

Yukon

Trapping



Trapping Area Signs



Environment Yukon and the Yukon Trappers Association have created a new Trapping Area sign for trappers to communicate to recreational and commercial users that they are entering an active trapper's trail during the winter.

The Yukon Trappers Association recommended the use of signs as one way to prevent potential conflicts between various winter trail users.

The bright blue diamond shaped sign, modeled after the Klondike Soft Gold logo, will be highly visible in the bush during winter months. Trappers are asked to post the signs about two weeks before they start trapping on each trail.

Cross-country skiers, snowmobilers and others tend to be more active in the late winter so it is equally important that you remove your signs from the trailheads after you have pulled all your traps. This should encourage other users to wait until they see the signs are down before heading out on the trails.

The signs are made of a durable material to provide several years of service, especially when trappers remove and store them properly during the off-season.

Trappers can pick-up signs, at no cost, at Environment Yukon offices or the Yukon Trappers Association.

Cover photo: Red Fox (Kirby Meister, 2003)

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! Not a Legal Document

This pamphlet 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 detail, consult the *Wildlife Act* and regulations or talk to a Conservation Officer.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Trapping Licences	2
Trapping Concessions	3
Concession fees	3
Requirements	3
Probationary Concession	4
Full Term Concession	4
Concession cancellations and non-renewals	5
Trapping Season Dates	5
International Trapping Standards	6
Traps that Meet International Standards	7
General Regulations	8
Setting, checking and removing traps	8
Trapping devices	8
Emergency closures	9
Live-trapping	9
Conservation	9
Safety	9
False statements	9
Pelt Sealing	10
Buying and Selling Raw Pelts	10
Exporting	11
Hunting	11
Marten Quotas	12
Furbearer Diseases	13
Trapping on First Nation Land	14-16
Renewable Resources Councils	17
Trapper Training Workshops	18
Trapline Management Brochures	18
Assistant Trappers	19
Harvest Monitoring	20
Marked Furbearers	20
Wolverine Carcasses Wanted	20
Klondike Soft Gold Marketing Program	21
Wilderness Tourism Licensing Act	21
Fur Depot	22
Environment Yukon Offices	23

TRAPPING LICENCES

You must have a valid annual trapping licence or assistant trapper licence to trap in the Yukon. Current licences are valid July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006.

LICENCE FEES

Trapping licence	\$10
Assistant trapper licence	\$10
Senior citizens	FREE
Members of a group trapping area	FREE
Duplicate copy	\$2

Requirements

Trapping licence

To be eligible for a trapping licence you must hold a trapping concession and meet the requirements applying to concession holders (see page 3).

Assistant trapper licence

An assistant trapper licence may be issued to a qualified person at the request of a trapping concession holder.

An assistant trapper licence may also be canceled at the request of the concession holder.

To be eligible for an assistant trapper licence you must:

- ▶ be at least 16 years old,
- ▶ be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident whose principal residence has been in the Yukon for at least 12 months immediately before applying for a licence, and who has been physically present in the Yukon for at least 185 days during that period, or who qualifies under a Residency Exemption form.
- ▶ have written consent from the holder of the trapping concession on which you plan to trap, and
- ▶ graduate from a recognized trapper training workshop. (Trappers over 65 years of age who have previously held a trapping licence or assistant trapper licence are exempt from this requirement.)

See page 18 for more information about training.

Canceling an assistant trappers 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 Requirements

Yukon residents who maintain a home and family in the Yukon and who file their taxes in the 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 through the new Residency Exemption form.

TRAPPING CONCESSIONS

CONCESSION FEES

Probationary Concession, or renewal	\$10
Full Term Concession, or renewal	\$20
Group Area Concession	\$100

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 qualified.

