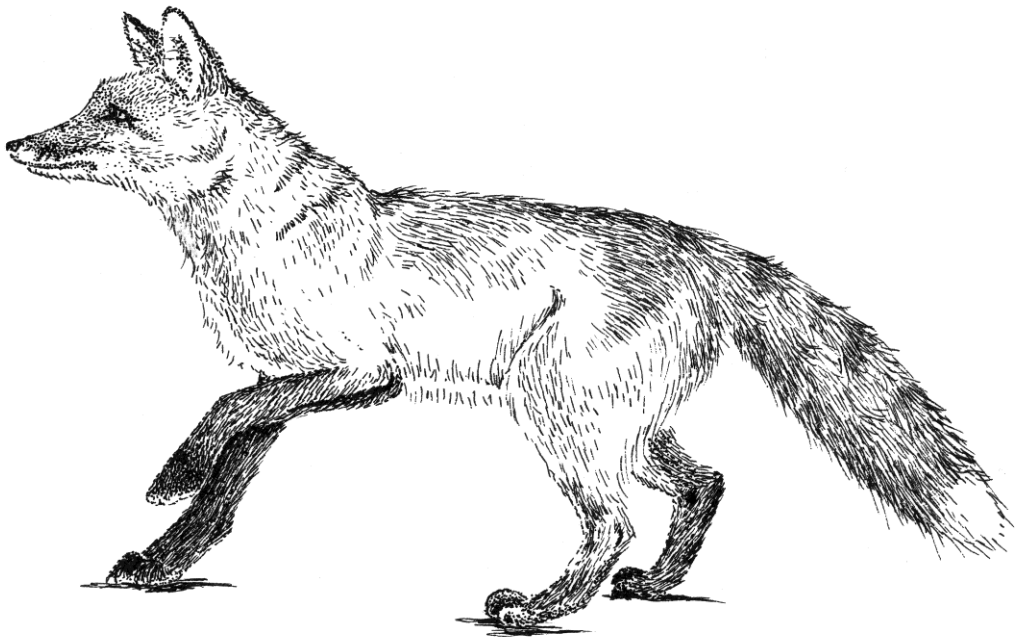
2012-2013
Trapper Information



IMPORTANT CHANGES TO REGULATIONS

NEW – Lynx Exclusion Device Changes (Page 8 & 9)

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Caring for Maine's Outdoor Future

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF
INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE
284 STATE STREET
41 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA ME 04333-0041

CHANDLER E. WOODCOCK
COMMISSIONER

October 4, 2012

Dear Trapper:

Another trapping season is fast approaching; the Department continues to work diligently to provide trappers opportunity while ensuring healthy furbearer populations for the future. Through these efforts, I want to call your attention to several rule and season changes. Changes include the number of attachments required when constructing lynx exclusion devices and allowing the use of 1 x 2 inch welded wire mesh in constructing these devices. Please see the Trapper Information Booklet for specific details on these rule changes.

Many of you are probably interested in the progress being made on the Incidental Take Plan for lynx. Over the summer the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and IFW met several times to discuss changes to the document. Currently, IFW's staff is making good progress on rewriting the document and incorporating changes. Writing and reviewing the documents needed for our Plan's approval is a top priority for both IFW and the USFWS. We hope to have an Incidental Take Permit as soon as possible.

Notice the forms for reporting trapper effort (fall and spring) included with this letter and in the Trapper Information Booklet. Please take the time to read and complete the appropriate form at the end of the trapping season. Information obtained from these reports improves furbearer management in Maine. We appreciate your participation in this effort.

Remember that if you catch a lynx you must report the catch to a Department Warden or Wildlife Biologist as soon as possible. You must report the catch prior to removing the animal from the trap, unless a Department official cannot be reached in time to prevent injury to the lynx. If you must release a lynx under this provision, you must report the event to the Department within 24 hours from the time the lynx was discovered. If you catch a lynx you can call the lynx hotline (207) 592-4734, or contact your local Warden.

Once again, the Department will be distributing the Trapper Information Booklet, also known as the Beaver Mailing, over the internet rather than mailing copies to every trapper. We are asking trappers who have access to the Internet, either at their local library or at home, to obtain their copy of the Trapper Information Booklet from the Department's webpage at http://www.maine.gov/ifw/hunting_trapping/trapping/index.htm . If you do not have access to the Internet, please telephone the Wildlife Division at 287-5252 to request a printed copy of the Trapper Information Booklet and a copy will be mailed to you.

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF
INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE
284 STATE STREET
41 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA ME 04333-0041

CHANDLER E. WOODCOCK
COMMISSIONER

Trapping season dates for the 2012-2013 trapping season;

WMDs	2012-2013 Beaver Trapping Seasons	Season Dates
1, 2, 4, 5	**.....**	**October 14 – April 30**
3, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11	**.....**	**November 1 – April 30**
18, 19, 28	**.....**	**November 1 – April 15**
7, 12, 13, 14, 17, 27	**.....**	**November 1 – March 31**
15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29	**…….**	**December 1 – March 31**

The general trapping season begins October 28 and ends December 31.

The early muskrat season in WMDs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, and 11 only, starts Sunday, October 21 and lasts until Saturday, October 27.

The early fox and coyote trapping season runs from Sunday, October 14 through Saturday, October 27 and is open statewide.

Also, remember that all skins must be tagged within 10 days of the end of the season for that species and all bobcats taken by hunting must be tagged within 72 hours. Only Department personnel can tag otter and bobcat. Telephone numbers for Departmental offices can be found on page 33 in the Trapper Information Booklet as well as on page 2 of the 2012-2013 Hunting & Trapping Laws and Rules summary booklet.

If you have questions regarding any of these regulations or the furbearer program in general, please feel free to contact your Regional Wildlife Biologist, or John DePue our Furbearer Biologist at our Bangor Office (941-4473). I wish you a good trapping season.

Sincerely,

Chandler E. Woodcock
Commissioner

PHONE: (207) 287-5202 FISH AND WILDLIFE ON THE WEB: www.maine.gov/ifw EMAIL ADDRESS: ifw.webmaster@maine.gov

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE
RESEARCH AND ASSESSMENT SECTION
650 STATE STREET
BANGOR ME 04401

CHANDLER E. WOODCOCK
COMMISSIONER

October 4, 2012

Dear Trapper:

I hope you enjoy the printed copy of the Trapper Information Booklet. Inside the booklet you will find information on trapping season dates, beaver closures, and other important trapping information. As the Commissioner mentioned in his letter there are changes to the lynx exclusion device and the details can be found on page 8 in the booklet.

Recently some trappers have had questions regarding the regulations which require certain killer-type traps to be set underwater. Specifically, *"killer-type traps with a jaw spread from 5 inches to 8 inches may be used only if they are set completely underwater or at least 4 feet above the ground or snow"* and *"killer-type traps with a jaw spread greater than 8 inches may be used only during the beaver trapping season and must be set completely underwater"* (pg. 38, 2012-13 Hunting and Trapping book). The warden service would like to remind trappers that the intent of this regulation is that killer-type traps that are required to be set underwater are *set and remain* completely underwater at all times.

Thank you to all the trappers that sent in their Trapper Effort Report forms last season. We received reports from about 130 trappers which is approximately 6 percent of all licensed trappers. We are entering the third year of data collection and I would like to double the number of returns this year. The more trappers that return their completed forms, the better the information we will have. The information from these reports will provide us with estimates of the amount of effort it took trappers to capture a specific species and an estimate of trapper success. The reports are not intended for law enforcement purposes. The data collected to date has already benefitted trappers by demonstrating that our current killer-type trap regulations in lynx WMDs are working to keep lynx out of traps. We ask that you please take the time to look over the forms, on pages 2-5, before the trapping season starts so you have an idea of the information we are asking for. Then, remove the forms from this booklet and return completed reports at the end of your trapping season. We encourage you to record your information as accurately as possible and greatly appreciate your participation in this effort.

Finally, please be diligent in your efforts to follow the rules and recommendations to reduce the chance of incidentally capturing a lynx(see page 6 for details). The willingness of trappers to report incidentally caught lynx and abide by regulations will go a long way towards ensuring trapping will continue in Maine for future generations.
Have a great trapping season!

Sincerely,

John DePue
Furbearer Biologist

PHONE: (207) 941-4466
FAX: (207) 941-4450

FISH AND WILDLIFE ON THE WEB:
www.maine.gov/ifw

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FALL 2012 Trappers Harvest Report

Please return by **January 10, 2013** to: John DePue, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, 650 State St., Bangor, ME 04401

Please fill in for each town (or WMD): **1)** the average number of traps set for each species you targeted.
2) The number of days you trapped for each species.
3) The number of each species you caught that you targeted.
4) The number of each species you caught incidentally. If you trapped with a partner, include **only** the information for the animals that **you** tagged.

