

Yukon Trapping



Highlights for 2016-17

New Trap Use Requirements for Otter

Starting **October 1, 2016**, Yukon trappers must only use certified traps for otter. See page 6 for more information on permitted trapping devices and international humane trapping standards.

Wanted: Wolverine Carcasses

As part of an ongoing study into the territory's wolverine population, trappers are invited to submit their frozen, skinned wolverine carcasses to their nearest Environment Yukon office. Trappers will receive \$50 for each complete wolverine carcass (including the skull) to recognize their contribution to this research.

Trappers 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 toll-free 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5766.

On the cover:

Pat Van Bibber fleshing a pelt with a traditional bone tool.
Photo by Wade Gagnon.

Pat passed away in March of this year at the age of 93.



Printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper.

ISSN 1192-062

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.

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Trapping Concessions

A concession gives you the exclusive opportunity to commercially trap in that 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, and
- ▶ for a full term concession, demonstrate to a Conservation Officer that you are able to run a trapping concession as required by the *Wildlife Act* and regulations for a minimum one-year probationary period.

Probationary Concession

A one-year probationary concession may be granted 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.

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 or the recommendation of a First Nation. **You must apply for renewal of a probationary concession at least 30 days before its expiry date.** No notification of expiry is provided.

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

Trapping Concessions

expiry by registered or certified mail. The notice will be sent to the address given on your last application unless you provide an alternate address to Environment Yukon in writing.

You must apply for renewal of a full term concession within the 90-day period after receiving the notice.

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.

Concession Fees

Probationary concession, or renewal	\$10
Full term concession, or renewal	\$20
Group area concession	\$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 20 for more information on the role of Renewable Resources Councils.

Furbearing animal

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

Trapping 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, 2016 to June 30, 2017**.

Trapping Licence Requirements

To be eligible for a trapping licence you must hold a trapping concession and meet all the same requirements as concession holders. See page 2 for trapping concession requirements.

Assistant Trapper Licence Requirements

An assistant trapper licence may be issued to a qualified person at the request of the trapping concession holder(s). An assistant trapper licence may also be cancelled at the request of the concession holder(s).

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 trapping concession on which you plan to trap, and
- ▶ have graduated from a recognized trapper training 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.)

See page 6 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
Duplicate copy	\$2

Trapping Licences

Cancelling an Assistant Trapper Licence

A trapping concession holder can cancel an assistant trapper licence by completing a form available at Environment Yukon offices and submitting it to a Conservation Officer. The cancellation will take effect 10 days after the Conservation Officer notifies the assistant trapper.

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.

Trappers living outside Yukon

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

First Nation Trappers

Trapping for Food

If you are a member of a Yukon First Nation with a Final Agreement, you have the right to subsistence trap furbearing animals in the Traditional Territory of your First Nation, including any portion of your Traditional Territory that overlaps another First Nation's Traditional Territory. Subsistence trapping means you are harvesting animals for food.

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 Department of Environment 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 as early as possible to be included on the attendance list. The workshop schedule will be sent to those on the attendance list in early fall. Submit registration fees promptly; workshops may fill up quickly, or be cancelled if not enough fees are received.

Trappers 65 years of age or over who have previously held a Yukon trapping licence or assistant trapper licence are exempt from this requirement. Any trapper who has not had a licence within the past 10 years or more is strongly advised to attend a workshop as there have been numerous changes in equipment, techniques and regulations in recent years.

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

The Yukon Trappers Association offers a variety of trapper development and specialty workshops. The Association can be contacted 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.

Permitted Trapping Devices

Trap research continues for species such as wolf and coyote. Three years' notice of new regulatory requirements is given to allow trappers time to switch to certified traps. Traps for all species continue to be tested and certified to give trappers greater variety. In future, cage and box traps will also be tested and certified.

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.**

Certified quick kill traps must be used in Yukon for beaver, fisher, marten, lynx, weasel, ermine and muskrat.

Certified restraining traps must be used for lynx.

The requirement to use certified traps began in 2007.

Starting October 1, 2016 trappers are legally required to only use certified quick kill traps for otter.

