

IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Rod Sando, Director

Project W-170-R-23

Progress Report



FURBEARERS

Study III, Job 1

Prepared by:

Wayne E. Melquist
State Furbearer Program Coordinator

Jon Beals
Wildlife Research Biologist

August 1, 1998 to July 31, 1999

December 2000

Boise, Idaho



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**PROGRESS REPORT
SURVEYS AND INVENTORIES**

STATE: Idaho **JOB TITLE:** Furbearer Survey
PROJECT: W-170-R-23
SUBPROJECT: 1-7 **STUDY NAME:** Statewide Fur Harvest Survey
STUDY: III
JOB: 1
PERIOD COVERED: August 1, 1998 to July 31, 1999

STUDY OBJECTIVES

1. Estimate the size, structure, and trend of harvested furbearers.
2. Determine hunter and trapper attitudes and preferences and inform trappers/hunters of the biology and status of furbearers.

PROCEDURES

1. Analyze the mandatory trapper reports to estimate trends in furbearer harvest and the dollar value of species.
2. Continue to collect bobcat harvest information through the mandatory export tag program.
3. Estimate the sex and age structure of the bobcat harvest from analysis of lower jaws and tooth sectioning. Construct population models for bobcats.
4. Conduct surveys to determine the population status of selected furbearers.
5. Prepare an annual report on furbearer harvest.
6. Conduct public meetings to inform the public and obtain information on hunter/trapper acceptance of season regulations.
7. Make presentations on furbearer biology to the public.

ABSTRACT

Trapping licenses sold during the 1998-1999 season totaled 626, which included 612 residents (110 junior residents through 17 years of age) and 14 nonresidents. The number of licenses sold was down from the previous year, reflecting the vagaries of an industry influenced by changing fashions and highly fluctuating fur prices (i.e., trapper numbers tend to fluctuate with fur prices and demand). Harvest reports were submitted by 502 (80%) of the 626 licensed trappers for the 1998-1999 season. From this total, 335 (88%) of 381 license holders who indicated they trapped provided information on trapping effort on the mandatory trapper report form. These trappers, on the average, spent 33.2 days afield setting and checking traps and scouting trapping areas; they averaged 4.1 hours afield per day. The fur harvest, based on 335 reporting trappers who trapped, was 22,906 animals, down from 33,452 the previous trapping season. Of this total, 10,526 pelts (46%) were sold for a value of \$59,066.55. Trappers sold their pelts for an average of \$5.61 each, compared to \$7.28 for the previous season. The 335 trappers harvested an average of 71 pelts per trapper and sold an average of 33 pelts. Based on an average pelt price of \$5.61 and 33 pelts sold per trapper, trappers earned an average income of \$185.13. The estimated harvest for all trappers, including those that did not submit a report, was 30,132 animals taken, with an estimated statewide pelt value of \$72,921.66. The muskrat, beaver, red fox, coyote, and raccoon, respectively, were the most frequently caught species. Price per pelt ranged from an average of \$68.22 for bobcats (\$80.25 in 1997-1998) to \$1.31 for muskrats (\$2.47 in 1997-1998). In total statewide value of pelts sold, the top five furbearers include the beaver, bobcat, red fox, muskrat, and coyote. Pelt values were down for all furbearers except marten and striped skunk. Bobcat trappers and hunters checked 711 animals from a 2-month December and January season; 4 additional animals were reported as road-kills or unknown cause of death. The lynx season remains closed; no accidental captures were reported. The largest number of bobcats harvested (61% of the total) came from the Department's Panhandle, Clearwater, and Southwest Regions. Juvenile and subadult (less than 2 years of age) bobcats made up 35% of the 492 bobcat teeth examined from the 1998-1999 harvest. In 1996-1997 and 1997-1998, juvenile and subadult bobcats constituted 36% and 26% of the harvest sampled, respectively. There is no evidence that the current harvest regime is negatively impacting furbearer populations in Idaho. Furthermore, with trapper numbers and fur prices down for the past several years, there is less pressure on furbearer populations. Trappers reported 32 nontarget otter trapped during the 1998-1999 season. The Department's goals and objectives for furbearers are being met for season structure and maintaining populations and distribution. Some management programs are not being met due primarily to inadequate funding and Legislative resistance to a mandatory trapper education program. Department regional furbearer coordinators continue to maintain a liaison with trappers, other agencies, organizations, and user groups. They continue to serve an important role in furbearer management and in meeting the goals and objectives of the furbearer management plan.

METHODS

Mandatory Harvest Report

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 and the amount received for the sale of these pelts. This report must be submitted by July 31 for the previous trapping season. 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 (Appendix 1). This self-addressed and stamped 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. Questions on how many days the trapper spent afield scouting and setting and checking traps, and how many hours, on the average, the trapper spent afield each day are included. These questions were initially included in the mandatory report beginning with the 1993-1994 trapping season, and are used to gather information on trapping effort. Results of this information are then projected to estimate the statewide trapping effort both in total hours and days afield.

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. No specific survey data were requested on the 1998-1999 mandatory report card.

Bobcat Check-ins, Jaws, and Export Tags

By Fish and Game Commission regulation, trappers and hunters are required to have all bobcats tagged with export tags by the Department within 10 days after the close of the trapping/hunting season. During the period 1977-1978 through 1980-1981, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service export tags were made available to trappers and hunters, but they were not mandatory. Trappers and hunters are also required to turn the lower jaw from all bobcats taken into the Department and to report the sex of the animal, harvest location, date harvested, and method of take (trapping, calling/hunting, with hounds, incidental hunting). This regulation 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. During the 1998-1999 season, trappers and hunters had their bobcats tagged and made their reports at Department offices. It is unlawful to possess raw, untagged bobcat pelts after 10 days following the close of the 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.

Beginning with the 1990-1991 trapping season, the Commission established a statewide annual harvest quota of 3 lynx. It also required trappers and hunters to report lynx kills to the

Department within 24 hours and to turn in the entire carcass. Following the 1995-1996 season, the Commission voted to close the season on lynx and not allow any type of harvest.

Lower jaws of bobcats harvested during 1986 through 1989 were processed by the Department's laboratory where canines were removed and sex and age (to year) were determined for each animal over 1-1/2 years of age following procedures established by Johnson, et al. (1981). Beginning in 1990, adult and juvenile female bobcat and lynx canines with closed root canals were aged by Matson's Laboratory, Milltown, Montana. Juveniles with open root canals and adult males were aged by the Department's laboratory staff. Canines from all adults have been aged by Matson's Laboratory since the 1995-1996 season.

Mandatory harvest report data continue to be used to estimate the total statewide bobcat harvest by Department administrative region and big game management unit. Tooth data have been used to evaluate the sex and age composition of the harvest. Collectively, these data are useful in evaluating the effects of the harvest on the statewide bobcat population.

Nontarget Catches

By Commission rule, any trapper who catches a nontarget species (any species for which the season is closed) that is dead 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. Since the 1990-1991 trapping season, the Department has paid trappers \$5.00 for each accidentally caught fisher and river otter they turned in to the Department. Beginning with the 1996-1997 season, trappers may receive \$5.00 for each accidentally-caught lynx. Most nontarget animals turned in are sold at the Department's annual auction. Money from the sale of these animals was deposited into the general account in 1989 and 1990. Since 1991 the proceeds have been earmarked for use in trapper education.

STATEWIDE RESULTS

Trapping License Sales

Trapping licenses sold during the 1998-1999 season totaled 626, and included 612 residents, which include 110 junior residents (through 17 years of age), and 14 nonresidents (Table 1). The number of licenses sold was down from the previous 4 years.

Trapper Days Afield

For the 1998-1999 season, 335 (88%) of the 381 license holders who indicated they trapped provided information on trapping effort on the mandatory trapper report card (Table 2). These trappers, on the average, spent 33.2 days afield setting and checking traps and scouting trapping areas; they averaged 4.1 hours afield per day. Statewide, all active trappers spent an estimated total of 15,803 days afield. These figures represent a reduction in trapping effort from the previous 5 years.

Mandatory Harvest Reports

Harvest reports were submitted by 502 (80%) of the 626 licensed trappers for the 1998-1999 season. The information submitted on these reports was used to compile the reported and estimated statewide harvest and market value of the different furbearer species taken, including the badger, beaver, bobcat, civet (western spotted skunk), coyote, marten, mink, muskrat, raccoon, red fox, striped skunk, and weasel. Trapping and hunting season dates for furbearers for 1998-1999 appear in Appendix 2.

The fur harvest, based on 335 reporting trappers who trapped, was 22,906 (Table 3), down from 33,452 the previous trapping season. Of this total, 10,526 pelts (46%) were sold for a value of \$59,066.55. Trappers sold their pelts for an average of \$5.61 each, compared to \$7.28 for the previous year. The 335 trappers harvested an average of 71 pelts per trapper and sold an average of 33 pelts. Based on an average pelt price of \$5.61 and 33 pelts sold per trapper, trappers earned an average income of \$185.13. The estimated harvest for all trappers, including those who did not submit a report, was 30,132 animals taken, with an estimated statewide pelt value of \$72,921.66.

The muskrat, beaver, red fox, coyote, and raccoon, respectively, were the most frequently caught species. Price per pelt ranged from an average of \$68.22 for bobcats (\$80.25 in 1997-1998) to \$1.31 for muskrats (\$2.47 in 1997-1998). In total statewide value of pelts sold, the top 5 furbearers include the beaver, bobcat, red fox, muskrat, and coyote. Pelt values were down for all furbearers except marten and skunk.

Harvest data reported by trappers were compiled, by county, for individual furbearer species (Table 4). These data were then plotted on maps to better visualize the distribution of the harvest for each species (Figs. 1-14). While harvest distribution is partly a function of where trappers live, it allows us to further examine areas of higher harvest.

Mandatory Bobcat Tagging and Harvest Reports

Bobcat trappers and hunters checked 711 animals from a 2-month, December and January season; 4 additional animals were reported as road-kills or unknown cause of death (Fig. 3 and Table 5). Although bobcat harvest occurred in every county, bobcat were trapped only in 31 of 44 counties (Fig. 4). The lynx season remains closed; no accidental captures were reported. The largest number of bobcats harvested (61% of the total) came from the Department's Panhandle, Clearwater, and Southwest Regions (Fig. 5 and Table 6). Trapping accounted for 50% of the statewide bobcat harvest, followed by the use of hounds (34%). Hound hunting for bobcats clearly predominated in the northern two regions of the state.

Bobcat age and sex distribution data based on the analysis of 413 bobcat teeth for 1995-1996, 948 teeth for 1996-1997, 913 teeth for 1997-1998, and 490 teeth for 1998-1999 are displayed in Table 7 and Fig. 15. Harvested bobcats ranged in age from young-of-the-year or juvenile (depicted as "0") to 16 years. The average age of all bobcats harvested during the 1997-1998 and 1998-1999 seasons was 3.5 years (Table 7). For both seasons, the average age of harvested males was a year older than females. Males made up 47% and females 53% of the total harvest

during the 1998-1999 season. Only 5 juvenile (2 male, 3 female) bobcats could be sexed based upon tooth analysis (Fig. 16). As expected from a healthy, reproducing population, the harvest is skewed towards the younger-aged cohorts.

Sex and age data collected from harvested bobcats since the 1989-1990 season suggest that the state's population remains healthy and productive (Table 8). As separate cohorts, adult males and juveniles generally make up a larger percentage of the harvest than females. While the bobcat harvest decreased from 1,018 in 1996-1997 to 711 in 1998-1999 (Table 5), too many factors, including weather (influences trapper accessibility and trapping conditions) and pelt prices, influence the harvest to the point that any assessment based on total annual harvest is of limited value. However, the current age structure of the harvest suggests that bobcats are not likely being overharvested.

The age of harvested female bobcats is displayed in Table 9. Because 128 juveniles were of unknown gender, it is difficult to discuss age distribution of this segment of the harvest. If we assume 50% of these unknown juveniles were females, then juveniles again represented the largest single age group in the harvest. Adult female bobcats 6 years old and older represented 34% of the harvest, the highest this group has been represented in the harvest since 1985. Sargeant (1991) analyzed 9,079 records for bobcats harvested from 1981 through 1991 and concluded that "increasing trends in proportion of older female bobcats during the 1980s and the continued high incidence of juvenile animals in the harvest combine to suggest that Idaho bobcat populations are in little danger of overharvest," and "...while pelt prices remain low, further restrictions in seasons or methods of take will probably not be necessary." Undoubtedly, some local 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). While 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 characteristics of the harvest to avoid the possibility of overexploitation.