Requirements

To be eligible for a trapping concession you must:

- ▶ be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident whose principal residence has been in the Yukon for at least 12 months immediately before applying for a concession, and who has been physically present in the Yukon for at least 185 days during that period, or who qualifies under a Residency Exemption form,
- ▶ demonstrate to a Conservation Officer that you are able to run a trapping concession as required by the *Wildlife Act* and regulations,

? A person who lives outside the Yukon, but within 150 km of the trapping concession they are applying for, may be considered a Yukon resident under the trapping regulations.

- ▶ be at least 16 years of age,
- ▶ have no convictions for significant wildlife offences,
- ▶ be eligible for a Yukon hunting licence, and
- ▶ graduate from a recognized trapper education workshop. (Trappers over 65 years of age who have previously held a trapping licence or assistant trapper licence are exempt from this requirement.)

Probationary Concession

- ▶ A Probationary Concession may be granted to someone who has not held a concession before.
- ▶ A Probationary Concession gives you the exclusive right to trap in that area for one year. Unless it is cancelled, a Probationary Concession runs out on the next March 31 after it was issued.
- ▶ 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. You must apply for renewal of a Probationary Concession at least 30 days before its expiry date.

Full Term Concession

- ▶ A Full Term Concession gives you the exclusive right to trap in that area for five years. A Full Term Concession runs out on March 31, five years after it was granted or renewed.
- ▶ You will receive 90 days notice of your concession's expiry by registered or certified mail. The notice will be sent to the address given on your last application, or another address if given in writing to Environment Yukon.
- ▶ You must apply for renewal of a Full Term Concession within the 90 day period before its expiry date if you wish to be considered before anyone else.
- ▶ When an application is received, the concession may be renewed for five more years, or a period of less than five years if the applicant has violated the *Wildlife Act* or the Minister believes it is necessary for wildlife conservation or public interest. Before renewing the concession for a period less than five years the Minister must refer the application to the Concession and Compensation Review Board.

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 or using unlawful weapons,
- ▶ it is recommended by the local Renewable Resources Council or Conservation Officer due to lack of use,
- ▶ it is necessary for the conservation of wildlife anywhere in the trapping area,
- ▶ it is necessary to protect the public interest, or
- ▶ the applicant does not meet the trapping concession requirements.

For more information on the role of Renewable Resources Councils, see page 17.

TRAPPING SEASON DATES

Species

Open Season

Beaver	October 1 - May 31
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 p. 12	November 1 - February 28
Mink	November 1 - February 28
Muskrat - N. of Arctic Circle	October 1 - June 10
Muskrat - S. of Arctic Circle	October 1 - May 31
Otter	November 1 - March 31
Squirrel	November 1 - March 31
Weasel	November 1 - March 31
Wolverine	November 1 - March 10
Wolf	November 1 - March 10
Wolf - neck snare only	November 1 - March 31
Coyote	November 1 - March 10



Additional copies of this publication are available at local Environment Yukon offices and from Environment Yukon, Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2C6.

INTERNATIONAL TRAPPING STANDARDS

The Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS) sets minimum standards for trapping furbearers including nine Yukon species: beaver, coyote, ermine (weasel), fisher, lynx, marten, muskrat, otter and wolf.

Traps listed on the following page meet the performance requirements of the AIHTS. All of these traps have been tested and approved by the Fur Institute of Canada. Some have also been certified by the Canadian Trap Certification Program.

After October 1, 2007, trappers will be required to use only certified traps for the nine Yukon species listed in the AIHTS. When a trap model is certified, the manufacturer will stamp the certification number on all new traps of that make and model. Traps of that make and model manufactured before certification are legal to use as well.

Traps already certified are noted on the opposite page. Other traps will likely be certified over the next few years.

You can obtain the latest list by contacting:

- ▶ Fur Harvest Technician at Environment Yukon,
- ▶ Yukon Trappers Association, or
- ▶ Fur Institute of Canada's website at www.fur.ca.

! Leg-hold trap restrictions

It is unlawful to use conventional steel-jawed leghold traps for lynx, wolf, coyote or fox. You can use padded, off-set or laminated leg-hold traps for these species, as well as quick-kill traps and locking snares. See page 7 for more information about which traps may be used for which species.

