

Yukon TRAPPING

REGULATIONS SUMMARY 2018 – 2019

yukon.ca



**Yukon**

Not a legal document

This brochure is not a legal document and does not contain all the details of the current *Trapping Regulations*. It is a short guide designed to help you understand the basic rules. For more details, consult the *Wildlife Act* and regulations or talk to a conservation officer.

Copies of the *Wildlife Act* and regulations are available from the Inquiry Centre in the main Government of Yukon administration building in Whitehorse. Phone 1-800-661-0408, or you can download them from gov.yk.ca/legislation/.

On the cover:

Lynx tracks. Photo by Ryan Sealy.

Send us your photos! Want to be on next year's cover? Send your trapping pictures to coservices@gov.yk.ca.

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Cette publication est disponible en français aussi.

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Highlights for 2018-19

New trapping season dates for wolverine coming in 2019

Analysis of data collected from wolverine carcasses submitted by trappers revealed that some wolverines trapped later in the season were nursing kits. A proposal to change the end date for the trapping season for wolverine from March 10 to February 28 was submitted to the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board and was broadly supported. This change is expected to come into effect for the 2019-2020 trapping season.

New trap use requirements coming in 2020

Starting **October 1, 2020**, Yukon trappers will be required to only use certified restraining traps for beaver and wolf. Existing rules around killing traps for these species will remain the same until further notice. See page 9 for more information on permitted trapping devices and international humane trapping standards.

Wanted: Wolverine and lynx carcasses

Wolverine

As part of an ongoing study on the territory's wolverine population, you are invited to submit your frozen, skinned wolverine carcasses to your nearest Environment office.

You will receive \$50 for each complete wolverine carcass (including the skull) to recognize your contribution to this research.

You must include the following information with the carcass:

- ▶ trapper name;
- ▶ trapping licence number;
- ▶ trapping concession number;
- ▶ harvest date; and
- ▶ sex of animal.

For more information about the wolverine study, call the senior wildlife biologist at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5766.

Lynx

As part of a study on the population and movement of lynx, the Government of Yukon will ask trappers in select areas (Watson Lake, Mayo, Faro, Kluane Lake area and Whitehorse) to submit a limited number of lynx carcasses in the 2018-19 trapping season. If we do not contact you with a request for lynx carcasses, please do not submit any. Environment offices will not accept them.

For more information about the lynx study, call the Manager, Habitat Programs at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5464.

Trapping concessions

A concession gives you the exclusive opportunity to commercially trap in an area. You can hold only one trapping concession at a time. Trapping concessions may be granted to a partnership or a group if all members are eligible.

Requirements

To be eligible for a trapping concession you must:

- ▶ Be at least 16 years old.
- ▶ Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada:
 - ▶ whose principal residence has been in Yukon for at least 12 months immediately before applying for a licence; and
 - ▶ who has been physically present in Yukon for at least 185 days during that period, or who qualifies under a residency exemption form.
- ▶ Have no convictions for significant wildlife offences.
- ▶ Have graduated from a recognized trapper education workshop. Trappers 65 years of age or over who have previously held a Yukon trapping licence or assistant trapper licence are exempt from this requirement.
- ▶ Be eligible for a Yukon hunting licence, including hunter education training if you were born after April 1, 1987.
- ▶ For a full term concession, demonstrate that you are able to run a trapping concession for a minimum one year probationary period.

Trapping concessions

Probationary concession

The Government of Yukon may grant a one year probationary concession to a person, partnership or group that has not held a concession before. Unless it is cancelled, a probationary concession **expires on March 31** following the date of issue. You will receive 90 days' notice of your concession's expiry by registered mail.

A probationary concession may be renewed twice if a longer probationary period is warranted, or upgraded to a full term concession, at the discretion of the Minister of Environment (for Category 2 traplines or those in areas with no land claims agreement) or at the discretion of a First Nation government (for Category 1 traplines). See page 24. **You must apply for renewal of a probationary concession within 30 days of its expiry date.**

Full term concession

A full term concession gives you the exclusive opportunity to commercially trap in a specific area for five years. A full term concession **expires on March 31**, five years after it was granted. You will receive 90 days' notice of your concession's expiry by registered mail.

We will send the notice to the address given on your last application unless you provide an alternate address in writing to the Department of Environment.

You must apply for renewal of a full term concession within 90 days of its expiry date. It is best to apply before your concession expires,

When an application to renew is received, the concession may be renewed for five years. Full term concessions can be renewed for less than five years if:

- ▶ the applicant has violated the *Wildlife Act*; or
- ▶ the Minister of Environment believes it is necessary for wildlife conservation or public interest.

Before renewing the concession for a period less than five years, the Minister of Environment must refer the application to the Concession and Compensation Review Board. The Board makes recommendations to the Minister on issuing, reviewing, cancelling or suspending trapping concessions.

Trapping concessions

Concession fees

Probationary concession, or renewal	\$10
Full term concession, or renewal	\$20
Group area concession, or renewal	\$100

Concession cancellations and non-renewals

A concession may be cancelled or not renewed if:

- ▶ the applicant is convicted of using poison, interfering with traps, wasting pelts and/or other violations of the *Trapping Regulations* and the *Wildlife Act*;
- ▶ the applicant does not meet the trapping concession requirements;
- ▶ it is necessary for the conservation of wildlife anywhere in the trapping area;
- ▶ it is necessary to protect the public interest; or
- ▶ it is recommended by the local Renewable Resources Council or conservation officer due to lack of use.

See page 26 for more information on the role of Renewable Resources Councils.

False statements

It is unlawful to make a false statement on any report or application under the *Wildlife Act*, or to a conservation officer acting under the *Wildlife Act*.