1998-1999 Idaho Trapper Survey

As part of the mandatory trapper reporting process, trappers were encouraged to provide comments or suggestions regarding trapping furbearers in Idaho (Appendix 1). The following summarizes some of the comments provided by trappers:

Licenses should be available at local vendors; would probably sell more.

Many trappers expressed appreciation for the opportunity to trap, the joy of simply getting out on the trapline, or the pleasure in helping their son or daughter run a line.

Numerous trappers indicated they either did not trap because of low fur prices, or trapped and held their fur in hopes of higher prices.

At least 29 trappers encouraged the Department to initiate a river otter trapping season.

Three trappers requested a fisher trapping season with a limit per trapper and mandatory check.

Another trapper recommended that the state allow one wolverine to be harvested, similar to Montana.

With reference to bobcats, one trapper recommended a January/February season, another did not want to see them trapped prior to December 15, and two others made general reference to opening and closing dates. Another trapper felt that out-of-state trappers should have a limit on the number of bobcat they can harvest.

There was a recommendation that the beaver, mink, and muskrat seasons should not open any earlier than November 1.

One nonresident trapper appreciated the ability to use a #5 trap for beaver; his state limits the size to a #4.

Numerous trappers only trapped to remove problem animals.

One trapper requested a two-week (December 1-15) wolf season and another requested a mountain lion trapping season.

There was a recommendation to extend the beaver and muskrat season in Valley County through April.

Fox hunting should not be allowed year-round because it is a waste of a valuable resource and makes trapping and hunting vulnerable to criticism from animal rights activists.

One trapper believes there should be bounties on coyotes and mountain lions.

Another trapper encouraged the state to manage Idaho's wildlife and not allow management by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The state should fight the lynx listing.

Public meetings should be well advertised – at least two weeks in advance.

One trapper indicated he had a problem with bird hunters destroying or stealing his traps. Another trapper lost more than three dozen traps to thieves and encouraged the Department to find a way to stop people from stealing traps.

Reported Nontarget Catches

A nontarget animal is one for which the season is closed at the time of capture, or there is no open season. Nontarget species reported trapped included a variety of birds, mammals, and reptiles. Nontarget animals with minimal injury are released at the site of capture. Dead animals are turned in to the Department and sold at the annual auction. The proceeds are earmarked for trapper education. Trappers were paid \$5.00 each for 32 otters submitted to the Department for reimbursement. Since the 1990-1991 trapping season, 282 otters have been turned in to the Department for reimbursement (Table 10).

During spring 1999, the Department sold, at public auction, traps and furbearing animals accumulated during the previous year, including nontarget catches, animals killed to solve depredation problems, and animals found dead. The sale of bobcat, raccoon, beaver, and otter pelts, plus miscellaneous leg-hold traps, totaled \$2,010. Since 1991, \$18,629.16 has been deposited in a Department account from these furbearer-related items sold at the Department's

annual auction. These funds are earmarked for use in trapper education-related activities and for information and education materials.

Furbearer Surveys

The Department did not conduct any coordinated surveys for furbearers during 1998-1999. Our goal is to establish statewide snow survey routes during winter 2000-2001. Targeted species will include, but not be limited to, fisher, lynx, marten, and wolverine.

Furbearer Research

Pine Marten

The Department, in cooperation with the University of Idaho, live-trapped, radio collared, and radio tracked 32 American pine marten during 3 summer/fall seasons (1994-1996) in the Cabinet Mountains of northern Idaho. Details of this study may be found in Project W-160-R-24, Subproject No. 46, Pine Marten Ecology, submitted in October 1999. Following is a summary of findings. Objectives were to 1) evaluate habitat selection within the study area, 2) gain a better understanding of marten population characteristics, and 3) examine community interactions (especially with regard to prey species).

Males were captured more frequently than females (26M, 12F). Marten were located using triangulation approximately 3 times weekly during daylight hours. Nineteen of 20 animals with sufficient locations to allow for home range and habitat selection analyses were adults (> 1 year old). Average minimum convex polygon (95% contour) home range for adult males was 1.56 km² (SD = 0.70, range = 0.54 – 3.00). Adult female average home range was 1.16 km² (SD = 0.83, range = 0.42 – 2.20). At the home range within study area and location within home range scales, martens preferred mature stands with average tree dbh of 22.9 cm. or more. The significance of this preference was determined for each year and for all years combined. Preference for mature class over immature and seedling/sapling classes was most common at the home range within study area scale. At the microhabitat scale, marten selected for resting sites (n = 38) in areas with significantly more snags. Live trees and cavities in snags were the most frequently used resting sites. Cavity resting sites (n = 8) were exclusively in dead, large diameter, subalpine fir.

Thirteen mortalities were recorded, none of which were associated with capture and handling. Four marten mortalities were too decomposed to ascertain the cause of death. Cranial or thoracic trauma, likely predator induced, was evident in 7 deaths and starvation was likely in at least 2 cases. Minimum densities of 0.33 marten/km² and 0.23 marten/km² were estimated for the study area during the 1995 and 1996 summer/fall seasons, respectively. Small mammal abundance and diversity were significantly higher in mature forests (average dbh of 22.9 cm or greater) than regenerating stands (average dbh of 10.1 cm or less). Differences in available prey, in association with increased access to structures that provide shelter from weather and predators, may be reasons why marten in this population showed significant preference for mature stands.

Wolverine

Department staff cooperated with Wyoming in the monitoring of a wolverine with an implanted radio transmitter in the Teton Mountain Range. Due to the limited amount of information available about wolverines in the intermountain west, this instrumented animal will contribute valuable data to our database.

Lynx and Their Prey

Little is known about lynx in Idaho or predatory-prey relationships between lynx and snowshoe hares in the forested areas of the state. In 1998-1999, the Department cooperated with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service in an attempt to gather as much information as possible about the historical and current status of lynx in Idaho. More than 75 people were interviewed and historical records searched, resulting in 215 lynx occurrence records from 1874-1998. This information is documented in a draft Canada Lynx In Idaho Species Conservation Assessment (Terra-Berns et al. 2000)

Lynx are dependent on snowshoe hares for their survival. In an effort to understand the potential suitability of Idaho to sustain lynx populations, a detailed snowshoe hare and red squirrel research project was initiated in the Clearwater National Forest of north Idaho in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and University of Idaho. Two graduate students are currently gathering data on both species that will be useful in our analysis of the lynx in Idaho.

Furbearer Depredation

Beavers continue to be live-trapped in several regions to solve damage complaints. If 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. Each region is retaining this information in case questions surface regarding past depredation complaints. Beaver are typically the most common species in which kill permits are issued, followed by muskrat, red fox, and raccoon.

Administrative Activities and Coordination

Department staff participated in a variety of furbearer-related activities during the year. Several state office and regional staff are involved in the Forest Carnivore Committee, a group of individuals representing state and federal agencies and nongovernmental organizations. The primary focus of this group involves forest carnivores, including the marten, fisher, lynx, and wolverine. Melquist represented the Department at the annual Idaho Trappers' Association convention near Twin Falls, Idaho. The lynx listing issue and its potential impact on trapping was an important topic, as was the desire for a river otter trapping season. Department staff throughout the state were involved in the collection of furbearer harvest data, including tagging bobcat pelts and collecting jaws.

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 the RFCs is to serve as a liaison with the Idaho Trappers' Association, trappers and other user groups, and other agencies on trapping and furbearer issues. While the 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.

Observations made by Department personnel, trappers, and hunters during this reporting period suggest that the state's trapping and hunting seasons have not adversely impacted furbearers. Variable and unpredictable pelt prices continue to influence trapper/hunter participation and, consequently, the harvest of furbearers. Available information also suggests that current furbearer populations are either static or increasing, but not declining.

We believe the Department is meeting its goals and objectives regarding furbearer season structure, maintaining populations and distribution, and some management programs. Conversely, some strategies proposed in the furbearer plan, including development of habitat management guidelines, mandatory trapper education, and monitoring of some species, have not been implemented. Work on these strategies will continue in the following year, based on available funds.

LITERATURE CITED

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Table 1. Trapping license sales and usable harvest reports received from trappers for the 1985-1986 through 1998-1999 trapping seasons.

Year	Licenses Sold				Reports		Reporting Trappers Who Trapped		Estimated Active Trappers ^b
	Residents	Jr.	Nonres.	Total	Received	%		%	
1985-86	1,370		23	1,393	1,071	77			
1986-87	1,473		24	1,497	1,112	73			
1987-88	1,564		30	1,594	1,338	86			
1988-89	1,266		22	1,288	1,045	81			
1989-90	921		17	938	722	77			
1990-91	636		7	643	508	79			
1991-92	678		8	686	478	70			
1992-93	666		7	673	525	78			
1993-94 ^a	588		8	596	489	82	425	87	518
1994-95	738		10	748	547	73	432	79	591
1995-96	631		7	638	445	70	362	81	518
1996-97	772		7	779	590	76	463	78	610
1997-98	740	130	12	752	586	78	473	81	609
1998-99	612	110	14	626	502	80	381	76	476

^a Number of active trappers were not estimated prior to the 1993-1994 season.

^b 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, 1993-1994 through 1998-1999, based on trappers' reports received.

Year	Reporting Trappers Who Trapped	Trappers Reporting Time Afield	%	Average Time Afield/Trapper		Projected Statewide Time Afield		
				Hrs/Day	Days/Yr	Estimated Active Trappers	Total Hours	Total Days
1993-94	425	285	67	5.0	36.4	519	93,432	18,871
1994-95	432	330	76	4.4	35.5	591	92,314	20,981
1995-96	362	271	75	4.1	38.4	517	80,139	19,546
1996-97	463	441	95	4.9	42.7	608	127,212	25,962
1997-98	473	404	85	4.4	35.6	609	95,394	21,680
1998-99	381	335	88	4.1	33.2	476	64,793	15,803

Table 3. Statewide harvest and pelt value of furbearers trapped during the 1998-1999 season, based on 381 trappers who reported they trapped.

Species	Trappers Reporting a Harvest	Animals Taken	Pelts/Trapper	Animals Sold	% Sold	Money Received	Price/Pelt	Estimated Statewide Pelt Value ^b	% of Total Value	1998-99 Rank by Value	1997-98 Rank
Badger	34	169	5	41	24	475.50	11.60	587.04	.8	9	9
Beaver	206	3,528	17	1,662	47	17,445.52	10.50	21,537.68	29.5	1	1
Bobcat	90	^a 356	4	176	50	12,006.00	68.22	14,822.22	20.3	2	3
Spotted Skunk	4	7	2	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	13	13
Coyote	137	1,166	9	422	36	5,602.36	13.28	6,916.49	9.5	5	5
Marten	28	316	11	71	22	1,029.00	14.49	1,270.37	1.7	8	8
Mink	99	512	5	273	53	1,975.77	7.24	2,439.22	3.3	7	7
Muskrat	190	13,882	73	6,534	47	8,570.14	1.31	10,580.42	14.5	4	2
Raccoon	130	654	5	298	46	2,617.34	8.78	3,231.28	4.4	6	6
Red Fox	131	1,739	13	1,024	59	9,207.42	8.99	11,367.19	15.6	3	4
Striped Skunk	89	511	6	5	1	62.00	12.40	76.54	0.1	10	10
Weasel	18	51	3	16	31	43.50	2.72	53.70	<0.1	11	11
Other	4	14	8	4	36	32.00	8.00	39.51	<0.1	12	12
Actual Totals (76%)	--	22,906	71	10,526	46	59,066.55	5.61	--	100		
Estimated Totals (100%) ^b	--	30,132	--	13,850		--	--	72,921.66	--		

^a Of the 715 bobcats tagged by Department personnel, 356 were reported as trapped.

^b Estimated totals and statewide pelt value were determined based on the assumption that the harvest reported by trappers represented 76% of the actual harvest if all active trappers had submitted a harvest report.

Table 4. Distribution of the furbearer harvest in Idaho by county, as reported by trappers for the 1998-1999 season.

