

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Steven M. Huffaker, Director

Project W-170-R-29

Progress Report



FURBEARER

Study III, Job 1

July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

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**PROGRESS REPORT
SURVEYS AND INVENTORIES**

STATE: Idaho **JOB TITLE:** Furbearer Survey
PROJECT: W-170-R-29
SUBPROJECT: 1-7 **STUDY NAME:** Statewide Fur Harvest Survey
STUDY: III
JOB: 1
PERIOD COVERED: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

STUDY OBJECTIVES

1. Estimate the population size, structure, and trend of harvested furbearers.
2. Determine hunter and trapper attitudes about preferences for the furbearer program.
3. Inform trappers/hunters of the biology and status of furbearers.

PROCEDURES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Analyze the mandatory trapper reports to estimate trends in furbearer harvest and the dollar value of species.
This was accomplished and is included in the following report.
2. Continue to collect bobcat and river otter harvest information through the mandatory export tag program.
All bobcats harvested were tagged with CITES tags and the method of harvest recorded. All river otters legally harvested were tagged with CITES tags. This information is included in the following report.
3. Compile the sex and age structure of the bobcat harvest from analysis of lower jaws and sectioned teeth, and use this information to evaluate and monitor the statewide population.
The Idaho Fish and Game Commission decided not to require trappers to surrender the jaws of bobcats harvested in Idaho during the 2000-2001, 2001-2002, and 2002-2003 seasons. This was re-evaluated when the Commission reviewed trapping regulations in the spring of 2004. No changes were made. Teeth were not collected during the 2004-2005 trapping season.
4. Compile the sex and age structure of the river otter harvest from analysis of lower jaws and sectioned teeth, and use this information to evaluate and monitor the statewide population.
River otter teeth were not collected during the 2004-2005 trapping season. Sex structure was determined and is included in the following report. Age data from the 2003-2004 season was not available at the time the 2003-2004 report went to print, so this data is provided in the following report.

5. Conduct surveys to determine the population status of selected furbearers.
A winter track survey protocol for forest carnivores was completed and the pilot study implemented statewide during winter 2002-2003. The official survey began during winter 2003-2004. This survey is primarily for lynx, wolverine, fisher, and marten. Of these species, only the marten can be legally trapped. The wolverine is classified as protected nongame wildlife and the trapping season is closed for fisher and lynx.
6. Prepare an annual report on furbearer harvest.
The annual report is found herein.
7. Conduct public meetings to inform the public and obtain information on hunter/trapper acceptance of season regulations.
No public meetings were held. Public meetings to discuss season regulations for the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 trapping seasons were held prior to the period covered in this report.
8. Make presentations on furbearer biology to the public.
Personnel gave a presentation on furbearers, their biology, and their status in Idaho at the MK Nature Center in November 2004. Personnel wrote newspaper articles on trapping and furbearers. Personnel contacted individuals regarding interest in trapping and furbearers.
9. Explore the potential to develop and implement a trapper education program.
Personnel attended the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Trapper Education Workshop which was a component of the International Hunter Education Association's 2005 Annual Conference in April 2005. Personnel plan to work with the state and national trapper associations to explore the possibilities of developing a trapper education program.

ABSTRACT

Trapping licenses sold during the 2004-2005 season totaled 1,022, which included 871 adult residents and 14 non-residents. The number of licenses sold was up from the previous year. Harvest reports for the 2004-2005 season were submitted by 749 (73%) of the 1,022 licensed trappers. The Department changed the method in which trapping data is recorded beginning with the 2002-2003 trapping season; Catch-Per-Unit Effort (CPUE) is recorded instead of trapper days afield. CPUE measures the harvest per unit-of-time and will be used in predicting population trends. The fur harvest, based on 590 trappers who trapped, was 24,543 animals, up from the previous trapping season. A total of 13,470 pelts (55% of reported harvest) were sold for a value of \$291,029.46. Trappers sold their pelts for an average of \$21.61 each. The 590 trappers harvested an average of 42 pelts per trapper and sold an average of 23 pelts. Based on an average pelt price of \$21.61 and 23 pelts sold per trapper, trappers earned an average income of \$497.03. The estimated harvest for all trappers, including those that did not submit a report, was 33,621 animals taken with an estimated statewide pelt value of \$398,670.49. Muskrat, coyote, beaver, red fox, and bobcat, respectively, were the most frequently caught species. Price per pelt (for all harvested species) ranged from an average of \$198.64 for bobcats (\$213.15 in 2003-2004) to \$1.78 for muskrats (\$2.15 in 2003-2004). In total statewide value of pelts sold, the top 5 furbearers included bobcat, coyote, beaver, red fox, and muskrat. Pelt values were down for all

furbearers except beaver, mink, and striped skunk; however, a large number of trappers still had pelts at auctions awaiting sale, which may have affected average pelt prices reported. Bobcat trappers and hunters checked 1,887 animals from a 2-month season (mid-December to mid-February). The lynx season remained closed. The largest number of bobcats harvested (66% of the total) came from the Department's Panhandle, Clearwater, and Southwest regions. The Department affixed Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) tags to 105 legally harvested otters during the trapping season. Trappers reported 12 non-target otters trapped during the 2004-2005 season, down from the previous season.

METHODS

Mandatory Trapper Harvest Reports

By Idaho law, licensed trappers are required to report to the Department the number of wild animals they catch, kill, and pelt during the open season (Appendix A) and the amount received for the sale of these pelts. The report must be submitted by 31 July. Any trapper failing to send in a report by this date can be refused a trapper's license the following year. Until the 1996-1997 season, this information appeared on the back of the trapping license. Once the Department switched to point-of-sale machines for the purchase of licenses, this option was no longer available. A mandatory trapper report card has been used since the 1996-1997 season. This self-addressed, postage-paid folding card is sent to trappers each spring so they may conform to Idaho law.

Mandatory trapper reports are used to estimate the statewide harvest of furbearers by licensed trappers, the distribution of the harvest, and the market value of the state's furbearer harvest. Previously, questions on how many days the trapper spent afield scouting and setting/checking traps, and how many hours, on average, the trapper spent afield each day was included. These questions were initially included in the mandatory report beginning with the 1993-1994 trapping season and were used to gather information on trapping effort. Results of this information were then projected to estimate the statewide trapping effort both in total hours and days afield. Beginning with the 2002-2003 trapping season, these questions were changed to include CPUE. CPUE measures the harvest per unit of time and will be useful in predicting population trends. CPUE is calculated by multiplying the total number of nights trapped by the average number of traps set per night (for a given species) and then dividing the number of animals trapped by this number.

Comments by trappers are also accepted on harvest report cards.

Idaho Trapper Survey

Mandatory trapper reports may also be used to collect specific survey data as needed. The input from trappers can be important, as the secretive nature of most furbearers generally makes it difficult to obtain good data on their status. Beginning with 2002-2003, CPUE was included. As described above, CPUE measures the harvest per unit of time and will be useful in predicting population trends.

Bobcat Check-ins, Jaws, and Export Tags

By Idaho Department of Fish and Game Commission (Commission) rule, trappers and hunters are required to have all bobcats tagged with Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) export tags by the Department within 10 days after the close of the trapping/hunting season. During the period 1977-1978 through 1980-1981, CITES export tags were made available to trappers and hunters, but they were not mandatory. Mandatory reporting has been in effect since the 1981-1982 season. During the 1979-1980 and 1980-1981 seasons, it was not mandatory to turn in jaws, but the Department issued export tags only when jaws were submitted. Starting with the 2000-2001 season, the Commission directed that it was not mandatory to turn in bobcat jaws. This was reassessed when the Commission reviewed trapping regulations during spring 2004; the Commission decided not to require mandatory submission of bobcat jaws for the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 bobcat seasons.