TRAPS THAT MEET INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS (UPDATED SEPTEMBER 15, 2005)

The following traps meet the international standards. Those already certified by the Canadian Trap Certification Program are underlined.

Killing traps

Beaver (on land and underwater): Bélisle Super X 280 (and 330) • BMI 330 Body Gripper • Bridger 330 • LDL C280 (and C330) • Rudy 280 (and 330) • Sauvageau 2001-11 • Species-Specific 330 (and 440) Dislocator Half-Magnum • Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280 (and 330).

Beaver (on land): Sauvageau 1000-11F

Beaver (underwater): Bélisle Classic 330 • BMI 280 Body Gripper • Sauvageau 2001-8.

Otter (underwater): Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330.

Weasel/Ermine: Victor Rat Trap.

Fisher: Bélisle Super X 120 (and 160 and 220) • Koro #2 • LDL C160 Magnum (and C220) • Sauvageau 2001-5 (and 2001-8).

Marten: Bélisle Super X 120 • BMI 126 Magnum Body Gripper • LDL B120 Magnum • Rudy 120 Magnum • Sauvageau C120 Magnum • Sauvageau 2001-5.

Muskrat (on land): Bélisle Super X 120 • BMI 120 (and 120 Magnum and 126 Magnum) • Bridger 120 • LDL B120 Magnum • Rudy 120 Magnum • Sauvageau 120 Magnum (and 2001-5) • Triple M • Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110 (and 120).

Muskrat (underwater): Any trap set as a submersion set that exerts clamping force on a muskrat and that maintains a muskrat underwater meets the requirements of the AIHTS for muskrat.

Lynx: Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330.

Restraining traps

Lynx: Bélisle Foot Snare • Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch • Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch with 4 coil springs • Oneida Victor #3 with a minimum of 8mm thick, non-offset jaws, 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate.

Coyote: Bélisle Foot Snare • Bridger #3 with 5/16-inch offset, double rounded jaw laminations (3/16-inch on top side of jaw and 1/4-inch on underside of jaw) with 4 coil springs and a swivel centre mounted on base plate • Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Setting, checking and removing traps

- ▶ It is unlawful to set or reset a trap in an area unless you are authorized to do so under the *Wildlife Act*.
- ▶ Every person who sets a trap or snare must check the set at least once every five days, and remove any captured animal.
- ▶ A person who sets a trap or snare must remove or spring it by the last day of the season for the targeted species.
- ▶ A person authorized to trap furbearing animals in an area may remove any illegal traps he or she discovers in that area. If removed, the traps must be given to a Conservation Officer as soon as possible.

Trapping devices

It is unlawful to trap furbearing animals with any devices other than those described below.

Quick kill traps

These may be used to capture any type of furbearer.

Snares

Snares with locks may be used to capture any type of furbearer. Non-locking snares may be used for squirrels only. Beginning in 2007, snares will have to be made in a way that conforms to the design set out in trapper training workshops.

Conventional leg-hold traps in drowning sets

Conventional steel-jawed leg-hold traps with a jaw spread of 25 cm or less may be used in drowning sets for muskrat, beaver, mink and otter.

Modified leg-hold traps in land sets

Modified leg-hold traps with a jaw spread of 25 cm or less may be used in land sets for wolf, fox, coyote and lynx. A modified 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.

(See page 7 for a list of traps that meet the international trapping standards.)

Emergency closures

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

Live-trapping

- ▶ It is unlawful to attempt to trap and sell a live furbearer, or be in possession of a live furbearer, unless you have the proper permit from Environment Yukon.
- ▶ You must obtain this permit BEFORE you engage in live-trapping. If you find a live furbearer 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 must be followed when live-trapping.

For more information contact your local Conservation Officer.

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 or big game animal, other than a wolf, bear, or coyote, to be wasted;
- ▶ 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 (An authorized 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 furbearer.

