

From: Jay Petrillo
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Public comment Regarding Trapping
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 9:45:17 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for providing the public comment period.

The recent ad hominem attacks against Vermont Fish and Wildlife are too emotionally driven that lack any sound research to support their unfounded assertions. The arguments against trapping are really less about the science and research and more about imposing their beliefs. Emotional spleen venting and wildlife advocacy based on anecdotal evidence give rise to divisiveness, instead of initiating fruitful and productive civil discourse.

I have a great deal of respect for Vermont's licensed trappers. Trapping has been a tradition for hunters to obtain a sustainable and valuable food source, pelts, and "flavoring agents" for many years. When development occurs near wildlife habitat, we will always run into human-wildlife conflicts. More development equals more displaced wildlife and more human-wildlife conflicts – especially regarding beavers.

There are nutritional benefits of beaver meat ([University of Rochester Medical Center Nutrition Facts of Beaver Meat](#)). Properly processed beaver meat can help address [Vermont's growing food insecurity](#).

Trapping is an effective means of acquiring food. If there are severe restrictions placed on Vermont's licensed trappers bound by ideology, rather than economic necessity, a series of unfortunate events will arise.

There seems to be a very common Disneyesque perception of wildlife. This sanitized view overlooks the natural world and the sources of our food. There is a vast complex and system in place of how and where packaged meat is sourced. It is convenient to purchase package meat,

but we tend to conveniently block out the steps and procedures involved in the mass consumption of boneless breasts and other meats. After you view the 2008 documentary *Food Inc.*, you most likely will rethink that next purchase of boneless breasts.

We could, conceivably, be grief stricken of the steps involved of the corporatization of any type of meat and seafood. Any type of “processing” of a live food source could be considered inhumane. There is not really any likert scale measuring pain when millions of livestock shuffle off their mortal coils to feed America. The U.S. meat and poultry industry processed 52 billion pounds of meat in 2017. Chickens that are processed for the preparation of chicken piccata do not really die a dignified death and do not exactly hum Springsteen’s “The Rising” before their inevitable demise. Chicken piccata is a tasty culinary delight, but that butterflied chicken breast with a lemon reduction sauce adorned with caper and parsley embellishments on your plate was electrified, then had its throat slashed, and the final process where it was cast into a scalding bath designed to remove feathers more easily, before it was conveniently packaged.

Even the lobster feels pain when boiled for consumption. In a 2004 piece written by David Foster Wallace, “Consider The Lobster,” for *Gourmet Magazine*, he poses the existentialist question, “Is it alright to boil a sentient creature alive just for gustatory pleasure?” He argues that lobsters do in fact feel pain. Lobsters have an “exquisite tactile sense, one facilitated by hundreds of thousands of tiny hairs that protrude through their carapace.”

The more opposition there is to trapping, the more there will be an increase in the beaver population. According to the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department beaver web page: “Aerial surveys conducted on the Green Mountain National Forest in the 1980s and 1990s indicated that beaver population levels had increased by 120% in the ten years between surveys.”

As a result of misguided public outcry, Massachusetts banned the use of both steel jawed and padded leghold traps entirely in 1996. In 2000 they realized it was a “broken law,” and, as a result, “the Legislature modified the trap ban legislation in response to growing beaver

complaints and changes in public attitudes” (The Implication of a Statewide Ban on Trapping: The Massachusetts Experience).

Not quite sure of how posting disingenuous information and graphic imagery is aligned to the mission of Protect our Wilderness (POW) in “educating the public about trapping.” Yet, this is POW’s emotionally-driven approach is their usual modus operandi of entering the conversation in any type of discourse regarding trapping.

It appears that Protect Our Wildlife frequently refers to a survey that lacks any statistical significance to justify its cause. 62.8% (only 384) “agreed” to the biased statement that neglected the Oxford comma: “Should Vermont ban the use of steel jaw leghold, body gripping traps and any types of drowning traps?” A total of 611 Vermonters responded to the poll — not really a representative sample of Vermonters.

Skewed data and self-righteous ideology do not really initiate a meaningful dialogue regarding hunting, trapping, and wildlife management.

Coexistence with the beavers involves costs and significant challenges. continued presence of beavers within the surrounding area is cause for concern. The extent, lifespan, and implication(s) of beaver-dam-induced-floods are inherently unpredictable.

Beavers are capable of creating major property damage and wreaking havoc. Boyles and Savitzky (2008) point out various studies of the “. . . damage caused by beavers is a costly problem for many transportation departments in the U.S. . . Arner and Dubose (1979) estimated that economic losses attributed to beaver activity exceeded \$4 billion in the southeastern U.S. over the previous 40 years, and Miller (1983) estimated that annual damage was between \$75 and \$100 million in the U.S.” (p. 47).

The Amtrak accident that occurred back in July 1984 in North Williston was tragic consequence of the collapse of beaver dams: “Federal investigators have concluded that the collapse of a series of beaver dams caused the flash flood that undermined a section of track in

Vermont last year resulting in the derailment of an Amtrak train. Five people died in the derailment and 26 were seriously injured” (“Amtrak Accident Laid to Beavers,” 1985, para.1))

The assertions that beavers are “nature’s purifiers” is inconclusive. There has been continued beaver presence in Allen Brook for centuries. Williston Conservation Commission (WCC) tested the water quality of the 11 miles of Allen Brook for roughly a dozen years in the early part of the 21st century. There have been concerning levels of E. coli, phosphorous, and turbidity concentrations - enough for over a dozen neighborhoods to spend thousands of dollars to upgrade their stormwater retention ponds in 2018. (WCC stopped testing in 2019). As in any water quality monitoring, there are problems with data norming & seasonal issues – only tested during the summer.

A few qualitative papers suggest some benefits:

- “. . .species richness and biodiversity of the invertebrate complex for the entire stream, inhabited by beavers versus uninhabited, is often higher” (Wojten & Kukula, 2020, p. 140).
- “. . . [B]eaver managed floodplains are biodiversity hotspots because beaver ponds and wetlands serve as sinks for carbon, processing centers for nitrogen and phosphorus, reservoirs for the storage and cooling of water, and mitigation sites for both drought and flooding. Thus, it is imperative that we foster beaver-dominated areas for the many services they provide. . . We need to apply our knowledge of the physical and biological processes of functioning riverscapes and the role that beavers play to drive rapid, comprehensive, and durable action. Actions that address the pervasive degradation of North America's streams, rivers, and floodplains. Actions that rebuild the natural, functioning dynamics of riverscapes to permit robust responses to disturbance. Riverscape restoration, and in particular process-led and beaver-based restoration, should be the foundation of our national freshwater climate action plan” (Jordan & Fairfax, 2021, p. 8)

A few peer-reviewed quantitative studies are, at times, inconclusive and always have a caveat in their conclusions:

- “We recommend that future research in evaluating flow devices

include collaborative efforts with social and wildlife scientists. Management options should include lethal and non-lethal forms of control and not take an either-or approach. Additionally, a firm understanding of the basic biology of beavers and hydrology must be considered in designing studies and evaluating success of conflict resolution. (Taylor & Singleton, 2014, p. 132)

- "Nonetheless, considerable knowledge gaps and outstanding questions remain, which provides a rich and interdisciplinary future research agenda" (A. Larsen et al., 2021, p. 40).
- "Our hypothesis that beaver dams can act as trickle filter was therefore partly confirmed. We found that beaver dams could control loads of biogenic substances to surface-water bodies, and, at the same time, could act as hotspots of Hg methylation. . . Furthermore, as in recent studies our findings confirmed that beaver dams and ponds create favorable conditions for the formation of MeHg [mercury transforms into hazardous and neurotoxic methylmercury]. Therefore, there is a need to find an optimal solution for adaptive beaver management. . . Moreover, our results encourage further studies on management opportunities to lessen MeHg levels in order to protect living beings." (Čiuldienė et al., 2020, p. 6)

Public perception, attitudes, and general lack of a well-informed "woke" understanding of the need for wildlife management needs to shift to a better balance within developed communities. In Messmer and Peterson's (2010) study, "Can Public Meetings Accurately Reflect Public Attitudes Toward Wildlife Management," proclaims: ". . . public understanding of agency public input processes can translate into increased involvement, greater public satisfaction with methods employed, and policies and decisions that reflect the dynamics of the changing landscape" (p. 1,593).

In the November 15, 2021, issue of the *New Yorker*, "Deer Wars and Death Threats" proclaims: "Only a fraction of wildlife management is about biology. 'The rest is sorting out why people believe what they do.'"

Jay Petrillo

Williston Resident

vtpetrillo@comcast.net

Adler, MaryBeth

From: Connolly, Abigail
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 12:23 PM
To: Adler, MaryBeth; Furfey, Brehan
Subject: Public Comment from Stuart Kinney

Good afternoon,

I received a call from a man named Stuart Kinney. He said that he attended the public hearing last Wednesday. I told him I would take notes on his public comment and submit it for him because he doesn't use a computer. I told him that it would be best to talk to Sean, but that Sean is out for a week or two. I told him I would submit his public comment before the end of the public comment period this Friday.

He is concerned with the provision in the hunting coyotes with dogs regulations that hunters would get points against their license when going on posted property. He doesn't understand how we can segregate one group of hunters from another and doesn't know if this would hold up in court. He says that a fine would be more appropriate than losing their hunting license. He says you can't pull a license from another type of hunter.

Stuart Kinney
802-728-5152

Thank you!



Abigail Connolly (she/her) | Principal Assistant to Commissioner Herrick
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources | Department of Fish & Wildlife
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 | Montpelier, VT 05620
802-828-1454 (o) | 802-636-7414 (c)
abigail.connolly@vermont.gov
www.vtfishandwildlife.com

Written communications to and from state employees regarding state business are considered public records and may be subject to public scrutiny.

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Prue Town: _____

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- Hand guns need to be stated for dispatch
- 4.5 - disinclined trap, need to put in OR's all features - OR, not and.
- Stake and - may be 18" - minimum of 12" - ^{above ground} anything shorter will risk animal getting loose. SO that way it stays anchored
- double staked for all coyotes - in a cross any foot traps set on land recommend double stakes for foot traps set on land
- 50 feet - no basis - where did it come from make it 30 ft, outside of legal rights excessive compromise

(*)

ebh

Paul Noel
M U.
entire time

board member
not invited?
Paul
commissioner

Chn. Bradley

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- wants to have an outlaw on drags
get rid of drags on land -

Chn. Bradley

- there may be situations where firearms are not allowed -

- We didn't test water sets in VT, - in Canada.

- traps set in water are exempt in - but dry set in water isn't legal. Also issue on

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

- Blind sets: If baited, needs to be enclosure
- Dept. are eliminating blank sets
- High bank sets w/ minic 110 can't use

→ Bob Patterson - is a board member

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3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.

b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

→ sound & fore - why aren't we allowing for that
time + vibration

→ If dogs spook up coyote while rabbit hunting without
a coyote permit is it legal to shoot?

→ up to the commissioner to determine who gets permit?
first come first serve? It should be up to discretion of
Committee

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

~~5/21/2023~~

- posted property - hunters should go on
posted property to be able to get dog.
they're should be able to retrieve animal

- 100 permits - based on commissioner, wants change
how determined what stats

- no meat baited conibear
- disagree with removal of blind sets

→ Swirls - at least 2 swirls.

If double sided - does it count as 1 or 2 swirls

→ 25-50 ft doesn't make much difference

• disagree if a trail
if road.

→ Where are we measuring from - with down trail,
center line, on side? Need clarification (part)

4.17(b) unless set in a culvert, in the water, etc.
makes it sound like can trap in a dry culvert

→ Is 100 adequate?

Can we change it on the fly if more applicants?

— Fish + Wildlife needs a variance.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Bert Saldit Town: Barre

Email: stumpjumper02@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

NOTE (Trapping)

① The language should read!

Be anchored with a min of 12" and max of 28" chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock springs can be added to the chaining system"

② be padded, offset, laminated, or have a min jaw thickness of $\frac{5}{16}$ th of an inch"

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Coyotes

- ① This should be amended to remove the prohibition against the use of communication devices as preventing communication only increase the chance of unintentional conflicts making this a terrible idea

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- ② (should be amended to read " ")
permit applicants must hold a valid Vermont hunting license.
- ③ Pack of dogs in section 3.11 should be amended to read "
"Pack of dogs" means one to six dogs, acting as a unit during taking coyote with the aid of dogs".
Rather than limiting packs of four.

M

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Chris Bradley Town: Northfield

Email: bradley@TDS.net

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

① 50' setback is excessive. If this is to accommodate leashes, 50' leashes do not accommodate pet control.

50' ... trail over a culvert?

② minimum of 12", 18" max

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

50' is excessive and does not comport to ROWs.

4.5 add "ors" in sentence

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okay

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

why is collars with audio control not accepted?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: BRUCE BAROFFIO Town: NFLD

Email: bbaroffio@hotmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5 JAW FEATURES NEED TO BE LISTED WITH THE WORD OR NOT AND

4.5 CHAINS SHOULD BE MINIMUM OF 12" AND MAX OF 18"

DRY CULVERT CAN'T BE SET?

UNDER 60" COYBEARS SHOULD NOT BE CONTAINED UNLESS BAIT IS USED

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

NO DRAGS ON LAND

ENCOURAGE EXTRA SWIVELS

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HUNTER NEEDS TO HAVE A DUTY TO
RETRIEVE A DOG ON POSTED PROPERTY

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: DENNIS FOURNIER Town: WILLIAMSTOWN

Email: dennisfournier6@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5c - Should read - Be padded, offset, laminated, or have a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16" of an inch.

4.5b - should read - Be anchored with a minimum of 12" and maximum of 18" chain length. Extra swivels and or shock springs can be added to the chaining system.

4.17 - Should read - No foothold traps can be set on or within 25 ft of traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless set in a culvert or in the water. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.

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4.5. elimination of drags is welcomed.

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These rules are acceptable.

Hunters & Coyote's permits should not be decided by the Commissioner - permits should be decided on a 1st come - 1st serve basis with legal hunting ~~license~~ permit.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: LARRY LUBY Town: MILTON

Email: megandle@yahoo.com

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4.5(b) Chain length S/B 12" MINIMUM 18" MAXIMUM

4.17 Trail/Road OVER A DRY COLVERT?

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

WHY IS THE PERMITS LIMITED TO 100? DOESN'T VERMONT WANT INCOME?

HOW WILL THESE ~~REGULATIONS~~ ENFORCE THESE REGULATIONS?

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

General Comments - Montpelier 6/21/23

Breanna Galdenzi - Stowe

would F&W consider using AFWA for each species

- Proposed Regs are insufficient
- A lot of this is very nuanced
- AFWA advises against using BMPs for regs
- These will do nothing for Wildlife

George - Dore

- VAST trail across Private land - Does
- VT hunting license should be required to apply for Coyote-hunting Permits

Bride Baroffio - Northfield

- If more than 100 people apply - should be lottery system

Rod Coronato - Orange

- No charge for 220's
Why are traps that have not passed BMP testing allowed to be used ex 220 for Fisher

Jerry - Roxbury

- VTA spent many months developing BMP Regs.

- Hearing should only be about proposed Regs not about banning trapping

- VTA does not condone illegal trapping / support hunting Coyotes w/ dogs

Anne - Corinth

- Public safety

Signage is important & should be a requirement

- Dog died in Coniber trap
- Responsibility on trappers & Dept
- All at risk for 5 months out of the year

Towns have leash laws

landowner walking on posted property

Many traps that catch pets are set illegally

Bmps will leave pets unharmed

Dan - ~~Stowe~~

leash law for pets but not hunting dogs - Ironic

Should lose license for life if dog goes on posted land

Sarah - Grand Isle Project coyotes

Most regs are not following Bmps

Trapping can never be humane

How do rules actually protect landowners rights
for coyote hunting

6/7/23 DS

General Comments

Brenna
Stowe

- Procedural questions, only questions or answer to, will record question for all. Will FWD require what AFWA requirements for individual species? by BMPs,

Georgie Burr

- 50' rule does it apply to VAST Trail on private property
- Want hunting license for person that wants hound pursuit

Red Corrada
Orango

- No change to 220 consider for fisher, submitted science paper
Why is trapping allowed still?

Jerry P.

- Left speech

Roxbury

Anne McKinzy
Carinth

- Signage + setbacks for public safety,
- hikers should feel safe
- does not address suffering

?

- Wants dog leash laws

- over looked in conversations, many traps that get pets are set illegally.

Dan
Stowe

- Why no leash law for hounds, so ironic
- Penalties for on posted land should be lost licenses

Sarah
Grand Isle

- Project Coyote, wish FWD used current + best science that they are not doing now.
- radio collars will not control hounds, range not good + signal cut out.

Brenna
Stowe

- Pow opposed to recreational trapping, any trapper will catch pets, honest discussion

Ryan Smiths summarized comments
Focus Questions From Breakout group

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School

Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: _____ Town: _____

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- drags are more humane - less injury to animal, animal is able to get into brush

- trapping for entericis - change should come from people who have knowledge - not politicians

✓ BMP should be recommendations - most already use BMP's

✓ unnecessary to add more laws

✓ not in favor covered bait - wind can uncover it

✓ setbacks on roads problem - trap culverts

✓ body gripping should be allowed on land - already limited

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i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- questions on snowmobile trails - need better description of trails

- already limits on body gripping don't add more constraints

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

- FW Enforcement already overwhelmed - why add more laws

- bear trapping to reduce bear conflicts

- why alert legislators at these meetings as they will be making laws

Focus Questions
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3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.

b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

- four dog limit: hard to ~~train~~ train pups

- if dog starts coyote on ~~post~~ open land and chases onto posted property then back onto open land as long as hunter remains on open land that should be ok.

- why 100 permits? 1st year leave open, 2nd year ^{recommen-d # permits}

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- worry about 100 permits limiting young hunters getting started

- do not limit to 100 - not all 100 are out at once

- worry about anti hunters buying up permits need criteria to apply

- no limit on permits

- no need to report captures - tons of them out there

- need to double staff with all new regulations

- deregulate - too many laws now!

over

- if you can shoot coyotes at night
should be able to run at night

- Coyote season overlap with trapping Dec 16 - Dec 31
may be more conflicts as now you have a shorter
coyote running season - more possibility conflict between
trapper & hounds

→ no limit on hounds - should be at least 6

Focus Questions
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Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Michael Fallon Town: Tim-outh

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I am not in favor of any of the changes to the trapping regulations. ~~As trappers really~~
This seems not to be based on trapping in VT.

Why not bear trapping? / snares
longer seasons?

Focus Questions

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

WE already
DO THIS

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

NO GOOD - 4.5 (f) elimination of drags

BAD - 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

STUPID - 4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.17 IS TOO FAR FROM THE ROAD SIDE

4.6, 4.7, 4.8 WHY NOT?

4.5 Drags ARE A GREAT WAY TO SET TRAPS
IN AREAS THAT ARE DUFFY TO BURN SETS

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

~~DO~~ DO MORE TO SUPPORT TRAPPING IN VT
LIKE LONGER BOBCAT AND FISHER SEASONS.

~~WE HAV~~

WHY NO DRAGS THEY WORK VERY WELL

Focus Questions
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3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs. - stupid

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder: NO

June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.

b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive. WE ARE STILL LAND TRAPPING

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

WHY?

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

NO SHOOTING HOURS

NO SEASON

STOP WORKING AGAINST HUNTERS/TRAPPERS

Focus Questions
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: DON SHATTUCK Town: SPRINGFIELD

Email: gwi@vermontel.com

- 1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
 - i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
 - 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
 - 4.9: Covered bait
 - 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

EXISTING RULES ARE SUFFICIENT.
~~TRAP~~
RELATIVE TO CRITTERS FLATTENED BY CARS,
TRAPPING IS A NON ISSUE IN VERMONT.

Focus Questions
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i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

CHANGES ARE UNPROVEN.
VERMONT IS NOT PREPARED TO ENFORCE AND
PROSECUTE LAWS UNIQUE TO N. AMERICA

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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POORLY THOUGHT OUT. CONFLICTS WITH
COON HUNTING.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

LEGISLATION THAT BURDENS F&W FOR NO GAME
MGMT BENEFIT.

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: RICK FALLAR Town: TINMOUTH VT

Email: _____

- 1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.**
- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
 - 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
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 - 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

NOT IN FAVOR OF CHANGE

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NOT IN FAVOR OF CHANGE

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Bill Parker Town: Middleton Springs VT

Email: _____

- 1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.**
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
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Focus Questions

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Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

If there is a season it should stay open till

May 1

There should be no set Permit # or Permits Period
If they are filled at gives No room for future Hunters
and experienced

There should Be no Changes!

Focus Questions
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Robert Williams Town: Tinsmouth

Email: bob@vermontel.com

1. **What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.**
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 A drag gives The ANIMAL A CHANCE TO
MOVE AND SETTLE DOWN RATHER THAN A SHORT
CHAIN WHERE THEY CAN DO MORE DAMAGE TO
THEMSELVES WHEN FIRST CAUGHT.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Focus Questions
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Keeping The dogs off Posted Property 100% in Hill Country is going to be difficult. Once The dogs crest The Mountain AND you lose reception, by The Time you drive around The other side of The mountain which may take 10-15 minutes they could be on Posted Land.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Why 100 Permits. First year should be open to see exactly how many permits get sold. Then regulate if necessary due to problems.

your not required to Report when Trapping or calling, Why when hound hunting?

Focus Questions
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: TRAVIS HEPBURN Town: TINMOUTH

Email: _____

1. **What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.**
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
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Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

LIMIT OF 4 DOGS MAKES IT ALOT HARDER TO START AND TRAIN YOUNG AND UP AND COMING DOGS.

LIMIT OF 6 DOGS DURING RUNNING BEAR IS EVEN HARD.

DOGS SHOULD BE ABLE TO GO FROM 2 UN-POSTED PROPERTY THREW POSTED PROPERTY AND BACK ONTO UN-POSTED PROPERTY.

Focus Questions
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Name: _____ **Town:** _____

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Focus Questions

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i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

- Four dog hard to train 4 dogs esp young
- started run through posted property from unposted then back to unposted - should allow that - hunter stays on unposted property
- keeping property off posted property in mountains is hard

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- why 100 permits? 1st year open to see how many apply then regulate
- numbers activity gets people out, sometimes shit happens - a dog is a dog
- don't like limit not 100 people are out at once
- what does limit amount to? why 100?
- worry about dog sitting - where @. Does this hinder new dog hunters?

- anti hunters buying up permits
↳ some critical to apply

- no permits at all!

- no limit on permits - over and over

- Season overlaps with trapping 15 day - now
you compressed it into a season - may make
it issue now we have season

→ if you can shoot coyote at night why
can't run dog at night

- stupid why report them? they are not
bears - taking up resources to check coyote

→ need to double staff w. all new
regulations

→ deregulate seasons - too many laws

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School

Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: David Sawville + Ryan Smith Town: Montpelier Meeting

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- enhanced trap will not ↓ stress on trapped animal,
- 50' not far enough
- signage in trapping areas, for public areas.
- No way to improve traps, p.
- no bait for traps
- four predation, broken bones, never enough swivels
- not adequate laws
- no body grip on land
- Good improvements, okay, trapping important.
- good as is, people did good job with rules, not a trapper himself.
- leash laws needed,
- VT only one of few that allows conibers, should not be on land.
- black bears, bobcat + martin will get ~~not~~ caught if coniber on land
- VTIFW not doing enough, minimum amount to do smoke + mirrors
- bird dog hunters should want traps off WMA.
- not protect non-targeted animals

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- extra swivel nice thought but don't believe will help humane
- enclosure will not help protect
- signs are needed, more people want to hike and cause should be on trapper.
- Retain dispatch to gun shot & arrows.
- animals will feel distress
- only having setbacks as listed is too limited,
- dispatch needs to be more concrete
- signage only on public land, not private land
- Body gripping traps will catch T&E, cats, small dogs, etc. will not do much w/ setback
- 50' does not take into account big dogs & long leashes
-

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

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b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

- Coyote + bear dog hunting should not be legal, inhumane, not sportsmanlike
- Dogs on private land
- Dog training during birthing season, advocates said only 1 dog, do will not listen to collars.
- be in visual sight. Only humane way to kill is with point blank gun shot.
- control is only addressing parameters of control
- GPS not adequate, allows dogs to be miles away from hunters, poor cell service.
- K9 behavior specialist consult on control.
- report coyote after 48 hrs of kill, not at end of season
- reasonable pack should be 6 dogs, collars good control (two people)
- wants season to April 15th. ~~there~~
- No points for hunter, all others don't get points

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- Season already what they are doing so not giving up anything
- GPS & shock collars not control
- bait should not happen.
- 4 hours too much, only one wanted
- land owners rights & heads on land will have dog fight
-

1) enlarged snails
- 50 ft not far enough - 70 ft dog not
at

- Public safety signage safety public

- not improve traps - designed kill's
- no bait

→ terrifying animals

→ eradication don't go further

→ 50 ft set back

→ good improvements

→ trapping unpaired wilding

→ land mark improved - wonderful work

by p

- leash laws -

no signage

→ signage for traps

→ VT commonly allowing kill trap land

→ no releasing permitted on land

→ black bear, marten

→ a trap for each species

→ smoke + mirrors

→ Set backs 50 ft not enough

→ covered meat bait - all ~~animals~~

- fall short every angle

2) extra smil cloest

→ once enclosure doesn't do enough

→ signage public safety

→ owners on traps not landowner

→ retain gun shot + bow + arrow don't wait

AFWA

→ ~~smil~~

- bears can be caught at 5 ft

→ apply to more areas not just trails

→ more concrete than AFWA

→ enclosed on land

→ signage on public land + not private

→ agreement section

3) → PETS - I'm control dogs

→ body catching → still catch other animals
even enclosed

→ signage be great

→ 50 ft not long enough

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Jane Fitzwilliam Town: Westminster West VT

Email: janebfitzwilliam@icloud.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

There is no way to "improve" traps which are designed to kill

BMP'S are a misnomer

Bait should be omitted - traps will draw non-target species including pets (remember Clark, the shelter)

Any animal caught in a trap will experience fear, predation, thirst, broken bones, etc - no matter how many swivels are added.

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

- i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel - *does not make - animal will experience pain, fear, predation +*
- 4.5 (f) elimination of drags
- 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' *etc* above the ground.
- 4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

*4.6 - 4.8: Bears + other tree climbers
that are non-target can be
caught. I know of 2 Bears
in my town a 3 legs -
what happened?*

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

A) Dog training is during both seasons
Dogs at 4? Advokated for 1 - agree w/ no tags
GPS/shock does not work - dogs ignore
when on a scent - must be in visual
distance from handler
only humane "stake" (kill) is w/ a point - best
shot - every one's recommendation

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

is cruelty - how accurate is
a long shot

Focus Questions
 Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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 Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: ANNE MCKINSEY Town: CORINTH

Email: MCKINSEYA@GMAIL.COM

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5. - THESE ~~ARE~~ RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENHANCED TRAP STYLE WOULD NOT DIMINISH ANIMAL DISTRESS.

4.6 - 4.8 - BODY-GMP TRAP SHOULD BE BANNED ON LAND. MY DOG - "CLARA" KILLED 1/2 MILE FROM MY HOME DEC 2022 - TRAP WAS 7.5" X 7.5"

4.9 - NO COMMENT -- DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THIS.

4.17 - SETBACKS - 50' DOES NOT SEEM LIKE ENOUGH DISTANCE. MY DOG'S TRAP WAS ESTIMATED AT 70' OFF THE TRAIL. SHE WAS IN MY VERBAL COMMAND & LEASH ~~AT~~ OFF-LEASH IS LEGAL IN MY TOWN.

~~AS PART~~ ON THE SUBJECT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, I ADVOCATE STRONGLY FOR SIGNAGE ^{IN} TRAP AREAS. SAFETY OF OUR GENERAL PUBLIC IS VITAL ~~AND WE MUST BE AWARE~~

~~BEING CAUGHT / KILLED BY TRAPS.~~

↑ 12
↑ 2
6 KNOWN OF IN 2022.

TRAPERS SHOULD TAKE RESPONSIBILITY TO MARK THEIR TRAPPING AREAS.

Focus Questions
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- SWIVEL: NICE THOUGHT, BUT CAN'T IMAGINE IT WOULD REDUCE ANIMALS' DISTRESS.
- DRAGS: I DON'T KNOW.
- BODY-GRIP - ANCHORED ENCLOSURE WILL NOT PROTECT A PET OR CHILD.
- WHILE I APPRECIATE THE INCREASE TO 50', THIS IS NOT A FAR ENOUGH DISTANCE.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

I REALLY APPRECIATE THE ENHANCED REVISIONS, BUT ~~IN~~ IN THE LONG-RUN, THESE DO NOT ADEQUATELY ADDRESS ANIMAL DISTRESS. IF YOU NEED TO RETAIN DISPATCH AS GUNSHOT, BOW & NOT RELY ON AFWA RECOMMENDATION, WHICH WILL LIKELY INCLUDE CHEST COMPRESSION & BLUDGEONING. THIS IS INHUMANE, PLAIN & SIMPLE.

Focus Questions
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I DISAGREE THAT ~~HUNTING~~ HUNTING COYOTE (& BEAR) ^{WITH DOGS} SHOULD BE LEGAL. SO, NO COMMENT ON THESE DETAILS. I'VE HEARD ^{OF} NUMEROUS ENCOUNTERS (ONE -- MY FRIEND) OF WITH HOUNDERS W/ THEIR DOGS. ~~AT~~ HOUNDERS RUNNING ON PROPERTY WITHOUT PERMISSION -- DOG OWNERS NOT PROSECUTED FOR THIS. IT IS AN INHUMANE PRACTICE, NOT SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE LEGAL IN 21ST CENTURY. THIS IS NOT SPORTSMANSHIP --

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

NO HONOR.

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Stuart Kinney Town: Braintree

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Changes seem all right!!!

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Changes seem alright

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:



Focus Questions



Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through ~~March 1~~^{4/15}, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Five. No points for trespass. No other person is so treated. 6 dogs

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

No other hunters get points or possible loss of license for trespass, all dogs especially during regular hunting should be on a leash.

Focus Questions
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Name: _____ Town: _____

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These changes will not protect non-targeted wildlife, especially w/ kill traps on land.

Covered ^{meat} bait is insufficient. All bait should be covered, including all animal matter.

Setbacks of 50' are insufficient &
Setbacks s/B on all on all public land.

AFWA requires BMPs for each species,

F&W's recommendations are incomplete

A 6 1/4 sq inch leghold trap can cause a lot of damage to foxes, raccoons, skunks etc..

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ERRR. See responses on page 1.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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This season is exactly what coyote hounders are already doing.

GPS & shock ~~collars~~ are not control.

Bait should be prohibited - that's what working group agreed on.
A hounds on one coyote are too many -
coyotes can't climb trees

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

what about landowner rights?

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Eric Messier Town: Randolph VT

Email: MessierFarm@yahoo.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Lacks good

Focus Questions
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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

LOOKS GOOD

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

All seem Reasonably to me
SIGNS on Public land not on Private

Focus Questions
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Seem Reasonably to me

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Think pack size should be 6 hound dogs not 4

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Katie Nolan Town: Eden, VT

Email: Katie@idausa.org

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- 1) The regulations are inadequate & do not go far enough to improve animal welfare, both in the first vote version and with the Depts proposed changes.
- 2) I don't think body gripping traps should be allowed on land & also that 50ft set-back is not far enough
- 3) also largely unenforceable
- 4) signage should be required where traps are placed
- 5) only recommending meat bait, but should req. visible bait from 50ft as well as other animal matter

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i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- 1) VFWD's proposal for the setback to not apply to public trails + class IV highways located in wildlife Management Areas limits the regulation to a really small portion of land
- 2) Non-committal to humane dispatch that allows a deferral to Assoc of F&W agencies
- 3) Reg. traps to be enclosed on land but this still doesn't prevent small dogs + cats from entering traps

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Focus Questions
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1) what is the definition of "control"? The current definition seems to only address the parameters in which control is necessary, i.e. transportation, loading, or unloading but does not address the actual meaning of the word control. GPS collars are not synonymous with control, they are a means of executing control, but not the definition of it.

2) The use of GPS collars is arguably an inadequate method of control. The table has spoken about control of dogs (pets) on hiking trails so they do not get caught in traps, but GPS collars allow dogs to miles from the hunters (a quick google search showed GPS range of 9 miles for standard collars)

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping? and bandwidth!

This is also concerning with Vermont's poor cell service in many areas. My question is has the department consulted a canine behavior expert of some kind?

3) 4.21.3 (c) Legal methods says "includes utilizing a muzzleloader..." is that including but not limited to?

4) Licenses + permits — hunter/handler on someone else's property should have to ask for permission & carrying a permit is not the same as asking for permission

5) reporting should be 48 hrs after the kill not 48 hrs after the end of the season

Focus Questions
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Russell Britting Town: Brattleboro
Email: rpritting@hotmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

In agreement

The proposed rules have been carefully thought out and I believe them to be reasonable

Focus Questions
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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Seem reasonable

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

In agreement

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

I feel the park size should be 6 ms + 4

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: _____ **Town:** _____

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

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Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.

b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

- illegal for boat + coyote hands
- not sportsman ship
- disruptions to pupping → 1 dog vs 1 coyote
- dogs pay attention to shock collar
- no sight - need to be visual site
- point blank shot → only human way gun shot

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- Control address meaning control - GPS are not control - I-249 control
- allow miles - 9 miles
- point cell service - inhibit working collar
- dog control specialist
- lic permits London or perimeter
- 48 hours after kill not season

- all reasonable

- size pack should be 6

* hands are trained properly excellent control
can be stopped

* agree \rightarrow reg

* increase to 6 allow for pups

\rightarrow season April 15th

* only person gets points for trespass

* season already done - start from summer

- GPS / shock collar not control

\rightarrow bait not allowed

- 4 hound on 1 coyote too much

1 dog vs 1 coyote

\rightarrow dog fight - landowner rite

Focus Questions

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Josie Blouin + Andy Wood Town: VFW Staff
Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
- 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
- 4.9: Covered bait
- 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- Fails to meet ^{legitimate} mandate to reduce animal suffering
- no change to fisher trapping, should be more focus
- Make 50' setback to 100' or 150'
- is any foothold trap not painful + cruel to the animal
Has anyone tested the new traps?
- trapping is not humane, no longer supported by the public
- 6 States have banned conical bear traps, so need to get with the time.
- ok with trapping regs, animals can animals more brutal than trappers. we do the best we can with what we've got. without stopping trapping, they are doing the best they can.
- nature takes care of overpopulation, trapping is more humane.
- WMA is funded by federal dollars, coming from many other Vermonters not just hunters, so ~~it shouldn't be allowed here as the setback rule should apply~~

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- ~~Fails to reduce~~
- ~~many traps in foster trap are~~
- Should confine bear trap 5' above ground be in an enclosure to prevent bear from reaching it.
- Anybody should be able to hunt under Vermont constitution, so nobody should be denied.
- Coyote pop. is self regulated, so they are actually stable difference in ethics → stable pop. doesn't mean unbalanced hunt.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

- mainly animal to exhaustion isn't fair chase.
- killing mounted coyotes is allowing young coyotes to run wild, not learning from elder coyotes.

Focus Questions

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- Why 6 dogs down to 4? Second for that
 - No problem with relay.
 - No. problem with having to use guns, bow + arrow, etc.
 - don't agree with limiting to 100 permits. How can they say there will only be 100 permits needed, butch suggests there could be many more hunters. shouldn't be a limit on numbers.
 - how would they keep a non-houndsman from signing up and getting a permit - there should be no quota.
 - GPS collars do not equal control - if that was the case, we wouldn't have so many trespass issues
- Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- every individual included in hunting with hounds should have a permit, anybody involved should have a permit.
- too many documented incidents of hounds on coyote fighting.
- All coyote hunting should be DEC. 15 - March 31
the same as the hound season.
- No baiting should be allowed
- No want and waste
- tracking time disturbs other animals
- should be a crew of hunters, not just GPS.

→

- Coyotes are only keystone species in Vermont.
- Endangered species can be captured, including lynx + hybrid coonies.
- GPS units don't work beyond 1-mile of range, so not actual control.
- reporting is a honor system, concern that we don't know how many coonies are actually being killed.
- hunt hunting isn't a fair chase
- confused how end of season info helps biologists.
- understanding that F&W makes decisions, but now it's the legislature making rules
- proposal to control coyote population as Department? make it harder to hunt, how will we control/manage population.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Andy W. Town: ~~VT~~ VFWD STAFF
Email: Together w/ Josh B.

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
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- Flourensman - why 6 dogs to 4 dogs. Haven't heard reason why
- rely - no problem. If you have 4 or 6 that can't get quarry, need new dogs
- lethal method - something that will do the job quick
- Don't agree with limiting to 100 permits - tried to do way back on bears, never will be that many. Never done study - blind shot in dark. There are that many bear hunters now.
- How would the 100 work? Lottery? First come first serve
- How would you keep non-hunters from taking the permits - "no quota"
- Don't agree with number of dogs.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- GDS ≠ control. We wouldn't have so many hand traps if that were case.
- Permits - every individual engaged ^{in hunt} should have a permit, whether transporting, picking up stray dogs, should have permit
- Too many instances of hand on coyote fighting.
- If you're limiting period for handing to Dec-march, should be same for hunting season.
- No baiting should be allowed
- Dogs shouldn't be allowed to attack kill
- No winter waste
- Training time disturbs animals in wood, birds. Hunters should be in physical view.

only keystone predator, no mt lion/wolves. concern trapping endangered species could be trapped.

- Faw expert said the collars don't work 21 mi, or over includes. Can't control dogs beyond 1 mi range. Can't read posted signs. How are we going to protect landowner rights.
- Delayed reporting @ end of season doesn't make sense.
 - Confused how this would benefit Biologists.
 - Honor system - how does this benefit / how does it work
- How'd hunting not fair chase practice. Radio collar/GPS
- Can't see how this isn't fair chase, dogs announced
- Lot of these too restrictive, and I don't chase coyotes. Under impression how given control by legislature. Year-ass is on the block next, writing on the wall.
- Appears these are new regulations, and you're wasting our time.
- What is your plan for reducing populations. Populations out of control?
- 100 permits discriminating against people who can't get them.
- permitting process - concern about nonhunters: constitutionally legal right to hunt. Hope Commissioner would exclude any Vermonters from exercising right.
- Coyote populations self-regulating, difference in ethics, stable pops
Running animal to exhaustion not fair chase.
- By killing m+d coyotes, crazy coyotes that don't know to stay away from

Butch gear

**Act 159 and Act 165 and the
Amendments to the Furbearing Species Rules**

Act 159 directives: BMPs for Trapping	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23	Recommended rule edits following the April 5, 2023 Board meeting
Trapping devices and components of trapping devices that are more humane than currently authorized devices and are designed to minimize injury to a captured animal as defined by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Best Management Practices (BMP's).	4.5 Foothold traps on land must: <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Have base plates that feature a center chain mount with swivel, with free moving chain and at least one additional swivel that allow mobility for a captured animal;(b) Be anchored with a maximum of 18" chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock springs can be added to the chaining system;(c) Be padded or offset and laminated with a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16th of an inch or fully encapsulate the foot;(d) Have a spread of no more than 6¼ inches measured inside the widest expanse of the jaws;(e) If a foothold trap is triggered by downward pressure, it must be adjustable for pan tension.(f) Not withstanding section 4.5, a drag may be used to anchor a foothold trap, provided that the trap meets 4.5 subsections a), c), d), and e).	4.5 (a) Proposed revision: Have base plates that feature a center chain mount with swivel, with free moving chain and at least two one additional swivels that allow mobility for a captured animal; 4.5 (f) Proposed revision: Not withstanding section 4.5, a drag may be used to anchor a foothold trap, provided that the trap meets 4.5 subsections a), c), d), and e).
Criteria for adjusting or maintaining trapping devices so that they operate correctly and humanely;	4.5 – see 4.5 above Also taught in mandatory trapper education classes.	
Trapping techniques, including the appropriate size and type of a trap for target animals, use of lures or other attractants, trap safety, and methods to avoid nontarget animals;	4.5 above and: 4.6 A person shall not set a body gripping trap with a jaw spread opening greater than 60 square inches measured inside the widest expanse of the jaws unless the trap is set five feet or more above the ground, or in the water.	4.7 Proposed revision: No meat-based baited , body-gripping traps shall be set on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure with openings no greater than 60 square inches and with a trap trigger that

Act 159 directives: BMPs for Trapping	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23	Recommended rule edits following the April 5, 2023 Board meeting
	<p>4.7 No meat-based baited, body-gripping traps shall be set on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure with openings no greater than 60 square inches and with a trap trigger that is recessed at least 12" from all openings.</p> <p>4.8 Meat based baited body-gripping traps with a jaw spread up to and including 60 square inches can be used on land if the trap is placed at least 5' above the ground.</p> <p>4.9 All meat-based bait shall be covered at the time that a trap is set. Coverings shall include, but are not limited to, brush, branches, leaves, soil, snow, water, or enclosures constructed of wood, metal, wire, plastic, or natural materials.</p>	<p>is recessed at least 12" from all openings.</p> <p>4.8 Proposed revision: Meat based baited Body-gripping traps with a jaw spread up to and including 60 square inches can be used on land if the trap is placed at least 5' above the ground</p>
<p>Requirements for the location of traps, including the placing of traps for purposes other than nuisance trapping at a safe distance, from public trails, class 4 roads, playgrounds, parks, and other public locations where persons may reasonably be expected to recreate.</p>	<p>4.17 Trail Setbacks:</p> <p>(a) No foothold traps can be set on or within 25' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, or at least 5' above the ground. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.</p> <p>(b) No body-gripping traps can be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, at least 5' above the ground, or in a set as described above in 4.17. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas. Prohibits "foothold traps within 25' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless in a culvert, under water, or 5 feet above the ground." Does not apply to Wildlife Management Areas.</p>	<p>4.17 Proposed revision:</p> <p>(a) No foothold traps can be set on or within 25' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, or at least 5' above the ground. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.</p> <p>No body-gripping traps or foothold traps shall be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water., at least 5' above the ground, or in a set as described above in 4.7. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas</p> <p>3.16 Proposed revision: Add: "Town Trail" defined: a public right of way as</p>

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		defined in 19 V.S.A. § 301 (8), shown on the highway maps of the respective towns, made by the Agency of Transportation.
Criteria for when and how live, captured animals should be released or dispatched.	4.18 Dispatch of Trapped Animals: Upon discovery, a trapper shall immediately dispatch a live trapped furbearer with a muzzle loader, gun, crossbow, or bow and arrow. This provision may be amended upon receipt of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies recommendations regarding humane dispatch. This subsection shall not be interpreted to prevent a trapper from releasing a non-target animal unharmed.	

