

## FURBEARER ABSTRACT

Typically, 1,000 to 1,200 furbearer licenses are sold in Wyoming each year. In 2002, 1290 furbearer/trapper licenses were sold. Furbearer trapping licenses represent less than one tenth of one percent of the total annual licenses sales.

Historically, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department has surveyed all furbearer trapping license-holders each year to obtain effort and harvest information on all species trapped, snared, or shot, as allowed by the trapping permit. Eleven species (badger, bobcat, marten, weasel, coyote, raccoon, red fox, skunk, beaver, mink and muskrat) are allowable take for trapping license-holders. Further, coyotes, raccoons, red fox, and skunk are classified as predators and may be taken without a license. Beaver, bobcat, weasel, badger, and muskrat may also be taken by landowners, or their designee(s), if damage is being caused. Wyoming lists 37 hunting areas available for trapping. Traps, snares, archery equipment, and rifles are all allowable methods of harvest, even though traditional trapping has been the main focus of the surveys.

Other than minimal restrictions on beaver and marten harvest in some areas, Wyoming has not set limits or quotas on harvest of furbearing animals.

Although tagging of bobcats has been mandatory since July 1, 1990, response to Wyoming's furbearer harvest survey is not mandatory. Historically, only about one third of trappers surveyed responded to the survey. In 2002, that response rate increased to nearly 39%, with most having availed themselves of the opportunity to submit their comments.

Data obtained from the surveys reflected the entire spectrum of effort and methods possible under the generous constraints of furbearer/trapper licensing. Participants ranged from those who purchased but did not exercise the license, to those who hunted using predator calls, to those who trapped all season in a traditional manner. Variances among furbearer/trapper license-holders were so great and the methods of take and species of harvest so diverse, that projection of the data received from survey respondents to those who did not respond (the majority) was deemed unsound.

Despite less than desired response rates, valuable information has been contributed by furbearer trappers. Due to the secretive nature of most furbearers, trapping data on swift fox, ermine, lynx, river otter and other rarely observed species has provided the Department with information on these species which might not otherwise have been collected.

Starting in the 2001 season, the Department decided to survey trappers only for effort and take of bobcats, which the Department continues to collect as part of its reporting requirement according to the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES).

## 2002 Bobcat Harvest Aging

The 2002-2003 bobcat harvest (tagging season ended effectively March 11, 2003) saw a record 1,847 bobcats tagged in Wyoming. Predictably, over 87% of the bobcats were taken during December, January, and February.

Though there are 37 hunt areas assigned for small game, upland game and general furbearers, there are only 6 bobcat management areas. The management area from which each bobcat is harvested is obtained from the trapper at the time the teeth are collected. Distribution of harvest based upon tagging reports is reflected below.

Area	Harvest
1	33
2	382
3	737
4	292
5	235
6	156
Unknown	12
Totals	1847

The age and gender data for the 2002-2003 harvest provided in the chart below was obtained from the tagging data, since laboratory tooth aging was not performed.

Age class	Male	female	Unknown	total	%
Kitten	79	114	0	193	10.45%
Adult	874	528	1	1403	75.96%
unknown	163	78	10	251	13.59%
Total	1116	720	11	1847	100
Percent	60.42%	38.98%	.6 %	100	

## 2002 Bobcat Survey Statistics

	Resident	NonResident	Total
Licenses Sold	1,263	27	1,290
Survey Sample Size	1,263	26	1,289
Sample Percentage	100%	96.3%	99.92%
Survey Response	491	13	504
Response Percentage	38.88%	50.00%	39%
*Did not hunt/trap	325	9	334
XTRAP NO HUNT	836	19	855
No Hunt Percentage	66.19%	70.37%	66.28%
Active Trappers	166	3	169
Total Traps	2791	132	2923
Total Days	5812	42	5854
Trapping Harvest	505	3	508
Harvest per Trapper	3.04	1	3.00
Days per Trapper	35.01	14.00	34.64
Traps per Trapper	16.81	44.00	17.30
Total TrapDays	1,622,1292	5,544	1,622,6836
Days per Harvest	11.51	14.00	11.52
TrapDays per Harvest	32,121	1,848	31,942
*Active Hunters	76	2	78
Hunting Days	873	20	893
Hunting Harvest	57	0	57
Harvest per Hunter	.75	0	.73
Days per Hunter	11.49	10	11.49
Days per Harvest	15.32	0	15.67
Total Hunter/Trappers	242	5	249
Total Harvest	562	10	572