Safety - It is unlawful to:

- ▶ trap within 1 km of a residence without permission, whether or not the occupants are present at the time;
- ▶ carry a loaded firearm in or on a vehicle. ("Vehicle" includes a snowmobile, but not a boat.)

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*.

PELT SEALING

All **lynx, wolf and wolverine** pelts must be submitted to a Conservation Officer or sealing agent no later than 15 days after the end of the current trapping season. These pelts must be sealed BEFORE they are sold, transferred or processed.

The last sealing date may be extended up to April 15th with the prior written approval of a Conservation Officer in those cases where a trapper remains on the trapping concession to take advantage of the extended wolf season.

BUYING AND SELLING RAW PELTS

If you wish to buy and sell raw furbearer pelts you must hold a fur trading licence.

FUR TRADING LICENCE FEES

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

Fur traders must submit their monthly collection of fur trading records to a Conservation Officer within 10 working days of the end of each month.

Licensed trappers DO NOT need a fur trading licence to sell or trade the pelt of a furbearing animal, black bear, wolf or coyote that they have legally harvested themselves. When making a private sale, trappers should provide their name and licence number which the buyer will need to obtain an export permit.

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

Residents holding a big game hunting licence may sell the pelt of a wolf or coyote they kill to any person. Any other sale of a furbearer pelt requires a permit. There is no limit on the value of furbearer pelts that residents may buy for personal use without a permit.

Non-residents may buy the pelts of furbearing animals, black bears, wolves, and coyotes without a permit, if the total value of pelts is not more than \$2000 in the year of sale. Non-residents may not sell pelts without a permit or licence.

EXPORTING FURS

It is unlawful to export a furbearer pelt or any other wildlife part from the Yukon without a Yukon Wildlife Export Permit. A signed Fur Export Declaration Tag must be put on every package containing such pelts, if it is to be sent or taken outside the Yukon.

If you wish to export the pelt of a grizzly bear, black bear, wolf, otter, lynx or wood bison out of Canada, you must first obtain a special export permit from a Conservation Officer.

HUNTING

Furbearers

Trappers may use a firearm, except a shotgun, to hunt furbearers in their trapping concession during the open trapping season. A rimfire rifle may not be used to hunt wolves, wolverine or coyote.

Wolves

There is no limit on the number of wolves trappers can take *in their trapping concessions* with a firearm during the open trapping season.

Moose & Caribou

- ▶ Trapping concession holders are allowed to hunt bull moose and caribou during the extended hunting season which runs from November 1 to January 31. During the extended season, trappers may hunt bull moose *in their trapping areas only*; caribou may be hunted in any subzone that is not closed or subject to a permit hunt for caribou.
- ▶ Trappers may not hunt moose or caribou in subzones closed to resident hunting.
- ▶ Trappers may not hunt moose or caribou in permit hunt areas unless they have a permit.
- ▶ Trappers have no special privileges when it comes to hunting cow moose.

? Furbearing animal means...

a beaver, muskrat, squirrel, weasel, fisher, otter, marten, mink, wolverine, lynx, wolf, coloured fox, arctic fox or coyote.

MARTEN QUOTAS

Marten quotas apply to most traplines in the Marten Conservation Area (MCA) which extends from the Teslin River to Kluane National Park and north to Carmacks and Aishihik Lake. The quotas are intended to minimize harvest pressure on marten in the area, in an effort to build a stable resident population. Quotas apply only to the traplines listed in the following table. Trappers who accidentally capture more than their quota of marten must report this to a Conservation Officer.

Prior to the start of the 2004-05 trapping licence year, all trapping concessions in the MCA were issued a new registration, as needed so that marten quotas may be defined as a condition of the concession on the registration.

The condition sets out the maximum number of marten that may be taken in the trapping concession. This places the responsibility on the concession holder to ensure they are carefully monitoring all the harvest on their concession by all trappers including assistant trappers.