Act 165 directive: Hunting Coyotes with dogs	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23
<p>A limit on the number of dogs that may be used to pursue coyote.</p> <p><i>Should be the same as Bear Hound</i></p>	<p>3.9 "Department Registered Dog" means a dog bearing a numbered identification dog-tag (Department Registration Dog-Tag) approved or issued by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, with the permit holder's coyote dog permit number and a number one through four <i>1-6</i></p> <p>3.11 "Pack of dogs" means one to four dogs, acting as a unit during taking coyote with the aid of dogs.</p>
<p>A prohibition on the substitution of any new dog for another dog during pursuit of a coyote.</p> <p><i>okay - NO Relaying</i></p>	<p>3.14 "Relaying packs and dogs" means the removal and replacement of one or more dog or dogs, during taking coyote with the aid of dogs, to the original pack of dogs once the pursuit has begun. <i>okay</i></p> <p>4.21.3 d (4) A person taking a coyote with the aid of dogs shall only take a coyote with a Pack of Dogs as defined in this rule. No person shall pursue, hunt, or take coyote by Relaying any Dog or Pack of Dogs.</p>
<p>The legal method of taking coyote pursued with the aid of dogs, such as rifle, muzzle loader, crossbow, or bow and arrow;</p> <p><i>okay</i></p>	<p>4.21.3 (c) Legal methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A person shall not take a coyote into their possession except by killing the coyote by legal means or methods. Legal means includes utilizing a muzzleloader, gun, bow and arrow or crossbow. • A person taking coyote with the use of a bow and arrow or crossbow shall, upon demand of a game warden or other law enforcement personnel, show proof of having a prior archery license, or of having passed a bow hunter education course in Vermont, another state or a province of Canada approved by the Commissioner <p>4.22 Taking Coyote by Bow and Arrow and Crossbow <i>okay</i></p> <p>4.22.1 No person shall take coyote with or without the aid of dogs, with a bow and arrow or crossbow if the arrow or bolt has an arrowhead that measures less than seven-eighths of an inch at its widest point or that has less than two sharp cutting edges.</p>
<p>A definition of control to minimize the risk that dogs pursuing coyote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enter onto land that is posted against hunting; • enter onto land where pursuit of coyote with dogs is not authorized; • harass or harm people or domestic animals; and • cause other unintentional damages to people or property. 	<p>3.6 "Control of dog/dogs" means the transportation, loading, or unloading of dogs from vehicle(s); and the handling, catching, restraining, or releasing dogs to take coyote with the aid of dogs. GPS collars with track log and training/ control functions or separate GPS and training/ control collars shall be required to locate and track dogs at all times while taking coyote with the aid of dogs. At no time shall dogs be in pursuit of coyote without a GPS track log being maintained by the permit holder.</p> <p>3.9 "Department Registered Dog" means a dog bearing a numbered identification dog-tag (Department Registration Dog-Tag) approved or issued by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, with the permit holder's coyote dog permit number and a number one through four.</p>

Act 165 directive: Hunting Coyotes with dogs	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisions to encourage persons pursuing coyote with the aid of dogs to seek landowner permission before entering or releasing dogs onto land that is not posted in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 5201 <p><i>Should Have Permission To Hunt Land of the People's</i></p>	<p>3.16 "Training/control" collar is any family of collars that deliver electrical stimulation of varying intensity and duration to the neck of a dog via a radio-controlled electronic device incorporated into the collar.</p> <p>4.21.3 d).</p> <p>(1) A person shall not take coyote with the aid of dogs unless the person is in control of the dog or dogs.</p> <p>(2) No person shall take a coyote with the aid of dogs by using any Unregistered Dog. No person shall have an Unregistered Dog in their possession while hunting, pursuing, or taking a coyote. Requires Department registered dogs with GPS collars, a GPS track log, and behavioral control collars. Requires the permit holder to be in control of the dogs at all times.</p> <p>(3) A person hunting with dogs, pursuing, and taking coyote with the aid of dogs shall attach a Department Registration Dog-Tag and a metal identification name plate with the person's name, address and telephone number to the dog's collar.</p>
<p>Required reporting of every coyote killed during pursuit with the aid of dogs.</p>	<p>4.21.6 Reporting - A person taking coyote with the aid of dogs shall, no later than 48 hours after the close of season, report the taking of all coyotes during the season in a manner required by the Commissioner.</p>
<p>The Board shall consider whether to include within the rule required by this section provisions related to seasonal restrictions and baiting.</p> <p><i>okay</i></p>	<p>4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.</p> <p>a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder: June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.</p> <p>b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.</p> <p>c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.</p>

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Sarah Gorsline Town: Grand Isle

Email: Sarah.gorsline@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

These proposed rules and regulations don't go nearly far enough. Trapping can never be made humane, or prevent suffering and death of target or non-target animals.

Trappers are a tiny fraction of the Vermont population, but the Board of Fish + Wildlife is bending over backwards to make sure these practices can continue in Vermont, despite public opposition.

6 States now have a ban on body-gripping and conibear traps, but Vermont lags behind in this regard. Given the decline of species across the U.S., Vermont can't afford to potentially trap apex predators, wolves, lynx or other endangered species.

Focus Questions

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These recommendations can never make trapping humane or prevent capture of non-target animals, including birds, endangered species (wolves, lynx) or pets / companion animals. Cobby enclosures for traps do not make them any safer for non-target animals. Baiting of wildlife leads to increased wildlife conflicts.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

These recommendations are ~~just~~ accommodations of a traditional practices that do not fall under the current scientific understanding of wildlife management.

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Coyotes are key apex predators who regulate all species in the ecosystem below them. As ~~one~~ one of the sole apex predators operating in the state, they deserve our respect and protection. Hounding is not a fair-chase hunting practice. ~~It~~ There should be an established season for general coyote hunting.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Fish + Wildlife's own expert on hound hunting practices and dog collars stated that collars can't control dogs beyond 1 mile distance, or when hounds go behind a hill. This means that collars can't effectively limit hounds from illegal trespassing on posted lands, and these regulations don't protect landowner, farmer or citizen rights.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: HALE IRWIN Town: MIDDLESEX

Email: HALE.IRWIN@COMCAST.NET

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
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MAKE 50' SETBACK TO 100-150' ^{HUMANE}
TRUTHFULLY, IS ANY FOOTHOLD TRAP NOT PAINFUL
& CRUEL TO THE ANIMAL. HAS ANYONE TESTED
THE NEW TRAPS WITH THEIR ARM?

ANIMALS ARE CRUEL MUST MAN BE?

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

SUGGEST ~~25~~ 100 - 150' FROM TRAIL

SHOULD COYOTE BEAR TRAP 5' ABOVE
GROUND BE IN AN ENCLOSURE TO PREVENT
BEAR FROM REACH IT

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

- * ALL COYOTE HUNTING SHOULD BE 15 Dec - MARCH 31
- * NO BAITING ALLOWED FOR COYOTE KILLERS
- * HUNTER SHOULD NOT LET DOGS ATTACK + KILL OR INJURE THE COYOTE
- * NO WANTON WASTE! DON'T KILL COYOTE UNLESS YOU USE FOR.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

DO NOT AUTHORIZE HOUNDING OF COYOTES + BEARS - TRAINING DOGS HARMS BEAR HEALTH + OTHER ANIMALS + GROUND NESTING BEAR BIRDS

HUNTER SHOULD BE IN PHYSICAL VIEW OF DOGS TO CONTROL THEM.

DOGS MUST BE TREATED HUMANELY

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Stephanie L Town: Orange

Email: Beastwithnoutagun@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I don't feel there should be legal trapping in Vermont. There is too much suffering associated with trapping. There are attempts to lessen harm on unintended & intended target animals, but ultimately not enough. Banning trapping should be what happens.

The majority of Vermont residents don't support these inhumane practices.

Conabears are not tested & should not be used.

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Again these ^{changes} aren't enough. They are still a danger to pets and non-target animals.

50' is still too close to town trails. etc..

~~at~~ at least 150', but I am opposed to body-grips. fails to stop animal suffering.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

These are not supported by the majority of Vermonters. Also it's not just tax dollars it's Ad \$ too, so there was some mis speak

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I don't believe coyotes should be hunted, they are important aspects of an ecosystem, by taking away these animals it hurts the others. ^{use of} dogs is an outdated barbaric practice that not only harasses coyotes but all the other creatures in their path. No amount of collars (gps) will help to control the dogs in their own. These don't work towards animal welfare and don't address the ^{majority of Vermonters feelings toward this} subject. Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

everyone who is hunting or with party should have permits. Not to be allowed to be ^{the} what permits.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: ROD CORONADO Town: ORANGE

Email: vtwildlife@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Fails to meet legislative mandate to reduce animal suffering because there are no changes to the use of body-grip traps underwater and no change to Fisher trapping despite the 220 combear trap not passing BMP tests as defined by AFWA. No recognition that the 220 trap is ineffective at killing Fisher.

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Fails to reduce animal suffering due to exclusion of underwater traps and the Conibear 220 and equivalent traps. For Fisher, Royer stated that BMPs are designed to minimize injury yet many of the traps in Fisher BMP are smaller than the 220.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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GPS collars do not equal control. IF this was the case, we wouldn't have incidents of hound trespass.

Every individual engaged in coyote hunting w/ hounds should possess a permit. Too many documented incidents of hounds mauling and fighting w/ coyotes.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Until body-gripping traps and underwater trapping techniques are included in the BMP's requirement, advocates will continue to press for legislation to end all trapping.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Chris Taylor Town: Topsham

Email: CmTaylor2011@msn.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I do not trap, but I do think we should be doing the best we can to respect the animals.

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Training season vs kill season makes no difference to me. A true handsmen is out there to listen to the hounds run.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Permits should not be restricted to 100. If you have 105 Entries which 5 are you going to say no to.

Also how would it be fair for the non hunters trying to use up the 100 Permits.

Baiting coyotes on farms, also takes away from coyotes going after livestock. So I feel we should not take away baiting.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Butch Spear Town: Newbury VT.

Email: None

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I'm okay with the Trapping Regs

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I'm okay with The Reg's

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Dick Covey Town: Corinth H.

Email: dickcovey55@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I don't trap so I have no comments

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Again I don't trap so I don't have any comments.

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All of these are too restrictive. I was under the understanding that legislature gave the VT. Fish and wildlife control of rules and regulations. Now they are taking them back! Better watch out you will be on the chopping block down the road. Can't you see the handwriting on the wall. Furthermore it appears these will be the new regulations. You are wasting our time.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Philip Hayward Town: Cornwall, VT

Email: Phayward769@Comcast.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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Leave the same

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Michael Parshley Town: Vershire

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

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I agree with the swivel, because it will put less strain on animal's leg.

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Toni + Noel's Group

Focus Questions

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: _____ Town: _____

Email: _____

- 10 MW
- 1** What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
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④ Dog limit should be 6. No limit to the # of permits

⑤ No reason for the # of permits, no limit. Coyotes are problem not the hunters.

⑥ same as #1 & #2

⑦ Permits. should hold VT hunters license. to avoid non-hunter buying up all the permits. Gave us a copy of article on

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

③ How are we going to control coyote population in urban areas had a dog attacked 2x

④ concern over reducing # of dogs from 4-4. Limiting # of permits will push people out of sport. we don't have a limit on #s for bear dogs. Easier for wardens to enforce if the reg is the same. Prez of UDMA

⑤ limit on # of dogs limits ability to participate. Harder to adequately train. How did they choose 100/year when there is no data on actual # of coyote hunters

⑥ more concern about anti-hunters buying up permits. to limit

Additional Q's

Private land - VAST trail? does the 50' apply

Andy + Josh

100 permits discriminate against those who can't get a permit
how are we (VFW) going to control coyote pop. unrestricted
harvest isn't hurt

Permitting concern over "non-hunters" should allow
anyone to apply + receive a hunting permit.
Coyote pop stable don't need to be hunted

Mark Moran - how to control coyotes in urban areas? Friend has had dog attacked twice while walking near daycare

Doug Devost (Brownington) - limit 4 vs 6 - easier for wardens if consistent w/ bears - no reason for limit to 4 - just to push people out - no reason for 100 limit - hard to reconcile w/ training cost if you don't get a permit

Aiden Fletcher - harder to train fewer dogs, no data on # of coyote hunters. so what is basis for 100?

John Brevd - dog limit should be 6 - no limit to permit #

Robert Quinlan - no reason for 100 limit - coyotes are the problem not the hunters

Damen Smith - dogs should be 6, no 100 limit

George Watt (Barre) - applicants for permits should have a VT hunting license so nonhunters cannot apply for permit; submitted article about coyotes as predators

Mark - if permits are limited nothing to stop nonhunters from applying/getting all the permits

Aiden - why get rid of drags - they are effective, a lot of work to laminate trap jaws

John - permission restrictions are more difficult w/ coyotes than bears

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Damon Smith Town: Wheelock

Email: Timberharvest7596@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5b should read -

"Be anchored with minimum of 12" and maximum of 18" chain length. Extra swivels and/or shack springs can be added to the chaining system."

4.5c should read -

Be padded offset, laminated, or have a minimum jaw thickness of $5/16^{\text{th}}$ of an inch"

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Disagree with the change of set back distance,
should be kept at 25ft

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

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b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Limit on dog pack should be no more than
6 dogs.

should be no limit on number of dog permits issued

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Chris Burke Town: Sheffield

Email: 19chris.burke91@gmail.com

1. **What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.**
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
4.9: Covered bait
4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

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I believe 100 permits is not enough.

I also think the limit of dogs should be changed from 4 to 6 to match the bear regulation.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: LUKE BOUSHEE Town: MARSHFIELD

Email: LBOUSHEE@HOTMAIL.COM

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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4.5 ~~MAKE WITH~~

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: George Watt Town: Barre Town

Email: Debbie Watt 00 at AOL.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- ① Private Land - Vast Trail
How is this property considered as the rule is proposed. Is a VAST Trail a public or private road? Is 50' still required?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Doug Devost Town: Brownington

Email: douglasdevostjr@yahoo.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I personally don't have a problem with these recommendations, with that being said these rules are just one more way to end trapping.

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No issue

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- There 100% needs to be 6 dog pack limit like the bear packs.

- Also No 100 limit to permit numbers,

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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Name: Robert Quinlan Town: Sarasota, FL

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
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What if you exceed the 100 permits with applicants? Will a lottery be held to determine

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Name: Aidan Fletcher Town: Fairfax

Email: _____

- 1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.**
- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
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 - 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.
- Having to have BODYGRIP traps fully enclosed wont allow for many Blind sets.

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Drags work very well for many set and are effective

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there needs to be more permits for residents.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: John Proud Town: Westmore

Email: _____

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not familiar with trapping

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Should put pack size to six

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Mark Moran Town: Barre Town

Email: MORAN 104 @ AOL. Com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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I'm good with I.E. 4.5

I think body gripping traps set in remote areas shouldn't have to be in an enclosure

I OK with the covered bait requirement

I think traps should be allowed in culverts

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4.5(a) OK

4.5(f) OK

4.6 4.7 4.8 I don't think they need to be enclosed in remote areas.

4.17 I like the 25' requirement

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4.21.4 OK

a OK.

b OK

c OK

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Coyote Misinformation

To the Editor:

I read with interest, the article published in the January 18, 2023 issue of *The Chronicle*, written by Mathew Wilson and entitled, "Coyote Tested to Determine Its Heritage." Within the article, Mr. Medwid says, "Understand that some people see coyotes as pests." Mr. Medwid also stated, "Coyotes also help keep deer populations healthy by taking weak specimens from the field," and that, "Coyotes only rarely feed on deer and select old and compromised prey."

Studies and research

by Gerry Lavigne, a retired and well-known and respected deer biologist of 30 years with the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and who is currently a wildlife consultant, prove otherwise. He, along with a fellow biologist, performed a multi-year study of coyote predation on deer in deer wintering yards. They found that coyotes took large and healthy deer at the same rate that they occupied the yard. It is believed that coyotes take up to 50% of the fawn crop each year in many areas. Deer are their main source of food around deer wintering yards. Contrary to what Mr. Medwid says,

(Letters cont. pg 15)

Journal

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Letters

(Cont. from pg 8)

"Coyotes are not selective and do not feed only on old and compromised deer." Below are comments made by Gerry Lavigne in the October, 2022 issue of the *Northwoods Sporting Journal*, p. 14., concerning deer predation.

During a question and answer period, biologist Lavigne pointed out that, "Predation on healthy wintering deer in the North Woods by both coyote and bears has been a significant cause in deer population declines. Predators also take about 50% of spring fawns that don't survive."

Responding to questions about whether coy-

otes engage in random killing even when they are not hungry, Lavigne explained that, "All predators, coyotes included, have no compunctions about killing prey, whenever the opportunity arises." The career biologist explained, that, "This is called, "surplus killing" and is not all unusual."

It is disturbing when an individual, such as Mr. Medwid misrepresents the facts and truths. The general public relies on what they hear and read for the facts. Shame upon anyone, when if knowingly, they misrepresent the facts and truths.

Willard H. Taft
Island Pond, VT

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- Few - puts more weight on them b/c they
Regs are reasonable & improvement.
- wants offset. Yes on bait. Setback 25 not 50.
- foothold offset too vague. Older traps need ~~to~~ to be
what is a "padded jaw"?
Standardization needed. More specificity
- ~~anchors~~ anchors on body grip traps - no. Too much to carry
Covered bait - yes. Owl in trap hard to get out, wouldn't happen
if it was covered.
Distance to trap doesn't make a diff. when it comes to dogs.
Dog-owners need to take resp.
- Don't oppose but won't address humaneness issues. Trapper recs
taken into account, wildlife advocates
animal welfare performance standard for traps on land -
must cause irrevers. loss of consciousness. Bid struggle upto 45
~~min~~ min.

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- No on body-grip traps

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June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.

b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

- good, more control. Control of dogs tricky - they can go a long way, they can go in diff directions. If property not posted are you already in trouble if you go on & they don't want you there. Are accompanying people allowed to also shoot coyote - yes if have license. Electric collars still have them wandering the property even if no longer tracking.
- gap btwn training & hunting season doesn't make sense, dogs will forget. But deer season ~~has~~ has to be skipped, can't have both at same time.
- Tracking collar shows where dog has been. EFW is pushing houndmen to do this; they otherwise probably wouldn't. Staying off posted land very difficult.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- coyote season open for everyone other than houndmen during deer season.
- Defn of control insufficient based on legislative mandate. Knowing location & ability to shock ≠ control. VTDigger article - behaviorist: shock collar not sufficient.
- Issue of control - not enough research. GPS/shock - can it really be effective in overcoming dog's instincts? Doubt it. Coyote hunting w/ hounds.
- Generally support - gives better sense of practices & guidance.
- This pertains to coyotes - what about other dogs? It's a fine line.

1) contd

- o Bait - regs don't address scent-based bait

Setbacks - wildlife advocates opinion not here 150' from trails and a distance from campgrounds

- o 4.5 5/16" not sufficient padding to prevent injury

4.6 body-snipping: even w/ signage don't protect non-target animals. Enclosures may not make a diff. Should be banned.

Setbacks: 150' not 50' and campgrounds distance

- o 4.5 full support, already does these practices, best practice

4.9 need more detail, Tied down? Makes sense to cover or else ravens come pick at bait

4.17 makes sense. He avoids dogs, 50' may rule out some areas

More detail on enclosures.

- o swivel good, everyone uses. Drag should be allowed. Domestic ^{non-target} feel safer if ~~it~~ it can go where it feels safe, so no anchor

No practical benefit to go from 25 to 50 ft.

100 ft won't even help, the dogs will still go to it.

~~It~~ Can't place it in air if it's open land.

- o can't get stakes in ground, when can't anchor w/

Stakes ~~swivel~~ ^{grass} are the option

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Matt Callahan Town: Duxbury

Email: callahan219@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land ?'s

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Full support of these changes. Already use at least 2
swivels & offsets & cover chain mount
shocks

covered bait - tree bows tied with wire count? does it have to be
wired/tied?

50' ft is sensible in general overall yet limits some scenarios that I
don't feel ^{doesn't} endanger any non-target/domestic animals due to
distance of ~~trapped~~ road

support enclosures but is ^{catchy} ~~material~~ ^{set} made with natural
materials quality as anchored?

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

~~Support draft~~ - interested in hearing about further research being done re: drags & ^{proposed} recommendations, would like to keep drags
Appreciated the work done by the dept

body grippers should be allowed in certain ~~etc~~ circumstances
~~that~~ on land that isn't so doable (marsh) ~~etc~~

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

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b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Full support of these proposed regulations rules.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Alden Oliver Town: Underhill

Email: ALDENOLIVER@ICLOUD.COM

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Foot hold requirements still vague

Body grip anchored containment excessively restrictive

covered bait = good idea

Trapping setbacks O.K

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 A most traps (foothold) have initial swivel mandated 2 more = excessive. Suggest reg state 2 or more swivels between trap and anchor

4.5 F Drags should be allowed at least on private lands

4.17 50' OK. Town trails good idea if mapped

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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coyote season should start earlier than Dec. 15

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: JOHN MILES Town: STARKS BORO

Email: Hyseed.Miles@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc. *and OFF SET TRAPS*
 - 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
 - 4.9: Covered bait *yes*
 - 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.
- 25 NOT 50*

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel *yes*

4.5 (f) elimination of drags *no*

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails. *Keep it at 25'*

I think we should be able to use

Drags

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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No COMMENT Do NOT HUNT
Coyote WITH Dogs

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Patrick Soneira Town: ESSEX Jct VT.

Email: @SNOEIRA@myfairpoint.net

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

excellent plan!
go for it!

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all good plans

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

control of dogs can be an issue
some times they may end up some
place that NOT ok'd
what to do?
what if the dogs kill a coyote
themselves?
owner of dog / NOT owner of dogs - killing coyote

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Rick Reed Town: Williston

Email: rckreed802@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

need more specificity on traps

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel *OK w/ that*
4.5 (f) elimination of drags *drags are an effective means to anchor a trap and should be allowed*
4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground. *Don't like this. Body grips can be responsibly deployed on the ground*
4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails. *Keep @ 25'*

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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pack of dogs should be 1-6 to be
consistent w/ bear hound hunting

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

2 month gap between training season
and hunting season is not practical

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Anne Jameson Town: Marshfield

Email: wildlife@gmad.info

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- 4.6-4.8 i) New Bmps still allow body-gripping traps to be placed on land. Even with signage, on or within 50' of a public trail does little to protect companion animals or non-target animals. Enclosures may or may not make a difference. Such devices should still be banned on land.
- 4.17
- 4.5 2) 5/16" of padding doesn't seem enough to eliminate injury.

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.17 (see comment in #1, page over)

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Installation of signage on only a small # of trails etc does nothing to address the many thousands of other land where people may recreate.

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3.6 I still doubt the capability of a GPS tracking system to sufficiently control the pack. How would a 'call off' work when the coyote has 'gone to ground' if the hunters are miles away? Would ~~the~~ the dogs, incensed by the chase/kill instinct, really stop?

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Coyote hounding will be inhumane no matter what the 'control' of the circumstances. It should be banned entirely.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Bob Galvin Town: Richmond

Email: bobgalvin777@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5 recommendations will do little to nothing to ^{several} meaningfully address humane-ness of traps. ~~Many~~ of the Board's recommendations were taken verbatim ~~but~~ from recommendations from the Vermont Trappers Association, but none of the recommendations from wildlife advocates present at working group meetings.

4.6-4.8 recommendations do not address the fact that the animal welfare performance standard for killing traps set on land is that the trap ~~may~~ must cause irreversible loss of consciousness in 70% of the sample animals within 300 seconds ~~at 100~~.

4.9 ~~addresses~~ The regs are insufficient because they don't address scent-based bait which can endanger pets + nontarget animals.

4.17 does not take into account recommendations of wildlife advocates at working group meeting

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5(a) is better than board recommendations ~~but not~~

4.5(f) ~~no~~ I support bc drag traps have not been evaluated for BMP standards

4.6-4.8 is better than board proposal ~~but~~

4.17 is better than board recommendations but is still a far cry from recommendations from wildlife advocates at working group meetings

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Having attended the F+W Board meetings since February, there was no warning that the department would have additional revisions to the Board proposals, and I think this process has been confusing and difficult to follow.

Also, the Board's recommended proposal re: trap setbacks only deals w/ ~4% of state-owned land, and don't meet legislative mandate.

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~~The~~ The Board's proposal as it pertains to its definition of control is insufficient to common-sense ideas of control. For example, there was a recent VT Digger piece where a trained dog behaviorist w/20 years of experience spoke to a shock collar not being enough to control dogs out of their line of sight.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

I thought the breakout period was not a discussion period. However, F+W Board member Brad was having discussions with several trappers at my table. I don't think F+W was clear enough about enforcing the rules of the meeting.

Focus Questions
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Ali Thomas table w/ John Justin Town Justin

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- BMP original study has many flaws. Ex: the technicians can be anyone → not a biologist.
- BMP can't be regulated, enforced or monitored.
- Padded don't make it more humane.
- No way to monitor trappers. - Don't have enough wardens to monitor.
- I hike off trail with dogs w/o leashes.
- Setbacks are ridiculous - anything can be killed.
- Bait should not be used.
- ~~Change setbacks~~
- setbacks - 50ft is not enough - domestic animals can get caught. It is not better.
- Even if you add swivels, etc, the animals are stressed and we don't know when trapper will be back.
- These changes are not making anything more humane or selective.
- How does covering bait make it different?

Focus Questions

**Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

TRAPPING

John

- ~~Can~~ fall short of trapping of nontarget animals (domestic).
- Dog leashes are longer than 50' swivel and chain still don't let animals move.
- Bully-gripping traps can catch non-target even if 20' ground.
- Do not limit time that an animal spends in a trap. More suffering happens \Rightarrow self biting.
- Researchers who use traps to trap animals have sensors on traps so the response can be in a timely manner. 1 hour or less is needed.

- No foothold trap can be humane if it doesn't kill them immediately.
- Trapping has no place in VT.
- These regulations are better than no regs, but trapping should not happen.
- Trappers should have to report monthly.

- Trapping is inhumane. No changes will help.
- Really just like baited trap.
- Swivel doesn't matter b/c the animal is going to get killed.

Agree w, everything.
How long an animal

TRANSNO

- No BMP is ok for animal
- Suffering will happen and that is not ok.
- Length of time for leaving an animal in it.
- Should have a law that regulates when they check their traps
- "I haven't bothered to study them"

- I'm an engineer and believe that BMPs are a scientifically sound process.
- Body-gripping traps elimination is less humane
- Traps near farms and brushy areas. → Foot hold is less effective but body-gripping is more humane in brushy areas.

~~Management~~ ~~What is the department~~

- How was so determined to be safe?

- No way to humanely trap an animal
- Lots of other ways to manage animals.
 - Roadkill, cameras
- This is not enforceable.
- Game wardens do not show up.

Austin + Thomas
6/21

Question 3

Coyote pop. seems to be increasing,
More effective method to manage coyotes
is trapping.

More dogs makes it harder for hunter to control.

Use of shock collars is inhumane on dogs.

Agrees w/ reg. of switching dogs.

Can't be

How are dogs used for hunting treated? Biting, hurt
Why okay for people to kill deer and not coyotes.

Coyote pred. may enhance deer season

Need season on coyote hunting in general.

Experience w/ a hunting dog that collapsed on
property. Called hunter who couldn't retrieve
it for a long time. Hunter was releasing
multiple dogs in diff. locations.

Can we use tech for enforcement to monitor
where dogs are hunting. Using GPS trackers.

Impose a fine for going on posted land

Reg they keep a log.

Training session too long

Pose threats to houses + domestic animals

GPS collar doesn't guarantee control.

Permitting hunters to break the law.

Hunting w/ so many dogs is inherently
uncontrollable.

No guarantee that the dogs went out of
on posted land

on today page
to find more info to put at the end of the page

Can we use GPS technology to improve enforcement.
Multiple ways to check coyote signs
on property.

Monitoring coyote incursions P&P.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten notes follow, including phrases like 'monitoring', 'GPS', 'enforcement', and 'incursions']

**Act 159 and Act 165 and the
Amendments to the Furbearing Species Rules**

Act 159 directives: BMPs for Trapping	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23	Recommended rule edits following the April 5, 2023 Board meeting
<p>Trapping devices and components of trapping devices that are more humane than currently authorized devices and are designed to minimize injury to a captured animal as defined by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Best Management Practices (BMP's).</p>	<p>4.5 Foothold traps on land must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Have base plates that feature a center chain mount with swivel, with free moving chain and at least one additional swivel that allow mobility for a captured animal; (b) Be anchored with a maximum of 18" chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock springs can be added to the chaining system; (c) Be padded or offset and laminated with a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16th of an inch or fully encapsulate the foot; (d) Have a spread of no more than 6¼ inches measured inside the widest expanse of the jaws; (e) If a foothold trap is triggered by downward pressure, it must be adjustable for pan tension. (f) Not withstanding section 4.5, a drag may be used to anchor a foothold trap, provided that the trap meets 4.5 subsections a), c), d), and e). 	<p>4.5 (a) Proposed revision: Have base plates that feature a center chain mount with swivel, with free moving chain and at least two one additional swivels that allow mobility for a captured animal;</p> <p>4.5 (f) Proposed revision: Not withstanding section 4.5, a drag may be used to anchor a foothold trap, provided that the trap meets 4.5 subsections a), c), d), and e).</p>
<p>Criteria for adjusting or maintaining trapping devices so that they operate correctly and humanely;</p>	<p>4.5 – see 4.5 above Also taught in mandatory trapper education classes.</p>	
<p>Trapping techniques, including the appropriate size and type of a trap for target animals, use of lures or other attractants, trap safety, and methods to avoid nontarget animals;</p>	<p>4.5 above and: 4.6 A person shall not set a body gripping trap with a jaw spread opening greater than 60 square inches measured inside the widest expanse of the jaws unless the trap is set five feet or more above the ground, or in the water.</p>	<p>4.7 Proposed revision: No meat-based baited, body-gripping traps shall be set on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure with openings no greater than 60 square inches and with a trap trigger that</p>

(K.M.)
to allow
conserve on
ground

RETAIN

Act 159 directives: BMPs for Trapping	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23	Recommended rule edits following the April 5, 2023 Board meeting
	<p>4.7 No meat-based baited, body-gripping traps shall be set on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure with openings no greater than 60 square inches and with a trap trigger that is recessed at least 12" from all openings.</p> <p>4.8 Meat based baited body-gripping traps with a jaw spread up to and including 60 square inches can be used on land if the trap is placed at least 5' above the ground.</p> <p>4.9 All meat-based bait shall be covered at the time that a trap is set. Coverings shall include, but are not limited to, brush, branches, leaves, soil, snow, water, or enclosures constructed of wood, metal, wire, plastic, or natural materials.</p>	<p>is recessed at least 12" from all openings.</p> <p>4.8 Proposed revision: Meat based baited Body-gripping traps with a jaw spread up to and including 60 square inches can be used on land if the trap is placed at least 5' above the ground</p>
<p>Requirements for the location of traps, including the placing of traps for purposes other than nuisance trapping at a safe distance, from public trails, class 4 roads, playgrounds, parks, and other public locations where persons may reasonably be expected to recreate.</p>	<p>4.17 Trail Setbacks:</p> <p>(a) No foothold traps can be set on or within 25' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, or at least 5' above the ground. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.</p> <p>(b) No body-gripping traps can be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, at least 5' above the ground, or in a set as described above in 4.17. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas. Prohibits "foothold traps within 25' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless in a culvert, under water, or 5 feet above the ground." Does not apply to Wildlife Management Areas.</p>	<p>4.17 Proposed revision:</p> <p>(a) No foothold traps can be set on or within 25' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, or at least 5' above the ground. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.</p> <p>No body-gripping traps or foothold traps shall be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, at least 5' above the ground, or in a set as described above in 4.7. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas</p> <p>3.16 Proposed revision: Add: "Town Trail" defined: a public right of way as</p>

Act 159 directives: BMPs for Trapping	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23	Recommended rule edits following the April 5, 2023 Board meeting
		defined in 19 V.S.A. § 301 (8), shown on the highway maps of the respective towns, made by the Agency of Transportation.
Criteria for when and how live, captured animals should be released or dispatched.	4.18 Dispatch of Trapped Animals: Upon discovery, a trapper shall immediately dispatch a live trapped furbearer with a muzzle loader, gun, crossbow, or bow and arrow. This provision may be amended upon receipt of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies recommendations regarding humane dispatch. This subsection shall not be interpreted to prevent a trapper from releasing a non-target animal unharmed.	

Act 165 directive: Hunting Coyotes with dogs	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23
A limit on the number of dogs that may be used to pursue coyote.	<p>3.9 "Department Registered Dog" means a dog bearing a numbered identification dog-tag (Department Registration Dog-Tag) approved or issued by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, with the permit holder's coyote dog permit number and a number one through four.</p> <p>3.11 "Pack of dogs" means one to four dogs, acting as a unit during taking coyote with the aid of dogs.</p>
A prohibition on the substitution of any new dog for another dog during pursuit of a coyote.	<p>3.14 "Relaying packs and dogs" means the removal and replacement of one or more dog or dogs, during taking coyote with the aid of dogs, to the original pack of dogs once the pursuit has begun.</p> <p>4.21.3 d (4) A person taking a coyote with the aid of dogs shall only take a coyote with a Pack of Dogs as defined in this rule. No person shall pursue, hunt, or take coyote by Relaying any Dog or Pack of Dogs.</p>
The legal method of taking coyote pursued with the aid of dogs, such as rifle, muzzle loader, crossbow, or bow and arrow;	<p>4.21.3 (c) Legal methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A person shall not take a coyote into their possession except by killing the coyote by legal means or methods. Legal means includes utilizing a muzzleloader, gun, bow and arrow or crossbow. • A person taking coyote with the use of a bow and arrow or crossbow shall, upon demand of a game warden or other law enforcement personnel, show proof of having a prior archery license, or of having passed a bow hunter education course in Vermont, another state or a province of Canada approved by the Commissioner <p>4.22 Taking Coyote by Bow and Arrow and Crossbow</p> <p>4.22.1 No person shall take coyote with or without the aid of dogs, with a bow and arrow or crossbow if the arrow or bolt has an arrowhead that measures less than seven-eighths of an inch at its widest point or that has less than two sharp cutting edges.</p>
<p>A definition of control to minimize the risk that dogs pursuing coyote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enter onto land that is posted against hunting; • enter onto land where pursuit of coyote with dogs is not authorized; • harass or harm people or domestic animals; and • cause other unintentional damages to people or property. 	<p>3.6 "Control of dog/dogs" means the transportation, loading, or unloading of dogs from vehicle(s); and the handling, catching, restraining, or releasing dogs to take coyote with the aid of dogs. GPS collars with track log and training/ control functions or separate GPS and training/ control collars shall be required to locate and track dogs at all times while taking coyote with the aid of dogs. At no time shall dogs be in pursuit of coyote without a GPS track log being maintained by the permit holder.</p> <p>3.9 "Department Registered Dog" means a dog bearing a numbered identification dog-tag (Department Registration Dog-Tag) approved or issued by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, with the permit holder's coyote dog permit number and a number one through four.</p>

Act 165 directive: Hunting Coyotes with dogs	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisions to encourage persons pursuing coyote with the aid of dogs to seek landowner permission before entering or releasing dogs onto land that is not posted in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 5201 	<p>3.16 "Training/control" collar is any family of collars that deliver electrical stimulation of varying intensity and duration to the neck of a dog via a radio-controlled electronic device incorporated into the collar.</p> <p>4.21.3 d).</p> <p>(1) A person shall not take coyote with the aid of dogs unless the person is in control of the dog or dogs.</p> <p>(2) No person shall take a coyote with the aid of dogs by using any Unregistered Dog. No person shall have an Unregistered Dog in their possession while hunting, pursuing, or taking a coyote. Requires Department registered dogs with GPS collars, a GPS track log, and behavioral control collars. Requires the permit holder to be in control of the dogs at all times.</p> <p>(3) A person hunting with dogs, pursuing, and taking coyote with the aid of dogs shall attach a Department Registration Dog-Tag and a metal identification name plate with the person's name, address and telephone number to the dog's collar.</p>
<p>Required reporting of every coyote killed during pursuit with the aid of dogs.</p>	<p>4.21.6 Reporting - A person taking coyote with the aid of dogs shall, no later than 48 hours after the close of season, report the taking of all coyotes during the season in a manner required by the Commissioner.</p>
<p>The Board shall consider whether to include within the rule required by this section provisions related to seasonal restrictions and baiting.</p>	<p>4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.</p> <p>a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder: June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.</p> <p>b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.</p> <p>c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.</p>

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

- Is dog fighting allowed in VT? Why are we telling coyote hounding still happening?

- Traditions are not always important - like slavery. This is not a sport or recreation. It's killing.

- Not enforceable laws.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- Trampling through people's property.

- Temble sport.

==
- What is the reason there is an open season on coyotes?

- Why is there not a season on coyote?

==
- Never have seen a coyote ripped apart

- Coyotes are prone to attack deer

- If you're habitat people you should be
on our side.

- Coyotes dispose seeds and maintain beaver lodges

Coyotes

- More effective method is trapping.

//

- I lost a dog to a coyote. Because someone shot a deer so coyotes went to deer and it killed dog in backyard.

- More dogs in park make control of dogs impossible.

- Shock collars are inhumane, b/c no dogs want to listen.

- Fresh dogs should not be able to go in a hunt to replace ~~over~~ tired dogs.

- Dogs minding loose w/ kill cats. Had a bond (probably) kill her cat.

- Can't be regulated.

//

- Regulation.

- Live in Topsham and see dogs in little cages. Concerned for bond treatment.

- The little I know about coyotes is that they increase population when killed.

- Coyote hunting is terrible

- Hounding dog collapsed on property. Dehydrated and couldn't contact hunter b/c hunter was too far away. Called F&W.

- Impossible to keep dogs together.

- Took 8 hours for houndmen to pick up his dog.

- Can F&W can also see where dogs are on GPS tracking? So we can know where dogs are at all times.

- Fine for going on posted land.

- Dogs harassing horses in field every year.

- The training season is extremely long.

- Dogs running loose on landscape can harm domestic animals.

- GPS collar does not equal control.

- I'm a conservation biologist - specialises in beavers and coyotes.
- Coyotes barely kill deer
"Coyote is basically a 40lb dog"
- Training season happens in summer time when pupping season is happening. Leave them be! Do not train.
- Shock collars are inhumane and painful.
- My two dogs did litter to me. Impossible hounds have control.
- Non residents should not be training in VT.
- Habitat: Hounds are trampling fragile ecosystem
- I too have horses and hounds would hurt them.
- Should be a season in winter.

- Must have dogs on leash if you want control.

- Unacceptable that four dogs can be released.

- Violates property rights. Posted land doesn't matter to dogs.

- There have been attacks on people.

==
- GPS should be tracked by FWD dept.

- How do you know who's dogs are who's?

- No enforcement mechanism.

- Unfair to wildlife - scared.

- Unfair to dogs - exhausted

- Collar is not control. Shock is not control.
It's inhumane to shock dogs.

==

John Austin

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School

Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: _____ Town: _____

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Concern re. flaws in study used to justify BMLs.
Techs could have been anyone. Disturbed that we're using the results of the study.
Concerned re. ability for trapping to be humane.
How do we ensure trappers comply w/ BMLs.
Not enough wardens to adequately enforce.
Set backs are ridiculous, too narrow.
Mention dog caught in cougar.

50' is too short - domestic animals will be caught.

Concern about stress to animals based on duration of time in trap.

Don't understand how the BMLs offer more humane treatment.

Falls short of protecting domestic animals.
Leashes can be longer than 50'.

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.

b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Is dog fighting legal? why allow dogs to chase a dog? Not all traditions are approved to continue. Rules aren't enforceable. Trespassing. Harass other wildlife. Need to better understand why VT has an open season on coyotes. why don't we have a season for coyote hunting generally.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

50' out back to short.

Fail to limit time for animal caught in trap.

Use of sensors on trap for when an animal is caught.

Question - whether any feshed trap can be humane.

Trapping has a place in VT.

Req. monthly reporting. Not yrly.

Trapping is humane

Baiting seems unfair.

Mixed messages of not feeding birds, but allow baiting.

Question pt. of 2nd animal.

Concern re duration of time animal is in trap.

Req. to keep log of when traps are checked.
Don't understand why we allow trapping.

Supports BMD process + 1500s of hrs of study.
Elimin. of body gripping traps is problematic for being effective in some purposes.

Questions 1 + 2

How was '0' determined?

Consider other ways to collect data on wildlife
Such as camera + od kill.

Concern the rgs are unidentifiable.

For bird population for the region in 1970s
before some birding
- unidentifiable

TV in early 2000s
- birding population
ad was part of birding population

fact that birding
population was not as high as
before the 1970s

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Amanda Reyes Town: Sharon

Email: A.reyes1331@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.17 - 50 feet not far from public trails, many domestic animals may still become trapped.

4.6 - In location will place trapped animal in distress. Kill.

4.9 - Not sure how covered bait leads to objectives and goals.

4.5 - Will additional mobility potentially cause more harm. Mouging in distress, more severe lacerations etc.?

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

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i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Not sure how the changes lead to more humane or selective trapping?

Traps can still cause harm even w/ pads etc.

any trap is inhumane, causes stress and unsure for how long, animal could be trapped for unknown amount of time.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

~~N/A~~

- Coyotes should not be hunted during breeding / pup season at least.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- Question - How does the FWS plan to enforce the regulation regarding property owners (non posted) calling reporting ^{unwanted} hounds on property?

many hounds are not with their hunter
how will the property owner (or FWS) be able to ID the hunter?

- Inhumane to wildlife, one animal chased by a pack of dogs to the point of exhaustion.

- Inhumane for the dogs as well, to be trained/ run for miles and miles, also to the point of exhaustion.
- Collars are inhumane for dogs.
- No real "control" over dogs just because hunter able to track/ know where they are does not mean the hunter has control. Shock collar is not control.
- Inhumane because wildlife attacked by hunting dogs. (Scared for extended period of time, entire chase), (exhausted + no chance to even fight off hounds).