County	Badger	Beaver	Bobcat	Spotted Skunk	Coyote	Fox	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Raccoon	Striped Skunk	Weasel
ADA	6	79	10	1	28	121	0	21	167	39	43	0
ADAMS	1	17	0	0	3	0	14	0	37	0	0	0
BANNOCK	0	6	4	0	6	1	0	2	37	6	27	0
BEAR LAKE	53	103	23	0	44	465	0	80	1,366	53	72	12
BENEWAH	0	31	19	0	31	0	0	2	73	2	3	3
BINGHAM	4	181	4	0	62	218	0	3	410	77	39	0
BLAINE	0	159	18	0	3	3	0	1	608	12	27	0
BOISE	0	184	5	0	52	22	3	33	158	25	1	0
BONNER	0	141	4	0	40	8	1	4	86	3	1	5
BONNEVILLE	1	126	7	0	25	114	3	9	410	32	20	2
BOUNDARY	0	32	0	0	0	0	7	0	42	0	0	0
BUTTE	0	45	12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAMAS	21	8	0	0	75	61	0	2	72	0	34	0
CANYON	0	65	0	0	13	18	0	65	485	23	11	0
CARIBOU	4	298	4	0	20	65	0	34	385	24	12	0
CASSIA	0	23	9	0	19	54	0	36	83	18	44	0
CLARK	0	24	2	0	27	15	0	0	12	3	0	0
CLEARWATER	0	58	2	0	13	0	0	24	76	11	0	9
CUSTER	1	283	16	0	28	26	208	6	77	17	3	0
ELMORE	0	237	18	1	8	4	0	9	325	14	0	0
FRANKLIN	1	88	0	0	2	19	0	23	1,643	42	27	0
FREMONT	0	61	0	0	2	17	6	7	338	19	6	0
GEM	1	119	2	0	13	25	0	0	13	15	1	0
GOODING	0	103	4	0	2	14	0	24	1,431	35	1	0
IDAHO	0	24	29	0	10	13	6	9	488	8	2	3
JEFFERSON	3	294	1	0	19	37	0	1	1,105	49	0	0
JEROME	0	0	0	0	17	6	0	2	0	0	8	0
KOOTENAI	0	59	14	0	9	0	0	3	1,498	13	23	5

Table 4. Continued.

County	Badger	Beaver	Bobcat	Spotted Skunk	Coyote	Fox	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Raccoon	Striped Skunk	Weasel
LATAH	7	14	16	0	27	0	0	40	17	7	0	2
LEMHI	7	115	27	0	136	72	34	5	162	37	29	0
LINCOLN	1	0	0	0	52	5	0	0	0	0	9	0
MADISON	0	44	12	0	8	40	0	2	257	15	6	0
MINIDOKA	0	0	0	0	83	83	0	16	874	3	18	0
NEZ PERCE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
ONEIDA	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0
OWYHEE	7	198	50	0	165	9	0	18	695	24	20	0
PAYETTE	2	112	0	0	13	18	0	0	10	0	1	0
POWER	0	4	3	0	20	10	0	2	70	3	4	0
SHOSHONE	0	90	13	0	4	0	0	1	30	6	0	5
TETON	1	15	0	0	10	44	3	11	8	4	2	1
TWIN FALLS	44	24	17	5	67	119	0	10	165	8	17	0
VALLEY	0	27	2	0	6	12	31	6	142	1	0	4
WASHINGTON	4	11	7	0	3	1	0	1	23	1	0	0

Note: Harvest data for bobcats are the most complete because hunters and trappers are required to have all animals tagged by the Department.

Table 5. Bobcat and lynx pelts checked in at IDFG offices by trappers and hunters and tagged with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service export tags, 1986-1987 through 1998-1999.

Year	Pelts Tagged	
	Bobcat	Lynx
1986-1987	1,034	0
1987-1988	1,035	0
1988-1989	952	0
1989-1990	738	1
1990-1991	523	0
1991-1992	640	2
1992-1993	754	0
1993-1994	533	0
1994-1995	794	0
1995-1996 ^a	421	0
1996-1997	1,018	0
1997-1998	929	0
1998-1999	715	0

^aThe lynx harvest season was closed following the 1995-1996 season.

Table 6. Bobcat harvest report for the 1998-1999 season according to IDFG region and method of take. Percentages rounded to the nearest whole number.

REGION	TOTAL HARVEST	%	METHOD OF TAKE %									
			Trapping		Calling		With Hounds		Incidental Hunting		Unk.	
			%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Panhandle	154	21	50	33	2	1	88	57	13	9	1	NA
Clearwater	139	20	38	28	2	1	80	58	18	13	1	NA
Southwest	139	20	92	67	7	5	19	14	19	14	2	NA
Magic Valley	101	14	77	76	9	9	9	9	6	6	0	
Southeast	75	10	37	49	1	1	23	31	14	18	0	
Upper Snake	47	07	26	56	8	17	11	23	2	4	0	
Salmon	60	08	37	62	1	1	10	17	12	20	0	
TOTAL	715	100	357	50	30	04	240	34	84	12	4	NA

Table 7. Sex and age distribution of Idaho bobcats harvested during the 1997-1998 and 1998-1999 seasons based on physical examination for sex and canine examination and cementum analysis. These figures do not reflect the total annual harvest.

Age ^a	Total Numbers		Number of Males		Number of Females	
	1997-1998	1998-1999	1997-1998	1998-1999	1997-1998	1998-1999
0	^b 139	^c 133	36	2	72	3
1	102	40	51	16	51	24
2	171	64	106	30	65	34
3	134	50	98	18	36	32
4	62	42	37	22	25	20
5	80	22	57	8	23	14
6	89	34	59	12	30	22
7	^d 49	31	35	18	13	13
8	35	31	28	20	7	11
9	24	14	15	8	9	6
10	13	12	7	8	6	4
11	1	^e 9	1	3	0	5
12	2	6	0	5	2	1
13	5	1	3	0	2	1
14	5	0	3	0	2	0
15	1	1	0	0	1	1
16	1	0	1	0	0	0
Totals	913	490	537(61)	170(47)	344(39)	191(53)
Avg. Age:	3.5	3.5				
Avg. Age (M):	4.0	5.1				
Avg. Age (F):	3.1	4.4				

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

^b Total age 0 is more than the sum of male and female because it includes 31 of unknown gender.

^c Total age 0 is more than the sum of male and female because it includes 128 of unknown gender.

^d Total age 7 is more than the sum of male and female because it includes 1 of unknown gender.

^e Total age of 9 is more than the sum of male and female because it includes 1 of unknown gender.

Table 8. Sex and age of harvested bobcats, based on examination of canines and cementum analyses, 1989-1990 through 1998-1999^a. Percent is based on the total number of teeth examined.

Year	Teeth Examined	Adult		Adult		Juveniles ^b & Subadults (<2 Years)	
		Females	%	Males	%		%
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	492	164	33	153	31	173	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.

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

Table 9. Ages of harvested female bobcats determined by cementum analyses, 1985-1986 through 1998-1999^a.

Year	Age ^b														Total Sample		
	0	%	1	%	<2	%	2	%	3	%	4	%	5	%		6+	%
1985-1986					213	51	89	21	33	08	34	08	30	07	23	05	422
1986-1987					220	47	51	11	72	15	44	09	35	07	50	11	472
1987-1988					312	61	43	08	38	07	27	05	31	06	65	13	516
1988-1989					338	70	54	11	16	03	15	03	23	05	38	08	484
1989-1990					171	49	70	20	40	11	17	05	10	03	40	11	348
1990-1991					107	54	35	18	27	14	9	05	5	02	16	08	199
1991-1992					117	51	42	18	24	11	14	06	8	04	24	10	229
1992-1993					159	49	70	21	36	11	18	06	15	05	29	09	327
1993-1994					89	34	66	26	42	16	24	09	7	03	30	12	258
1994-1995					152	41	53	14	58	16	48	13	17	05	41	11	370
1995-1996	^c 39	23	27	16			25	15	22	13	18	11	13	08	24	14	168
1996-1997	^d 104	28	52	14			64	17	29	08	35	09	31	08	58	16	373
1997-1998	^e 72	21	51	15			65	19	36	10	25	07	23	07	72	21	344
1998-1999	^f 3	2	24	13			34	18	32	17	20	10	14	7	64	34	191

^a Between 1991-1992 and 1994-1995, half the juveniles with open root canals were assumed to be females. During previous years, the sex reported by trappers and hunters was used.

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

^c There were 31 additional juveniles of unknown gender.

^d There were 52 additional juveniles of unknown gender.

^e There were 31 additional juveniles of unknown gender.

^f There were 128 additional juveniles of unknown gender.

Table 10. Fisher and otter caught accidentally by trappers and turned in to the Department for a payment of \$5.00 each, 1990-1991 through 1998-1999.

Species Turned In	Region Where Animal Was Trapped*							Unk.	Total	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
<u>Fisher</u>										
1990-1991		1								1
1991-1992		1								1
1992-1993		1								1
1993-1994										0
1994-1995		3								3
1995-1996		1								1
1996-1997										0
1997-1998										0
1998-1999										0
Total		6								7
<u>Otter</u>										
1990-1991	1	4	3	2	1	3	6			20
1991-1992	6	1	6	11	3	4	5			36
1992-1993	2	4	5	2		4	4	2		23
1993-1994	10	5	5	2	1	1	8			32
1994-1995	10	9	5	1	1	1	4			31
1995-1996	3	1	7	4		4	8			27
1996-1997	7	1	8	4		6	9			35
1997-1998	9	2	12	10	3	3	7	0		46
1998-1999	1	1	6	21			3			32
Total	49	28	57	57	9	26	54	2		282

* Regions: 1=Panhandle, 2=Clearwater, 3=Southwest, 4=Magic Valley, 5=Southeast, 6=Upper Snake, 7=Salmon

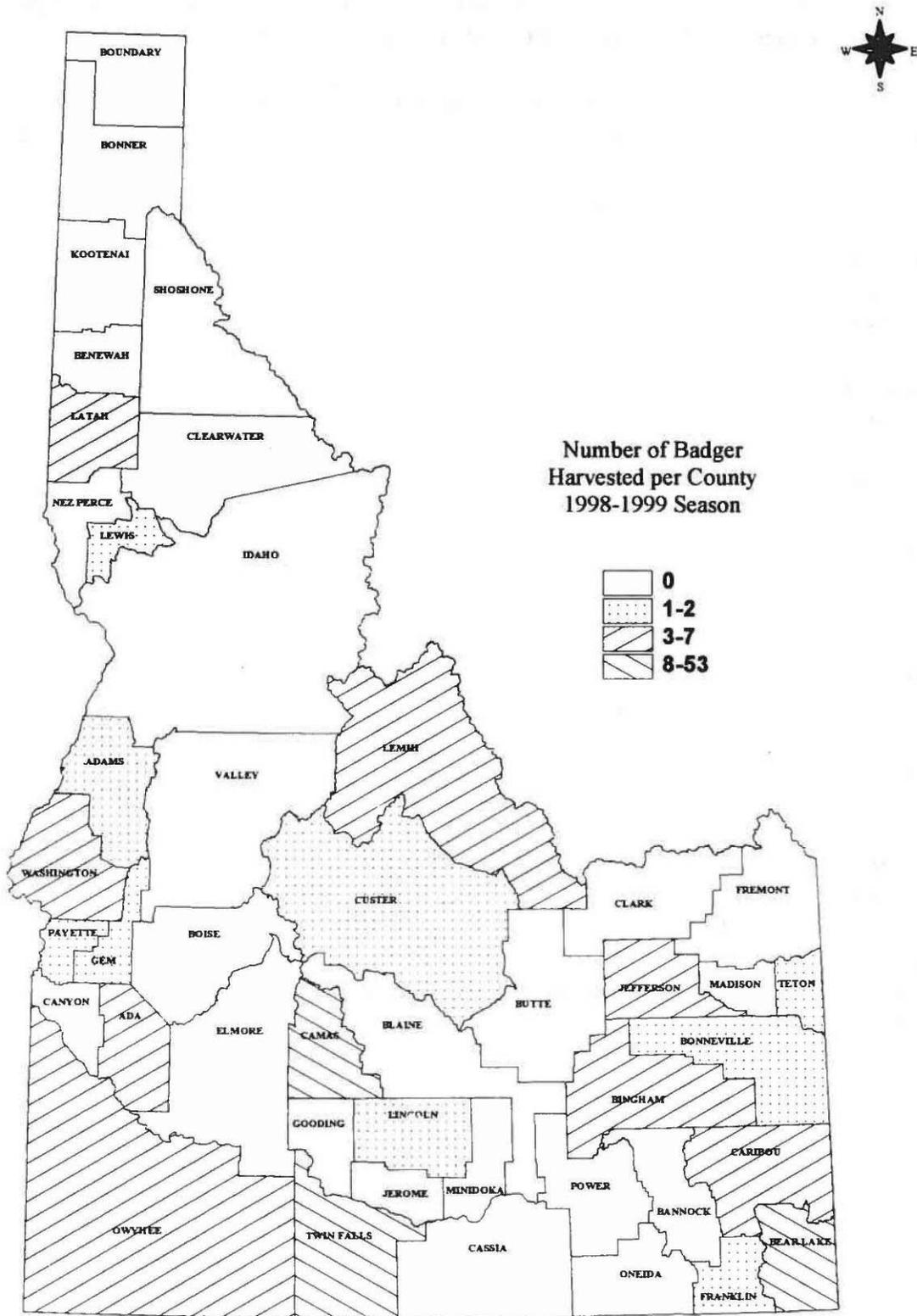


Fig. 1. Distribution of badger harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