~Thank you for your help improving furbearer management in Maine.~

Trapping License Number :_____Date:_____ Additional forms are located on MDIFW website and at Regional offices.

	Town trapped: *EXAMPLE* **WMD:** *XX* **Month(s):** *Nov*				**Town trapped:** **WMD:** **Month(s):**				**Town trapped:** **WMD:** **Month(s):**			
SPECIES	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL
Beaver	*5*	*12*	*2*									
Otter	*3*	*12*	*2*	*1*								
Mink												
Muskrat	—	—	—	*4*								
Fisher	*10*	*21*	*2*									
Marten	*10*	*21*	*3*									
Weasel	—	—	—	*2*								
Raccoon												
Canine (fox or coyote)	*9*	*14*										
Coyote			*3*									
Red fox			*1*									
Grey fox	*In this example, a trapper caught 2 otters in otter sets; 2 beavers in beaver sets; 1otter in a beaver set and 4 muskrats in either otter or beaver sets; had 10 traps set for marten or fisher and caught a few of each; and set 9 traps for 14 days for either coyote or red fox and caught 3 coyotes and 1 red fox.*											
Bobcat												
Skunk												
Opossum												

	Town trapped: WMD: Month(s):				Town trapped: WMD: Month(s):				Town trapped: WMD: Month(s):			
SPECIES	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL
Beaver												
Otter												
Mink												
Muskrat												
Fisher												
Marten												
Weasel												
Raccoon												
Canine (fox or coyote)												
Coyote												
Red fox												
Grey fox												
Bobcat												
Skunk												
Opossum												

Comments:_____

_____

_____

If you have questions, please contact: John.depue@maine.gov, (207) 941- 4473.

SPRING 2013 Trappers Harvest Report

Please return by **May 1, 2013** to: John DePue, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, 650 State St., Bangor, ME 04401

Please fill in for each town (or WMD): **1)** the average number of traps set for each species you targeted.
2) The number of days you trapped for each species.
3) The number of each species you caught that you targeted.
4) The number of each species you caught incidentally. If you trapped with a partner, include **only** the information for the animals that **you** tagged.

~Thank you for your help improving furbearer management in Maine.~

Trapping License Number :_____Date:_____ Additional forms are located on MDIFW website and at Regional offices.

	Town trapped: *EXAMPLE* **WMD:** *XX* **Month(s):** *March*				**Town trapped:** **WMD:** **Month(s):**				**Town trapped:** **WMD:** **Month(s):**			
SPECIES	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL
Beaver	*20*	*30*	*14*									
Otter				*1*								
Mink				*1*								
Muskrat	15	14	12									

In this example a trapper had an average of 20 traps or snares set for beaver over a period of 30 days and 15 traps set for muskrats for 14 days. This trapper caught 14 beavers and 12 muskrats in traps set for beaver or muskrats and incidentally caught 1 otter and 1 mink in traps set for beaver and muskrat.

	Town trapped: **WMD:** **Month(s):**				**Town trapped:** **WMD:** **Month(s):**				**Town trapped:** **WMD:** **Month(s):**			
SPECIES	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL
Beaver												
Otter												
Mink												
Muskrat												

	Town trapped: **Month(s):**			**WMD:**	**Town trapped:** **Month(s):**			**WMD:**	**Town trapped:** **Month(s):**			**WMD:**
SPECIES	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL	AVE. TRAPS SET	HOW MANY DAYS	NUMBER TAKEN	# TAKEN INCIDENTAL
Beaver												
Otter												
Mink												
Muskrat												

*****How many covered floats did you set this spring for muskrats? _____ How many muskrats did you catch in covered floats?_____

Comments:_____

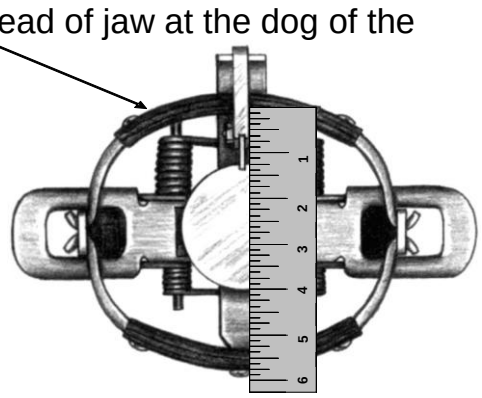
_____

_____

If you have questions, please contact: John.depue@maine.gov, (207) 941- 4473.

2012 Trapping Regulations & Recommendations to Avoid LYNX CAPTURE

Regulations



-5 3/8 inch jaw spread

- **Foothold traps** in WMDs 1-6 and 8-11 set on dry ground can NOT have an inside jaw spread greater than **5 3/8 inches** and must have at least one swivel.
- **Cage-type live traps** in WMDs 1-6 and 8-11 with dimensions of 13 X 13 inches or greater are prohibited.
- **Killer-type (conibear) traps** that can be set on land (conibears with an inside jaw spread up to 8 inches) in **WMDs 1-11, 14, 18**, and 19 must be set:
  - at least 4 feet above ground or snow level and 4 feet away from any bank;
  - no greater than 4 inches wide at 4 feet above the ground and
  - at an angle of 45º or greater to the ground the entire distance from the ground to the trap.
  - the area within 4 feet of the trap in all directions must be
    - free of objects greater than 4 inches wide and
    - free of trees or poles slanted less than 45° between the ground & the height of the trap.
  - If using a pole, the pole must be a natural section of tree which has not been planed or sawed to create a flat surface**.**

*Except, conibear traps with an inside jaw spread of 5 inches or less may be used in blind sets with no bait, lure, or visible attractors.

Killer-type traps (conibears with 7 ½ inch or less jaw spread, #220) in **WMDs 7, 14, 18 and 19** can be set on the ground with a lynx exclusion device; see page 36 of IFW's law book for more information.

- **Captured lynx must be reported** to a game warden or biologist of the Department as soon as possible and prior to removing the animal from the trap, unless a Department official cannot be reached in time to prevent injury to the lynx. Any lynx released under this provision must be reported to the Department within 24 hours from the time it was discovered.
- **Captured Lynx HOTLINE (207) 592-4734** 24 hr/ 7days a week

Foothold Trapping Recommendations

- Stake foothold traps with chains less than 9 ½ inches long
- Set foothold traps where the potential for entanglement in vegetation/debris is low
- Attach the chains on foothold traps at the center of the trap frame

IF YOU CATCH A LYNX OR EAGLE

Trappers catching either a lynx or eagle are required to notify the Department as soon as possible. If you accidentally trap a lynx or eagle during the trapping season, please notify a biologist or game warden immediately, before releasing the animal. **For quickest response, phone 207-941-4466 during regular office hours (8 AM - 5 PM Monday-Friday), or 207-592-4734 outside of business hours. You may also contact the nearest regional office at one of the numbers listed in the back of this booklet.**

Department personnel are available to help release lynx or eagles caught in traps. Lynx and eagles are protected by federal and state laws, and cannot be kept if caught in a trap. An eagle caught in a trap will likely require rehabilitation. An eagle caught in a trap by one of its legs may show little if any signs of injury at the time of capture. What may appear to be a very minor bruise at the time of capture can quickly develop into a fatal injury. This is because of the unique way that blood circulates in an eagle's leg. A bruise may result in a loss of blood flow in the leg; this in turn can lead to an infection that causes the death of the bird. **Please contact MDIFW as soon as possible if you catch an eagle in a trap.** Ideally, an eagle should spend as little time in a trap as possible. Safely releasing an eagle from a trap will require covering the eyes or head of the animal, controlling the talons (e.g., tether the feet together), and putting the released eagle in a holding container that has adequate ventilation and that restricts wing movement (e.g., burlap bag). Once the eagle is secure it can be held for a biologist or warden or be transported to the nearest MDIFW regional office.

Remember that **IFW regulations require all incidentally trapped lynx be reported** to either a biologist or warden. In most circumstances a biologist will tranquilize, examine, and release the animal. However, there may be circumstances where it is impossible for a biologist to get to the trap site within a reasonable amount of time. In those incidences or when a lynx is in immediate danger from being left in a trap, trappers are permitted to release the lynx. However, the incidental capture of a lynx must be reported to a MDIFW warden or biologist within 24 hours. If you release a lynx, please note the extent of any injuries the lynx may have received in the trap. For information regarding how to safely release a lynx from a trap, please refer to information on the Department website (http://www.maine.gov/ifw/wildlife/management/lynx_avoid.htm) or to the booklet "How to Avoid the Incidental Take of Lynx While Trapping or Hunting Bobcats and other Furbearers" which was distributed to all trappers a couple of years ago. If you would like more information on lynx biology or the Department's lynx research efforts, please contact Jennifer Vashon or Wally Jakubas or at 941-4466.

If you catch a cat and are uncertain whether it is a bobcat or a lynx, please contact a wildlife biologist or warden before killing the animal. It is better to err on the side of caution than to accidentally kill a lynx.

