

## Furbearer Management Registration Information

### 2012-2017 Annual Fur Production and 5-Year Average Based on Export Permits

Species	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	5-Year Average
Badger	644	391	349	199	128	342
Beaver	10,585	12,088	9,093	8652	6746	9433
Bobcat	22	29	14	24	28	23
Coyote	29,326	33,364	43,122	44607	34264	36937
Fisher	1,391	1,772	1,592	1645	1207	1521
Fox	1,807	1,836	2,278	2153	1535	1922
Canada Lynx	1,930	2,093	1,420	1710	1423	1715
Marten	9,627	11,505	8,570	8279	8016	9199
Mink	475	560	757	454	518	553
Muskrat	18,757	41,632	47,015	22554	17468	29431
River Otter	266	269	283	311	261	278
Raccoon	179	221	211	42	92	149
Skunk	24	32	165	60	68	70
Squirrel	5,704	13,555	8,438	13037	6706	9488
Weasel (Ermine)	3,613	4,486	5,308	4553	1894	3971
Wolf	574	598	632	968	823	719
Wolverine	46	75	57	67	64	62

### Fur Production Based on Export Permits

Species	2016/2017 Season			2015/2016 Season			% Change		
	# Pelts	Avg Price	Economic Value	# Pelts	Avg Price	Economic Value	# Pelts	Avg Price	Economic Value
Badger	128	\$30.49	\$3,903	199	\$22.32	\$4,442	-36%	37%	-12%
Beaver	6746	\$11.44	\$77,174	8652	\$8.56	\$74,061	-22%	34%	4%
Bobcat	28	\$256.15	\$7,172	24	\$160.50	\$3,852	17%	60%	86%
Coyote	34264	\$80.03	\$2,742,148	44607	\$60.41	\$2,694,709	-23%	32%	2%
Fisher	1207	\$48.23	\$58,214	1645	\$46.24	\$76,065	-27%	4%	-23%
Fox	1535	\$14.48	\$22,227	2153	\$10.20	\$21,961	-29%	42%	1%
Lynx	1423	\$68.53	\$97,518	1710	\$38.12	\$65,185	-17%	80%	50%
Marten	8016	\$61.91	\$496,271	8279	\$40.88	\$338,446	-3%	51%	47%
Mink	518	\$12.41	\$6,428	454	\$7.83	\$3,555	14%	58%	81%
Muskrat	17468	\$2.45	\$42,797	22554	\$1.57	\$35,410	-23%	56%	21%
River Otter	261	\$29.36	\$7,663	311	\$22.74	\$7,072	-16%	29%	8%
Raccoon	92	\$4.08	\$375	42	\$2.64	\$111	119%	55%	239%
Skunk	68	\$5.26	\$358	60	\$3.61	\$217	13%	46%	65%
Squirrel	6706	\$0.35	\$2,347	13037	\$0.39	\$5,084	-49%	-10%	-54%
Weasel	1894	\$1.66	\$3,144	4553	\$1.44	\$6,556	-58%	15%	-52%
Wolf	823	\$146.09	\$120,232	968	\$124.78	\$120,787	-15%	17%	0%
Wolverine	64	\$218.06	\$13,956	67	\$216.00	\$14,472	-4%	1%	-4%
<b>Total Fur Value</b>			<b>\$3,701,926</b>			<b>\$3,471,985</b>			<b>7%</b>

#### Trapper Statistics 2016/17

Registered Licences	1,532
Partner Licences	1,391
Resident Licences	1,821
Registered Fur Management Areas	1,632

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## Trapping and Cougar Management

In recent years, the number of cougars accidentally killed by trappers in Alberta has increased. Cougars are carefully managed as a hunted game animal in Alberta, and no trapping season exists. In areas where incidental mortality of cougars is high, hunting quotas for cougars may need to be reduced to prevent population declines. As important stewards of Alberta's wildlife resources, trappers should take precautions to limit the number of cougars and other non-target species that are accidentally captured.