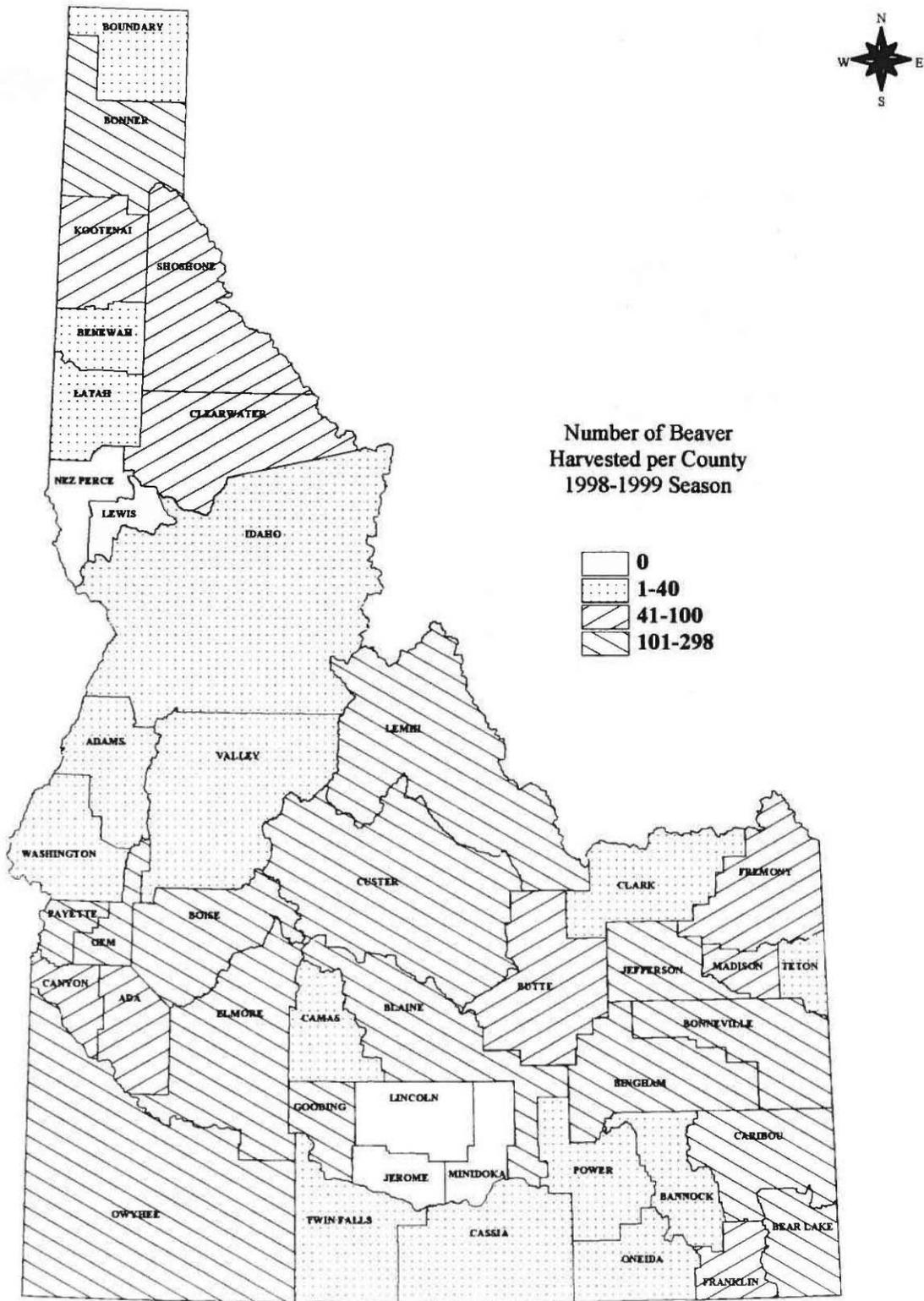


Fig. 2. Distribution of beaver harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

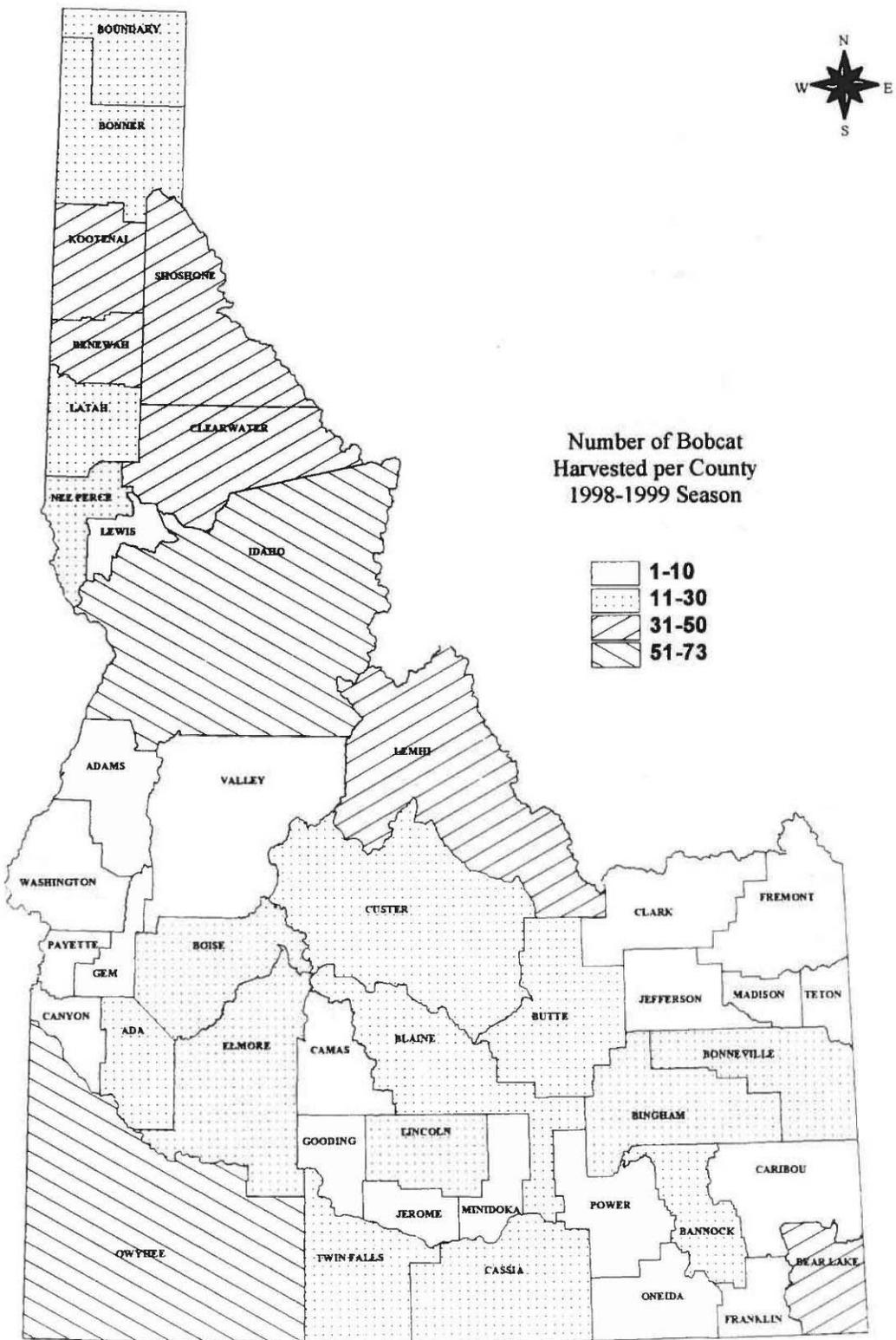


Fig. 3. Distribution of total bobcat harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

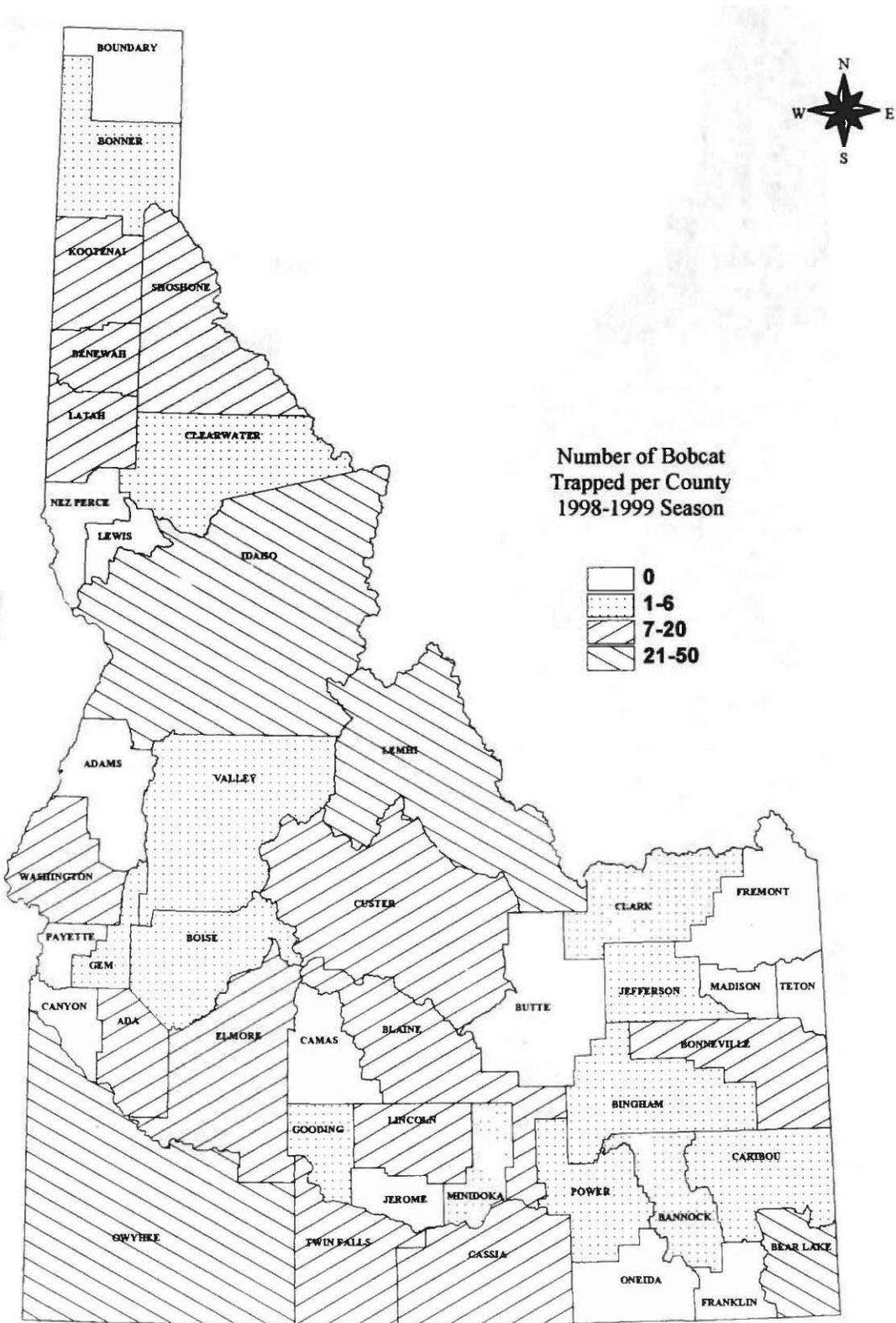


Fig. 4. Distribution of bobcat harvested by trapping during the 1998-1999 season.