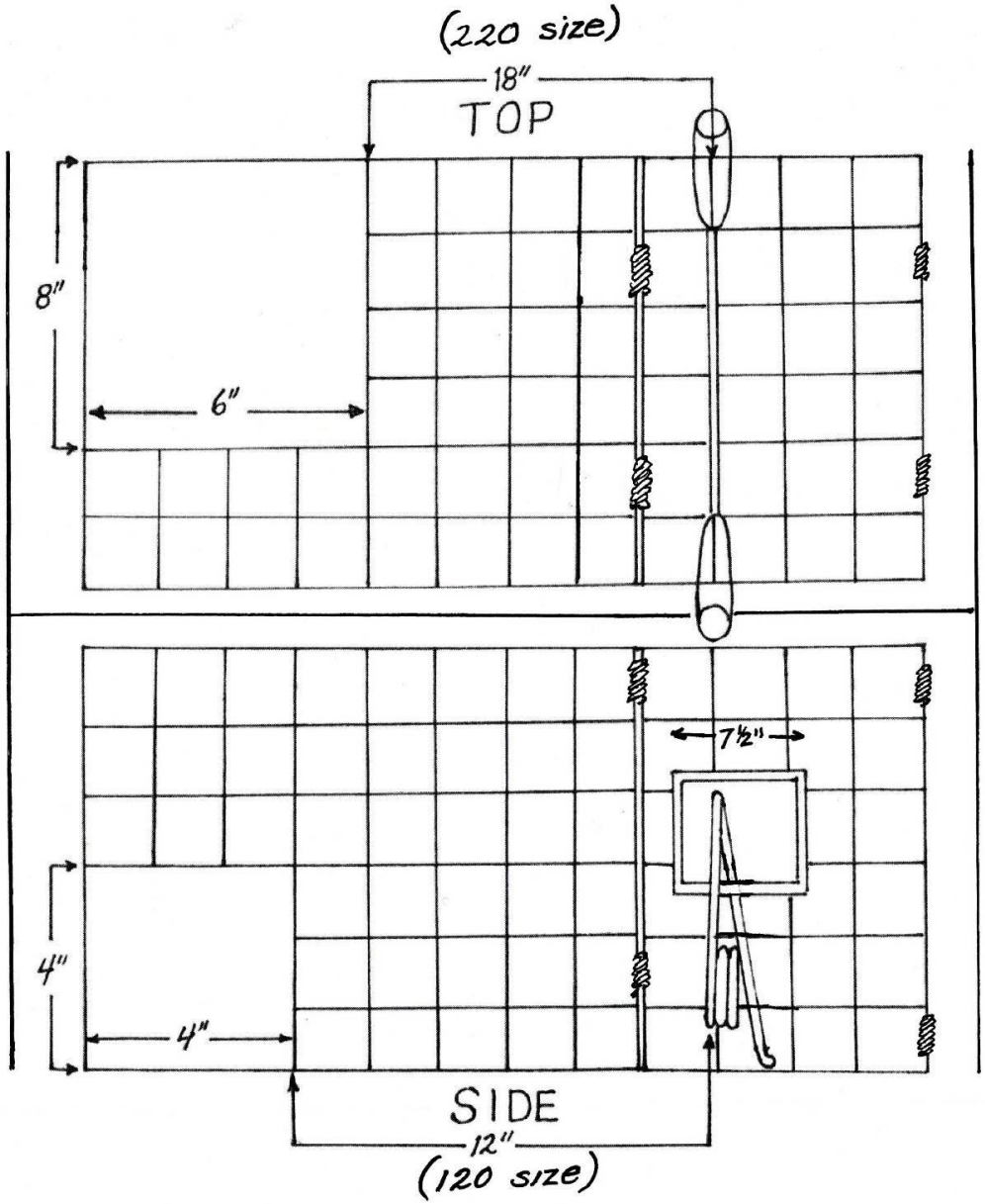
2012-2013 Trapping Seasons

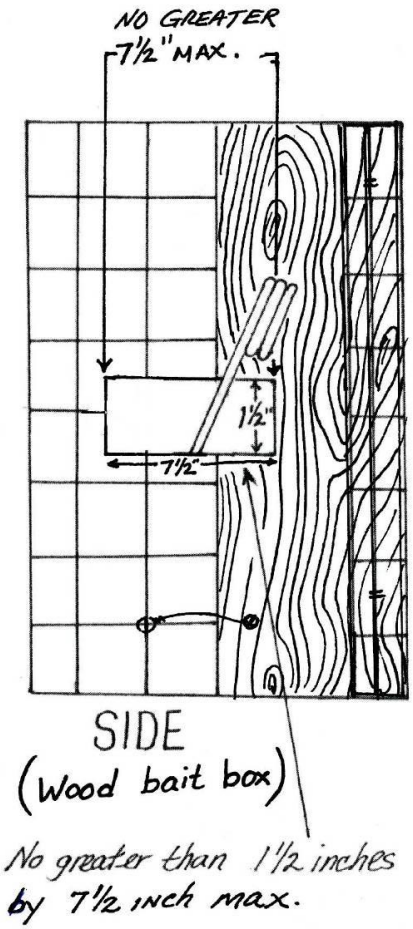
WMDs	Beaver Trapping Seasons	Season Dates
1, 2, 4, 5		October 14 – April 30
3, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11		November 1 – April 30
18, 19, 28		November 1 – April 15
7, 12, 13, 14, 17, 27		November 1 – March 31
15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29		December 1 – March 31

- **The general trapping season begins October 28 and ends December 31.**
- **The early muskrat season in WMDs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, and 11 only, starts Sunday, October 21 and lasts until Saturday, October 27.**
- **The early fox and coyote trapping season runs from Sunday, October 14 through Saturday, October 27 and is open statewide.**

Regulation Changes

Fisher/ Marten/ Raccoon:
In Wildlife Management Districts 7, 14, 18, and 19 killer-type traps with a jaw spread not to exceed 7 ½ inches may be used on the ground level if the trap is placed within a lynx exclusion device. The trap jaws must be completely within the device, the trap springs can be outside of the device. The lynx exclusion device must not have an opening greater than 6 inches by 8 inches, the set trap within the device must be a minimum of 18 inches from the closest edge of the opening to the trap (intended for 160 and 220 conibear traps) or; if the device has a 4 inches by 4 inches or less opening, the trap must be a minimum of 12 inches from the closest edge of the opening to the trap (intended for 120 conibear traps). The opening must not be directly in front of the trap rather on the top or on the side of the device. The back of the device must be secured to withstand heavy pulling; if using wire mesh with a wood box, the wire mesh must wrap around two opposite sides of the box and be secured. There must be at least ~~2~~ 1 attachment point for each side of the device where a joint or panels come together. The exclusion device can be constructed of wood, or wire mesh that does not exceed 1½ by 1½ inches, or 1 inch by 2 inches openings, (side to side). The wire mesh has to be 16 gauge or less (wire diameter of 0.05 or greater). The opening slot in the exclusion device that allows the trap springs to extend outside the device can be no more than 7 ½ inches wide and a height of no more than 1½ inches. The trap must be anchored outside of the exclusion device. Bait must not be visible from above.


(220 size)
18"
TOP
8"
6"
7½"
4"
4"
SIDE
12"
(120 size)


NO GREATER
7½" MAX.
1½"
7½"
SIDE
(Wood bait box)
No greater than 1½ inches
by 7½ inch max.

Open and Closed Areas for Beaver Trapping

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 1

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Allagash, except Little Falls Pond and outlet.

Allagash, except Fall Brook Lake.

T18 R10 WELS, except Connors Pond and Connors Brook.

T18 R10 WELS, except Hafey Pond.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 2

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with no part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following town shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town open:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

T13 R10 WELS, except Sag Pond.

T13 R10 WELS, except Pete's Pond.

T14 R8 WELS, except Moccasin Pond.

T14 R9 WELS, except North Pond.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 3

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 4

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

T8 R16 WELS, except Desolation Pond.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 5

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with no part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following town shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

Trout Brook Twp., except north of Trout Brook.

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Ashland, except unnamed brook on land owned by Artemus and Rosemary Coffin located north of Goding Road and west of Rt. #11.

Moro Plt., except Bradford Pond and Bradford Brook northwest of Rt. 11.

Moro Plt., except Green Pond.

T8 R9 WELS, except Brown Pond.

T8 R11 WELS, except Bluffer Pond.

T9 R9 WELS, except Brown Brook Pond.

T10 R11 WELS, except Upper Deadwater Pond.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 6

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Ashland, except section of Nowland Brook on land owned by Ronald Rushinal adjacent to the Nowland Road.

Castle Hill, except unnamed tributary to North Branch Presque Isle Stream on land owned by Melvin Johnson. Land located on east side of Haystack Mountain and south of Rt. 163.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 7

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town open:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Phillips, except Adley Pond.

