

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 12 and 13).
- 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 16 for these provisions). Traps meeting requirements of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards for raccoon are outlined on page 12.

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 5]);

- 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:

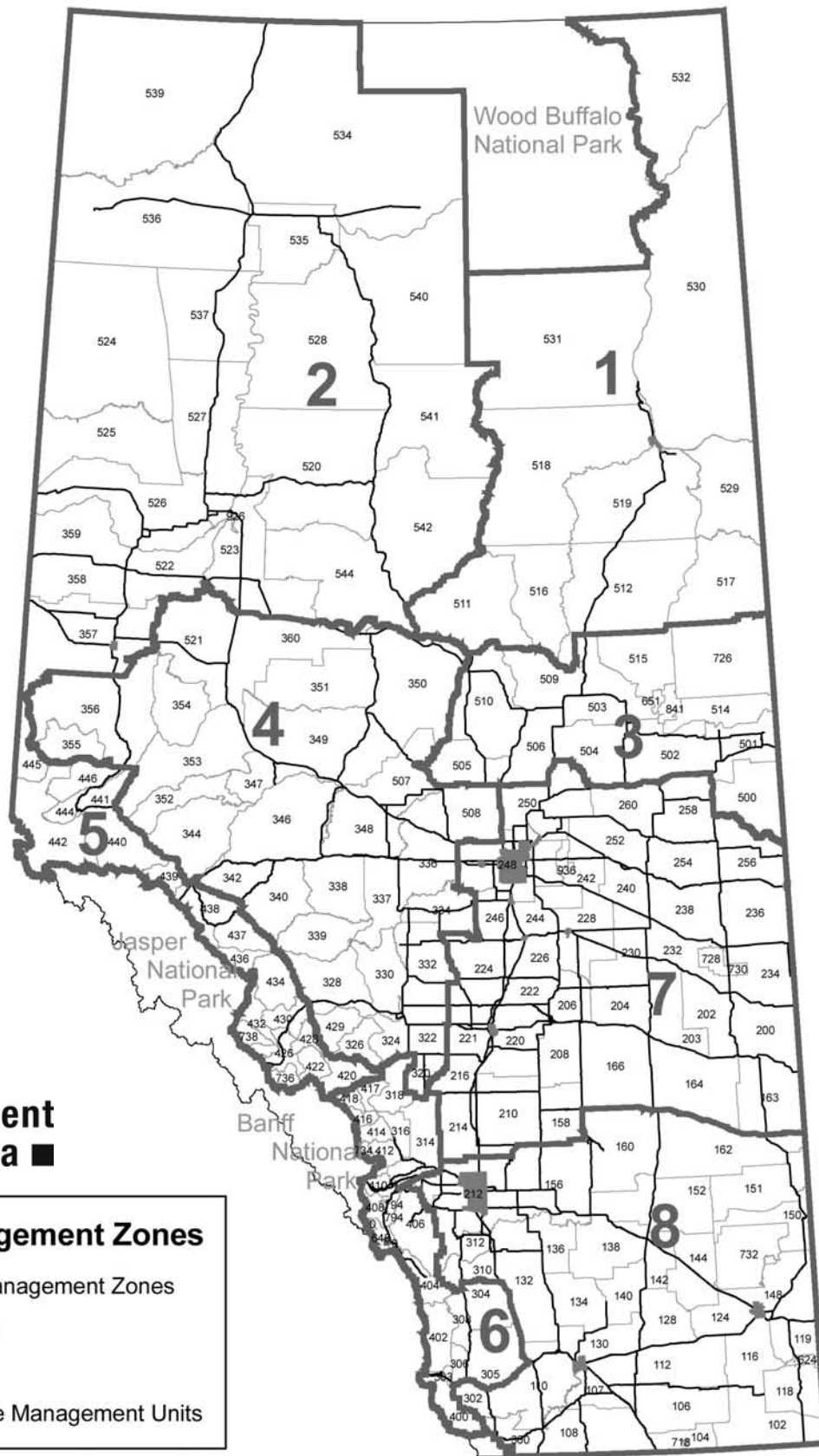
- 1) never before held a licence in Alberta or elsewhere that authorized the trapping of fur-bearing animals, or
- 2) not completed a fur management course.