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Bruce Martin Town: East Montpelier

Email: stumpft3@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5(b) Should include:

Be anchored with a maximum of 18" ~~chain~~
~~length~~ and a minimum of 12" chain length.

(c) Should read:

~~Be padded or of~~

Be padded, offset, or laminated with a
Minimum jaw thickness of $5/16^{\text{th}}$ of an inch
or fully encapsulate the foot.

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Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

~~4.~~ The elimination of body-gripping traps takes away the most effective, practical, and humane traps for many blind sets targeting raccoon, beaver, muskrat, and mink where a foot hold trap would not be free from obstructions.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Focus Questions
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Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Not being a hound hunter I do not have a lot of experience, however, it appears that many items are at the discretion of the commissioner. I do not feel that one individual should have that ability.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Jill McKeon Town: Williamstown

Email: jillofvt@msn.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I think traps should be completely eliminated -
if trapping is allowed support the use of more swivel req.
Agree that traps should be at a minimum of 50 ft
or more on any of all public owned land

inherent flaws in study
BMP's not able to be regulated

regulations dont address time animal is caught
in a trap

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

agree with the elimination of drags confining
coyotes when caught in an obstacle
body gripping traps should be eliminated
set backs should not be allowed on town
trails

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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more dogs in a pack would make it more difficult to control hounds. The less hounds the better - also dogs should definitely not be replaced with a fresh dog in a hunt.

I am not in support of hound hunting on any level.

I don't think a pack of dogs running loose is safe for the general public or domestic pets

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

I also think that this practice can easily be abused - dogs not being trained and licensed would be very difficult to determine by F+W.

~~what~~ why is there ~~purpose~~ a training season ~~for~~ for 4 months

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Laura Hamilton Town: Roxbury

Email: laura.h.firefly@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I don't think that any foothold trap can be humane. I feel that trapping has no place in Vermont. I do think that the regulations proposed are better than no regulation.

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i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

I think that with so many non-target animals that are taken trapping should be banned. Trappers should have to report monthly, not yearly.

Required to keep a log of traps and they should be made public

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I think the hours should be reduced if you are out after sunset. Really I don't think there should be any hunting with dogs. The hunting season seems excessively long.

That being said I am for any restrictive regulations F + W can come up with.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

I hope that keeping dogs off pooled land can be enforced and a fine imposed. I think the GPS trackers of the dogs should be monitored by fish + wildlife so they can also see the route and land the dogs have covered. I also think dog owners should have to keep a detailed log.

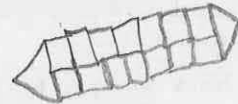
John Austin

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Maureen Dwyer Town: Barre town

Email: MAURFRAT@gmail.com



1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

There is absolutely no way to "humanely" trap an animal. A sentient being held captive is exposed to other animals killing them, harsh weather and PAIN — then when the trapper shows up the terrified animal is then killed — sometimes in a very horrific way on many of the videos, photos we've seen.

→ No trapping should be allowed in VT —

None of these regulations are OK, NONE —
Non-targeted animals are also trapping in these horrific things that are from medieval times

Baiting is not outlawed in VT ?

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

extra swivel, drags, body killing traps — all
bullshit painful means of killing animals.
Medieval killing needs to be outlawed.

No trapping should be allowed.

It takes 12 minutes for animals caught in these
body killing traps underwater take 12 minutes
to die

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

There are so many other ways to "manage" our
wildlife — doesn't have to be trapping — there's
roadkill, thousands of people use cameras to "capture"
wildlife (safely) — come on people, you can
figure this out how to manage wildlife without
trapping

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No season should be setup to kill coyotes —
specific instances when a coyote kills farm animals
& keeps coming back then MAYBE it ~~was~~ would be OK
to kill it — BUT how do they know WHICH coyote
did it ?? Coyotes are part of the canid family so
I thought dog fighting (hounds chasing & killing coyotes)

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

are all part of the canid family so why is "dog fighting"
still allowed? The rules and proposals FW has pro-
posed are not effective. I feel and think that ~~to~~
hunters who use dogs to chase down coyotes (AND BEARS)
are lazy-ass hunters. How is that even called a
sport? Traditions need to be changed, slavery was
a tradition but we FINALLY figured out it was
horrible — as in hunting to kill coyotes, there are farms where
dogs need to be on leash but hunting hounds
are not?

Focus Questions

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: NANCY FITZPATRICK Town: BARRE TOWN

Email: vtkiltmaker@hotmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Trapping is an inhumane practice and no changes will prevent injury and fear.

Bait should be prohibited.

These changes will not reduce the number of non-target animals who are killed or injured.

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 (a) why? The animal is going to be "dispatched" anyway. All of these changes are a pretense to being more humane.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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It's bad enough that coyotes can be killed anytime - with no regard ^{for} breeding and pup rearing - ~~but to allow hounding is~~ hounding should not be allowed - again a practice that causes fear.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Lee Crider Town: West Topsham

Email: LCrider106@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I have little understanding regarding the different kinds of trapping -

opinion: I am opposed to the use of traps -

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Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Using dogs to hunt coyotes? When the coyote is "caught" how is it handled by the dogs that are the hunters?
I find using dogs to hunt dogs as humane -
The "legal" hours for taking coyotes with the aid of dogs? Why those hours?
How are dogs trained?

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Diane Baker Town: Montpelier

Email: baker.diane1@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- Why is bait still being allowed?
- What is the department's interest in culling the coyote numbers? Are there currently environmental or other reasons that coyotes should be culled or is it just a sporting interest?

How was 50' determined as a safe distance?

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

How do these changes make trapping more humane?

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

There is no humane way to trap animals.
It also puts humans & pets at risk.

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Do the same rules regarding training season & dogs going on posted land apply?

Why is this season not inclusive of all coyote hunting?

(See pg 1)

How will you enforce these rules & penalties?

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

There should be stiffer fines for breaking rules

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Jennifer Lovett Town: Starksboro

Email: jag1815@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

My concerns are that BMPs are not only inhumane but they are not able to be regulated.

as non-target animals will not "fit" properly. No foothold trap is humane
Trapping cannot be monitored so BMPs cannot be regulated

Set backs are still dangerous to pet, non-targets, and threatened species.

Bait should never be allowed
In the "study" the biologists could be anyone -

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground. - baited traps still allowed

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

The changes are meaningless because they cannot be enforced or monitored + trapping, is inherently indiscriminate + inhumane.

body gripping traps often fail -

+ Training season is too long impacts pup rearing + raising

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Most recommendations by wildlife advocates were ignored in the process

VT Trappers Asso. dictated the policy.

BMPs are unenforceable

trappers can still set as many traps as they can throughout the season.

I believe, as a conservation biologist, lethal trapping should be banned.

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Coyotes should not be hunted at all - it is 100% counter productive as a means of controlling their #'s or behavior.

Pups are born + raised in spring + summer + training season overlaps with this, - dangerous to pups. The season is too long + unethical. Non-residents have no place hunting here! hounds impact other wildlife during summer offspring season, nesting birds, etc.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Point to numerous coyotes with dogs - what is the fur industry is dead + coyotes provide valuable ecoservices.
The VT FWD website states that hunting coyotes is counter productive as a means of controlling behavior + population. They st We need to have coexistence strategies.

Also: shock collars are abusive to the hounds. And hounds cannot be really controlled - even with GPS + shock collars.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: John Aberth Town: Roxbury VT

Email: johnaberth1@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Recommendations fall far short of what is really required to minimize trapping of non-target animals, including trapping of domestic animals such as dogs and cats. Covered bait can be uncovered by environmental factors, such as wind, etc. Dog leashes are sometimes 50' long or more. Swivels and chain length still do not allow for much mobility of animal, including need to find cover from predation, etc.

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Body-gripping traps can still trap dogs, cats, bears, and other non-target animals even when set 5' off ground. 50' setbacks can still trap domestic animals such as dogs on extra-long leashes.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Basic problem of these trapping recommendations is that they do NOTHING to limit the time that animal spends in trap. This is crucial, because longer animal spends in trap, more likely will it suffer injuries. Recommendations should include sensors that alert trapper to when animal is caught in a trap.

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Training season is extremely long. It is very disturbing that dogs that are still being trained are being let loose to run on landscape, threatening our animals, children, etc

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

GPS collars do ~~not~~ NOT equal control. Control can only be achieved with a leash. This is the law in many towns, including our own, Roxbury. It is also unacceptable that packs of up to four dogs are released at once. This form of hunting also violates our private property rights and right for posted land to be respected.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

8 PERSON GROUP

Name: T. APPLETON Town: _____

Email: _____

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i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- 50' setback is uncompensated taking of private property
- up to 2 acres

- 50' is unacceptable, want 300' minimum

- 4.5(b) should read minimum of 12" + maximum of 18" chain length
- reduces pump-out of chain

- 4.5(c) should read "be padded, or offset, or laminated w/ minimum jaw thickness of 5/16th"

- 4.17⁶ - leave as ~~proposed~~ proposed from first vote by FW Board 4-5-23

- reinstate use of drags (or traps as allowed)

- new revised proposals highlighted in yellow should be discarded

- total BMP process is inadequate as is

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- second swivel is a good idea - will make measurable positive impact on animal welfare
- makes no difference whatsoever for animal welfare
- uses 110 body gripping traps for much to problem - --keep "meat board" language

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

- not hound hunters, but coyote hunting w/ hounds is a good control measure
- coyote hound hunting does nothing to control coyote population & hounding does not create a fear of humans
- is a "recreation" F&W Dept has no basis for creating unnecessary legitimacy -- F&W is legitimately a recreation
- as a houndsperson & recommendator are reasonable it is NOT recreation is part of cultural heritage
- season is long overdue

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- not houndsperson but in favor of recommendation
 - attacks occur & I have lost fear of humans
 - hounding reinforces fear human (of)
- is bear houndsperson, ^{women} recommendations are great (coyotes)
- no control of dog - training collars are inadequate
- loss of hunting license for life & \$5-10,000 fine (or significant penalty) if found on posted property
- dogs can't read signs
- hunt dog is in complete control in chase of coyote -- same as police dog
- spr/collars (injurious tools) & dogs will cause bad
- expense of police dogs takes a lot of training -- is not comparable
- unless dog is not in sight, no lawyer in control

OVER

- 5 generations of hunting & trapping & is "my" heritage
- good dogs know what they are hunting & come to whistle
- consider dogs under control w/ GPS & trail collars
 - far more under control than domestic dogs
 - 1000 hrs go into training
 - is part of culture

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Lissa Chambers Town: Lowell

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
- 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
- 4.9: Covered bait
- 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

N/A

~~4.6, 4.7, 4.8~~
110 to 180 trap should not have
to be caged

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

N/A
works for me

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

good!

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Lisa Coyette Town: Tray

Email: lisa.coyette98@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

N/A

Focus Questions

**Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

N/A
works for me

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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good

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: CHAD Guyette Town: Troy

Email: chad.guyette@yahoo.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
4.9: Covered bait
4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5 Foot hold trap on land

C) Should Read Be Padded or
Offset or Laminated

Focus Questions
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i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Handwritten notes:
4.2 Foot hold trap on land
C) Should read be prohibited
offset of town trails

Focus Questions
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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: JERRY D'AMICO Town: ROXBURY

Email: JERRYDAMICO@TDS.NET

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5) recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I RECOMMEND THAT THE SETBACK BE LIMITED TO 25' TO BE CONSISTENT WITH THE 25' SETBACK IN THE HUNTING REGULATIONS. MY FAMILY OWNS NEARLY 2,000 LF OF TOWN ROAD FRONTAGE... A 50' SETBACK ENCOMPASSES NEARLY 2 ACRES OF OUR PRIVATE PROPERTY.

4.5 PLEASE REWORD TO: "FOOTHOLD TRAPS SHOULD BE PADDED, OFFSET, LAMINATED, OR HAVE A MINIMUM THICKNESS OF 5/16".

OTHER

CONTINUE TO ALLOW ¹ FOOTHOLDS ~~2~~
DROGS WITH

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School

Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags - I recommend ~~to~~ continuing the use of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

I OPPOSE THIS CHANGE... IT ENCUMBERS NEARLY 2 ACRES OF MY PROPERTY.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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I SUPPORT COYOTE HUNTING WITH THE AID OF HOUNDS.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

PLEASE ALLOW USE OF LETHAL INJECTION AS A MEANS OF DISPATCH. THIS WILL BE USEFUL IN URBAN AREAS,
^
ESPECIALLY

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: DAN O'LEARY Town: STOWE
Email: DAN@OLEARY.COM

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
 - 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
 - 4.9: Covered bait
 - 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I think the changes ARE INCONSEQUENTIAL.
my analogy would be its like going from
5 minutes of waterboarding to 4 minutes + 55
seconds
Is it better? sure. But its meaningless
Does not do enough to prevent counterback
catch

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

~~4.17~~ ~~TR~~ THE 50 FT IS INADEQUATE WHY
STILL SO CLEAR?
~~4.17~~ SWIVEL IS CURLED

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

11

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
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Comment

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Why ARE WE JUSTIFYING 'Legal Dog Fighting'?
I would like to see VERY STRONG Penalties
for violations on ~~public~~ PROPERTY. Love Hunting
License

\$1,000 FINE

Enforcement is impossible

impossible

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: WIL STAAYS Town: VICTORY

Email: victoryfamily@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I am a mink trapper and rely on 110 body gripping traps set on land as one of my most effective tools. I would ask that the VTFCU consider allowing this size trap be allowed to be set on ground.

Regarding "covered bait" - and the stipulation of snow ~~is~~ used as a covering - is there concern this could melt and the trapper then be in violation?

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

↪ exception for WMA's is absolutely correct.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

I am very supportive of the BMPs as a whole. I think this has been an excellent effort by the committee. Please re-consider allowing 110 sized body gripping traps on land for mink and muskrat.

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I am in favor of these new regulations. I do wonder what the rationale is for reporting coyote carcasses prior to leaving the state. Will there be personnel available to report to - wardens etc.?

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Larry Martin Town: Worcester

Email: lrm31150@comcast.net

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5b - should call for a minimum of 12" and a maximum of 18"

4.5c should read "Be padded or offset (or) laminated"

4.6 Proposed revisions - leave "Meat Bused Baited" in the paragraph.

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

View front

I feel body gripping traps should be allowed on the ground as a blind set - without the use of a meat based bait

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

who from the department came up with the proposed revisions?

Was there any ant, pressure involved?

Should one or perhaps two people have the authority to affect 500 trappers?

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

I am not a coyote hound hunter, however, as a control measure I feel it should be allowed.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Tyler Brown - VT FWD Town: _____

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- 4.5C "Messing" unclear to what it means

Jaws should be offset, or padded or cast or laminated to a minimum of $5/16$ ~~inches~~ of an inch

- Don't believe any foothold trap w/ lamination, swivel, chain length will make them humane

- 4.17 a little confusing on the public land part of the regulation

- Believe science should be the guide for fish & wildlife & provided by fish & wildlife

- Moving it from 25' to 50' doesn't make sense
only restricts people from getting out.
By catch will still get into it

Focus Questions

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- Agree w/ 25' set back. Don't think 50' set back is necessary
- X 2 - Seen like reasonable changes that follow BMP's & improve animal welfare
- No swivel, drag, enclosure will create a humane trap
- Set backs of 50' insufficient
- 4.5(f) leave drags alone.
- keep set backs at 25'

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

- Allow meat baited ~~but~~ body gripping traps on land if under 40 square inches
- Conibers are not BMP tested
- Ban trapping

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- Is there a way to make sure permits are going to hunters?
- IS 100 permits enough? will it exclude people?
- IS 100 permits a set number or can be changed?
- Actually concerned w/ trappers/hunters responses to question when compared to current proposed regs
- Will LE visit dog packs to issue permits to avoid fraud related to non hunters
- training season shouldn't be in June when coyotes are rearing pups
- Shouldn't be allowed at all - hunting coyotes w/ dogs

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- No control over dogs w/ GPS or electronic call.
- ~~People~~
- Dogs that are released onto property w/o landowner permission should not be allowed
- A hunter that starts a coyote 3 mile away that heads toward property where hunter has been told by warden to stay off & enters property while hunter is trying to retrieve dogs - is that a violation

Focus Questions
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Debbie Zifer Town: Washington

Email: dzifer@yahoo.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Does the animal trapped
and hounded have a
say?

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Dylan Smith Town: Northfield

Email: dylan8351@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

These all seem fair and in the interest of animal welfare, selectivity, and still allowing opportunity for trapping

4.17 - I feel like public land in general would benefit from the 50' rule.

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 - 4.8 seems like they would follow BMP's. They seem reasonable.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.

b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

This seems fair.
[Signature]

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

The presentation made it seem like there could be difficulty for hunters to get permits year after year or could there be. Can the 100 permit number change if harvest numbers align with population numbers.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Mike Carrigan Town: Plainfield

Email: michaelcarrigan@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I'm here to acquaint myself with current & proposed rules - I believe the Science Board continue to be the guide (science provided by Fish & Wildlife)

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Seem more than reasonable

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

actually centered with trappers/hunters responses to questions when compared to current proposed regs

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Justin Beaudet Town: Washington

Email: jbeaudet2011@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I think the one swivel on a free moving chain is enough and doesn't need to be changed to two

Moving 25' to 50' seems to only impinge upon a mobile disabled person's ability to get out in the woods not really stop by catch

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

no extra swivel needed it seem exsesive with a free moving chain.

I feel moving from 25' to 50' is unnessasry

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

- I think 6 dog packs just like Bear hunting is reasonable and don't think the further restriction to 4 dog Pack is ~~also~~ needed.
- With 100 permits Allowed is there a way to make sure non Hunters don't take permits from hunters and basically steal the resource.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Focus Questions
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Shaylee Martin Town: Washington, VT

Email: Martinsbay19@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I don't know enough about traps to comment.

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

These seem fine to me. Maybe the 25'-50' may be hard for people with mobility issues so I think it should be 25' not 50'

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Focus Questions
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b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Are 100 permits enough for the amount of hunters in Vermont? Will this be too many or too little and exclude people from this?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Annie Smith Town: Westminster

Email: annie.smith.6975@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5 Trapping is violent and never humane

4.6, 4.7, 4.8 Should eliminate
4.9 Bait should not be allowed

4.17 Setbacks not sufficient for public safety or pet safety

Focus Questions
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i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5

4.6, 4.7, 4.8

4.17

no swivel used,
drag used or
enclosure will create
a humane trap.
setbacks insufficient

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Baw Trapping

Focus Questions
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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

4.21.4 Should be a regulated hunting season

a) don't care

Coyote Dog Hunting is unnecessary and inhumane & should be banned

(a) June 1 - Sept 15 training season doesn't
Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping? allow

allow pup rearing
No control using shock/GPS collars
no enforcement is possible for property owners not wanting hunting dogs on property.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Kevin Lawrence Town: Newbury, VT
Email: Nedappleman@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5 F - Please allow drags. Saying the BMP did not test drags is not sufficient. The BMP did not test conibears baited on the ground or 5' in the air, either.

4.5 c - very messy) - should read - "Jaws should be padded or offset or cast or laminated to a minimum of 5/16 of an inch."

Question - If I own land and allow a public trail on that land, am I restricted to these rules??

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5a swivels - OK

4.5 f- drags - leave alone. Drags are not a problem. 18" of chain + 36" of cable works.

4.17- Set-backs - Keep to 25',

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

4.6, 4.7, 4.8 - Allow ^{meat} baited body-gripping traps on land if under 40 inches squared. (Mink trappers set 120's + 160's with no negative impacts.

- Coon bears are not BMP-tested.

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Questions - ① How do you manage people buying

the 100 permits who are anti-hunters??

② Will LEO's visit dog packs to issue

4.21.3d 3 - Department Registration Dog tags?? Fraud? How to avoid?

Green: We incorporated concepts

Yellow: Addressed concepts but with modifications to specifics

Red: Did not find concept relevant to proposal

Blue: Did does not include specifics, in progress

Petitions Summary

Open Petition	Request	Key issues that petition addressing
Vermont Trappers Association (Bruce Martin, ~4/2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jaws are padded, off-set, laminated, or have jaws with a minimum thickness of 5/16”.• Base plates feature a center chain attachment.• The trap can be adjusted for pan tension.• There are at least two swiveling devices in the chain.• An anchored trap has a minimum of 12” and a maximum of 18” of chain from the point where it exits the ground once an animal is caught.• No foothold trap shall be set on land with a spread more than 6 -1/4” as measured inside the jaws.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BMP Strategies to Improve Animal Welfare and Selectivity
Vermont Wildlife Coalition (Rob Mullen, Dec. 2022) Response to BMP’s	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvement in trapping systems.• “Meat-based” bait should be all bait (e.g., feathers, etc.).• Get rid of body-gripping traps? Current proposal not good enough for eliminating by-catch.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BMP Strategies to Improve Animal Welfare and Selectivity• Baits and Lures• Body gripping traps• Trail offsets• Humane euthanasia• Education

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There needs to be setback rules for foothold traps on all public roadways or public areas • 25 feet is not a sufficient enough distance; should be farther. • Trail kiosk postings • Video on website showing how to remove pets from trap • Add BMP's to trapper education courses • Finalize "humane dispatch", currently tabled. 	
Vermont Wildlife Coalition (Rob Mullen, May 2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate drowning sets. • Restore the exclusion of traps within 10 feet of beaver lodge entrances. • Return the end of the otter trapping season to February 28. [also addressed in 2021 petition] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BMP Strategies to Improve Animal Welfare and Selectivity
Protect our Wildlife, Brenna Galdenzi, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set back requirements for traps (No traps may be set on public land): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Within 150 feet of any public trail o Within 500 feet of any trailhead that is accessible to vehicular traffic o Within 1000 feet of any public campground or picnic area) • Signage at trailheads warning of trapping. • No meat bait, visible by air 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail offsets • Education • Baits and lures
Anne McKinsey, comment submission; Jan 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require trappers to post signs when trapping. • Increase public awareness about trapping. • Increase penalties for violations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Body gripping traps • Education

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit the use of body gripping traps. • Post trapping regulations information on the department's website instead of on the eRegulations.com website. 	
<p>Protect our Wildlife (POW), Green Mountain Animal Defenders (GMAD), and Humane Society of the Northeast (HSUS), Nov & May 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail setbacks (see other pet, same request) • Placement of flesh bait on land traps (see other petition (include date), same request) • Prohibit commercial and recreational trapping of bobcats, otters, fishers, coyotes • Determine maximum number of traps on a trapline. • Gunshot should be only method of euthanasia. [pending position statement from AFWA] • Body gripping traps only allowed under water. • No submersion sets, cage traps, leghold traps underwater. • Mandatory reporting of incidental take within 24 hours • Require trap sensors on all traps set on land. • Any changes be exempt to 10 V.S.A. §4828 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail offsets • Baiting and lures • Humane euthanasia • Body gripping traps

Canid Petitions Summary

Petition	Requests	Main issues being addressed
Northwest Wolf Recovery Alliance (Renee Seacor Dec. 2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulate and limit current open season from Oct 1st-Dec. 31st • All canids should be checked in and tagged • Checked in canids meeting certain regulatory criteria should be subjected to DNA analysis to assess the genetic composition of the animal, and results should be made available to the public annually • 2-year canid hunting moratorium in the area where a wolf kill has occurred • Night hunting should be prohibited • Bag limits should be established • Vermont’s wanton waste law should be strictly enforced for all canids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seasons and shooting hours • Reporting
VT Traditions Coalition (Mike Covey May 2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulate the use of hounds for hunting coyotes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of regulations (all)
Vermont Wildlife Coalition (Dave Kelley May 2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of hounds • Bait should not be used to attract hunted animals • Mandatory reporting • Humane euthanasia • No “kill dogs” • Identifiable hound dogs • Limit the number of hounds used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control of dogs • Legal means of take • Reporting • Seasons & shooting hours • Baiting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fresh hounds should not be introduced during chase • October through December season on Coyotes 	
Vermont Coyote Coexistence Coalition (Jane Fitzwilliam March 2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulated season from Oct 1st to December 31 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seasons & shooting hours

Petitions Board Rejected

Petition	Request	Key issues that petition addressing
VT Wildlife Coalition Petition (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ban trapping 	Department provided an in-depth response and the petition was denied.
Vt Wildlife Coalition (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shorten the otter season from the end of March to the end of February 	Department provided an in-depth response and the petition was denied.
Protect our Wildlife Petition (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ban fisher trapping 	Department provided an in-depth response and the petition was denied.
The greater good animal rescue petition (2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ban leghold, foothold, and underwater pocket traps 	The board opted not to act on the petition due to the comprehensive work done by the Dept. in June.

May 16, 2022

Re: Trapping rule changes per S.201



To Chairman Beibel, members of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Board, and Commissioner Herrick:

VWC did not support or oppose this bill. Our general support of hunting does not extend to trapping in Vermont because trapping is almost unavoidably cruel and, in our view, has little if any ecological or societal benefit here. While the AFWA's BMPs and efforts coming out of this new law to make trapping *more* humane may make marginal improvements in animal welfare, it is hard to imagine how body-gripping, drowning, and foothold traps can ever be made simply humane as directed in Section 1 a. (2): "*criteria for adjusting or maintaining trapping devices so that they operate correctly and humanely;*"

Obviously, eliminating all cruelty is not possible, life is commonly cruel, and trapping can have specific and narrow applications in conservation, research, and public safety. However, we cannot countenance the cruelties of trapping when, as is often the case in Vermont, it amounts to little more than a hobby, thin rationalizations of how it serves conservation etc. notwithstanding.

From VWC's perspective, the goal of making trapping humane is well-intentioned but most likely doomed to frustration (*see attached 2, pages 8 -14, times to unconsciousness for various species in different traps, none of which even approach humane*). Others doubtlessly have other objections to S.201. However, all varied reservations aside, S.201 is what we all must work with. To that end, in the spirit of more humane treatment, VWC respectfully asks that you consider:

1. **Eliminating drowning sets.** Possibly the most evidence-backed, proven inhumane death is drowning. Ironic since drowning has often been (and still is) used as "euthanasia," but the common and rationalizing myth of a peaceful death by carbon dioxide narcosis was thoroughly debunked in Ludders et. al. 1999. In brief, the CO² concentration in the blood does not rise to the level necessary for narcosis until well after the animals (beavers, dogs, mink, otter etc.) become unconscious from hypoxia (oxygen depletion) – after a few to many minutes of suffering. As the authors wrote in their summary,

"... the concept of euthanasia is independent of traditions and convenience ... any technique that requires minutes rather than seconds to produce death can not be considered euthanasia." Nor would VWC contend, humane.

2. **Restore the exclusion of traps within 10 feet of beaver lodge entrances.** Prior to 2018, this exclusion was sometimes cited as an example of trappers' concern and respect for beavers. It has also been contended that the adult, parent beavers were at less risk from traps than inexperienced juveniles. With those contentions in mind, it was surprising to

read not only that the rule had been abolished, but the celebratory tone to the announcement from the FWD project leader in the 2018 Furbearers Newsletter. Given the previously touted merits of the exclusion and that a conibear 330 in the entrance of a beaver lodge puts all residents of the lodge at high risk, regardless of their age or experience (rather like shooting fish in a barrel), we ask you to restore the exclusion of traps within 10 feet of a lodge entrance.

3. **Return the end of the otter trapping season to February 28.** None of the rationales for the season extension have borne out. The principal reason given in 2017 by the then Commissioner was animal welfare. It was contended that offsetting the triggers on Conibear 330s to lessen the chances of otters being caught during March while the beaver season continued past the end of the otter season, caused the traps to sometimes fire late and not catch beavers properly, causing them to drown. It was claimed by the Commissioner at the time (not Commissioner Herrick), that properly caught, beavers died of carbon dioxide narcosis. This claim has been debunked for over 20 years. They nearly all drown or asphyxiate. The Department's estimate of the number of extra otters that would be killed in March was off by an order of magnitude. These points were not addressed when we petitioned the Board on this same issue last year. Instead, our concerns were dismissed with the assurance that the otter population was not threatened by the extended season. That the original stated reasons for the season extension turned out to not be true were treated as irrelevant.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Mullen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Mullen

Board Chair, Vermont Wildlife Coalition

Attached:

1. Ludders et. al. 1999
2. IAFWA research summary on trap performance for developing BMPs to maximize animal welfare.

Drowning is not euthanasia

*John W. Ludders, Robert H. Schmidt, F. Joshua Dein,
and Patrice N. Klein*

Historically, there has been considerable discussion within the nuisance wildlife control and trapping communities as to whether drowning is a humane method for killing animals. The issue received more attention in 1993, when the American Veterinary Medical Association's Panel on Euthanasia reaffirmed its position that drowning is an unacceptable method (Andrews et al. 1993). For this article, we make a distinction between euthanasia, a "good death" that occurs without pain or distress (Andrews et al. 1993), and death due to killing by other methods. The central issue in this debate is whether drowning animals are rendered unconscious by great levels of carbon dioxide (CO₂, carbon-dioxide-induced narcosis) early in the drowning process and thus are insensitive to the distress and pain associated with drowning.

Proponents of drowning cite an article by Gilbert and Gofton (1982) in which the authors stated that drowning animals die from carbon-dioxide-induced narcosis. However, Gilbert and Gofton (1982) did not report any information on levels of carbon dioxide in blood, which is needed before a determination can be made about the acceptability of drowning as a method of euthanasia. We wish to introduce and clarify information concerning effects of carbon dioxide that have been absent in the debate on drowning.

In their laboratory investigations, Gilbert and Gofton (1982) determined time to death by drowning in mink (*Mustela vison*), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*), and beaver (*Castor canadensis*). Readings of the electrical activity of the brain (electroencephalograph, EEG) and of the heart (electrocardiograph, ECG) were recorded from each animal during drowning, and time of death was taken to be

the moment when electrical activity of the brain ceased (EEG signal became flat). On average, the EEG signal became flat in mink after 4 minutes, 37 seconds; in muskrats after 4 minutes, 3 seconds; and in beaver after 9 minutes, 11 seconds. However, neither arterial nor venous blood samples were collected before, during, or after the animals drowned, so the partial pressures of carbon dioxide (PCO₂) or oxygen (PO₂) in blood from these animals were not measured. The authors stated that "[d]eath by CO₂ induced narcosis (submersion asphyxia) was evident in beaver, about 50% of muskrats, but 'wet' drowning (defined below) occurred in mink" (Gilbert and Gofton 1982:835). A review article written by Timperman (1972) was referenced to corroborate their conclusion. Timperman's (1972) paper discussed the forensic diagnosis of drowning through identification of diatoms in the lungs of victims. The author mentioned that carbon-dioxide-induced narcosis could be a possible cause of death during drowning, but he also acknowledged that death could be from anoxia. However, he did not provide substantiating data, such as blood gas analyses, to support either factor as the cause of death by drowning.

Proponents of drowning make a distinction between "wet" or "dry" drowning, the former occurring when water enters the lungs and the latter when the lungs remain relatively dry. To some, "dry" drowning implies that because the animal does not inhale water, then death is from CO₂-induced narcosis, although this is most likely incorrect. According to reports of incidents involving human drownings, 2 events may occur following submersion: 1) during the ensuing panic and struggle, water is swallowed and aspiration occurs in

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Key words: animals, carbon dioxide, drowning, euthanasia, killing

85% of the victims, which leads to "wet" drowning, i.e., the lungs fill with water (Newman and Stewart 1995) and hypoxia and cardiac arrest occur rapidly, the latter probably because the vagal nerve, in response to water contacting the mucous membranes of the larynx or trachea, causes a reflex slowing and arrest of the heart (Suzuki 1996); or 2) during drowning, the act of swallowing water may lead to laryngospasm (an involuntary closure of the glottis or entrance to the airway), thus sealing the airway and preventing water from being aspirated into the lungs (Yagil et al. 1983, Suzuki 1996). Approximately 15% of human drowning victims experience "dry" drowning, in which the lungs remain relatively free of water (Newman and Stewart 1995). Hypoxia and cardiac arrest develop, but often this process is protracted compared to the victims experiencing "wet" drowning. In fact, current research strongly suggests that death occurs more rapidly when water is inhaled because it initiates a reflex vagal inhibition of the heart (Suzuki 1996). Thus, a longer period of consciousness may be associated with "dry" drowning than with "wet" drowning. The accumulated evidence (as discussed below) indicates that the cause of death during drowning is hypoxia and anoxia, not CO₂-induced narcosis.

Stedman's Medical Dictionary (1995:1176) defines narcosis as a "[g]eneral and nonspecific reversible depression of neuronal excitability, produced by a number of physical and chemical agents, usually resulting in stupor rather than in anesthesia." Hypercarbia, or an excess of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in blood, can cause narcosis. In animals, CO₂ is a normal byproduct of oxygen (O₂) metabolism, and it is eliminated from the body through the lungs and the process of pulmonary ventilation (Guyton 1991). The relationship of CO₂ production to O₂ utilization is expressed as the respiratory exchange ratio, generally accepted to be around 0.8; it indicates that in general, less CO₂ is produced for a given amount of metabolized O₂ (Guyton 1991).

Several studies, involving numerous animal species in which blood gases were measured, indicate that carbon-dioxide narcosis does not occur until the partial pressure of carbon dioxide in arterial blood (PaCO₂) exceeds 95 millimeters of mercury (mm Hg) and true anesthesia occurs only when PaCO₂ exceeds 200 mm Hg. For example, laboratory rats exposed to 100% CO₂ at various chamber fill rates started to show evidence of CO₂

narcosis (they became uncoordinated) after PaCO₂ exceeded 123 mm Hg (Hewett et al. 1993). The same rats became immobile only after PaCO₂ exceeded 212 mm Hg, and they finally lost the pedal reflex to painful stimulation (toe pinch) after PaCO₂ exceeded 332 mm Hg (Hewett et al. 1993).

A study of the narcotic properties of carbon dioxide in dogs sheds more light on the issue of CO₂-induced narcosis (Eisele et al. 1967). In this study, the narcotic and anesthetic properties of CO₂ were determined in 2 ways: 1) by determining the MAC (the minimum alveolar concentration of an inhalant anesthetic that prevents purposeful movement by an animal exposed to a painful stimulus) for the inhalant anesthetic halothane (2-bromo-2-chloro-1,1,1-trifluoroethane), and then, in a step-wise manner, replacing the halothane with CO₂ while maintaining a constant plane of anesthesia; and 2) by administering only CO₂ to dogs and recording the PaCO₂ when each dog was anesthetized and unresponsive to a painful stimulus. The results indicated that increasing levels of PaCO₂ above 95 mm Hg were increasingly narcotic. At a PaCO₂ of 95 mm Hg the narcotic effect of CO₂ was minimal as it reduced the MAC of halothane by only 0.08%. In this study, anesthesia was produced at an average PaCO₂ of 222 mm Hg.

Drowning animals, of course, are not breathing 100% CO₂, let alone air; in fact, they are not breathing at all. Because the drowning animal cannot breathe, it uses all of the O₂ available in its blood, and CO₂ accumulates because of oxygen metabolism. As previously noted, the respiratory exchange ratio indicates that the rate of O₂ utilization is greater than the rate of CO₂ production (Guyton 1991), and this fact is demonstrated by numerous animal studies. In dogs that were drowned with either cold salt water (CSW) or cold fresh water (CFW), PaCO₂ increased significantly, but after 10 minutes of immersion it never exceeded 64.8±4.9 mm Hg in either group (Conn et al. 1995). However, PaO₂ significantly decreased in both groups; after 4 minutes of immersion, PaO₂ was 16.4±1.5 mm Hg in the CFW group and 18.8±21.6 mm Hg in the CSW group, and after 10 minutes of immersion it was 9.6±3.8 and 8.8±1.9 in the CFW and CSW groups, respectively. Similar results were found in another study involving anesthetized, intubated dogs that inhaled a fixed quantity (20 ml/kg) of fresh water (Rai et al. 1980). Prior to inhaling water, the PaO₂ and PaCO₂ were 100 mm Hg and 35 mm Hg, respectively. Five minutes after inhaling

water, the PaO₂ and PaCO₂ were 35 mm Hg and 52 mm Hg, respectively. During 40 minutes of observation, PaCO₂ never exceeded 60±0.5 mm Hg (mean ± SEM) and the PaO₂ did not exceed 47±5.5 mm Hg. The results from these 2 studies show that PaCO₂ levels were well below those necessary to induce CO₂ narcosis and that the dogs were hypoxemic (inadequate oxygen in blood).

In a study that measured cerebral blood flow and arterial blood gases in ducks (*Anas platyrhynchos*) held under water for more than 4 minutes, the average PaO₂ was 52 mm Hg (minimum recorded was 37 mm Hg) at 4.61 minutes, while the average PaCO₂ was 51 mm Hg (Stephenson et al. 1994). These numbers indicate that the ducks were hypoxemic and hypercarbic and that PaCO₂ was not at levels known to produce narcosis. However, PaO₂ had decreased to hypoxemic levels, and had the ducks not been killed by decapitation, the PaO₂ would have continued to decrease to levels incompatible with life, i.e., the ducks would have died from anoxic asphyxiation.

A study in which blood gases were measured in beaver during submersion sheds more light on the drowning issue, especially as it relates to furbearers. After venous and arterial catheterization to sample blood, European beaver (*Castor fiber*) were forcefully submerged in water for up to 10 minutes (Clausen and Erslund 1970). From the authors' figures, the following conclusions can be drawn. Throughout the period of submersion, PaCO₂ increased but never exceeded 100 mm Hg; it took 7.5 minutes of submersion before PaCO₂ exceeded 95 mm Hg. The PaO₂ rapidly decreased during the first 7 minutes of submersion, but both PaO₂ and arterial hemoglobin saturation with oxygen were at hypoxemic levels (PaO₂<50 mm Hg and saturation<50%) within 5 minutes from the start of submersion. Thus the beavers were hypoxemic 2-3 minutes before PaCO₂ reached 95 mm Hg.

The method by which great CO₂ concentrations kill animals is anesthesia-induced respiratory arrest and the ensuing tissue hypoxia-anoxia (Mullenax and Dougherty 1963, Andrews et al. 1993). In fact, the time to death is prolonged when oxygen is used with CO₂. When a gas mixture consisting of approximately 70% CO₂, 24% N₂, and 6% O₂ was used to kill mink, for example, the 5 test animals survived for at least 15 minutes in the gas mixture (Hansen et al. 1991). One animal died 6 minutes after being removed from the gas mixture, but the 4 other animals fully recovered.

The preceding evidence demonstrates that in drowning animals, hypercarbia lags behind hypoxia and anoxia and that drowning animals die from hypoxia and anoxia. All of this suggests that drowning animals experience hypoxemia-induced discomfort and distress before CO₂ narcosis occurs, if narcosis occurs at all. This raises the question: do animals experience distress during drowning? For the following reasons, we believe that the answer is yes. The classic stress response consists of changes in heart rate and increases in blood pressures and circulating blood levels of epinephrine and norepinephrine and other stress-related hormones (Moberg 1985). In rats breathing 100% CO₂ (CO₂ anoxia), plasma norepinephrine increased significantly and was released from the sympathetic nervous system and not the adrenal medulla (Borovsky et al. 1998). The authors concluded that the response was mainly from hypoxia, not from CO₂ in and of itself (Borovsky et al. 1998).

In a model of asphyxia in which rats were strangled (anoxic asphyxia), mean serum norepinephrine and epinephrine concentrations were significantly greater in the strangled group compared to the non-strangled group (norepinephrine=5.4±2.6 ng/mL vs. 2.8±0.1 ng/mL, $P<0.001$ and epinephrine=6.0±3.4 ng/mL vs. 3.8±3.0 ng/mL, $P<0.05$; Hirvonen et al. 1997). The author concluded that the data supported the idea that catecholamine concentrations increased in blood upon suffocation and could be used as indicators of hypoxia (Hirvonen et al. 1997).

In dogs that were drowned with either cold salt water (CSW) or cold fresh water (CFW), epinephrine and norepinephrine concentrations (pg/mL) increased significantly after immersion and continued to rise throughout the experimental period (Conn et al. 1995). Prior to immersion, epinephrine was 206±25 in the CFW group and 133±67 in the CSW group. After 10 minutes of immersion, it had risen to 174,650±1,750 in the CFW group and 153,250±4,585 in the CSF group. Prior to immersion, norepinephrine was 224±46 in the CFW group and 374±182 in the CSW group, and by 10 minutes it had reached 63,025±4,946 in the CFW group and 50,400±1,796 in the CSF group. The authors noted that though the greater values reported in their study could be partly attributed to sudden cold stress that has been described after cold-water immersion, a more important etiological factor is likely to be anoxic-ischemic stress producing a catecholamine surge (Conn et al. 1995).

Thus, the accumulated data indicate that hypoxia-anoxia readily elicit the stress response in a variety of animal species.

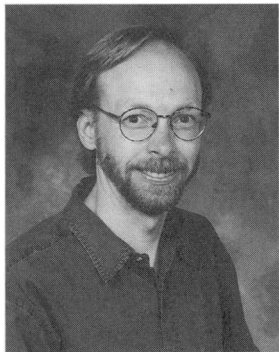
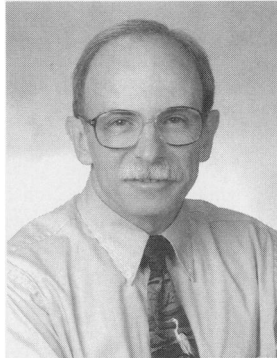
To summarize, data from several studies and a variety of animal species indicate that CO₂ can produce narcosis, but only at partial pressures in arterial blood exceeding 95 mm Hg. Furthermore, data from rats and dogs suggest that a level of CO₂-induced narcosis sufficient to render an animal insensible to the discomfort, anxiety, and stress associated with hypoxemia is probably above 123 mm Hg; true CO₂-induced anesthesia, and thus insensibility, does not occur until PaCO₂ exceeds 200 mm Hg.

We recognize that drowning has been a traditional wildlife management technique, especially for trapping aquatic mammals such as beaver, muskrat, nutria (*Myocastor coypus*), mink, and river otters (*Lontra canadensis*). In some states, trappers have been encouraged to drown non-aquatic mammals captured in cage traps, including raccoons (*Procyon lotor*), striped skunks (*Mephitis mephitis*), and opossums (*Didelphis virginiana*). Drowning is a method of killing animals that is convenient for humans. However, the concept of euthanasia is independent of traditions and convenience, and drowning can not be considered euthanasia. As we noted at the beginning of this article, euthanasia is a "good death" that occurs without pain or distress. Time is an important element in euthanasia, and any technique that requires minutes rather than seconds to produce death can not be considered euthanasia. We encourage wildlife administrators, researchers, animal care and use committees, managers, and trappers to consider these findings as they develop wildlife euthanasia technique guidelines and Best Management Practices for Trapping (Proulx and Barrett 1989, Friend et al. 1994, Hamilton et al. 1998).