Snares

Neck snares equipped with a locking device may be used to capture any type of furbearing animal. Snares should be constructed to conform to the designs taught in recognized trapper education workshops or as set out in Chapter 6 of the *Yukon Trapper's Manual* or in *Best Trapping Practices (2014)* by the Fédération des Trappeurs Gestionnaires du Québec (available from Environment Yukon offices or online at www.env.gov.yk.ca/hunting-fishing-trapping/certifiedtraps).

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

Non-locking snares may be used for **red squirrels only**.

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, or
- ▶ laminated jaws with a gripping surface at least 9 mm wide.

Permitted Trapping Devices

Disallowed devices

These devices may not be used to harvest furbearing animals:

- ▶ traps with teeth or metal serrated edges,
- ▶ hooks,
- ▶ spring poles equipped with leg-hold traps, or
- ▶ dead fall traps.

Certified Trap Use Requirements by Species

It is unlawful to trap furbearing animals with any devices other than those described on pages 8-11 unless the device is on the Fur Institute of Canada's list of certified traps, available at www.fur.ca. The lists on the following pages reflect the May 1, 2016 update.

See pages 9 and 13 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 and Super X 330
 - ▶ BMI 280 Body Gripper and 330 Body Gripper
 - ▶ BMI BT300
 - ▶ Bridger 330
 - ▶ Duke 330
 - ▶ LDL C280 and C280 Magnum
 - ▶ LDL C330 and C330 Magnum
 - ▶ Rudy 280 and 330
 - ▶ Sauvageau 1000-11F
 - ▶ Sauvageau 2001-8, 2001-11 and 2001-12
 - ▶ Species-Specific 330 Dislocator Half Magnum
 - ▶ Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half Magnum
 - ▶ Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280 and 330.

Underwater:

- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.
- ▶ Any trap (quick kill or restraining device) may be used in a submersion (drowning) set that is designed to capture and keep the beaver underwater.

Permitted Trapping Devices

Ermine/weasel

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 110 and Super X 120
 - ▶ B.M.I #60
 - ▶ B.M.I 120 Body Gripper Magnum and 126 Body Gripper Magnum
 - ▶ Bridger 120, 120 Magnum Bodygripper and 155 Magnum Bodygripper
 - ▶ Koro Muskrat Trap and Rodent Trap
 - ▶ LDL B120 Magnum
 - ▶ Ouell 411-180
 - ▶ Ouell 3-10 and RM
 - ▶ Rudy 120 Magnum
 - ▶ Sauvageau C120 Magnum
 - ▶ Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend"
 - ▶ Sauvageau 2001-5
 - ▶ Triple M
 - ▶ Victor Rat Trap
 - ▶ Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110 and 120.
- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.

Fisher

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 120, Super X 160 and Super X 220
 - ▶ Koro #2
 - ▶ LDL C160 Magnum and C220 Magnum
 - ▶ Rudy 120 Magnum and 160 Plus and 220 Plus
 - ▶ Sauvageau 2001-5, 2001-6, 2001-7 and 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.

Permitted Trapping Devices

Lynx

- ▶ Certified restraining traps, including certified power-assisted foot snares
 - ▶ Bélisle Footsnare #6
 - ▶ Bélisle Sélectif
 - ▶ Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch with 2 coil springs
 - ▶ Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch with 4 coil springs
 - ▶ Oneida Victor #3 with at least 8 mm thick, non-offset steel jaws, 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate.
- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 280 and Super X 330
 - ▶ B.M.I 220 Body Gripper and 280 Body Gripper
 - ▶ B.M.I 220 Magnum Body Gripper and 280 Magnum Body Gripper
 - ▶ Bridger 220
 - ▶ LDL C220 and C220 Magnum
 - ▶ LDL C280 Magnum and C330
 - ▶ Rudy 330
 - ▶ Sauvageau 2001-8 and 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 and Super X 160
 - ▶ BMI 126 Magnum Body Gripper
 - ▶ Eiabzugseisen
 - ▶ Kleiner Schwanenhals
 - ▶ Koro #1 and #2
 - ▶ KP120
 - ▶ LDL B120 Magnum and C160 Magnum
 - ▶ Northwoods 155
 - ▶ Rudy 120 Magnum and 160 Plus
 - ▶ Sauvageau C120 Magnum
 - ▶ Sauvageau 2001-5 and 2001-6.
- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power assisted neck snares.

See marten quota information on page 28.

