

#### 4.04 Bear Hunting/Trapping Season

- B. **Bear Trapping:** Except as otherwise provided by State law, no person may set, place or tend any bear trap that is not in conformity with the following provisions:
1. No person may have more than 1 trap set for bear at any one time.
  2. Bear may be trapped only with the use of cable traps (foot snares) or cage-type live traps. Cable traps that are set and/or designed to capture a bear when it reaches into the device to obtain bait and/or lure are prohibited.
  3. Whenever a cage-type live trap is used to trap for bear, the trap must be enclosed and identified by signs in accordance with the provisions of 12 M.R.S. §12260, subsection 3.
  4. Whenever a cable trap (foot snare) is used to trap for bear:
    - i. the trap must be set at or below ground level in such a manner as to catch the animal only by the foot or leg; and
    - ii. bait and/or lure may not be placed below ground level; and
    - iii. bait and/or lure may not be placed within the loop of the cable.
  5. A bear caught in traps must be killed or released and not moved away from the catch site. A bear caught in a trap may not be used in conjunction with a hunt or to train a dog for bear hunting.
  6. The placement of bait when trapping for bear must be done in accordance with the provisions of Title 12 §11301, subsection 1.

For purposes of this rule, cage-type live traps for bear are defined as traps designed as a cage, tunnel or other enclosure fitted with a door that, when tripped, closes in a manner that prevents escape of the bear. Traps must be heavily constructed to prevent damage from bears, and also must have adequate openings for ventilation and cooling inside when the door is closed. Traps must also be constructed with no sharp intrusions to injure bears, and be large enough for caught bears to turn around inside the closed trap.