It is unlawful to possess raw, untagged bobcat pelts after 10 days following close of season, and to sell, offer for sale, purchase, or offer to purchase any raw bobcat pelt which does not have an official export tag attached. Trappers and hunters are required to present the pelts of all bobcats to a regional office, the McCall office, or official checkpoint to obtain the appropriate pelt tag and complete a harvest report. Information on the harvest report includes the animal's sex, harvest location, date harvested, method of take (trapping, calling/hunting, with hounds, incidental hunting) and beginning with the 2002-2003 season, CPUE. Mandatory harvest report data continue to be used to estimate the total statewide bobcat harvest by Department administrative region and big game management unit.

River Otter Check-ins, Jaws, and Export Tags

By Commission rule, trappers are required to have all river otters tagged with CITES export tags within 72 hours of taking (Appendix A). Trappers unable to comply with tagging requirements due to special or unique circumstances must report their harvest to the appropriate regional office or field personnel within 72 hours and make arrangements for tagging at the regional office in the region in which the animal was harvested.

The otter season is closed 48 hours after the harvest quota for a region is met. Trappers are allowed to keep otters within this 48-hour period, provided their personal quota of 2 has not been reached, which may cause the total harvest to exceed harvest quotas. River otters harvested after the season is closed, or otters in excess of the trapper's personal quota of 2 are surrendered to the Department. Pelts from non-target or incidentally-captured river otters are either processed and used for educational purposes within the regions or sold at the state fur auction.

River otter jaws were not collected during the 2004-2005 trapping season. However, age data from the 2003-2004 trapping season is provided; this data was not available when the 2004 report was printed.

Non-target Catches

By Commission rule, any trapper who captures and kills a non-target species (any species for which the season is closed) must notify the Department through the local conservation officer or

regional office within 72 hours to make arrangements for Department personnel to retrieve the animal. The regulation has been in effect since the 1988-1989 season. Beginning with the 1990-1991 trapping season, the Department paid trappers \$5.00 for each accidentally-caught fisher and river otter turned in to the Department. Beginning with the 1996-1997 season, trappers also received \$5.00 for each accidentally caught lynx or wolverine. Beginning with the 2004-2005 trapping season, this increased to \$10.00 and also included bobcat.

Most non-target animals turned in are sold at the Department's annual fur and horns auction. Money from the sale of these animals and animal parts was deposited into the general account in 1989 and 1990. Since 1991, the proceeds have been earmarked for use in trapper education and associated activities.

STATEWIDE RESULTS

Trapping License Sales

Trapping licenses sold during the 2004-2005 season totaled 1,022 and included 1,008 residents (871 adult and 137 junior residents under 18 years-of-age) and 14 non-residents (Table 1). The number of licenses sold increased 5% (47 licenses) over the previous season sale.

Catch-Per-Unit-Effort

Questions on how many days the trapper spent afield scouting and checking traps, and how many hours, on average, the trapper spent afield each day, were collected from the 1993-1994 season through the 2001-2002 season (Table 2). Beginning with the 2002-2003 trapping season, the Department began collecting data on CPUE. CPUE is based on the premise that as more and more animals are removed from a population, fewer are available to be caught, or in this instance, trapped; therefore, catch-per-unit should decline. This is recorded per species (Table 3) and data is provided from 2002-2003 through 2004-2005 (Table 4).

Mandatory Trapper Harvest Reports

Harvest reports were submitted by 749 (73%) of the 1,022 licensed trappers for the 2004-2005 season. The information submitted was used to compile the reported and estimated statewide harvest and market value of the different furbearer species taken, including badger, beaver, bobcat, coyote, marten, mink, muskrat, otter, raccoon, red fox, spotted skunk, striped skunk, and weasel.

The fur harvest, based on 590 reporting trappers who trapped, was 24,543 animals (Table 5), up from 22,200 the previous trapping season. Of this total, 13,470 pelts (55%) were sold for a value of \$291,029.46. Trappers sold their pelts for an average of \$21.61 each, compared to \$26.51 the previous year. Trappers harvested an average of 42 pelts per trapper and sold an average of 23 pelts. Based on an average pelt price of \$21.61 and 23 pelts sold per trapper, trappers earned an average income of \$497.03, down from \$641.02 the previous season. The estimated harvest for all trappers, including those who did not submit a report, was 33,621 animals taken, and 18,452

pelts sold. The estimated statewide pelt value of the pelts sold is \$398,670.49, down from \$486,792.58 in the previous season.

The muskrat, coyote, beaver, red fox, and bobcat, respectively, were the most frequently caught species. Price per pelt (for all harvested species) ranged from an average of \$198.64 for bobcats (\$213.15 in 2003-2004) to \$1.78 for muskrats (\$2.15 in 2004-2005). Pelt values were down for all furbearers except beaver, mink, and striped skunk (Table 5). In total statewide value of pelts sold, the top 5 furbearers were bobcat, coyote, beaver, red fox, and muskrat (Table 6).

Species harvested within a county (Table 7) may be indicative of areas with higher furbearer populations. However, harvest distribution is also partly a function of where trappers live.

Mandatory Bobcat Tagging and Harvest Reports

Bobcat trappers and hunters checked 1,887 animals (Table 8) harvested during a 2-month (mid-December to mid-February) season; 2 animals were reported as being confiscated by Idaho Fish and Game. The lynx season remained closed; no accidental captures were reported. The largest number of bobcats harvested (66% of the total) came from the Department's Panhandle, Clearwater, and Southwest regions (Table 9). Trapping accounted for 69% of the statewide bobcat harvest, followed by the use of hounds (23%).

Submission of bobcat jaws for age analysis (Table 10) was reassessed when the Commission reviewed trapping regulations during spring 2004; the Commission decided not to require mandatory submission of bobcat jaws for the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 seasons.

Mandatory River Otter Tagging and Harvest Reports

The first river otter trapping season since 1972 was authorized during the 2000-2001 trapping season. The Idaho Fish and Game Commission originally approved a quota of 100 otters statewide. Once the regional quota was reached, trappers had 48 hours in which to have additional otters tagged, with a maximum allowable harvest statewide set at 121 otters. The harvest quota was changed to 102 animals for the 2002-2004 trapping seasons; the individual trapper's quota was decreased from 5 to 2 river otters. The only quota change for the 2004-2006 trapping seasons was an increase for Salmon Region from 10 otters to 15, increasing the overall state quota to 107 otters (Appendix A).

The Department affixed CITES tags to 105 legally harvested otters during the 2004-2005 trapping season (Table 11). Quotas were reached in all regions except Clearwater region.

Of the total river otters harvested, including incidental captures, 70 (59%) were male and 49 (41%) were female (Table 12).

While river otter jaws were not collected during the 2004-2005 trapping season, age data for the 2003-2004 trapping season is available in this report (Table 13); this data was not available at the time of print of the 2004 report. The ages of river otters harvested during the 2003-2004 season ranged from juveniles (<1 year old) to 11 years of age ($n = 1$). The mean age of all river otters

collected (trapped legally and illegally, road-kills) during 2003-2004 was 2.93 years of age ($n = 110$). Total harvest during the 2003-2004 trapping season was comprised of 30% juveniles, 25.5% yearlings, and 44.5% adults.