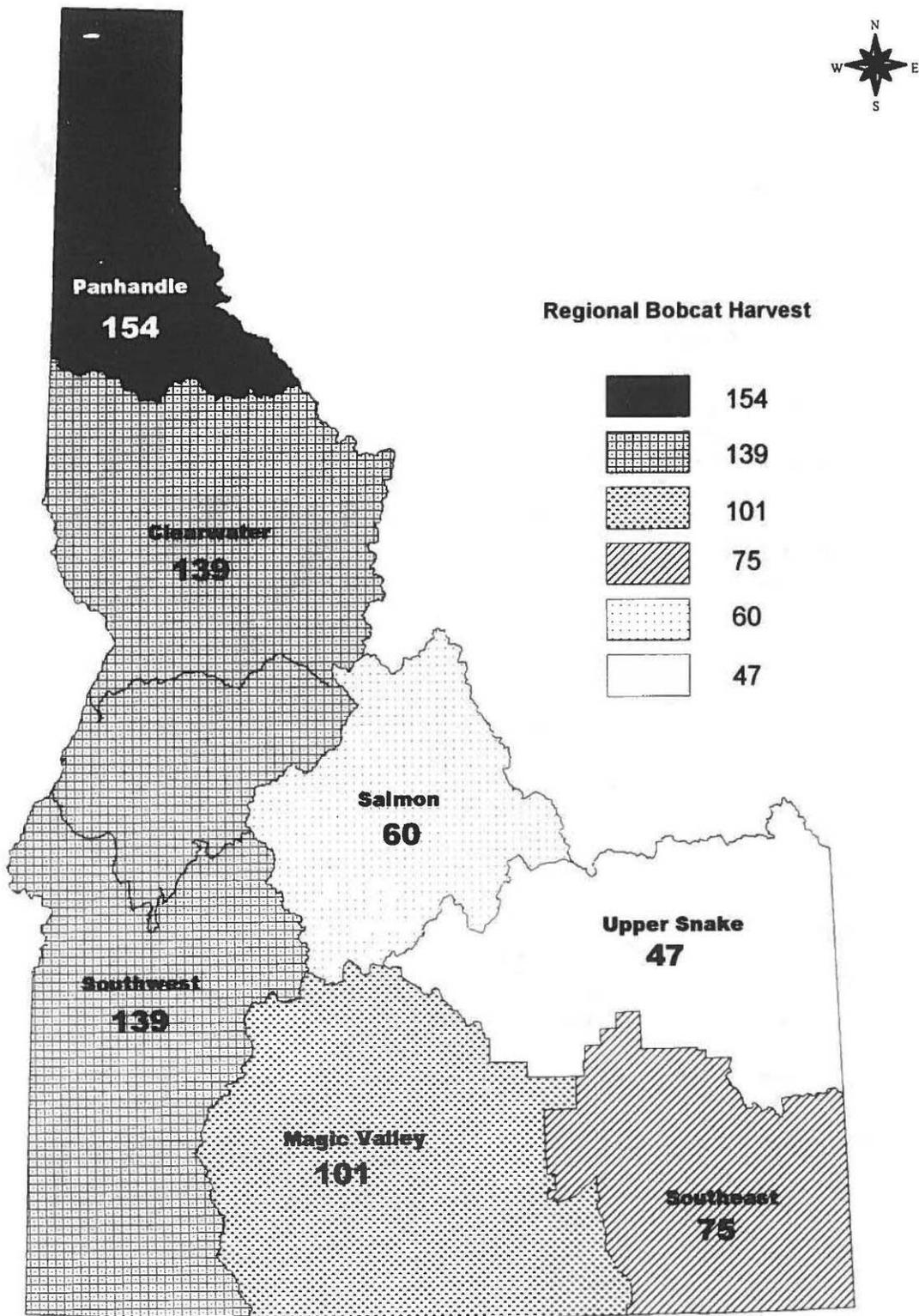


Fig. 5. Distribution of regional bobcat harvested (all methods) during the 1998-1999 season.

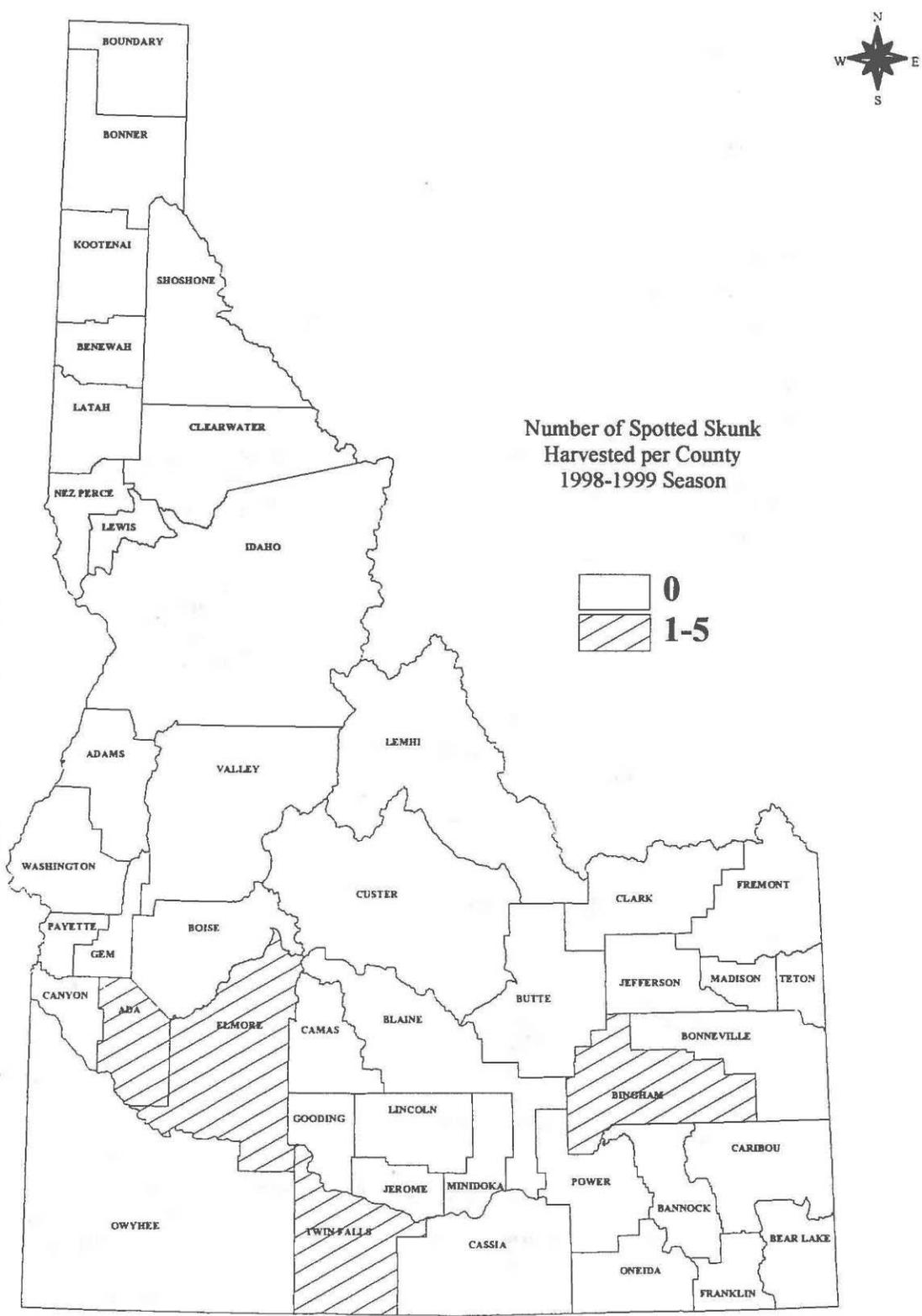


Fig. 6. Distribution of spotted skunk harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

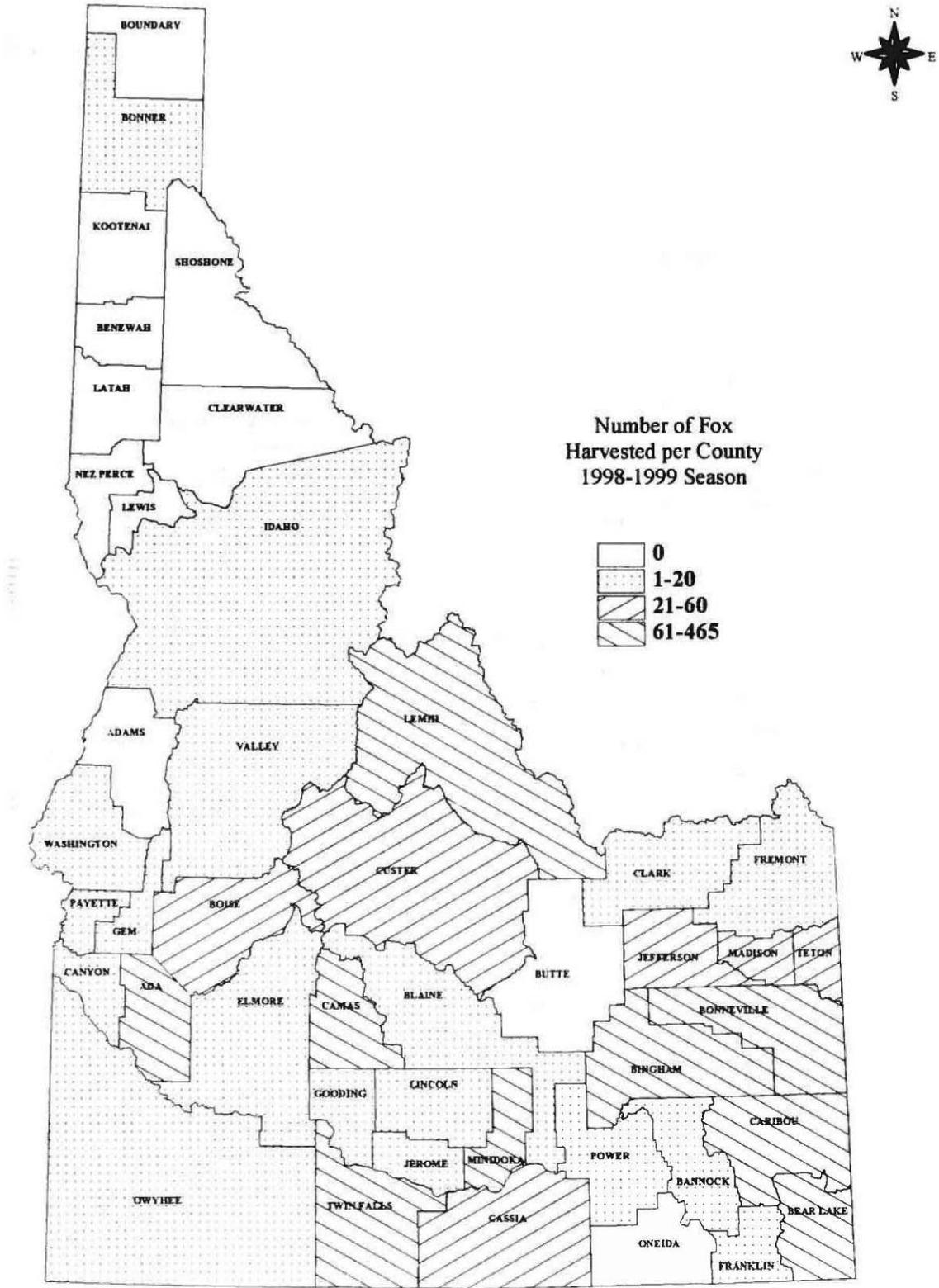


Fig. 8. Distribution of fox harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

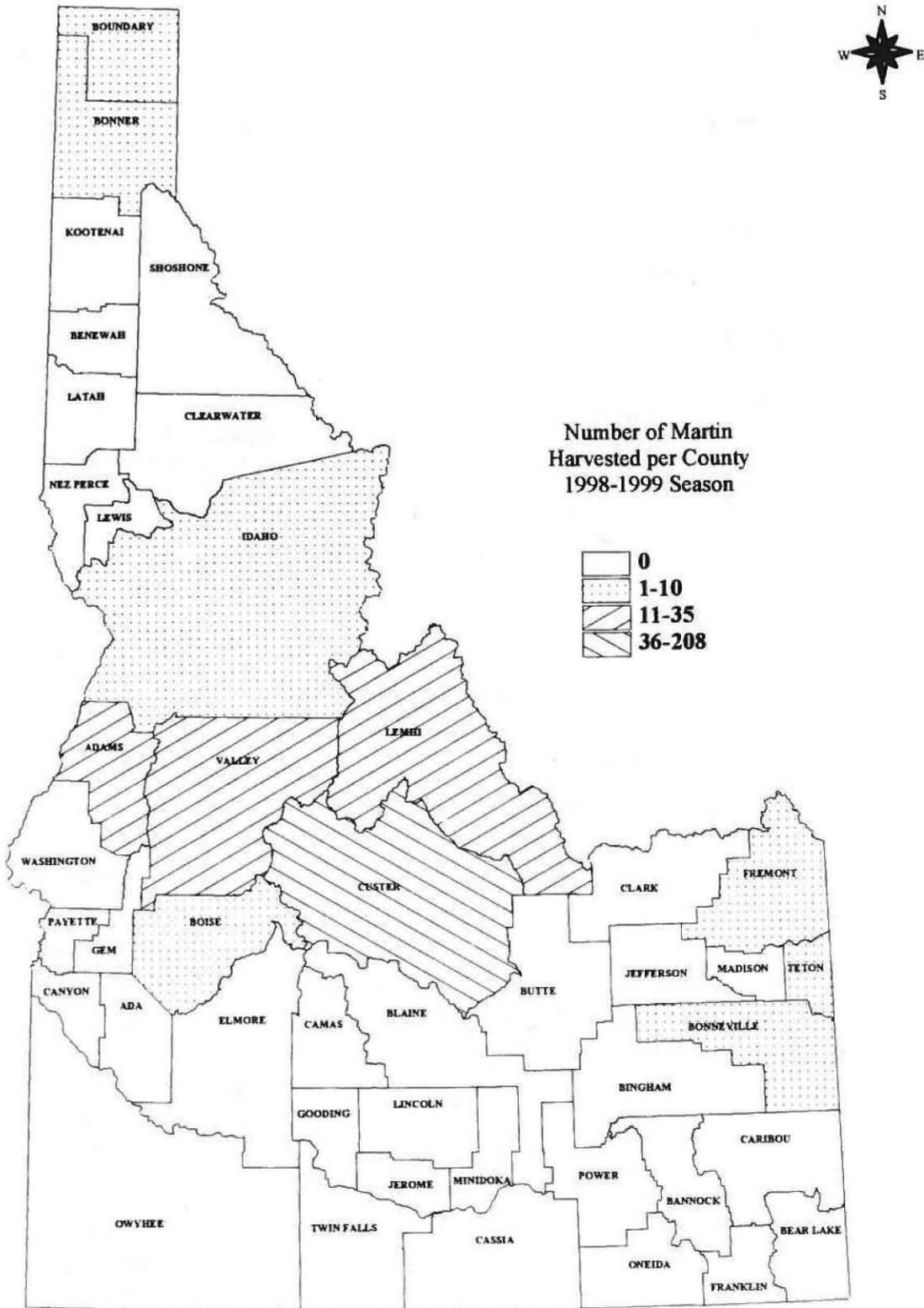


Fig. 9. Distribution of marten harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