Most cougars are captured in snares set for wolves or coyotes, or in large conibears set for lynx, bobcats, or wolverines. Cougars are not trap-shy and are much more easily captured than wary species such as wolves. Therefore, trappers should take steps to reduce the chance that a cougar will find their traps. Avoid placing snares or large conibears in areas where ungulates are wintering. When possible, place your sets in open areas where cougars will feel uncomfortable. Keep snares and traps well away (>200 m) from

bait; use canid-specific gland lures, urine, and scats to lure wolves and coyotes to your sets. If you see cougar tracks near your sets, close the snares or pull the traps until the cougar has moved on. Consider moving your sets to a new area if you're seeing regular cougar activity. By taking these few simple precautions, trappers can reduce the chance that they will accidentally catch a cougar, leaving more of these animals for enjoyment by all Albertans. For more information on cougars and cougar management in Alberta, download the Management Plan for Cougars in Alberta at: [esrd.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife](http://esrd.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife).

**Reminder: All cougar harvests (even accidental) must be registered at a Fish and Wildlife office immediately!**

Accurate harvest information helps in managing the furbearer resource, and ultimately benefits the trapping industry. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## Control of Problem Wildlife

Regulations allow landholders (residents only) to take immediate action to control some problem wildlife. The following privileges are beyond those permitted under fur management licences during the seasons set out on page 15.

Please contact your district Fish and Wildlife office when furbearers other than the species shown in this section are destroying property. A damage control licence may be necessary.

Section 38 of the *Wildlife Act* specifies that no person shall hunt wildlife or discharge firearms on or over occupied lands, or enter on such lands for the purpose of doing so without the consent of the owner or occupant.

**Beaver** may be hunted and trapped, without a licence and during all seasons, on privately owned land by the owner or occupant of the land, or by a resident with written permission from the owner or occupant of the land.

**Wolf**<sup>1</sup> may be hunted (but not trapped) without a licence during all seasons, as follows:

- on privately owned land by the owner or occupant of the land, or by a resident with permission from the owner or occupant.
- on public land by a person authorized to keep livestock on that land, or by a resident who has written permission from that authorized person.

The above authorities to hunt wolves extend to lands within 8 km (5 mi.) of the land described above, provided the authorized person or resident has right of access.

**Coyotes**<sup>1</sup> may be hunted (but not trapped), without a licence, at all times of the year throughout the province:

- a) by a resident who has right of access to hunt on lands that are not public lands within the Green Area;
- b) by the owner or occupant of privately owned land, on the privately owned land;
- c) by a person maintaining livestock on public land, on that public land; or
- d) \*on lands described in c) that are in the Green Area, by a resident who is authorized in writing by the person described in c).

\* These pelts must be salvaged.

<sup>1</sup> For further information and other seasons regarding the hunting of wolf and coyote, including the use of bait for hunting wolf and coyote, please refer to the current *Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations*.

**Red fox** may be hunted (but not trapped), without a licence and during all seasons, by a resident on privately owned land to which the resident has the right of access.

**Badger and Red Squirrel** may be hunted or trapped, without a licence and during all seasons, by a resident on privately owned land to which the resident has the right of access.

**Skunk and raccoon** may be hunted or trapped during all seasons by the owner or occupant of land, or by a person authorized by the owner or occupant, or by the holder of a licence authorizing the trapping of fur-bearing animals.

**Rabbit or hare** may be hunted (but not trapped), throughout the province, at any time of year, without a licence on land which the person has the right of access for hunting. A resident may use snares to take rabbit or hare, provided the snare meets the requirements set out on page 13.

**Bobcat** may be hunted (but not trapped) by a resident on land which the resident has the right of access for hunting in WMUs 102, 104, 106, 108, 112, 116, 118 and 119 and that part of WMU 110 east of Highway No. 2 and south of Highway No. 3 from November 1 to February 28.

