

Furbearer Management Registration Information

2014-2019 Annual Fur Production and 5-Year Average Based on Export Permits

Species	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	5-Year Average
Badger	349	199	128	155	149	196
Beaver	9,093	8,652	6,746	6,678	6,988	7,631
Bobcat	14	24	28	24	19	22
Coyote	43,122	44,607	34,264	46,120	42,039	42,030
Fisher	1,592	1,645	1,207	1,248	958	1,330
Fox	2,278	2,153	1,535	2,403	1,675	2,009
Canada Lynx	1,420	1,710	1,423	1,797	1,819	1,634
Marten	8,570	8,279	8,016	8,717	7,648	8,246
Mink	757	454	518	583	623	587
Muskrat	47,015	22,554	17,468	9,051	7,219	20,661
River Otter	283	311	261	213	220	258
Raccoon	211	42	92	57	126	106
Skunk	165	60	68	101	119	103
Squirrel	8,438	13,037	6,706	3,575	4,135	7,178
Weasel (Ermine)	5,308	4,553	1,894	3,155	3,100	3,602
Wolf	632	968	823	683	722	766
Wolverine	57	67	64	88	60	67

Fur Production Based on Export Permits

Species	2018/2019 Season			2017/2018 Season			% Change		
	# Pelts	Avg Price	Economic Value	# Pelts	Avg Price	Economic Value	# Pelts	Avg Price	Economic Value
Badger	196	\$24.52	\$4,806	155	\$27.30	\$4,232	26%	-10%	14%
Beaver	6,988	\$12.97	\$90,634	6678	\$13.61	\$90,888	5%	-5%	0%
Bobcat	19	\$148.66	\$2,825	24	\$276.10	\$6,626	-21%	-46%	-57%
Coyote	42,039	\$132.64	\$5,576,053	46120	\$115.98	\$5,348,998	-9%	14%	4%
Fisher	958	\$49.82	\$47,728	1248	\$65.04	\$81,170	-23%	-23%	-41%
Fox	1,675	\$18.69	\$31,306	2403	\$17.23	\$41,404	-30%	8%	-24%
Lynx	1,819	\$77.72	\$141,373	1797	\$86.10	\$154,722	1%	-10%	-9%
Marten	7,648	\$48.54	\$371,234	8717	\$66.52	\$579,855	-12%	-27%	-36%
Mink	623	\$12.31	\$7,669	583	\$15.72	\$9,165	7%	-22%	-16%
Muskrat	7,219	\$3.67	\$26,494	9051	\$3.04	\$27,515	-20%	21%	-4%
River Otter	220	\$32.34	\$7,115	213	\$41.60	\$8,861	3%	-22%	-20%
Raccoon	126	\$14.83	\$1,869	57	\$13.24	\$755	121%	12%	148%
Skunk	119	\$7.46	\$888	101	\$9.93	\$1,003	18%	-25%	-11%
Squirrel	4,135	\$0.76	\$3,143	3575	\$0.68	\$2,431	16%	12%	29%
Weasel	3,100	\$2.35	\$7,285	3155	\$2.26	\$7,130	-2%	4%	2%
Wolf	722	\$195.60	\$141,223	683	\$151.38	\$103,393	6%	29%	37%
Wolverine	60	\$341.61	\$20,497	88	\$316.25	\$27,830	-32%	8%	-26%
Total Fur Value			\$6,482,139			\$6,495,975			0%

Trapper Statistics 2018/19

Registered Licences	1,523
Partner Licences	1,472
Resident Licences	1,780
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

baits; 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: aep.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.

Wolf¹ 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.

Coyotes¹ 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.

¹ 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.

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