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Improving Animal Welfare in U.S. Trapping Programs:

Process Recommendations and Summaries of Existing Data



**International Association of Fish
and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA)**

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Improving Animal Welfare in U.S. Trapping Programs: Process Recommendations and Summaries of Existing Data

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Executive Summary

Over the past 18 months, the IAFWA Fur Resources Technical Subcommittee and trapping work group participants from USDA/APHIS Animal Damage Control, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Trappers Association have been working to:

- 1) develop and compile existing data on trap research and testing;
- 2) identify priority species and trapping systems for additional work;
- 3) recommend common and consistent protocols for use by agencies or researchers conducting trap testing so that usefulness and comparability of results are maximized;
- 4) identify appropriate processes and procedures that could be developed to allow state wildlife agencies to systematically and objectively improve trapping within their jurisdictions, including the development of regionally based Best Management Practices (BMPs) for trapping; and
- 5) identify public information and education needs to improve the understanding and acceptance of trapping programs.

This report summarizes the results of the “first steps” of efforts of the Subcommittee and the working group to identify, compile, and synthesize data and to conceptualize and design processes for improving trapping and the welfare of trapped animals in the U.S.

Next steps in this process will require the commitment of agencies and organizations at the state, regional, and national levels to aggressively move forward in the development of data and guidelines that can be applied to the improvement of trapping programs and that can be incorporated into programs of public and trapper education.

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V. Summary of Existing Data on Trap Performance and Use

The work group reviewed existing literature on trap performance and use and summarized available information. A review of all of the trap literature by species is included in Appendix A. No data was found for trapping bassarisk or for swift and kit foxes. This section summarizes the general findings by species for the information contained in Appendix A. It will be used by the work group in the future to 1) determine whether information is adequate to proceed with BMP development without additional testing; and 2) determine the best performing traps for each species or species group.

A species by species summary of trap testing literature follows:

Arctic Fox. Two studies conducted in Canada have focused on Sauvageau 2001-8 (a killing trap) and the standard No. 1½ Victor coil spring foothold trap. Compound testing demonstrated that the Sauvageau trap quickly killed 9 of 9 foxes. Most foxes captured in the 1½ coil spring trap had only minor injuries when traps were checked daily. (Appendix A).

Badger. Limited research in the western United States indicates #1½ coil spring traps with unpadding, laminated, or padded jaws can be used to capture badgers with only minor injuries. Also, 78% of 45 badgers captured for telemetry research in Illinois using #3 Victor Soft Catch™ traps had no visible injuries. (Appendix A).

Beaver. Research in Canada, performed under controlled conditions, has shown that beaver can be killed in ≤6 minutes on land using standard Conibear 330 and modified (jaws bent inward) Conibear 280 and 330 traps. When captured underwater in locking snares or in drowning sets using #3 and #4 Victor foothold traps, beaver die in 5 to 10 minutes due to CO₂ narcosis or asphyxiation. Five beaver trapped underwater in modified Conibear 330 traps were killed in ≤9 minutes 15 seconds. Lab tests on anesthetized animals have determined the minimum energy forces required to cause death when delivered via a blow to the head, neck, thorax, abdomen, or chest. (Appendix A).

Bobcat. Research in the western United States and Michigan has shown that the No. 3 Victor Soft Catch is effective in capturing bobcats with minimal injuries compared to unpadding traps. Replacement of stock 1.75 springs on Soft Catch traps with No. 3 springs and modification of pans, linkage, and jaws reduced injury scores and improved trapping success. (Appendix A).

Coyote. More trap research has been conducted on coyotes than any other furbearer species. This research has focused primarily on comparing the rate and injuries associated with different trap types. Additionally, there has been work to evaluate pan tension systems, trap jaw modifications, swiveling systems, chain length, shock springs, and jaw closure speed. (Appendix A).

Much of the field testing was done in the western United States and Canada, with only a

few studies in the East. Many of the trap studies compared the performance of the No. 3 Victor Soft Catch to other types of unpadded traps.

The most significant conclusion from these studies is that coyotes captured in padded traps have fewer and less severe injuries than those captured in unpadded traps. Reduction in injury is exemplified by fewer broken bones, cut tendons and ligaments, and periosteal abrasions. Recent research suggests that capture rates for padded traps are similar to those for unpadded models. Several types of pan tension devices have been evaluated on a variety of coyote traps and all have been effective in reducing nontarget captures. A summary of the major research findings on injury and capture rates for seven types of traps tested by USDA's National Wildlife Research Center is shown in Table 1:

Table 1. Summary of trap testing results for coyotes for seven traps tested by the USDA National Wildlife Research Center.

Trap Type	Test States	N ¹	Median Injury Score ²	Capture Rate ³
Sterling MJ600	CA, TX, ID	68	80.0	94
No. 3 Northwoods	CA, TX, ID	59	80.0	95
Victor 3NM	TX	33	60.0	95
Heimbrock Special	CA, TX	30	80.0	94
Standard No. 3 Soft Catch	CA, OR, NV, MT, WY, OK, NM, TX	53	15.0	95
Modified No. 3 Soft Catch	CA	60	15.0	97
No. 3½ EZ Grip	CA, TX, CO	65	10.0	88

¹ N = sample size for calculating injury score using ISO (International Organization for Standardization) Trauma Scale.

² Median score for trap related injuries, based on standardized point scale for injuries.

³ Capture rate = percent of animals captured of potential captures (target animals captured plus identifiable escapes).

Fisher. Various killing traps have been evaluated for capturing fisher in Canada. Compound testing has shown that the Bionic trap cocked to 8 notches consistently kills fisher in <1 minute. The mechanical characteristics of modified (stronger springs) Conibear 220 and Sauvageau 2001-8 traps exceed the kill threshold established for fisher, but the standard Conibear 220 and AFK Kania traps do not. Double strikes (head/neck and thorax) with a modified Conibear 220 trap equipped with 280 springs killed 5 of 6 fishers (avg. time to unconsciousness = 51 ± 13 sec.). Cage traps were used to capture 35-95% of the fishers trapped annually in Massachusetts from 1980-1988. (Appendix A).

Gray Fox. Limited research has been done in the eastern United States comparing the standard No. 1½ Victor coil-spring with the No. 1½ Soft Catch. Results of these studies indicate no difference in capture efficiency between trap type and reduced injuries for foxes captured in padded traps. (Appendix A).

Gray Wolf. Wolf traps have been evaluated in Alaska, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Custom-made No. 14 Newhouse long spring traps with offset, toothed jaws were effective and caused the least injuries compared to other trap types. Suggested methods for reducing injury included shortened chains, center-mounting of the chain, and the use of tranquilizer tabs. (Appendix A).

Lynx. Footsnares, foothold traps, and kill traps have been evaluated for capturing lynx in Canada. Compound testing has shown that the modified 330 Conibear can consistently kill lynx in ≤ 3 minutes. Modified Fremont footsnares caused less injury when compared to Soft Catch traps. (Appendix A).

Marten. Several studies have been conducted in Canada to evaluate the performance of killing traps for capturing marten. Compound testing has shown that the standard Conibear 110 and 120 traps fail to consistently kill marten in < 5 minutes. In comparison, 13 of 14 marten caught in the C120 Magnum trap equipped with a pitchfork trigger had an average time to unconsciousness of ≤ 68 sec. Field tests indicated the C120 Magnum placed in elevated box sets was as efficient as foothold traps for harvesting marten. In Ontario, wire box traps and the Conibear 120 had similar selectivity, but box traps were less efficient. The most efficient and selective set for marten utilized a killing trap placed in a "Trapper's Box" on a horizontal pole. (Appendix A).

Mink. Research in Canada performed under controlled conditions has shown that mink can be killed in ≤ 3 minutes on land using the C120 Magnum trap with a pan trigger, the Bionic trap with a 6 cm bait cone, or the C180 trap with a pan trigger. However, terrestrial sets employing the standard Conibear 110 and 120 fail to consistently kill mink in < 5 minutes. Lab tests on anesthetized animals have determined the minimum energy forces required to cause death when delivered via a blow to the head, neck, thorax, and abdomen. When captured in drowning sets using foothold traps, mink die in < 4 minutes, but most wet drown. During field tests in British Columbia and Newfoundland, the C120 Magnum with a pan trigger was as efficient for capturing mink as the Conibear 120 and standard foothold traps. (Appendix A).

Muskrat. Muskrat traps have been evaluated in Louisiana, New Jersey, and Canada. Lab tests on anesthetized animals have determined the minimum energy forces required to cause death when delivered via a blow to the head, neck, thorax, and abdomen. Death occurs in ≤ 4 minutes if Conibear 110 traps are used underwater, but standard Conibear 110 and 120 traps fail to consistently kill muskrats in < 5 minutes when used on land. Muskrats caught in modified (18 kg springs) Conibear 110 traps on land died in ≤ 3 minutes 20 seconds. Controlled experiments have shown muskrats taken in drowning sets using #1½ long spring traps die in ≤ 5 minutes 15 seconds, and about half have no injuries. A New Jersey field study determined the Victor #1 VG Stoploss with padded jaws caused significantly less damage to limbs of trapped muskrats

compared to the unpadded #1 VG Stoploss; both traps captured and held muskrats equally well in drowning sets. Other studies have found that Conibear traps are usually more efficient and selective for harvesting muskrats than standard footholds. (Appendix A).

Nutria. Field tests have been conducted in Louisiana and Great Britain to evaluate the efficiency of nutria traps. In the marshes of Louisiana, the #1½ and #2 Victor long spring traps proved to be more efficient for capturing nutria than the Conibear 220. Also, 69-91% of the animals caught in foothold traps were alive at the time of trap check and could be released. In Great Britain, large cage traps set on rafts caught significantly more nutria and about half the number of non-target animals compared with those set on land. (Appendix A).

Opossum. Restraining traps for the opossum have been evaluated on a limited basis in the eastern United States, Washington, and Alabama. Research indicates: 1) no difference in efficiency between the #1½ Victor coil spring and the #1½ Victor Soft Catch, 2) significantly lower injury scores for opossums captured in padded foothold traps compared with unpadded models, and 3) offset jaws can reduce the frequency of bone fractures compared with non-offset versions. Several types of pan tension devices have been evaluated on a variety of coyote traps and all have been effective in reducing accidental opossum captures. Killing traps (e.g. Conibear 120 and 220) appear to be more efficient for capturing opossums when placed in boxes on the ground rather than above ground level. (Appendix A).

Raccoon. Killing and restraining traps for raccoons have been extensively researched in the United States and Canada. Controlled lab tests have been conducted on anesthetized animals to determine the minimum energy forces a killing trap must deliver to cause death via a blow to the head, neck, and chest. Also, limited data about the effects of clamping force have been obtained. (Appendix A).

Research on various killing traps conducted in enclosures indicates raccoons can not be consistently killed in <5 minutes using standard Conibear 220, 280 (with pan trigger), and 330 traps. However, about 60% of the animals captured in the 220 and 280 die in <4 minutes. Investigations on immobilized raccoons have shown that the Sauvageau 2001-8 and a modified (extra clamping bar) Conibear 280 have the potential to consistently render animals irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 4 minutes, but not in ≤ 3 minutes. In a separate lab study the average time to unconsciousness for 4 of 5 immobilized raccoons caught in the BMI™ 160 (a rotating-jaw trap similar to Conibear) was 172 ± 16 seconds; the remaining animal was euthanized after 5 minutes. The raccoon capture efficiency of the Conibear 220 may be comparable to or better than some restraining traps under certain environmental conditions, but in other instances it may not.

Results from 1 enclosure and 13 field studies of restraining traps for raccoons are available. This research has focused on comparing the capture rate and injuries associated with different trap types. The majority of the field testing was done in the eastern United States with only a few studies in the west and Canada.

Injury data from these investigations are difficult to compare because scoring systems have varied and several studies report only on injuries to the trapped limb. A significant conclusion has been that most of the serious injuries observed are due to self-mutilation. Results

are somewhat mixed, but the available information indicates padded traps fail to preclude this behavior in raccoons and thus do not significantly reduce injury scores compared with unpadded traps. Padded traps also appear to be less efficient for capturing raccoons than unpadded versions. However, #1 size jaw traps (both padded and unpadded) do reduce the frequency of self-mutilation and are as efficient as comparable #1½ size models. Foot snares have been used to trap raccoons with some reduction in injuries, but their efficiency is significantly lower than standard foothold traps.

The only restraining trap tested to date that significantly reduces the frequency of self-mutilation and the severity of injuries to trapped raccoons compared with padded and unpadded jaw traps is the EGG™. The mean total injury score (based on a modified Olsen scale) assigned to raccoons caught in the EGG in an Illinois field study was 68 compared with 116 for those trapped with the #1 coil spring. The EGG has a raccoon capture efficiency which exceeds that of the unpadded #1 coil spring and at least equals that of box traps.

River Otter. Various restraining traps for the live-capture of otters have been evaluated in Newfoundland, Idaho, Minnesota, Louisiana, and the eastern United States. Capture success with Hancock traps has varied depending on the season and setting techniques. In Newfoundland, Bailey traps proved ineffective. A recent study compared unpadded Victor #11 double long spring and modified (heavier spring added) Victor #1½ Soft Catch traps for catching otters for relocation. Fewer severe injuries were noted in animals captured with the Soft Catch trap, but there was no difference in frequency or severity of dental injuries between trap types. No published research on killing traps for river otter is available. (Appendix A).

Red Fox. Numerous studies have been conducted in the United States, Canada, Sweden, and Australia to evaluate the performance of leghold traps and snares for capturing red fox under a variety of environmental conditions.

The No. 1½ Victor coil spring is the most common trap used to capture foxes in North America. Several studies have compared the performance of this trap to the No. 1½ Soft Catch. In general, the padded No. 1½ Soft Catch has proved to be as effective as its unpadded counterparts. Also, padded traps cause fewer and less serious injuries. Foot snares have proved to be effective devices for capturing foxes in the powder snow conditions of northern Sweden. Plastic footsnares were also effective in reducing trap-related injuries. Limited testing of power snares indicates that foxes can be rendered unconscious within six minutes. (Appendix A).

Striped Skunk. Three studies (2 in the United States and 1 in Canada) indicate leg injuries to striped skunks captured in standard and padded foothold traps are extensive due to a high frequency of self-mutilation. A field study in Ontario revealed skunks can be captured with few injuries using the Novak foot snare, but this trap has a low capture rate and an unacceptable level of efficiency. Several types of pan tension devices have been evaluated on a variety of coyote traps and all have been effective in reducing accidental skunk captures. (Appendix A).

Weasel. Research data on traps commonly used for harvesting weasels in North America are not available. One killing trap (the Fenn) has been used successfully to capture weasels in New Zealand. (Appendix A).

Wolverine. Only one study is published on a technique for capturing wolverines. This study evaluated the log traps which captured 12 Idaho wolverines with no reported injuries. (Appendix A).

VI. Priority species and trapping systems for research and testing

The trap testing needs for twenty-three species of furbearers were prioritized and assessed, considering criteria for the species such as: 1) the type and proportion of trapping systems predominantly used; 2) the total harvest in this country; 3) the importance to trappers; 4) the amount and type of economic damage caused; 5) the urgency and opportunity for additional work from the biologists' perspective; and 6) and the availability and quality of data from past trap research programs.

First, a systematic approach to ranking furbearer species' priority for trap research was used that incorporated some of the variables suggested by Todd (1987), as further developed by the FRTS (Table 2.). This process required the relative ranking and scoring of these criteria using available data and professional judgements. These sources of data included the trap use and ownership study from 1992, the fur harvest summaries compiled annually by the FRTS, data collected by the FRTS regarding furbearer nuisance and damage problems, and the assessment of existing data on trap performance.

These species were then placed in one of three priority categories: high, medium, and low, based on their relative rankings and the need to accomplish critical research in the next three to five years (Table 3.).

The relative sense of urgency or opportunity to accomplish this research was based on several considerations, such as whether or not the species was listed on the EU fur regulation, the amount of environmental damage at risk if the species is not controlled in the future, and whether the trapping systems currently used are particularly troublesome due to unique habitat conditions, or where it appears that a superior trap is now widely available. For example, the relative ranking for pine marten was relatively low based on scores alone, but because a widely available killing trap appears to be at least as efficient and likely more humane, the committee felt that immediate testing was necessary prior to making the recommendation in a BMP. Species that received high marks for urgency or opportunity include raccoon, nutria, gray fox, beaver, mink, wolf, pine marten, swift fox, and fisher. Also, the committee gave additional weight to species that had very little existing data on trap performance. For this reason, nutria, opossum, muskrat, striped skunk, gray fox, mink, fisher, bassarisk, wolverine, and weasel were given extra consideration.

This prioritized list of trap research needs for the United States along with existing information on performance of traps will be used to identify gaps in trapping data for the various regions and for specific traps, especially new technology.

Table 2. Priority rankings based only on composite species scores (CSS) using a variation of the method developed by Todd (1987). CSS scores were calculated from data on type of traps most commonly used (system), total harvest, trapper preference (presumed to be based on a combination of pelt value, abundance, ease of capture), and amount of damage to property and the need for damage control.

Priority	Species	Trapping System ¹	Total Harvest ²	Trapper Preference ³	Damage ⁴	Composite Species Score (CSS) ⁵
1	Raccoon	4	5	5	5	19
2	Coyote	5	4	4	5	18
3	Fox, Red	5	4	5	3	17
4	Nutria	5	5	2	4	16
5	Opossum	4	5	3	3	15
6	Muskrat	1	5	5	4	15
7	Beaver	1	4	4	5	14
8	Bobcat	5	3	4	2	14
9	Fox, Gray	5	4	4	1	14
10	Skunk	5	3	2	4	14
11	Mink	3	4	5	1	13
12	Badger	5	3	2	2	12
13	Marten	3	3	3	1	10
14	Bassarisk	5	3	1	1	10
15	Wolf	5	1	2	2	10
16	Otter	3	2	3	2	10
17	Lynx	5	2	2	1	10
18	Fox, Swift/Kit	5	2	1	1	9
19	Fisher	3	2	3	1	9
20	Fox, Arctic	5	1	1	1	8
21	Wolverine	3	1	2	1	7
22	Weasel	1	2	1	1	5

¹ "Trapping System" ratings (on a 5-point scale) were from: 1 = primarily captured in killing or submersion sets, up to: 5 = primarily captured in standard leghold traps on land, based on the judgement of the IAFWA Fur Resources Technical Subcommittee

² "Harvest" = ranking of total U.S. harvest for 1976-77, 1981-82, 1986-87, and 1991-92, where 1 = lowest harvest and 5 = highest harvest

³ "Trapper Preference" = % of trappers listing species as one of four most important (1 = 0%; 2 = >0<5%; 3 = >5<20%; 4 = >20<30%; 5 = > 30%)

⁴ "Damage" = ranking of relative damage to property as judged by IAFWA Fur Resources Technical Subcommittee on a 5-point scale, with 1 = lowest damage and 5 = greatest damage

⁵ "Composite Species Score" (CSS) based on a method described by Todd (1987). In this exercise, all criteria were given equal weight in calculating the composite score.

Table 3. Recommended trap testing priorities from the trapping work group based on the CSS scores summarized in Table 1, and on a more subjective analysis by the work group of the amount and quality of existing data and the urgency or opportunity for additional work.

Recommended Trap Testing Priorities, by Species		
High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority
Raccoon	Beaver	Canada Lynx
Coyote	Bobcat	Bassarisk (Ring-tailed Cat)
Red Fox	Opossum	Arctic Fox
Nutria	Striped Skunk	Wolverine
Muskrat	Gray Wolf	Weasels
Gray Fox	Badger	
Mink	River Otter	
Pine Marten	Swift/Kit Fox	
	Fisher	

VII. Recommended trap testing protocols

The work group recognized the need to recommend appropriate and consistent trap testing protocols so that results of trap testing would be scientifically and statistically valid, as well as directly comparable from study to study.

After reviewing trap testing protocols proposed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB), and the EU/Canada/Russia/United States quadrilateral process, the work group recommends that the ISO approach (which is the basis for the other efforts) be followed by those testing traps in the U.S.

The ISO standards for trap testing are currently Draft International Standards in the form of approved Committee Drafts (CDs). ISO/CD 10990-5, entitled *Animal (Mammal) Traps - Part 5. Methods for Testing Restraining Traps*, is a standard to provide test methods for performance evaluation of restraining traps in the areas of animal welfare, capture efficiency, selectivity, and user safety. ISO/CD 10990-4, entitled *Animal (Mammal) Traps - Part 4. Methods for Testing Killing Traps*, is a similar document relating to killing traps.

Both documents have been approved by consensus by the 15 Participating countries involved in this standard, including the U.S., and will be circulated for review and approval by all member countries of ISO later this year.

These documents set forth appropriate trap testing protocols to ensure uniformity throughout the world in how animal trap performance is tested for capture efficiency, selectivity, user safety, and animal welfare. The testing protocols include standard definitions, sampling and replication guidelines, laboratory and field testing procedures, pathological examination procedures, selectivity testing, capture efficiency testing, user safety evaluation, and standardized reporting formats.

Threshold values are not identified in an ISO Testing Methodology Standard. However, informative scales related to physical trauma are included in these Committee Drafts as examples of scientifically measurable criteria that might be useful to those involved with trap testing.

These ISO CDs have considerable support from the nations involved in this work. It is expected that these CDs will be approved by ISO in 1997.

VIII. Public education needs and strategies: Summary

The trapping work group discussed public knowledge and understanding of trapping programs and how problems of the public's lack of knowledge, misconceptions, and misinformation could be addressed. The discussion was facilitated by Brian Hay of Paragon Corporation, a Reputation Management Consultant based in Toronto, Ontario, who has had considerable experience with this issue. Following is a brief summary of that discussion:

Demographic population changes within the United States since the Second World War, including increasing urbanization, have resulted in less direct personal contact and experience with the land for an increasing majority of American residents. This has translated into a lack of understanding and appreciation of natural habitats and of rural lifestyles, including trapping, hunting, and fishing.

Lack of public awareness, appreciation, or understanding of natural habitats and wildlife populations, and of the encroachment of humanity on wild areas and encounters with resurging populations of many wild animal species, have contributed to public misunderstanding of trapping as a management tool. Increased distancing of human populations from a direct and visible reliance on "the land" have also reduced public understanding of trapping as a lifestyle choice or an economic contribution to many rural families or those who retain close ties to the land.

In addition, there has been a dramatic change in the role of government agencies regarding the decisions made about the use of natural resources. No longer are agencies able to use scientific/practical experience alone to justify decisions, especially those that increase public access to and use of wildlife populations. In the public arena, input from the public has become nearly as important in the decision-making process on some issues as professional expertise. In some states with initiative petition processes, the authority of wildlife agencies has been completely usurped at the ballot box, completely by-passing the traditional role of government agencies.

Given the importance of trapping to management programs and to individuals, it is appropriate and necessary to increase the level of public understanding of wildlife populations and habitats, wildlife interactions with human populations, outdoor lifestyles, and the role and utilization of hunting and trapping therein. The work group will work with other committees of the IAFWA, as well as other agencies and organizations with an interest in wildlife management, to achieve this goal.

A program of information and education must be developed to reach key audiences within the general population. There is no integrated plan by government agencies to provide timely, useful, accurate public information and education on fur resource or wildlife management and use issues. Opinions and knowledge of key publics must be assessed on a regular basis to monitor changes and measure effectiveness of programs and messages. Key audiences must be identified, and their interests, positions and concerns defined, addressed, and monitored. Key themes and messages need to be developed for each audience group.

Selected agency and organization personnel should be provided with effective media and public communications training. Results of research and BMP development efforts should be included as available in communications materials. The program should use synergy with other related programs to multiply benefits and increase effectiveness while reducing costs.

IX. Next steps

Trapping programs continue to be essential wildlife management tools in most countries of the world. This includes the U. S., but also includes Europe where much of the opposition to trapping is strongest, yet where considerable trapping is done to control damage to agriculture, and to dikes, dams and water control structures

Management agencies and trappers must be responsible about addressing legitimate issues involving the welfare of captured animals wherever possible, and must be willing to develop and adopt scientifically proven improvements in trapping devices and methods. Unless management agencies quickly take the initiative to advance the understanding and application of improvements in trapping, national and world opinion will result in actions that take away the opportunity and the option to use these important tools in management programs.

Specific recommendations from the work group include:

- 1) Aggressively pursue the highest priority trap testing**, by species, to scientifically establish what methods and devices will and will not be effective, efficient, safe, and selective while improving the welfare of trapped animals;
- 2) Begin immediately to use the best available information and the results of testing to develop a set of trapping Best Management Practices (BMPs)** that can be regionally adapted to the diversity of species, climate, and terrain present in this country;
- 3) Facilitate the understanding and adoption of BMPs by members of the public who use traps** so that the welfare of animals captured in trapping programs is improved while human safety, trapping efficiency, and selectivity are also maintained; and
- 4) Effectively involve, communicate with, and educate the public** so that information and cultural gaps are identified and a more thorough understanding and acceptance of trapping is developed.

Effective accomplishment of these recommendations will require a significant commitment of financial and human resources; they cannot be accomplished by any individual state or federal agency alone. The Technical Subcommittee and Trapping Work Group intend to pursue options to form partnerships and to develop financial support for pursuing these recommendations.

Literature Cited (see Appendix for trap testing literature cited)

Todd, A.W. 1987. A method of prioritizing furbearer species for research and development in humane capture methods as applied in Canada. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 15:372-380

Appendix A

Summary of Trap Research and

Testing Data, by Species

**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

ARCTIC FOX (*Alopex lagopus*)

December 2, 1996

Page 1 of 1

Reference	Trap	Results
Proulx et al. (1993)	Sauvageau 2001-8	Compound testing at Vegreville testing facility. The Sauvageau 2001-8 rotating jaw trap set in a portable 3-sided wire mesh cubby quickly killed 9 of 9 arctic foxes. Average times to loss of consciousness and heartbeat were estimated at <73.4 and 213.6 seconds, respectively. These averages did not differ (P>0.05) from those of the preselection tests.
Proulx et al. (1994)	1½ Victor Sauvageau 2001-8	Field test on 2 traplines in Northwest Territories. Sixty-two arctic foxes were captured and killed in the Sauvageau 2001-8 using a baited trigger; all animals received head/neck strikes; trap judged to be humane. One hundred fifty-five foxes were captured on traplines using the 1½ Victor foothold trap. On traplines visited an average of 1.4 days, most foxes were held with only minor injuries. On traplines visited at an average interval of 8 days, 21 of 53 animals had injury scores >50. On daily check the No. 1½ was found to be humane and more successful than the Sauvageau trap.

LITERATURE CITED

Proulx, G., A. J. Kolenosky, M. J. Badry, P. J. Cole, and R. K. Drescher. 1993. Assessment of the Sauvageau 2001-8 trap to effectively kill arctic fox. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 21:132-135.

Proulx, G., I. M. Paulina, D. K. Onderka, M. J. Badry, and K. Seidel. 1994. Field evaluation of the number 1½ steel-jawed leghold and the Sauvageau 2001-8 traps to humanely capture arctic fox. *Wildl. Soc. Bull.* 22:179-183.

Prepared by: Robert L. Phillips, USDA/APHIS/ADC/NWRC, 1716 Heath Parkway, Fort Collins, CO 80524-2719

**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

BADGER (*Taxidea taxus*)

February 14, 1997

Page 1 of 1

Reference	Trap	Results
Kern et al. (1994)	Victor #1½ Coil Spring (CS); plus 3 prototypes: Victor #1½ with laminated jaws Butera #1½ with offset jaws Victor #1½ with padded jaws	Field study in Wyoming. The median Olsen injury scale scores for the offset jaw trap (5.0, n=6), laminated jaw trap (5.0, n=6), padded jaw trap (5.0, n=4), and standard trap (7.5, n=8) were not significantly different (P=0.40).
Warner, R. (Univ. of Illinois, Urbana, unpubl. data)	Victor #3 Soft Catch	Field study in Illinois. No injuries observed for 78% of badgers (n=45) captured for radio-telemetry study. Injuries recorded in other 22% were minor (claw loss, edema, small lacerations, etc.).

LITERATURE CITED

Kern, J. W., L. L. McDonald, M. D. Strickland, and E. Williams. 1994. Field evaluation and comparison of four foothold traps for terrestrial furbearers in Wyoming. Tech. Res. Work Order, Furbearers Unlimited, Bloomington, Ill. 29pp.

Prepared by: George Hubert, Jr., Illinois DNR

**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

BEAVER (*Castor canadensis*)

February 14, 1997

Page 1 of 2

Reference	Trap	Results
Novak (1975)	Carbon monoxide (CO)	Lab test. CO not effective; adverse reactions.
Gilbert (1976)	Simulated "Killing"	Lab tests on anesthetized beavers (n=6) to determine the minimum energy forces necessary to cause immediate death when delivered to the neck. Threshold value = 805 cm kg for a neck blow. The threshold value for a chest strike was 780 cm kg(n=10). No clamping force applied.
Gilbert (1981)	#3 Victor Double Long Spring #4 Victor Double Long Spring	Lab test. Evidence suggested death due to CO ₂ narcosis (n=25). Isoelectric EEG at 9 min. 30 sec.
Novak (1981)	1/16" locking snare w/ 10"dia. loop Mohawk (large) Conibear 220, 280, 330 #4 Victor Double Long Spring	Controlled field test in Ontario. Beaver (n=8) died in 5.5 to 10.5 minutes when caught in underwater locking snares. Death occurred in 7.5 to 9.0 minutes in drowning sets using #4 Victor DLS (n=5). Five beaver captured in modified Conibear 330 were killed in 7.0 to 9.25 minutes in underwater sets. All 4 beaver trapped with large Mohawk escaped from trap. When used in land sets, Conibear 330 killed beaver in 2.5 to 5.5 minutes (n=6), but only 3/5 beavers caught in Conibear 220 died in 3.0 to 5.3 minutes (2/5 were released). Beaver (n=6) caught in modified (jaws bent inward) Conibear 330 traps on land were killed in 1.0 to 5.5 minutes. Three beaver caught in land sets with modified Conibear 280 traps that had pan triggers were killed in 2.0 to 6.1 minutes. Recommended all Conibear traps should have jaws bent inward and be supplied with safety releases.

Gilbert and Gofton (1982)	#3 Victor Double Long Spring #4 Victor Double Long Spring	Controlled lab tests in aquatic tank using a drowning set. The average time to cessation of struggling was 8 min. 11 sec. (n=20); EEG loss occurred in an average of 9 min. 11 sec. (n=16). EKG loss took place after an average of 16 min. 27 sec. (n=14). Death occurred due to anoxia (asphyxiation).
Zelin et al. (1983)	Simulated "Killing"	Controlled lab tests on anesthetized animals; determined mean kill thresholds using 335-g striking bar; 10-minute time to death test period employed. With no holding force, the thresholds for head (n=8), neck (n=6), and thorax (n=8) hits of beavers were 3.7, 3.0, and 5.9 kg.m/sec, respectively. For abdominal hits of beaver, the impact momentum required to kill the animals (n=3) was beyond the capability of the test equipment (>13.9 kg.m/sec).

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Prepared by: George Hubert, Jr., Illinois DNR

**IAFWA - FRSTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

BOBCAT (*Felis rufus*)

December 2, 1996

Page 1 of 2

Reference	Trap	Results
Linscombe and Wright (1988)	No. 1½ Victor padded No. 1½ standard coil spring	This was part of a 9-state study to compare the capture efficiency of padded jaw foothold traps with standard steel jaw traps. Thirty-nine bobcats were captured during this study. The No. 1½ Victor “fox” trap caught fewer bobcats (P<0.01) than the standard unpadded model.
Olsen et al. (1988)	No. 1½ Victor padded No. 1½ standard coil spring No. 3 Victor Soft Catch No. 3 Victor coil spring	Necropsies were performed on 59 bobcats as part of the 9-state trap study. Seven bobcats were caught in the “fox” padded trap and 14 in standard traps. There was no difference in the level of injury between trap types. Bobcats captured with the No. 3 Victor Soft Catch in the western United States had less leg damage than those captured in unpadded traps; only 13% had injuries that scored ≥ 50 points. Twenty-four percent captured in the No. 3 standard trap (No. 3 coil spring) had ≥ 50 points damage.
Earle et al. (1996)	No. 3 Victor Soft Catch (standard & modified)	One hundred twenty-six bobcat (<i>Felis rufus</i>) were live-trapped in Roscommon County, Michigan, during the period 1991-95 using standard and modified No. 3 Victor Soft Catch traps. Injuries were described in detail when each bobcat was handled and an injury score was assigned based on the most severe injury. Bobcats caught in double coil spring traps were injured more frequently and severely than those held in standard Soft Catch traps (P<0.05). Replacement of stock 1.75 springs on Soft Catch traps with No. 3 springs and modification of the pans, linkage, and jaws reduced injury scores and improved trapping success.

LITERATURE CITED

Earle, R., D. Lunning, and V. Tuovila. 1996. Assessing injuries to Michigan bobcats held by No. 3 Soft Catch™ traps. (Abstract). Proc. 14th Midwest Furbearer Workshop. Ironwood, MI, April 2-4, 1996.

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**IAFWA-FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

COYOTE (*Canis latrans*)

December 2, 1996

Page 1 of 10

Reference	Trap	Results
Linhart et al (1981)	No. 3 Victor NM	Two hundred sixty-seven coyotes were captured in Texas, New Mexico, and Nevada using Victor 3NM traps affixed with tranquilizer tabs containing propiopromazine HCl, or a mixture of propiopromazine HCl and chlordiazepoxide HCl. Foot injuries were reduced up to 90% when compared to 41 control coyotes captured in the same trap type in which no tranquilizer tabs were used. Sixty-two coyotes captured in traps with shortened chains or chains with coil springs did not reduce foot injury when compared to 21 coyotes captured in unmodified traps. While the pan tension testing was incomplete at the time of this writing, nearly 90% of the gray fox, swift fox, striped skunks, opossums, and jackrabbits were excluded as compared with an average of 24% exclusion rate for standard traps.
Novak (1981)	Novak leg snare No. 4 Victor long spring No. 2 Victor coil spring	The Novak footsnare was compared with 2 types of leghold traps under field conditions in southern Ontario. No differences were found between the 2 traps in frequency in which animals discharged traps, capture rate, and escape rate. Eight coyotes were captured in the footsnare and 1 in a leghold trap. Two percent of all animals captured in the legsnare sustained injuries, compared to 52% of all animals captured in leghold traps.
Saunders and Rowell (1984)	No. 1 coil spring padded No. 1 coil spring unpadded No. 3 coil spring padded No. 3 coil spring unpadded	Padded and unpadded traps were tested on 25 coyotes captured in British Columbia during autumn and winter. X-ray analysis and post mortem examination of trapped limbs were conducted and foot damage was assessed and compared to other studies. Results indicate padded traps reduce physical injury by 80-85% compared to unpadded traps used during Canadian trapping conditions.

Turkowski et al (1984)	No. 3 Victor NM	Data was collected on the numbers of coyotes and nontarget animals that stepped on standard traps and traps equipped with shear-pin, curved leaf spring, or steel tape tension devices and were captured or excluded. Exclusion rates for designated nontarget animals were 92, 100, 95, and 6% for shear-pin, leaf spring, steel tape, and standard traps, respectively. Coyote capture rates were 87, 92, 84, and 98% for shear-pin, leaf spring, steel tape, and standard traps respectively. The pan tension devices functioned adequately for use in coyote trapping activities.
Linhart et al (1986)	No. 3 Victor NM No. 3 Victor NR No. 3 Victor OS coil spring No. 3 Victor NR padded jaw	Six trappers caught 111 coyotes from Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, and Oklahoma during this study. The catch rate for unpadded traps was higher than for either the padded No.3 Victor NR or the Soft Catch. Unpadded traps sprung more frequently than padded traps when coyotes stepped on trap pans. More coyotes pulled out of padded 3NR traps (12.3%) and Soft Catch traps (15.7%) than unpadded traps (12.3%), and the number of toe-caught coyotes was higher for the padded 3 NR (18.2%) than for the Soft Catch (5.9%) or unpadded traps (4.5%). While the padded-jaw traps were somewhat less efficient, they were able to capture and hold coyotes under moderate trapping conditions.
Olsen et al (1986)	No. 3 Victor NR No. 3 Victor NR padded-91 cm chain No. 3 Victor NR padded-15 cm chain No. 3 Victor Soft Catch	Twenty coyotes were captured in each type of device in eastern Colorado and south Texas during this study. Traps were checked every 24 hours, but coyotes were left in traps until the following day to simulate a maximum time period under a 48-hour trap law. Coyotes caught in unpadded traps had more injuries than legs from coyotes taken in 3 types of padded-jaw traps. Tendon or ligament damage occurred in 95% of legs from unpadded traps. Coyotes caught in the unpadded Victor 3NR had a 91% fracture rate. Tendon and ligament damage occurred in only 5 (30%) and fractures in only 15 (25%) of the legs from padded-jaw traps. No statistical differences in extent of leg injury were found among the 3 types of padded foothold traps, but injuries were reduced by 71% with the padded traps compared to the unpadded traps.

Linhart et al (1988)	No. 3 Victor Soft Catch No. 1.75 Victor Soft Catch No. 3 Victor NR padded No. 3 Victor NM	Eighty coyotes were captured in California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas during this study. Coyotes taken in padded traps, sustained less injury than those taken in unpadded traps. The Soft Catch trap with the stronger size No. 3 springs had a significantly lower injury score than the same trap with smaller 1.75 springs. Both Soft Catch traps caused less injury than padded long-spring traps. The 3NM trap with unpadded malleable jaws caused less injury than the unpadded 3NR having stamped jaws. Data showed that the use of padded traps resulted in lower capture efficacy, but significantly reduced injury to captured animals.
Linscombe and Wright (1988)	No. 3 Victor coil spring No. 3 Victor Soft Catch No. 1 ½ Victor coil spring No. 1 ½ Victor Soft Catch	Fifty-one trappers from Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, and Texas participated in this study. Fifty-three coyotes were captured in the No. 3 Soft Catch and 100 were captured in the No. 3 coil spring. This study found that padded traps might be expected to catch about 66% of the coyotes that could be captured with standard traps.
Olsen et al (1988)	No. 3 Victor Soft Catch No. 3 Victor standard coil spring	Sixty-seven coyotes were caught in Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, and Texas. The difference in injuries associated with trap types was striking for coyotes; 53% had >50 point damage with the standard trap, while only 16% had this much damage with the padded trap. Results indicated that padded jaw traps can substantially reduce limb injuries to coyotes when compared to injuries from standard foothold traps.

Skinner and Todd (1990)	No. 3 Victor standard coil spring No. 3 Victor Soft Catch Novak footsnare Fremont footsnare	Ninety coyotes were captured during a 2 year study in the agricultural lands of Alberta. The proportion of sets approached by coyotes differed among the devices. The number of coyotes approaching sets was highest for padded traps (53% of 314), intermediate for unpadded traps (45% of 358), and lowest for the 2 footsnares (40% of 257 and 42% of 294 for the Novak and Fremont, respectively). Capture efficiency of foothold traps was 3 times ($P < 0.001$) that of the footsnares (4.3 vs. 1.5 / 1000 TN) ($P > 0.30$ in all cases). Capture rates were higher ($P < 0.001$) for foothold traps than footsnares, however, capture rates were similar between types of foothold traps and types of foot snares (9-11 / 1000 TN). In this study, the foothold trap was found to be superior to footsnares in terms of performance.
Onderka et al (1990)	No. 3 Victor standard coil spring No. 3 Victor Soft Catch Novak footsnare Fremont footsnare	Eighty-two coyotes were captured during winter conditions in Alberta, Canada. Maceration of soft tissue occurred far less frequently in coyotes taken in Fremont snares (25%) and padded traps (21%), than unpadded traps (60%) and Novak snares (80%). Limbs of coyotes captured in the Fremont snare or padded trap were never fractured, but fractures commonly occurred in the Novak snare (50%) and unpadded trap (48%). This study showed that padded foothold traps reduce limb injuries. Fremont snares caused minimal injuries, but injuries produced by the Novak snare were similar to those of the unpadded foothold trap.
Phillips et al (1990)	Hopkins S hook Pederson fastener pin Lucero hand crimped Gregerson leg snare Gregerson neck snare McKinney notched lock	Seven types of breakaway snares were evaluated for breaking strength and variability using a universal testing machine. Maximum tension before breakage for individual snares ranged from 142 to 486 pounds. Sheet metal lock which ripped out, and S-hooks which straightened, provided the least variable results. Coyotes, mule deer, domestic calves and lambs were tested to determine the tension loads they applied to snares.

Goodrich (1991)	No. 3 Victor Soft Catch	Five coyotes were captured and then recaptured 6 more times and all trap related injuries were noted. All injuries to coyotes were considered minor.
Linhart and Dasch (1992)	No. 3 Victor NM No. 3 Victor coil spring No. 3 Victor Soft Catch	Sixty-three coyotes were captured during this study in south Texas. Capture rates did not differ among long-spring, coil-spring and Soft Catch traps. Capture rate for the 3NM was 83% while the Soft Catch trap was 79%. Results indicated that the fourth generation Soft Catch trap was improved from previous studies.
Phillips et al (1992)	No. 3 Victor Soft Catch No. 3 Victor NM No. 4 Newhouse	Sixty-one coyotes were captured in south Texas during this study. Little difference was noted in the capture rates among the 3 trap types. In 52 of 60 instances, trap jaws were positioned above the foot pads. Soft Catch traps caused the least visible injury. The 3NM caused the most evident foot injury with 80% of the animals having moderate to severe injuries. The Newhouse was intermediate with 55% of the animals having slight or no visible injury and 45% having moderate to severe injury. Pan tension devices on all traps were successful in excluding most of the small nontarget species.
Houben et al (1993)	No. 3 Victor Soft Catch No. 3 Northwoods coil spring	Legs from 20 coyotes captured in Mississippi were examined and there was no significant difference in mean scores between limbs of coyotes held in modified Soft Catch and laminated Northwoods traps. Results indicate that laminated Northwoods traps substantially reduce limb injury to coyotes (n=10) compared to other types of unpadded traps. Data also suggest that increasing the spring tension in the Victor padded coil spring trap can be done without increasing the injury rate.
Kern et al (1994)	No. 1 ½ Victor coil spring No. 1 ½ Victor laminated No. 1 ½ Butera offset No. 1 ½ Victor Soft Catch	Twenty-five coyotes were caught in northeastern Wyoming and southwestern Montana. Traps were evaluated for the potential of passing the draft ISO trap standards. All traps had similar efficiency and catch rate, except for Soft Catch traps on one trapline where more precipitation and heavier soil types were present.