Reported Non-target Catches

Trappers were paid \$10.00 each for 12 otters (Table 14) surrendered to the Department for reimbursement. Since the 1990-1991 trapping season, 10 fisher and 406 otters have been turned in for reimbursement. Many of these animals were sold at the Department's annual auction with proceeds earmarked for trapper education and related projects. Other animals' pelts are processed and used for educational purposes. Among the non-target species reported trapped was a variety of birds and mammals (Table 15). Non-target animals with minimal injury were released at the site of capture. Trappers reported catching 355 non-target animals during the 2004-2005 season.

Furbearer Surveys

Winter track survey routes were delineated in each of the Department's administrative regions as a pilot project during winter 2002-2003. Due to a lack of snow statewide, most regions were limited in the amount of routes they were capable of surveying. The official survey was implemented during the winter of 2003-2004. Target species being monitored by winter track surveys include: American marten, fisher, Canada lynx, and wolverine. Other species to be monitored include: snowshoe hare, red squirrel, bobcat, coyote, mountain lion, and gray wolf. See the IDFG *Winter 2004-2005 Idaho Snow-Track Survey* report for a complete report of winter track survey results.

Furbearer Research

The Department continues to cooperate with the U. S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS) on a wolverine and fisher research project along the Idaho and Montana border. This study's primary objective is to understand fisher habitat use in the Lochsa River area. Researchers are achieving this through 2 avenues. First, fishers are being radio tracked and habitat data collected at their rest sites. In addition, DNA hair snares are placed throughout the Lochsa corridor. At each site, the researchers are collecting detailed habitat data and will then correlate fisher presence/absence to habitat variables. Visit the RMRS website at www.fs.fed.us/rm/wildlife/ for more information.

The Department is also providing State Wildlife Grant (SWG) funds to the Wildlife Conservation Society's wolverine project in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Visit the Wildlife Conservation Society's website (www.wcs.org) for more information on this project.

Department personnel are collaborating with the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station (Missoula, Montana) on a fisher genetics project in the Selkirk Mountains and the Clearwater Region.

A Department employee and Boise State University graduate student began a river otter research project during the 2002-2003 trapping season. The project includes analyses for toxins (PCBs, mercury and other heavy metals, and organochlorines), assessing reproductive rates, age and sex structure, and general body condition of individual river otters harvested. Results should be available in fall 2005.

Furbearer Depredation

Beaver continue to be live-trapped in several regions to address damage complaints. When feasible, these animals are translocated to other areas in attempts to improve riparian habitat or increase the local beaver population. Department conservation officers frequently issue Furbearer Depredation Control Permits (Form WL-2) to individuals as a valuable tool in handling beaver and other furbearer damage complaints quickly and efficiently. Beginning in January 1995, Department administrative regions were required to keep accurate records on the number of permits issued and the number of animals removed. Beaver are typically the most common species in which kill permits are issued, followed by muskrat and raccoon.

Administrative Activities and Coordination

Department personnel participated in a variety of furbearer-related activities throughout the year. Department personnel attended the Upper Snake River Trappers of Idaho (USRT of Idaho) convention held at Mud Lake in September 2004. Personnel gave a presentation on Idaho's furbearers, their biology, and their status at the MK Nature Center in Boise, Idaho, in November 2004. Personnel also attended the USRT of Idaho's fur sale in Blackfoot in January 2005. Personnel attended the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Trapper Education Workshop which was a component of the International Hunter Education Association 2005 Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, in April 2005. Personnel attended and presented on river otter management at the 2005 Joint Furbearer Workshop in Bismarck, North Dakota, in May 2005. Several state office and regional staff are involved in the Forest Carnivore Committee, a group of individuals representing state and federal agencies and non-governmental organizations. The primary focus of this group involves forest carnivores, including marten, fisher, lynx, and wolverine. Personnel wrote newspaper articles on trapping and furbearers. Personnel responded to information requests by phone or letters regarding interest in trapping and furbearer species.

Department personnel throughout the state were involved in collection of furbearer harvest data, including tagging bobcat and river otter pelts.

Management Actions

There were no new management actions for furbearers.

Management Implications

In 1990, Department regional furbearer coordinators (RFCs) were appointed in each region and the McCall office in compliance with the 1991-1995 Furbearer Management Plan. The function

of RFCs is to serve as a liaison with trapping organizations, trappers and other user groups, and other agencies on trapping and furbearer issues. While RFCs have diverse natural resource backgrounds, they all share some level of expertise or interest in furbearer management in Idaho. These RFCs continue to play an important role in maintaining good working relations with trappers and other agencies and are helping the Department meet its furbearer management goals and objectives.

Recent high bobcat prices have resulted in record high harvest the past 2 seasons. Although some local bobcat populations in highly accessible areas may be more vulnerable to trapping and hunting than those in more remote areas, as suggested by Koehler and Hornocker (1989), there are many remote areas in Idaho that act as “refugia” and contribute to more accessible populations where bobcat numbers may be reduced due to harvest pressure. The Department will continue to monitor the harvest for over-exploitation.

Harvest data, past age structure data, and observations made by Department personnel, trappers, and hunters indicate Idaho trapping and hunting seasons are not having an impact on furbearer populations. Variable and unpredictable pelt prices continue to influence trapper/ hunter participation and, consequently, harvest of furbearers.

Although not a primary objective, the riparian and wetland habitat projects (Habitat Improvement Program [HIP]) also improves habitat for many species of furbearers. The HIP objective is to provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners and public land managers who want to enhance upland game bird and waterfowl habitat. These projects benefit many of Idaho’s aquatic and semi-aquatic furbearers.

The Department is meeting its goals and objectives regarding furbearer season structure, maintaining populations and distribution, and a variety of management programs. Conversely, some strategies proposed in the furbearer plan, including development of habitat management guidelines, mandatory trapper education, and monitoring of some species, continue to be evaluated for implementation as funding allows.

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Table 1. Trapping license sales and usable harvest reports received from trappers, 1983-1994 through 2004-2005.

Season	Licenses Sold			Total	Reports received	%	Reporting trappers who trapped		Estimated active trappers ^a
	Adult resident	Junior resident	Non-resident				%	%	
1983-1984	1,559		15	1,574	930	59			
1984-1985	1,485		23	1,508	664	44			
1985-1986	1,370		23	1,393	1,071	77			
1986-1987	1,473		24	1,497	1,112	73			
1987-1988	1,564		30	1,594	1,338	86			
1988-1989	1,266		22	1,288	1,045	81			
1989-1990	921		17	938	722	77			
1990-1991	636		7	643	508	79			
1991-1992	678		8	686	478	70			
1992-1993	666		7	673	525	78			
1993-1994	588		8	596	489	82	425	87	518
1994-1995	738		10	748	547	73	432	79	591
1995-1996	631		7	638	445	70	362	81	518
1996-1997	772		7	779	590	76	463	78	610
1997-1998	740	130	12	752	586	78	473	81	609
1998-1999	612	110	14	626	502	80	381	76	476
1999-2000	451	98	9	558	459	82	362	79	441
2000-2001	504	97	6	607	492	81	390	79	480
2001-2002	546	91	10	647	519	80	415	80	518
2002-2003	690	126	8	824	657	80	513	78	643
2003-2004	835	130	10	975	791	81	615	78	761
2004-2005	871	137	14	1,022	749	73	590	79	807

^a Estimated active trappers is determined by multiplying the number of licenses sold by the percent of trappers who reported that they actually trapped, based on the total number of reports received.