Trapping concession area maps available

Colour, 11" x 17" paper maps of your trapping concession area are available. Contact the program advisor, fur and outfitting industries at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 8403 or your local conservation officer to request copies. Remember to ask for maps when picking up your trapping concession.

Trapping licences and assistant trapper licences

Along with a valid concession, you must have a valid annual trapping licence or assistant trapper licence to trap in Yukon. Current licences are **valid from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019**.

Trapping licence requirements

You must hold a trapping concession and meet the same requirements as concession holders. See page 3.

Assistant trapper licence requirements

A qualified person can get an assistant trapper licence at the request of the trapping concession holder(s). The concession holder(s) can also cancel this licence.

To be eligible for an assistant trapper licence you must:

- ▶ Be at least 16 years old.
- ▶ Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada:
 - ▶ whose principal residence has been in Yukon for at least 12 months immediately before applying for a licence; and
 - ▶ who has been physically present in Yukon for at least 185 days during that period.
- ▶ Have written consent from the holder(s) of the concession for the trapping concession area on which you plan to trap.
- ▶ Have graduated from a recognized trapper training workshop. Assistant trappers 65 years of age or over who have previously held a Yukon trapping licence or assistant trapper licence are exempt from this requirement.

See page 8 for more information about training.

Licence fees

Trapping licence	\$10
Assistant trapper licence	\$10
Senior citizens (65+)	FREE
Members of a group trapping area	FREE
Replacement copy	\$2

Trapping licences and assistant trapper licences

Residency exemption

Yukon residents who maintain a home in Yukon, and who file their taxes in Yukon but who must leave the territory for work, to attend school or for medical reasons, can apply for a trapping licence or assistant trapper licence by completing a residency exemption form, available at Environment offices.

Becoming an assistant trapper

Assistant trappers are an important part of the trapping community. Over the years, many new trappers have gained valuable experience by working with an experienced trapper. Assistants can also benefit senior trappers by helping with the more strenuous activities required out on the trapline.

The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board, local Renewable Resources Councils, the Yukon Trappers Association and conservation officers are all trying to help new trappers find concession holders who are interested in having an assistant trapper work with them.

Typically, the work of an assistant can enhance, but cannot replace, the trapping efforts of the concession holder. Keep this in mind when a conservation officer or Renewable Resources Council assesses trapping activity prior to concession renewal.

Contact your local Renewable Resources Council, local conservation officer, or the Yukon Trappers Association if you are looking for an assistant or want to become an assistant trapper.

Cancelling an assistant trapper licence

A trapping concession holder can cancel an assistant trapper licence by completing a form available at Environment offices and submitting it to a conservation officer.

The cancellation will take effect 10 days after the conservation officer notifies the assistant trapper.

Trappers living outside Yukon

A Canadian citizen or permanent resident living outside Yukon, but within 150 km of the trapping concession area they apply for, may be considered a Yukon resident under the *Trapping Regulations*.

First Nation trappers

Trapping for food

If you are a citizen of a Yukon First Nation with a land claims agreement or a transboundary First Nation with a land claims agreement in Yukon, you have the right to trap furbearing animals for the primary purpose of obtaining food in the Traditional Territory of your First Nation in accordance with your land claims agreement. This includes any portion of your Traditional Territory that overlaps another First Nation's Traditional Territory,

If you are a member of a First Nation with asserted traditional territory in Yukon, but unsettled Yukon land claims, you have rights to trap for food without a commercial licence in your First Nation's asserted traditional territory.

Trapping as a commercial activity

If you intend to sell furbearing animal pelts or other non-edible by-products or goods manufactured from them, then you are taking part in a commercial activity.

Commercial activities are subject to the Laws of General Application as referred to in sections 16.4.5 and 16.4.11 of all First Nation Final Agreements and are subject to the regulations in the *Wildlife Act*. You will need to obtain a trapping licence or assistant trapper licence and follow the *Wildlife Act* and *Trapping Regulations*.

Trapper training

Trapper training is an important requirement for trappers. Members of group traplines must also undergo training to obtain their group membership.

Each year, the Government of Yukon offers the Basic Trapper Training Workshop in several Yukon communities between September and March. Workshops rotate through rural Yukon communities on a three-year cycle. Contact the Department of Environment to get on the notification list (see page 36). We'll notify you of workshop and registration dates when they are set. See env.gov.yk.ca/trapper-ed for more information.

Trappers 65 years of age or older who have previously held a Yukon trapping licence or assistant trapper licence are

Trapper training

exempt from this requirement. Any trapper who has not had a licence within the past 10 years is strongly advised to attend a workshop, as there have been numerous changes in equipment, techniques and regulations.

Graduation from recognized trapper training in another province or territory may also meet the licence requirements. For more information, contact the Department of Environment at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 8403 or 6273.

The Yukon Trappers Association offers a variety of trapper development and specialty workshops. You can contact the association by phone at 867-667-7091, by email at yukonfur@yknet.ca, or on Facebook.

Permitted trapping devices

Innovations and improvements adopted by Canadian trappers have made trapping more humane. Yukon trappers must use traps certified to meet the criteria set out in the *Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards*, which identify devices used in the capture of several furbearing animals, including nine Yukon species.

Nationally, the Fur Institute of Canada administers the trap testing program that evaluates traps against international humane trapping standards. Trap models that meet this standard are then certified and the manufacturer stamps the certification number on each trap, e.g., QMC, MWA, etc. **It is legal to use identical traps (same make and model) manufactured before certification, provided the traps have not been modified.**

Trap research continues for species such as coyote and wolf. Trappers get three years' notice of new regulatory requirements to allow time to switch to certified traps. Traps for all species continue to be tested and certified to give trappers a greater variety of trap choices.