\*some individuals hunted AND trapped

**BOBCAT HARVEST STATISTICS**  
(as reported by voluntary survey response)

	Hunters	Rifle Harvest	Average Days Hunted per hunter	Average Harvest Per Hunter
1997	6	6	24	1
1998	15	25	25	1
1999	19	85	22.63	4.47
2000	9	9	9.89	1
2001	51	87	16.24	1.7
2002	84	91	10.23	1.08
<b>Overall Averages</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>18.00</b>	<b>1.71</b>

\*separate reporting of rifle harvest not noted before 1997

	Trappers	Trapping Harvest	Average Days Trapped Per Trapper	Average Number Of Traps Per Trapper	Average Harvest Per Trapper
1992	221	968	53.62	35.5	4.38
1993	183	681	57.5	29.3	3.72
1994	123	471	34.5	20.81	3.83
1995	57	1078	44.25	30.86	18.91
1996	81	547	70.69	62.95	6.75
1997	57	301	75.3	54.0	5.28
1998	62	380	79.92	46	6.13
1999	58	335	79.6	48.8	5.78
2000	31	113	84.5	56.8	3.65
2001	93	396	48.51	14.18	4.26
2002	118	511	34.64	17.30	4.33
<b>Overall Average</b>	<b>98.55</b>	<b>525.55</b>	<b>60.28</b>	<b>37.86</b>	<b>5.97</b>

**AVERAGE FUR DEALER BOBCAT PRICES**  
(respondents only)

Year	Resident Fur Dealers	Resident Number of furs bought	Average Resident Price Paid	Nonresident Fur Dealers	Nonresident Number of furs bought	Average Nonresident Price Paid	Average Price Paid
1992	4	102	94.36	3	71	80.67	88.74
1993	2	9	50.00	5	354	71.51	70.98
1994	3	62	72.50	1	139	87.16	82.27
1995	0			3	279	112.00	112.00
1996	1	15	150.00	2	463	140.80	141.09
1997	1	87	**	1	80	75.56	75.56
1998	0	-	-	2	369	102.33	102.33
1999	2	3	73.39	4	688	118.01	95.70
2000	2	47	104.00	2	495	110.00	107.00
2001	2	54	102.83	6	1192	155.12	151.64
2002	2	3	150.00	5	946	241.94	241.65
<b>Overall Averages</b>	<b>1.73</b>	<b>34.73</b>	<b>72.46</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>117.74</b>	<b>115.36</b>

\*\* not reported

**2002-2003 BOBCAT HARVEST BY MANAGEMENT AREA**  
per Survey Responses

Area	Trappers	Traps	Days	Trap Days	Bobcat	Total	Trap Days	Harvest Per
						Harvest	Per Harvest	Trapper
Resident	2	13	85	1,105	0	0	0	0
NonResident	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	13	85	1,105	0	0	0	0
	Rifle Hunters		Rifle Days		Bobcat	Total	Rifle Days	Harvest Per
						Harvest	Per Harvest	Hunter
Resident	2		6		2	2	3.0	1.0
NonResident	0		0		0	0	0	0
Total	2		6		2	2	3.0	1.00
<b>Area Totals</b>								
Resident	4	13	91	1,105	2	2		.5
NonResident	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
Grand Total	2	13	91	1,105	2	2		.5





Area								
<b>6</b>	Trappers	Traps	Days	Trap Days	Bobcat	Total	Trap Days	Harvest Per
						Harvest	Per Harvest	Trapper
Resident	20	454	1,134	514,836	94	94	5,477	4.7
NonResident	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20	454	1,134	514,836	94	94	5,477	4.7
	Rifle Hunters		Rifle Days		Bobcat	Total	Rifle Days	Harvest Per
						Harvest	Per Harvest	Hunter
Resident	7		56		3	3	18.67	.43
NonResident	0		0		0	0	0	0
Total	7		56		3	3	18.67	.43
<b>Area Totals</b>								
<b>Resident</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>514,836</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>97</b>		<b>3.59</b>
<b>NonResident</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>514,836</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>97</b>		<b>3.59</b>
	Hunter/Trappers			hunted	Bobcat			Harvest Per
	Surveyed		Responded	trapped	Harvest			Hntr/Trpr
<b>Statewide</b>								
<b>Resident</b>	<b>1263</b>		<b>491</b>	<b>*166</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>597</b>		<b>3.6</b>
<b>NonResident</b>	<b>26</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>*4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>1.25</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1289</b>		<b>504</b>	<b>*170</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>602</b>		<b>3.54</b>

\*some hunter/trappers hunted multiple areas

**WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION  
CHAPTER 4  
FURBEARING ANIMAL TRAPPING SEASONS**

Section 1. Authority. This regulation is promulgated by authority of W.S. §23-1-302, W.S. §23-2-303, and W.S. §23-2-305.