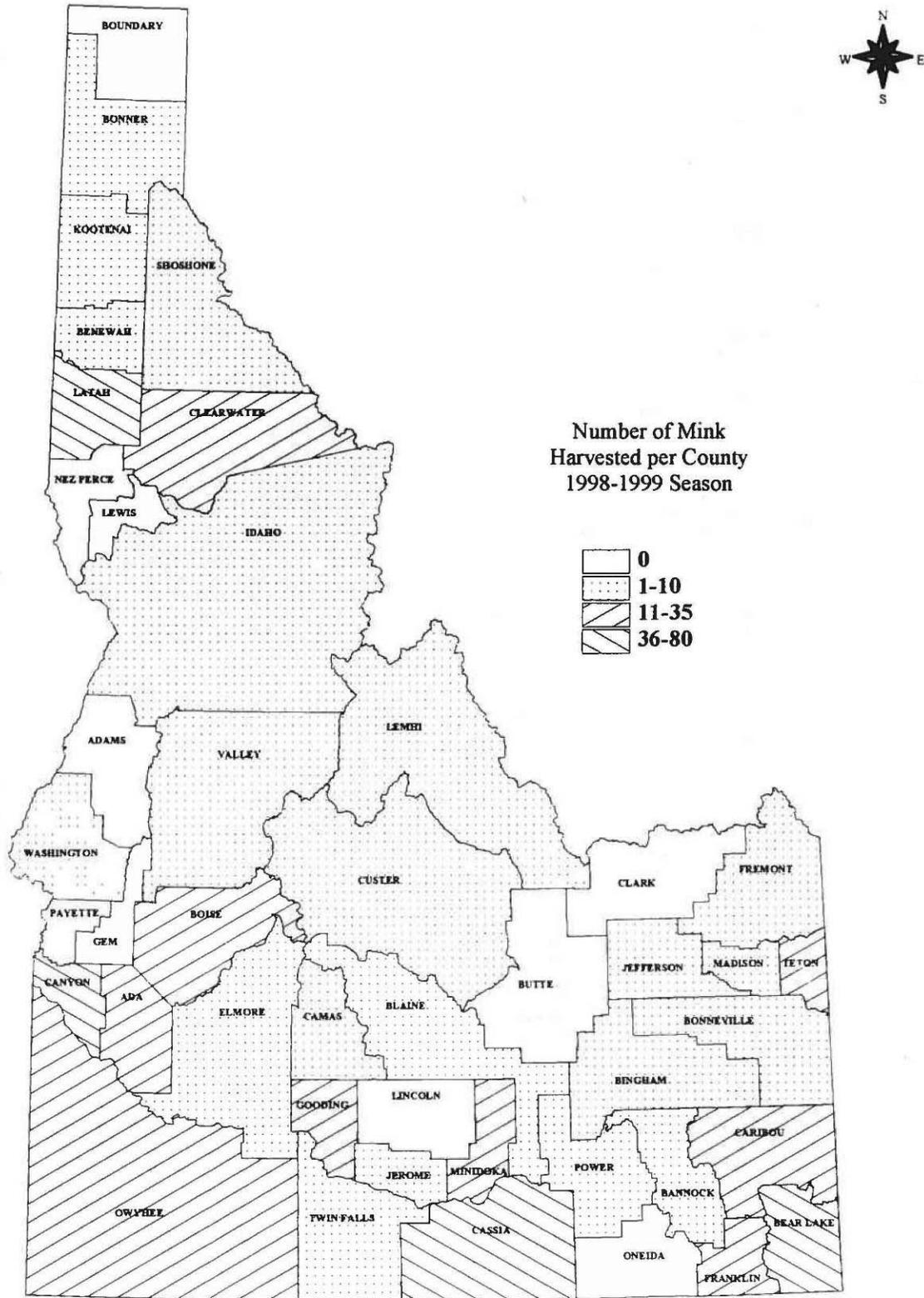


Fig. 10. Distribution of mink harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

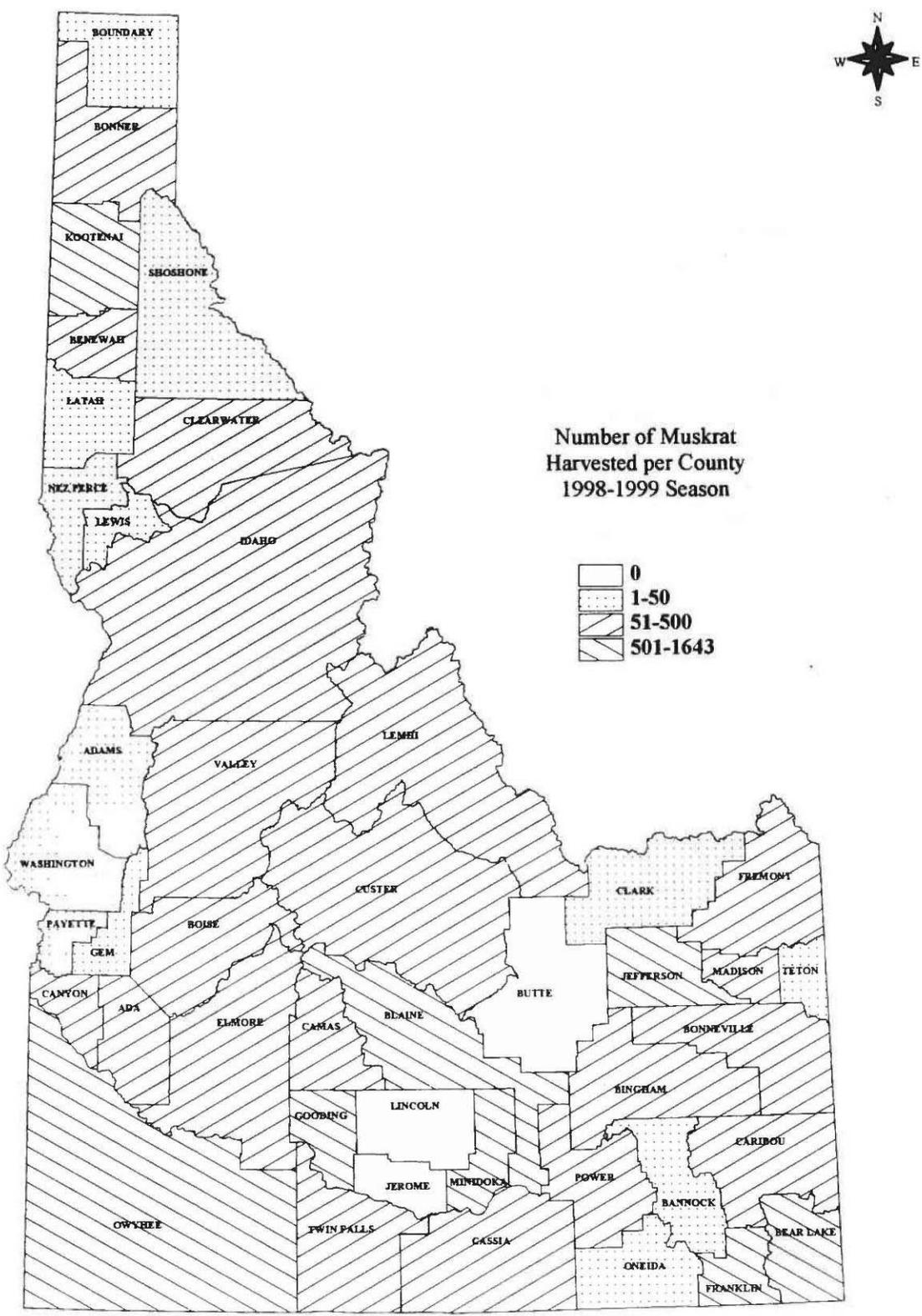


Fig. 11. Distribution of muskrat harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

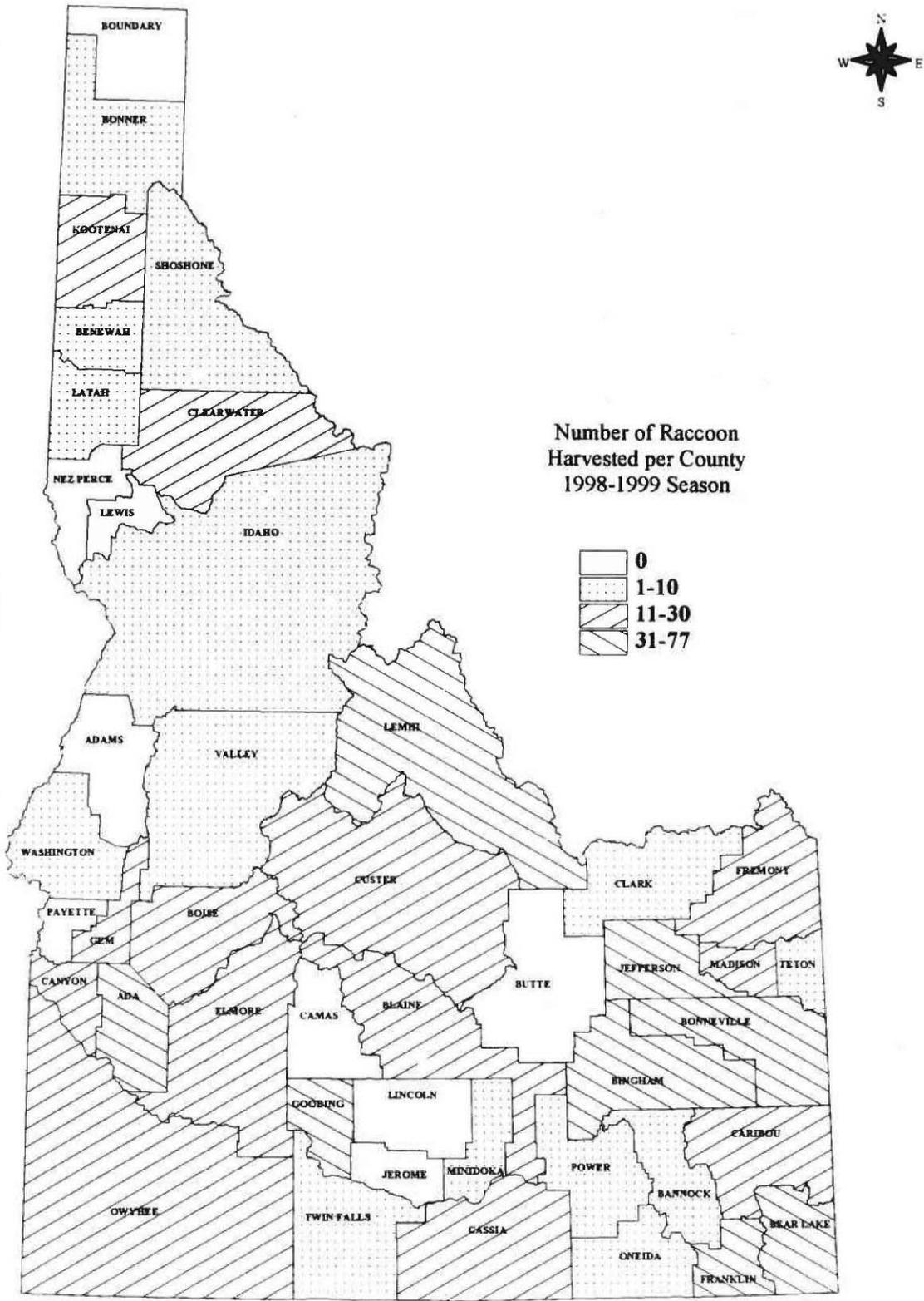


Fig. 12. Distribution of raccoon harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