Twp. 6 North of Weld, except Mud Pond and outlet.

Upton, except section of B Brook from the confluence with B Pond, downstream to the first road crossing.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 8

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Blake Gore, except Capehorn Pond.

Carrying Place Town Twp. (T2 R3 BKP WKR), except Black Brook Pond, flowage, and outlet downstream to the first gravel road.

Forsythe Twp., except Turner Pond.

Holeb Twp., except Fish Pond and tributaries.

Johnson Mountain Twp., except Markham and outlet to Rt. 201.

Pierce Pond Twp., except Black Brook Pond, flowage, and outlet downstream to the first gravel road.

Prentiss Twp., except Capehorn Pond.

Tomhegan Game Sanctuary, the Pittston Farm Game Sanctuary, the Moosehead Lake Game Sanctuary and Somerset Game Sanctuary shall all be open.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 9

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 10

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 11

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 12

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Gilead, except Carlton Brook.

Hartford, except part of the west tributary to Little Bear Pond that runs through the property owned by Sylvia Mahoney. The closed beaver flowage is located on the northeast side of the Mahoney Road.

Rumford, except Swain Pond.

Twp. 6 North of Weld, except Mud Pond and outlet.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 13

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town open:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Concord Twp., except Owen's Marsh and outlet to Rt. 16.

Freeman Twp., except Stubb's Meadow, which is divided by an abandoned narrow gauge railroad bed and is located north of True Hill, and between the Freeman Road and Rt. 145.

Temple, except unnamed flowage on an unnamed brook immediately west of the Iisalo Road and immediately north of the Dean Mountain Road.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 14

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 15

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Cornish, except that portion of "the heath", and eastern tributary of Brown Brook, one-half mile eastward from Watson Hill Road.

Porter, except Thurston Brook and tributaries, and Bickford Pond and tributaries.

Waterford, except portion of Kedar Brook upstream of Rt. 37.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 16

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Mercer, except the land of David P. Van Burgel and Kathy J. Scott, which is located between the Hampshire Hill Road and the Rome Road, and includes a portion of Hilton Brook.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 17

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Charleston, except the land of R. Christopher Almy, which includes a portion of South Gate Brook and a tributary to Hudson Brook.

Hartland, except tributaries to Thompson Brook west and north of Rt. 23 that are on the property owned by John Studt.

Hermon, except the land of Herbert Bates bordered on the north by the Fuller Road, on the east by the New Boston Road, on the south by Rt. 2/100, and to the west by the Billings Road.

Skowhegan, except an un-named bog located on the land of Sally Knight, east of the East Ridge Road and south of the Notch Road. It is south of Loomis Hill, west of Whittemore Hill, and north of Foster Hill.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 18

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 19

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Princeton, except Slime Meadow Brook.

T3 ND, except Duck Lake Brook.

T4 ND, except Duck Lake Brook.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 20

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Wells, except Webhannet River and Crediford Brook.

York, except Dolly Gordon Brook and tributaries.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 21

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Pownal, except tributary to Chandler River, between Allen Road and Chadsey Road.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 22

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

Perkins Twp. **(Swan Island)**

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Pittston, except the property owned by Judith Schuppien and Philip Brzozowski located on the west side of the Eastern River and south of the Caston Road.

Woolwich, except area encompassed by Walker Road to the south, the Mountain Road to the east, and the Old Stage Road to the north and west.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 23

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

China, except the property of H.C. Dillenbeck very large flowage located on Clark Brook. Town map 32 Lots 37 and 38.

Etna, except wetland located east of the Rt. 143, south of I-95, west of the Etna/Carmel town line, and north of the South Etna Road.

Freedom, except wetlands located east of the North Palermo Road, south of the Sibley Road, west of Bennett Lane, and north of Hutchins Corner.

Montville, except the parcel of land owned by the Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance located north of the Burnham Hill Road, west of the Howard Road, south of the Penny Road, and east of the Halldale Road.

Montville, except land owned by the Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance located north of the Burnham Hill Road between Herb Jackson Road and the Mountain Road.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 24

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Wells, except Webhannet River and Crediford Brook east of U.S. Route 1.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 25

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Alna, except north of Rt. 194 to the Alna Town Line, east of Hollywood Blvd, and west of the Egypt Road.

Boothbay, except Meadow Pond located southeast of the Back Narrows Road and north of Route 96.

Bristol, except unnamed tributary to the Pemaquid River that passes through the land owned by James Deucher, north of the Rock Schoolhouse Road. (Fire Road. B 31-1).

Bristol, except Johnson's Meadow on Trout Brook, so called, to the Chamberlain Post Office.

Edgecomb, except area south of Lawrence Road (formerly Mill Road.), east of Parson's Creek, and west of Parson's Point Road and Rt. 27.

Edgecomb, except the wetland known as Hourglass Pond located east of Rt. 26, north of the Middle Road, south of the Town Hall Road, and west of the CMP powerline right-of-way, property of Betty Twarog.

Edgecomb, except Charles & Constance Schmid Land Preserve, a private land preserve that encompasses 766 acres located off of the Middle Road, Old County Road and Mount Hunger Road East, and Mount Hunger Road North.

Jefferson, except south of the Atkins Road, west of Rt. 215 to the town line, and west of the Egypt road to the Jefferson /Whitefield town line.

Northport, except the land of Ovid Santoro located east of State Route 52, north of the Northport/Lincolnville town line, north of Pitcher Pond, west of the thread of Sucker Brook, and south of Pitcher Road.

South Thomaston, except the land of C. M. Waterman, so called Towers Brook, west and north of Route 73, and south of the Grierson Road.

Whitefield, except the land owned by Paul and Mary Fournier located north of the Jewett Road in the Jefferson-Whitefield Sanctuary.

Whitefield, except the land owned by Lisa Tuttle, including the beaver flowage located along the west side of Weary Pond Road, just inside the boundary of the Jefferson-Whitefield Sanctuary.

Whitefield, except east of the Weary Pond Road to the Jefferson/Whitefield Town line, east of Hollywood Blvd to the Jefferson/Whitefield Town Line, and south of the Hilton Road.

Note: Land in the Jefferson-Whitefield Sanctuary that is in the town of Whitefield will be open to beaver trapping except for the area described above.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 26

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Eddington, except Merrill Road Brook which crosses the Merrill Road in East Eddington.

Ellsworth, except from mouth of Winkinpaugh Brook north to Winkinpaugh Road, east along Winkinpaugh Road to Wilson Corner, south along Route 1A to Branch Pond Road, west to the shore of Branch Lake, then around lakeshore north to the mouth of Winkinpaugh Brook.

Ellsworth, except from the outlet of Green Lake, north along Route 180 to Garland road, east along Peninsula Drive to the shore of Graham Lake, then south along Graham Lake to the point of beginning (outlet of Green Lake into Graham Lake).

Orrington, except area south of Center Drive, west of King's Mountain road, north of Harriman Woods road, and east of Dow Road.

Searsport, except area enclosed by the Mt. Ephraim Road, the Old County Road, Prospect St., and Route 1/3.

Searsport, except flowage on the property of Richard and Joyce Stevens located south and east of the junction of the Mt. Ephraim road and the Nickels Road.

Stonington, except Ames Pond and its inlet.

Swanville, except flowage located on the northwest corner of Swan Lake on the property owned by Alfred Miliano.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 27

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Addison, except area east of Pleasant River, south of tributary to Long Cove, west of South Addison Road, and north of the Split Road.

Jonesport, except pond created by Popplestone Beach and its inlet brook.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 28

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 29

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Frenchboro, except Long Island.

AVOIDING INCIDENTAL CAPTURES

Bald Eagles

In past years, the single biggest factor leading to the incidental capture of bald eagles was the use of exposed bait. In 2007, MDIFW initiated a rule change to require trappers to cover exposed bait that is within 50 yards of a trap. Bait must be covered so that it is not visible from above and be covered in such a way that the covering will not easily be blown off in the wind. Bait that must be covered includes feathers or other animal parts used as attractants, such as might be used to trap bobcat. Although eagles are fish eaters, they are attracted to a variety of carrion including large and small mammals. Examples of trapping sets where exposed bait resulted in an incidental eagle capture are fisher and marten sets, float sets for muskrats where more than one trap is set on the float (if multiple traps are set, eagles may get caught in one of the remaining traps), pocket sets along stream banks, and traps set near carrion. Bald eagles are particularly attracted to sets where fish are used as bait. Do not depend on water hiding the bait. Several eagles have been caught in traps baited with fish when water levels dropped leaving the fish exposed.

Canada Lynx-

If you are trapping in WMDs 1 through 11, 14, 18, and 19, lynx could be in the area. If you are trapping for fox, coyote, or bobcat and see lynx sign near the vicinity of your traps, please consider moving your traps to another location.