Section 2. Definitions. For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, and the Commission also adopts the following definitions:

(a) "Green pelt" means the untanned hide or skin of a furbearing animal.

(b) "Quick-kill body-grip traps" mean traps that close around the animal in such a manner as to result in almost immediate death of the animal caught. Such traps include, but are not necessarily limited to, Conibear type traps. Quick-kill body-grip traps do not include snares.

(c) "Trapping or trap" means the taking of a furbearing animal by trap, snare or with a firearm or archery equipment.

(d) "Trap identification number" means an identification number assigned to the owner of traps and/or snares by the Department.

Section 3. Trapping Seasons Established and Effective Date. There shall be open seasons for the trapping of furbearing animals and the taking of bobcats with the use of dogs as set forth in Trapping Seasons (Section 4), Furbearing Animal Trapping Area Descriptions (Section 5), Common Season Boundary (Section 6), Limited Quota Furbearing Animal Trapping Areas (Section 7), Authorization to Trap (Section 8), Mandatory Bobcat Registration (Section 9), Trapping of Non-target Wildlife; Disposition of Furbearing Animals at the Trap Site (Section 10), Use of Dogs (Section 11), Trap Identification Numbers (Section 12), Violation of Commission Regulations (Section 13) and Savings Clause (Section 14) of this Chapter. This regulation shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

Section 4. Trapping Seasons.

(a) Species, Trapping Areas, Season Dates and Limitations.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Trapping Area</u>	<u>Date of Seasons</u>		<u>Limitations</u>
		<u>Opens</u>	<u>Closes</u>	
Mink	1	Jan. 1 Oct. 1	March 31 Dec. 31	Any mink Any mink
Bobcat	1	Jan. 1 Nov. 15	March 1 Dec. 31	Any bobcat Any bobcat
Muskrat	1	Jan. 1 Oct. 1	April 30 Dec. 31	Any muskrat Any muskrat
Weasel	1	Jan. 1 Oct. 1	March 31 Dec. 31	Any weasel Any weasel
Badger	1	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	Any badger
Marten	1	Jan. 1 Oct. 1	March 1 Dec. 31	Any marten Any marten

	503	Jan. 1	March 1	Any marten
		Dec. 1	Dec. 31	Any marten
	602	Jan. 1	March 1	5 trappers; 100 marten
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
Beaver	1	Jan. 1	April 30	Any beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	Any beaver
	101	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 5 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	102	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 20 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	103	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 10 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	104	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 25 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	301-303		CLOSED	
	304	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 10 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	305	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 10 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	

<u>Species</u>	<u>Trapping Area</u>	<u>Date of Seasons</u>		<u>Limitations</u>
		<u>Opens</u>	<u>Closes</u>	
	401		CLOSED	
	404	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 25 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	405	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 20 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	406	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 10 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	407	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 10 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	408	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 15 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	409	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 15 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	410	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 15 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	411	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 35 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	412	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 15 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	413	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 30 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	414	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 30 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	501	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 10 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	502	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 10 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	601	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 30 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	602	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 30 beaver
		Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
	603	Jan. 1	April 30	2 trappers; 60 beaver

	Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
604	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 30 beaver
	Oct. 1	Dec. 31	
605	Jan. 1	April 30	1 trapper; 5 beaver
	Oct. 1	Dec. 31	

Section 5. Furbearing Animal Trapping Area Descriptions.

(a) Area and Number.

(i) All furbearing animals, excluding marten and beaver.

Area 1. The entire State of Wyoming, excluding those areas closed in Section 5(b).

(ii) Marten.

Area 1. The entire State of Wyoming, excluding those limited quota trapping areas listed in subsection (ii) and those areas closed in Section 5(b).