Permitted trapping devices

! New requirement to use certified restraining traps for beaver and wolf in 2020

A number of different restraining devices have been certified for beaver and wolf. Starting October 1, 2020, trappers will be legally required to use only certified devices when using restraining traps for these species. Non-certified restraining traps will still be permitted for beaver when used in drowning sets.

A list of certified traps is available at the Fur Institute of Canada website at fur.ca or through Environment offices.

Many Yukon trappers use killing traps for these species. If you use restraining traps for wolf, you may not need to change your equipment, as many recently certified traps are already in common use.

Quick kill traps

A quick kill trap is a mechanically-powered, trigger-activated trap that is not a restraining or leg-hold trap. It is used for the sole purpose of capturing and killing a furbearing animal. **Dead fall traps do not meet the legal definition of quick kill.**

In Yukon, you may set quick kill traps for any type of furbearing animal. When using quick kill traps for beaver, fisher, marten, lynx, otter, weasel, ermine or muskrat, you can only use certified devices.

Restraining traps

A restraining trap is a trap designed to hold an animal but not kill it. Restraining traps include leg-hold traps and foot snares as well as cage or box traps.

In Yukon, you may use modified leg-hold traps and foot snares for wolf, coyote and fox. When using restraining traps for lynx, you can only use certified devices.

Furbearing animal

Furbearing animals in Yukon include: beaver, coyote, fisher, red fox, arctic fox, lynx, marten, mink, muskrat, otter, red squirrel, weasel, wolf and wolverine.

Snares

You may use neck snares equipped with a locking device to capture any type of furbearing animal. Construct snares to conform to the designs taught in recognized trapper education workshops or as set out in *Best Trapping Practices (2017)* by the Fédération des Trappeurs Gestionnaires du Québec, available from Environment offices or online at env.gov.yk.ca/hunting-fishing-trapping/certifiedtraps.

Power-assisted neck snares are equipped with a powerful spring that acts like a lock, preventing the snare from loosening. Power-assisted foot snares have a locking device that also prevents the snare from loosening.

The only furbearing animal you can trap with non-locking snares is red squirrel.

Modified restraining (leg-hold) traps in land sets

A modified restraining (leg-hold) trap is one with:

- ▶ padded jaws;
- ▶ offset jaws that do not touch over their full length when closed; and
- ▶ laminated jaws with a gripping surface at least 9 mm wide.

Disallowed devices

You cannot use these devices to harvest furbearing animals:

- ▶ traps with teeth or metal serrated edges;
- ▶ hooks;
- ▶ spring poles equipped with leg-hold traps;
- ▶ dead fall traps; and
- ▶ certified traps that have been modified in any way.

Certified trap use requirements by species

It is unlawful to trap furbearing animals with any devices other than those described on pages 12-15 unless the device is on the Fur Institute of Canada's list of certified traps, available at fur.ca. The lists on the following pages reflect the July 1, 2018 update. These traps may no longer be considered certified if modifications have been made to their jaws or springs.

Permitted trapping devices

See pages 13 and 17 for more information on trap check periods for killing and restraining traps.

Beaver

On land and underwater:

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Classique 330, Bélisle Super X 280, Bélisle Super X 330
 - ▶ B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper, B.M.I. 330 Body Gripper, B.M.I. BT 300
 - ▶ Bridger 330
 - ▶ Duke 280, 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 Mag, Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half Mag
 - ▶ Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280, Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330

Underwater:

- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.
- ▶ Any restraining trap designed to capture and keep the beaver underwater.

Ermine/weasel

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 110, Bélisle Super X 120
 - ▶ B.M.I 60, B.M.I 120 Body Gripper Magnum, B.M.I 126 Body Gripper Magnum
 - ▶ Bridger 120, Bridger 120 Mag Bodygripper, Bridger 155 Mag Bodygripper
 - ▶ Koro Muskrat Trap, Koro Rodent Trap, Koro Large Rodent Double Spring
 - ▶ LDL B120 Magnum
 - ▶ Ouell 411-180, Ouell 3-10, Ouell RM
 - ▶ Rudy 120 Magnum

Permitted trapping devices

- ▶ Sauvageau C120 Magnum, Sauvageau C120 Reverse Bend, Sauvageau 2001-5
- ▶ Triple M
- ▶ Victor Rat Trap
- ▶ WCS Tube Trap Int'l
- ▶ Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110, Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120
- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.

Fisher

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 120, Bélisle Super X 160, Bélisle Super X 220
 - ▶ Koro no 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
- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.

Seven-day trap check for killing traps

Trappers who wish to take advantage of the seven-day trap check period for killing traps should maintain separate lines for killing and restraining sets. The trap check period for restraining sets remains at five days.

Lynx

- ▶ Certified restraining traps, including certified power-assisted foot snares
 - ▶ Bélisle Footsnare #6, Bélisle Sélectif
 - ▶ Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil springs, Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs
 - ▶ Oneida Victor #3 equipped with at least 8 mm thick, non-offset steel jaws, 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate

Permitted trapping devices

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 280, Bélisle Super X 330
 - ▶ B.M.I 220 Body Gripper, B.M.I 280 Body Gripper, B.M.I 220 Magnum Body Gripper, B.M.I 280 Magnum Body Gripper
 - ▶ Bridger 220, Bridger 280 Mag. Bodygripper
 - ▶ Duke 280
 - ▶ LDL C220, LDL C220 Magnum, LDL C280 Magnum, LDL C330, LDL C330 Magnum
 - ▶ Rudy 330
 - ▶ Sauvageau 2001-8, Sauvageau 2001-11
 - ▶ Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.

Marten

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 120, Bélisle Super X 160
 - ▶ B.M.I. 126 Magnum Body Gripper
 - ▶ Eiabzugseisen (Germany)
 - ▶ Kleiner Schwanenhals (Germany)
 - ▶ Koro no 1, Koro no 2
 - ▶ KP120 (Russia)
 - ▶ LDL B120 Magnum, LDL C160 Magnum
 - ▶ Northwoods 155
 - ▶ Rudy 120 Magnum, Rudy 160 Plus
 - ▶ Sauvageau C120 Magnum, Sauvageau 2001-5, Sauvageau 2001-6
- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.