Table 2. Estimated trapper days afield based on trapper reports received, 1993-1994 through 2001-2002.

Year	Reporting trappers who trapped	Trappers reporting time afield ^a	%	Average time afield per trapper		Projected statewide time afield		
				Hrs/day	Days/yr	Estimated active trappers	Total hours	Total days
1993-1994	425	285	67	5.0	36.4	519	93,432	18,871
1994-1995	432	330	76	4.4	35.5	591	92,314	20,981
1995-1996	362	271	75	4.1	38.4	517	80,139	19,546
1996-1997	463	441	95	4.9	42.7	608	127,212	25,962
1997-1998	473	404	85	4.4	35.6	609	95,394	21,680
1998-1999	381	335	88	4.1	33.2	476	64,793	15,803
1999-2000	362	357	99	4.2	38.0	441	70,384	13,549
2000-2001	390	383	98	3.9	31.9	480	59,717	12,209
2001-2002	415	414	100	4.0	32.9	518	68,169	13,627

^a The trapper report card form was changed for the 2002-2003 season and no longer records the days and time afield per trapper.

Table 3. Catch-Per-Unit Effort data from trapper report cards, 2004-2005.

Species	Number of animals trapped ^a (a)	Total number of nights trapped (b)	Average number of traps set/night (c)	CPUE a / b * c
Badger	163	1,244	8	1.05
Beaver	3,075	5,352	7	4.02
Bobcat	1,153	9,433	18	2.20
Coyote	2,839	8,253	14	4.82
Marten	1,013	1,148	19	16.77
Mink	677	3,102	11	2.40
Muskrat	10,951	4,444	19	46.82
Otter	102	980	4	0.42
Raccoon	1,119	4,192	8	2.14
Red Fox	1,664	5,318	11	3.44
Spotted skunk	34	208	8	1.31
Striped skunk	1,072	2,973	9	3.25
Weasel	169	1,231	8	1.10

^a Reflects only animals trapped and does not include animals hunted.

Table 4. Catch-Per-Unit Effort based on trappers reporting they trapped, 2002-2003 through 2004-2005.

Species	CPUE		
	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Badger	2.71	2.54	1.05
Beaver	3.03	3.42	4.02
Bobcat	2.08	1.69	2.20
Coyote	5.35	6.18	4.82
Marten	16.6	13.4	16.8
Mink	2.99	2.66	2.40
Muskrat	75.3	30.6	46.8
Otter	0.48	0.42	0.42
Raccoon	2.46	1.60	2.14
Red Fox	5.74	4.32	3.44
Spotted skunk	1.85	0.56	1.31
Striped skunk	2.84	2.71	3.25
Weasel	1.24	1.14	1.10

Table 5. Statewide harvest and pelt value of furbearers trapped based on 590 trappers who reported they trapped, 2004-2005.

Species	Trappers reporting a harvest	Animals taken (a)	Pelts/trapper	Animals sold (b)	% Sold (b / a)	Money received (c)	Price/pelt ^a (c / b = d)	Total value (a x d = e)	Estimated statewide pelt value ^b (e / .73)	% of total value
Badger	67	172	3	76	44	\$1,290.03	\$16.97-	\$2,918.84	\$3,998.41	0.64%
Beaver	252	3,075	12	1,603	52	\$27,715.07	\$17.27+	\$53,166.75	\$72,831.16	11.67%
Bobcat ^c	261	1,205	5	841	70	\$167,058.24	\$198.64-	\$239,361.20	\$327,892.05	52.52%
Coyote	278	3,206	12	2,156	67	\$40,707.58	\$18.88-	\$60,529.28	\$82,916.82	13.28%
Marten	50	1,013	20	508	50	\$8,367.57	\$16.47-	\$16,684.11	\$22,854.95	3.66%
Mink	134	677	5	478	71	\$4,995.11	\$10.45+	\$7,074.65	\$9,691.30	1.55%
Muskrat	205	10,951	53	5,989	55	\$10,636.26	\$1.78-	\$19,492.78	\$26,702.44	4.28%
Otter ^c	71	102	1	61	60	\$4,562.19	\$74.79-	\$7,628.58	\$10,450.11	1.67%
Raccoon	209	1,138	5	549	48	\$3,877.97	\$7.06-	\$8,034.28	\$11,005.86	1.76%
Red Fox	192	1,724	9	1,106	64	\$21,320.93	\$19.28-	\$33,238.72	\$45,532.49	7.29%
Spotted Skunk	13	34	3	0	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Striped Skunk	115	1,077	9	48	4	\$314.00	\$6.54+	\$7,043.58	\$9,648.74	1.55%
Weasel	45	169	4	55	33	\$184.51	\$3.35-	\$566.15	\$775.55	0.12%
Actual Total (73%)		24,543		13,470	55	\$291,029.46	\$21.61-	\$455,738.92		100.00
Estimated Total (100%)		33,621		18,452		\$398,670.49			\$624,299.89	

^a Plus and minus reflects upward or downward trends in pelt value.

^b Estimated totals and statewide pelt value were determined based on the assumption that the harvest reported by trappers represented 73% of actual harvest if all active trappers had submitted a harvest report.

^c Reflects only the number reported by trappers on the mandatory report card.

Table 6. History of statewide rank by value for animals trapped.

Season	Species ^a											Spotted skunk	Striped skunk	Weasel	
	Badger	Beaver	Bobcat	Coyote	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Otter ^b	Raccoon	Red fox					
1992-1993	9	3	2	1	7	6	5			8	4				10
1993-1994	9	3	4	1	6	7	5			8	2				10
1994-1995	10	3	4	2	6	7	5			8	1		9		11
1995-1996	9	3	5	4	7	8	2			6	1		11		10
1996-1997	9	2	3	4	8	7	1			6	5	12	10		11
1997-1998	9	1	3	5	8	7	2			6	4	12	10		11
1998-1999	9	1	2	5	8	7	4			6	3	12	10		11
1999-2000	9	2	1	5	10	7	4			8	3	12	6		11
2000-2001	11	3	1	4	6	9	5	8		7	2	13	10		12
2001-2002	11	3	1	4	10	8	5	7		6	2		9		12
2002-2003	11	4	1	3	6	10	5	8		7	2	12	9		13
2003-2004	8	4	1	2	6	11	5	9		7	3	13	10		12
2004-2005	11	3	1	2	6	9	5	8		7	4		10		12

^a Non-target “other” species trapped are excluded from this ranking.

^b Otter was not included on the trapper report card until 2000-2001.

Table 7. Distribution of furbearer harvest in Idaho by county, as reported by trappers, 2004-2005.