Attention trappers, conibear regulations have changed this year

Trappers in WMDs 1 through 11, 14, 18, and 19 are now required to set killing-type traps (conibear) either

1) **completely under water or**
2) **at least 4 feet above the ground or snow level and 4 feet away from any bank.**

When setting a conibear trap on land, the pole or tree that the trap is affixed to must be:

1) **no greater than 4 inches wide at 4 feet above the ground**
2) **at an angle of 45º or greater to the ground the entire distance from the ground to the trap.**
3) **The area within 4 feet of the trap in all directions must be**
   - **free of objects greater than 4 inches wide and**
   - **free of trees or poles slanted less than 45° between the ground and the height of the trap.**
4) **If using a pole, the pole must be a natural section of tree which has not been planned or sawed to create a flat surface.**

The purpose of this rule is to ensure there are no objects that make it easier for a lynx to access the trap. Some exceptions are made for blind sets and sets under overhanging banks. Please see p. 38 of the Trapping and Hunting 2012-13 Laws and Rules booklet for details.

Further information on how to avoid the incidental capture of lynx is available on our website: **http://www.maine.gov/ifw/wildlife/management/lynx_avoid.htm**

TRAPPING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

The Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Landowner Relations Program is working towards enhancing the relationship between landowners and land users. With approximately 94% of the land in Maine in private ownership, everyone must respect all landowners and their rights as landowners. All landowner wishes have to be followed by all outdoor recreational participants to help ensure access and use of private property in the years to come.

Trappers are expected to abide by a higher standard of landowner permission than any of the other outdoor recreational participants. This standard is a law that requires written permission from the landowner before going on someone else's land to set traps, except for beaver.

Trappers as a whole have done a great job in abiding by this requirement. The end result has been a better understanding of trapping by the landowners and the public in general. Contacting the landowners for permission does put an extra burden on the trapper. However, the one-on-one communication between the trapper and landowner plays a vital role in improving landowner relations -- not only for trappers -- but for all outdoor recreational participants.

Although you are not required to get written permission before trapping beaver on land you do not own, you are not allowed to go on another person's land to trap beaver if the landowner has asked you not to go there, either verbally or by posted notice.

We receive several complaints each year where trappers have set up on a beaver colony that the landowner does not want removed. Please make every effort to avoid this type of conflict. You can do that by communicating with landowners prior to the opening of the trapping season as to what their wishes or concerns may be.

The law covering abuse of another's property contains several prohibited acts, but the one most likely to be encountered by a trapper is the cutting of trees or branches on the land of another. Cutting is not allowed without landowner permission.

We would like to thank all trappers for the excellent efforts they have displayed in helping us improve landowner relations. What you do <u>does</u> make a difference.

OTHER MATTERS OF ATTENTION

Nuisance Beaver

A list of nuisance beaver sites **may** be available for your area. Please contact your regional wildlife office if you are interested in the location of recent nuisance beaver removal sites or the location of any current nuisance sites. Regional wildlife offices are listed at the back of this booklet.

Temporary Marten and Fisher Tags

Please remember that a temporary tag must be signed, dated, and attached to captured marten or fisher at the time the animal is removed from the capture site. Fur tagging agents are to retain the temporary tag from each marten or fisher after they attach the permanent fur tag to the pelt.

Pelt Tagging Requirements

Trappers must have all their fall fur tagged 10 days after the season ends. The Department will be collecting the fur tagging books for fall fur 20 days after the close of the season (i.e., around January 20). The Department uses fur tagging information to monitor the population trends of furbearers. If fur remains untagged, the accuracy of our furbearer management systems is diminished. Collecting fur tagging books earlier in the year will allow sufficient time to determine furbearer population levels and to discuss these findings with trappers and regional biologists prior to formulating trapping regulations.

Lynx Study

MDIFW, in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the University of Maine, and private landowners, has been conducting a lynx study in northwestern Maine since 1999. This study is helping to ensure that regulations and management plans for lynx in Maine are based on sound information from Maine. We are studying lynx by radiocollaring individuals and monitoring their movements, behavior, and habitat use.

Collared and Ear-tagged Animals

In addition to collaring lynx, the Department has collared and/or ear-tagged coyotes, bobcat, fisher, and fox as part of the lynx study. If you catch a collared or ear-tagged animal in one of your traps, that is NOT a lynx, you may take the animal for fur. However, you will need to return the collar and tags, and we would appreciate knowing where you caught the animal. Please call the nearest regional MDIFW office to report the location of the catch to a wildlife biologist and arrange to return the radiocollar and tags.

RARE MAMMALS TO WATCH FOR

Lynx vs. Bobcat Know the Difference

The most notable difference between a lynx and a bobcat is paw size. Lynx paws are about twice the size of bobcat paws. Lynx can also be distinguished from bobcats by the tip of their tail, which is completely black (bobcat tail tips are black on the upper side [dorsal side] and white underneath). Lynx have more prominent ear tufts, paler coloration, less spotting, and longer legs than a bobcat. Please know the difference between bobcat, lynx, and fisher tracks (Table 3, Figures 5 and 6).

If you trap a bobcat that looks like a cross between a lynx and a bobcat, we would like to know about it. We have recovered several lynx-bobcat hybrids in north central Maine and are interesting in documenting other specimens. Remember, if you are uncertain whether you have trapped a lynx or a bobcat please call a biologist or warden before dispatching the animal. If you have already dispatched the animal, and think it has unusual characteristics for a bobcat, we are still interested in seeing it. We have documented lynx - bobcat hybrids in Maine.

Wolves

Please let us know about any animals you encounter that are wolf-like in appearance. Large coyotes (50 + pounds) are very rare. Any canid 50 pounds or greater may be a wolf, wolf-hybrid, or domestic dog (See Table 3, Figure 4). Maine law protects all wildlife from hunting or trapping when there is not a specific hunting or trapping season for the species. It is also illegal to indiscriminately shoot domestic dogs or wolf-hybrids. We have documented several wolves and wolf hybrids over the last 20 years. In most cases, we believe these animals were released from captivity. However, we also know that wild wolves have been trapped in southern Quebec and it would have been possible for these animals to travel into Maine. Wolves are considered a federally endangered animal in the Northeast and it is illegal to kill them. **Please use care in identifying any large canids you encounter. If you suspect you have a canine in a trap that is over 4.5 ft. in length (from tip of tale to nose) or over 50 pounds it may be a wolf. Please contact your regional biologist before dispatching the animal.**

If you see tracks, hear howling, or find other sign that indicates that a wolf is nearby, please contact our Department. Wolves of the Laurentides Reserve of Quebec (the nearest established wolf population to Maine) range from 55 - 105 pounds. Wolves have proportionately longer legs, frame, and larger feet than coyotes. Compared to coyote tracks, wolf tracks are larger and rounder (Table 3, Figure 4). Wolf coloration ranges from black to very light beige. Many wolves are tan with grizzled black and gray - similar to Maine's coyotes.

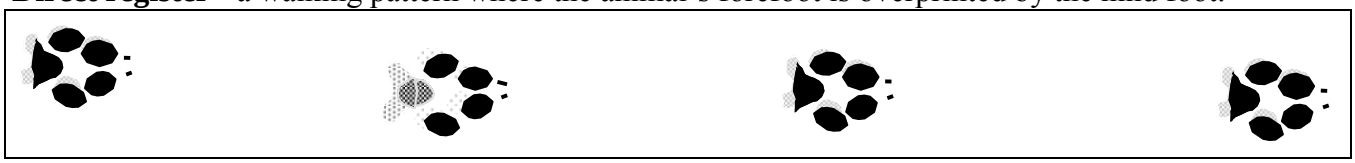
TRACK AND TRACK PATTERNS FOR COUGAR, LYNX, AND WOLF; WITH COMPARISONS TO MORE COMMON SPECIES

Table 3. Distinguishing track characteristics

Species	General Shape	Walking Stride	Print Size (Front Foot)	Track Pattern
Bobcat	General round appearance. Heel points in slightly different direction than toes. No nail marks, but if present, attached to toe marks.	6" to 14"	Length - 1⅞" to 2½" Width - 1⅞" to 2 $^{5}/_{8}$"	Direct or double register walking pattern. Trail pattern zigzags right-left-right-left.
Lynx	Same as bobcat but tracks show a lot more hair. Smaller pads than a mountain lion.	11" to 18"	Length - 3¼" to 3¾" Width - 3" to 3⅜" Outline of hair impression Length - 4½" to 5⅜" Width - 3⅜" to 5½"	Same as bobcat
Cougar	Same as bobcat	20" to 32"	Length - 3" to 4¼" Width - 3⅛" to 3$^{9}/_{16}$"	Walking pattern similar to other cats. Deep snow may show belly and tail drag marks.
Coyote	4 toes, oval shaped track, Front nails often close together. Side nails often do not register.	**Eastern:** 17½" to 26"	**Eastern:** Length - 2⅞" to 3½" Width - 1⅞" - 2½"	Trail pattern usually is in a straight line. Walking pattern is usually direct registering
Dog	Similar to wolves and coyotes. Inner toes often splayed outwards.	Varies with breed	Varies with breed	Trail pattern sloppy, wandering, not usually in a straight line. Walking pattern is often double register.
Wolf	4 toes, symmetrical track, longer than wide, more rounded than a coyote, nail marks not attached to toe mark (same as coyote), 4 nails register.	**Algonquin**: 20½" to 28½"	**Algonquin**: Length - 4" - 4¾" Width - 2½" - 3¼" **Other**: Length - 3⅞" - 5½" Width - 2⅜ - 5"	Trail pattern usually is in a straight line. Walking pattern is usually direct registering.