See marten quota information on page 21.

Muskrat

On land and underwater:

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 110, Bélisle Super X 120
 - ▶ B.M.I 120 Body Gripper, B.M.I 120 Body Gripper Magnum, B.M.I 126 Body Gripper Magnum
 - ▶ Bridger 120, Bridger 120 Mag. Bodygripper, Bridger 155 Mag. Bodygripper

Permitted trapping devices

- ▶ CONV 110 CAN (Holland)
- ▶ Duke 120
- ▶ FMB 110 SS (Holland), FMB 150 SS (Holland)
- ▶ HZ-110 Stainless Steel (Holland)
- ▶ Koro Muskrat Trap, Koro Large Rodent Double spring
- ▶ LDL B120, LDL B120 Magnum
- ▶ Oneida Victor 120 Stainless Steel, Oneida Victor Conibear 110-3 Stainless Steel, Oneida Victor Conibear 110-3 MAGNUM Stainless Steel
- ▶ Ouell 411-180, Ouell RM
- ▶ Rudy 110, Rudy 120, Rudy 120 Magnum
- ▶ Sauvageau C120 Magnum, Sauvageau C120 Reverse Bend, Sauvageau 2001-5
- ▶ Triple M
- ▶ WCS Tube Trap Int'l
- ▶ Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110, Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120

Underwater:

- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.
- ▶ Any jaw-type trap (body gripping or leg-hold) set as a submersion set that exerts clamping force on a muskrat and that keeps the muskrat underwater.

Otter

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 220, Bélisle Super X 280, Bélisle Super X 330
 - ▶ LDL C220, 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 280, Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330
- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.
- ▶ Any restraining trap designed to capture and keep the otter underwater.

Permitted trapping devices

Trapping devices for other furbearing animals

For species that do not have certified trap requirements, consult the chart below for permitted trapping devices. If a device is not marked as permitted on this chart, it is not legal to use for that species.

	Coyote	Arctic Fox	Red Fox	Mink	Red Squirrel	Wolf	Wolverine
Quick kill traps	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Modified restraining traps with a jaw spread of 25 cm or less	X	X	X			X	
Neck snares equipped with a locking device	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Neck snare without a locking device					X		
Power-assisted neck snares	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Foot snares equipped with a locking device	X	X	X			X	
Any trap used in a submersion (drowning) set				X			

See page 10 for definitions of trapping devices.

Buyer beware

When buying new or used traps for beaver, fisher, marten, muskrat, lynx, wolf, coyote, ermine and otter, you should consult the Fur Institute of Canada's list of certified traps at fur.ca first to ensure you can legally use those traps.

Trapping season dates

Species	Open Season
Beaver	October 1 – May 31
Coyote	November 1 – March 10
Fisher	November 1 – February 28
Fox – red, cross, silver	November 1 – March 10
Fox – arctic	November 1 – March 31
Lynx	November 1 – March 10
Marten – see quotas on page 21	November 1 – February 28
Mink	November 1 – March 31
Muskrat – N. of Arctic Circle	October 1 – June 30
Muskrat – S. of Arctic Circle	October 1 – May 31
Otter	November 1 – March 31
Red squirrel	November 1 – March 31
Weasel	November 1 – March 31
Wolf	November 1 – March 10
Wolf – neck snare only	March 11 – March 31
Wolverine	November 1 – March 10

Setting, checking and removing traps

It is unlawful to:

- ▶ set or reset a trap for commercial purposes unless you are authorized to do so under the *Wildlife Act*; and
- ▶ trap within one kilometre of a residence without permission, whether or not the occupants are present at the time (see also “Trapping near communities” on page 24).

General regulations

Every person who installs a snare or trap must:

- ▶ check the set at least once every five days if it is designed to restrain the animal;
- ▶ check the set at least once every seven days if it is designed as a quick killing set;
- ▶ remove any captured animal; and
- ▶ remove or spring the set by the last day of the season for the targeted species.

A restraining trap in a drowning set for muskrat, beaver, mink or otter is classified as a killing set. You must remove captured animals from sets.

If you discover traps not set by you in your trapping concession area, report this to a conservation officer as soon as possible.

Keep track of your snares

It is unlawful to leave snares open after the season has closed. Make sure to take note of how many snares you have set and where, and be sure to close or remove them all prior to the end of the season.

Pelt sealing

All lynx, wolf and wolverine pelts must have a metal seal secured to the pelt by a conservation officer or designate within 15 days of the close of the trapping season for that species, or prior to the sale or transfer of the pelt, whichever comes first.

If you plan to remain on the trapline for the extended wolf snaring season (March 11 – 31) and believe that you will miss the deadline for lynx and wolverine sealing, you will require prior written approval from a conservation officer to seek an extension to April 15.

When you submit your lynx, wolf or wolverine pelts for sealing, you must provide the following information for each pelt:

- ▶ trapper name;
- ▶ trapping licence number;
- ▶ concession number;
- ▶ harvest date;
- ▶ method of harvest; and
- ▶ sex of animal.

This data will inform wildlife managers about animal populations and biological trends.

To assist you, blank tags for securing these details to each pelt are available at your local Environment office or by contacting the program advisor, fur and outfitting industries at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 8403. Keep these tags handy in your skinning shed or cabin to fill out at the time of skinning.

Trappers who voluntarily submit carcasses to the Department of Environment for analysis must also provide this information.