County	Species												
	Badger	Beaver	Bobcat	Spotted skunk	Coyote	Red fox	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Raccoon	Otter	Striped skunk	Weasel
Ada	23	63	4	0	102	46	0	53	155	72	0	391	0
Adams	0	26	35	1	53	17	3	4	127	19	3	1	5
Bannock	4	65	32	1	32	45	0	6	125	20	0	10	0
Bear Lake	21	158	10	0	63	224	0	44	594	108	1	80	9
Benewah	0	97	19	0	9	0	0	12	91	12	1	1	3
Bingham	3	159	31	0	30	57	0	13	440	50	5	15	1
Blaine	1	161	10	0	1	6	7	0	39	5	0	1	1
Boise	0	37	9	0	21	72	28	2	0	8	0	12	0
Bonner	1	150	105	0	49	0	3	20	149	12	10	6	27
Bonneville	1	163	21	0	51	86	0	8	346	27	3	21	0
Boundary	0	53	13	0	7	0	7	18	71	13	2	1	0
Butte	0	24	22	0	14	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Camas	17	4	0	0	83	64	0	0	0	0	4	20	0
Canyon	9	194	0	0	9	19	0	97	885	64	1	65	2
Caribou	4	165	10	0	30	137	0	25	231	28	1	2	4
Cassia	1	16	61	4	200	26	0	19	8	0	0	5	0
Clark	2	0	8	0	33	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Clearwater	0	34	23	0	15	0	1	13	41	14	3	7	9
Custer	3	170	42	0	86	106	233	5	71	3	2	5	0
Elmore	2	45	15	2	54	72	3	37	299	19	4	7	0
Franklin	5	28	9	2	17	20	0	39	189	96	0	0	11
Fremont	1	26	0	0	6	14	136	3	96	24	0	12	10
Gem	4	31	3	0	39	76	0	40	594	55	0	2	0
Gooding	1	77	15	1	79	47	0	35	1228	80	12	106	1
Idaho	1	26	75	8	76	4	36	10	13	14	4	25	4
Jefferson	0	74	1	0	7	5	40	5	856	15	0	9	1
Jerome	0	1	0	0	3	58	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
Kootenai	0	116	43	0	145	1	0	7	525	25	0	1	3
Latah	0	27	39	0	94	0	0	9	11	8	0	2	6
Lemhi	2	118	54	0	345	73	78	6	408	20	8	39	3
Lewis	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lincoln	14	53	17	0	128	34	0	1	283	5	7	41	0

Table 7. Continued.

County	Species												
	Badger	Beaver	Bobcat	Spotted skunk	Coyote	Red fox	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Raccoon	Otter	Striped skunk	Weasel
Madison	0	29	0	0	5	1	1	17	423	20	1	4	0
Minidoka	1	4	4	0	23	62	0	22	96	2	0	7	0
Nez Perce	0	0	7	0	65	0	0	0	0	14	0	1	0
Oneida	1	6	17	0	28	37	0	0	51	22	0	4	0
Owyhee	18	49	237	1	303	33	0	11	810	64	7	50	2
Payette	10	135	1	0	17	61	0	30	393	28	4	13	0
Power	0	2	8	0	42	15	0	2	50	13	1	0	1
Shoshone	1	330	75	0	44	1	58	28	70	21	4	11	66
Teton	0	25	0	0	0	4	71	9	279	2	0	4	0
Twin Falls	5	32	50	14	321	69	0	16	824	77	3	72	0
Valley	1	14	8	0	11	40	308	3	0	1	2	1	0
Washington	6	88	15	0	99	27	0	6	80	35	8	18	0

Table 8. Bobcat and lynx pelts tagged with USFWS export tags by IDFG, 1983-1984 through 2004-2005.

Year	Pelts tagged	
	Bobcat ^a	Lynx ^b
1983-1984	1,242	0
1984-1985	1,025	0
1985-1986	752	0
1986-1987	1,034	0
1987-1988	1,035	0
1988-1989	738	0
1989-1990	952	1
1990-1991	523	0
1991-1992	640	2
1992-1993	754	0
1993-1994	533	0
1994-1995	794	0
1995-1996	421	0
1996-1997	1,018	0
1997-1998	929	0
1998-1999	715	0
1999-2000	885	0
2000-2001	1,026	0
2001-2002	959	0
2002-2003	1,277	0
2003-2004	1,977	0
2004-2005	1,887	0

^a Pelts confiscated by IDFG are included in the bobcat totals for 2000-2001 (3), 2001-2002 (6), 2002-2003 (2), 2003-2004 (1), and 2004-2005 (2).

^b Lynx harvest was closed following the 1995-1996 season.

Table 9. Bobcat harvest by method of take reported by Region, 2004-2005.

Region	Total harvest	Method of Take ^a										
		%	Trapping	%	Calling	%	With hounds	%	Incidental hunting	%	Unk.	%
Panhandle	386	20	220	57	5	1	138	36	15	4	8	2
Clearwater	378	20	142	38	14	4	207	55	13	3	2	1
Southwest	481	25	401	83	18	4	30	6	32	7	0	0
Magic Valley	186	10	138	74	19	10	19	10	10	5	0	0
Southeast	125	7	92	74	8	6	18	14	7	6	0	0
Upper Snake	179	9	159	89	1	1	17	9	2	1	0	0
Salmon	152	8	146	96	1	1	2	1	3	2	0	0
Total	1887	100	1298	69	66	3	431	23	82	4	10	1

^a Percentages rounded to the nearest whole number.

Table 10. Sex and age of harvested bobcats, based on examination of canines and cementum analyses, 1989-1990 through 1999-2000.

Year	Teeth examined ^a	Adult females	% ^b	Adult males	% ^b	Juveniles ^c & subadults (<2 years)	
							% ^b
1989-1990	725	184	25	293	40	248	34
1990-1991	418	92	22	148	35	178	43
1991-1992	581	126	22	247	42	208	36
1992-1993	754	168	22	268	36	318	42
1993-1994	504	223	44	211	42	70	14
1994-1995	776	218	28	253	33	305	39
1995-1996	413	102	25	150	36	159	38
1996-1997	948	217	23	385	41	346	36
1997-1998	913	221	24	450	49	241	26
1998-1999	490 ^d	164	33	152	31	173	35
1999-2000	782 ^e	305	39	143	18	330	42
Total	7,304	2,020		2,700		2,576	
Average	664	184	28	245	37	234	35

^a Milk canines and those with open root canals were aged as juveniles; male canines with closed root canals were aged as adults; female canines with closed root canals were sectioned and the annuli counted, sex based on canines with closed canals was determined by measurement (Johnson et al. 1981). Sex of juveniles was not determined. Bobcat jaws were not collected after 1999-2000.

^b Percent is based on total number of teeth examined.

^c Age reflects age at last birthday, using April as the approximate date of birth.

^d The sex of 1 additional adult was not determined.

^e The sex of 4 additional adults was not determined.

Table 11. Summary of river otters trapped and tagged in Idaho, 2004-2005.

Region	River otter harvest and quotas by region		
	Harvest quota	Date quota reached	Total harvested ^a
Panhandle	15	12/10/04	15
Clearwater	15	Not reached	11
Southwest	30	3/1/04	30
Magic Valley	20	12/3/04	21
Southeast	2	12/18/04	2
Upper Snake	10	12/30/04	11
Salmon	15	12/27/03	15
Total	107		105

^a Total harvest may exceed harvest quota. The otter season closes in each region 48 hours after the harvest quota for that region is met. Trappers are allowed to keep otters within this 48-hour period provided their personal quota of 2 has not been reached.

Table 12. Sex distribution of river otters harvested in Idaho, 2004-2005.

Region	River otter harvest ^a	
	Male	Female
Panhandle	14	6
Clearwater	9	4
Southwest	12	16
Magic Valley	12	8
Southeast	2	0
Upper Snake	6	6
Salmon	8	7
McCall	7	2
Total	70	49

^a Four river otters taken with a sex of unknown. These figures include carcasses collected from river otters that were legally harvested and incidentally captured.

Table 13. Age distribution of river otters harvested in Idaho, 2003-2004.