Terminology:

Direct register - a walking pattern where the animal's forefoot is overprinted by the hind foot.



Double or Indirect register - a walking pattern where the animal's hind foot does not fall directly on the front track.

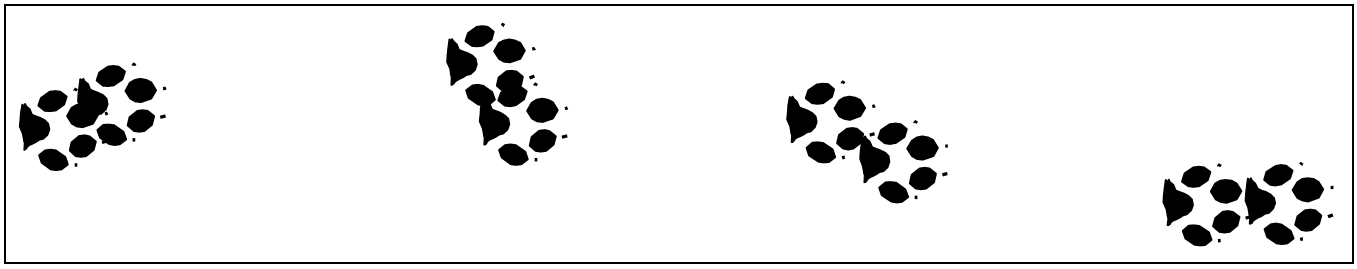
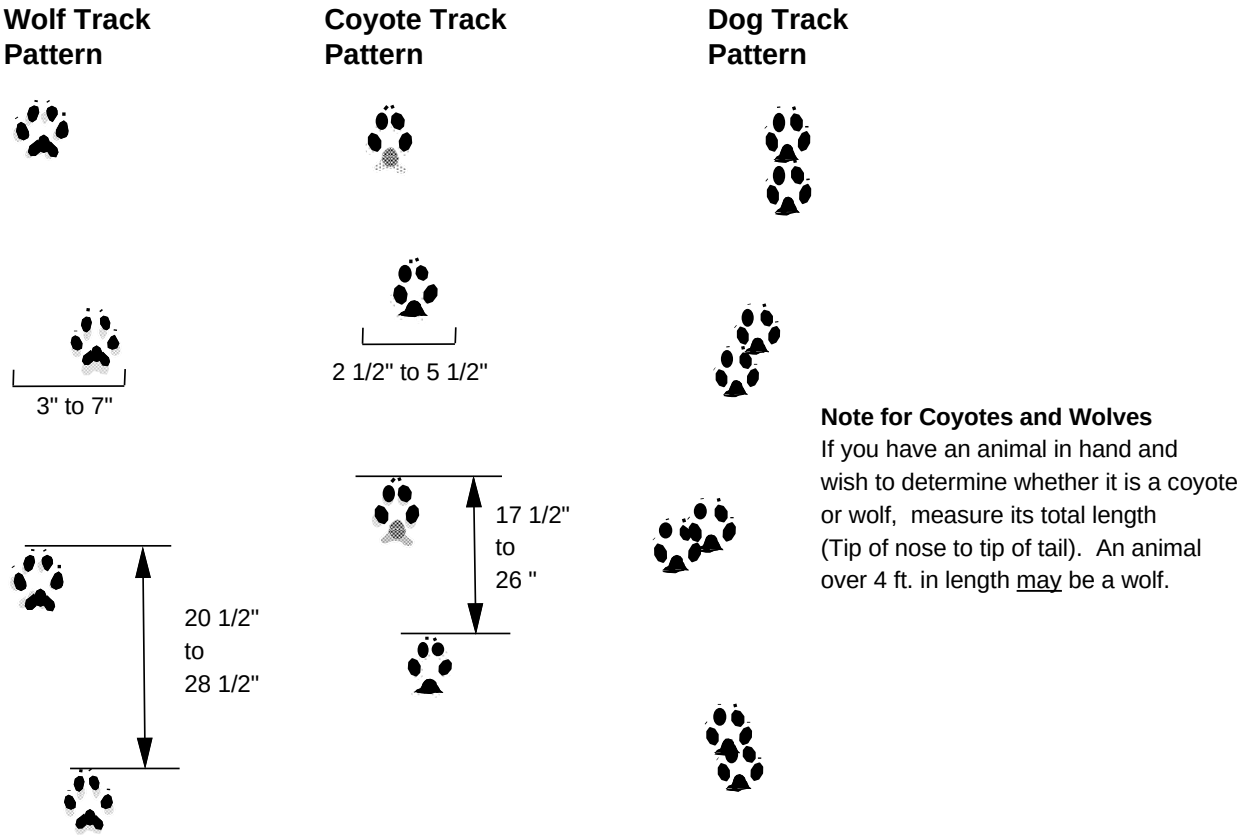


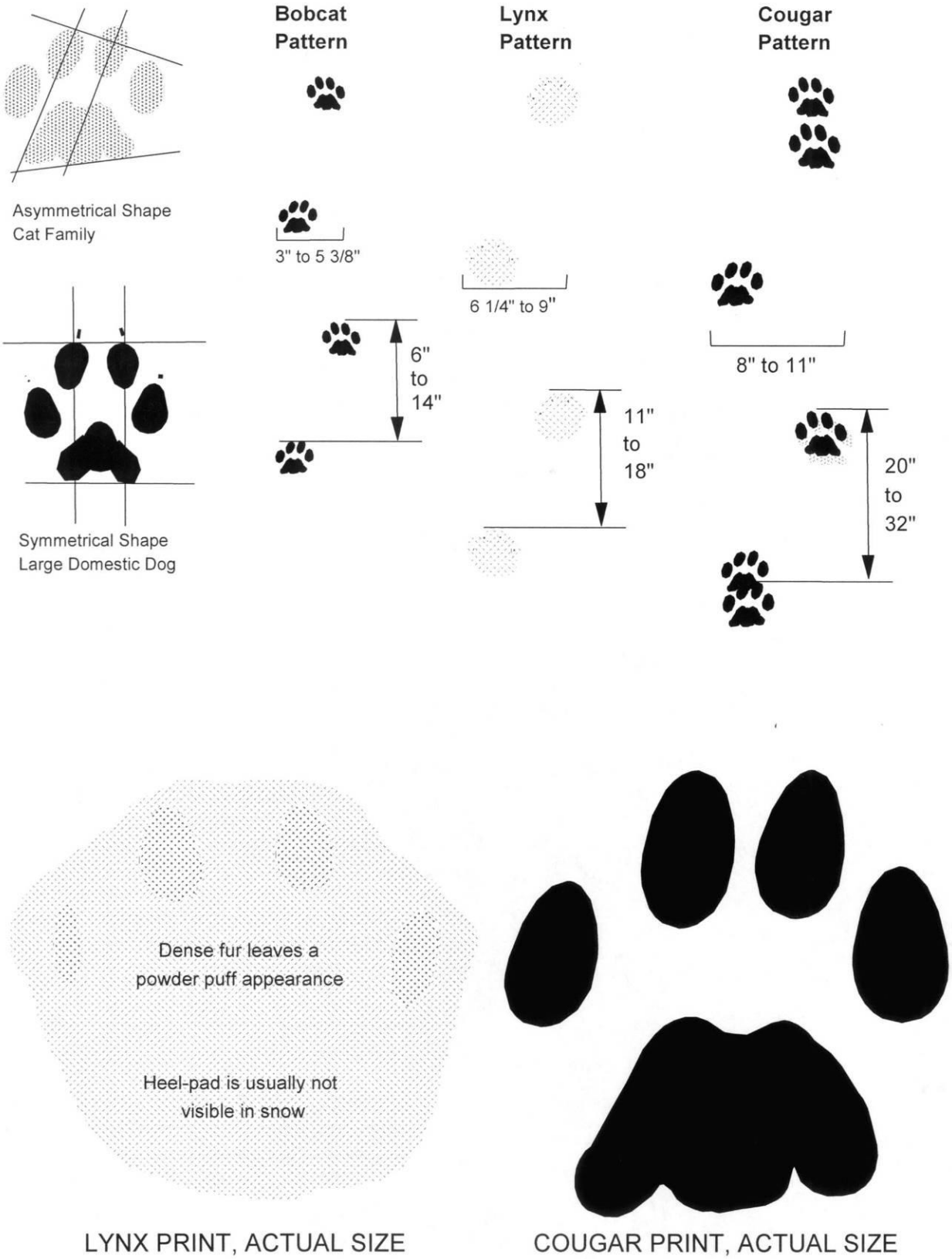
Figure 4. Comparison of wolf, coyote, and dog tracks. Illustrations follow those in Rezendes (1992).