Where the harvest exceeds the quota, the trapper must submit the carcass(es) of the excess animal(s) to the Conservation Officer as soon as practical, and obtain a permit to possess the pelt(s).

! Marten Quotas

120, 134, 204, 205, 206, 213,	0
217, 218, 221-225, 265-287, 293-302, 304-310, 323, 325, 326, 452, 453, and radius areas 409-413	
208, 214, 226, 288, 289, 290, 291,	10
303, 324, 327	
209, 227, 292, 318, 319, 320, 328, 329, 331	20

FURBEARER DISEASES

Any wild animal can be a host for diseases and parasites, some of which can be passed on to people. Trappers should learn the signs of these infections, especially rabies, hantavirus, mange, tularaemia and hydatid disease. Contact Environment Yukon for more information about diseases and parasites.

If you find a carcass with internal cysts, white spots, enlarged organs or no obvious cause of death, please bring it in to the nearest Environment Yukon office for analysis. You will be sent a copy of the results after the carcass has been analyzed. A carcass that may be diseased should be handled with caution. Touch it only with rubber gloves and then seal it in a strong plastic bag.

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS)

Hantavirus is found most commonly in deer mice but could also be present in other rodent species. The virus is transmitted to humans through airborne particles or through water contaminated with feces, urine, saliva or blood. Hantavirus starts with flu-like symptoms: sore muscles, fever, headaches, shortness of breath and nausea. The disease has a 60 per cent mortality rate.

Here are a few precautions you can take when you open up your trapping cabins in the fall and clean out the mouse droppings:

- ▶ Wear rubber gloves when cleaning or handling used traps or their contents.
- ▶ Disinfect everything with mild bleach or disinfectant. Apply with a spray mister to keep down the dust and any contaminated particles.
- ▶ For extra protection when cleaning or handling contaminated material, wear a mask with a high efficiency particulate air filter (HEPA).
- ▶ Make your cabins less attractive for mice. Keep food in strong containers with tight lids, clean up food scraps and use mouse traps.

For more information pick up a copy of *What is Hantavirus*, available at Environment Yukon, and Health and Social Services offices.

TRAPPING ON FIRST NATION LAND

Locating First Nation lands

The ten First Nations listed on the opposite page now hold legal title to a total of 30,041 km² of land in the Yukon. If any part of your trapping concession is located within these lands, you should be aware of your rights and responsibilities on First Nation land.

First, check the map on the opposite page. If all of your trapping concession lies outside the traditional territories marked on the map, there are no titled First Nation lands on your trapline at this time. If any part of your concession is inside these traditional territories, there may be First Nation lands on your trapline. To check further, you must look at detailed maps at an Environment Yukon office or a First Nation office. (Mineral claim maps, which also show First Nation lands, can be purchased at Mining Recorder offices.)

Trapping on First Nation land

Your right: If all or part of your trapline is on First Nation land, you have a right to continue trapping on that land without being charged an access fee by the First Nation.

Your responsibility: While trapping on First Nation land, you must comply with the *Wildlife Act* and regulations, First Nation Final Agreements, and any bylaws set by the local Renewable Resources Council.

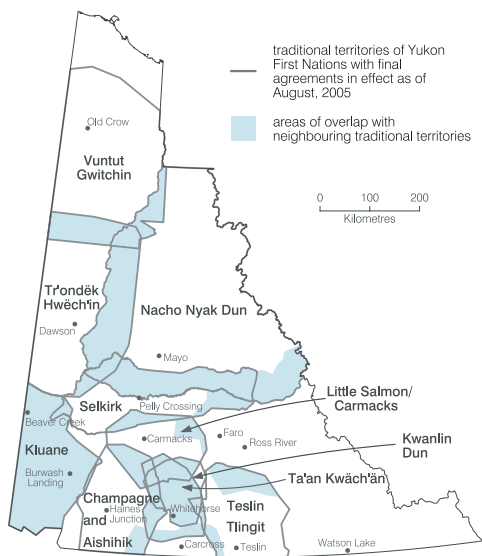
Building cabins or trails on First Nation land

Your right*: You have the right to build cabins and cut trails necessary for the reasonable use of your trapline on First Nation land, subject to conditions established by the First Nation and Yukon land use regulations. Your application must be approved PRIOR to building.