Live-trapping

It is unlawful to attempt to trap and sell a live furbearing animal, or to possess a live furbearing animal, unless you have a live-trapping permit from the Department of Environment. You must obtain this permit before you engage in live-trapping. If you find a live furbearing animal in one of your traps, you cannot keep it alive unless you already have the proper permit. A live-trapping permit describes the conditions and guidelines that you must follow when live-trapping.

For more information, contact your local conservation officer.

Emergency closures

The Minister of Environment has emergency powers to prohibit trapping anywhere it is urgently required for public health, public safety or conservation.

Capturing the wrong species and accidental captures

Trappers who accidentally capture an animal in a trap not permitted for that species (e.g., a marten or wolverine in a leg-hold trap) must report this to a conservation officer and submit the animal(s) either whole or skinned out to the conservation officer as soon as practical. You may request a permit to possess and sell the pelt(s) at that time.

General regulations

Conservation

It is unlawful to:

- ▶ Allow any part of a pelt to be wasted. A pelt is wasted if it is abandoned or allowed to be spoiled or destroyed.
- ▶ Allow any meat of a game bird, small or big game animal, other than a wolf, wolverine, bear, or coyote, to be wasted. Meat wastage includes using any of these animals for bait.
- ▶ Damage or interfere with any beaver dam, or the den, lair or nest of any wildlife, unless authorized by a wildlife technician or conservation officer. A licensed trapper may open a muskrat push-up to set traps if they are careful to prevent the push-up from freezing.
- ▶ Harass or provoke any wildlife.
- ▶ Use a shotgun to hunt a furbearing animal.

Carrying firearms

It is unlawful to carry a loaded firearm in or on a vehicle, which includes a snowmobile. A boat is not considered a vehicle.

Marten quotas



In an effort to build a sustainable population of marten, quotas are in place on most traplines in the Marten Conservation Area. This area extends from the BC border north to Carmacks and Aishihik Lake, and from the Teslin River west to Kluane National Park.

Quotas are a condition of the concession registration. This places the responsibility on the concession holder to carefully monitor harvest in the concession area by all licensed trappers, including assistant trappers. Once a concession reaches the quota for marten, all trapping for marten must stop for that season.

Marten quotas

If you accidentally capture more than your quota of marten, you must report this to a conservation officer and must submit the animal(s) either whole or skinned to the conservation officer as soon as practical.

At this time, you may request a permit to possess and sell the pelts.

Hunting while trapping

Hunting or snaring small game

You need a Yukon big game or small game only hunting licence to hunt snowshoe hare, arctic ground squirrel, porcupine, grouse and ptarmigan. You may use a non-locking neck snare to catch hares, ground squirrels and porcupines. Remember that you may not hunt or set snares within one kilometre of a residence without permission, whether the occupants are present or not.

Please check the current *Yukon Hunting Regulations Summary* for season dates and bag limits. Although some small game species have no bag limits, treat these animals with respect rather than regarding them as vermin, as they are a valuable food source for many.

It is illegal to waste the meat of small game animals.

Moose and caribou

Trapping concession holders who have a Yukon big game hunting licence have two privileges:

1. Where a trapping concession area overlaps subzones open to bull moose hunting, you may continue to hunt moose in that part of the concession area that overlaps the subzone area from **November 1 to January 31**.
2. You may continue to hunt bull caribou in any open subzone from **November 1 to January 31**.

Beyond these privileges, all season dates, permit hunt requirements, closed areas, sealing and reporting requirements, bag limits and sex restrictions apply to hunting moose and caribou while trapping.

Hunting furbearing animals under your trapping licence

When harvesting with a trapping licence, you are subject to the *Trapping Regulations*. These include season dates, bag limits, reporting and sealing requirements.

You may only harvest in the concession area for which your trapping licence was issued.

For hunting furbearing animals other than wolf, wolverine or coyote, use a rimfire rifle or a centrefire rifle with a bore diameter of less than six millimeters. For wolf, wolverine or coyote, use a centrefire rifle.

You may use a rimfire rifle to kill any furbearing animal held in a trap or snare that you legally set.

Hunting furbearing animals under your hunting licence

When harvesting with a hunting licence, you are subject to the hunting rules and regulations under the *Wildlife Act* including season dates, bag limits, closed areas, sex restrictions, reporting and sealing requirements. Consult the *Yukon Hunting Regulations Summary* for more information.

Wolves, coyotes and wolverine are classified as both furbearing animals and big game. For hunting wolf and coyote, you are permitted to use any centrefire firearm. For wolverine, you are only permitted to use centrefire firearms of 6 mm calibre and larger.

Your hunting licence does not permit you to use a firearm to dispatch a furbearing animal held in a trap or snare, nor to harvest other furbearing animals.

Killing furbearing animals

A rimfire rifle may be used to kill furbearing animals trapped and held in a trap or snare that you legally set.

Trapping near communities



The Government of Yukon encourages you to post signs when you are actively trapping along or near multi-use trails.

Posting these blue and yellow “active trapping area” signs at trailheads will let users know they are entering an actively trapped area.

You may want to consider other notices if you know locals walk their dogs in your trapping area. Pick up these signs from any Environment office.

Trapping on Settlement Lands

Eleven First Nations hold legal title over 31,595 km² of Settlement Land in Yukon in parcels of varying size.

In addition to complying with the *Wildlife Act* and its regulations, you will need to comply with any laws of the First Nation whose Settlement Land you are trapping on, and you may need to follow bylaws set by the Renewable Resources Council for that Traditional Territory.

We strongly recommend that you find out if your trapping concession area includes Settlement Land. You can view detailed maps at an Environment office, a First Nation office or online at env.gov.yk.ca/maps.

Trapline use and allocation

If more than half of your trapline lies inside the Traditional Territory (not including overlap areas) of a First Nation with a Final Agreement, your trapline is identified as either:

- ▶ **Category 1:** The First Nation has final authority in deciding who will get the concession when it becomes available.
- ▶ **Category 2:** The Government of Yukon has final authority in deciding who will get the concession when it becomes available.

