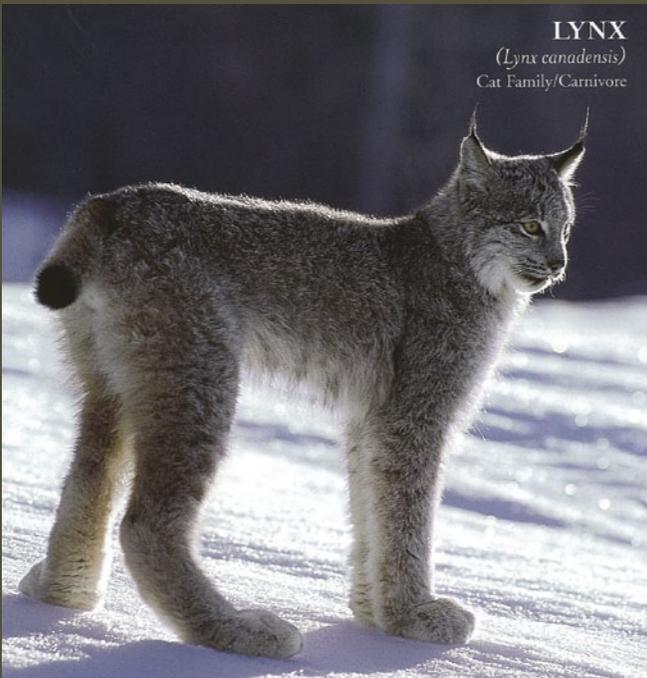


**RACCOON**  
*(Procyon lotor)*  
Procyonidae Family



**LYNX**  
*(Lynx canadensis)*  
Cat Family/Carnivore



Trapping helps control urban wildlife

### OTHER TRAPPING FACTS

- Population growth characteristics of some species require strict harvest regulations that include limiting the number of traps per individual.
- Conversely, harvest and population characteristics of other species require liberal regulations to meet furbearer management objectives.
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- CITES is the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
- It is an international agreement between governments and its aim is to ensure that international trade in wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.
- CITES was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of IUCN (The World Conservation Union). The text of the Convention was finally agreed at a meeting of representatives of 80 countries in Washington DC., in 1973, and in July 1975 CITES entered in force.
- CITES is an international agreement to which countries adhere voluntarily.

Virtually every country in the world permits the trapping of animals for various reasons and the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS) is the first and most comprehensive Treaty to set animal welfare thresholds for certifying trapping devices. The treaty was ratified by Canada, the European Union and Russia in December 1997. The USA signed a separate but similar agreement. The AIHTS is a mandatory Treaty and sets out animal welfare thresholds against which traps must be tested and certified.



# TRAPPING IN USA

## TRAPPING IN U.S.A.

- In the U.S.A, State wildlife management authorities administer wildlife management policies within their jurisdictions
- Trapping licenses are required in all states unless a landowner traps on their own property. .
- Trapper education courses are conducted in many states in cooperation with state wildlife management agencies and trapping organizations.
- No endangered species are permitted to be trapped

## TRAPPERS PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Regulated trapping by licensed trappers has always been recognized as a necessary wildlife management tool by wildlife biologists, and wildlife management agencies.

Trapping helps:

- to reduce threatening human-wildlife conflicts;
- for the prevention or elimination of disease;
- to control over-population of wildlife; and
- to minimize both private and public property damage.
- to undertake scientific research
- for species conservation

## TRAPPING HELPS TO CONTROL URBAN WILDLIFE:

- Animals are quick to adapt to urban or semi-urban settings where they easily multiply.
- Too many animals in an area will cause problems
- Proper wildlife management control helps to reduce the damage caused by flooding, livestock depredation, pet killings. It also helps to control public health risks such as rabies, giardiasis, distemper, canine parvo and tularemia
- Human wildlife conflicts range from nuisance issues, economic damage, to health and safety concerns
- Prevention is the first line of defense

## WHY USE TRAPS WHEN DEALING WITH PROBLEM WILDLIFE

- A variety of options exist for dealing with problem wildlife including noise and light deterrents, altering habitats, or trapping
- Capturing problem animals is usually the most effective, ethical and sustainable option
- Various types of traps are extremely selective to capture various animals depending upon each unique wildlife situation.