Hubert et al (1996)	No. 3 Bridger standard coil spring No. 3 Bridger modified coil spring	Forty-eight coyotes were captured in Illinois using standard No. 3 Bridger coil-spring traps and the same trap modified with laminated jaws. The standard No. 3 Bridger trap was modified with offset, laminated jaws, 2 additional coil springs, and center-mount chain. Whole bodied necropsies were performed on captured coyotes. The mean total (whole body) injury score for the standard trap was 97 (n=19) compared with 80 for the modified trap (n=29). The total (whole body), trapped limb only, and oral injury scores assigned to coyotes captured in the standard trap failed to differ from those trapped in the modified traps. Minor injuries totaling <50 points were observed in approximately one-half of the animals examined. Most coyotes (85%) showed no oral injuries. The frequency of oral injuries and the proportion of coyotes with serious and severe injuries also failed to differ between trap types.
Phillips (1996)	DWRC neck snare Gregerson neck snare Kelley neck snare	Three hundred seventy-four coyotes, 91 deer, and 6 domestic cows were captured in 3 types of snares in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Capture rates were 87% for the Gregerson, 89% for the DWRC and 97% for the Kelley snare. The Kelley, DWRC, and Gregerson snares released 67, 48, and 30% of the captured deer. All domestic cows were captured in the DWRC snares and successfully escaped. This study suggests that snare locks can be developed to hold all coyotes and release nearly all livestock.
Gruver et al (1996)	No. 3 Victor Soft Catch No. 3 Victor modified Soft Catch	Leg injuries of coyotes captured in standard No. 3 Soft Catch traps were compared with those captured in the same trap type modified with 2 additional coil springs. One hundred-thirteen coyotes were trapped in southern California, 53 in standard traps and 60 in modified traps. Observed injuries were similar in both trap types. Most frequent injuries were edematous hemorrhages and small cutaneous lacerations. Injuries, such as joint luxation and bone fractures, were noted more frequently for coyotes trapped in standard Soft Catch traps.

Phillips et al (1996)	Sterling MJ600 No. 3 Northwoods laminated No. 3 ½ E Z Grip padded	One hundred ninety-two coyotes were captured by 9 experienced trappers in California, Colorado, Idaho and Texas. Some level of edematous swelling was noted on nearly all the legs (95%) with no apparent difference among trap types. Lacerations were observed in 87% of the legs from unpadded traps while only 31% of the coyotes captured in the E Z Grip received cuts. A higher frequency of more serious injuries were noted in the 2 unpadded traps. Even though the E Z Grip padded trap was much larger and stronger than the No. 3 Victor Soft Catch, injury patterns observed appeared to be similar for the 2 traps.
Phillips and Gruver (1996)	No. 3 Victor Soft Catch No. 3 Victor NM No. 4 Newhouse	Three types of traps were equipped with Paws-I-Trip (PIT) pan tension devices and tested in California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Texas. Eight hundred twenty-six nontarget animals and 902 coyotes visited the PIT-equipped traps resulting in the capture of 22 nontargets. The PIT pan tension device used on 3 types of coyote traps effectively reduced nontarget captures without adversely affecting performance of the traps for capturing coyotes. Because of a high rate of exclusion of nontargets, more traps were functional for coyotes and the trapline efficiency increased.
Phillips and Mullis (1996)	No. 3 Victor Soft Catch No. 4 Newhouse No. 3 Victor NM Sterling MJ600	Four hundred-twelve coyotes were caught in California, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Wyoming. Capture rates ranged from 83% in the Newhouse to 100% in the Sterling MJ600. This study found that the No. 3 Victor Soft Catch trap was as effective as other unpadded traps used for capturing coyotes under a variety of field conditions.

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**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

FISHER (*Martes pennanti*)

February 18, 1997

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Reference	Trap	Results
Gilbert (1981)	Conibear 220 Gabry Bionic	Compound test in Ontario. Approach tests showed fisher could be effectively trapped with Conibear 220 in baited cubby sets when bait was tied to pronged trigger. Fisher also well-positioned by Gabry, but strike would be on forepart of skull.
Proulx (1990)	Conibear 220 Sauvageau 2001-8 Modified Conibear 220 AFK Kania	Lab test in Alberta. Mechanical characteristics of Sauvageau 2001-8 and Conibear 220 with 330 springs exceeded kill threshold for fisher. AFK Kania and Conibear 220 did not.
Mahaney et al. (1991)	Cage	Field data from Massachusetts. Cage traps used to harvest ca. 35-95% of the fishers trapped annually from 1980-1988.
Proulx and Barrett (1993a)	Modified Conibear 220	Compound test in Alberta using Conibear 220 with 330 springs. When equipped with a pan trigger, this trap killed 4 of 6 fisher (avg. time to unconsciousness [ATTU] = 107 sec \pm 12 sec) via a double strike. Single strikes from the same trap killed 5 of 5 fisher (ATTU = 11 \pm 4 sec). Also, 5 of 6 fisher killed by double strike (head/neck and thorax) with Conibear 220 with 280 springs (ATTU = 51 \pm 13 sec).
Proulx and Barrett (1993b)	Bionic	Compound test in Alberta using Bionic trap with 10 cm bait cone. Trap killed 9 of 9 fisher when cocked to 8 notches (avg. time to unconsciousness [ATTU] = \leq 55 sec). When cocked to 7 notches and set on a tree, 5 of 6 fisher killed (ATTU = \leq 65 sec).

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TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

GRAY FOX (*Urocyon cinereoarenteus*)

December 2, 1996

Page 1 of 2

Reference	Trap	Results
Berchielli and Tullar (1980)	No. 1½ Victor double coil Ezyonem leg snare	Field study conducted in New York state to compare efficiency of No. 1½ coil spring trap with the Ezyonem leg snare. Thirteen gray foxes were captured in the 1½ coil spring versus 1 in the leg snare. There was no significant difference between the 2 devices in the incidence of trap related injuries. However, the leg snare was significantly less effective in capturing foxes than the leg-gripping trap.
Tullar (1984)	No. 1½ Victor soft catch No. 1½ Victor standard coil spring	Field study conducted in New York state comparing efficiency and leg injuries of padded and unpadded No. 1½ coil spring traps. Seventeen foxes were captured (species were not separated). Padded traps caused less damage to trapped feet and were not significantly different in terms of capture efficiency.
Linscombe and Wright (1988)	No. 1½ Victor soft catch No. 1½ Victor standard coil spring	This was part of a 9-state field study to compare the capture efficiency of padded jaw foothold traps with standard steel jaw traps. One hundred eight gray fox were captured. No difference was found between the numbers of foxes caught in different trap types ($P > 0.70$).
Olsen et al. (1988)	No. 1½ Victor soft catch No. 1½ Victor standard coil spring	Necropsies were performed on 65 gray foxes taken during 9-state study. Thirty-three percent of the gray foxes caught in padded traps had ≥ 50 points damage, while 61% of those caught in standard traps had this much or more damage.

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TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY

GRAY WOLF (*Canis lupus*)

December 2, 1996

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Reference	Trap	Results
Van Ballenberghe (1984)	No. 3 Newhouse long spring No. 4 Newhouse long spring No. 14 Newhouse (with teeth and offset jaws) Aldrich foot snare	Comparisons of injuries in wolves caught by trapping and helicopter darting in Alaska and Minnesota were made. Wolves were trapped with foothold traps (No. 3 or 4 double longspring, No. 14 double longspring with teeth and offset jaws), foot snares, and leg snares: injuries were rated from minor (class I) to severe (class IV). No distinction between foothold trap types was made in the injury data due to small sample sizes. Class III and IV injuries occurred in 41% of 109 foothold trap captures; severe injuries were seen in 11% of all captures. Tooth, lip, and gum injuries occurred in 46% of the wolves caught in foothold traps. No class III or IV injuries or oral damage resulted from foot snares (n=14). Small sample sizes precluded a comparison of injuries caused by snares and foothold traps. Suggested methods of reducing damage include shortened chains, center-mounting of the chain, and the use of drug trap tabs.
Kuehn et al. (1986)	No. 4 Newhouse (smooth jaws) No. 4 Newhouse (smooth jaws, offset) No. 4 Newhouse (tooth jaws, offset) No. 4 Newhouse (tooth jaws, custom)	During 1968-85, 375 adult gray wolves and 175 juvenile wolves were captured in northern Minnesota for radio-telemetry studies. Gray wolves captured in a custom-made foothold trap (No. 14 longspring) with offset, toothed jaws had fewer injuries than those caught in three other trap types (including another toothed-trap jaw but with a smaller offset). Dental injury in all three trap types was usually restricted to premolars; damage to canines and carnassials was uncommon.

Schultz et al. (1996)	No. 4 and No. 14 Newhouse, with modifications	During 1979-1995, 116 live-captures of 107 wolves were made in central and northern Wisconsin. Traps were checked every 24 hours or more often depending on weather conditions. All traps were equipped with drags and some were modified with the Paws-I-Trip pan tension system. Traps with modified No. 14 jaws caused the least amount of injury to adult wolves, with only 15% of captured animals having moderate to severe injuries. The No. 4 Newhouse with modified jaws was recommended for capturing wolf pups. The Paws-I-Trip system proved to be effective in reducing the capture of nontarget species.
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TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

LYNX (*Felis lynx*)

December 2, 1996

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Reference	Trap	Results
Proulx et al. (1995)	Modified 330	The standard 330 Conibear was compared to the same device equipped with 2 clamping bars in a compound test. The standard 330 failed to render 3 of 8 captured animals irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 minutes. The modified Conibear killed 8 of 8 lynx in ≤ 3 minutes and was considered a humane device for trapping lynx. This modified 330 Conibear can be expected to render $\geq 70\%$ of captured lynx irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 min ($P < 0.05$).
Mowat et al. (1994)	Box trap Fremont foot snare No. 3 Victor soft catch	Field tests in $-40 - 0^{\circ}\text{C}$ in southwest Yukon; 205 lynx captures were made in 3 devices. Capture efficiency did not vary significantly among trap types. Freezing limbs were a problem with padded traps. Modified Fremont foot snares caused least injury and is recommended for live capture of lynx.

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**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

MARTEN (*Martes americana*)

February 18, 1997

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Reference	Trap	Results
Gilbert (1981a)	Conibear 120 Gabry Bionic Gabry Challenger Vital	Controlled tests conducted in Ontario in indoor and outdoor pens. Any type of set can be effective for this species (not trap shy). Marten should be struck within 10 cm of front of head. Conibear trigger should be placed on top for effective strike location. Vital trap killed marten quickly in runway sets, but was less effective in cubby sets because animals entered cubby with their heads and/or necks held higher than animals entering runway sets.
Gilbert (1981b)	Vital	Controlled tests conducted in Ontario in indoor and outdoor pens. Vital passed approach test; in runway sets, corneal reflex gone in ≤ 17 sec. (n=3). Vital proved unsatisfactory in cubby sets (n=3); all animals were euthanized.
Novak (1981)	Conibear 110 Conibear 120 modified Conibear 110 modified Conibear 120	Controlled tests conducted in Ontario using enclosures. Two marten caught in Conibear 110 and 1 caught in Conibear 120 on land were released from traps after 5 minutes. One marten caught in modified Conibear 110 (jaws bent inward) was released after 5 minutes; 1 marten caught in modified Conibear 120 (jaws bent inward and 18kg springs) killed in 3 min. 40 sec.
Barrett et al. (1989)	C120 Magnum	Field test in northern Alberta using elevated box sets. 87% of marten had single head/neck strike; 12% received double strikes. C120 Magnum as efficient as standard traps for harvesting marten. C120 Magnum also suitable for muskrats, mink, weasels, and red squirrels.

Proulx et al. (1989a)	C120 Magnum	Compound test at Vegreville, Alberta. Thirteen of 14 marten caught in C120 Magnum had an average time to unconsciousness of ≤ 68 sec.; the remaining animal was euthanized after 3 minutes. 77% of the animals were unconscious before observer arrived. Double strikes recorded for 6 of 14 animals.
Proulx et al. (1989b)	Standard Conibear 120 C120 Mark IV	Compound test at Vegreville, Alberta. Time to unconsciousness in preselection tests using anaesthetized animals was ≤ 40 sec. for 5 of 6 marten. In actual kill tests 4 out of 6 marten lost consciousness in ≤ 162 sec.; 2 were euthanized after 5 min. Test results also reported for C120 Mark IV trap (extra bars welded on trap jaws). 4-prong pitchfork trigger design was best for properly positioning marten in trap.
Rowell (1989)	LDL	Field test on trapline in Ontario. Trap consistently inflicted serious trauma resulting in rapid death (< 3 min) (n=4).
Novak (1990)	LDL Kania C120 M trap boxes of various designs	Field test on traplines in Ontario to compare efficiency and incidental catch rates for various types of sets using a variety of traps. "Trapper's box" on a horizontal pole was the best set, i.e. most efficient with fewest non-targets which were mostly flying squirrels.
Naylor and Novak (1994)	Conibear 120 C120 MAX Havahart Model 1079 (wire box)	Field test on traplines in Ontario to compare efficiency and selectivity of traps for marten. Conibear 120 set in wooden boxes caught the greatest number of martens/100 trap nights (TN). Conibear 120 set in wire boxes caught fewer incidentals/100 TN, but also caught fewer martens/100 TN. Sets on ground were more selective than sets in trees and had a similar capture efficiency, but marten pelts taken from ground sets were > 3 times as likely to be damaged by mice. C120 and C120 MAX exhibited similar selectivity, but C120 caught about twice as many martens/100 TN. Problem with C120 MAX trigger configuration noted. Wire box trap and C120 had similar selectivity, but box traps were less efficient for catching martens.

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**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

MINK (*Mustela vison*)

February 18, 1997

Page 1 of 4

Reference	Trap	Results
Gilbert (1976)	Simulated "Killing"	Lab tests on anesthetized mink (n=12) to determine the minimum energy forces necessary to cause immediate death when delivered to the neck. Threshold value = 430 cm kg for a neck blow. The threshold value for a chest strike was 520 cm kg (n=6). No clamping force applied. Mink killed by a chest strike appeared to succumb quicker than those hit on the neck.
Benn (1981)	Killing trap simulator	Lab tests on anesthetized animals. Mink neck area killing force = 1.9 kg m/sec. Time to death increased as testing proceeded caudally along the neck. No animals died when a 4.0 kg m/sec impact force struck C7 - T1. Holding force of 150 N resulted in suffocation in all animals struck on C1, C2 area. The addition of holding force together with impact force seems to promote faster death.
Gilbert (1981a)	Conibear 120 Gabry Bionic Gabry Challenger Vital	Controlled tests conducted in Ontario in indoor and outdoor pens to determine probable strike locations; traps wired in set position so that they could be triggered, but not closed. Runway or blind sets most effective for mink.

Gilbert (1981b)	Vital Improved Vital Conibear 120 Askins 1 version of C120 Askins 2 version of C120	Controlled tests conducted in Ontario in indoor and outdoor pens. Best strike location with Vital was 10 cm from nose, behind ears. Vital did not have enough energy to kill mink. Improved Vital (n=5) resulted in an avg. time to unconsciousness (ATTU) of 69 ± 43 sec. for 4 mink (1 was euthanized after 180 sec.). Conibear 120 had clamping force of 275 N; the 2 mink caught were euthanized after 180 sec. Three mink caught in Askins 1/C120. All were double strike, but 2 animals euthanized after 180 sec. One mink unconscious after 96 sec. Three mink caught in Askins 2/C120. One was euthanized after 180 sec.; ATTU for the other 2 was 70 sec. Ten percent of the strikes with this trap expected to be unsatisfactory.
Novak (1981)	#1½ Victor Long Spring, Mohawk (small), Conibear 110, 120, modified C110, modified C180 with pan trigger	Controlled tests conducted in Ontario using enclosures. Mink (n=4) died in 1.75 to 3.5 minutes when caught in drowning sets using #1½ Victor LS. Of the 5 mink trapped with the small Mohawk, 1 died in 30 sec., and 4 were released after 5 min. All 6 mink trapped with Conibear 110 on land were released after 5 minutes. Four of 7 mink caught in Conibear 120 set on land were killed in 15 - 20 sec.; 3 were released after 5 min. One of 5 mink caught in modified Conibear 110 (jaws bent inward) on land died in 1.5 min.; 4 were released after 5 min. One mink (n=2) caught in modified (jaws bent inward and 18 kg spring) Conibear 110 trap on land was killed in 2.0 minutes; the other was released after 5 min. Seven mink caught in land sets with modified C180 traps that had pan triggers and jaws bent inward were killed in ≤ 6 sec. Recommended all Conibear traps should have jaws bent inward and be supplied with safety releases.
Gilbert and Gofton (1982)	#1½ Victor Long Spring #2 Victor Long Spring	Controlled lab tests in aquatic tank using a drowning set. The average time to cessation of struggling was 2 min. 3 sec. (n=13); EEG loss occurred in an average of 4 min. 27 sec. (n=12). EKG loss took place after an average of 8 min. 27 sec. (n=9). Only 1/13 showed injury (minor laceration). 9/13 wet drowned; 3 did not; 1 unknown.

Zelin et al. (1983)	Simulated "Killing"	Controlled lab tests on anesthetized animals; determined mean kill thresholds using 335-g striking bar; 10-minute time to death test period employed. With no holding force, the thresholds for head (n=6), neck (n=8), thorax (n=16), and abdomen (n=6) strikes on mink were 1.3, 1.9, 2.4, and 4.3 kg•m/sec, respectively. For thorax strikes, the mean threshold obtained was much less with a holding force of 100-300 N than without it. The impact momentum threshold to kill mink struck on the head within 10 minutes was zero with holding forces of 100-300N. The presence of holding forces as high as 300 N had little effect on the magnitude of the mean threshold for neck strikes. The mean threshold for head strikes of mink was relatively unaffected by the use of striking bars of different masses (236 g vs. 335 g).
Proulx et al. (1990)	C120 Magnum with pan trigger (66 x 69 mm)	Compound test at Vegreville, Alberta. Passed kill test for 3-minute threshold. Avg. time to unconsciousness 72 ± 24 sec. (n=9).
Proulx and Barrett (1991)	Bionic with 6 cm bait cone (bait on top of spring)	Compound test at Vegreville, Alberta. Passed kill test for 3-minute threshold. Avg. time to unconsciousness 60 ± 26 sec. (n=9).
Proulx and Barrett (1993)	C120 Magnum with pan trigger Conibear 120 a variety of #1 and #1½ legholds (long spring, coil spring, Soft Catch)	Field test on traplines in B.C. and Newfoundland. C120 Magnum (C120M) captured as many mink as the Conibear 120 (C120) and standard legholds. In B.C., the C120M and C120 captured similar numbers of mink and non-target animals. In Newfoundland, C120M and legholds caught a similar number of mink, but legholds caught more non-targets. C120M recommended as humane device for mink. Need to experiment with pan tension for C120M expressed. Double strikes occurred for 29 of 30 mink caught in C120M.

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- Prepared by: George Hubert, Jr., Illinois DNR*

**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

MUSKRAT (*Ondatra zibethicus*)

February 19, 1997

Page 1 of 4

Reference	Trap	Results
Palmisano and Dupuie (1975)	Victor #1½ Long Spring (LS) Victor #2 LS Conibear 220	Field test in Louisiana. Conibear appeared superior to footholds for taking muskrats in flooded marshes. 5.3 muskrats/100 trap nights (TN) with Conibear compared with 1.5 muskrats/100 TN for footholds.
Gilbert (1976)	Simulated "Killing"	Lab tests on anesthetized muskrats (n=23) to determine the minimum energy forces necessary to cause immediate death when delivered to the neck. Threshold value = 58-63 cm kg for a neck blow. The threshold value for a chest strike was 155 cm kg (n=9).
Linscombe (1976)	Victor #2 LS Conibear 220	Field test in Louisiana. No difference between number of muskrats caught with #2 LS and Conibear 220 in either fresh or brackish marsh.
Penkala (1978)	#1 LS #1 Jump #1 Stoploss Conibear 110 modified Conibear 110 (jaws bent inward 1/2")	A total of 1,402 trap nights (TN) expended during this field study in New Jersey. Overall capture rate = 1 muskrat/21 TN. Conibear 110 had highest efficiency. Modified Conibear 110 slightly less efficient. Footholds sig. less efficient than Conibears. All traps set at den entrances.

Novak (1981)	Conibear 110 Conibear 120 Victor #1½ LS	Controlled tests conducted in Ontario using enclosures. Muskrats (n=10) died in 2 min.-5 min. 15 sec. when trapped in drowning sets with the #1½ LS. Death occurred in 1 min. 30 sec.-4 min. using Conibear 110 set underwater (n=4). 3/5 muskrats caught in Conibear 110 on land died in 3 min. 15 sec.-6 min. 30 sec.; the remaining 2 were released after 5 min. 4/7 muskrats caught in Conibear 120 on land died in 1 min. 15-sec.-3 min.; the remaining 3 were released after 5 min. 6/6 muskrats caught in modified Conibear 110 (18 kg spring) on land died in 50 sec.-3 min. 20 sec.
Gilbert and Gofton (1982)	#1½ Victor Long Spring (LS) Submarine	Controlled lab tests in aquatic tank. Of the 11 muskrats caught in #1½ LS using a platform drowning set, 6 had no injuries, 1 had a broken humerus, and 4 had lacerations and abrasions. <u>The average time to cessation of struggling was 3 min. 34 sec.; EEG loss occurred in an average of 4 min. 3 sec.</u> The two muskrats trapped in floating log sets and the 3 caught in submarine traps took longer to cease struggling and lose their EEG (P<0.05). A total of 9 muskrats "wet" drowned, and 7 did not.
Parker (1983)	#1 Victor Stoploss (SL) #1½ Victor Long Spring (LS) Conibear 110	Field study in New Brunswick. A total of 810 muskrats caught in 5,938 trap nights (TN). Foothold traps more productive in autumn than in spring (P<0.05); productivity of Conibear did not differ between seasons. A higher percentage of muskrats were dead in Conibear traps (98%, n=227) versus foothold traps (88%, n=583). No nontarget catches with Conibear used in underwater burrow and runway sets.
Zelin et al. (1983)	Simulated "Killing"	Controlled lab tests on anesthetized animals; determined mean kill thresholds using 335-g striking bar; 10-minute time to death test period employed. With no holding force, the thresholds for head (n=7), neck (n=7), thorax (n=8), and abdomen (n=9) hits of muskrats were 0.58, 1.4, 0.49, and 3.7 kg.m/sec, respectively. With a holding force of 100 N, no momentum was necessary to kill muskrats (n=4) within 10 min.

McConnell et al. (1985)	Victor #1 VG Stoploss Victor #1 VG Stoploss Soft Catch (SC) (w/ padded jaws)	Field test in New Jersey using float/house sets with stakes placed in deep water to drown muskrats. SC trap caused sig. less (P=0.08) damage to limbs of trapped muskrats than SL. No sig. diff. (P=0.05) in ability of SC (n=49) trap versus SL (n=48) trap to capture and hold muskrats.
HTRDC (1988)	Cosey Davies Snare Northwoods (Fenn)	Field test in Canada. Eleven percent of muskrats taken in Cosey (n=38) were alive (inefficient); may be useful if made more powerful. Davies took 6 animals in 65 trap nights (TN); needs work. Northwoods 50-75% as effective as stop loss trap; 11 catches, 29 sprung traps in 178 TN. Recommended further testing and development of all 3 traps.
Lacki et al. (1990)	Havahart Tomahawk (both w/ double doors)	Field test in Canada. A total of 16 muskrats caught in Havahart compared with 60 in Tomahawk; Tomahawk sig. more effective.

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IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY

NUTRIA (*Myocastor coypus*)

February 19, 1997

Page 1 of 2

Reference	Trap	Results
Palmisano and Dupuie (1975)	Victor #1½ Long Spring (LS) Victor #2 LS Conibear 220	Field study in Louisiana. Victor #2 LS caught significantly more nutria than Conibear 220 (P<0.01). Overall catch rate for Conibear = 2.4 nutria/100 trap nights (TN) compared with 4.8/100 TN for #2. No diff. between #2 and #1½ LS for catching nutria. Of the nutria taken in #1½ and #2 traps (n=67), 91% remained alive and 29.9% were released. 21/23 (91.3%) of the nutria caught in Conibear 220 were dead, 2 (8.7%) were alive, and none was released. Nutria apparently avoided Conibear 220 when used in trail sets.
Linscombe (1976)	Victor #2 LS Conibear 220	Field study in Louisiana. Trail sets used in fresh and brackish marsh. #2 LS caught significantly more nutria in fresh (P<0.01) and brackish (P<0.05) marsh. Trigger positioned on top for Conibear. Total trap nights (TN) = 10,671 for #2 LS and 7,567 for Conibear 220. Overall average catch rate = 18.5 nutria/100 TN for #2 LS and 12.29 nutria/100 TN for Conibear 220. Of the nutria caught in the Conibear 220, 9.7% of the adults and 10.7% of the immatures were alive when the traps were checked. An average of 69% of the immature nutria caught in #2 LS were alive and most could be released.
Robicheaux and Linscombe (1978)	Victor #1½ LS Victor #2 LS Conibear 220 Tomahawk #206	Field study in Louisiana. Leghold traps were most efficient for capturing nutria (8/100 trap nights [TN]).
Baker and Clarke (1988)	Cage trap (85 x 25 x 25 cm) with single drop door	Field study in Great Britain. Traps set on rafts (1 x 2 m or 1.5 x 0.6 m) caught significantly more nutria than traps set on land; raft traps caught about half the number of non-target animals per unit effort compared with land traps.

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TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY

OPOSSUM (*Didelphis virginiana*)

February 19, 1997

Page 1 of 3

Reference	Trap	Results
Berchielli and Tullar (1980)	Blake & Lamb #1½ Coil Spring (CS) Ezyonem leg snare	Field test in New York. #1½ CS caught 15 opossums in 19 visits compared with 1 capture in 6 visits for the Ezyonem; this difference was significant (P>0.05). No self-mutilation observed in any of the opossums caught in #1½ CS (n=15). Injuries between trap types were not compared due to lack of captures in Ezyonem (n=1). No injuries observed in 67% of the opossums caught in the #1½ CS; fractures recorded in 20% of the opossums examined (n=15).
Turkowski et al. (1984)	Victor #3 NM (with and without prototype pan tension devices)	Field test in California, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, and Utah. Shear-pin device (n=27) and leaf spring (n=32) excluded 100% of opossums from traps compared with a 0% exclusion rate when no pan tension device was used (n=39). Improved pan tension devices performed better than prototypes. Coyote capture efficiency for traps equipped with improved pan tension devices varied from 86-94% that of the standard trap.
Linscombe and Wright (1988)	Victor #1½ Soft Catch (SC) Victor #1½ CS	Field study in Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, and Texas. No difference in numbers of opossums caught in different trap types (P=0.70; n=148 for SC and n=138 for CS).
Nettles et al. (1990)	Victor #2 CS Victor #2 CS with padded jaws	Field test in Washington. Significantly less leg damage (P<0.01) observed in opossums caught in padded jaw trap (n=14) compared with those caught in standard #2 trap (n=13). Average injury scores were 36 and 220 points, respectively, for the padded and the standard trap. Leg amputations and compound fractures occurred more often in unpadded trap.

Phillips and Gruver (1996)	Victor #3 Soft Catch (SC) Victor #3 NM #4 Newhouse (all equipped with Paws-I-Trip pan tension device)	Field study in 8 western states. Paws-I-Trip device successfully excluded 100% (n=2) of opossums that visited SC traps, and 75% (n=20) of those that visited #4 Newhouse traps. Coyote capture rates for Paws-I-Trip equipped traps were: #3 SC = 81.8%, #3 NM = 91.0%, and #4 Newhouse = 87.2%.
Hill (no date)	#2 CS #2 CS w/ offset jaws Conibear 120 Conibear 220	Field test in Alabama. Standard #2 CS more efficient than #2 CS with offset jaws. Bone fractures observed in 44% of opossums caught in #2 CS (n=18) compared with 16% of those caught in #2 CS offset (n=19). Similar numbers of opossums caught in Conibear 220 and Conibear 120 traps when placed in boxes on ground (1/17.5 trap nights [TN], n=37, 648 TN for Conibear 220; 1/19.4 TN, n=26, 508 TN for Conibear 120). Conibear 220 trap box caught fewer opossums (1/18.6 TN, n=22, 410 TN) when set 1 meter above ground (open end down) compared with Conibear 220 trap box set on ground (1/7.4 TN, n=34, 320 TN). Conibear 220 trap boxes set on ground caught more opossums (1/9.4 TN, n=34, 320 TN) compared with #2 CS used in dirt-hole sets (1/14.2 TN, n=23, 327 TN).

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**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

RACCOON (*Procyon lotor*)

February 20, 1997

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Reference	Trap	Results
Gilbert (1976)	Simulated "Killing"	Lab tests on anesthetized raccoons (n=11) to determine the minimum energy forces necessary to cause immediate death when delivered to the neck. Threshold value = 575 cm kg for a neck blow. No pelt damage occurred at 1,037 cm kg. The threshold value was ca. 1,150 cm kg for a chest strike (n=8).
Linscombe (1976)	Victor #2 Long Spring (LS) Conibear 220	Field test in Louisiana in fresh and brackish marsh habitat. #2 Victor more efficient than Conibear 220 in brackish marsh for capturing raccoons, but no difference in efficiency in fresh marsh was detected.
Berchielli and Tullar (1980)	Blake & Lamb #1½ Coil Spring (CS) Ezyonem leg snare	Field study in New York. #1½ CS caught 17 raccoons in 28 visits compared with 1 capture in 22 visits for the Ezyonem and was more efficient (P<0.01). Self-mutilation observed in 37% of raccoons caught in #1½ CS (n=30). Injuries between trap types were not compared due to small sample size for Ezyonem (n=1). Raccoons caught in CS had fewer injuries when traps were covered with sifted soil.
Gilbert (1981)	Conibear 220 Vital Gabry Bionic Gabry Challenger	Controlled tests conducted in Ontario in indoor and outdoor pens. Approach tests only; n=2 for each trap; raccoons consistently placed forefeet into ground level sets at the same time or before their heads; most traps triggered by the feet. Conibear 220 used in dog-proof box with trigger prongs separated by 7 cm and joined by monofilament line ensured good strike location.

Novak (1981a)	Novak foot snare #2 coil spring w/ offset jaws #4 double long spring (DLS) with offset jaws	Field study in Ontario. Capture rate = 57% for foot snare (64/113), 76% for footholds (26/34); no injuries to 40/49 raccoons caught in foot snare compared with 11/22 raccoons taken in foothold traps.
Novak (1981b)	Conibear 220 Conibear 330 Mohawk modified Conibear 280	Controlled tests conducted in Ontario using enclosures. 3/5 raccoons caught in Mohawk trap escaped; the other 2 died in 4-5 minutes. 5/5 raccoons caught in 330 Conibear were removed from trap after 5 minutes; none died because trap jaws remained 3-4 cm apart after trap was fired. 3/5 raccoons caught in 220 Conibear died in 90-210 seconds, and 2 were released after 5 minutes. 3/5 raccoons caught in modified 280 Conibear with pan trigger died in 75-175 seconds, and 2 were released after 5 minutes. The pan trigger proved ineffective for catching raccoons because traps discharged prematurely due to the animals' walking pattern.
Zelin et al. (1983)	Simulated "Killing"	Controlled lab tests on anesthetized animals; determined mean kill thresholds using 335-g and 807-g striking bars; 10-minute time-to-death test period employed. With no holding force, the thresholds for head (n=8) and neck (n=7) hits of raccoons were 3.4 and 3.3 kg.m/sec, respectively, using the 335-g striking bar. The effect of a 100-N holding (clamping) force (n=10 for head and n=3 for neck catches) was sufficient to eliminate the need for an impact momentum. Mean kill thresholds using the 807-g striking bar with no holding force were 4.6 and 5.7 kg.m/sec for head (n=6) and neck (n=6) hits, respectively.

Tullar (1984)	Victor #1½ CS Victor #1½ prototype padded CS (both models had light springs - 40 lbs. vs. 70 lbs. std.)	Field study in New York. Injury scores did not differ between trap types; 8 of 9 raccoons caught in padded trap had injury score ≤ 15 ; 7 of 14 raccoons caught in unpadded trap had injury score ≤ 15 ; 23.5% (n=17) of the raccoons caught in unpadded trap had injuries due to self-mutilation. Dirt-hole set used.
Moore and Kennedy (1985)	Tomahawk wire cage Havahart wire cage	Field investigation. Capture success (n=57) highest in autumn/winter; success higher with higher temperature; negative correlation with precipitation.
Linscombe and Wright (1988)	Victor #1½ CS Victor #1½ Soft Catch (SC)	Field study in Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, and Texas. The SC trap caught fewer raccoons than the CS (n=339, P=0.05). Data from trappers setting primarily for foxes and bobcats indicated no diff. in raccoon captures (n=63 SC, n=62 CS) with the 2 trap types (P=0.92).
Olsen et al. (1988)	Victor #1½ CS Victor #1½ SC	Field study in Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, and Texas. Raccoons in NE U.S. showed no difference in amount of damage between traps (n=25 SC, n=35 CS). Raccoons in SE U.S. had sig. less damage in SC; 35/75 (47%) caught in SC had an injury score ≤ 15 compared with 22/98 (22%) caught in CS.
Saunders et al. (1988)	Victor #1½ SC Victor #1 SC prototype	Field test in British Columbia during September using flat, shallow water, and cubby sets. Sig. less damage to raccoons (P<0.05) with the #1 SC (n=12) compared to raccoons caught in the #1½ SC (n=10) in a 24-hr. period or less. Mean 24-hr. damage score for #1 SC = 5 compared to 10 for #1½ SC.

Nettles et al. (1990)	Victor #1½ CS Victor #1½ CS with padded jaws (spring mechanism identical)	Field study in Maryland conducted during winter. A total of 20 raccoons captured in each trap type; no sig. difference in injury scores between trap types; self-mutilation occurred in both traps. Mean leg damage scores for raccoons alive at time of trap check were 164 (standard CS, n=7) and 202 (padded CS, n=12).
Tullar and Phillips (1990)	Victor #1 CS Victor #1 SC prototype Victor #1½ CS Victor #1½ SC	Field study in New York using land sets. The catch per visit rate for the #1 CS was not sig. different from that of the #1½ CS. Padded traps of both sizes were sig. less effective for catching raccoons than standard traps. #1 CS traps (n=90) caused sig. less injury than #1½ CS (n=51); padded traps of both sizes failed to sig. reduce injury to trapped raccoons (#1 SC n=17; #1½ SC n=30). #1 size traps sig. reduced the incidence of self-mutilation compared with #1½ size.
Hubert et al. (1991)	Victor #1½ SC Montgomery #11 DLS	Two-year field study in Illinois using non-drowning water sets. Capture rate with #11 DLS was sig. higher than with #1½ SC (147 versus 96/1,000 trap nights). Mean injury score for raccoons captured in #11 DLS (n=108) averaged 1.2 times that for those caught in the #1½ SC (n=67); this difference approached significance (P=0.054). Self-mutilation of trapped limb was observed in 29% (n=99) of the raccoons examined, and was not influenced by trap type (P=0.22).
Proulx (1991)	EGG Conibear 220 Box	Field test in Quebec and British Columbia; 251 raccoons captured. EGG (n=98) held >79% of raccoons for ≤24 hours without serious injury. Capture efficiency of EGG trap similar to that of box trap (n=36) in British Columbia. EGG trap was as capture-efficient as Conibear 220 (n=117) early in season in Quebec, but later in season its efficiency declined.
Heydon et al. (1993)	Standard #1½ Padded #1½	Field study in Ontario. Raccoons caught in unpadded trap (n=20) had sig. more injuries to legs than those taken in padded traps (n=10).

Proulx et al. (1993)	EGG Victor #1½ SC	Compound test conducted in Alberta. 9/9 raccoons captured in EGG trap held without serious injury for 12 and 24 hours (range of injury scores = 0-20); 9/9 raccoons captured in SC held without serious injury for 12 hours (range of injury scores = 0-40); 8/9 raccoons captured in SC sustained minor injuries over a 24 hour period, but 1 self-mutilated the captured limb (injury score = 120).
Kern et al. (1994)	Victor #1½ CS Victor #1½ w/ laminated jaws Butera #1½ w/ offset ja ws Victor #1½ w/ padded jaws	Field test in Wyoming using terrestrial sets and 24-hr. trap check interval. The median injury scores for the offset jaw trap (5.0, n=4), laminated jaw trap (5.0, n=2), padded jaw trap (5.0, n=7), and standard trap (35.0, n=8) were not significantly different (P=0.41). Only leg injuries evaluated.
Proulx and Drescher (1994)	Conibear 280 (in standard and modified versions), Sauvageau 2001-8	Controlled lab tests on immobilized animals in Alberta. Conibear 280 (n=6) rendered 3 raccoons struck in neck region irreversibly unconscious in ≤3 minutes; 2 others lost consciousness in 194 and 195 sec.; 1 was euthanized after 5 minutes. Sauvageau 2001-8 (n=3) rendered 1 raccoon struck in the neck unconscious in 58 sec.; 2 others were euthanized after 5 minutes. A modified Conibear 280 with a clamping bar on the top striking jaw rendered 6/6 raccoons struck in neck region irreversibly unconscious in 182 to 270 sec. All traps would fail preselection test unless the minimum time to loss of consciousness was increased to 4 min.
Sabeau and Mills (1994)	Conibear 160 (BMI)	Average time to unconsciousness for 4/5 raccoons was 172 sec ± 16 sec.; 1 animal was euthanized; trap would have failed 1994 draft ISO test standard. Lab test performed in Nova Scotia on raccoons immobilized with ketamine.

Hubert et al. (1996)	EGG Victor #1 CS	Field test in Illinois using non-drowning water sets and 24-hour trap check interval. EGG (n=63) captured raccoons more efficiently than #1 CS (n=37); 94% of raccoons showed no oral injuries; whole body injury scores for raccoons caught in CS (n=40) were sig. higher than EGG and averaged 116 compared to an average of 68 for the EGG (n=62). Incidence of self-mutilation sig. lower with EGG.
Hill (no date)	#2 CS #2 CS w/ offset jaws Conibear 120 Conibear 220	Field test in Alabama. Efficiency of standard #2 CS similar to #2 CS with offset jaws. Bone fractures observed in 62% of raccoons caught in #2 CS (n=13) compared with 40% of those caught in #2 CS offset (n=5). More raccoons caught in Conibear 120 compared with Conibear 220 when placed in boxes on ground (1/14.4 trap nights [TN], n=35, 508 TN for Conibear 120; 1/30.8 TN, n=21, 648 TN for Conibear 220). Conibear 220 trap boxes set on ground caught more raccoons (1/64 TN, n=5, 320 TN) compared with Conibear 220 trap box set 1 meter above ground (open end down) (1/137 TN, n=3, 410 TN). Conibear 220 trap boxes set on ground caught a similar number of raccoons (1/64 TN, n=5, 320 TN) compared with #2 CS used in dirt-hole sets (1/54 TN, n=6, 327 TN).

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**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

RIVER OTTER (*Lontra canadensis*)

February 19, 1997

Page 1 of 2

Reference	Trap	Results
Northcott and Slade (1976)	Bailey live trap Hancock live trap	Field study in Newfoundland. Bailey ineffective for live-trapping animals; catch rate = 0.17 otters/100 trap nights (TN). Hancock set unbaited in slides; catch rate = 0.6 - 1.3 otters/100 TN. Control of human scent important.
Melquist and Hornocker (1979)	#2 Coil Spring (CS) #3 Jump Hancock various others	Field study in Idaho. Little injury to otters captured in #2 CS (n=5), but at least 35 escapes were recorded. Otters captured in #3 Jump (n=5) had injuries ranging from slight swelling in toes to broken legs. Hancock trap found to be effective (captures=21) when minor modifications were made.
Shirley et al. (1983)	Victor #11 Double Long Spring (DLS)	Field study in Louisiana.
Route and Peterson (1988)	Hancock	A total of 41 otters captured in 1,686 trap nights in Minnesota using Hancock traps. Few injuries recorded. Trap nights/otter captured = 13.9 in spring (n=22) compared with 72.6 in fall.
Serfass et al. (1996)	Modified Victor #1½ Soft Catch (SC) Victor #11 Double Long Spring (DLS)	Field study in eastern United States (Pennsylvania and Maryland). Modified SC traps used to capture 29 otters. Capture rate = 0.57, 60.3 trap nights/otter). Among adult otters, 1 (3.7%) caught in SC sustained injuries requiring an amputation (a single digit) in comparison to 12/17 (70.6%) taken in #11 DLS. No difference in frequency or severity of dental injuries to otters between trap types. SC traps modified by replacing 1 factory installed spring with a #2 spring and adding a segment of anchor chain ranging from 0.5 to 1.25 m in length. Traps checked daily.

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IAFWA-FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY

RED FOX (*Vulpes vulpes*)

December 2, 1996

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Reference	Trap	Results
Novak (1981)	Novak leg snare No. 4 Victor long spring No. 2 Victor coil spring	The Novak leg snare was compared with 2 types of leghold traps under field conditions in southern Ontario. One hundred-eleven red foxes were captured. The capture rate was 89% for the foot snare and 85% for the leghold traps. No differences were found among animals which discharged traps, capture rate or escape rate. Ninety-eight percent of the animals captured in foot snares had either no marks or just rubbed skin or nicks on their legs as compared to 48 percent of animals caught in leghold traps. Animals caught in either foot snares or legholds did not damage their teeth by biting on the traps. Results indicated that the foot snare was as effective as the leghold trap in capturing furbearers, and greatly reduced injuries.
Rowsell et al. (1981)	Power snare Non power snare	Eighteen foxes were studied in the laboratory to see if snares could produce a humane death. The power snares appeared to have the only potential to produce rapid death in foxes. It is possible that the more rigid cartilage in the trachea of foxes may make them more difficult to constrict under pressure. This study questioned the effectiveness of producing a humane death to foxes using snares.
Englund (1982)	Swedish leg snare No. 2 Victor long spring No. 3 Victor long spring	During the study, 1,374 red foxes were trapped in Sweden using standard No. 2 and No. 3 long spring traps while 154 were trapped in traps coated with plastic and 123 in leg snares. The frequency and severity of dental injuries from leghold traps was less for foxes captured in plastic-coated traps, while leg injuries remained the same. The plastic legsnare was able to virtually eliminate all trap-related injuries.