If you want your trapline to be Category 1, you must provide written consent. Without your written consent, your trapline is Category 2. Be aware that once your trapline is designated Category 1, you cannot change it back to Category 2.

Trapping on Settlement Lands

You can transfer your trapping concession to eligible holders in accordance with the *Wildlife Act* and, in the case of Category 1 traplines, also in accordance with the First Nation's allocation policies.

Renewable Resources Councils (RRCs) make recommendations to First Nations and the Government of Yukon on the assignment of vacant and underutilized traplines. Each RRC has established guidelines to evaluate trapline applicants and trapline utilization. Contact your local RRC to obtain a copy of its guidelines. For more detailed information on RRCs, see page 26.

Building cabins or cutting trails

First Nation Final Agreements allow for trappers to continue to have reasonable access and use of their trapping concession areas on Settlement Lands, subject to conditions established by the First Nation and Yukon land use regulations.

Before you build a new cabin or cut a new trail on Settlement Lands, you must contact the First Nation office. The First Nation may set conditions on your project to protect the environment, fish and wildlife, and First Nation use of the land. See page 27 for more information about building a cabin on public lands.

Get the latest information

If you have questions about any land claims requirements related to trapping, you can get up-to-date information by contacting your local First Nation or an Environment office.

Fuel tax rebate

Trappers are eligible to apply for a fuel tax rebate from the Government of Yukon for fuel used in their off-road equipment for trapping operations.

For more information, contact the tax compliance officer at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5345 or visit yukon.ca/apply-fuel-tax-refund. Applications are available at your local Territorial Agent or Environment office.

Renewable Resources Councils

The Traditional Territory of most First Nations with a Final Agreement has a Renewable Resources Council (RRC). The First Nation and Yukon governments nominate council members.

Renewable Resources Councils are the voice of the community on fish and wildlife issues. They make recommendations on the management of fish and wildlife to the Minister of Environment, First Nations, and the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board.

The councils have a mandate (except in areas where Traditional Territories overlap) to:

- ▶ develop guidelines for trapline use assessment;
- ▶ review the utilization of traplines and make recommendations to the Minister of Environment and First Nation on the assignment of vacant or underutilized trapping concessions;
- ▶ develop bylaws for the local management of furbearing animals; and
- ▶ make recommendations to the Minister of Environment and First Nation on the management of furbearing animals.

To learn what trapping concession areas are unassigned, and the timetable for review of trapline applications, contact your local Renewable Resources Council.

First Nations offices/ Renewable Resources Councils

Council of Yukon First Nations 867-393-9200

Burwash Landing

Kluane First Nation..... 867-841-4274

Dän Keyi RRC 867-841-5820

Carcross

Carcross/Tagish First Nation 867-821-4251

Carcross/Tagish RRC 867-399-4923

Carmacks

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation..... 867-863-5576

Carmacks RRC 867-863-6838

Dawson

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in 867-993-7100

Dawson District RRC 867-993-6976

Renewable Resources Councils

Haines Junction

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations	867-634-4200
Alsek RRC.....	867-634-2524

Mayo

First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun	867-996-2265
Mayo District RRC.....	867-996-2942

Old Crow

Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation	867-966-3261
North Yukon RRC	867-966-3034

Pelly Crossing

Selkirk First Nation.....	867-537-3331
Selkirk RRC.....	867-537-3938

Teslin

Teslin Tlingit Council.....	867-390-2532
Teslin RRC	867-390-2323

Whitehorse

Kwanlin Dün First Nation.....	867-633-7800
Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.....	867-668-3613
Laberge RRC.....	867-393-3940

Trapline cabins on public lands

You need a lease to build a base camp or line cabin on public lands in your concession area. You must submit an application, including a copy of your trapping concession, and obtain approval prior to construction. The lease is only available to the concession holder. If the concession changes hands, the lease must be assigned to the new concession holder. According to the *Trapping Cabin Policy*, concession holders must obtain leases for all cabins built or acquired by the concession holder since 1980 under the *Territorial Lands Regulations*.

Applications and information on the *Trapping Cabin Policy* are available at Energy, Mines and Resources district offices, at the Lands Management Branch in Room 320 at the Elijah Smith Building (300 Main Street, Whitehorse), or at emr.gov.yk.ca.

If you are conducting guided trapping excursions, see page 30 for information on guided trapping. To build a cabin on Settlement Lands, different rules apply. See page 25.

Buying or selling raw pelts or other furbearing animal parts

Licensed trappers do not need a fur trading licence to sell or trade the pelt of a furbearing animal or black bear that they have legally harvested. When making a private sale, provide your name, licence number, concession number and harvest season. The buyer will need this information to obtain export permits and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) permits.

You need a special permit from the Government of Yukon to sell other parts of trapped furbearing animals or other wildlife (e.g., skulls, claws, etc.). Contact your local conservation officer for more information.

Residents holding a big game hunting licence may, during the term of that licence, sell the pelt of a wolf or coyote they have harvested. The sale of a wolverine pelt, however, requires a permit, available from Environment offices. There is no limit on the value of furbearing animal pelts residents may buy for personal use.

Non-residents, for their personal use, may buy the pelts of furbearing animals and black bears from a licensed Yukon trapper or assistant trapper. The total value of pelts purchased may not exceed \$2,000 per licensing year.

If you do not fall into one of these categories and wish to sell raw pelts obtained from another person, you are considered a fur trader.

Fur traders require an annual licence from the Government of Yukon and must submit their Record of Wildlife Purchased or Received forms (WPRs) to a conservation officer within 10 days after the end of each month.