Permitted Trapping Devices

Muskrat

On land and underwater:

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 110 and Super X 120
 - ▶ BMI 120 Body Gripper and 120 Body Gripper Magnum
 - ▶ BMI 126 Body Gripper Magnum
 - ▶ Bridger 120, 120 Magnum Bodygripper and 155 Magnum Bodygripper
 - ▶ Duke 120
 - ▶ Koro Muskrat Trap
 - ▶ LDL B120 and B120 Magnum
 - ▶ Oneida Victor 120 Stainless Steel
 - ▶ Ouell 411-180 and Ouell RM
 - ▶ Rudy 110 and 120 and 120 Magnum
 - ▶ Sauvageau C120 Magnum and C120 "Reverse Bend"
 - ▶ Sauvageau 2001-5
 - ▶ Triple M
 - ▶ Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110 and 120.

Underwater:

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.

Otter

- ▶ Certified quick kill traps
 - ▶ Bélisle Super X 220, Super X 280, Super X 330
 - ▶ LDL C220, LDL C220 Magnum and C280 Magnum
 - ▶ Sauvageau 2001-8, 2001-11 and 2001-12
 - ▶ Rudy 220 PLUS, 280 and 330
 - ▶ Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220, 280 and 330.
- ▶ Neck snares equipped with a locking device, including power-assisted neck snares.
- ▶ Any trap (quick kill or restraining device) may be used in a submersion (drowning) set that is designed to capture and keep the otter underwater.

Permitted Trapping Devices

Trapping Devices for Other Furbearing Animals

Environment Yukon encourages the use of the following devices for species that do not have mandatory trap requirements.

	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
Power-assisted foot snares	x	x	x			x	
Any trap used in a submersion (drowning) set.				x			

See page 7 for definitions of trapping devices.

! Buyer Beware

Trappers buying new or used traps for beaver, fisher, marten, muskrat, lynx, wolf, coyote, ermine and otter should consult the Fur Institute of Canada's list of certified traps first to ensure the traps can be used legally.

General Regulations

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 28	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 18.

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. Captured animals must be removed from sets.

General Regulations

If you discover traps not set by you on your trapping concession, report this to a Conservation Officer as soon as possible.

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 in this requirement, blank tags for securing these details to each pelt are available at your local Environment Yukon office or by contacting the Wildlife Harvest Specialist toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 8407. Keep these tags handy in your skinning shed or cabin to fill out at the time of skinning.

Trappers who voluntarily submit carcasses to Environment Yukon for analysis must also provide this basic information.

Live-Trapping

It is unlawful to attempt to trap and sell a live furbearing animal, or be in possession of a live furbearing animal, unless you have a live-trapping permit from Environment Yukon. 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

General Regulations

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 the purposes of 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 dried pelt(s) and carcass(es) of the animal(s) to the Conservation Officer as soon as possible. You may request a permit to possess and sell the pelt(s) at that time.

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, or
- ▶ use a shotgun to hunt a furbearing animal.

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*.

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 Environment Yukon's Conservation Officers are all trying to help new trappers find concession holders interested in having an assistant trapper work with them.

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 the 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 for an opportunity to be an assistant trapper.

Hunting While Trapping

Hunting or Snaring Small Game

A small game hunting licence is required to hunt snowshoe hare, arctic ground squirrel, porcupine, grouse and ptarmigan. You may use a 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, these animals should be treated with respect rather than regarded as vermin, as they are a valuable food source for many. It is illegal to waste the meat of small game 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.

Hunting While Trapping

Moose and Caribou

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

- ▶ Where a trapping concession overlaps subzones open to bull moose hunting, you may continue to hunt moose in that part of the concession that overlaps the subzone area from **November 1 to January 31**. You may not hunt in subzones closed to moose hunting or subject to a permit hunt.
- ▶ You may continue to hunt bull caribou in any open subzone from **November 1 to January 31**. You may not hunt in subzones closed to caribou hunting or subject to a permit hunt.

Beyond these privileges, all season dates, bag limits and sex restrictions apply to hunting moose and caribou while trapping.

Permitted Use of Firearms

Harvesting 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.

The holder of a trapping licence may only harvest on the concession for which the licence was issued.

For 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 rimfire rifles to kill a furbearing animal held in a trap or snare that you legally set.