Your responsibility: BEFORE you build a new cabin or cut a new trail on First Nation land, you must contact the First Nation office. The First Nation may negotiate with government to set conditions on your project to protect the environment, fish and wildlife, and First Nation use of the land.

*Concession holders, not assistants, have these rights.

TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES of Yukon First Nations with Final Agreements



Detailed maps of these traditional territories can be viewed at First Nation offices or Environment Yukon offices.

ENV.018.001.02

Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

Haines Junction (867) 634-2288

First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun

Mayo (867) 996-2265

Kluane First Nation

Burwash Landing (867) 841-4274

Kwanlin Dun First Nation

Whitehorse (867) 633-7800

Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation

Carmacks (867) 863-5576

Selkirk First Nation

Pelly Crossing (867) 537-3331

Ta'an Kwäch'än

Whitehorse (867) 668-3613

Teslin Tlingit Council

Teslin (867) 390-2532

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in

Dawson (867) 993-5385

Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

Old Crow (867) 966-3606

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 now identified as either Category 1 or Category 2.

- ▶ If you want your trapline to be Category 1, you must consent in writing. If you have not provided 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.
- ▶ If your trapline is Category 1, the local First Nation has final authority in deciding who will get the concession when it becomes available.
- ▶ If your trapline is Category 2, the Yukon government has final authority in deciding who will get the concession when it becomes available.
- ▶ The local Renewable Resources Council will make recommendations to First Nations and the Yukon government on the assignment of vacant or underused traplines.
- ▶ Nothing in the land claim agreements forces you to give up your trapline or prevents you from passing it on to another family member.
- ▶ The Renewable Resources Councils have each established guidelines to standardize their evaluation of trapline applicants and the level of utilization of the traplines. You may contact your local RRC to obtain a copy.

? First Nation Land

In this booklet, First Nation Land means Settlement Land controlled by a First Nation with a Final Agreement in place. It does not include lands selected by Yukon First Nations that have not yet completed their Final Agreements.

! If you are a First Nation trapper...

If you are a member of a Yukon First Nation and you are trapping for pelts, you must comply with all of the trapping regulations in this booklet.

RENEWABLE RESOURCES COUNCILS

Local Renewable Resources Councils are operating in the traditional territories (not including overlap areas) of each of the First Nations with Final Agreements. Half of each council's members are nominated by the Yukon government; the other half by the First Nation government.

Renewable Resources Councils provide an opportunity for local residents to discuss fish and wildlife issues and advise the Minister, First Nations, and the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board on how they should be managed.

Among other things, the councils have the power to:

- ▶ Review the use of traplines and make recommendations to the Minister and First Nation on the assignment of vacant or under-used traplines,
- ▶ Develop bylaws for the management of furbearers in the area, and
- ▶ Make recommendations to the Minister and First Nation on the management of furbearers.

Renewable Resources Councils are developing guidelines that will be used in their assessment of under-used traplines and recommendations for reassignment.

Getting up-to-date information

Some details about how the new land claim agreements will be implemented are still being worked out by the Yukon, federal and First Nation governments. If you have questions about any land claim issues related to trapping, you can get up-to-date information by contacting the local First Nation or an Environment Yukon office.

! Trapline Cabins

- ▶ Trappers wishing to build cabins on their concessions require a cabin lease. Your application must be approved **prior** to construction. Applications can be picked up at the Client Services and Inspections district offices or at the Lands Branch in Room 320 at the Elijah Smith building in Whitehorse.
- ▶ All cabins built since 1980 are required by the Trapping Cabin Policy to be registered and leased under the Territorial Lands Regulations.
- ▶ Trappers' cabins may **not** be used for any commercial purposes (such as rentals, tourism, outfitting) other than trapping.