## ARE ALL TRAPS THE SAME?

There are three categories of traps which are approved for trapping specific species, or for use in different settings or for different purposes:

1. Restraining traps (such as soft catch, limb restraining snare, laminated foot hold traps and enclosed trigger traps) hold an animal without causing undue injury
2. Killing devices, such as the conibear trap, are designed to render a rapid death to the target animal.
3. Box or cage traps are used for capturing wildlife in urban/suburban areas where there may be a risk of capturing unlawfully free roaming pets or non-targeted species.

## WHY USE RESTRAINING TRAPS?

- Different types of traps are best suited for different types of animals.
- Cage traps have limited use. They are not useful for capturing every type of urban wildlife (coyotes, wolves, and bears) or in all situations (rabid or excitable animals).
- Restraining traps also called foot-hold traps are specially designed and set for capturing species such as coyote and raccoon and comply with Best Management Practices-(BMP)

## WHY USE KILLING TRAPS?

Killing devices, such as the conibear trap, are designed to render a quick death to the target animal. These traps are used because the captured animal dies quickly.

## COULD UNWANTED WILDLIFE BE RELOCATED?

Although relocation has been successful for some species such as bear and elk, it is relatively ineffective for other species. Often, animals will simply try to return to their original locations. In addition, many trapped animals have diseases, which can be spread by their re-location. Animals that have been successfully relocated may end up disrupting their new ecosystem or may cause many of the same problems as before. Relocation efforts are often not possible because they are too costly or there is a lack of appropriate habitat available

## IS IT TRUE THAT ANIMALS OFTEN CHEW OFF THEIR LEGS TO ESCAPE TRAPS?

Rarely will an animal attempt to injure itself in a cage trap or restraining foot hold trap. This only occurs in very rare situations where a trap has been used irresponsibly or illegally. The use of modern soft-catch (padded) traps or encapsulated (enclosed) foot-hold traps together with mandatory trap line inspections virtually eliminates this possibility today. Licenced trappers normally check their traps within 24 to 72 hours after it is set.



## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- The Best Management Practice program (BMPs) for regulated trapping were established to meet an agreement signed with the European Union (the European Union Agreed Minute of Trap Standards.). The BMP program aims to evaluate animal welfare and develop recommendations for state fish and wildlife agencies to consider as an element of their wildlife management programs.
- Regulated trapping is a necessary and effective wildlife management tool, and wildlife professionals across the country believe that trapping BMPs will ensure the continued improvement of identifying selecting and adopting the best traps and techniques for furbearers.
- The best management process (BMP) continues to scientifically test and evaluate restraining devices for furbearers to ensure the U.S. obligations are met for its agreement with the European Union (Agreed Minute of Trap Standards.)

*(Experts from all 50 state Fish and Wildlife agencies and other conservation groups that care about, natural resources and animal welfare are working together to improve and modernize the technology of trapping through scientific research)*

## TRAPPERS AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

- Wildlife biologists and wildlife health care professionals have long recognized the important role of regulated trapping in the control and of density-dependent wildlife diseases. Although disease normally occurs in all wildlife populations, stress resulting from increased population densities may precipitate or confound the occurrence of disease.
- Non-regulated furbearer populations can function as disease / parasite reservoirs that pose a threat to humans, and likewise decrease the viability of wildlife populations.
- Trappers are on the front line of monitoring the furbearers and their habitats. Trappers provide vital information on wildlife through cooperative scientific studies.
- Trapping has also been successfully used to bring back species to areas they formally occupied