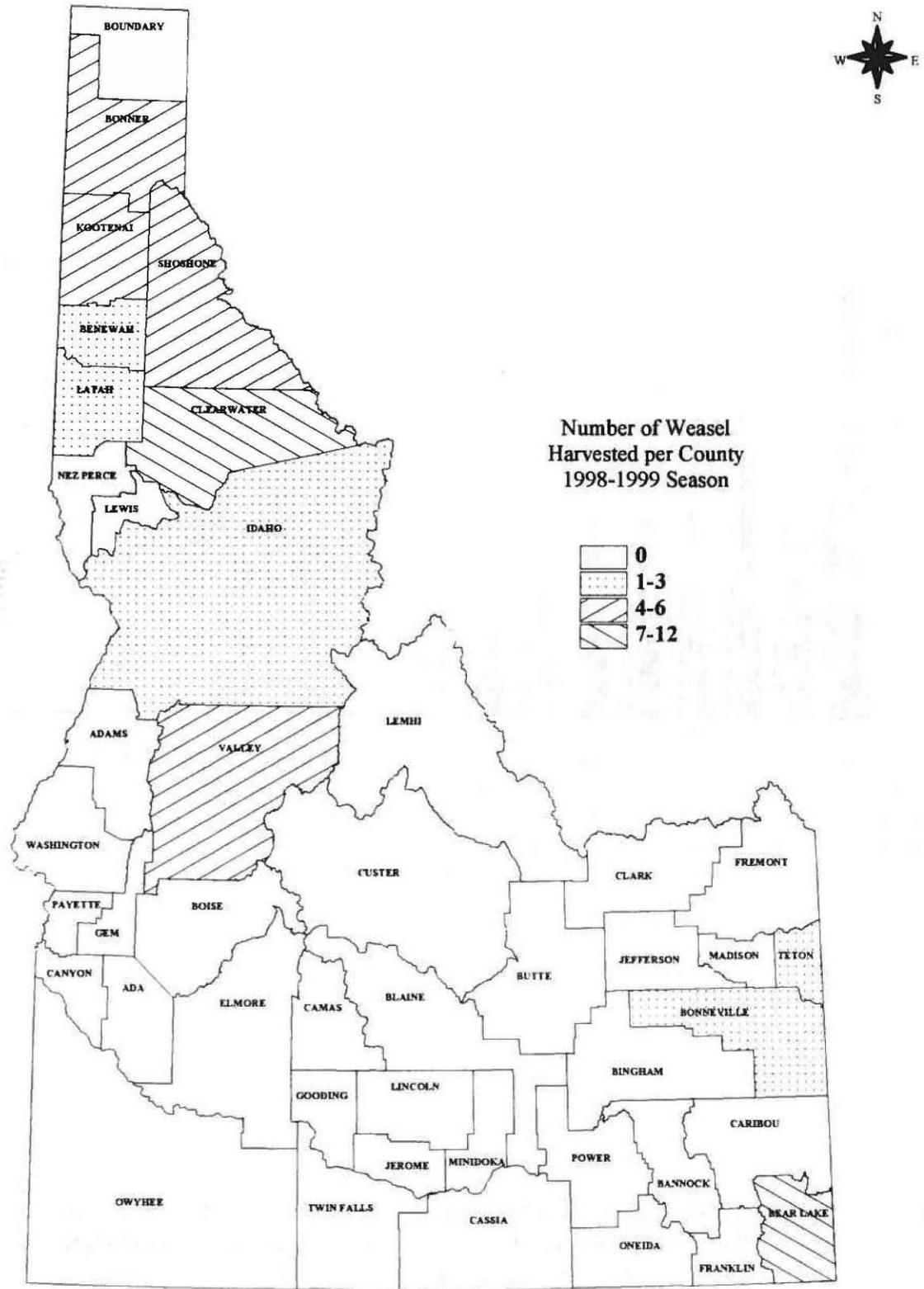


Fig. 14. Distribution of weasel harvested during the 1998-1999 season.

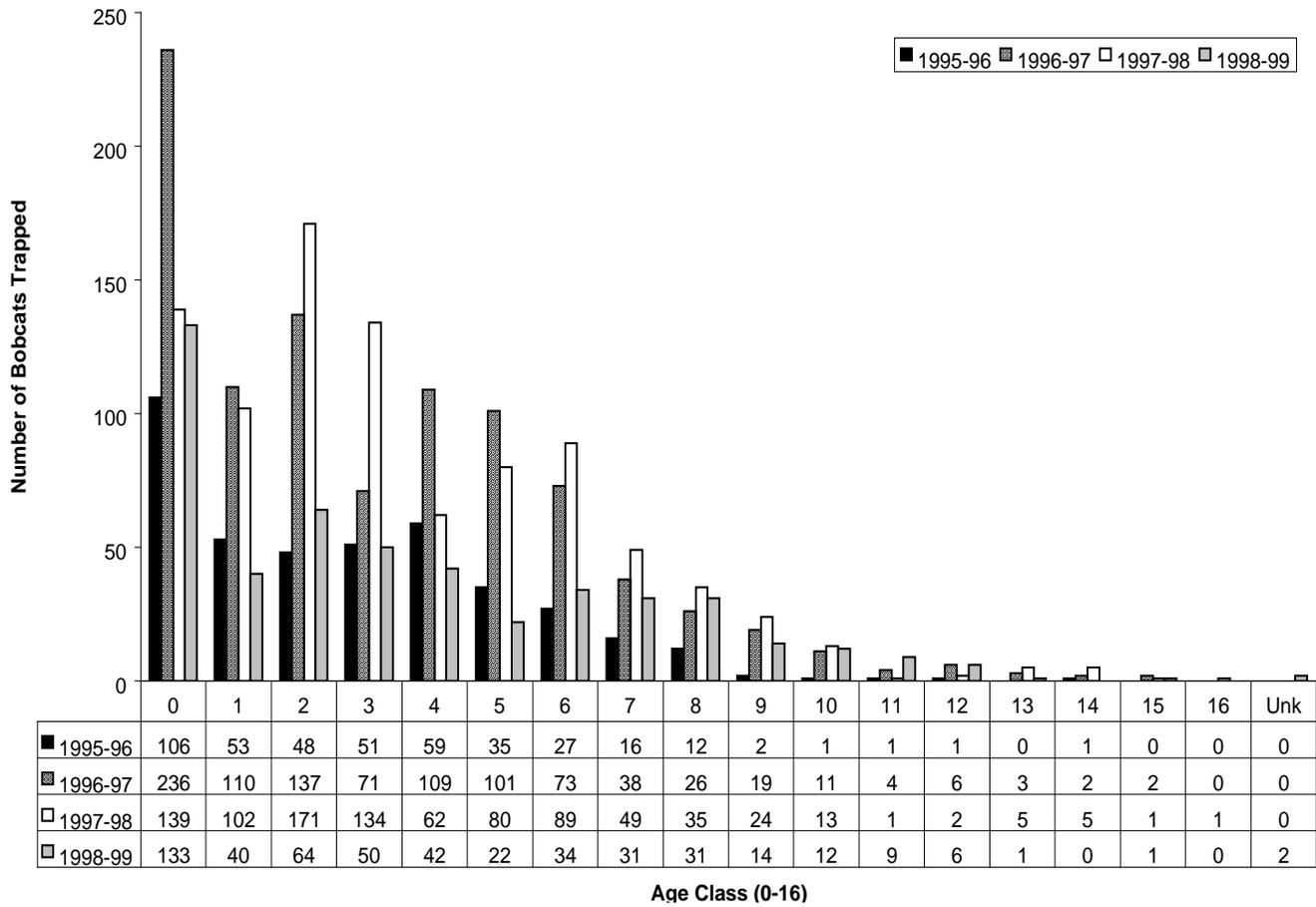


Fig. 15. Bobcat age distribution for 413 animals harvested in the 1995-1996 season, 948 animals harvested during the 1996-1997 season, 913 animals harvested the 1997-1998 season, and 490 animals harvested in the 1998-1999 season. Age was based on canine tooth examination and cementum analysis.

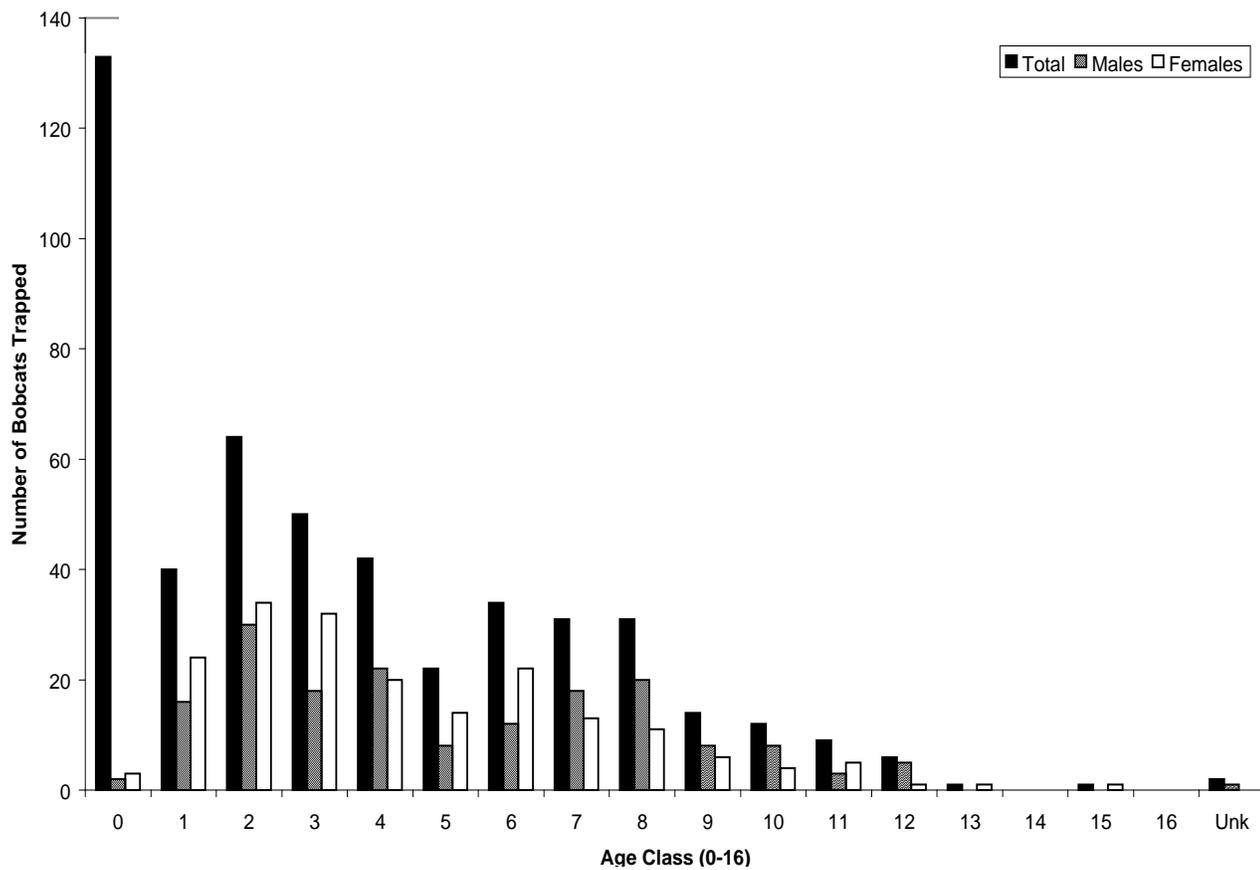


Fig. 16. Bobcat age distribution and gender among 490 animals harvested during the 1998-1999 season. Age was based on canine tooth examination and cementum analysis.

