

Minister's Message



Trapping was Canada's original economic engine, long before

Alberta was a province. Today, trapping remains an important tradition and income for some Albertans. The provincial landscape has changed significantly in

recent years. Trappers and the Alberta government must adapt to modern-day challenges on the land to ensure the trapping industry is prepared for the future.

Trappers are true conservationists and have deep respect for the animals as well as the land. The stewardship that trappers show toward the province's natural resources helps maintain healthy wildlife populations and landscapes that benefit all Albertans.

The Alberta government is committed to supporting Alberta's heritage, culture and identity through continued support of trappers and the trapping industry. Our Land-use Framework is working to balance economic, social and environmental values on this changing landscape. Together, we can ensure that sustainable trapping remains as much a part of Alberta's future as it has been in the past.

Please read the 2011-2012 Alberta Guide to Trapping Regulations carefully. I hope that you have a rewarding season and I encourage you to look for ways to share this honourable tradition with the next generation of trappers.

Honourable Mel R. Knight
Minister

**Government
of Alberta** ■

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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 5) 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.

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Important Changes for 2011 – 2012

- 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 (page 13).
- In addition to a licensed trapper's authority to harvest red squirrel during the open season, Alberta residents may now hunt or trap red squirrel on private land to which they have the right of access (on page 16 the red squirrel is now listed alongside badger).
- Trappers are reminded that for the voluntary fisher collection program (see page 14) only the heads of fisher are currently being requested.
There's no change to the details for wolverine (the carcass of wolverine is needed).
- Trappers who were licensed for the 2010 season were sent a letter regarding the use of a pistol or revolver to dispatch animals caught in a trap. If you interested in obtaining a federal Authorization to Carry a restricted firearm or handgun for this purpose, please inquire with the RCMP's Canadian Firearms Program (at www.rcmp-grc.ca/cfp-pcaf or with the RCMP's office of the Chief Firearms Officer, Alberta and Northwest Territories at 780-495-7799 (or toll free at 1-800-731-4000, extension 9026).
- There are three additional WMUs (320, 324 and 526) where black bear baiting is now restricted in a portion of the WMU. Please refer to your local Fish and Wildlife Division district office for further details.
- There's been a change restricting the dates when baits can be set out for wolf or coyote by persons hunting on public land in the green area (see below). A person who holds a trapping licence and is hunting or trapping coyote under that licence is **not** subject to the new restrictions for wolf and coyote baiting. However anyone who doesn't hold such a licence or who hunts/traps under a different authority is required to abide by these new restrictions on wolf or coyote baiting.

Baiting for Wolves and Coyotes* – On public land, hunters cannot use bait for hunting wolves or coyotes except a) from Dec. 1 to Mar. 31, or b) during an open season for the hunting of black bear where the setting out, use and possession of bait for the purpose of hunting black bear is permitted.

Each wolf or coyote bait site must have a readily observable sign showing the owner's name, WIN, Big Game Outfitter-guide Permit Number, or Big Game Guide's Designation Number.

*These baiting restrictions do not apply to WMUs 102-166, to persons hunting under authority of a trapping licence, or on any private land.

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 9, before their partnership agreement can be approved. For further information, contact the Fish and Wildlife Division (see page 5).

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 5).

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.

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 6).

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 9 before their Partnership

Agreement can be approved. For further information, contact a Fish and Wildlife Division District office (see page 5).

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 5).

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).

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
*Whitcourt	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