camping Gear
- ▶ RCBS Reloading Supplies

411, 37400 Hwy2
Red Deer, AB T4E 1B9
Ph: (403) 347 - 0220
www.wolverinegt.ca



Mon-Wed & Sat 9-6
Thurs & Fri 9-8
Sun 11-4
Closed Holidays



The Alberta Trappers Association is the voice of trappers to industry and Government concerning our renewable fur resource. For a fee of \$35 per year you will automatically receive the Alberta Trapper Magazine (quarterly) which is full of trapping tips, stories and identifies the issues most concerning trappers. Join us and be part of the dynamic fur industry and have a voice in your future.

Hours : 8 AM – 4 PM Monday-Friday

Trapper Education

The newest, most complete trapping manual in the country is now available at the Alberta Trappers Association. Contact the store for more details. \$50.00 plus GST

Become a Trapper

For courses this year contact the Alberta Trappers Association for details or check the website below.

To receive our free newsletter email us at info@albertatrappers.com

For more information Call 780-349-6626 or www.albertatrappers.com
P.O. Box 6020 Stn Main Westlock AB T7P 2P7

HALFORD'S

8629 -126th Avenue ❖ Edmonton, AB ❖ T5B - 1G8
Call 1.800.353.7864 to request your FREE Catalogue.



Official
Collection Depot

Animal Damage Control and Trapping Supplies



Traditional Snowshoes



Name brand Traps



Lures, attractants
and scents



Tanning chemicals and preparation tools



Snares and snare
making componets

Butcher Supplies



Fresh spices



Native Craft Supplies



Leatherwork
craft tools and more...



On pre-paid Phone, Fax or mail orders over \$350 or Web store orders over \$250 we will cover 10% of your order subtotal towards shipping fees. Fees that are over this limit will be billed the difference.

Visit Our Webstore: www.halfordsmailorder.com
Telephone: 1.800.353.7864 Fax: 780.477.3489
e.Mail Orders: order@halfordsmailorder.com