Region	Age class					
	Juvenile		Yearlings		Adults	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Panhandle	0	1	0	2	3	6
Clearwater	1	2	0	2	1	1
Southwest	10	3	5	1	7	6
Magic Valley	5	4	4	2	6	12
Southeast	0	0	0	1	0	0
Upper Snake	0	0	2	2	0	2
Salmon	4	1	1	2	0	2
McCall	0	2	0	3	0	3
Total ^a	20	13	13	15	17	32

^a Total aged otters is not equal to total harvested otters. Some otters were surrendered without heads and 3 otters' age were undetermined.

Table 14. Fisher and otter caught accidentally by trappers and turned in for a reward, 1990-1991 through 2004-2005.

Species Year	Region where animal was trapped ^a								Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Unk.	
Fisher									
1990-1991	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1991-1992	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1992-1993	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1993-1994	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994-1995	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
1995-1996	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1996-1997	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997-1998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1998-1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1999-2000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2000-2001	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2001-2002	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2002-2003	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2003-2004	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2004-2005	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Otter^b									
1990-1991	1	4	3	2	1	3	6	0	20
1991-1992	6	1	6	11	3	4	5	0	36
1992-1993	2	4	5	2	0	4	4	2	23
1993-1994	9	4	6	2	0	2	6	0	29
1994-1995	10	9	4	3	1	1	4	0	32
1995-1996	4	1	4	11	0	4	12	0	36
1996-1997	7	1	8	4	0	6	9	0	35
1997-1998	9	2	12	9	3	3	7	0	45
1998-1999	0	1	6	21	0	0	3	0	31
1999-2000	6	0	5	19	0	0	1	4	35
2000-2001	1	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	8
2001-2002	8	0	8	3	0	3	1	0	23
2002-2003	0	1	6	10	1	0	5	0	23
2003-2004	0	1	4	8	0	1	4	0	18
2004-2005	2	0	2	5	0	1	2	0	12
Total	65	29	81	115	9	32	69	6	406

^a Figures do not include road-kills and other unknown mortalities. Figures only include non-targets that were surrendered to the Department.

^b 2000-2001 is the first season since 1972 that river otters could be legally trapped.

Table 15. Non-target animals captured, 2004-2005.

Species	Captured	Released	Found dead	Unknown status
Bear	1	1		
Bobcat	9	7	2	
Cat - Feral	176	10	3	163
Cat - House	11	10	1	
Crow	1		1	
Deer	4	3	1	
Dog	1		1	
Duck	1		1	
Fisher	10	9	1	
Goose	1	1		
Lion	29	25	4	
Magpie	13	3	10	
Otter	17		16	1
Packrat	5		5	
Pheasant	1	1		
Porcupine	5		5	
Rabbit	28	4	24	
Raccoon	7		7	
Raven	1		1	
Red Fox	2		2	
Skunk	6		6	
Squirrel	18	1	17	
Wolf	1	1		
Woodrat	7		7	

APPENDIX A
IDAHO
2004-2005 SEASON
TRAPPING RULES

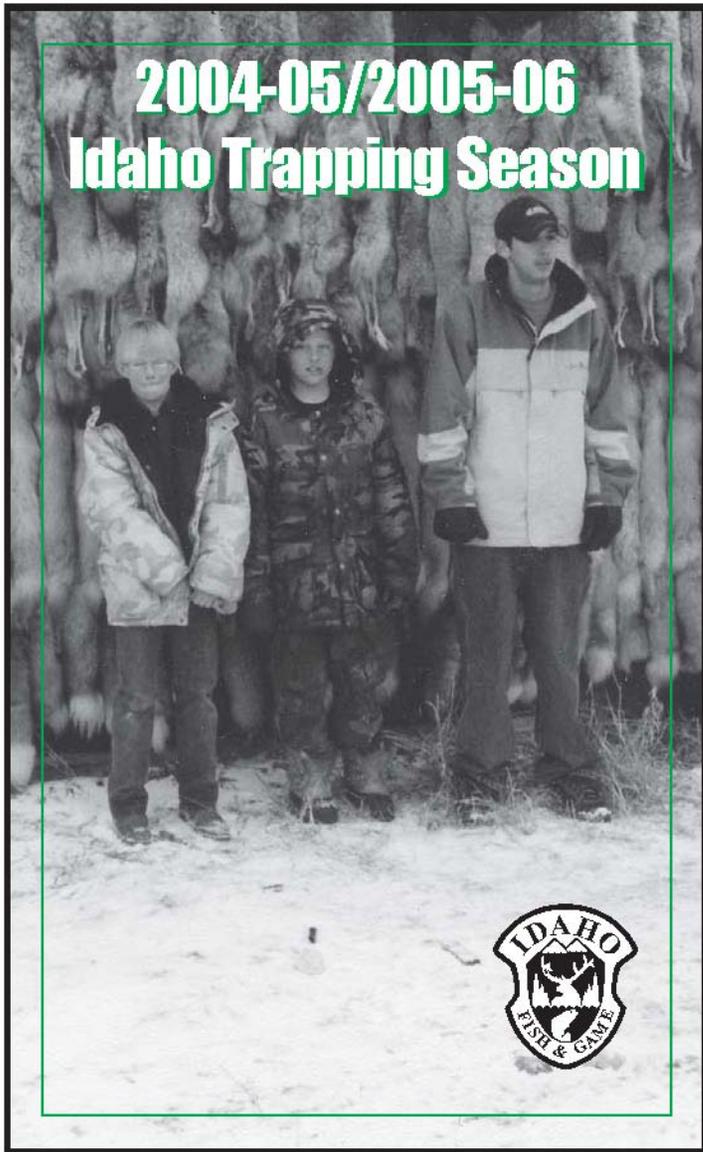


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Please note: all changes new this year are highlighted in green text.

PANHANDLE REGION:

Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai & Shoshone Counties

Badger *	.....	July 1–June 30
Beaver	.....	Nov 1–March 31
Bobcat *	.....	Dec 14–Feb 16
Fox *	.....	Oct 15–Jan 31
Marten	.....	Nov 1–Jan 31
Mink	.....	Nov 1–March 31
Muskrat	.....	Nov 1–March 31
Otter ^	.....	Nov 15–March 15
Raccoon *	.....	July 1–June 30

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping. See page 28 for regional otter harvest quotas.

* Indicates species can also be hunted.

Information in this brochure summarizes the rules and is the official proclamation of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission for the taking of furbearers. The official rules are available from the Division of Statewide Administrative Rules, Department of Administration, Statehouse Mail, Boise, ID 83720, and may be reviewed in some libraries.

IDFG adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, or handicap. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of IDFG, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707; or The Office of Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

Clearwater Region:

Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis & Nez Perce Counties

Badger *	.....	July 1–June 30
Beaver	.....	Nov 1–March 31
Bobcat *	.....	Dec 14–Feb 16
Fox *	.....	Oct 15–Jan 31
Marten	.....	Nov 1–Jan 31
Mink	.....	Nov 1–March 31
Muskrat	.....	Nov 1–March 31
Otter ^	.....	Nov 15–March 15
Raccoon *	.....	July 1–June 30

EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

Clearwater County: East Fork Potlatch River drainage; CLOSED

Idaho County: Within the following drainages: Big Cr. upstream from Monumental Cr., Chamberlin Cr., mainstem of Middle Fk. Clearwater R. from Maggie Cr. upstream, mainstem of Lochsa R., Secesh R. above the Long Gulch Bridge, and mainstem of Selway R: CLOSED.