TRAPPER TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Trapper training recently became an important requirement for licensed trappers and concession holders. (see pages 2-5) Members of group traplines are considered concession holders, and therefore must also meet this requirement to be maintained on the group membership.

The Yukon Trappers Association offers 5 day Basic trapper training workshops to help you meet this requirement. You should contact the YTA early in the fall to find out the location of the workshop being held nearest to you. Workshops rotate through Yukon communities over a three year period. It is important to register early as workshops may be cancelled due to a perceived lack of interest.

Previously licensed trappers 65 years and older are exempt from the training requirement. Any trapper who has not been licensed for 10 years or more is required to take a Basic workshop.

Graduation from recognized trapper training in another territory or province may also meet the licence requirements. For more information contact the Fur Harvest Technician at Environment Yukon at (867) 667-8403 or the Yukon Trappers Association at (867) 667-7091.

Contact the YTA for more information on specialty workshops:

- ▶ Wolf snaring - with the Yukon's wolf specialist, Alan Baer.
- ▶ Pelt handling - with fur graders from Fur Harvesters Auction.

Trapline Management Brochures

Trapline management brochures are available to help you manage marten, lynx, wolverine, muskrat, beaver and wolves on your trapline. These brochures provide information about the biology and behaviour of each species and recommend specific trapping strategies. The objective is to encourage sustainable trapping – to help you get the most from your trapline without damaging the furbearer populations on which you depend.

You can pick up the brochures at your local Environment Yukon office or contact the Fur Harvest Technician in Whitehorse at (867) 667-8403. The brochures are also found in the Yukon Trapper's Manual.

ASSISTANT TRAPPERS

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 our senior trappers by doing some of the more strenuous activities required out on the trapline.

The Yukon Fish & Wildlife Management Board, local Renewable Resources Councils (RRCs), the Yukon Trappers Association (YTA) and Environment Yukon's Conservation Officers (COs) are all trying to assist new trappers to find concession holders interested in having an assistant trapper work with them.

It is important to understand that the work of an assistant can enhance, but cannot replace, the trapping efforts of the concession holder when the concession activity is assessed by a CO or the RRC prior to concession renewal.

Contact your local RRC, local CO, or drop in at the YTA office if you are looking for an assistant or for an opportunity to be an assistant trapper.

The Trapper Questionnaire

The Trapper Questionnaire is mailed out to all licensed trappers at the end of the season. Information gathered through these questionnaires can provide wildlife managers, and you, with a better understanding of wildlife population trends. Please take the time to complete and return the questionnaire.

Questionnaire results collected since 1981 are compiled and charted on a Yukon-wide and regional basis. The value in the information lies with the ability to identify trends or changes occurring over the long term such as the lynx cycle. At this time we have about 25 years of data which is just a beginning. Greater knowledge of long-term changes and trends in furbearer populations will improve our understanding and management of these important species. There is interest from other managers in seeing what can be learned from this information provided by people out on the land.

HARVEST MONITORING

Environment Yukon keeps track of the annual fur harvest by monitoring trapping licences, export permits, fur dealer and taxidermist records and sealing certificates.

Never sell or ship fur under someone else's licence, or your harvest will appear on their record. This may become important if your trapping is disrupted by another land use activity in the future. Your harvest records may be used to determine whether or not you are eligible for compensation.

Individual harvest information is confidential and is not normally released without your written permission. Certain government departments, however, have legal authority to demand information.

MARKED FURBEARERS

Over the years, biologists have put ear tags and radio collars on furbearers in several areas to study the animals' movements and survival rates. A \$25 reward is offered for information about the capture of a tagged animal, and return of the tags and/or radio collars. In the case of wolves, please return the entire carcass to a Conservation Officer or the Wolf Management Program Coordinator.