McConnell (1982)	No. 1 ½ coil spring No. 2 coil spring Box trap	Total of 9 red foxes were captured during 181 trap nights. Leghold devices were found to be more efficient, more selective, and cost less than box traps which were determined to be inefficient. The standard No. 2 coil spring was found more productive than the No. 2 coil spring with offset jaws.
Tullar (1984)	No. 1 ½ Victor coil spring	Sixteen red foxes were captured in Columbia County, New York. The foot-damage scores indicated that the padded traps caused significantly less damage than the unpadded traps.
Stevens (1986)	Treadle snare Bow snare Gin trap	Twenty-one foxes were captured in Australia using snares and traps. Foxes caught in the snares suffered bruising in the area where the cable was located, while gin-trapped foxes suffered lacerations, swelling and disjointed bones. Traps were more efficient during this study, but produced more damage to trapped legs.
Berchielli and Tullar (1988)	Ezyonem leg snare No. 1 ½ coil spring	Fifteen red foxes were trapped using coil spring traps and 2 were captured in the leg snares. The leg snare was less effective than the coil spring trap. The leg snare did not appear to be more humane than the coil spring trap since both produced similar trap-related injuries.

Kreeger et al.
(1990) No. 1 ½ Victor Soft Catch
 No. 1 ½ standard coil spring

Objectives of the study were to examine the behavioral, physiological, endocrine, biochemical and pathological responses of both free-ranging and captive North Dakota red foxes caught in unpadded and padded-jaw foothold traps as well as to compare such responses with those of untrapped foxes. Foxes caught in unpadded traps (n=10) had higher physical injury scores to the trapped limbs than foxes caught in padded traps (n=11) (P<0.005). Heart rate and body temperature increased rapidly after foxes were caught, but returned to mean pretrapped levels after 80 minutes. Mean time spent physically resisting the trap in an 8-hour period was 17.8 +/- 6.7 (SE) and 13.3 +/- 0.3% for foxes caught in unpadded and padded traps, respectively (P=.033). Trapped foxes generally had higher levels of adrenocorticotropin, *B*-endorphin, and cortisol and lower levels of thyroxine and insulin compared to control foxes (P<0.05). Foxes caught in unpadded traps had higher cortisol, but lower *B*-endorphin values than foxes caught in padded traps (P=0.05). Trapped foxes also had higher levels of bilirubin, lactate dehydrogenase, alkaline phosphatase (ALP), and aspartate aminotransferase (AST) than control foxes (P<0.05). Foxes caught in unpadded traps had higher values for ALP, AST, and gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase than foxes caught in padded traps (P<0.05). Trapped foxes also had higher leukocyte counts than nontrapped foxes with a significant neutrophilia and leukopenia (P<0.05). Trapped foxes had higher incidences of adrenal gland and kidney congestion as well as adrenal gland, lung, and heart hemorrhage relative to control foxes (P<0.05). Most of the changes were consistent with the physical exertion of resisting the trap, and none appeared life-threatening. Overall, padded-jawed traps causes less trauma to red foxes than unpadded traps.

Linscombe and Wright (1988)	No. 1 ½ Victor Soft Catch No. 1 ½ standard coil spring	Total of 10,586 trap nights showed no difference between visitation rates between the padded and unpadded traps. Ninety-eight red foxes were captured in Arizona, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, and Texas during this study. Unpadded traps were more efficient in the northern states, but no difference was detected in the southern states.
Olsen et al (1988)	No. 1 ½ Victor Soft Catch No. 1 ½ standard coil spring	Thirty red foxes were captured in the padded trap, while 48 were captured in the standard trap. The padded trap caused less foot damage than the standard trap. Only 7% had ≥ 50 points of damage with the padded trap, but 38% had ≥ 50 points of damage from the standard trap.
Proulx and Barrett (1990)	King power snare Mosher power snare Olecko power snare	Fifteen red foxes were tested with killing snares in a pen situation at Vegreville, Alberta. This study showed that power snares have the potential to render neck-captured red foxes irreversibly unconscious within 6 minutes. With more powerful springs and different types of cables and locks, this time period may be reduced to 5 minutes.
Kern et al. (1994)	No. 1 ½ Victor coil spring No. 1 ½ Victor laminated No. 1 ½ Butera offset No. 1 ½ Victor Soft Catch	Four models of 1½ size traps were field tested during 7,934 trap nights on 4 traplines to capture furbearers in northeastern Wyoming and southeastern Montana. Two hundred forty-three red foxes were captured using the traps tested. Selectivity, efficiency, and catch rate were all found to be similar on 3 of 4 trap lines. Efficiency and catch rates were significantly lower for the padded trap on one trapline where more precipitation and heavier soil types were present. Traps were evaluated using the draft ISO trap standards and all traps, except the standard 1½ Victor, passed for red fox. The Soft Catch, Butera offset and laminated traps caused significantly less injury than the standard trap.

White et al (1991)	No. 1 ½ Victor Soft Catch No. 1 ½ standard coil spring Box (live) trap	<p>This study documented the physiological responses of captive-raised red foxes to capture in box (live) traps. The behavior of captured foxes was video recorded, and heart rate and body temperature were monitored via radio telemetry throughout an 8-hour restraint period. Endocrine, biochemical, hematological, and pathological samples were collected. Responses of foxes caught in box traps were compared to the responses reported by Kreeger et al. (1990) for untrapped foxes and foxes caught in padded and unpadded-jaw traps. Heart rate and body temperature increased after foxes were caught in box traps, but never significantly exceeded mean pretrapped levels. Foxes caught in box traps were physically active for 35.7 +/- 8.8 (SE)% of the restraint period. The majority of this activity consisted of pacing in the trap. Foxes caught in box traps had higher (P<0.03) adrenocorticotropin and cortisol values than untrapped foxes, and lower (P<0.001) B-endorphin and cortisol levels than foxes caught in foothold traps. Bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, lactate dehydrogenase, and aspartate aminotransferase levels for foxes caught in box traps were elevated (P<0.01) above levels of untrapped foxes. Foxes caught in box traps had lower (P<0.004) alkaline phosphatase, lactate dehydrogenase, creatine kinase, and aspartate aminotransferase levels than foxes caught in foothold traps. We conclude that factors associated with limb restraint directly contribute to the trauma experienced by trapped red foxes and, therefore, foxes caught in box traps undergo less trauma than foxes that are restrained by a limb in a padded- or unpadded foothold trap.</p>
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RED FOX (*Vulpes vulpes*)

December 2, 1996

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IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY

STRIPED SKUNK (*Mephitis mephitis*)

February 20, 1997

Page 1 of 2

Reference	Trap	Results
Berchielli and Tullar (1980)	Blake & Lamb #1½ Coil Spring (CS), Ezyonem leg snare	Field study in New York. #1½ CS caught 6 skunks in 20 visits compared with 0 captures in 13 visits for the Ezyonem, but the difference was not significant (P>0.05). Self-mutilation observed in 100% of skunks caught in #1½ CS (n=6). Injuries between trap types not compared due to 0 captures in Ezyonem.
Novak (1981)	Novak foot snare #2 coil spring w/ offset jaws #4 double long spring (DLS) w/ offset jaws	Field study in Ontario. Capture rate = 34% for foot snare (16/47), 97% for footholds (35/36); no injuries to 12/12 skunks caught in foot snare compared with 12/30 skunks taken in foothold traps. Self-mutilation of trapped foot observed in 47% (n=30) of the skunks taken in foothold traps.
Turkowski et al. (1984)	Victor #3 NM (w/ and w/out prototype pan tension devices)	Field study in California, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, and Utah. Shear-pin device excluded 96% of skunks (n=74) from traps compared with a 91% exclusion rate for a leaf spring device (n=96). Exclusion rate without any pan tension device was 31% (n=71). Improved pan tension devices performed even better than prototypes. Coyote capture efficiency for traps equipped with improved pan tension devices varied from 86-94% that of the standard trap.

Phillips and Gruver (1996)	Victor #3 Soft Catch (SC) Victor #3 NM #4 Newhouse (all equipped w/ Paws-I-Trip pan tension device)	Field study in 8 western states. Paws-I-Trip device successfully excluded 100% (n=34) of skunks that visited SC traps, 69.2% (n=13) that visited #3 NM traps, and 91.4% (n=35) of those that visited #4 Newhouse traps. Coyote capture rates for Paws-I-Trip equipped traps were: #3 SC = 81.8%, #3 NM = 91.0%, and #4 Newhouse = 87.2%.
Nettles et al. (1990)	Victor #2 CS Victor #2 CS with padded jaws	Field test in Washington. Leg damage scores for 31 skunks caught with padded jaw trap and 34 skunks caught with standard #2 CS did not differ ($P > 0.05$), and averaged 197 and 171, respectively. Several high scores in both groups due to self-mutilation.

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**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

WEASEL (*Mustela erminea*)

February 19, 1997

Page 1 of 1

Reference	Trap	Results
King (1981)	Gin (leghold type) Fenn (killing trap)	Field study in New Zealand. A total of 336 weasels captured with Gin trap. Of these, 41% had extensive injuries and 32% were alive when the traps were checked (?daily). Self-mutilation of trapped limb observed in 21 weasels caught in Gin trap. About 8% of 966 weasels caught in Fenn traps had extensive injuries, and only 4% were alive at time of check. Author concluded correctly set Fenn traps kill weasels more humanely than Gin traps.
Belant (1992)	"Live" traps	

LITERATURE CITED

Belant, J. L. 1992. Efficacy of three types of live traps for capturing weasels, Mustela spp. Can. Field-Nat. 106:394-397.

King, C. M. 1981. The effects of two types of steel traps upon captured stoats (Mustela erminea). J. Zool. (London) 195:553-554.

Prepared by: George Hubert, Jr., Illinois DNR

**IAFWA - FRTS
TRAP RESEARCH AND PERFORMANCE DATA SUMMARY**

WOLVERINE (*Gulo gulo*)

December 2, 1996

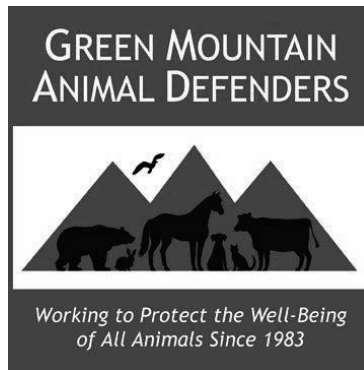
Page 1 of 1

Reference	Trap	Results
Copeland et al. (1995)	Log trap	During the winters of 1992-93 and 1993-94, 12 wolverines were captured 37 times in 1,255 trapnights in central Idaho; 3 animals escaped by chewing holes in traps; no injuries noted on captured animals.

LITERATURE CITED

Copeland, J. P., E. Cesar, J. M. Peek, C. Harris, C. D. Long, and D. Hunter. 1995. A live trap for wolverine and other forest carnivores. Wildl. Soc. Bull. 23:535-538.

Prepared by: Robert L. Phillips, USDA/APHIS/ADC/NWRC, 1716 Heath Parkway, Fort Collins, CO 80524-2719.



May 13, 2022

Re: Changes to trapping rules

Dear Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department:

We write on behalf of the Boards, members and supporters of our organizations in response to desired changes we'd like to see implemented with respect to trapping in Vermont. We were in support of the original draft of bill S. 201, a ban on leghold traps. The current version of the bill requires the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department (VFWD) to address animal welfare, trap selectivity, and public safety concerns. Although this does not reflect the original intention of the bill, we still see value in this effort as it now requires trappers to take actions to prevent harm, such as placing traps away from highly trafficked areas on public lands and putting up warning signage. (These are some of the issues we had requested previously as part of other rulemaking proposals.)

We do not believe that leghold/foothold traps can ever be humane, nor do we think that enforcement of any proposed Best Management Practices (BMP) is practical given the shortage of game wardens and the many nuances involved with trap BMPs. The April petition submitted by the Vermont Trappers Association falls far short of offering any meaningful improvements. As an example, their offer to prohibit any foothold trap greater than 6¼ inches, as measured inside the jaws, illustrates how problematic the issue of BMPs is. Most BMPs recommend a jawspread much smaller than that.

Under the current BMPs, wildlife will still endure unimaginable suffering. The BMPs rely on international scales of trauma and injury to assess animal welfare. As part of the research involved with the recommendations, injuries to trapped animals are evaluated on a scale from mild to severe.¹

Moderate injury, according to Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), includes amputation of one-digit, permanent tooth fracture exposing pulp cavity, severe joint hemorrhage, eye lacerations, rib fractures, and major laceration on foot pads or tongue. These scales allow for severe suffering to individual animals, as long as an average amount of suffering across all animals trapped is below a certain threshold. Notably, up to 30% of animals caught in restraining traps, such as leghold traps, can suffer from severe trauma, **such as amputation, compound fractures, severe internal organ damage, spinal cord injury, or death and still meet the BMP criteria.**² AFWA's website lists other inhumane practices that are allowed under the BMPs.

BMPs clearly allow unacceptable levels of trauma to both targeted and non-targeted animals, including household pets. We will continue to advocate for an outright ban on leghold/foothold traps and follow the lead of 100 countries and states like California, New Mexico, Colorado, Florida, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Washington that have either completely banned or restricted the use of leghold traps.

The legislature has asked that VFWD consider rules that shall be "at least as stringent as best management practices." This is a prime opportunity to carefully review existing trapping regulations and make improvements.

Our proposals

- Resubmitting our 2019 petition concerning trap setbacks and placement of flesh bait on land traps (see attached).
- Prohibit the recreational and commercial trapping of bobcats, river otters, fisher and coyotes. Biologists inform us that these predator species provide numerous ecological services on our landscapes and should be protected and not killed. They face both known and unknown threats, such as rodenticide poisoning, mercury and other water pollutants (otters), loss of prey species for bobcats in some areas due to loss of early successional habitat, distemper and other dangers. Some of these threats are outlined in VFWD's own *Wildlife Action Plan* in the Species of Greatest Conservation Need section.

At the very least, we would like VFWD to provide evidence that the trapping of these species, with no bag limits, is not impacting local populations, especially in areas with high level of take. Our

neighboring state of New Hampshire does not allow any hunting or trapping of bobcats and has a two-fisher limit (combined between hunting and trapping seasons).

- VFWD must determine the maximum number of traps on a trapline, to better allow trappers to adhere to the daily trap check requirements and to properly tend to the trapped animal(s).
- Gunshot should be the only allowable method for killing animals in leghold and cage traps set on land. Bludgeoning; stomping on the chest; drowning of trapped and caged animals; choking; strangling and other non-gunshot methods are prohibited. Special considerations may be made for nuisance wildlife control operators who sometimes kill animals offsite in CO₂ chambers.
- Body-gripping, or so-called “quick kill” Conibear™ style traps, may only be set underwater in order to avoid killing non-targeted animals like bobcats, dogs, and other animals.
- Prohibit the drowning of animals in submersion sets, including cage traps and leghold traps that are attached with a one-way sliding lock to a cable anchored in deep water. For example, cage sets are placed underwater and live trap multiple muskrats at a time who are then drowned.
- “Quick kill” body-gripping traps must be fully submerged under water. The animal welfare performance standard for submersion trapping systems is that once submerged, the equipment must prevent the animal from resurfacing.³ Researchers find that so-called “quick kill” traps often do not kill the animal instantly—instead inflicting painful injuries—and as a result recommend that check times for these devices be reduced even further to prevent more suffering.⁴ This is important given that trappers in Vermont are only required to check water traps every 72 hours.
- Mandatory reporting of all incidental takes (e.g., black bear, bobcat, deer) to VFWD within 24 hours. Trapped animals covered under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (e.g., raven, owl, eagle) must be reported immediately upon capture and guidance provided by a veterinarian or other qualified professional on how to proceed with animal if s/he is still alive.

- Require trap sensors on all land traps. VFWD often talks about leghold traps being used by scientists in the field for reintroduction of species, however those traps often have trap sensors or trap transmitters that emit a signal once a trap has closed, allowing for more immediate capture or euthanasia of trapped animals.⁵ This may reduce or eliminate mortalities due to exertion and predation. Additionally, trap protocols for scientists differ from those for recreational trappers, including the best practice of checking traps before noon to prevent injuries caused by the trapped animals fighting against the trap. We would like to see these protocols adopted across the board.

We'd also like VFWD to consider the concern that landowners trapping in defense of property, under the dangerously broad title 10 V.S.A. §4828, would be exempt from any meaningful changes.

We look forward to working with VFWD to address Vermonters' long-standing concerns with trapping.

Thank you,

Brenna Galdenzi, Stowe VT
President & Co-founder, Protect Our Wildlife

Anne Jameson, Marshfield VT
Wildlife Coordinator, Green Mountain Animal Defenders

Joanne Bourbeau, Jacksonville, VT
Northeast Regional Director, the Humane Society of the United States

¹ Rochlitz, I. The Impact of Snares on Animal Welfare

https://onekindplanet.org/uploads/publications/onekind_report_on_snaring_chapter_1.pdf

² The Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (2006 updated 2021). Best Management Practices for Trapping in the United States, Introduction. https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/trapbmpsintro.pdf

³ Ibid.

⁴ Proulx, G., & Rodtka, D. (2019). Killing Traps and Snares in North America: The Need for Stricter Checking Time Periods. *Animals: an open access journal from MDPI*, 9(8), 570. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani9080570>

⁵ The American Veterinary Medical Association. Leghold Trap Use in Conservation and Research (April 30, 2009). https://www.avma.org/sites/default/files/resources/leghold_traps_bgnd.pdf

From: [Bradley Ferland](#)
To: [Mike Covey](#)
Cc: ANR.FWBoard@list.vermont.gov
Subject: Re: [ANR.FWBoard] Petition to regulate the hunting of coyotes with hounds
Date: Thursday, May 5, 2022 8:47:19 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.txt](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Thank you Mike. Please consider this request received.

Brad Ferland
Caledonia County

On Wed, May 4, 2022 at 5:17 PM Mike Covey <mcovey802@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Members of the Fish and Wildlife Board,

I am writing to petition you to regulate the use of hounds for the hunting of coyotes. We feel this is a valuable practice, but we do see the need for regulation. We look forward to helping you facilitate the development of thoughtful rules surrounding this practice.

My Best Regards,

Mike Covey
Executive Director
Vermont Traditions Coalition
(802) 461-3786

ANR.FWBoard mailing list
ANR.FWBoard@list.vermont.gov
<https://list.vermont.gov/mailman/listinfo/anr.fwboard>

Morse, Joshua

From: Tim Biebel <fwboard.windsor@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 4:29 PM
To: Vermont Coyote Coalition
Cc: fwboard.orleans; Kevin Lawrence; Wendy Butler; Theresa Elmer; David Fielding; Cheryl Frank Sullivan; Mike Kolsun; Bryan McCarthy; Dennis Mewes; Bill Pickens; Brian Wiles; Peter Allard; Johanna Laggis; Herrick, Christopher; Amy Sheldon; plefebvre@leg.state.vt.us; sbongartz@leg.state.vt.us; kdolan@leg.state.vt.us; jmccullough@leg.state.vt.us; lmorgan@leg.state.vt.us; nbrownell@leg.state.vt.us; hsmith@leg.state.vt.us; kmorris2@leg.state.vt.us; Isatcowitz@leg.state.vt.us; Christopher Bray; rawestman@gmail.com; mmacdonald@leg.state.vt.us; Richard McCormack; bcampion@leg.state.vt.us; Scott, Mark; Gjessing, Catherine
Subject: Re: Petition for a coyote season

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Ms. Fitzwilliam,

Thank you for submitting this petition. We will be in touch in the future about the next steps.

Best,
Tim

On Tue, Mar 22, 2022 at 1:29 PM Vermont Coyote Coalition <vccc.inquiries@gmail.com> wrote:



March 22, 2022

Re: Petition for a regulated coyote hunting season

Dear Chairman Biebel,

This petition and supporting data will serve as follow up on testimony on January 19, 2022 before the House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife from VT Fish & Wildlife Department (FWD), Commissioner Herrick and Furbearer Biologist Kim Royar regarding H.411, a bill seeking to address wanton waste of wildlife in Vermont. The bill was written in part to address the concerns of a retired game warden with 25 years of experience. In 2018, he submitted a petition in the form of an email to the Fish & Wildlife Board (FWB) asking for a ban on wanton waste, but the Board failed to act. The warden showed graphic evidence of wanton waste,

specifically involving coyotes and also referenced the wanton waste he witnessed of deer, bear and turkey. Since the FWB took no action, the issue was brought to the legislature and after three years of efforts by multiple parties, a wanton waste bill was voted out of committee and has since been passed by the full House.

The current bill language includes a carve out exempting coyotes that are hunted, at the behest of Commissioner Herrick and a minority of members in the committee who felt that including coyotes would be creating a de facto season. Commissioner Herrick, along with Ms. Royar, spoke very specifically that the committee was not the appropriate venue to address a season on coyotes. Chair Sheldon agreed and indicated that such authority was indeed granted to the FWB. **Commissioner Herrick stated that any discussion around a season needed due deliberation, and that such a discussion would merit our time and**

effort. His comment about a coyote season, "Let's have that discussion," couldn't have been any clearer. Biologist Royar indicated that she, too, supported a robust and respectful conversation around the establishment of a coyote season.

Therefore, this letter will serve as a direct follow up of Commissioner Herrick's and Ms. Royar's support for that discussion to begin. And in order to formally expedite that discussion, we have prepared this petition on behalf of our 5,500 + followers from across the state to establish

a regulated season on coyotes that takes pup rearing into consideration. I am copying members of the House Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Committee and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources because of their interest in this issue, as expressed during this legislative session. Because of the substantive legislative interest in this issue we would respectfully ask that the FWB reply to the petition and include a written commentary in support of whatever position it takes that addresses each of the points we raise. This commentary will serve to update legislators and guide future steps and decision-making if necessary.

FWD would likely agree with this statement:

Lethal attempts at coyote control don't work.

Approximately 2/3 of coyotes live in packs. 1/3 roam, waiting for an opportunity to join a pack. A stable pack consists of a monogamous

breeding pair that only mates once a year. Other pack members do not breed. The self-regulated pack requires about 4-8 miles, which it guards against other coyotes. Left to their own, coyotes self-regulate. The majority of females don't ever breed!

Indiscriminate killing of a breeding male or female, forces the mate to leave to find a new mate. A roamer (or disperser) comes in and breeds with as many females as he can causing a 'burst' in the local population. This means MORE coyotes on the landscape.

Without the leadership of the alpha pack members, the other pack members are likely unskilled at hunting and may cause problems with humans where there weren't any before.

The current open season is not rooted in sound science.

VCC's Petition: We request that Vermont establish a regulated coyote hunting season from October 1st – December 31st. This season would allow for a recreational hunting opportunity and optimizes utilization of the animals killed.

We believe there is more than ample data and reason to establish a season at this time as follows:

1. FWD supports the initiation of a coyote season discussion

Commissioner Herrick and Biologist Royar have testified that we should begin the conversation about establishing a season on coyotes and the **FWD is the venue for this process.**

2. Long Standing Evidence of Wanton Waste

A retired Vermont state game warden's 25 years of experience and first-hand account of the wanton waste of coyotes objectively establishes that Vermont has a long-standing problem that has not been addressed by FWD or FWB. The longer we fail to address this situation, the greater spread of the subculture of hunters who kill solely for the sake of killing, often by using bait piles. Not only is this antithetical to sound science, but it also violates all standards of ethical hunting practices and damages the overall image of hunting. We believe further that the FWB, as the arbiters of Vermont's public policy on game, have a duty to address and correct this wasteful behavior that is not rooted in sound science and fundamentally is contrary to ecological principles.

3. Damage to the Standing of Vermont 's Wildlife Governance Infrastructure

The failure to address this long-standing issue undermines the credibility of Vermont's wildlife governance infrastructure and erodes public confidence in our conservation stewards. Further, the state- sanctioned wanton killing of a public "resource" simply for the sake of killing, is at odds with Fish & Wildlife's duty to protect and conserve wildlife—to include coyotes—under title 10 §4081.

4. Contradictory and Confusing Public Policy

Vermont's public policy towards coyotes is at best confusing and clearly paradoxical. On the one hand, FWD states the following on their website, "We believe, however, that coyotes are important members of the ecosystem and have evolved together with many of nature's existing prey species; Conservation of the coyote is important to maintaining ecosystem integrity because of the vital role they play as predators; Coyotes fill the role of a natural predator, a role that is important for maintaining the dynamics and health of our ecosystems." These statements reflect an ecological and scientific understanding of the species. However, at the same time, FWD references the ecological benefits of coyotes, they and the FWB have established a public policy of treating coyotes as vermin in that they may be killed year-round, day and night, with or without dogs, with the use of bait, and with the use of high-tech weaponry, including thermal scopes for night hunting and game- calling devices.

It is ecologically and intellectually impossible to hold those opposing views at the same time, yet this tortured logic serves as the public policy FWD has endorsed. The FWB now has an opportunity to address FWD's "split personality" public policy muddle by establishing a season consistent with how we manage other game species. It's time for the double standard to end.

5. State Sanctioned Violations of the North American Model Wildlife Conservation as Public Policy

The FWB's current policy on coyotes is a clear violation of at least one principle of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation (NAM), which establishes the following value: ***Wildlife can only be killed for a legitimate purpose***. It should be noted that FWD's report to the legislature on coyotes in January, 2018, stated that current public policy

treating coyotes as vermin, did not violate NAM, yet the Department offered no data on what legitimate purpose was served in the public policy of sanctioning the wanton waste of coyotes. Digging deeper into this issue, we find that the Department has an extreme institutional bias favoring ungulates (89%) over carnivores (11%) as documented in an internal survey (<https://content.warnercnr.colostate.edu/AWV/VT-AgencyCultureMemo.pdf>) This extreme institutional bias is reflected in the Department's support for the wanton waste of Vermont's apex predator, a position that cannot be supported by science yet is fully supported by the documented political agenda of FWD. We find the FWB and FWD's support of this gross disrespect for the coyote an abject failure of our wildlife governance standards in putting politics above science.

6. Board Policy that Chooses Wildlife Winners and Losers

Establishing a season would serve to change the message that coyotes are a "bad" species while deer are a "good" species. This emotional basis for establishing attitudes towards wildlife has no place in sound ecological science. An established season would help defuse the emotional and irrational basis for considering coyotes "bad." Along with the notion that coyotes are a bad species, is a belief out there that coyotes are an invasive species. This notion, too, is not based on an understanding of ecology, natural systems, or species range expansions and contractions. If coyotes are invasive, then so too are cardinals, Carolina wrens, opossums, and black vultures, to name a few. Public policy solely established on the basis of emotions is bad public policy. The FWB can serve to reinforce rational and science-based understanding of species like the coyote. Shouldn't that be one of your important jobs to take steps to undermine the mythology held by the subculture within the hunting community?

7. The Other Big Lie: Coyotes impact Deer Populations

Establishing a season would also address the other big myth around coyote impacts on deer populations. FWD states the following on their website, "We are not aware of any scientific evidence from studies done in the Northeast that indicate coyotes either control or limit the numbers of deer. Although coyotes and people, both predators, do vie for deer and other prey, in almost all cases, study results suggest that coyotes have no long term negative impact on these populations." Changing public policy is the most effective step we can take. All the education programs won't impact attitudes when public policy condones the idea of coyotes as vermin.

8. The Folly of Too Many Coyotes

It should also be noted that the Department states, "...coyotes are density dependent breeder. As the number of coyotes in an area decreases, their reproductive rates increase. Coyote control efforts are therefore often unsuccessful because they tend to stimulate reproduction."

(<https://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/vermont-critters/mammals/coyote>). If our concern is too many coyotes, establishing a season would actually help to reduce the disruption of packs, dampen reproduction and stabilize or reduce the population. Establishing a season on coyotes would impact the notion that actively seeking out and killing coyotes is somehow a good deed. Obviously science does not support that subculture mythology. You can read more from Project Coyote's carnivore biologist [here](#).

9. Perceived Threats to Humans

One of the justifications for the current public policy is that a 365/day/night season is that such a season creates a wariness in coyotes thus helping to reduce negative interactions with humans. This is not supported by any independent peer review science. Randomly killing coyotes does nothing to instill fear. As well- respected coyote expert, and former sheep farmer, Chris Schadler has said, "A dead coyote learns nothing."

If there is a specific coyote that is causing problems, then the law already allows the public to kill coyotes under title 10 §4828. Prevention — not killing — is the best method for minimizing conflicts with wildlife in both urban and rural settings. Eliminating access to easy food sources, such as bird seed and garbage, supervising pets while outside, and keeping cats indoors reduces conflicts with pets and humans. Practicing good animal husbandry and using strategic, nonlethal methods to protect livestock (such as electric fences, guard animals, fladry, and removing dead livestock) are more effective than lethal control at preventing conflicts and reducing associated costs over time.

And to play devil's advocate, even *if* FWD's position was accurate, a limited hunting season would still accomplish the purpose of "keeping coyotes wary of people." In short, coyotes may become problematic when they are

habituated to people and that can be solved by prevention and also by killing problem coyotes under title 10 §4828.

10. A Very, Very Low Bar Justifying An Open Season

FWD's justification for the 365 day/night season is that the population is not at risk so allowing an open season will not impact population. Is that the standard of wildlife professionals at FWD for managing wildlife now?

11. Coyote Killing Contests

FWD's report to the legislature stated this, "Unlike its counterparts in some states, Vermont's Fish and Wildlife Department does not sponsor or promote or encourage coyote hunting tournaments and we do not believe that such short-term hunts will have any measurable impact on prey such as deer." Vermont now has a law prohibiting coyote killing contests, yet FWD took no position on the bill when actually standing up for its beliefs would have mattered. We find FWD's documented inconsistency a distinct revelation that its political agenda is always paramount.

12. Wildlife Congress-Building Bridges

FWD's coyote report to the legislature stated the following, "Therefore, bringing disparate groups together to work on common threats is critical to our future. To that end, the Department has sponsored two "Wildlife Congresses" in an attempt to find and agree on common issues that can be tackled together to maintain wildlife populations into the future." We applaud the FWD for sponsoring this attempt at building bridges between groups that see wildlife in starkly different ways. The second Wildlife Congress resulted in the establishment of a working group to wrestle with the issues of finding common ground. Regretfully, FWD failed to nominate a representative from staff to serve on the working group causing the group to dissolve having never met even once.

13. Valuing the role of Predators

The following statement is in FWD's coyote report to the legislature, "Regardless, the Department values the role predators play in maintaining healthy and dynamic ecosystems and endeavors to promote management strategies for these species, including coyotes, that foster a broad public understanding of, and appreciation for, their intrinsic values while ensuring

the sustainability and health of their populations.” We applaud this clear ecologically based statement very much, on the mark. But once again, it is impossible to embrace that statement while embracing public policy that treats Vermont’s apex predator as vermin. No one can square that circle.

Thank you for your consideration of this petition and the background in support of it.

Jane Fitzwilliam

Coalition Lead

<http://vermontcoyote.org>

Putney VT 802.376.9449

Link to DFW Coyote Report to legislature

<https://vtfishandwildlife.com/sites/fishandwildlife/files/documents/Hunt/trapping/Vermont%20Coyote%20Population%20Report%20to%20Legislature-2018.pdf>

Commissioner Herrick and members of the Fish and Wildlife Board,

The Vermont Trappers Association (VTA) encourages that specific criteria be adopted for the design of foothold traps when trapping terrestrial furbearers in Vermont. All of the research partners chosen in Vermont to test the different restraining devices used as part of the Northeast Best Management Practices (BMP) program were members of the VTA, so we are very familiar with the devices tested and the process of testing them. These suggestions are an amalgam of both experience developing the BMPs and several decades (perhaps centuries) of collective experience in the field, and we are confident that these are the best features to ensure the welfare of trapped animals.

A wide variety of devices were tested in this thirty-year research project, however, not every device in current use was available at that time. For that reason, the VTA cannot endorse one brand of trap over another just because it was tested, but we can reliably endorse certain features that are proven to improve animal welfare. It is the position of the VTA that any device from any manufacturer should be approved for use so long as it has been manufactured with, or modified to include, the following features.

On behalf of the Vermont Trappers Association, I would like to submit a petition to the Fish and Wildlife Board that foothold traps set on land require the following:

- 1) Jaws are padded, off-set, laminated, or have jaws with a minimum thickness of 5/16”.
- 2) Base plates feature a center chain attachment.
- 3) The trap can be adjusted for pan tension.
- 4) There are at least two swiveling devices in the chain.
- 5) An anchored trap has a minimum of 12” and a maximum of 18” of chain from the point where it exits the ground once an animal is caught.
- 6) No foothold trap shall be set on land with a spread of more than 6-1/4 inches as measured inside the jaws.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please feel free to contact me via email or at (914) 610-0650.

Thank you for your consideration.



Bruce Martin
VTA Vice-President
Montpelier, VT



Date: December 6, 2019

To: VT Fish & Wildlife Board

Re: Petition for Rule-making

Protect Our Wildlife represents over 2,000 Vermont residents who recreate on our public lands, including national and state wildlife refuges, forests, and parks. Our members include wildlife photographers, hikers, dog owners, campers, and other stakeholders. We have three petition items for the Board to consider relating to trapping.

Trapping is allowed on all WMUs owned by the state, in state forests, and on many other public lands, without public notice. Traps are baited and deliberately hidden from public view, such as under leaves, which makes them impossible to avoid. Kill traps present the biggest danger. The only requirement for their use is that a kill trap with a jaw spread over eight inches must be set at least five feet above ground or in the water. A jaw spread less than that can kill a pet, or other non-target animal, by gripping its head or body with tremendous force. These traps are especially difficult to remove, particularly by someone unfamiliar with them and who is responding to an urgent, life-threatening situation. Pet owners are frequently bitten by their dogs while trying to release them from traps. When an otherwise friendly dog (or cat) is frightened and in pain, it is not uncommon for the animal to turn on his/her owner. As it stands now, even leashed dogs are in danger of being trapped. **No one should have to fear that happening while out recreating on our public lands.**

While we are not disputing that trappers are allowed to trap on **our** public lands, if their activity inherently presents a danger to the public and their pets, then we should work together to mitigate such dangers.

We petition the Board to adopt the following:

1.) Setback requirements for traps

No traps may be set on public land:

- Within 150 feet of any public trail
- Within 500 feet of any trailhead that is accessible to vehicular traffic
- Within 1000 feet of any public campground or picnic area

If there are any designated wildlife crossings, specifically those crossings that were erected and/or maintained for that purpose, no traps may be set within 500 feet of entry points or inside structure. It places animals at an extreme unfair advantage if they are using these travel ways to safely cross roads and end up trapped.

Other states with long trapping histories (e.g. Montana and Oregon), require setbacks. These states have recognized the danger that traps present to animals and people.

2.) Standard signage erected at all trailheads on public land warning the public that trapping is allowed on the land

3.) Prohibit baiting a trap with meat or other animal-derived products if the bait is visible from the air on both public and private lands in an effort to reduce the incidental takes of bald eagles and other raptors

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to working with you toward adoption of the proposed rules.

POW/HSUS/VWC Recommendation/Discussion Points

(1) The VTA petition

- No objections but do not believe that the changes would necessarily improve animal welfare.
- AFWA's BMP recommendations, according to S-159 are the floor, not the ceiling. In our view they suffer from numerous deficiencies:
 - Allow for serious injuries, including death, to up to 30% of trapped animals.
 - Fail to consider behavioral or physiological responses, compounding effect of multiple lesser injuries, long-term impact to escaped animals, etc.
 - Don't do enough to protect unintended victims
 - Unenforceable (i.e. warden can't check for pan tension without triggering trap)
- Snares/cable restraints should not be on the table for discussion since they're not currently allowed in statute.

(2) Trail setbacks on state owned public lands excluding WMAs

- POW's petition on setback requirements recommended: Setback requirements for traps on public land
- Should also include federal lands.
- Didn't agree to exclude WMAs.
- Legislative mandate is much broader – "all public locations"
- Trapping equipment does not fund Pittman Robertson or help pay for WMA costs.
- Bird dog hunters and other hunters who fund WMAs via an excise tax might appreciate trap setbacks, especially with overlap in trapping and certain bird seasons (i.e. partridge)
- Recommend a 500 foot or more setback rule for public trails, class 4 roads, playgrounds, parks and other public locations where persons may reasonably be expected to recreate as a minimum standard for consistency.

(3) Use of baits and lures

- Prohibiting baiting a trap with meat or other animal-derived products if the bait is visible from the air (on both public and private lands) can reduce the incidental takes of bald eagles and other raptors.
- All baits should be covered or buried and set away from trap by 50 feet.
- Other states like Maine have bait restrictions to mitigate trapping and killing hawks and other protected species.
- Biden restored rolled back to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act in 2021, which makes incidental take of birds illegal and USFWS may be providing guidance to state F&W agencies on best practices under the restored MBTA regulations.

(4) Use of body gripping traps (i.e. size, setback, underwater, dryland, etc.)

Body gripping kill traps prohibited on land.

- Body gripping kill traps should be fully submerged underwater to reduce the lethal catch of dogs entering or exiting water and prevent target trapped animal from resurfacing.
- Hunters and hikers wouldn't have to avoid these riparian areas, and trappers avoid the emotional and legal conflict of killing a hunting or companion dog – often with the owner struggling to rescue their pet without the proper equipment.
- No logical justification to allow body gripping on dryland or partially submerged. Their non-selectivity and "non-releasability" (of both targets and non-targets) make them a liability that is eliminated by mandating full submersion underwater.
- Not taking away trapping opportunities—can still trap fisher, bobcat, raccoons etc. with leghold traps; can still use conibears underwater for beaver, muskrat, river otters, etc.
- No more incidental kills of bobcats during fisher season.

- Prohibit the drowning of animals in submersion sets, including cage traps and leghold traps that are attached with a one-way sliding lock to a cable anchored in deep water; the AVMA does not consider drowning a form of euthanasia.
- Reporting of incidental takes is limited since not all reporting is required, especially prior to 2018, but we do have VT-specific examples of non-targeted animals being trapped in body gripping kills traps. Here are just two.



Coyote caught in body gripping "kill" trap set for fisher in Killington, VT. Traveled over a mile with the trap attached to her head before dying.

Source: VT FWD Warden Records



Cat caught in body gripping "kill" trap in Fairfax, VT. Cat had to have leg amputated by BEVS in Burlington.

VFWD draft Nov 2022 recommendations include:

Our responses to VFWD recommendations are below in red:

- All base plates must feature a center chain mount with swivel, with free moving chains that allow mobility for animals caught.
- All traps must be adjustable for pan tension.
- Traps must be anchored with a minimum of 12" and maximum of 18" chain length.
- Foothold traps must be padded or offset, laminated, or have jaws with a minimum thickness of 5/16ths.
- No foothold trap shall be set on land with a spread of more than 6 ¼ inches.

These recommendations were the exact proposals offered by VT Trappers Association and offer little to no improvements to animal welfare, especially in the case of non-targeted animals that are trapped. They're also largely un-enforceable.

- Meat based bait used in conjunction with trapping shall be covered at the time the trap is set. Coverings shall include but are not limited to brush, branches, leaves, soil, snow, water, or enclosures constructed of wood, metal, wire, plastic, or natural materials.

This requirement only restricts "meat-based bait," which is insufficient. For example, the state of Maine's regulation states: "Foothold or killer-type traps must not be set within 50 yards of bait that is visible from above. Bait may be used for trapping if it is completely covered to prevent it from being seen from above, and it must be covered in such a way as to withstand wind action and other normal environmental conditions. Animal matter (e.g., feathers, bone, and fur) meet the definition of bait and visible attractor and must be covered or not visible from above if less than 50 yards from a foothold or killer-type trap."

- No meat-based baited, body gripping traps shall be set on the ground. However, baited body gripping traps with a jaw spread up to and including 60 in2 (up to and including size 220 traps) can be used on land if the trap is placed at least 5' above the ground or placed within an enclosure with openings no greater than 60 in2 and with a trap trigger that is recessed at least 12 inches from all openings. Note:

Body gripping traps of any size set in the water are legal regardless of whether they are baited or not.

Their recommendation is a far cry to what we recommended. Body gripping kill traps set on the ground using non meat-based bait such as visual (e.g. feathers) or scent lures, as they propose, will still easily trap and kill a curious dog, cat or other non-target animal.

*And, their proposal says that a kill trap up to and including 7 ½ inches **using meat-based bait** is still allowed on land but with modifications, but the modifications won't prevent non-target capture. For example, a black bear's limb can be caught while trying to access the baited trap in a tree.*

- No traps set in a designated walking or hiking trail bed on any public land.
- No foot traps on or within 25 feet of the traveled portion of a trail on state-owned public land excluding Wildlife Management Areas unless in the water or 5' above the ground.

This does not meet legislative mandate as it does not include the tens of thousands of public lands, including federal land, where the public recreates. Additionally, 25 feet is a grossly insufficient setback, especially near trailheads.

In addition: VFWD has made no recommendation on humane methods of killing trapped animals despite the legislative mandate. Our recommendation is gunshot only. Currently, trapped animals are drowned, bludgeoned, stomped on to crush the heart and lungs (referred to as "chest compression") and choked. VFWD was unwilling to accept our recommendation and has asked for more time to deliberate.

Submitted by:

Joanne, Bourbeau, Humane Society of the United States

Brenna Galdenzi, Protect Our Wildlife

Anne Jameson, Green Mountain Animal Defenders

POW/HSUS/VWC Recommendations/Discussion Points
(#5, Dispatch Method)

5) Methods of killing trapped animals

- Gunshot TO THE HEAD should be the only allowable method for killing animals in leghold and cage traps set on land. (per AVMA recommendations on wildlife euthanasia)
- “The best method is to shoot the animal in the head with a .22-caliber firearm. Aim between the eyes and up a little.” - (AFWA research protocol) https://www.hunter-ed.com/nationaltrapper/studyGuide/Humane-Killing-Methods/221099_87949/
- No justification for any other form of cruel dispatch (i.e. bludgeoning, choking, drowning, etc.) that are considered inhumane by the AVMA.

