

N.H. Trapper Take 2007-2008

REGION	BEAVER	COYOTE	FISHER	GRAY FOX	MINK
NORTH	217	30	21	3	49
WHITE MTN	247	131	41	11	73
CENTRAL	557	85	83	22	139
S. WEST	616	51	106	47	43
S. EAST	573	81	146	30	116
STATEWIDE	2210	378	397	113	420

REGION	MUSKRAT	OTTER	RACCOON	RED FOX
NORTH	436	14	20	30
WHITE MTN	119	17	38	59
CENTRAL	303	42	120	54
S. WEST	518	52	117	49
S. EAST	142	40	154	26
STATEWIDE	1518	165	449	218

IMPORTANT DATES

April 30:
Trapper Report deadline.

After July 15:
Applications and lists of state lands open for trapping can be obtained from Fish and Game.

Second Monday of September:
Applications for state land lottery trapping permits are due at Fish and Game.

First Friday after application deadline:
The lottery for state land trapping permits occurs by this date. Remaining areas are awarded on a first-come first-served basis.

NOTE: State land lottery permits are issued for two years. The lottery is held in even years only.



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department
11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301
(603) 271-2461
www.WildNH.com

A Trapper's Code of Ethics

1. Know and obey all trapping regulations and support their enforcement.
2. Work to increase your knowledge of furbearers and proper trapping methods.
3. Respect landowner wishes and set traps only in appropriate locations.
4. Avoid setting traps where there is a high risk of catching free-ranging domestic animals.
5. Use selective and humane trapping sets with appropriate trap types and sizes.
6. Make drowning water sets if possible.
7. Don't set more traps than you can effectively handle.
8. Record your trap locations accurately.
9. Anchor traps securely enough to hold the largest potential catch.
10. Faithfully check all traps as required by law, preferably early in the morning.
11. Dispose of animal carcasses properly to avoid offending other people.
12. Support trapping, trapper education and sound furbearer management practices.
13. Report the presence of diseased animals.
14. Make an effort to trap in areas where furbearers are abundant or are creating a nuisance.
15. Know and use proper killing and releasing methods.

TRAPPER EDUCATION

The focus of New Hampshire Fish and Game's Trapper Education Program is responsible trapping. An 8-12 hour course, required for first-time trappers, provides training in: basic trapping techniques, wildlife management principles, ethics and responsibility, furbearer identification and outdoor safety.

It is in the trapper's best interest to make selective sets for target species. They must learn the habits of furbearers, and use lures and bait that will attract only the animal being sought. Any risk of catching non-target animals is minimized by using traps of the appropriate size and type, and by paying close attention to: set location, trap placement, pan or trap adjustment and choice of lures or bait.

Furbearers are a renewable public resource. Through laws and regulations, the public allows the use of this resource. However, this harvest is a privilege that can be taken away. Public acceptance of trapping can be greatly influenced by the conduct of individual trappers.

For more information on trapper education courses, call the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department at (603) 271-3214.



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

2009-2010 NEW HAMPSHIRE

TRAPPING

INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS



USFWS PHOTO



USDA FOREST SERVICE PHOTO



USFWS PHOTO



USFWS PHOTO

- *Season Information*
- *Regulations*
- *Safety and Ethics*

General Information about Trapping in New Hampshire

LICENSES

Any person (regardless of age), except resident landowners while upon their own land or children under 16 years of age when accompanied by a licensee 18 years of age or over, must have a license to trap furbearing animals. This license can only be purchased at Fish and Game headquarters in Concord. Trapping licenses expire on June 30 of each year.

No person shall be issued a license to trap unless he or she presents proof that he or she has completed a trapper education course or has previously held a license to trap.

Nonresident Trapping Licenses: In order to be eligible for a N.H. Trapping License, the applicant's state or province must allow nonresidents to trap within their jurisdictions.

Persons engaged in the practice of trapping nuisance animals are required to possess a Wildlife Control Operator's License, available from Fish and Game headquarters in Concord.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

- Snares may be used for taking beaver and otter. Snares shall only be set in water or under ice.
- All traps/snares must have the name of the person setting them, either stamped or engraved in a legible and permanent manner on the trap or on a durable tag securely affixed to the trap or snare or chain holding the trap.
- Only New Hampshire residents may trap beaver and otter during the N.H. open seasons.
- No person may set, arrange or tend any trap/snare upon any land or from the shores of any waters of which he is not the owner or occupant unless he has signed, written permission, and until a copy is filed with the conservation officer in whose district said person is going to trap, together with a description of the land on which trapping is to be done. The only exceptions are traps/snares placed in public bodies of water as defined in RSA 271:20 and on the following named rivers: Androscoggin, Ammonoosuc, Ashuelot, Bearcamp, Contoocook, Connecticut, Cochecho, Exeter, Lamprey, Mascoma, Merrimack, Merrymeeting, Isinglass, Pemigewasset, Pine, Saco, Soucook, Suncook and Winnepesaukee and their navigable tributaries. Navigable tributaries are those waters from the tributary's mouth to a point upstream where a person can row a boat or paddle a canoe when the water in the stream is in its ordinary condition.
- No person may set or arrange any trap in a public way, cart road or path commonly used as a passageway by human beings or domestic animals.
- Any trapper causing injury or damage to domestic animals, with the exception of dogs at large, shall be liable to the owner. An injury to a licensed dog at large shall be reported to the town or city listed on the dog's tag, and to the owner of the dog, if known.
- No person may set or arrange any trap/snare in or under any bridge, ditch or drainage system, whether artificial or natural, within the limits of the right-of-way of any public highway except by special permission of the executive director.