Harvesting Under Your Hunting Licence

When harvesting with a hunting licence, you are subject to the *Wildlife Regulations* including season dates, bag limits, closed areas, reporting and sealing requirements.

It is legal to use a centrefire firearm 6 mm caliber or smaller for wolf and coyote. Wolverines can only be harvested with a centrefire firearm larger than 6 mm caliber.

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

Trapping Near Communities



Environment Yukon encourages trappers to post signs when they are actively trapping along or near multi-use trails. These blue and yellow “active trapping area” signs posted 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 Yukon 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. Additional rules apply when trapping on these parcels. 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.

It is strongly recommended that you find out if your trapping concession includes parcels of settlement land. You can view detailed maps at an Environment Yukon office, a First Nations office or online at

www.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 Yukon government 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 Yukon government on the assignment of vacant and underutilized traplines. The RRCs have each 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 Renewable Resources Councils, see page 20.

! 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 under the *Wildlife Act*.)

Building Cabins or Cutting Trails

First Nation Final Agreements allow for trappers to continue to have reasonable access and use of their trapping concessions 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 21 for more information about building a cabin on public lands.

Get the Latest Information

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

? Fuel tax rebate

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

For more information, contact the Tax Compliance Officer toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5345 or visit www.finance.gov.yk.ca/ft_exemptions.html. Applications are available at your local Territorial Agent or Environment Yukon office.

Renewable Resources Councils

Renewable Resources Councils (RRCs) are established in the Traditional Territory of each First Nation with a Final Agreement. Half of each council's members are nominated by First Nations government, the other half by the Yukon government.

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

Among other things, the councils have a mandate (except in overlap areas) 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 registered trapping concessions are unassigned, and the timetable for review of trapline applications, contact your 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

Haines Junction

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations 867-634-4200

Alsek RRC.....867-634-2524

Renewable Resources Councils

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 867-537-3937

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

Trappers wishing to build cabins on public lands in their concessions require a lease. **Your application, including a copy of your Trapping Concession Certificate, must be submitted and approved 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. Applications and information on the *Trapping Cabin Policy* can be picked up 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 www.emr.gov.yk.ca.

All cabins built or acquired by the concession holder since 1980 are required by the *Trapping Cabin Policy* to be registered and leased under the *Territorial Lands Regulations*.

Trapping cabins are only for the trapping concession holder to use while trapping, including guided trapping excursions. Other commercial purposes, such as rentals, wilderness tourism and outfitting, are not permitted. See page 24 for more information about guided trapping.

If you are planning to build a cabin on settlement lands, different rules apply. See page 19.

Buying or Selling Raw Pelts

If you wish to buy or sell raw furbearing animal pelts, you must hold a fur trading licence, renewed annually.

Fur Trading Licence Fees

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

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

Fur traders must submit their Record of Wildlife Purchased or Received forms 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.

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

Licensed trappers do need a fur trading licence if they wish to sell raw pelts obtained from another person.

Residents holding a big game hunting licence may, during the term of that licence, sell the pelt of a wolf or coyote they have killed. The sale of a wolverine pelt, however, requires a permit. 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 \$2000 per licensing year. To sell pelts, non-residents must have a fur trading licence.

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 seizure of an item at the border.

Pelts and Parts

To export any furbearing animal pelt or any other part **out of Yukon**, you must obtain a wildlife export permit from a Conservation Officer. The trapping licence under which it was harvested and any fur sealing tag number(s) should be provided 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 Yukon offices, but 24-hours advance notice is required. See www.cites.ca for more information.

All CITES permitted shipments **must be inspected** by the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) 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, or fisher into a European Union country, you will need to provide a Certificate of Origin, available at Environment Yukon offices.

Manufactured Products

A manufactured product, lawfully obtained by someone for their personal use, may be taken out of Yukon without a permit unless the product is made from a CITES listed species, in which case a CITES permit is required.

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,

Exporting

manufacturing, tanning, taxidermy, milling, or weaving process that has changed it into an article of commerce according to functional or aesthetic criteria.

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

Non-commercial exports and imports have certain CITES permit exemptions for tourist souvenirs, personal effects and household effects. Please contact a Federal Wildlife Officer with Environment Canada at 867-393-6876 or 1-888-569-5656 for more information.

