

Furbearer Management Registration Information

2010-2015 Annual Fur Production and 5-Year Average Based on Export Permits

Species	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	5-Year Average
Badger	358	362	644	391	349	421
Beaver	9,743	14,079	10,585	12,088	9,093	11,118
Bobcat	14	27	22	29	14	21
Coyote	14,970	35,050	29,326	33,364	43,122	31,166
Fisher	1,251	2,095	1,391	1,772	1,592	1,620
Fox	938	1,940	1,807	1,836	2,278	1,760
Canada Lynx	1,491	2,486	1,930	2,093	1,420	1,884
Marten	9,402	12,883	9,627	11,505	8,570	10,397
Mink	564	613	475	560	757	594
Muskrat	6,411	15,453	18,757	41,632	47,015	25,854
River Otter	284	316	266	269	283	284
Raccoon	85	216	179	221	211	182
Skunk	14	75	24	32	165	62
Squirrel	9,601	24,175	5,704	13,555	8,438	12,295
Weasel (Ermine)	3,822	4,132	3,613	4,486	5,308	4,272
Wolf	430	586	574	598	632	564
Wolverine	54	41	46	75	57	55

Fur Production Based on Export Permits

Species	2014/2015 Season			2013/2014 Season			% Change		
	# Pelts	Avg Price	Economic Value	# Pelts	Avg Price	Economic Value	# Pelts	Avg Price	Economic Value
Badger	349	\$20.33	\$7,095	391	\$30.71	\$12,008	-11%	-34%	-41%
Beaver	9,093	\$15.53	\$141,214	12,088	\$19.07	\$230,518	-25%	-19%	-39%
Bobcat	14	\$232.27	\$3,252	29	\$334.82	\$9,710	-52%	-31%	-67%
Coyote	43,122	\$100.14	\$4,318,237	33,364	\$77.22	\$2,576,368	29%	30%	68%
Fisher	1,592	\$93.67	\$149,123	1,772	\$122.07	\$216,308	-10%	-23%	-31%
Fox	2,278	\$21.93	\$49,957	1,836	\$36.52	\$67,051	24%	-40%	-25%
Lynx	1,420	\$88.01	\$124,974	2,093	\$155.92	\$326,341	-32%	-44%	-62%
Marten	8,570	\$73.44	\$629,381	11,505	\$78.16	\$899,231	-26%	-6%	-30%
Mink	757	\$11.39	\$8,622	560	\$22.83	\$12,785	35%	-50%	-33%
Muskrat	47,015	\$4.25	\$199,814	41,632	\$9.37	\$390,092	13%	-55%	-49%
Otter	283	\$49.99	\$14,147	269	\$70.68	\$19,013	5%	-29%	-26%
Raccoon	211	\$10.80	\$2,279	221	\$15.43	\$3,410	-5%	-30%	-33%
Skunk	165	\$4.75	\$784	32	\$6.58	\$211	416%	-28%	272%
Squirrel	8,438	\$1.19	\$10,041	13,555	\$0.92	\$12,471	-38%	29%	-19%
Weasel	5,308	\$1.32	\$7,007	4,486	\$3.35	\$15,028	18%	-61%	-53%
Wolf	632	\$150.67	\$95,223	598	\$144.31	\$86,297	6%	4%	10%
Wolverine	57	\$181.73	\$10,359	75	\$264.70	\$19,853	-24%	-31%	-48%
Total Fur Value			\$5,771,508			\$4,896,692			18%

Trapper Statistics 2014/15

Registered Licences	1,536
Partner Licences	1,280
Resident Licences	1,670
Registered Fur Management Areas	1,632



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.

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 full cooperation is both required and 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.