- A trapper must visit traps set at least once each calendar day. A person trapping beaver through the ice must visit his traps at least once each 72 hours.
- Trappers may use artificial lights to facilitate checking traps; no person shall have in possession, while checking traps at night, a rifle, revolver or pistol larger than a .22 caliber long rifle, or a shotgun with shells larger than number 4 birdshot; checking traps by the use of lights from a motor vehicle is prohibited.
- All persons licensed to trap furbearing animals, whether they trapped or not, are required to submit an Annual Trapper's Report by April 30 of each year.
- Fur Dealers must submit a completed "Fur Dealers' Record Book" (Furs Purchased-Form F&G 152, Furs Sold-Form F&G 152A) to the Department on or before July 30 of each year. All licensees must carry on their persons a Form F&G 152 when buying the skins of furbearing animals. All forms are available from Fish and Game's Concord headquarters.

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO:

- disturb or interfere with the dams or houses of beaver without obtaining a special permit from the executive director or his designee, except as provided in RSA 210:9;
- set or arrange any trap prior to the first day of the open season for trapping a species;
- disturb the trap of another person or take a furbearing animal from the trap of another person, unless specifically authorized in writing by the owner of the trap;
- take game or furbearing animals by the use of a spring gun or set gun;
- set any "conibear" trap or similar trap of a size equal to or larger than number 220, except when the trap is:
 1. five feet or more above the ground or surface of the snow (with the exception of a snowstorm during the previous 24 hours);
 2. in water for trapping beaver or otter;
- place a trap within 15 feet of a muskrat house, or injure or destroy the house, den or burrow used by any game or furbearing animal.

TRAPPING ON STATE MANAGED LANDS

Permits to trap on state-managed lands are issued in even years by the Wildlife Division of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. Permit forms, applications, property maps and lists of available lands may be obtained from the Wildlife Division at Headquarters in Concord (603-271-2461), or you can download them from our website at: www.WildNH.com.

PLEASE NOTE: This publication is a summary of trapping regulations. It is not the full law or rules. It is intended only as a guide to inform the trapper of seasons, bag limits and other necessary information.

For more information concerning regulations, consult the New Hampshire Fish and Game Law Book, which may be viewed at any Fish and Game office, the Secretary of State's office, and Legislative Services in Concord, N.H. A compendium of Fish and Game laws may also be purchased at Department headquarters in Concord for \$38.00. Also see trapping *Administrative Rules*: Chapter fis 300, at www.HuntNH.com.

2009-2010 TRAPPING SEASONS

BEAVER, OTTER, MINK, MUSKRAT AND WEASEL

The season for taking beaver, otter, mink, muskrat and weasel by trapping shall be November 1 through April 10 in WMUs A, B, C1, C2, D1, D2, E, F, G, H1, H2, I1, I2, J1, J2, K, L and M. The season limit for otter shall be 10 otters. **Otter sealing is required within 10 days of the close of the otter season.**

FISHER

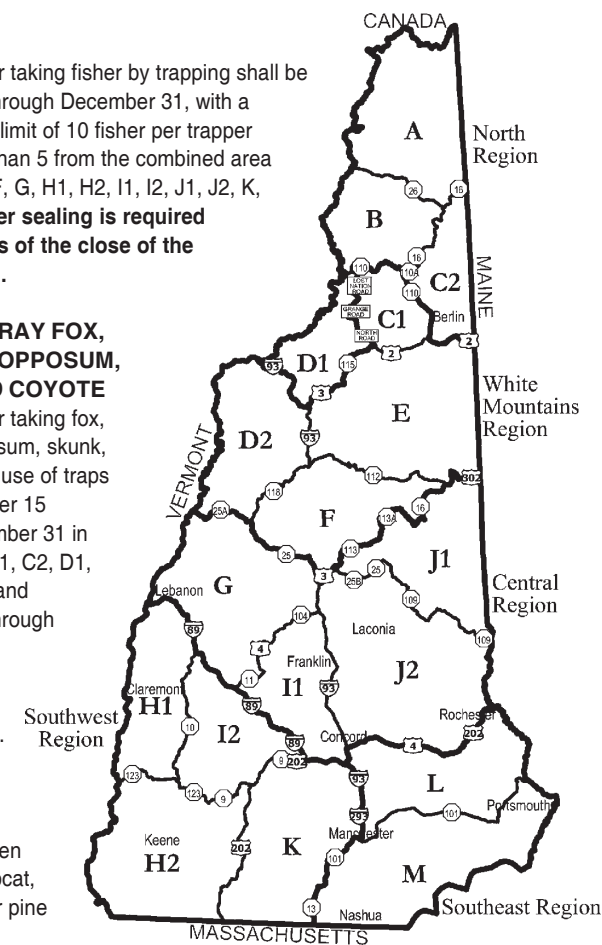
The season for taking fisher by trapping shall be December 1 through December 31, with a statewide bag limit of 10 fisher per trapper with no more than 5 from the combined area of C1, D2, E, F, G, H1, H2, I1, I2, J1, J2, K, L and M. **Fisher sealing is required within 10 days of the close of the fisher season.**

RED FOX, GRAY FOX, RACCOON, OPPOSUM, SKUNK AND COYOTE

The season for taking fox, raccoon, opossum, skunk, and coyote by use of traps shall be October 15 through December 31 in WMUs A, B, C1, C2, D1, D2, E, and F; and November 1 through January 15 in WMUs G, I1, I2, H1, H2, J1, J2, K, L and M.

NO OPEN SEASON

There is no open season on bobcat, lynx, wolves or pine marten.



HABITAT FEE

Each trapper is required to pay a \$2.50 habitat fee. This is a check-off on the license. Proceeds are used to manage for early successional habitat, maintain grasslands, plant and release fruiting trees and shrubs, protect habitat through purchase of land and conservation easements, and many other tasks.