WOLVERINE CARCASSES WANTED

Environment Yukon is collecting wolverine carcasses for a study on diet, parasites, body condition, genetics, and population cycles and structure. This information will help monitor and learn more about wolverine in the Yukon. Trappers who get a wolverine should submit the frozen skinned carcass to the nearest Environment Yukon office. Trappers will be compensated \$25 for each carcass. The following information is required at the time of submission: name of trapper, trapping licence number, trapline number, date of harvest, and sex of the animal. For more information, contact Helen Slama, Fur Harvest Technician at (867) 667-8403, or Tom Jung, Biodiversity Biologist at (867) 667-5766.

KLONDIKE SOFT GOLD

Klondike Soft Gold is a fur marketing program developed by the Yukon Trappers Association, with support from the Yukon Departments of Environment and Economic Development. Fur from all three territories is promoted for its superior quality and is presented as the Northern Canadian Wild Fur Collection. This program results in greater interest in northern furs from fur buyers. Klondike Soft Gold is one part of this northern marketing program.

Trappers who ship to the Fur Harvesters Auction, either independently or through the YTA, will automatically have their fur put into the Klondike Soft Gold program, and these trappers will have their 11% auction house commission fee covered by the Yukon Government this winter. This leaves more money in the pockets of Yukon trappers. You can learn about the other benefits to participating in the KSG program by dropping into the YTA for more information.

Also, watch for announcements about fur handling workshops put on by the Fur Harvesters Auction fur graders. You can benefit from their knowledge.

WILDERNESS TOURISM LICENSING ACT

If you take clients in to the Yukon wilderness in return for any kind of fee or reward, you need to have a Wilderness Tourism Licence. If you rent equipment to others for the purpose of accessing the Yukon wilderness, you have reporting requirements under the Yukon Wilderness Tourism Licensing Act. There are no regulations allowing non-residents to trap.

You may access more information on the *Wilderness Tourism Licensing Act* at www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca and clicking on Wilderness Tourism Licensing, or by contacting Afan Jones, WTLA registrar by phone at (867) 667-3048 or by email at Afan.Jones@gov.yk.ca.

? Fur Depot

The Yukon Trappers Association fur depot operates September 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006.

The depot takes fur:

Tuesday through Thursday	10am to 5 pm
Friday	10 am to 6 pm
Saturday	12 noon to 4 pm

For advances, come:

Wednesday to Friday 12 noon to 5 pm
(If you are unable to come during these hours, your advance will be mailed to you.)

Ship/Mail your fur to:

Yukon Trappers Association
4194A - Fourth Avenue
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 1J8
Ph (867) 667-7091 Fax (867) 667-7330
email: yukonfur@yknnet.ca

You must provide the following information:

- ▶ A photocopy of your up-to-date Trapping Licence
- ▶ Where you want the furs shipped
- ▶ Your complete mailing address and phone number
- ▶ All lynx, wolf or wolverine pelts require: date caught, type of trap used, and whether male/female.

? Fuel Tax Rebate

Trappers are eligible to apply for a fuel tax rebate from the Yukon government for fuel used in their trapping operations. For information, trappers should contact Lorraine Heynan at 867-667-5345 or call toll-free at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5345. Applications should also be available at your local Environment Yukon office.

ENVIRONMENT YUKON OFFICES

Whitehorse office

Street address 10 Burns Rd. (across from the airport)

Mailing address Box 2703, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

Fur Harvest Technician (867) 667-8403

Wildlife Harvest Manager (867) 667-8407

Conservation Officer (867) 667-5221

Regional Biologist (867) 667-8640

Toll-free number 1-800-661-0408

District offices

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) 634-2110

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) 536-7363

Regional Biologist (867) 536-7365

Protect Yukon Wildlife



**Turn in Poachers and Polluters
1-800-661-0525**

1-800-661-0525

**Chasse aux braconniers
et aux pollueurs**



Protégeons la faune du Yukon