The Vermont Wildlife Coalition's Response to the VT Fish & Wildlife Department Draft Recommendations for Changes to Recreational Trapping per Act 159, 2022

December 29, 2022

The Vermont Wildlife Coalition (VWC) wishes to thank the Fish and Wildlife Department for inviting us to participate in the trapping Working Group (WG) mandated by A.159. On November 22, we received the FWD draft proposals for improving trapping in Vermont and the summaries of our perceived positions from the WG meetings. Again, thank you.

Regarding the WG process that served as the basis of the draft proposals, there were some issues from our perspective that give some context within which to assess these proposals:

- VWC acknowledges that trapping can perform a role in the protection of human safety, defense of property, conservation, and research. We do not support recreational, hobby, or lifestyle trapping such as is the bulk of trapping practiced in Vermont and which is the main target of the improvements sought in A.159, but as requested, we put that objection aside for the sake of the WG's goals. In our comments below, "trapping" is synonymous with "hobby/recreational trapping."
- WG Composition: While assembling a diverse-spectrum stakeholder group was the goal, and we have no idea of who else was approached and may have declined, the resulting, polarized WG membership was overwhelmingly slanted to groups that are strong proponents of trapping as currently practiced in Vermont (VTA, VFS, FWD, AFWA, FWB), three of which were represented by more than one member of the WG. The voting membership was absurdly weighted 9:3 in favor of recreational trapping.
- Despite having been enjoined to not use the WG as a referendum on trapping, the very opening of the first meeting was a Zoom presentation from AFWA BMP researchers, which while informative in several respects, strayed into boosterism. The most memorable was the arguable contention that most wildlife experts support trapping.
- There were other notable procedural instances of pro-trapping bias that are included as part of the observations below.

Regarding the FWD's draft proposals resulting from the WG, we have some thoughts, reservations, and objections for the record:

1. **Animal welfare and selectivity:** The five bullet points proposed by the FWD are verbatim of what the Vermont Trappers Association (VTA) proposed and from what was said during the WG meetings, are reportedly among the AFWA's BMPs which according to A.159, were to be the "minimum" starting point for Vermont's own mandated BMPs, not necessarily the end result.

Whatever they are, they represent little if any improvement in trapping systems. That these recommendations would now be mandated rather than suggested as is the case with AFWA BMPs is a theoretical improvement, however, not likely a practical one since, according to a VTA member of the WG and possibly others, the AFWA BMPs are already employed by 80% of trappers in Vermont. Anecdotal as that contention is, if it is true, then the VTA was not offering anything other than what most of their members already do. VWC has serious concerns about the AFWA BMPs as inadequate, over-hyped, and totally missing the larger point of gratuitous cruelty, but, nonetheless, agreed to these points in an attempt to get the dialogue moving. The attempt failed.

2. Baits and Lures: proposals to reduce the incidence of non-target “by-catch” including raptors: The FWD proposal again sides completely with the VTA but on an issue on which there was not even reluctant agreement with VWC or POW and HSUS. As the VTA proposed, the FWD proposal would only require meat-based baits to be covered from sight at the time a trap is set. Biologically, the FWD’s insistence on restricting the proposal to “meat-based” bait is puzzling since raptors are sight hunters and any other visible bait (e.g., feathers) would still put raptors at risk, but the VTA asked for that restriction and got it.

3. Body gripping traps: proposals to reduce the “capture” (killing) of “by-catch,” including domestic pets: Except for not agreeing to try to change current law and legalize cable restraint snares, the FWD gave the VTA all that they asked for and more.

Currently, all body-gripping traps with up to an 8”x8” spread are allowed to be set on the ground (larger if 5’ above the ground or in water). In this proposal, both the VTA and the FWD propose to single out meat-based baited body-gripping traps only and not allow them on land. Unless, and this goes beyond what the VTA suggested, such meat-based baited traps are 5’ off the ground or if they are in an enclosure with up to an opening of 60 square inches (7.75” x 7.75” – one-quarter-inch smaller than currently allowed). While the FWD possibly hoped that this would be seen as a compromise, it leaves all other traps, including scent-baited traps on the ground where dogs can easily reach them and many dogs (and any cat) can get 5’ into a tree, especially if driven to it by bait. Such noodly, nibbling measures are not effective attempts to solve the problem of “by-catch” of non-target species or family pets.

Moreover, and disappointingly, there was also a notable parenthetical added to the FWD proposal that may explain the lackluster proposal, *“it is the Department’s position that the capture of domestic pets is a relatively uncommon occurrence.”* This reads like an effort to minimize the issue which is consistent with past statements from FWD personnel that it isn’t even a problem. Such a defense of trapping is callous and inappropriate given the trauma and grief suffered by families, however, few, balanced against the lack of benefit from trapping to Vermont ecosystems or society at large. Bear in mind that a pet “captured” in a body-gripping trap will likely die if not released within minutes. The data for this “position” of the FWD is thin. Leaving aside issues of bias and compliance, no reporting was even required until 2018 – and that, by the legislature, not the FWD or the FWB, furthering the impression that this is not a priority issue for the FWD. Given the cost/benefit ratio, it should be. **[As this was being completed, there has been tragic news of a woman’s dog dying as she desperately tried to release it from a body-gripping trap during a walk in Corinth, Vermont. Her emotional agony and her dog’s physical agony can only be imagined as she had to carry her dying pet,**

still in the trap, back to her car. “Relatively uncommon?” How common does it have to be to become a priority, and for what?]

4. Hiking or walking trail and public highway setbacks: The language of A.159 on this issue directs that rules be made for, “... *the placing of traps for purposes other than nuisance trapping at a safe distance, from public trails, class 4 roads, playgrounds, parks, and other public locations where persons may reasonably be expected to recreate.*” This is largely an issue of, again, pet safety with the goal of reducing the chances of mainly dogs being caught in traps while recreating with their owners.

a. “No traps on designated hiking or walking trail beds on any public land.” This was the VTA’s initial proposal during one of the WG meetings on trail setbacks and even their representative seemed a bit embarrassed after offering it. One might ask why this is even mentioned if there is going to be a setback rule. The answer may be that contrary to the legislative charge of A.159, these draft proposals, in clear violation of the legislative charge, contain no setback rules for foothold traps on most public trails or public areas in the state.

b. “No foothold traps on or within 25 feet of the traveled portion of a trail on state-owned public land excluding Wildlife Management Areas unless in the water or 5’ above the ground.” As was mentioned by VWC’s Chair in the WG meetings, this restriction to state-owned land excluding WMAs, is arbitrary and extreme to the point of rendering any setback useless. Applying to only 3.66% of land in Vermont and only 25% of public lands, such a “safety measure” becomes almost an “attractive nuisance” by creating a false and misleading sense of security by being publicized.

Secondarily, VWC would also point out that the distance of 25 feet is insufficient. Even a well-mannered dog will take a second or two to travel 25 feet to check out a scent-baited trap. Even on lead (*and Vermont has no leash law, though such regulations would arguably create de facto leash laws for hundreds of thousands of Vermonters for the sake of the recreation of a few hundred trappers*), commonly owned Flexi-Leads for larger dogs extend to 26 feet as was clearly communicated at the WG meetings. This proposal is very disappointing.

c. “No body-gripping trap set 50’ from a road or trail unless it is in the water or more than 5’ off the ground or in a dog-proof set (described above).” Finally, maybe a proposal that might have served as a discussion point in the WG meetings. It is a tenth of our proposed 500-foot setback and 5X the VTA’s proposed 10’ setback so there is something to dislike for everyone – a sure sign of a compromise in the offing! Flipping the proportions around to 400 feet less than our proposal (1/5 of our original) and 90 feet more than the VTA proposal (10X their original) yields a 100-foot setback (which is not that far; only 30 – 40 strides for a six-foot human). That might have flown – IF, the “...*road or trail*...” applies to all public trails, Class-4 roads, and public areas per A.159. As it is written, that is vague and would need to be clarified – and made to comply with A.159. Even so, as it is, it is the best attempt at compromise in all these bullet points.

d. “Department agrees to develop brochures for trail kiosks and a video link that will address the release of dogs from a foot old or body-gripping trap.” VWC agrees completely.

e. **“We will also recommend that this will be added to trapper education courses.”** Fine.

5. “Humane Dispatch” Tabled. While the characterization of this action in the draft proposals as having been “unanimous” is technically correct, it ignores the written objections/reservations made by VWC immediately after the meeting in which the vote on this was taken.

Conclusion: VWC entered this Working Group effort with guarded hope for some positive movement toward common ground. Meeting people and talking to them had some positive effects and maybe, in the future, some progress can yet result from those personal contacts. However, regarding the specific charge of the WG under A. 159, in sum, what we found instead was a biased structure, a biased presentation, biased meeting procedures, and biased draft proposals, purportedly distilled from the WG meetings. These biases, throughout this entire process, were exclusively in favor of recreational trapping. As first steps go, this effort resulted in uselessly small baby steps and failed to meet the charge and intent of Act 159.

Sincerely, the Board of the Vermont Wildlife Coalition:

Chair: Rob Mullen

Vice Chair: Dave Kelley

Board member: Gerri Huck

Board member: Jane Hoffman

Board member: Claudia Mucklow

Board member: Melissa Hoffman

From: bugdoc012000@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Hiedi Tan <bugdoc012000@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2023 11:13 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Dr. Hiedi Tan
bugdoc012000@yahoo.com

From: Carol Hatcher <czhflyingbear@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 2, 2023 12:28 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

From: ericamunn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Erica Munn
<ericamunn@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 2, 2023 12:30 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Erica Munn
1680 Vine St Los Angeles, CA 90028-8804 ericamunn@hotmail.com

From: Kara Evarts <evartsk@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 9, 2023 9:52 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165

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As a Vermont resident and wildlife advocate, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: joanntrupiano@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of JoAnn Trupiano <joanntrupiano@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2023 10:06 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
JoAnn Trupiano
3470 Bent Rd Kodak, TN 37764-2317
joanntrupiano@yahoo.com

From: lillianrdaly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lillian Daly
<lillianrdaly@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2023 1:12 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Lillian Daly
4427 Deerpath Ln Philadelphia, PA 19154-4320 lillianrdaly@gmail.com

From: lindag2012@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Linda Gallaher
<lindag2012@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 6:59 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Dr. Linda Gallaher
6005 SW 18th Court Rd Ocala, FL 34471
lindag2012@gmail.com

From: lindag2012@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Linda Gallaher
<lindag2012@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 6:47 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Dr. Linda Gallaher
6005 SW 18th Court Rd Ocala, FL 34471
lindag2012@gmail.com

From: lisaleah13haut@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lisa Haut <lisaleah13haut@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 5:37 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lisa Haut
1525 Noble Ave Apt 2 Bridgeport, CT 06610-1692 lisaleah13haut@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Luciana Redolfi
<luciredo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 1:35 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 1:29 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 1:16 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 1:10 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 1:04 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 12:25 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 12:09 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 12:04 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 12:00 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Luciana Redolfi
<luciredo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 11:49 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 11:39 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 11:31 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 11:18 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:26 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Luciana Redolfi
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Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:21 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Luciana Redolfi
<luciredo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:10 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Luciana Redolfi
<luciredo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 5:05 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Luciana Redolfi
<luciredo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 5:04 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Luciana Redolfi
<luciredo@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 6:50 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: marinariss@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Marina Ris
<marinariss@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 4:00 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Ms Marina Ris
marinariss@gmail.com

From: paulajero7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Paula Jerome
<paulajero7@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 4, 2023 6:20 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

[You don't often get email from paulajero7@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Miss Paula Jerome
124 Murray St Auburn, NY 13021-1344
paulajero7@yahoo.com

From: planetjulija@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Julija Merljak
<planetjulija@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2023 6:38 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Julija Merljak
18 Rooibekkie St Fairplay, CO 80440
planetjulija@yahoo.com

From: plattipus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mayura Samath
<plattipus@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 1:33 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Mayura Samath
2913 QUADRA St Victoria, 58213
plattipus@telus.net

From: specbuilder@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Al Paris
<specbuilder@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 5:57 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Mr. Al Paris
2963 Chatsworth Blvd San Diego, CA 92106-1475 specbuilder@yahoo.com

From: susan.joyce86@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Susan Joyce <susan.joyce86@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 9:17 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Susan Joyce
susan.joyce86@yahoo.co.uk

From: susan.joyce86@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Susan Joyce <susan.joyce86@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 9:16 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

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Sincerely,
Susan Joyce
susan.joyce86@yahoo.co.uk

From: susanwheaton23@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Susan Wheaton <susanwheaton23@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 1, 2023 1:16 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

[You don't often get email from susanwheaton23@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Ms Susan Wheaton
435 Freeway Dr Napa, CA 94558-5881
susanwheaton23@gmail.com

From: tinis670604@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tina Sahlstrom
<tinis670604@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 11:12 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations

[You don't often get email from tinis670604@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Miss Tina Sahlstrom
tinis670604@icloud.com

From: [Catherine Cooper-Ellis](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 11:11:06 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Please ban leg hold traps

Catherine cooper-Ellis

From: Connolly, Abigail
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 2:04 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: FW: 2023 Furbearer Rule Comments
Attachments: VTC Furbearer Rule 2023.pdf



Abigail Connolly (she/her) | Principal Assistant to Commissioner Herrick
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources | Department of Fish & Wildlife
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 | Montpelier, VT 05620
802-828-1454 (o) | 802-636-7414 (c)
abigail.connolly@vermont.gov
www.vtfishandwildlife.com

Written communications to and from state employees regarding state business are considered public records and may be subject to public scrutiny.

From: Mike Covey <mcovey802@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 1:32 PM
To: mcovey802@gmail.com
Cc: Frazier, Allison <Allison.Frazier@partner.vermont.gov>; Ferland, Brad <Brad.Ferland@partner.vermont.gov>; Bailey, Brian <Brian.Bailey@partner.vermont.gov>; McCarthy, Bryan <Bryan.McCarthy@partner.vermont.gov>; Deen, David <David.Deen@partner.vermont.gov>; Dragon, Jamie <Jamie.Dragon@partner.vermont.gov>; Sweeny, Jay <Jay.Sweeny@partner.vermont.gov>; Scott, Mark <Mark.Scott@vermont.gov>; VanBuren, Martin <Martin.VanBuren@partner.vermont.gov>; Bancroft, Michael <Michael.Bancroft@partner.vermont.gov>; Kolsun, Michael <Michael.Kolsun@partner.vermont.gov>; Hogan, Neal <Neal.Hogan@vermont.gov>; Burnham, Nicholas <Nicholas.Burnham@partner.vermont.gov>; Noel, Paul <Paul.Noel@partner.vermont.gov>; Patterson, Robert <Robert.Patterson1@partner.vermont.gov>; Herrick, Christopher <Christopher.Herrick@vermont.gov>; Sausville, David <David.Sausville@vermont.gov>
Subject: 2023 Furbearer Rule Comments

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello All,

Attached please find the Vermont Traditions Coalition comments on the proposed furbearer rule changes.

My Best Regards,

Mike Covey
Executive Director
Vermont Traditions Coalition
802-461-3786



P. O. Box 323
Williamstown, VT 05679

mcovey802@gmail.com
www.VermontTraditions.org



June 29, 2023

The Department may disagree, but their role is to discuss biological needs, not to make socially driven decisions. The board has, and must in this case, exercise their authority to direct the rulemaking process. While the board should always be subordinate to biological realities, it should not cater to a fear of reprisal and create arbitrary barriers as a result.

There are several issues with the proposal already brought forth by the Department that must be addressed by action of the board, and further proposals contemplated by the Department that should be discarded summarily as impractical and unnecessary. Attached are the rule changes that were voted on by the Fish and Wildlife Board on April 5th available [here](#), as well as the proposed changes to the furbearer rule since the vote in April (these can be found [here](#)).

I will begin with the trapping proposal and close with issues in the coyote hunting proposal. Regarding the trapping sections, the Vermont Traditions Coalition (VTC) supports the changes outlined here by Vermont Trappers Association (VTA) Vice-President Bruce Martin with my additional clarifications and commentary:

Some of the language that was passed in this (April 5) vote was proposed by the Vermont Trappers Association as part of improvements to incorporate Best Management Practices (BMPs) to our on-land sets as we feel that BMPs, which are a result of decades of study, are beneficial and promote animal welfare. There are some items in the first vote which need to be revised.

As currently voted on, item 4.5(b) reads: *Foothold traps on land must “Be anchored with a maximum of 18” chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock springs can be added to the chain system”.*

The language should read, *“Be anchored with a minimum of 12” and maximum of 18” chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock springs can be added to the chaining system.”*

As currently voted on, item 4.5(C) reads: *Foothold traps set on land must “Be padded or offset and laminated with a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16th of an inch or fully encapsulate the foot.”*

This language is incorrect and has been flagged for change. The language should read, *“Jaws must be padded, offset, laminated, have a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16 of an inch, or fully encapsulate the foot.”*

Other changes of note:

The department may propose to revise section 4.6 that prohibits “meat-based baited body-gripping traps” on the ground to allow no body-gripping traps on the ground without being set within a specified, anchored, enclosure no more than 60 square inch opening and the trap recessed a minimum of 12”. This would prohibit the use of all body-gripping traps on the ground, including blind sets for raccoon, beaver, muskrat, and mink. In many cases, a body-gripping in a brushy trail set is the most effective, and humane, trap that can be set as footholds should not be set without an area free of obstructions. This change cannot be supported. The proposal comes from an unsubstantiated concern about harm to pets. To my knowledge there have been two dogs killed in body gripping traps in the last decade, both of which were set illegally. With 2 million trap hours on the landscape every year, regulated trapping is not the problem here, nor will this address the actual problem of poachers setting where they should not and when they should not.

*Item 4.17 may see a proposed change to prohibit any trap being set within 50’ of the travel portion of a town trail, public trail, or highway unless set in the water. This is changed from the original language supported by the Board which allowed foothold traps to be set within 25’ of these locations and did not include the “town trail’ language. **These changes, should they be proposed, should not be supported.***

*There is a change needed to this section, however. **4.17 currently reads,** “No foothold traps can be set on or within 25’ of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless set in a culvert, in the water, at least 5’ above the ground. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.” **The provision allowing setting footholds 5’ above the ground must be removed. There is no reason or value in setting a foothold in an elevated location as it would invariably be harmful to the welfare of any animal captured in that manner.***

***4.17 should read,** “No foothold traps can be set on or within 25’ of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless set in a culvert or in the water. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.”*

The Vermont Trappers Association directors discussed these changes and believe that the verbiage that was voted on for items 4.5(b) and (c) and 4.17 need to be revised as outlined above. In addition, no additional changes should be made to the trapping regulations that were voted on April 5th. The original proposal was sound, excepting the language changes the VTA has prescribed here, and the Fish and Wildlife Department is going too far with the proposed changes they are contemplating adding to the regulation as voted on April 5.

Trappers, as all humans, have our opinions on what we think should happen with these proposed changes but the Trappers Association did make recommendations to support BMPs as we all see animal welfare as extremely important this is why BMP's were developed. While this has gone far beyond our initial recommendation resulting from the passage of the bill proposed to the legislature by VTF&W, we can still support it as long as it goes no further. We as trappers, and hunters, and fishers, are passionate about the animals that we share the outdoors with and

show a great appreciation for them. We are portrayed as non-caring individuals which is the exact opposite of what we are. For that reason, we support the trapping language modifications as we have outlined here as necessary but must speak out against changes expected to be proposed by the Department since the April 5th meeting.

I would further note that beyond Mr. Martin's notes, section 4.18 is likely to cause significant issues in our urban centers where trapping is regularly used to address wildlife conflicts, specifically with two of our rabies vector species (raccoon and skunk). Most urban areas prohibit the discharge of firearms, and a .22 caliber firearm is the general standard tool for dispatch. It was mentioned to me that this is why bow and crossbow were included as tools for dispatch, but **at least one prominent municipality prohibits firing any projectile, even a slingshot**. Couple this with the fact that nobody is going to use a bow or crossbow for furbearer dispatch, and what this section represents is nothing short of a prohibition on trapping in urban areas where there is frequently an outsized need for this activity. I don't know anyone who is going to be willing to dispatch skunks by shooting as they very commonly spray when shot. **The American Veterinary Medical Association discusses many dispatch mechanisms commonly decried by animal rights activists as being appropriate mechanisms of dispatch; some as stand alone mechanisms such as CO exposure from gasoline engine exhaust or lethal injection, and even "manually applied blunt force trauma to the head" (clubbing as the anti-hunting crowd likes to refer to it). In fact, in the case of animals that have been stunned (see previous) the AVMA also acknowledges "thoracic compression" as a humane method of dispatch.**

I have it in their own words in emails sent from leadership of the anti-hunting movement to Michael Moser at the UVM center for Rural Studies (regarding their 2017 Vermonter Poll questions), that they use what they refer to as "persuasive language" in their discourse. "Steel-jawed body-crushing", "bludgeoning", "steel-jawed leg-hold", "stomp(ing) on the animal's chest", and so on **are all crafted terms designed to make the listener recoil... even if the dispatch method is endorsed by the AVMA**. Let's not fall into that trap and create unforeseen consequences for Vermont communities based on the persuasive language of activists, but rather understand **that dispatch by gunshot is the standard, and preferred method, but some situations either practically or legally preclude it and other mechanisms are required.**

In summary, Section 4.18 Dispatch of Trapped Animals should simply read: Dispatch of Trapped Animals: Upon discovery, a trapper shall immediately dispatch a live trapped furbearer in any manner consistent with AVMA humane dispatch guidelines. This provision may be amended upon receipt of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies recommendations regarding humane dispatch. This subsection shall not be interpreted to prevent a trapper from releasing an unharmed captured animal, or a domestic pet that requires treatment.

Moving on to the section on coyote hunting, there are further problems to be addressed. The following are the VTC comments on those sections.

In the definitions section we see the following issues:

3.1 reads "Accompany" for the purpose of pursuing coyote with hounds means that:

- a) Any person engaged in the control, handling, transporting, or intercepting of dogs used for taking coyote with the aid of dogs shall be under the direct supervision of the permit holder and shall be considered a "Sub-permittee", and
- b) A Sub-permittee who is in any way involved in the use or handling of taking coyotes with the aid of dogs shall be under the direct control and supervision of the coyote dog permit holder, including the ability to Z communicate with each other without the aid of artificial devices such as radios or binoculars, except for medically necessary devices such as hearing aids or eyeglasses.

This must be amended to remove the prohibition against the use of communication devices as preventing communication only increases the chance of unintentional conflicts making this a terrible idea.

It should read, "Accompany" for the purpose of pursuing coyote with hounds means that: .

- a) Any person engaged in the control, handling, transporting, or intercepting of dogs used for taking coyote with the aid of dogs shall be under the supervision of the permit holder and shall be considered a "Sub-permittee", and
- b) A Sub-permittee who is in any way involved in the use or handling of taking coyotes with the aid of dogs shall either be in visual and direct control of or possess a means of communication with the coyote dog permit holder.

Pack of dogs in section 3.11 should be amended to read. "Pack of dogs" means one to **six** dogs, acting as a unit during taking coyote with the aid of dogs.", **rather than limiting packs to four. There is no biological basis for this arbitrarily low pack size restriction.**

In 4.22.4:

Section a(4) states that, "The Commissioner may deny any person a permit in their sole discretion." This is poorly thought-out language as a future commissioner who disliked hunting dogs could end the practice by simply refusing to issue any permits.

Section a(4) should be amended to read, "(4) Permit applicants must hold a valid Vermont hunting license."

Section a(5) reads, "(5) Any person training, hunting, pursuing, harvesting, or in any manner involved in the taking of a coyote with the aid of dogs must hold a valid Coyote Dog Permit issued by the Department, or accompany a Coyote Dog Permit holder. The Permit shall be carried at all times by the permittee while taking coyote with the aid of dogs, and exhibited to a game warden, landowner, or law enforcement officer upon demand."

Section a(5) should be amended to read, "(5) Any person training, hunting, pursuing, harvesting, or in any manner involved in the taking of a coyote with the aid of dogs must either

possess a valid Coyote Dog Permit issued by the Department, or be accompanying a valid Coyote Dog Permit holder. The Permit shall be carried at all times by the permittee while taking coyote with the aid of dogs, and exhibited to a game warden, landowner, or law enforcement officer upon demand." This simply makes the language clearer.

Section (d)(5) should be amended to read, "(5) Two or more permit holders may hunt together and combine Department Registered dog(s) to form a Pack of Dogs. The combined Coyote Dog Permit holders shall not take coyote with the aid of more than **six dogs combined forming a single pack of dogs. The combined Coyote Dog Permit holders shall not possess any Unregistered Dogs while hunting, pursuing, or taking coyote with the aid of their dogs."**

Finally, 4.22.4 b) should be amended to read, "**b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through **April 15**, all dates inclusive."**

My Best Regards,

Mike Covey
Executive Director
Vermont Traditions Coalition
802-461-3786

From: Brenna Wright <brenshhr@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 12:56 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations.
Attachments: H191 BW vermont.pdf

You don't often get email from brenshhr@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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My name is Brenna Wright and I am writing to you from the town of Stockbridge,VT

I joined the call on June 22nd in regards to the new laws and regulations for trapping and coyote hunting. First of all I want to say how appalled I am that you would even consider trapping in any way humane. Putting an animal thru any kind of pain for sport is INHUMANE. To say its been tested on 9,000 animals. You are really ok with that? . Have you tested it on yourselves or a fellow loved one?

There are better ways to manage wildlife and protect wildlife, such as working with groups and private citizens who would like to create wildlife sanctuaries. To say it's up to a private citizen to post the land to keep hunters and trappers out is ridiculous .

There is a majority of vermonters who are against all of this and the majority should rule. Not the few hunters,trappers that enjoy chasing bears with cubs, seeing an animal lie in a trap chewing its leg off. There is no economic benefit from any of them..Have any one you actually watched a video of the fear these animals are going through? Have you watched a coyote, bear cub, fox kit be clubbed to death? My guess is not. I also know that some in VT fish and wildlife , as well as Vt legislators practice this kind of inhumane behaviour,

As a tax payer in Vermont and a Vermont citizen I am 100 percent against both bills, and I will not support VT fish and Wildlife in torture of animals and the total disregard for the majority of Vermonters who are against this.

Brenna Wright
Stockbridge VT



A body-crushing trap snapped on Clara's neck, strangling her.

H.191, An Act Related to Trapping

Every year in Vermont, traps injure, maim & kill targeted animals like bobcats & otters, as well as non-targeted animals like raptors & people's pets, as seen here.

H.191 restricts the use of leghold, drowning & body-crushing kill traps.

What H.191 Does:

- Prohibits the recreational trapping of ***furbearing animals** (According to VT Fish & Wildlife's 2022 survey, 68% of Vermonters oppose recreational trapping)
 - Per UVM's Center for Rural Studies 2017 poll, 75% of Vermonters want leghold and body-crushing kill traps banned
- Ends commerce in fur and pelts from trapped animals—According to VT Fish & Wildlife's 2022 survey, 62% of Vermonters oppose trapping for fur and clothing
- Ends the common practice of bludgeoning, strangling, drowning and other inhumane methods of killing trapped furbearers
- Mandates reporting of all furbearers trapped & killed
- Requires training & permitting for nuisance wildlife control operators
- Requires taking practicable, non-lethal measures to prevent recurrence of damage from furbearing animals (e.g. installing water control devices)

What H.191 Does Not Do:

- DOES NOT prevent farmers from trapping to protect their property, crops or animals
- DOES NOT prevent landowners from trapping to protect their property or animals from damage
- DOES NOT prevent state, federal, or municipal government officials to trap when necessary to address an imminent public health or safety threat or an imminent threat to property
- DOES NOT prevent state, federal, or municipal government officials to trap animals when necessary for conservation work to protect threatened or endangered species.
- DOES NOT stop your ability to hire somebody to trap a nuisance animal on your property
- DOES NOT impact Vermonters' ability to trap non-furbearer species such as mice, rats, groundhogs etc.

**Furbearers: beaver, otter, mink, raccoon, fisher, grey fox, red fox, skunk, muskrat, bobcat, coyote, weasel, opossum*

From: DAmico, Gerald <gerry.damico@aecom.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 7:58 AM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Cc: Jerry D'Amico
Subject: comment on furbearer rule
Attachments: D'Amico comments to F&WB_062223.docx

You don't often get email from gerry.damico@aecom.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Comments to the VT Fish & Wildlife Committee – Hearing on adopting BMPS

I want to speak on behalf of adopting Best Management Practices into the VT Trapping Regulations. I am a trapper, I began trapping in the 1960s. I am a member of the Vermont Trappers Association and I was involved with the VTA as we discussed how best to include better practices to address legitimate concerns about safety and the welfare of trapped animals. The VTA spend many months discussing and developing *Best Management Practices aka* BMPs, which we presented to the VT Fish & Wildlife Board in 2021.

At the open public hearings you heard from the recreational lobbyists from several anti-hunting and anti-trapping groups about the cruelty of trapping and other arguments that trapping should not be allowed. But this hearing should only have been about the merits of adopting these BMPs.

One of their arguments will be that these regulations are unenforceable This is a specious argument, at best, since responsible people act responsibly ... when these BMPs are adopted, the trappers I know will follow the regulations. The VTA does not condone irresponsible trapping. Most of their arguments will be describing 'one of' cases. Examples that could or may have occurred by irresponsible trappers. As I mentioned the VTA does not condone irresponsible trapping and works with law enforcement to have these people punished. I have never heard any of these anti-groups disassociate themselves from the eco-terrorists in their group.

*Some of the language that was passed by the F&W Board was proposed by the Vermont Trappers Association to incorporate BMPs to traps set on land are a result of decades of study, are beneficial and promote animal welfare. There are some items as presently being considered that **need** to be revised. I'll speak to four of these:*

1. *Item 4.5(C) reads: Foothold traps set on land must "Be padded or offset and laminated with a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16th of an inch or fully encapsulate the foot."*

*The language should read: "**Be padded, offset, laminated, or have a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16th of an inch.**"*

2. *Item 4.5 (f): I understand that use of drags has been stricken from the proposed regulation. I recommend that the original language incorporating the use of drags be included in the BMPs. Drags allow a captured animal to move away from the site of capture and hide in the brush, thus limiting his exposure to passersby and providing a sense of security to the animal.*
3. *Item 4.17: I understand that there is a proposal to change the setback from town trails and public roads from 25' to 50'.*

If you are going to include a setback from town trails or public highways, I recommend that it be consistent with the 25' setback included in the hunting regulations. My family owns nearly 2,000 linear feet of town road frontage. A 50 foot setback would encumber almost 2 acres of our private property.

4. Item 4.18: Dispatch of trapped animals. The proposed regulation allows for dispatch of trapped animals only by shooting with gun/muzzleloader/bow. I recommend that the use of lethal injection be included in the regulations. Lethal injection is considered humane in that it is quick. Lethal injection is used in urban settings and for the dispatch of skunks. Shooting skunks almost always ensures that they will release their odor.

In addition, I would like to speak in favor of continuing the hunting of coyotes with hounds. I have not hunted coyotes with hounds, but I support this activity. In Massachusetts, where limited trapping and hunting opportunities exist, there have been numerous recent accounts of coyotes attacking people. Because of these animals are not hunted, they have lost their fear of man. Hounding reinforces that fear of man in wild animals ... and this fear will likely reduce animal/human conflicts.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my views.

Jerry D'Amico
Roxbury, VT.

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Thank you for the opportunity to present my views.

Jerry D'Amico
Roxbury, VT.

From: jennifer lovett <jagl815@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 2:58 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Act 159 and Act 165: Trapping and Hounding Public Comments
Attachments: Do Best Management Practices Really Improve Animal Welfare.docx

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.
To the Fish and Wildlife Department,

As a conservation biologist, living in Starksboro, who has done a great deal of work related to beavers and coyotes, I am writing to comment on the proposed changes to BMPs for trapping (Act 159) and the proposed regulations on coyote hounding (Act 165). I consider both policies to be egregious, biased, and useless. Neither Act is based on sound, peer reviewed science, and neither reflects the obvious consensus of Vermont landowners and taxpayers.

I would like to remind the FWD of your mission as it is stated on your website: **The mission of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is the conservation of all species of fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the people of Vermont.**

This statement does not say that wildlife is to be exclusively managed according to the desires of hunters, trappers, and anglers. But, in fact that is the reality here in Vermont. Actual conservation takes a consistent back seat to the exploitation of wildlife for recreational hunters and trappers. Those of us who prefer science-based, humane, and ecologically sound wildlife and habitat management are frequently labelled "antis" by the department. Recently, at a public comment hearing in Montpelier, advocates were referred to as "eco terrorists" by a member of the VT Trappers Association. He was not reprimanded for this offensive name-calling. In fact, when his comment was challenged by another meeting participant, that person was hushed by Mark Scott. It really is discouraging to know the extent of bias toward special interest groups that regulates FWD policy and behavior. And, frankly, it reflects very poorly on the Department when you appear threatened and fearful of anyone who opposes your opinions or policies. There is a real lack of professionalism and informed action on your part.

There are many reasons to object to **Act 165** and far more to object to the current open season and nonsensical persecution of coyotes in Vermont. This important species delivers several valuable eco-services, including rodent control, tick control (and hence tick-borne disease mitigation), dispersal of native plant seeds at a time when invasives are threatening native species, control of meso-predator populations, carrion and winter-kill clean-up, and removal of diseased and injured deer from the growing herd. The knowledge of coyote behavior and biology, as is outlined on your own website, demonstrates that killing this species not only results in greater population numbers but it also increases conflicts with humans, livestock, and domestic animals. The science is very clear and very well established. To control coyote populations and behavior toward non-native prey, the only effective means is coexistence. You, the FWD, should be educating farmers and the public about strategies to protect livestock and pets that are based on coexistence with local packs, hazing, fencing, guard animals, etc.. Hunting, especially targeting alpha coyotes, is counterproductive, as you apparently know.

Hounding is a particularly inhumane and environmentally toxic activity that serves no purpose other than to appease and entertain hounders. Their dogs cannot be controlled with GPS collars; shock collars are also ineffective and inhumane. If the dogs are not visible to the hounder, he cannot effectively manage their behavior or know what victims they are pursuing or tormenting. This should be unacceptable for any organization mandated to protect wildlife and habitat. The dogs are free to trespass on private and posted land and they disturb ground nesting birds, small mammals, and young wildlife dependent on their parents. Landowner rights are meaningless in the context of hounding. Summer weather is often too hot for both dogs and their prey to be running at full speed for miles. This activity is simply cruel ---- to the coyotes, their abandoned and potentially orphaned offspring, other collateral victims of the chase, as well as the hounds themselves who are often injured and abused.

As an example of the misdirected nature of Act 165, I refer to text section 3A:

"The General Assembly through the rules required under this section intends to reduce conflicts between landowners and persons pursuing coyote with the aid of dogs by reducing the frequency that dogs or persons pursuing coyote enter onto land that is posted against hunting or land where pursuit of coyote with dogs is not authorized. In addition, the General Assembly intends that the rules required under this section support the humane taking of coyote, the management of the population in concert with sound ecological principles, and the development of reasonable and effective means of control."

The statement highlighted in red completely contradicts the reality of hounding. There is no ecological basis for, or humane means of "taking" (i.e.: killing) coyotes by chasing them for miles, often away from their territory and offspring, with packs of trained hounds (4 hounds to one coyote). And because, clearly no effective means to control packs of dogs running through the landscape after prey exists, Act 165 has no basis and should be nullified. Because all science regarding coyote behavior, biology, and management, supports coexistence and not hunting as the best means to control numbers and human conflicts, hounding coyotes should not be legal in Vermont. The current moratorium on coyote hounding should be revised to a permanent ban. If you must appease your coyote-hating followers, create a closed coyote hunting season in the winter.

With regards to **Act 159**, it is discouraging to know that the FWD dismisses its responsibilities to the majority of VTers who clearly disapprove of recreational trapping. This has been demonstrated more than once with perhaps the most relevant being the results of the recent survey done by the FWD in which almost 70% of respondents said they disapprove of trapping. In my experience, I have met many VTers, from all walks of life, who were completely unaware that trapping and hounding take place and were horrified to hear that these activities are legal. You are clearly NOT fulfilling your mandate to the people of Vermont.

I have researched BMPs and authored a clarification paper (literature review) for Protect Our Wildlife about the current science related to this issue. I have attached my sourced paper below. The conclusion reached by most wildlife biologists and animal welfare organizations is that BMPs do not work. There are many reasons for this including: the lack of monitoring and enforcement of trappers, the inherent sadism (extreme physical injuries) and resulting trauma of restraining a wild animal for hours in a leghold trap, the truly indiscriminate nature of trapping, the toll it takes on non-target (often endangered species or domestic animals), and the lack of a science-based rationale. There is certainly no valid reason for recreational trapping, and it directly conflicts with several tenets of the honored NAMWC that the VT FWD claims to adhere to.

I am all about science and it's distressing to see so much important and current research routinely ignored by the FWD. Given the current dire situation regarding the climate crisis and the associated loss of biodiversity. It seems to me, as a conservation biologist, that the FWD should be prioritizing strategies to mitigate habitat loss, the effects of extreme weather events, drought, and pollution. The FWD should be focusing its resources and energy on resolving human and wildlife conflicts through coexistence rather than promoting exploitation and recreational killing. There are many recent peer reviewed studies demonstrating the value of beavers in ecosystems to protect water quality, promote biodiversity, and the ability of beaver wetlands to mitigate drought, wildfire, and floods. A recent large multi-year study in Ontario concluded that hunting bears does little to deter human-bear conflicts. They concluded that coexistence is a much better strategy to manage this important species. It goes on and on, study after study, and yet the FWD continues to perpetuate and support a culture that belongs in the history books. Your actions cater to a small number of people and, by doing so, infringe on the rights of everyone else and endanger our children's and grandchildren's futures.

Thank you,

Jennifer Lovett
Starksboro, VT
802-453-6715



Sender notified by _____
Mailtrack

Do Best Management Practices Really Improve Animal Welfare?

Every year well over six million wild animals are trapped and killed for their fur in the United States. Despite a decline in the global demand and price for fur, and growing public opposition to inhumane trapping methods, the United States remains one of the world's leaders in the number of wild animals killed every year by trapping. In addition to supporting an increasingly obsolete fur industry, millions of animals are unnecessarily trapped, maimed, tortured, and killed under the guise of "predator control" or simply as a recreational activity.

There are no Federal trapping regulations. Trapping regulations are established at the state level and vary dramatically from little or no restrictions to outright bans on the trapping of wildlife. In Vermont, licensed trappers are allowed to trap beaver, muskrat, mink, gray fox, red fox, coyote, raccoon, skunk, river otter, weasels, bobcat, opossum, and fishers. Steel-jaw leghold (also referred to as foothold traps), body-gripping Conibear™ "quick kill" traps, and cage traps are all legal in Vermont. Snares, AKA cable restraints, are illegal for in-season trappers. A trapper education course is required with a license. There are regulations, such as daily trap checks, but the inherent nature of trapping, as well as the fact that it often occurs on private lands, makes enforcement of any regulations challenging. As in the rest of the country, Best Management Practices (BMPs) are currently recommended but not mandatory in Vermont. (18)

The Evolution of the BMP program

The BMP program is an ongoing process of evaluating various traps and devices for restraining, killing, or in rare cases relocating, wildlife. In response to pressure from the European Union (EU) to outlaw steel jaw leghold traps, BMPs were developed by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), a national organization that advocates for fish, game, and wildlife agencies across the country (Vermont Fish & Wildlife is a member.) The EU sought to exert economic pressure on countries using steel-jaw traps due to animal welfare concerns and sought to prohibit countries from exporting fur from 13 species of animals to the EU. The BMP process evolved out of necessity in response to the public's growing opposition to trapping and pressure from the EU, not out of genuine concern for animal welfare. (20)

Over 100 countries have banned the use of steel-jaw traps, including the EU, the UK, China, Rwanda, Mexico, Iraq, and Somalia (2, 6, 11). The American Animal Hospital Association, Animal Welfare Institute, and other organizations have all condemned steel-jaw traps (2, 20).

BMP's Claims and the Reality

CLAIM: As stated in AFWA's *Introduction to Best Management Practices for Trapping in the United States*, BMPs "provide wildlife management professionals in the United States with the data necessary to ensure improved animal welfare in trapping programs ... Trapping BMPs identify both techniques and traps that address the welfare of trapped animals and allow for the efficient, selective, safe, and practical capture of furbearers." (4, 19).

REALITY: These statements, and the associated extensive trap testing program, sound reasonable if one accepts the concept that trapping can, in any way, be effectively regulated, efficient, selective, or humane. The BMP program has been widely criticized by independent scientists, wildlife professionals, and animal advocacy organizations for being unscientific, self-serving, untransparent, and laden with political agendas and conflicts of interest. (13, 20).

CLAIM: According to AFWA, BMPs "are carefully researched recommendations designed to ensure animals are humanely captured. Developed as part of the largest trap research effort ever conducted, BMPs feature the latest scientific information about trapping techniques and equipment, along with practical advice from experienced trappers and wildlife biologists." (3)

REALITY: From 1997 to 2018 trappers in 33 states were hired to set out certain types of traps, including steel-jaw leghold traps, for 22 species of furbearing species and assist in evaluating the performance of said traps. But the use of trappers to conduct the study has greatly compromised the results. Trappers are not biologists and there was no requirement that biologists accompany them. The presence of bias, subjectivity, and a lack of scientific method clearly skews the results toward the preferences of the trappers, who have a vested interest in the outcome. The collected data and results of the trap testing were never published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal and most of the data is unverifiable.

The inherent flaws of BMPs

BMPs rely on scales of trauma and injury to attempt to assess and quantify animal welfare. Injuries to trapped animals are evaluated on the following trauma categories: mild, moderate, moderately severe, and severe (19). BMP recommended traps are required to result in up to moderate injury in at least 70% of the animals trapped. "Moderate" injury, according to AFWA, includes amputation of one-digit, permanent tooth fracture exposing pulp cavity, severe joint hemorrhage, eye lacerations, rib fractures, major laceration on foot pads or tongue and other injuries. Thus, fully 30% of all animals trapped would suffer severe injuries, such as amputation, compound fractures, severe internal organ damage, spinal cord injury, or death. BMPs clearly allow unacceptable levels of trauma to wildlife. (4)

For traps to be deemed efficient, they must capture and hold the target species 60% of the time (19). Thus, it is acceptable for victims to escape after springing the trap 40% of the time, possibly with severe, life-threatening injuries. Trap efficiency was, and is, only calculated for target species. Data on non-target captures, whether other wild species, protected species, or domestic animals, is not recorded even though trap selectivity is intended to measure the ability of traps to limit the capture of non-target animals. (1, 4, 5)

Traps are, by nature, indiscriminate and BMPs cannot protect unintended victims from traps designed for different targets. Animals can suffer greatly when trapped by devices not designed or intended for their species. For instance, traps set for foxes or coyotes can also catch raptors, raccoons, opossums, dogs, or cats and cause severe trauma which is even greater than the intended target would have experienced (1, 9).