Latah County: CLOSED

Nez Perce County: All northern tributaries to the Salmon R. downstream from but excluding Maloney Cr., and all tributaries to the Snake R. below the mouth of the Salmon R. excluding the Clearwater River drainage: CLOSED

EXCEPTIONS: OTTER

Mainstem of the Clearwater R., mainstem of the Middle Fork of the Clearwater R., mainstem of the Snake R., from Lewiston upstream to Hells Canyon Dam, and the mainstem of the main Salmon R.: CLOSED

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping. See page 28 for regional otter harvest quotas.

* Indicates species can also be hunted.

Southwest Region:

Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley & Washington Counties

- Badger *** July 1–June 30
- Beaver** Nov 1–March 31
- Bobcat *** Dec 14–Feb 16
- Fox *** July 1–June 30
- Marten** Nov 1–Jan 31
- Mink** Nov 1–March 31
- Muskrat** Nov 1–March 31
- Otter ^** Nov 15–March 15
- Raccoon *** July 1–June 30

EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

Ada & Boise Counties: The Boise River WMA; CLOSED.

Elmore County: All public lands within the following drainages: Bear Cr. (trib. to Feather R.), Case Cr., Fall Cr. upstream from and including Meadow Cr., Clover Cr., King Hill Cr., Lime Cr., Smith Cr. upstream from Washboard Cr., Syrup Cr., Trinity Cr., Willow Cr. (trib. to S. Fk. Boise R.), and Wood Cr. (trib. to S. Fk. Boise R.), AND EXCEPT all lands within the Boise River WMA; CLOSED

Gem County: Squaw Cr. above the Ola Bridge; CLOSED.

Valley County: Within the following drainages: Big Cr. upstream from Monumental Cr., Johnson Cr. upstream from Landmark, S. Fk. Salmon R. upstream from the fish trap near the mouth of Cabin Cr., Bear Valley Cr., and Sulphur Cr.; CLOSED.

Washington County: Raft Creek, Dennet Creek, Wolf Creek, Trail Creek, Sumac Creek, Thorn Creek, and Rock Creek on the Rocking M Ranch Conservation easement in Unit 31; CLOSED.

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping. See page 28 for regional otter harvest quotas.

* Indicates species can also be hunted.

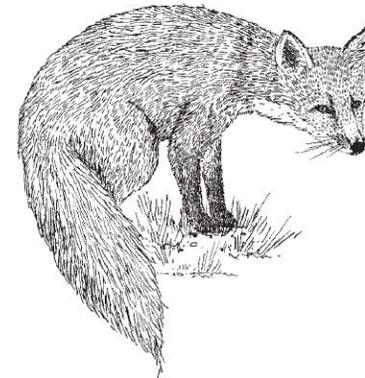
EXCEPTIONS: FOX

Adams County: Private lands within the Little Salmon R. drainage; CLOSED

Valley County: Fox may be taken only by trapping and only on National Forest and State of Idaho lands.

EXCEPTIONS: OTTER

North Fork of the Payette R. from Cabarton Bridge downstream to Horseshoe Bend, confluence of the Middle Fork and South Fork Payette R. downstream to the confluence with the North Fork Payette R. at Banks, and Boise R. from Lucky Peak Dam to Caldwell; CLOSED



Magic Valley Region:

**Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln,
Minidoka & Twin Falls Counties**

Badger *	July 1-June 30
Beaver	Nov 1-March 31
Bobcat *	Dec 14-Feb 16
Fox *	July 1-June 30
Marten	Nov 1-Jan 31
Mink	Nov 1-March 31
Muskrat	Nov 1-March 31
Otter ^	Nov 15-March 15
Raccoon *	July 1-June 30

EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

Blaine County: All public lands within the following drainages: Big Wood R., Copper Cr. (trib. to Muldoon Cr.); and all lands within the following drainages: Little Fish Cr., Hailey Cr., Sheep Cr., and Cold Spring Cr. (trib. to Little Wood R.); CLOSED

Camas County: All public lands within the following drainages: Big Deer Cr., Corral Cr. above Baseline Road, Elk Cr., Lime C., Little Smoky Cr., and Willow Cr.: CLOSED

Gooding County: All public lands within the following drainages: Black Canyon Cr., Clover Cr., and Thorn Cr.: CLOSED

Lincoln County: All public lands in Preacher Cr. drainage: CLOSED.

EXCEPTIONS: MINK

Gooding County: Hagerman WMA, Feb 15-Feb 28.

EXCEPTIONS: MUSKRAT

Gooding County: Hagerman WMA, Feb 15 – Feb 28.

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping. See page 28 for regional otter harvest quotas.

* Indicates species can also be hunted.

Southeast Region:

**Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Caribou, Franklin,
Oneida & Power Counties**

Badger *	July 1-June 30
Beaver	Oct 22-April 15
Bobcat *	Dec 14-Feb 16
Fox *	July 1-June 30
Marten	Nov 1-Jan 31
Mink	Oct 22-April 15
Muskrat	Oct 22-April 15
Otter ^	Nov 1-March 15
Raccoon *	July 1-June 30

EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

Bannock County: Cherry Cr. (trib. to Marsh Cr.), Cottonwood Cr. drainage, Dempsey Cr. above cattleguard, Mink Cr. drainage, and Gibson Jack Cr.: CLOSED

Bear Lake County: Pearl Cr. drainage: CLOSED

Bingham County: Cedar Cr. and Miner Cr.: CLOSED

Caribou County: Dike Lake, Toponce Cr. drainage on National Forest lands, and Pebble Cr. drainage: CLOSED

Franklin County: Logan R. drainage including the Beaver Cr. and White's Cr. drainages: CLOSED.

EXCEPTIONS: MARTEN

Bear Lake & Franklin Counties: CLOSED

EXCEPTIONS: OTTER

Portneuf R. downstream from Lava Hot Springs.: CLOSED

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping. See page 28 for regional otter harvest quotas.

* Indicates species can also be hunted.

Upper Snake Region:

Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison & Teton Counties

Badger *	July 1–June 30
Beaver	Oct 22–April 15
Bobcat *	Dec 14–Feb 16
Fox *	July 1–June 30
Marten	Nov 1–Jan 31
Mink	Oct 22–April 15
Muskrat	Oct 22–April 15
Otter ^	Nov 1–March 15
Raccoon *	July 1–June 30

EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

Clark County: Within the following drainages: Edie Cr., Irving Cr., Miners Cr., Three Mile Cr., West Camas Cr. upstream from the Targhee National Forest boundary and **Indian Creek upstream from the Targhee National Forest boundary:** CLOSED

Teton County: The following drainages upstream from the Targhee National Forest boundary: North Twin Creek, South Fork of Pack-saddle Creek, Trail Creek, **Patterson Creek, and Dry Creek including McRenolds Reservoir:** CLOSED

EXCEPTIONS: OTTER

South Fork Snake R. from Palisades Dam to the Heise Cable, mainstem Buffalo R., mainstem Warm R. and mainstem Henry's Fork R. from Big Springs to **Del Rio Bridge** at St. Anthony: CLOSED.

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping. See page 28 for regional otter harvest quotas.

* Indicates species can also be hunted.

Salmon Region:

Custer & Lemhi Counties

Badger *	July 1–June 30
Beaver	Oct 22–April 15
Bobcat *	Dec 14–Feb 16
Fox *	July 1–June 30
Marten	Nov 1–Jan 31
Mink	Oct 22–April 15
Muskrat	Oct 22–April 15
Otter ^	Nov 1–March 15
Raccoon *	July 1–June 30

EXCEPTIONS: BEAVER

Custer Co: Marsh Cr. drainage: CLOSED

Lemhi Co: Dahlenega Cr. drainage: CLOSED.