Fur traders may have an individual trading on their behalf under the authority of an agent licence.

\$ Fur trading licence fees

Yukon resident	\$25
Non-resident	\$300
Non-resident restricted*	\$25
Agent	\$5

* This licence is valid for seven days and only one licence of this type will be issued to an individual in a licensing year.

It is the shipper's responsibility to ensure that they have met both the exporting and importing requirements. Failure to do so may result in the item being seized at the border.

Pelts and parts

To export any furbearing animal pelt or parts **out of Yukon**, you must obtain a wildlife export permit from an Environment office. Provide the trapping licence under which it was harvested and any fur sealing tag numbers for the permit.

To export the pelt, part or product of a wolf, otter or lynx **out of Canada**, you must have a wildlife export permit and a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) permit. CITES permits are issued free of charge at Environment offices, but you must give 24-hour advance notice. See canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/convention-international-trade-endangered-species for more information.

Non-commercial (personal) exports and imports have certain CITES permit exemptions for tourist souvenirs, personal effects and household effects. Please contact a federal wildlife officer with Environment and Climate Change Canada at 867-393-6876 or 1-888-569-5656 for more information.

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) **must inspect** all CITES permitted shipments at the point of exit, and the accompanying CITES permit must be validated at that time. CBSA Whitehorse may validate CITES permits if the goods are exiting Canada directly by mail or air.

CITES permits for goods exiting by highway, including hand-carried personal luggage or shipments by commercial truck, must be validated by the CBSA highway port of exit.

The CBSA can advise whether other export documentation is required for shipments. Stop by Room 110 of the Elijah Smith Building, 300 Main Street in Whitehorse, or call 1-800-461-9999.

Many countries have additional requirements for importing wildlife pelts, parts or products. For example, if you are taking furbearing animal pelts or products of beaver, coyote, marten, lynx, otter, muskrat, weasel/ermine, wolf,

Exporting

or fisher into a European Union country, you will need to provide a Certificate of Origin, available at Environment offices.

Manufactured products

A manufactured product is a completed, final product made from wildlife or a part derived from wildlife, which has been legally taken and undergone an entire shaping, manufacturing, tanning, taxidermy, milling, or weaving process that has changed it into an article of commerce according to functional or aesthetic criteria (e.g., a tanned pelt, fur garment or bleached skull).

Meat and any other part of any wildlife only partially processed is not considered a manufactured product.

You may export a manufactured product from Yukon without a permit unless the product is made from a CITES listed species such as wolf, otter or lynx. Contact a federal wildlife officer with Environment and Climate Change Canada at 867-393-6876 or 1-888-569-5656 for more information about CITES permit requirements for your situation.

Wilderness Tourism Licensing Act

If you take others into the Yukon wilderness for any activity in return for any kind of fee or reward, you must have a wilderness tourism licence. If you rent equipment to others for the purpose of accessing the Yukon wilderness, you may have reporting requirements under the *Yukon Wilderness Tourism Licensing Act*.

For more information about becoming a licensed wilderness tourism operator, call the Government of Yukon's Parks Branch at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5648 or visit yukon.ca/en/doing-business/licensing/apply-wilderness-tourism-licence-and-submit-trip-reports.

Guided trapping

A guided trapping permit allows interested individuals to trap for up to two weeks under the **direct supervision of a trapping concession holder**. A guided trapping permit costs \$10.

Guided trapping permit requirements

If you want to offer guided trapping excursions in your trapping concession area, you must be licensed as both a trapper and a wilderness tourism operator and have the necessary first aid training and insurance in place.

You can get a guided trapping permit at an Environment office. You will need to present your trapping licence, wilderness tourism licence and first aid certificate. Your permit will only become valid once it is signed by the client you intend to guide. You may supervise a maximum of two clients at any one time.

Assistant trappers cannot hold a guided trapping permit or supervise clients.

Any fur harvested under a guided trapping permit is the property of the concession holder. All trapping activity must comply with the *Wildlife Act* and its regulations.

Furbearing animal diseases

Wild animals can host micro-organisms that cause disease, such as bacteria, viruses, or parasites. Some of these organisms can cause disease in humans by spreading from animals to people or by being in the environment (e.g., water or soil).

Trappers should become familiar with the signs and symptoms of these diseases: rabies, hantavirus, mange, tularemia, hydatid disease, trichinosis and toxoplasmosis.

Pets are also highly susceptible to some diseases spread by wildlife.

Help monitor wildlife health

If you find a carcass with internal cysts, white spots on internal organs, enlarged organs, other abnormalities, or no obvious cause of death, please bring it in to the nearest Environment office for examination. **Do not skin or eat the carcass of an animal with an unknown cause of death.** Handle any possibly diseased carcass with caution: wear rubber gloves and carefully seal it in a strong plastic bag for submission. If it will be longer than 24 hours before you can submit the carcass, freeze it. We will share the results with you after completing examination of the sample or

Furbearing animal diseases

the necropsy of the carcass. If you are unable to bring in the carcass, take photos of the abnormality from multiple angles and submit them to an Environment office.