WOLF PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE

COYOTE PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE

Figure 5. Comparisons of canine and cat tracks, and bobcat, lynx, and cougar tracks. Illustrations follow those in Rezendes (1992) and Elbroch (2003).



TRAPPING POLICY and DEFINITIONS

Policy

- After the close of the Regular Trapping Season (paragraph 2 below), muskrats may still be trapped, but only in those areas that are open to beaver trapping. After February 28, in those Wildlife Management Districts open to beaver trapping, muskrat trapping is restricted to 1) killer-type traps, foot-hold traps, and colony traps, which must be set to remain underwater at all time; or 2) foothold traps on "covered floats." A covered float is defined as a float completely covered on the sides and top with hardware cloth, screen, or other similar material, having a mesh size no greater than 1/2 inch square. Access to the float will be limited to openings at the extreme ends of the float and the openings will not exceed 7 inches in height, or 14 inches in width. The use of exposed bait or visible attractor on covered floats is prohibited. Only one trap may be placed per float; the trap must be recessed 3 inches or greater from any opening in the cover; the trap chain or wire must be at least 3 feet long; and the maximum foothold trap size for covered floats sets will be No. 1 ½.

- Traps set for beaver in October, November and April are restricted to killer-type traps, and drowning sets.
- No person shall stake, hook, fasten or position a trap at any trap site location in the fields, forests or waters of the State prior to the opening day of the trapping season.
- No person shall make any advance preparation on the trapping grounds for the taking of beaver or muskrat previous to the open season on these animals.
- No person shall use meat or fish as bait in trapping for beaver.
- Except as provided herein, no person, except an agent of the Commissioner, shall place, set or tend any traps (i) within 10 feet of a beaver house, muskrat den or house, (ii) within 5 feet of a beaver dam, or (iii) within 4 feet of a beaver trap that has been set by another trapper. In Wildlife Management Districts 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, and 10 there is no required setback distance from an active beaver dam; In Wildlife Management Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 there is no required setback distance from a beaver house.
- Steel foothold or killer-type traps must not be set within 50 yards of bait that is visible from above. Bait may be used for trapping if it is completely covered to prevent it from being seen from above, and it must be covered in such a way as to withstand wind action and other normal environmental conditions. Bait is defined as animal matter including meat, skin, bones, feathers, hair or any other solid substance that used to be part of an animal. This includes live or dead fish. For the purposes of this paragraph, bait does not include animal droppings (scat), urine or animals, dead or alive, held in a trap as the result of lawful trapping activity.

Definitions

1. Beaver Dam - The Department, for enforcement purposes, has modified its definition of a "beaver dam," such that the term does not include the remains of an inactive or breached beaver dam that is in disrepair and is no longer being maintained by beaver. This provides a standard definition of what is considered a beaver dam for law enforcement purposes.
2. Tributary - means a brook, stream or river flowing directly or indirectly into a lake, pond or another brook, stream or river. A lake or great pond shall not be construed to mean tributary. The tributary to a great pond shall not be considered a tributary to the outlet of that great pond.
3. Setback Distance - Setback distance requirements specified in existing regulation shall apply to the trapping of all species at all times. You are required to set your traps at least 4 feet away from another person's beaver traps; however, as a matter of common courtesy you should always set your traps a reasonable distance away from any trap which has been set by someone else.
4. Beaver House - The term beaver house shall be interpreted to include any cavity in the bank which is capped by beaver with mud and sticks. The above definition addresses the question of whether or not a bank den is considered to be a beaver house, as well as the question of what is considered to be a bank den. Holes in the bank not capped with mud and sticks shall not be considered beaver houses.
5. Muskrat Den - A muskrat den is any cavity, which is capped by muskrats with vegetative matter including but not limited to hollow stumps and bank cavities. Holes in the bank not capped with vegetative matter shall not be considered muskrat dens.
6. Distance Measurements - For dams, dens, and houses, all measurements should be made from the trap itself. Sticks and poles used to construct the set are not considered part of the trap. The setback distance shall be measured as follows:

   House - Measured from where the nearest edge of the house meets water or ice. In the case of capped cavity on the bank, distance will be measured from where the nearest intersection edge of the cap meets the ground, water, or ice.

   Dens - Measured from the nearest opening.

   Dams - Beaver dams should be measured from the where the nearest edge of the dam meets ground, water, or ice.

   You are not allowed to set a trap within 10 feet of a muskrat house, muskrat den, or beaver house, and you are not allowed to set a trap within 5 feet of an active beaver dam.
7. Advanced Preparation on "Trapping Grounds" - There shall be no installation or placement of trapping implements, associated materials, or supplies or preparation of the site IN the water or ON the ice including the associated flowage, marsh, bog, brook, stream, river, pond, or lake prior to the beginning of the trapping season on beaver and muskrat. For species other than muskrat or beaver, you are allowed to go out before the season and prepare the area you want to trap. However, you are never allowed to fasten a trap (set or unset) at any trap site location before opening day.
8. Nuisance Beaver Removal - Every effort shall be made to minimize the out-of-season removal of nuisance beaver by agents of the Commissioner. This shall be accomplished by:

(1) maintaining in-season trapping opportunity in problem areas, and (2) restricting the removal of nuisance beaver by agents of the Commissioner prior to the beaver trapping season. Except in emergency situations, no nuisance beaver will be removed within 30 days of the opening day of the beaver trapping season in that area. A list of locations where beaver have been removed within 30 days of the opening of the beaver trapping season will be maintained at regional offices. The above provisions will maintain a greater level of beaver trapping opportunity.

9. "Drowning Set" – A drowning set is a trap that is set completely underwater and rigged in such a way as to reasonably ensure the drowning of any species of trapped furbearer that would reasonably be expected to visit the set location and be held in the type of trap used at the set. (**Note:** You are allowed to trap in shallow water where a trapped animal is **not** likely to drown, but traps set in this manner are not considered to be drowning sets and are **not** allowed within ½ mile of the built up section of a city or town.)

10. Trap Tending Laws - The trap tending laws are as follows:

    All traps set in organized towns must be tended daily, except killer-type traps and under-ice water sets for muskrat and beaver. Each killer-type trap, except under-ice water sets, must be visited at least once every 3 calendar days.

    All traps set in unorganized towns must be tended daily, except for killer-type traps and drowning sets. Killer-type traps or drowning sets in unorganized towns must be tended at least once in every five calendar days.

11. Under ice water sets - For enforcement and information purposes, all water sets for beaver and muskrat during December, January, February and March will be considered "under ice water sets" as far as trap tending requirements are concerned.

Note: It is legal to use snares set completely under water for beaver during the open season on beaver.

2012-2013 FUR TAGGING STATIONS

TOWN	LOCATION	PHONE
Allagash	Allagash Outfitters 1070 Allagash Rd	398-3277
Athens	William Thompson Rt. 43, PO Box 55, Athens, ME 04912	431-3158
Atkinson	Jim Brawn, Snow's Saw Shop 101 South Stagecoach Road, Atkinson, ME 04426	564-7763
Belgrade	Kerry Oliver, Day's Store Rt. 27, 180 Main Street, Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918	495-2205
Bridgton	Doug Taft 135 Kimball Road, Bridgton, ME 04057	647-8280
Brownville	Guy Green Rt. 11, 62 Main Road, Brownville, ME 04414	965-8369
Buckfield	Bill's Fur 289 Paris Hill RD.	336-3468
Cape Elizabeth	Mary Gallagher, Yankee Trapper Bait and Lure 200 Fowler Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107	799-6858
Cornville	Howard Bros Custom Firearm 1074 Beckwith RD.	474-4632
Detroit	Ken's Fur 130 North Road, Detroit, ME 04929	487-5074
Eagle Lake	Bald Eagle Store Inc. Rt. 11, 3318 Aroostook Road, Eagle Lake, ME 04739	444-5115
East Waterboro	Peter Sterling, Peter Sterling Taxidermy 601 Deering Ridge Road, East Waterboro, ME 04030	247-3989
Enfield	Enfield General Store 794 Hammett Rd.	732-3931
Fort Kent	Quigley's 35 West Main St.	834-3102
Gardiner	Carlton Trip, 15 Capen Road, Gardiner, ME 04345	582-7775
Hanover	Christopher Howe, Gordie Howe's Inc. 2082 Main Street, Hanover, ME 04237	369-9300
Holden	Thomas Stevens, Stevens Fur Co. PO Box 1159, Holden, ME 04429	843-5052
Houlton	Michelle Crane, Macs Trading Post 382 North Street, Houlton, ME 04730	532-9700
Jackman	Raymond Levesque, Bishop's Store Inc. 464 Main Street, Jackman, ME 04945	668-3411