Area 503. Snowy Range. Beginning at the junction of Interstate Highway 80 and U.S. Highway 287 in the city of Laramie; southerly along U.S. Highway 287 to the Wyoming-Colorado state line; westerly along said line to Wyoming Highway 230 in Carbon County; northerly along said highway to Wyoming Highway 130; northerly along said highway to Interstate Highway 80; easterly along said highway to its junction with U.S. Highway 287.

Area 602. Little Popo Agie. All U.S. Forest Service lands within the Little Popo Agie River drainage (including Cherry Creek and Snow Creek) and the Sawmill Creek drainage in Fremont County.

(iii) Beaver.

Area 1. The entire State of Wyoming, excluding those limited quota trapping areas listed in subsection (iii) and those areas closed in Section 5(b).

Area 101. Ditch Creek. Ditch Creek drainage in Teton County.

Area 102. Willow Creek. Willow Creek drainage in Teton and Sublette Counties.

Area 103. Game Creek and Little Horse Creek. Game Creek and Little Horse Creek drainage in Teton County.

Area 104. Fall Creek. All of the Fall Creek, Mosquito Creek and Dog Creek drainages on U.S. Forest Service lands in Teton and Lincoln Counties.

Area 301. North Tongue River. North Tongue River drainage in Sheridan County.

Area 302. South Tongue River. South Tongue River drainage in Sheridan County.

Area 303. East Fork of Big Goose Creek. East Fork of Big Goose Creek above Park Reservoir in Johnson County.

Area 304. Clear Creek. Clear Creek drainage on U.S. Forest Service lands in Johnson County.

Area 305. Crazy Woman Creek. Crazy Woman Creek drainage on U.S. Forest Service lands in Johnson County.

Area 401. South Rock Springs. That portion of Sweetwater County south of I-80 between the Green River, Flaming Gorge Reservoir and Wyoming Highway 430.

Area 404. Henry's Fork. Henry's Fork, Louse Creek and Sage Creek drainages on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Uinta County.

Area 405. Cottonwood Creek. Cottonwood Creek drainage on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Uinta County.

Area 406. East Fork of Smiths Fork. Gilbert Creek and East Fork of Smiths Fork River upstream from Wasatch-Cache National Forest boundary in Uinta County.

Area 407. West Fork of Smiths Fork. West Fork of the Smiths Fork River and Willow Creek drainages upstream from Wasatch-Cache National Forest boundary in Uinta County.

Area 408. Salt Creek. Salt Creek drainage on U.S. Forest Service lands, Salt Creek Proper and Raymond Creek drainage on public lands in Lincoln County.

Area 409. Upper Smiths Fork. Smiths Fork drainage on U.S. Forest Service lands in Lincoln County.

Area 410. Hobble Creek. Hobble Creek drainage on U.S. Forest Service lands, Coal Creek, and Saw Mill Creek drainages in Lincoln County.

Area 411. Hams Fork River (Hams Fork). Beginning where the Hams Fork River crosses the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary to where the river crosses U.S. Forest Service Road 062 and all tributaries lying east of the Hams Fork River in Lincoln County.

Area 412. South Fork Fontenelle Creek. Beginning where the South Fork of Fontenelle Creek crosses the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary to its headwaters and all tributaries in Lincoln County, including all of the drainages of the South Fork of Fontenelle Creek upstream from the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary within Lincoln County.

Area 413. Fontenelle Creek. Beginning where Fontenelle Creek crosses the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary to the confluence of Camp Fire Creek and all tributaries in Lincoln County, including all of the drainages of Fontenelle Creek between the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary and Camp Fire Creek within Lincoln County.

Area 414. LaBarge Creek and South LaBarge Creek (main streams). Beginning where LaBarge Creek crosses the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary to its headwaters and the main channel of South LaBarge Creek in Lincoln County. LaBarge Creek Proper will be closed one (1) mile each side of the confluence of Nameless Creek and LaBarge Creek in Lincoln County.

Area 501. North Pole Mountain. All of the drainages of Brush Creek, Crow Creek, Lodgepole (Pole) Creek, McKechnie Creek and Horse Creek within the boundaries of the Pole Mountain Division of the Medicine Bow National Forest and north of the Happy Jack Road (Wyoming Secondary Highway 210-U.S.F.S. 722) in Albany County.