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 Environment Yukon Parks Branch toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5648 or visit www.env.gov.yk.ca/camping-parks/tourism_operators.

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**. The guided trapping permit fee is \$10.

Guided Trapping Permit Requirements

Trappers who want to offer guided trapping excursions on their trapping concession must be licensed as both a trapper and a wilderness tourism operator and have the necessary first aid training and insurance in place.

A guided trapping permit may be obtained at an Environment Yukon office. You will need to present your trapping licence, wilderness tourism operator 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.

Guided Trapping

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 be in accordance with the *Wildlife Act* and its regulations.

Furbearing Animal Diseases

Wild animals can be a host for 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 be familiar with the signs and symptoms of these diseases: rabies, hantavirus, mange, tularemia and hydatid disease.

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 Yukon 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, it is best to freeze it. The results will be shared with you after examination of the sample or necropsy of the carcass is completed. If you are unable to bring in the carcass, take photos of the abnormality from multiple angles and submit them to an Environment Yukon 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.

Furbearing Animal Diseases

- ▶ 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 Yukon office or online at www.env.gov.yk.ca/brochures or refer to Yukon 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.

For more information on wildlife diseases and parasites, refer to Chapter 8 in your *Yukon Trapper's Manual*, read *Diseases You Can Get from Wildlife* at www.env.gov.yk.ca/animals-habitat/animals-and-public-health or contact Environment Yukon or Health and Social Services.

? Found carcasses

If you find a wild carcass and want to keep any part of it, you must first bring the item 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. Naturally shed antlers with the burr intact may be kept without a permit.

Harvest Monitoring

Environment Yukon keeps track of the annual fur harvest 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 your trapline is not being used, your local Renewable Resources Council may consider it underutilized.

Individual harvest information is confidential and not released without written permission. However, certain government departments have legal authority to obtain this information.

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. If you choose to use livestock offal for bait, please confirm that the source animals were healthy before slaughter.

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

It is now 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 toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5600.

Marten Quotas

In an effort to build a stable and harvestable population of marten, quotas are in place on most traplines in the Marten Conservation Area. The area extends from the B.C. 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 all the harvest on the concession by all licensed trappers, including assistant trappers. Once the quota for marten has been reached for a concession, all trapping for marten must stop for that season.

Trappers who accidentally capture more than their quota of marten must report this to a Conservation Officer and must submit the dried pelt(s) and carcass(es) of the excess animal(s) to the Conservation Officer as soon as practical.

A permit to possess and sell the pelts may be requested at that time.

Development Projects in Trapping Concessions

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.

As a concession holder, you are strongly advised to protect your interests by registering directly with the nearest YESAB designated office in order to be notified 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 Environment Yukon plays, please contact the department's Environmental Affairs unit toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5683.

Development Projects in Trapping Concessions

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 Yukon 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 Officer.....	867-667-8005
Program Advisor: Fur & Outfitting Industry...	867-667-8403
Regional Biologist (Southern Lakes).....	867-667-8640
Trapper Education Coordinator.....	867-393-6273
Wilderness Tourism Registrar.....	867-667-5648
Wildlife Harvest Specialist.....	867-667-8407
Wolf Management Coordinator.....	867-667-5469

District Offices

Carmacks	Conservation Officer.....	867-863-2411
Dawson	Conservation Officer.....	867-993-5492
	Regional Biologist.....	867-993-6461
Faro	Conservation Officer.....	867-994-2862
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
Ross River	Conservation Officer.....	867-969-2202
Teslin	Conservation Officer.....	867-390-2685
Watson Lake	Conservation Officer.....	867-536-3210
	Regional Biologist.....	867-536-3214

Protect Yukon Wildlife



Turn in Poachers and Polluters (TIPP Line)

1-800-661-0525

www.env.gov.yk.ca/TIPP

**24 hour
Anonymous
Rewards Available**

How you can help

If you see or suspect someone is violating hunting or fishing laws, or dumping waste in the bush, don't confront them and risk an unpleasant reaction. That's Environment Yukon's job.

Watch carefully and record the facts:

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

Please record this information. As soon as you can, call the TIPP Line at **1-800-661-0525** or visit **www.env.gov.yk.ca/tipp** to report the details of the offence. You'll help protect the land and wildlife we value so highly, and you may be eligible for a cash reward.