2012-2013 FUR TAGGING STATIONS

TOWN	LOCATION	PHONE
Kenduskeag	Jerry Braley 559 Clark Road N., Kenduskeag, ME 04450	944-9029
Litchfield	Arnold St. Claire 1313 West Road, Litchfield, ME 04350	268-3490
Litchfield	Litchfield Country Store 1908 Hallowell Rd	268-9910
Moose River	Melynda's Bait Shop 38 Pleasant St.	668-4417
Morrill	Adrienne Simmons 261 Weymouth Road, Morrill, ME 04952	342-2444
Mt. Vernon	Ayotte's Fur, 238 Sadie Rd, MT Vernon, ME 04352	907-9381
Newry	Bear River Trading Post 4 Bear River Rd, Newry, ME 04261	824-2327
Nobleboro	Kenneth Yereance, Nobleboro Village Inc. 255 Center Street, Nobleboro, ME 04555	563-3639
Oakland	Northeast Trapping Supply 21 High St., Oakland, ME 04963	649-5084
Old Town	Old Town Trading Post 1681 Bennoch Rd, Old Town, ME, 04468	827-7032
Orland	Acadia Hwy Market 964 Acadia HWY	469-6800
Oxbow Plt.	Gloria Nelson, The Homestead Lodge 871 Oxbow Road, Oxbow Plt., ME 04764	435-6357
Palmyra	James Spraggins, Moosehead Trail Trading Post 428 Oxbow Road, Palmyra, ME 04965	368-5313
Parsonsfield	Donna Cogill, B and D Furs 416 Moulton Hill Road, Parsonsfield, ME 04047	776-3430
Phippsburg	Madelyn Freeman Rt. 209, 168 Main Road, Phippsburg, ME 04562	443-5303
Poland	Poland Trading Post 481 Main St.	998-2806
Portage Lake	Carolyn Rowe, Coffin's General Store 2084 Portage Road, Portage Lake, ME 04768	435-2811
Porter	Fred Iler 25 Porter Springs Road, Porter, ME 04068	625-7019
Presque Isle	Benjamin LeBlanc, Ben's Trading Post 645 Main Street, Presque Isle, ME 04769	768-3181

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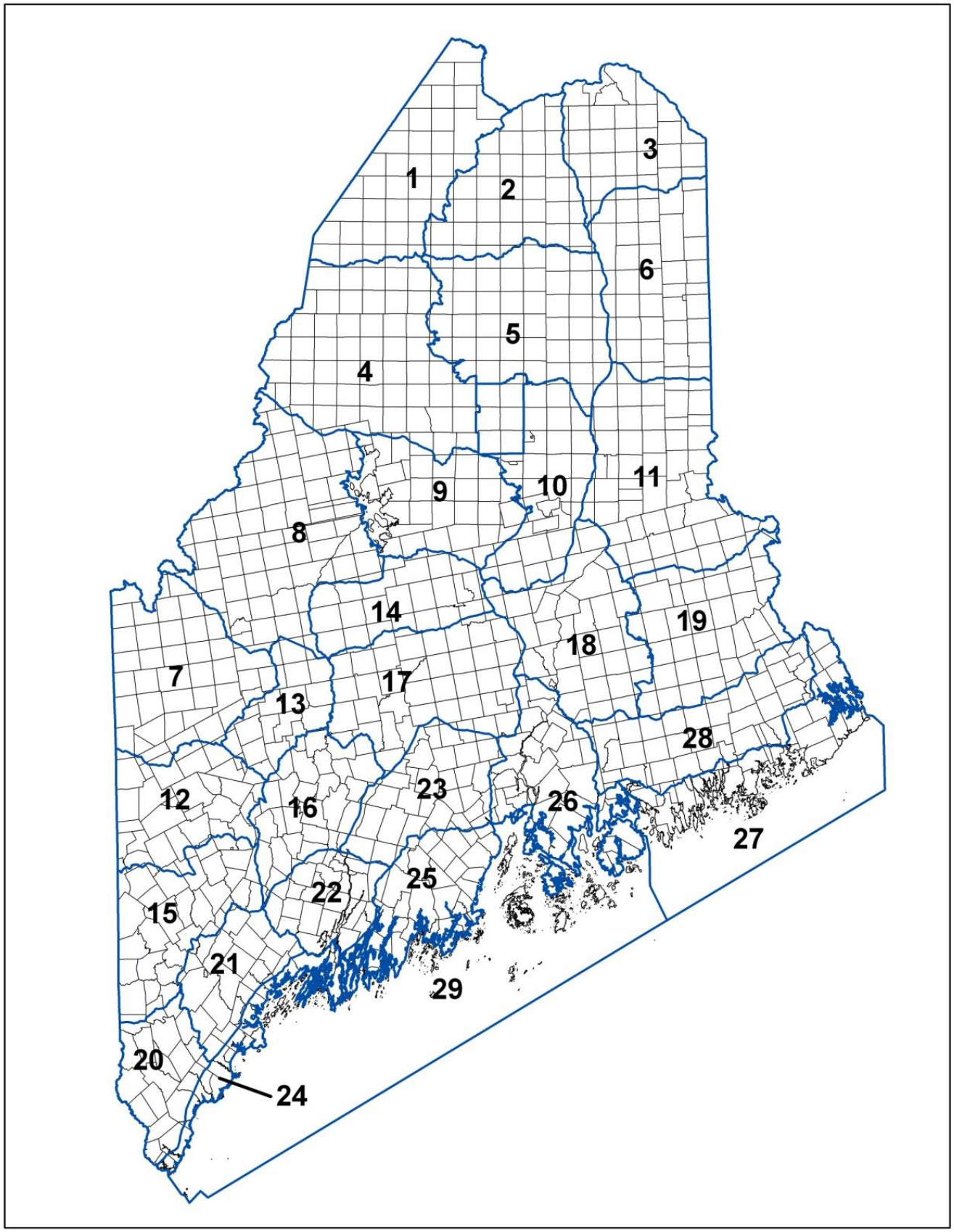
TOWN	LOCATION	PHONE
Princeton	George Blaney RR1 Box 100-I, Princeton, ME 04668	796-5490
Rumford	Rumford Fire Dept. 151 Congress Street, Rumford, ME 04276	364-2901
Sanford	Dennis Theriault Taxidermy 13 Taxidermy Lane (Off Whichers Mill Rd), Sanford, ME 04073	324-8025
Sidney	Andrea Dwelle, Track and Trap Guide Service 76 Drummond Road, Sidney, ME 04330	547-4122
Skowhegan	Skowhegan Fire Station 16 Island Ave, Skowhegan, ME 04976	474-3400
Standish	Andi Syemor 154 River RD, Standish, ME 04084	642-4649
Stow	Stow General Store 590 Stow Rd., Stow, ME 04037	697-2255
South Berwick	Raymond Sumnon, Ray's Auto Repair 16 Junction Road, South Berwick, ME 03908	384-9908
Topsham	Whitetail Taxidermy 10 Cardinal Dr.	751-7942
Van Buren	Ouellette's Trading Post HCR 63 Box 10, Van Buren, ME 04785	868-2727
Wayne	Julians Wayne General Store 506 Maine St., Wayne, ME 04284	344-4419
Waterboro	Peter Sterling Taxidermy 601 Deering Ridge Rd.	247-3989
West Minot	Wayne Slattery, Village Trading Post PO Box 103, West Minot, ME 04288	966-2631
Wiscasset	Mike Log Cabin INC. 475 Gardiner Rd., Wiscasset, ME 04578	350-0994
Woolwich	Mrs. Gloria Kenney Rt. 127, 1505 Middle Road, Woolwich, ME 04579	442-7833

MDIFW's REGIONAL OFFICES

TOWN	LOCATION	PHONE
Ashland	PO Box 447 (63 Station Hill), Ashland, ME 04732	435-3231
Enfield	73 Cobb Road, Enfield, ME 04493	732-4132
Gray	358 Shaker Road, Gray, ME 04039	657-2345
Greenville	PO Box 551 (Village Street), Greenville, ME 04441	695-3756
Jonesboro	PO Box 220 (Rt. 1A), Jonesboro, ME 04648	434-5927
Sidney	270 Lyons Road, Sidney, ME 04330	547-5300
Strong	689 Farmington Road, Strong, ME 04983	778-3324

Wildlife Management Districts