Area 502. South Pole Mountain. All of the drainages of Brush Creek, Lodgepole (Pole) Creek, Crow Creek and Dale Creek within the boundaries of the Pole Mountain Division of the Medicine Bow National Forest and south of the Happy Jack Road (Wyoming Secondary Highway 210-U.S.F.S. 722) in Albany County.

Area 601. Beaver Creek. All public lands within the Twin Creek and Beaver Creek drainage south of U.S. Highway 287 in Fremont County.

Area 602. Little Popo Agie. All U.S. Forest Service lands within the Little Popo Agie River drainage (including Cherry Creek and Snow Creek) and all U.S. Forest Service lands within the Sawmill Creek drainage in Fremont County.

Area 603. Upper Sweetwater. All public lands within the Sweetwater River drainage above Phelps-Dodge Bridge in Fremont and Sublette Counties.

Area 604. Sweetwater. All public lands within the Rock Creek, Strawberry Creek and Deep Creek drainages and along the Sweetwater River proper between Phelps-Dodge Bridge and Sweetwater Station in Fremont County.

Area 605. Green Mountain. All public lands within the Crooks Creek, Cottonwood Creek, Cooper Creek and Willow Creek drainages on Green Mountain in Fremont County.

(b) Closed Areas.

(i) The following areas are closed to the taking of all furbearing animals.

(A) Grand Teton National Park in Teton County;  
(B) National Elk Refuge in Teton County; and,  
(C) Rawhide Wildlife Management Area, Springer Wildlife Habitat Management Area and the Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Goshen County shall be closed October 1 through December 31 and January 1 through February 15.

(ii) The following areas are closed to the use of steel leg hold traps and snares.

(A) John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway in Teton County; and,  
(B) Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area in Bighorn County.

(iii) The following areas are closed to the taking of beaver.

(A) Beaver Creek drainage from Wyoming Highway 70 downstream to its confluence with the North Fork of the Encampment River in Carbon County;  
(B) Cache Creek drainage in Teton County;  
(C) Cliff Creek drainage in Sublette County;  
(D) Granite Creek from the Granite Hot Springs swimming pool downstream to the confluence with the Hoback River in Teton and Sublette Counties;  
(E) Nameless Creek proper in Lincoln County;  
(F) Nash Fork drainage south of Wyoming Highway 130 from the Snowy Range Ski Area Road downstream to its confluence with the North Fork of the Little Laramie River in Albany County;  
(G) South Fork Hog Park Creek drainage from the Colorado/Wyoming state line downstream to its confluence with Hog Park Creek in Carbon County;  
(H) South Fork Lake Creek and Goetze Creek drainages on the Pennock Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Carbon County; and,  
(I) The head of the Rock Creek drainage north and east of the Sand Lake Road (USFS Road 101) downstream to its confluence with the South Fork of Rock Creek in Carbon County.

(iv) The following areas are closed to the taking of Marten.

(A) All lands within the Pole Mountain Unit of the Medicine Bow National Forest in Albany County.

Section 6. Common Season Boundary. Wherever a stream or river forms a boundary between two (2) different trapping seasons for the same furbearing animal, the stream or river channel proper shall open for trapping on the earliest opening date and close on the latest closing date of the two (2) seasons involved.

Section 7. Limited Quota Furbearing Animal Trapping Areas. Limited quota trapping areas shall be open only to the person(s) who possesses a furbearing animal trapping permit. Only the holder of a permit for a limited quota trapping area(s) shall be allowed to trap the limited quota area for the designated species for one (1) trapping season. Permit holders shall be determined by a random computer selection and trapping instructions shall be obtained from the game warden responsible for the limited quota furbearing animal trapping area.

(a) Application for Limited Quota Furbearing Animal Trapping Permits. Applications shall be available from Wyoming Game and Fish Department Regional Offices, the Cheyenne Headquarters Office and game wardens. Any qualified applicant holding a valid Wyoming furbearing animal trapping license may submit one (1) application for a limited quota trapping area drawing and may list as many as three (3) choices.

(b) When trapping, all permit holders shall present upon demand to any Department personnel or any law enforcement officer empowered to enforce these regulations his/her permit and a valid Wyoming furbearing animal trapping license.

(c) Application Date. Applications shall be submitted on a form provided by the Department to the Headquarters Office from July 1 through September 1.

(d) Drawing. Only correct and complete applications received in the Headquarters Office during the application dates shall be entered in the random computer selection. Successful applicants shall be notified by mail.