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 19).





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





Government of Alberta

Fur Management Zones

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

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Base Data provided by the Spatial Data Warehouse Ltd.

Fur-bearer Seasons

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

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	D 1 - Ap 15	D1 - Ap 15	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
Red/Arctic 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
Red 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.

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

4 Season extended to February 15, 2012, 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 – 542 and portions of 320, 324, 357, 521, 526, 528 and 544. 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**.

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 14 for registration information).

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 16), 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 12), 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 5).

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 5]. 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 17) 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/

PHASE 1. Certified Traps to be regulated for use in Fall 2011:

KILLING TRAPS

BEAVER (On Land and Underwater)	Belisle Classic 330 Belisle Super X 280 Belisle Super X 330 BMI 280 Body Gripper BMI 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	Belisle Super X 120 Belisle Super X 160 Belisle Super X 220	Koro #2 LDL C160 & C220 Magnum Rudy 120 Magnum	Rudy 160 Plus Rudy 220 Plus Sauvageau 2001-5 Sauvageau 2001-6 Sauvageau 2001-7 Sauvageau 2001-8
MARTEN	Belisle Super X 120 Belisle Super X 160 BMI 126 Magnum Body Gripper Koro #1	KP120 (Russia) LDL B120 Magnum Rudy 120 Magnum	Rudy 160 Plus Sauvageau 2001-5 Sauvageau 2001-6 Sauvageau C120 Magnum Woodstream Oneida Victor Northwoods 155
RACCOON	Belisle Classic 220 Belisle Super X 160 Belisle Super X 220 Belisle Super X 280 BMI 160 Body Gripper BMI 220 Body Gripper BMI 280 Body Gripper	BMI 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)	Belisle Super X 120 BMI 120 Body Gripper BMI 120 Magnum Body Gripper BMI 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

CANADA LYNX	Belisle Footsnare #6 Belisle Selectif Oneida Victor Soft Catch #3 (2 springs)	Oneida Victor Soft Catch #3 (4 springs) Oneida Victor Coil Springs #3 (8mm Steel jaws, 4 coil springs and base plate centre mounted anchoring swivel)
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PHASE 2. YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION TO BE DETERMINED

Certified Traps to be regulated in the future for trapping the following species:

KILLING TRAPS - TRAPS CERTIFIED BUT NOT YET MANDATORY

CANADA LYNX	Belisle Super X 280 and Super X 330 BMI 220 and 280 Body Gripper BMI 220 and 280 Magnum Body Gripper	Bridger 220 LDL C280 Magnum Rudy 330	Sauvageau 2001-8 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
OTTER	Belisle Super X 220 Belisle Super X 280 LDL C220 Magnum	LDL C280 Magnum Rudy 220 Plus Rudy 280	Rudy 330 Sauvageau 2001-8 Sauvageau 2001-11 Sauvageau 2001-12 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220 Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
WEASEL (Ermine)	Belisle Super X 120 BMI #60 BMI 120 Magnum Body Gripper BMI 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

RESTRAINING TRAPS - TRAPS CERTIFIED BUT NOT YET MANDATORY

BOBCAT	Belisle Footsnare #6	Belisle Selectif	
COYOTE	Belisle Footsnare #6 Belisle Selectif Oneida Victor Softcatch #3 (2 coil springs)	Bridger #3 – 5/16-inch offset, doubled rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch topside of jaw and 1/4-inch underside of jaw), 4 coil springs and anchoring swivel centre mounted on base plate.	
RACCOON	Duffer	Lil' Grizz Get'rz	
	CAGE and BOX TRAPS: Ramconct Dura-Poly Box Trap Havahart Cage Trap 1079 Havahart Cage Trap 1081	CAGE and BOX TRAPS: Havahart Cage Trap 1085 Tomahawk Cage Trap 108 Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.5	CAGE and BOX TRAPS: Tomahawk Cage Trap 608 Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.5
WOLF	Belisle Footsnare #8	Oneida Victor No. 3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs, a minimum 8mm thick base plate and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on base plate.	