EXCEPTIONS: OTTER

Main Salmon R. downstream from North Fork, Id.: CLOSED.

^ All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping. See page 28 for regional otter harvest quotas.

* Indicates species can also be hunted.

RIVER OTTER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- Pelts must be tagged by IDFG personnel at the regional office in the region in which the animal was taken within 72 hours of taking. Trappers unable to comply with the tagging requirements due to special or unique circumstances must report their harvest to the appropriate regional office or field personnel within 72 hours and make arrangements for tagging at the proper regional office. Pelts not registered or presented to IDFG personnel within 72 hours are subject to confiscation.
- River otter carcasses do not have to be turned in to IDFG, **EXCEPT** for otters harvested after the season has closed, or otters in excess of the trappers' personal quota of two. Check with the IDFG regional office for further information when reporting a harvest.
- No person shall have in possession, except during the open season and for 72 hours after the close of the season, any raw otter pelt legally harvested in Idaho which does not have an official state export tag attached.

Season Limits:

- A maximum limit of 2 otters is allowed for any one trapper, provided the harvest quota for that region is not exceeded.

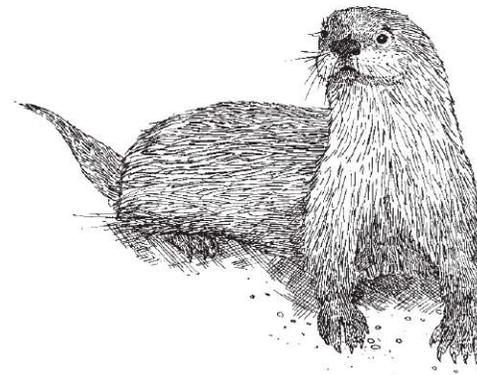
Quota/Season Closure:

- The otter season will close in each region 48 hours after the harvest quota for that region is reached. Trappers will be allowed to keep otters within this 48-hour period provided their personal quota of 2 has not been reached. Any otters trapped and brought in 48 hours after the regional quota is met must be surrendered to the Department for a **\$10.00** reward. Otter may only be turned in for reporting and tagging within the region where they were harvested.

- Current otter harvest information may be obtained by calling the appropriate IDFG regional office during normal business hours or by calling **1-800-323-4334** 24 hours a day. The otter season will close statewide no later than March 15.
- All areas closed to beaver trapping are closed to otter trapping. Additional closures have been identified for the purpose of reducing potential conflicts between trappers and other user groups.

RIVER OTTER TRAPPING QUOTAS

<u>REGION</u>	<u>HARVEST QUOTA</u>
Panhandle	15
Clearwater	15
Southwest	30
Magic Valley	20
Southeast	2
Upper Snake	10
Salmon	15
STATEWIDE TOTAL	107



Submitted by:

Gina Patton

Wildlife Technician

Approved by:

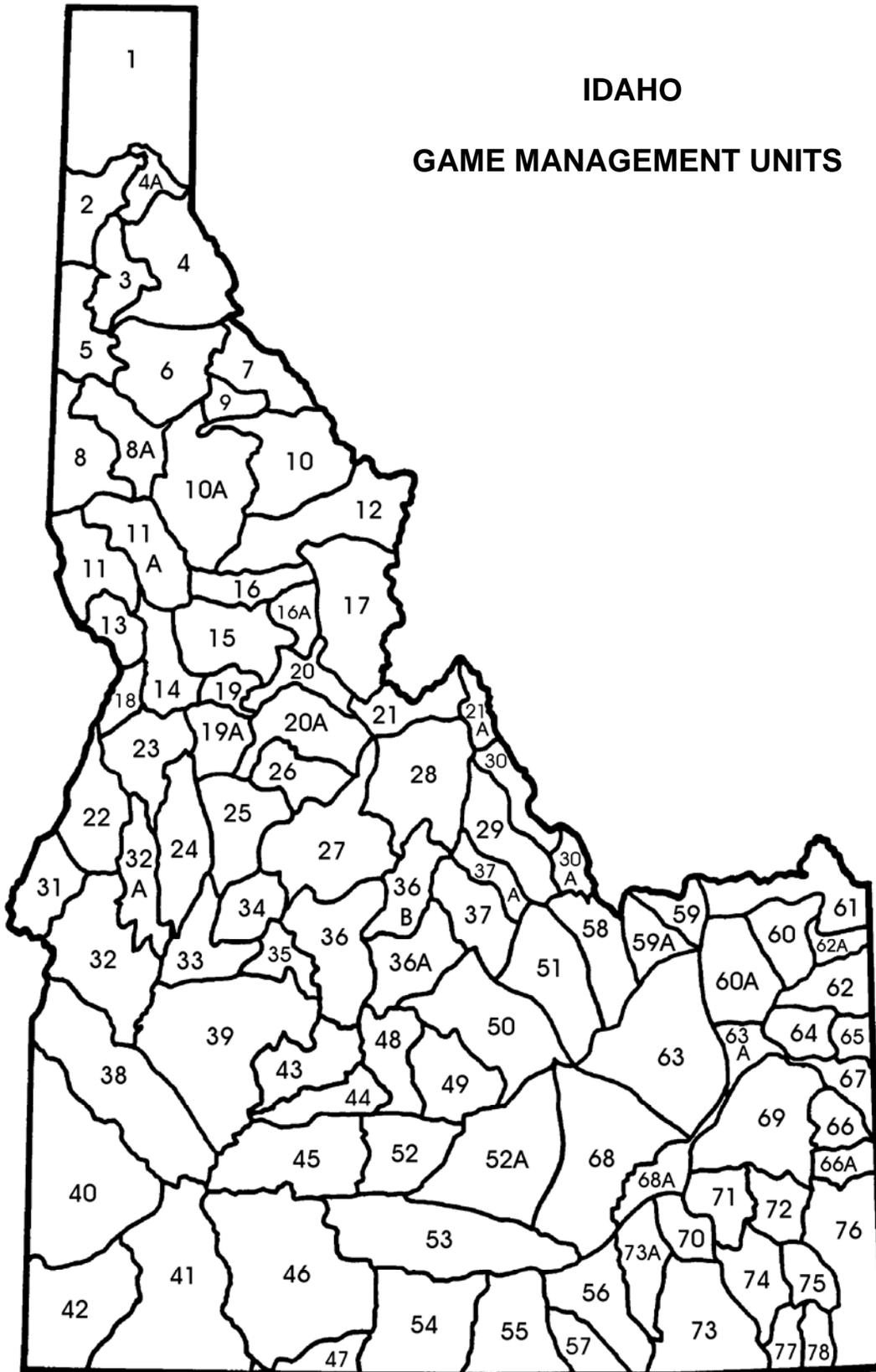
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Dale E. Toweill
Wildlife Program Coordinator
Federal Aid Coordinator

James W. Unsworth, Chief
Bureau of Wildlife

IDAHO

GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS



FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program consists of funds from a 10% to 11% manufacturer's excise tax collected from the sale of handguns, sporting rifles, shotguns, ammunition, and archery equipment. The Federal Aid program then allots the funds back to states through a formula based on each state's geographic area and the number of paid hunting license holders in the state. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game uses the funds to help restore, conserve, manage, and enhance wild birds and mammals for the public benefit. These funds are also used to educate hunters to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to be responsible, ethical hunters. Seventy-five percent of the funds for this project are from Federal Aid. The other 25% comes from license-generated funds.