(e) Issue After Draw Limited Quota Trapping Areas. Applicants may apply after the regular drawing for permits for limited quota furbearing animal trapping areas not issued in the drawing. Applicants shall apply to the Headquarters Office. Permits shall be issued in the order the applications are processed or until quotas are reached. Submission of an application either through the mail or hand delivered shall not guarantee a permit

#### Section 8. Authorization to Trap.

(a) Any person holding a valid furbearing animal trapping license issued in accordance with all pertinent Wyoming laws and regulations shall be authorized to trap furbearing animals in any trapping area specified in the current trapping regulations, excluding species within limited quota furbearing animal trapping areas specified in this regulation and excluding closed areas in Section 5(b) of this regulation.

(b) Individuals issued limited quota furbearing animal trapping permits shall contact the game warden listed on the notice prior to taking permitted furbearing animals in the limited quota furbearing animal trapping areas. The game warden shall issue instructions regarding the number of furbearing animals to be taken and any other information necessary to fulfill the permit.

Section 9. Mandatory Bobcat Registration. All bobcats harvested in Wyoming after July 1, 1990, shall be registered with the Department by the person taking the bobcat, regardless of the final disposition of the pelt or unskinned carcass. Bobcat pelts may be registered throughout the bobcat season, but registration of pelts shall end at 5:00 p.m. on March 11 of each year. It shall be unlawful to possess an untagged green bobcat pelt after the registration period expires. For a bobcat pelt or unskinned carcass to be registered, the properly licensed trapper shall present the pelt or unskinned carcass in an unfrozen condition to a game warden or a Department Regional Office. The individual taking any bobcat shall provide the lower jaw of the bobcat with canines intact, sex of the bobcat, legal description, to include section, township and range, where the bobcat was harvested and the date of harvest for each bobcat taken before a Wyoming bobcat tag shall be issued. A Wyoming bobcat tag shall be attached to the pelt or unskinned carcass by an employee of the Department. Wyoming bobcat tags shall be issued free of charge.

Section 10. Trapping of Non-target Wildlife; Disposition of Furbearing Animals at the Trap Site. All non-target wildlife, including but not necessarily limited to game animals, game birds, furbearing animals, protected animals and/or protected birds, that are trapped, shall be released unharmed. If a big or trophy game animal caught has been injured to the extent that the injury may result in death of the animal or if the animal has been killed, the

trapper shall immediately notify a Department enforcement officer. Furbearing animals legally taken by a holder of a valid furbearing animal trapping license during an open season shall be either killed at the trap site or released to the wild. If the trapper holds both a furbearing animal trapping license and a license to capture furbearing animals for domestication, the furbearing animals do not have to be killed at the trap site.

Section 11. Use of Dogs. Persons possessing a valid furbearing animal trapping license may use dogs to take bobcats during the bobcat trapping season.

Section 12. Trap Identification Numbers.

(a) A person may apply for a trap identification number from the Department. Each individual shall be issued only one (1) trap identification number for the life of the trapper. Trap identification numbers shall be transferable from one person to another only upon making application to and being approved by the Department.

(b) Trap identification numbers shall consist of the prefix WY, followed by the last two digits of the calendar year in which the number is issued, followed by a number generated by the Department. A hyphen shall separate the three (3) portions of the number. For example, the first trap identification number issued in calendar year 2001 shall be WY-01-001. Numbers shall be legible, at least one-eighth (1/8) inch in height, and affixed to traps in such a manner as to read left to right. The number shall be stamped on the trap or on a metal tag that is affixed to the trap.

(c) Application for a trap identification number shall include the full name and complete home address of the applicant and shall be on a form provided by the Department. Applications shall be submitted to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Wildlife Law Enforcement Coordinator, at the Department's Headquarters Office.

(d) Any person who has obtained a trap identification number shall notify the Department Wildlife Law Enforcement Coordinator {(307)-777-4686} within thirty (30) days of any change in address.

Section 13. Violation of Commission Regulations. Failure to abide by the provisions of this regulation shall be punishable as provided by Wyoming statutes for violation of Commission regulations.

Section 14. Savings Clause. If any provision of this regulation is held to be illegal or unconstitutional, such a ruling shall not affect other provisions of this regulation which can be given effect without the illegal or unconstitutional provision; and, to this end, the provisions of the regulation are severable.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

By:  
Doyle Dorner, President

Dated: July 25, 2002