Protect yourself from disease while trapping

- ▶ Wear rubber or latex gloves when handling or skinning animals, or handling traps.
- ▶ Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and hot water after you finish handling carcasses and before eating or smoking.
- ▶ Protect your eyes, nose and mouth from contact with any animal's blood or body fluids and thoroughly wash any skin that is exposed to these materials.
- ▶ Avoid inhaling dust or dander from or around a carcass because it might contain bacteria or parasite eggs.
- ▶ Only drink or use untreated water from streams or lakes after boiling it for at least five minutes. Water can be contaminated by disease-causing micro-organisms, which are destroyed by boiling.
- ▶ Disinfect skinning tools and equipment with a 10 per cent solution of bleach. Apply with a spray bottle to keep down dust and contaminated particles, then wipe down your equipment and work space.
- ▶ If rodents have been active in your cabin, spray droppings or urine with a 10 per cent bleach solution before wiping them up. Do not create dust by sweeping up dried mouse droppings because you could be exposed to hantavirus, which is spread in mouse droppings and urine. Please refer to the *Hantavirus: Protecting Yourself and Your Family* pamphlet available at any Environment office or online at env.gov.yk.ca/brochures, or refer to Department of Health and Social Services hantavirus information at www.hss.gov.yk.ca/hantavirus.php.
- ▶ For extra protection when cleaning or handling contaminated material, wear a face mask with an air filter (HEPA).
- ▶ Rodent-proof your cabins. Keep food in rodent-proof containers, clean up food scraps and use mousetraps. Use steel wool to block entry points.
- ▶ Inform your health care provider of your trapping activity if you have symptoms such as fever, swollen glands or a rash.

Furbearing animal diseases

For more information on wildlife diseases and parasites:

- ▶ refer to chapter 8 in the *Yukon Trapper's Manual*;
- ▶ read *Diseases You Can Get from Wildlife* at env.gov.yk.ca/animals-habitat/animals-and-public-health; or
- ▶ contact the departments of Environment or Health and Social Services.

Offal for bait

Some diseases can affect both wildlife and domestic animals. The transmission of disease between livestock and free-ranging wildlife can have disastrous effects on both.

Using offal from livestock butchering operations (e.g., goats, sheep, pigs, cattle, elk, etc.) as bait piles for trapping or hunting could spread disease to wildlife.

The Government of Yukon does not encourage the use of bait made from livestock offal or carcasses from animals that were put down due to poor health, suspected of having a disease, or died of unknown causes. We also ask that you not bring offal from wild animals from other provinces or territories into Yukon.

It is illegal to import whole cervid carcasses or portions of carcasses (such as deer, moose, elk, and caribou) into Yukon. The exceptions to this rule are cleaned skull caps with antlers, cleaned teeth removed from the head, edible meat completely detached from head and backbone, finished taxidermy mounts, and tanned hides.

For additional information about animal and wildlife diseases, please see the current *Yukon Hunting Regulations Summary* or contact the Animal Health Unit at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5600.

Found carcasses

If you find a wild carcass and want to keep any part of it, you must first bring it to a conservation officer and apply for a permit to possess it. The officer will ask a few questions and, if everything is in order, a permit will likely be issued. You can keep naturally shed antlers with the burr intact without a permit.

Harvest monitoring

The Government of Yukon keeps track of the fur harvest annually by monitoring trapping licences, export permits, fur dealer and taxidermist records, and pelt seals.

Never sell or ship fur under someone else's licence or your harvest will appear on their record. It is important to properly document your trapline activity because harvest information is a part of trapline utilization reviews during registration renewals and is also used for compensation claims if your trapping is affected by another land-use activity. If you aren't using your trapline, your local Renewable Resources Council or conservation officer may consider it underutilized.

Your personal information

The Government of Yukon manages your personal or contact information in accordance with the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (ATIPP)*. For more information, contact the Department of Environment's ATIPP coordinator at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 3029.

Development projects in trapping concession areas

The Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act outlines the assessment process for most development projects. Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) rules allow 14 calendar days for notification and comments on projects that have a low potential for significant impacts.

We strongly advise that you protect your interests by registering directly with the nearest YESAB designated office so they can notify you promptly of projects in your trapping concession area. You can send your comments on projects directly to the local YESAB office.

To check on projects and activities in your area, or to register online, go to www.yesabregistry.ca.

For further information on project assessments and the role the Government of Yukon plays, please contact the Environmental Affairs Unit at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5683.

YESAB designated offices

Dawson City.....	867-993-4040
Haines Junction	867-634-4040
Mayo.....	867-996-4040
Teslin.....	867-390-4040
Watson Lake	867-536-4040
Whitehorse.....	867-456-3200

Environment offices

Whitehorse office

Street address	10 Burns Road (across from the airport)
Mailing address	Box 2703, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6
Toll-free number	1-800-661-0408, ext. 5652
Animal Health Unit.....	867-667-5600
Conservation officers	867-667-8005
Program advisor, fur and outfitting industries	867-667-8403
Regional biologist (Southern Lakes).....	867-667-5767
Trapper education coordinator.....	867-393-6273
Wilderness tourism registrar	867-667-5648
Wildlife harvest specialist.....	867-667-8407
Wolf management program coordinator	867-667-5469

District offices

Carmacks

Conservation officer	867-863-2411
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Dawson

Conservation officer	867-993-5492
Regional biologist.....	867-993-6461

Faro

Conservation officer	867-994-2862
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Haines Junction

Conservation officer	867-634-2247
Regional biologist.....	867-634-2439

Mayo

Conservation officer	867-996-2202
Regional biologist.....	867-996-2162

Old Crow

Conservation officer	867-966-3040
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Ross River

Conservation officer	867-969-2202
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Teslin

Conservation officer	867-390-2685
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Watson Lake

Conservation officer	867-536-3210
Regional biologist.....	867-536-3214

Protect Yukon wildlife

Turn in poachers and polluters

Call toll free



yukon.ca

- ▲ 24 hour
- ▲ anonymous
- ▲ rewards available

How can we help?

If you see someone violating fishing, hunting or environmental laws, don't confront them. That's a job for conservation officers. Watch carefully and record the facts:

- date and time
- location
- number of people involved
- description of the people
- description of the vehicle and licence plate number
- details of the violation or activity

As soon as you can, call the TIPP line at 1-800-661-0525 or visit yukon.ca/turn-poachers-and-polluters and report the details of the offence. You'll be helping the wildlife conservation effort and you may be eligible for a cash reward.