APPENDIX 1

MANDATORY TRAPPER REPORT CARD

MANDATORY TRAPPER REPORT

Dear Idaho Trapper:

Idaho Law (Section 36-1105) states: "By the 31st of July each year, the Director shall be furnished with an accurate, written report from all persons who held a trapping license during the preceding license year as to the number and kinds of wild animals caught, killed and pelted during the open season, where the hides and pelts were sold, and the amount derived from the sale thereof. Any trapper failing to make such a report by said date shall be refused a license to trap animals for the ensuing year." Because Section 36-1105, Idaho Code, will be enforced, please make sure you complete and return this report card by July 31 whether or not you plan on trapping next year. Similar trapper report cards will be provided for future reporting.

Trapping opportunities will continue to be challenged. Our best defense is good information, so I can't impress upon you enough how important it is for you to fill out and return this report card. REMEMBER, YOU MUST RETURN THE MANDATORY REPORT CARD BY JULY 31 IF YOU PLAN ON TRAPPING IN 1999-2000.

Thanks very much for your cooperation and good luck on the trapline!

Stephen P. Mealey, Director
Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game

Please fold and seal with transparent tape.

Please fold and seal with transparent tape.

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 399 BOISE ID

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

**WILDLIFE BUREAU
IDAHO DEPARTMENT FISH & GAME
PO BOX 25
BOISE ID 83707-9973**



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

APPENDIX 2

1998 AND 1999

FURBEARER HARVEST REGULATIONS

GENERAL FURBEARER TRAPPING AND HUNTING SEASONS

Panhandle Region: Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai & Shoshone Counties							
Badger*	Beaver	Bobcat*	Fox*	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Raccoon*
July 1-June 30	Nov 1-Mar 31	Dec 1-Jan 31	Oct 15-Jan 31	Nov 1-Jan 31	Nov 1-Mar 31	Nov 1-Mar 31	Nov 1-Mar 31

Clearwater Region: Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis & Nez Perce Counties							
Badger*	Beaver	Bobcat*	Fox*	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Raccoon*
July 1-June 30	Nov 1-Mar 31	Dec 1-Jan 31	Oct 15-Jan 31	Nov 1-Jan 31	Nov 1-Mar 31	Nov 1-Mar 31	Nov 1-Mar 31
EXCEPTIONS: Beaver							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clearwater Co: East Fork Potlatch River drainage; CLOSED. ● Idaho Co: 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 Co: CLOSED. ● Nez Perce Co: 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. 							

Southern Region: Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Oneida, Payette, Valley & Washington Counties							
Badger*	Beaver	Bobcat*	Fox*	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Raccoon*
July 1-June 30	Nov 1-Mar 31	Dec 1-Jan 31	July 1-June 30	Nov 1-Jan 31	Nov 1-Mar 31	Nov 1-Mar 31	Nov 1-Mar 31
EXCEPTIONS: Beaver							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ada & Boise Cos: The Boise River WMA; CLOSED. ● Elmore Co: 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 Co: Squaw Cr. above the Ola Bridge; CLOSED. ● Valley Co: 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. 							
EXCEPTIONS: Fox							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adams Co: Private lands within the Little Salmon R. drainage; CLOSED. ● Valley Co: Fox may be taken only by trapping and only on National Forests and State of Idaho lands within the Little Salmon River drainage. 							

Magic Valley Region: Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka & Twin Falls Counties							
Badger*	Beaver	Bobcat*	Fox*	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Raccoon*
July 1-June 30	Nov 1-Mar 31	Dec 1-Jan 31	July 1-June 30	Nov 1-Jan 31	Nov 1-Mar 31	Nov 1-Mar 31	Nov 1-Mar 31
EXCEPTIONS: Beaver							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Blaine Co: All public lands within the following drainages: Big Wood R. upstream from North Fork Big Wood R., Big Wood R. tributaries below N. Fk. Big Wood R. to Magic Res., Camp Cr., Dry Cr., Friedman Cr., N. Fk. Big Wood R., Poison Cr., Rock Cr., Copper Cr. (trib. to Muldoon Cr.), Cove Cr., and Sheep Cr. AND EXCEPT all lands within the Little Fish Cr. and the Cold Spring Cr. drainages (trib. to Little Wood R.); CLOSED. ● Camas Co: All public lands within the following drainages: Big Deer Cr., Corral Cr. above Baseline Road, Elk Cr., Lime Cr. Little Smoky Cr., and Willow Cr.; CLOSED. ● Cassia Co: All public lands within the following drainages: Big Cottonwood Cr., Dry Cr., Trapper Cr. and Trout Cr.; CLOSED. 							

* Indicates species can also be hunted.

GENERAL FURBEARER TRAPPING AND HUNTING SEASONS

Magic Valley Region: <i>Continued</i>	
EXCEPTIONS: Beaver, <i>continued</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gooding Co: All public lands within the following drainages: Black Canyon Cr., Clover Cr., and Thorn Cr. and EXCEPT all lands within Hagerman and Niagara Springs WMAs; CLOSED. ● Lincoln Co: Preacher Cr. drainage on public lands; CLOSED. ● Twin Falls Co: All public lands within the Goose Cr., McMullen Cr. and Shoshone Cr. drainages; CLOSED. 	
EXCEPTIONS: Fox	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Blaine Co: North and west of U.S. Hwy. 93, Oct 15 - Jan 31. ● Camas Co: Oct 15 - Jan 31. 	
EXCEPTIONS: Mink	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gooding Co: Snake R. between Niagara Springs and Clear Lakes Bridge; and Billingsley Cr., Hagerman, Niagara Springs WMAs; CLOSED. ● Twin Falls Co: All man-made canals under control of Twin Falls Canal Co. and those sections of Cedar Draw Cr., Cottonwood Cr., Deep Cr., McMullen Cr. and Rock Cr. and their tributaries north of the Main and Highline Canals, Oct 15 - Mar 31. 	
EXCEPTIONS: Muskrat	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gooding Co: Snake R. between Niagara Springs and Clear Lakes Bridge; and Billingsley Cr., Hagerman, Niagara Springs WMAs; CLOSED. ● Twin Falls Co: All man-made canals under control of Twin Falls Canal Co. and those sections of Cedar Draw Cr., Cottonwood Cr., Deep Cr., McMullen Cr. and Rock Cr. and their tributaries north of the Main and Highline Canals, Oct 15 - Mar 31. 	

Southeast Region: Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Caribou, Franklin, Oneida & Power Counties							
Badger*	Beaver	Bobcat*	Fox*	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Raccoon*
July 1-June 30	Oct 22-Apr 15	Dec 1-Jan 31	July 1-June 30	Nov 1-Jan 31	Oct 22-Apr 15	Oct 22-Apr 15	Oct 22-Apr 15
EXCEPTIONS: Beaver							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bannock Co: Cherry Cr. (trib. to Marsh Cr.), Dempsey Cr. above cattleguard, Mink Cr. drainage, and Gibson Jack Cr. CLOSED. ● Bear Lake Co: Pearl Cr. drainage; CLOSED. ● Bingham Co: Cedar Cr. and Miner Cr.; CLOSED. ● Caribou Co: Dike Lake, Toponce Cr. drainage on National Forest lands, and Pebble Cr. drainage; CLOSED. ● Franklin Co: Logan R. drainage including the Beaver Cr. and White's Cr. drainages; CLOSED. 							
EXCEPTIONS: Marten							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bear Lake & Franklin Co: CLOSED. 							
EXCEPTIONS: Mink							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bingham Co: Sterling WMA; CLOSED. 							
EXCEPTIONS: Muskrat							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bingham Co: Sterling WMA; CLOSED. 							

* Indicates species can also be hunted.

CONTROLLED MINK AND MUSKRAT TRAPPING UNITS			
Unit	Wildlife Management Area	Season Dates	No. of Permits
601	Billingsley Creek	Feb 15 - Feb 28	2
602	Hagerman	Feb 15 - Feb 28	4
603	Niagara Springs	Feb 15 - Feb 28	1
604	Sterling	Nov 1 - Mar 31	1
CONTROLLED BEAVER TRAPPING UNITS			
Unit	Season Dates		No. of Animals
201	Nov 1 - Mar 31 That portion of the East Fork Potlatch River drainage in Latah and Clearwater counties.		10
202	Nov 1 - Mar 31 That portion of the Palouse River drainage in Latah County upstream from Laird Park Dam.		10
203	Oct 22 - Apr 15 That portion of the Toponce Creek drainage in Caribou County that is on National Forest lands.		10
204	Oct 22 - Apr 15 Pebble Creek Unit in Caribou County. Pebble Creek drainage.		10
DOG TRAINING SEASONS			
Bobcat		Raccoon	
<p>Dog Training Season Bobcat may NOT be killed during these seasons: Open annually after the close of the bobcat take season in February or March, concurrently with mountain lion take or dog training season. (See current rules governing the taking of big game animals, IDAPA 13, Title 01, Chapter 08.)</p>		<p>Dog Training Season Raccoon may NOT be killed during these seasons: Open Statewide August 15 through October 31.</p>	

Submitted by:


Wayne E. Melquist
State Furbearer Coordinator

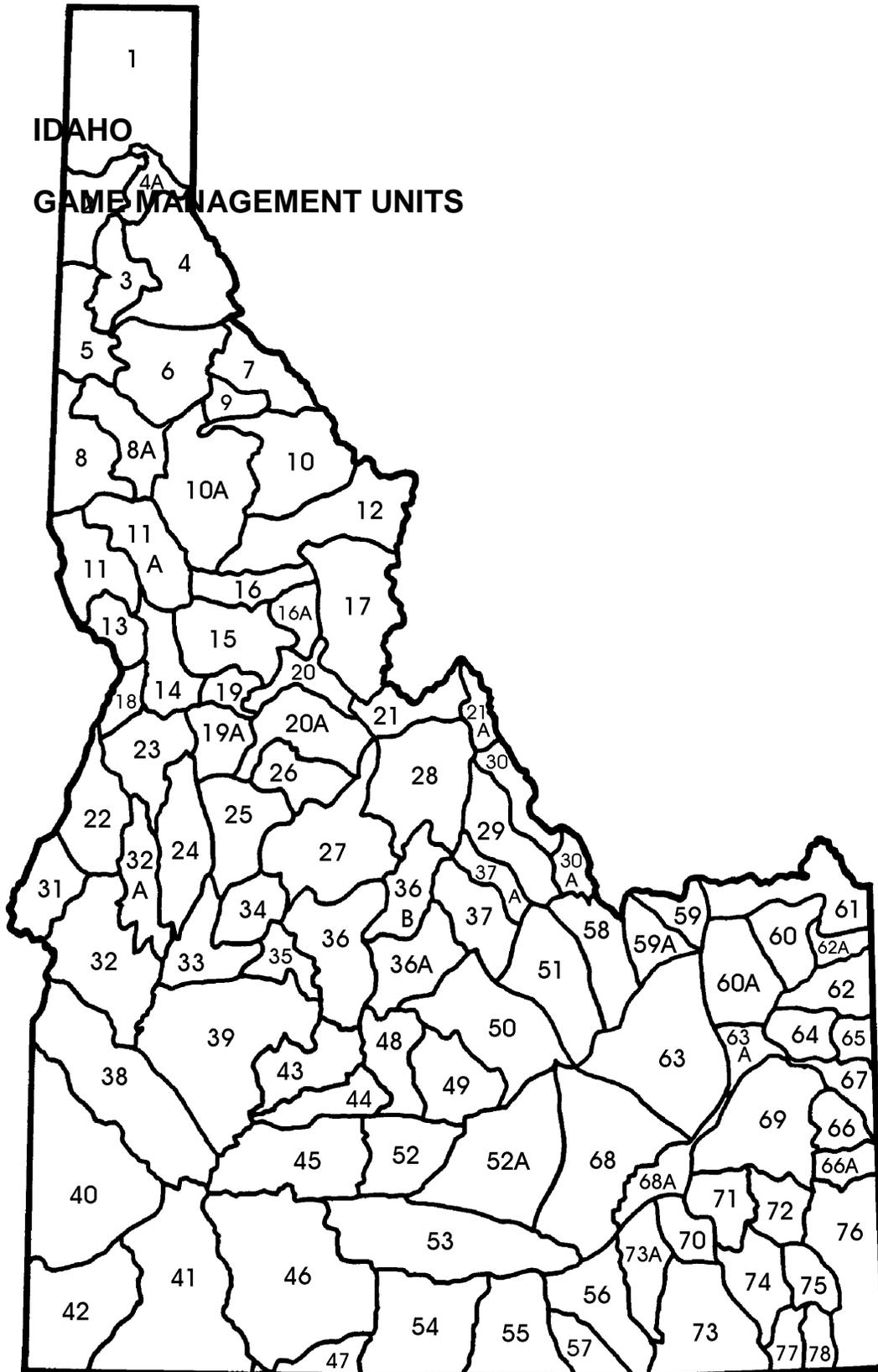
Approved by:

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME


Steven M. Huffaker, 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.