The American Veterinary Medical Association stated the following about modern trap designs and improved procedures for setting traps, "Swelling, hemorrhage, and lacerations still occur, and post-release survival may be impaired even by relatively minor injuries." (1)

The BMP evaluation process for injury and trauma fails to incorporate behavioral or physiological responses as measures of welfare, such as cortisol levels. Nor does it account for the compounding effect of multiple injuries. Some injuries that can cause severe pain (e.g. broken teeth) are minimized while others may be misidentified or entirely overlooked. There is no consideration of how long an injury was present before the animal was killed, or the long-term impacts of injuries to animals who escape, or to non-target animals who are released. And finally, BMPs do not provide guidelines on how animals, once caught, should be killed. (20)

Stated concerns for animal welfare in BMPs are duplicitous at best. The methods for killing wildlife trapped in leghold traps are only suggested and are often extremely inhumane. Clubbing, suffocation (usually by standing on the animal's chest), drowning or strangulation are methods used by fur trappers to preserve the pelt from bullet holes.

Animal welfare standards for Conibear™ style body gripping "quick kill" traps allow 30% of trapped animals to suffer for undetermined periods of time. Consequently, up to 70% of the trapped animals are allowed to suffer for an excruciating five minutes prior to losing consciousness (4, 5) to meet the standard. These baited traps may be set on land and are only required to be set five feet off the ground if the jaw spread is greater than eight inches.

Bodygrip, "quick kill" traps rarely function properly. Recent studies show that less than 15 percent of trapped animals die instantly and more than 40 percent usually die slow, painful deaths as unintended body parts such as abdomens, heads or limbs are crushed between the jaws of the trap that slam shut with over ninety pounds of pressure per square inch. In addition, field studies of one popular Conibear™ model revealed that non-target species constitute more than 73 percent of all captures. (5, 6, 10, 16)

Beavers, who are routinely trapped in body-gripping "quick kill" traps underwater, often die by drowning when the trap does not kill them instantly. Beavers can hold their breath for fifteen minutes—the terror experienced by a beaver trapped and held underwater for that length of time could hardly be called humane. In addition, river otters are often caught in traps set for beavers as non-targeted catch.

Clearly, all trapping methods present numerous animal welfare concerns and are traumatic to a restrained wild animal often resulting in prolonged suffering.

BMPs are Unenforceable

Existing trapping regulations are virtually impossible to enforce. There is a chronic shortage of game wardens and enforcement personnel to ensure compliance with existing regulations. Much trapping occurs on private land. Enforcing BMPs, specifically, will be difficult because it is challenging to differentiate a proper BMP practice from a conventional or traditional practice. For example, BMP approved traps look very similar to conventional traps and can be hard to differentiate.

Conclusion: BMPs do not achieve their stated objectives

BMPs fail to achieve meaningful welfare gains for wildlife captured in traps as evidenced by some of the standards set forth by AFWA. They were conceived, studied, and assessed by the very people that they aim to regulate. The BMP process evolved out of pressure to meet global concerns for animal welfare, not out of any altruism on the part of trappers or wildlife agencies. BMPs nationwide are touted to justify trapping, restraining, and killing animals in the face of growing opposition. The fact that very few changes have been made in trap devices over the decades since the BMP program started, indicates that there was little interest in reducing animal suffering and trauma by wildlife agencies. BMPs are hardly more than propaganda or public relations for wildlife agencies.

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From: Joanne Bourbeau (she/her) <jbourbeau@humanesociety.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 2:54 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Attachments: HSUS statement on proposed trapping and coyote hounding rule.docx

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) would like to submit the attached statement in opposition to the proposed rule for Act 159 and Act 165. Thank you.

Joanne Bourbeau

Northeastern Regional Director/State Affairs

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June 28, 2023

To: The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board
ANR.FWPublicComment@vermont.gov

Re: Proposed rule on trapping and coyote hounding, per the directive of Act 159 and Act 165

Members of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board:

My name is Joanne Bourbeau and I'm the northeastern regional director for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). I live in Windham County and represented the HSUS and our members and supporters in Vermont on both the trapping best management practices ("BMPs") and coyote hounding working groups. Thank you for the opportunity to share my comments on the proposed changes to trapping and coyote hounding in Vermont.

While the HSUS appreciated being at the table for these conversations, we find the recommended rule largely ignores the input of the humane groups that were involved. Instead, it just proposes to codify the trappers' and hounders' own ineffectual, self-imposed modifications to current practices. As such, the proposed recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

The proposed rule appears to fall short of the intent of Act 159

Act 159 directed the working group to **consider recommended best management practices (BMPs) designed to modernize trapping and improve the welfare of animals subjected to trapping programs.** However, leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them more humane. For example, the proposal would require leghold traps to be padded or offset, laminated, or have jaws with a minimum thickness of 5/16th of an inch. But researchers find that even if the jaws of leghold traps are covered by padding or a thin strip of rubber, they still cause major injuries in nearly one-half of trapped animals.¹

Act 159 also **requires that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate.** Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation for setbacks is inadequate because it applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks, although an improvement from the 25-foot setback that was initially recommended, still present a danger to the public and their dogs. The wildlife protection representatives on the stakeholder group instead recommended a 500-foot or more setback rule for public trails, class 4 roads, playgrounds, parks and other public locations where persons may reasonably be expected to recreate as a minimum standard for consistency.

¹ Muth, R. M., Zwick, R. R., Mather, M. E., Organ, J. F., Daigle, J. J., & Jonker, S. A. (2006). Unnecessary source of pain and suffering or necessary management tool: Attitudes of conservation professionals toward outlawing leghold traps. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, 34(3), 706-715.

Further, Villeneuve and Proulx (2022) attempted to quantify the hidden world of domestic dogs and cats captured in traps.² They found that the majority of family pet captures occur near urban settings, on trails and in winter.³ They also found that governmental bodies “prefer to keep pertinent data sets [of captured domestic pets] undisclosed.”⁴

Act 159 also directed the stakeholder group to **recommend trapping methods that would avoid nontarget animals**. But as long as body-crushing kill traps are allowed on the ground—including being elevated above the ground—nontarget animals will continue to be victims. We recommended these traps not be allowed on the ground under any circumstances, and be restricted to underwater use only, which would have significantly reduced this concern. However, the VFW proposal still allows traps to be placed at least 5 feet above ground, which will endanger black bears, whose limbs can be crushed when trying to access the baited trap in a tree, as well as endangered pine martens and other non-target species.

Additional requirements such as adjustable pan tension on traps, a limit on the size of a trap’s jaw spread and allowing the use of drag anchors will also not limit the amount of physical and physiological distress that trapped animals regularly endure.

Beausoleil et al. (2022) write that traps can produce “negative or unpleasant mental experiences” on trapped animals including “thirst, hunger, pain, breathlessness and fear,” which causes the animal to react in order to “try to alleviate or rectify the underlying problem,” and these experiences are “detrimental to an animal’s current state of welfare” or their survival.⁵ These “unpleasant experiences” that an animal is unable to rectify either “through behavioral and physiological responses,” such as thirst or fear, harm an animal’s welfare far more than an experience in which an animal can control what is happening to itself.⁶

Confirming earlier studies, Beausoleil et al. (2022) found that while restraining traps (such as leghold traps) that are intended only to hold an animal, can cause death if these traps go unchecked—leaving an animal to die from dehydration or exposure. This is not a quick nor humane death, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association (2013).⁷ Beausoleil et al. (2022) also reiterated that killing traps may not cause a quick death if a non-target animal is captured or if mis-strikes occur, which also has important animal welfare implications.⁸

Act 159 also **directs the establishment of criteria for when and how live, captured animals should be released or killed** (using the euphemism “dispatched”). Vermont Fish and Wildlife proposes that, “Upon discovery, a trapper shall immediately dispatch a live trapped furbearer with a muzzleloader, gun,

² Kimberly A. Villeneuve and Gilbert Proulx, “Impact of wild mammal trapping on dogs and cats: A search into an unmindful and undisclosed world,” in *Mammal Trapping: Wildlife management, animal welfare and international standards*, ed. G. Proulx (Alpha Wildlife Publication, 2022).

³ Villeneuve and Proulx, “Impact of wild mammal trapping on dogs and cats: A search into an unmindful and undisclosed world.”

⁴ Villeneuve and Proulx, “Impact of wild mammal trapping on dogs and cats: A search into an unmindful and undisclosed world,” p. 141.

⁵ Ngaio J. Beausoleil, Sandra E. Baker, and Trudy Sharp, “Scientific Assessment of the Welfare of Trapped Mammals—Key Considerations for the Use of the Sharp and Saunders Humaneness Assessment Model,” *Animals* 12, no. 3 (2022): p. 3-4, <https://www.mdpi.com/2076-2615/12/3/402>.

⁶ Beausoleil, Baker, and Sharp, “Scientific Assessment of the Welfare of Trapped Mammals—Key Considerations for the Use of the Sharp and Saunders Humaneness Assessment Model,” p. 3-4.

⁷ The American Veterinary Medical Association, *AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia* (June 2013).

⁸ Beausoleil, Baker, and Sharp, “Scientific Assessment of the Welfare of Trapped Mammals—Key Considerations for the Use of the Sharp and Saunders Humaneness Assessment Model.”

crossbow, or bow and arrow.” But it weakens this directive by adding that it “...may be amended upon receipt of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies’ recommendations regarding humane dispatch.” However, those current AFWA recommendations are anything but humane, and allow wholly unacceptable killing methods such as bludgeoning, stomping to crush the heart and lungs (using the bloodless term “chest compression), choking, and even drowning. To reiterate, the American Veterinary Medical Association states clearly that *drowning is not a humane form of death*.⁹

So-called “best management practices” may not be what’s best for wildlife

During discussions in the trapping BMPs stakeholder group, the HSUS agreed that the limited BMP recommendations proposed by the Vermont Trappers Association would not *worsen* animal welfare concerns. But we do not agree that they will *improve* animal welfare in any significant way.

Moreover, the use of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency’s (AFWA) Best Management Practices as a guide for Vermont, in whole or in part, is no guarantee that there will any measurable reduction in the suffering that animals in our state endure in traps. The AFWA BMPs were established following the 1995 prohibition on the use of leghold traps in the European Union, which also sought to prevent the export of furs from countries that continued to use those devices, including the U.S. and Canada.¹⁰ However, a compromise was eventually reached, allowing the U.S. to develop voluntary best management practices for trapping without actually moving toward a nationwide prohibition on the use of those devices.

Despite being touted as some kind of humane standard, the BMPs in fact allow for an unacceptable level of harm to trapped animals. This is because they rely on international scales of trauma and injury to assess trapped animal welfare that allow for some severe suffering to individual animals, as long as an average amount of suffering across all animals trapped is below a certain threshold. Notably, one of the scales allows for up to 30% of animals caught in restraining traps, such as leghold traps, to suffer from severe trauma, up to and including death. Animals caught in so-called killing traps, such as body-crushing traps, are allowed to suffer for up to five minutes before becoming permanently unconscious, and up to 30% of those animals can suffer even longer in agonizing pain.

The BMPs also fail to consider a holistic understanding of welfare. They fail to incorporate behavioral or physiological responses as measures of welfare, and they fail to account for the compounding effect of multiple lesser injuries that an animal might incur in the trap. They also assign low and moderate injury scores to some injuries that are capable of causing severe pain, such as a permanent tooth fracture, which by any reasonable measure can cause agonizing pain. The BMPs also allow for some injuries that may not be identified without the use of x-rays, they don’t consider how long an injury is present before the animal is killed, the long-term harms from some injuries for animals who escape or for non-target animals who are released, and they don’t provide guidelines on how animals, once caught, should be killed.

⁹ Ludders, J. W., Schmidt, R. H., Dein, F. J., & Klein, P. N. (1999). Drowning is not euthanasia. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, 27(3), 666-670; the American Veterinary Medical Association: AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals: 2020 Edition at <https://www.avma.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/2020-Euthanasia-Final-1-17-20.pdf>

¹⁰ Tara Zuardo (2017) How the United States was Able to Dodge International Reforms Designed to Make Wildlife Trapping Less Cruel, *Journal of International Wildlife Law & Policy*, 20:1, 101-123, DOI: 10.1080/13880292.2017.1315278

For instance, Gese et al. (2019) compared the usage of leghold traps to foot snares used to capture wolves (for research) and **found that many injuries are impossible to see on live animals and can only be discovered postmortem.**¹¹ Their study showed:

- 61% of wolves who were captured in leghold traps and 5% of wolves captured in cable snares sustained injuries to the feet and legs such as lacerations, punctures, and lost toes.
- 26% of the wolves captured in leghold traps had injuries to their mouths such as cut lips and lost teeth, while 77% of the snared wolves had injuries to their mouths including gum, tongue, and lip injuries.¹²

Their research shows that even under the best conditions in which traps are monitored by researchers, wolves suffer grave bodily harm while restrained in leghold traps or snares. But many of those injuries are not detectable on live animals.

And though the BMPs suggest that specific trap types be used for specific animals, traps are indiscriminate—literally just pieces of spring-loaded metal—and frequently capture non-target animals like family pets and other wildlife.¹³ In particular, the BMPs fail to consider the suffering of other “furbearing” species when they are caught in the wrong trap type. For instance, while a specific type of leghold trap may effectively capture and cause less injury to foxes and coyotes, the same trap can just as easily capture raccoons and opossums, too, and cause much more severe injuries to those species.¹⁴ (In a brand-new study, researchers found that ticks, a favorite opossum prey, could be an important vector for spreading chronic wasting disease.¹⁵)

Finally, an AFWA survey found that trappers rarely follow the BMPs that it had created. Its 2015 report indicated that only 42% of trappers had heard of the BMPs. Of that 42% of trappers, only 66% currently use and plan to continue using the BMPs when they trap.¹⁶ That means that only 28% of all trappers are following the only, and insufficient, guidelines that the trapping industry has established to address animal welfare concerns.

The proposed rule appears to fall short of the intent of Act 165

Hounding, which is the use of packs of dogs to find and pursue coyotes and other wildlife, is considered unsporting even among many hunters because it gives unfair advantage to the hunter.¹⁷ Hounders may

¹¹ Eric M. Gese et al., "Injury scores and spatial responses of wolves following capture: Cable restraints versus foothold traps," *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 43, no. 1 (2019), <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.954>, <https://wildlife.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/wsb.954>.

¹² Gese et al., "Injury scores and spatial responses of wolves following capture: Cable restraints versus foothold traps."

¹³ Beausoleil, Baker, and Sharp, "Scientific Assessment of the Welfare of Trapped Mammals—Key Considerations for the Use of the Sharp and Saunders Humaneness Assessment Model.," G. Iossa, C. D. Soulsbury, and S. Harris, "Mammal trapping: a review of animal welfare standards of killing and restraining traps," *Animal Welfare* 16, no. 3 (Aug 2007), <Go to ISI>://000248518900005 ; S. Harris, C. D. Soulsbury, and G. Iossa, "Trapped by bad science: The Myths behind the International Humane Trapping Standards: A Scientific Review," *International Fund for Animal Welfare*, (Nov. 2005); R. M. Muth et al., "Unnecessary source of pain and suffering or necessary management tool: Attitudes of conservation professionals toward outlawing leghold traps," Article, *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 34, no. 3 (Oct 2006), <Go to ISI>://000242398700020

¹⁴ Iossa, Soulsbury, and Harris, "Mammal trapping: a review of animal welfare standards of killing and restraining traps."

¹⁵ Inzalaco, H.N., Bravo-Risi, F., Morales, R. et al. Ticks harbor and excrete chronic wasting disease prions. *Sci Rep* 13, 7838 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-34308-3>

¹⁶ The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. (2015). Trap use, furbearers trapped, and trapper characteristics in the United States in 2015. Available at https://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/docs/AFWA_Trap_Use_Report_2015.pdf.

¹⁷ C.W. Ryan, J.W. Edwards, and M.D. Duda, "West Virginia residents: Attitudes and opinions toward American black bear hunting," *Ursus* 2 (2009); T. L. Teel, R. S. Krannich, and R. H. Schmidt, "Utah stakeholders' attitudes toward selected cougar and black bear management practices," *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 30, no. 1 (Spr 2002), <Go to ISI>://000175200100002.

attach GPS collars to their dogs, who then run miles ahead and are not under the control of their owners. While pursuing coyotes and other target species, hounds chase, startle, panic and kill non-target wildlife, including deer.¹⁸ They may even chase coyotes into roadways, where oncoming vehicles could strike either species. And hounds invariably trespass on lands—whether on private land or on special refuges such as national parks where hounds are not permitted. This creates strife between landowners and hunters.¹⁹ If the hounding is conducted in the late winter or spring, dependent coyote pups may be orphaned and left to die of starvation or exposure, or may be killed by other carnivores.

The GPS and shock collars recommended in the proposed rule change may not meet the intent of Act 165, which **states that hounds should be under control of the coyote hunter**. It is impossible to control up to four dogs who could potentially be running in different directions without visual or physical contact. Since most Vermont coyote hounders already use GPS technology, it is unclear how this recommendation will decrease potential conflicts with landowners who have posted their land as closed to hunting.

Allowing the pursuit of one coyote with as many as four hounds also seems contradictory to **the directive of Act 165 to address the humane taking of coyotes**. By any reasonable measure, four trained, powerful hounds pursuing one terrified coyote is neither fair chase nor humane. By pitting domestic dogs against wild dogs, it is nothing more than a state-sanctioned form of dog fighting.

Act 165 also **asked Vermont Fish and Wildlife to consider prohibiting baiting**, which draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage. Members of the coyote hounding working group agreed to prohibit the baiting of coyotes for training purposes, but with no explanation, Vermont Fish and Wildlife ultimately removed that provision from its final proposal.

Finally, Act 165 **directs the rule to support “...the management of the population in concert with sound ecological principles.”** But to date, Vermont Fish and Wildlife has not provided any science-based evidence that their proposed rule comports with that directive. In fact, the practice of hounding is antithetical to sound ecological principles.²⁰

Wildlife belongs to all Vermonters, who should have a say in how their wildlife is managed

The wildlife of Vermont is held in the public trust, to be managed for the benefit of all Vermont residents—not just the small percentage who seek to kill them in traps or by hounding.

Recent landmark research titled the “America’s Wildlife Values Project” found that animal welfare has become an increasingly important concern for the general public, and the number of those who value wildlife as “part of their extended social network” has grown.²¹ That survey also found that nearly 10%

¹⁸ Hank Hristienko and Jr. McDonald, John E., "Going in the 21st century: a perspective on trends and controversies in the management of the black bear," *Ursus* 18, no. 1 (2007). Stefano Grignolio et al., "Effects of hunting with hounds on a non-target species living on the edge of a protected area," *Biological Conservation* 144, no. 1 (2011/01/01/ 2011), <https://doi.org/http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2010.10.022>, <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320710004702>. Emiliano Mori, "Porcupines in the landscape of fear: effect of hunting with dogs on the behaviour of a non-target species," journal article, *Mammal Research* 62, no. 3 (July 01 2017), <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13364-017-0313-5>, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13364-017-0313-5>.

¹⁹ Hristienko and McDonald, "Going in the 21st century: a perspective on trends and controversies in the management of the black bear."

²⁰ *Supra* notes 17 and 18.

²¹ Manfredo, M.J., Sullivan, L., Don Carlos, A.W., Dietsch, A.M., Teel, T.L., Bright, A.D., & Bruskotter, J. (2018). *America's Wildlife Values: The Social Context of Wildlife Management in the U.S.* National report from the research project entitled “America’s

more Vermont residents consider themselves to be “Mutualists,” believing that humans and wildlife are meant to coexist, than those who consider themselves “Traditionalists,” believing that wildlife should be managed for human benefit. Further, in that survey more than 70% of Vermont residents agreed that they should strive for a society that emphasizes environmental protection over economic growth. And a 2019 survey of American attitudes towards hunting by the National Shooting Sports Foundation and Responsive Management found that 71% of Americans disapprove of trophy hunting, and even more disfavor trapping.²²

There is no question that the demand for fur is disappearing, largely because policymakers and fashion companies have become aware of the cruelties associated with the fur industry, including trapping. The sale of new fur products has been banned throughout the entire state of California, and 15 municipalities around the country have similar bans or partial bans, including six communities in Massachusetts. Additional state and local policies are currently under consideration.

The fur market is bottoming out as supply far outpaces demand and a rapidly growing list of fashion designers, department stores, and prominent apparel companies reject it, including Prada, Armani, Versace, Michael Kors, Jimmy Choo, DKNY, Burberry, Chanel, Alexander McQueen, Moncler, Balenciaga, and Dolce & Gabbana. (Fig. 1)



In 2021 the prominent fashion magazine *ELLE* announced that it will no longer allow the advertising of fur products or the use of fur in its photoshoots.²³ Last year, one of Russia’s largest fur retailers announced it would be closing its factory and selling its remaining stock because of declining sales.²⁴

Wildlife Values.” Fort Collins, CO: Colorado State University, Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources. <https://sites.warnercnr.colostate.edu/wildlifevalues/>

²² The National Shooting Sports Foundation Report: “Americans’ Attitudes Toward Hunting, Fishing, Sport Shooting and Trapping 2019” at <https://asafishing.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Americans-Attitudes-Survey-Report-2019.pdf>.

²³ Kim, L.: “Elle Ditches Fur In Magazine And Online Content Worldwide.” *Forbes*, December 2, 2021 at <https://www.forbes.com/sites/lisakim/2021/12/02/elle-ditches-fur-in-magazine-and-online-content-worldwide/?sh=3088474a8991>

²⁴ Labutina, Daria: “Russian Fur Retailer Kalyaev to Close Factory Following Sales Decline.” *Business of Fashion*, January 14, 2022. <https://www.businessoffashion.com/news/global-markets/russian-fur-retailer-kalyaev-to-close-factory-following-sales-decline/>

Nationwide, wildlife watchers and those who participate in non-consumptive outdoor recreation outnumber and outspend hunters and trappers by a wide margin.²⁵ (Fig. 2 and Fig. 3).

Fig. 2

USFWS: Wildlife Recreation Participation & Expenditures: 2011 vs. 2016 data From: 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation			
	2011	2016	Percent change
Wildlife watchers	71.8M	86.0M	20
Wildlife watcher expenditures	\$59.1B	\$75.9B	28
Hunter numbers	13.7M	11.5M	-16
Hunter expenditures	\$36.3B	\$25.6B	-29

Fig. 3

Outdoor recreation spending in the U.S. (2021) From: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis		
Activity	Spending [in millions of dollars]	% of total
Hunting and trapping	4,831	1.27
Other outdoor recreation	62,796	16.5
Trips and travel	123,860	32.6
Total outdoor recreation	380,471	100.00

²⁵ The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service: National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation (2016) at <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2018/demo/fhw16-nat.pdf> ; and Dept. of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account, U.S. and States, 2021" <https://www.bea.gov/data/special-topics/outdoor-recreation>

In Vermont, tourists spend millions of dollars in local economies to view wildlife and enjoy outdoor spaces. The National Park Service reports, "In 2021, 48.0 thousand park visitors spent an estimated \$3.1 million in local gateway regions while visiting National Park Service lands in Vermont. These expenditures supported a total of 40 jobs, \$1.4 million in labor income, \$2.4 million in value added, and \$4.1 million in economic output in the Vermont economy."²⁶

According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis in the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, outdoor recreation in Vermont generated \$1.5 billion for the state's economy in 2021. Of that figure, hunting and trapping generated a little over one percent. Participants in snow activities spent more than 12 times that much, and people spent more than 33 times as much on travel and tourism in Vermont (Fig. 4).²⁷

Fig. 4

Outdoor recreation spending in Vermont (2021) From: <i>U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis</i>		
Sample outdoor activities	Spending [in thousands of dollars]	% of total
Hunting and trapping	17,691	1.2
Game areas (includes golfing and tennis)	57,613	3.7
Snow activities	215,049	14
Travel and tourism	594,020	38.6
Total outdoor recreation	1,539,280	100.00

The actions of an extremely small—and shrinking—segment of our state's population should not jeopardize the safety and well-being of Vermont's wildlife, companion animals, non-target species and public land users with these practices. Further, the values and viewpoints of the vast majority of Vermont residents who oppose these practices should be seriously considered by this Board.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Humane Society of the United States finds the proposed rule by Vermont Fish and Wildlife does little to nothing to improve animal welfare for trapped animals or coyotes being pursued by hounds. Thank you for your time and attention.

²⁶ National Park Service, "2021 National Park Service Visitor Spending Effects Report,"

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/socialscience/vse.htm>

²⁷ Dept. of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account, U.S. and States, 2021"

<https://www.bea.gov/data/special-topics/outdoor-recreation>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne Bourbeau". The signature is written in a cursive style. Below the signature, there is a faint, small logo for The Humane Society of the United States.

Joanne Bourbeau
Northeast Regional Director
The Humane Society of the United States
jboubeau@humanesociety.org
PO Box 303
Jacksonville, VT 05342

From: Martha Heidi Willis <redsprings@myfairpoint.net>
Sent: Saturday, June 17, 2023 3:37 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Attachments: F and W letter, Act 159 and 165.odt

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June 17, 2023

Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

Re:Proposed rules of Act 159 and Act 165

Dear Friends,

I am writing to express my thoughts on the Proposed rules of Act 159 and Act 165 which address hunting and trapping practices of wildlife in Vermont.

I support hunting where the animal killed is going to be used for food. I oppose baiting animals (coyotes, bears...) as that is not true hunting and disadvantages the animal. I also oppose the use of hounds, unless they are under strict control, and are within visual and calling distance of the hunter. GPS and shock collars do not guarantee that control.

Trapping is an inhumane way to kill animals and a threat to pets and others hiking and recreating. If allowed, the traps should be set away from public areas on all public lands where the public can be expected to recreate, and checked daily. It is my hope that trapping will soon be banned.

Hunting and trapping are considered traditional activities. In the past, they provided food, clothing, and perhaps a small bit of income, in a time when hunted wildlife were thought to be an unending "resource". We now know that they are more than a resource- they are sentient beings with a right to live their lives. We also know that their populations are not infinite.

Killing, when the animal is not going to be used, I believe fosters a careless attitude about life, both human and non-human. In this world of climate change and Sixth Great Extinction, which need to be valuing and protecting the lives of all our wild neighbors.

Please oppose the proposed rules, and involve a range of groups and perspectives in developing new rules which will protect wildlife, pets and the public.

Sincerely,

Heidi Willis

2129 Shard Villa Road

Salisbury, Vermont, 05769

June 17, 2023
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

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Sincerely,
Heidi Willis
2129 Shard Villa Road
Salisbury, Vermont, 05769

From: Sylvia Knight <sknightinv73@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2023 4:35 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Attachments: comments-trapping-coyote-hunting-052623.pdf

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Please find my comments attached.

Sylvia Knight

Earth Community Advocate & Researcher

Burlington, VT 05408

sknightinv73@gmail.com

pronouns: she, her

We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them. Albert Einstein.

"We aren't going to have peace on Earth until we recognize the basic fact of the interrelated structure of all reality."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

TO: ANR /Fish & Wildlife Department

FROM: Sylvia Knight, Earth Community Advocate & Researcher
13 Claire Pointe Rd, Burlington 05408
sknightinvt73@gmail.com

DATE: May 26, 2023

SUBJECT: Comments on rule regarding trapping and rule regarding hunting coyotes

Act 159: Trapping

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on a subject that has troubled me for some time: trapping animals with leg-hold traps. This is a cruel way to catch animals for their hides or for any other purposes. Traps cause excruciating pain to animals; some have actually chewed through their own limb to free themselves. Traps catch non-target animals including beloved dogs and cats, and are dangerous to humans as well. No one needs to wear animal fur to keep warm, or to enhance their prestige or style, at the expense of an animal.

It appears from others' testimony that "best practices" are NOT helping to protect animals who are indeed sentient creatures. Why, how could people club a trapped animal to death? What research projects need to use leg-hold traps that injure and cause needless suffering in order to assess animal populations? Using leg-hold traps contributes to desensitization in people toward animals, our neighbors on Earth. I join those calling for a BAN on leg-hold traps, given their inability to discriminate which animals are caught or to prevent suffering in the process.

Act 165: Hunting coyotes with dogs

I am repulsed by the concept of hunting coyotes, with or without dogs. Open season, or limited season: why kill them? Because they compete with humans for prey? Because we are prejudiced against coyotes as predators?

Coyotes are needed to control rodent, rabbit and deer populations. Aldo Leopold learned his lesson about killing wolves in the western US. Leopold writes, "We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then, and have known ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes — something known only to her and to the mountains. I was young then, and full of trigger-itch; I thought that because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would mean hunters' paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a

view.”¹ Leopold found that the absence of wolves in the West allowed deer to proliferate and damage ecosystems.

Coyotes as large predators have an important role in the Vermont /Northeast ecosystem. For awhile some coyotes lived about 1/4 of a mile from my home in Charlotte. But later I stopped hearing their calls. We had too many rabbits.

Please end the practice of open-season hunting for coyotes. Please forbid the practice of hunting coyotes with dogs.

I am a taxpayer and support participatory democracy, commenting on rule-making. I understand and have shared the experience of citizens who find stakeholder committees to be heavily weighted in favor of the Department's viewpoint. This tendency undermines democratic process and skews the decisions towards the traditionally human-centered, extractive stance that treats the non-human world as solely a resource for humans, without instilling respect or reverence for other living beings or the Earth. This attitude is a major factor in the environmental damage the Earth is experiencing now. It's time to change the paradigm so that all can live.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sylvia Knight".

¹ Leopold, Aldo. *Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1987). pp130=131

From: Stephan Chait <stephan599@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 7:28 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Comments on furbearer rule and hunting coyotes with dogs
Attachments: Comments to ANR for June 30 lac.docx

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To Whom It May Concern;

Please see the attached comment letter from the Halifax Conservation Commission.

Thank you,
Stephan Chait



**HALIFAX CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN OF HALIFAX
P.O. BOX 127
WEST HALIFAX, VT 05358**

28 June 2023

Agency of Natural Resources
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

To Whom It May Concern:

The Halifax Conservation Commission has been examining the topic of furbearer trapping and hound hunting over a number of months. House Bill 159 would make some progress in limiting the use of traps for furbearers. While supporting this bill along with any other reasonable efforts to limit these hunting methods, there can be no doubt that once set, a trap is inhumane and a hazard to all creatures great and small. Furbearer trapping is indiscriminate and not focused on catching 'game' for feeding families. There is an element of cruelty in the use of these traps that shows disregard for other species including domestic pets. To be truly humane would be to eliminate trapping.

House Bill 165 regulates hound hunting of coyotes. The current moratorium needs to become the standard going forward - not a temporary pause.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Stephan Chait, Chair



A body-crushing trap snapped on Clara's neck, strangling her.

H.191, An Act Related to Trapping

Every year in Vermont, traps injure, maim & kill targeted animals like bobcats & otters, as well as non-targeted animals like raptors & people's pets, as seen here.

H.191 restricts the use of leghold, drowning & body-crushing kill traps.

What H.191 Does:

- Prohibits the recreational trapping of *furbearing animals (According to VT Fish & Wildlife's 2022 survey, 68% of Vermonters oppose recreational trapping)
- Per UVM's Center for Rural Studies 2017 poll, 75% of Vermonters want leghold and body-crushing kill traps banned
- Ends commerce in fur from trapped animals—According to VT Fish & Wildlife's 2022 survey, 62% of Vermonters oppose trapping for fur and clothing
- Ends the common practice of bludgeoning, strangling, drowning and other inhumane methods of killing trapped furbearers
- Mandates reporting of all furbearers trapped & killed
- Requires training & permitting for nuisance wildlife control operators
- Requires taking practicable, non-lethal measures to prevent recurrence of damage from furbearing animals (e.g. installing water control devices to address beaver damage)

What H.191 Does Not Do:

- DOES NOT prevent farmers from trapping to protect their property, crops or animals
- DOES NOT prevent landowners from trapping to protect their property or animals from damage
- DOES NOT prevent state, federal, or municipal government officials to trap when necessary to address an imminent public health or safety threat or an imminent threat to property
- DOES NOT prevent state, federal, or municipal government officials to trap animals when necessary for conservation work to protect threatened or endangered species.
- DOES NOT stop your ability to hire somebody to trap a nuisance animal on your property
- DOES NOT impact Vermonters' ability to trap non-furbearer species such as mice, rats, groundhogs etc.

**Furbearers: beaver, otter, mink, raccoon, fisher, grey fox, red fox, skunk, muskrat, bobcat, coyote, weasel, opossum*

ProtectOurWildlifeVT.org

Fact Sheet from POW

Here are some facts about trapping in Vermont:

- Traps are not selective.
- Traps inflict prolonged suffering.
- Traps catch dogs and cats.
- Traps catch endangered, protected, and threatened species.
- Traps cause animals to chew through their limbs to free themselves.
- Traps may be set on public land, including National Wildlife Refuges, with no required signage.
- Traps may be set right near trails and trail heads with no required setbacks!
- Traps are baited with food items and lures that attract pets and endangered species.
- Furs are not selling, so many trappers are stockpiling carcasses or just tossing their bodies like garbage, which is clear wanton waste.
- Trappers trap for recreation and hobby.
- There are no standards by which trapped animals must be killed, so they are bludgeoned, stomped on – to crush the heart and lungs, drowned, choked, strangled, and if the animal is lucky, s/he is shot.
- Out of season trapping, "in defense of property", is completely unregulated. Animals may suffer in traps for days before the trapper comes back. No reporting is required.
- Trappers use the term "SSS" meaning, shoot, shovel and shut-up when they trap a dog or cat.
- There is no limit on the number of traps a trapper may set at once, which means areas can be saturated with them.
- There are no bag limits on the number of animals that may be trapped (in season.)
- Trappers are not required to report "incidental takes", including owls, eagles, ravens and other protected species

From: Wolf Patrol <teamwolfpatrol@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 8:01 PM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping & Hounding Public Comment
Attachments: 0090-3558-29.2.317.pdf; Fisher BMP.pdf

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Members of the Fish & Wildlife Board, Commissioner Herrick & Legislators,

My name is Rod Coronado and I'd like to provide some input to the supposed improvements to trapping in Vermont. I live in Orange, Vermont where annually a contract trapper with the Department of Transportation (VTrans) has come onto our property and killed every single beaver that ever lived in Riddel Pond. Has our road or the state highway ever been flooded? No. Have beavers damaged or destroyed state or town infrastructure? No.

We live in a state where ecologically beneficial animals like beavers are trapped because state agencies like VTrans and members of my town's select board think they are a nuisance. None of the recommended changes proposed to trapping will affect the wanton waste of life committed by trappers in my town. No supposed "best management practice" will spare thousands of beavers a long and agonizing death in a body-gripping trap, which are completely exempted by these recommended "improvements" to trapping.

Last week, over 50 residents of the town of Orange presented a petition to our select board asking for a beaver policy that explored all non-lethal options available such as exclusion fencing, baffles and pond levelling devices, before trapping is considered. Instead of listening to the concerns of residents, our select board is choosing to do things the way they always have done, which is to kill the beavers, even though our town is not experiencing actual impact from the animals. This is the same response I see playing out across Vermont. When the public questions Vermont's trapping practices, we are told we are uneducated and that trapping is the only solution.

I have also attended every Fish & Wildlife Board meeting since January 2023, where 13 of the 14 members are trappers and/or hunters. Only one member of the board represents the 87% of Vermont's populace that does not hunt or trap. I have witnessed this super-majority at work, where it is regularly used to rubber stamp almost every single request from the trapping and hunting community, while outright ignoring the concerns of anyone who advocates for wildlife.

After hearing presentation after presentation on how trapping BMP's will reduce suffering experienced by trapped animals in Vermont, I read everything I could find on the actual research conducted to determine that a trap is a BMP trap. What I found was alarming. Literally thousands of wild animals are captured and anesthetized and placed in traps that are triggered on their drugged bodies. The drug used is Ketamine, which isn't anesthesia at all, but a paralytic. This means that the animal is conscious, only immobilized. The traps are sprung on their bodies and if 70% of the animals die within five minutes, the trap is approved as a BMP trap.

When I provided copies of a BMP research study that determined that particular BMP traps recommended for fisher trapping in Vermont did not pass BMP tests, I was met with silence from Brehan Furhey, Furbearer Project Leader, David Sausville and Mark Scott, Director of Wildlife. When Ms. Furhey and Mr. Sausville attended one of my public meetings on wildlife that I hold monthly in Montpelier on June 14th, 2023, I asked them both to answer my questions about the unsafe trap and to this day I have yet to receive a response.

In addition, when I attended the public hearing on the supposed improvements to trapping and coyote hound hunting on June 21, a member of the hound hunting community threatened to "rip my head off." When I reported the incident to both Commissioner Herrick and Mark Scott, I was again met with silence. How am I supposed to receive such unprofessionalism by those entrusted to protect our state's wildlife?

These are just a few of the reasons why I have now dedicated my life here in Vermont to seeing the end of trapping in my lifetime. Vermont Fish & Wildlife's pro-trapping furbearer department has put the interests of a few hundred trappers before the interests of 16 different native furbearer species, and in doing so are violating the public's trust, all to serve the special interests of people wanting to continue a cruel practice that has infected this state since before it was founded.

You can approve of these changes to trapping laws, but it will in no way eliminate the public's demands for an end to indiscriminate trapping practices in Vermont. In closing I am once again attaching the research paper I provided to VFW months ago, looking for that answer on why Vermont will continue to allow the use of traps that are known to be ineffective at killing fishers humanely.

Good Day,
Rod Coronado
Vermont Wildlife Patrol
Cemetery Commissioner, Town of Orange

EVALUATION OF MECHANICALLY IMPROVED CONIBEAR 220™ TRAPS TO QUICKLY KILL FISHER (MARTES PENNANTI) IN SIMULATED NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS

Authors: Proulx, Gilbert, and Barrett, Morley W.

Source: Journal of Wildlife Diseases, 29(2) : 317-323

Published By: Wildlife Disease Association

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EVALUATION OF MECHANICALLY IMPROVED CONIBEAR 220[®] TRAPS TO QUICKLY KILL FISHER (*MARTES PENNANTI*) IN SIMULATED NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS

Gilbert Proulx^{1,2} and Morley W. Barrett^{1,3}

¹ Humane Trapping Program, Alberta Environmental Centre, Bag 4000, Vegreville, Alberta, Canada T0B 4L0

² Present address: Wildlife Section, Forestry Department, Alberta Research Council, P.O. Box 8330, Postal Station F, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6H 5X2

³ Present address: Alberta NAWMP Centre, #401 East Tower, Coronation Plaza, 14310-111 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5M 3Z7

ABSTRACT: Mechanically improved Conibear 220[®] traps failed to render irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 min fishers single-struck in the head-neck region, or double-struck in the neck and thorax regions. Although the Conibear 220[®] trap is often recommended as an alternative to the steel leghold trap, it is unlikely that it has the potential to humanely kill fisher.

Key words: Conibear 220[®] trap, fisher, *Martes pennanti*, humane trapping, rotating-jaw trap, experimental study.

INTRODUCTION

The fisher (*Martes pennanti*) is a valuable furbearer and thousands of them are captured every year in North America (Obbard et al., 1987). With the banning of the controversial steel leghold traps in land sets for capturing most furbearers (Barrett et al., 1988), the killing Conibear 220[®] (Woodstream Corporation, Lititz, Pennsylvania, USA) trap has been promoted as an alternative means for trapping fishers (Alberta Vocational Centre, 1987). However, members of the Federal Provincial Committee for Humane Trapping (1981) suggested that this trap did not generate sufficient energy to produce a humane kill.

Cook and Proulx (1989) showed that it was possible to increase both the striking and clamping forces of Conibear[®] traps by increasing the strength of the springs and by adding clamping bars to the striking jaws. In the past, such modifications led to the development of humane killing traps for marten (*Martes americana*) (Proulx et al., 1989a) and mink (*Mustela vison*) (Proulx et al., 1990).

In this study, our objective was to assess the potential of mechanically improved Conibear 220[®] to render fisher irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 min in simulated natural environments.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted during spring 1988 and winter 1989 in 12.2- \times -5.2- \times -4.4-m test enclosures landscaped with natural vegetation and kept under surveillance with remote control video cameras. The research facilities and equipment, and the husbandry procedures, were presented by Proulx et al. (1989b).

The Conibear 220[®] is a 20- \times -20-cm rotating-jaw trap (Fig. 1) with a mean momentum of 1.448 (SE = 0.017) kg m/sec (R. Drescher, pers. comm.; Proulx, 1990). The mechanically improved Conibear 220[®] traps had four clamping bars (Fig. 1). In double-strike tests, where animals were simultaneously struck in the head-neck and thorax regions by the distal and proximal rotating-jaws, we equipped the Conibear 220[®] trap frame with 19 cm long Conibear 280[®] (Woodstream Corporation, Lititz, Pennsylvania, USA) springs. The C220/280 trap had an mean (\pm SE) momentum of 1.904 (\pm 0.095) kg m/sec, based on a mechanical evaluation of the three traps (Cook and Proulx, 1989). During the double-strike tests, the trap jaws were 20 to 80 mm apart at closing time. Clamping forces ranged from 306 to 474 Newtons (N) (R. Drescher, pers. comm.) and were slightly greater than those of the Conibear 220[®] trap (206 to 472 N; R. Drescher, pers. comm.). The trap passed the preselection tests and was eligible for kill tests in enclosures. However, it failed to quickly render unconscious one fisher. On the basis of Proulx et al.'s (1989a, b) work, we decided to further enhance the trap's impact and clamping forces before conducting kill tests. Its springs were replaced by stronger 22.9 cm long Conibear 330[®] (Woodstream Corporation, Lititz, Pennsylvania) springs. This C220/330 trap

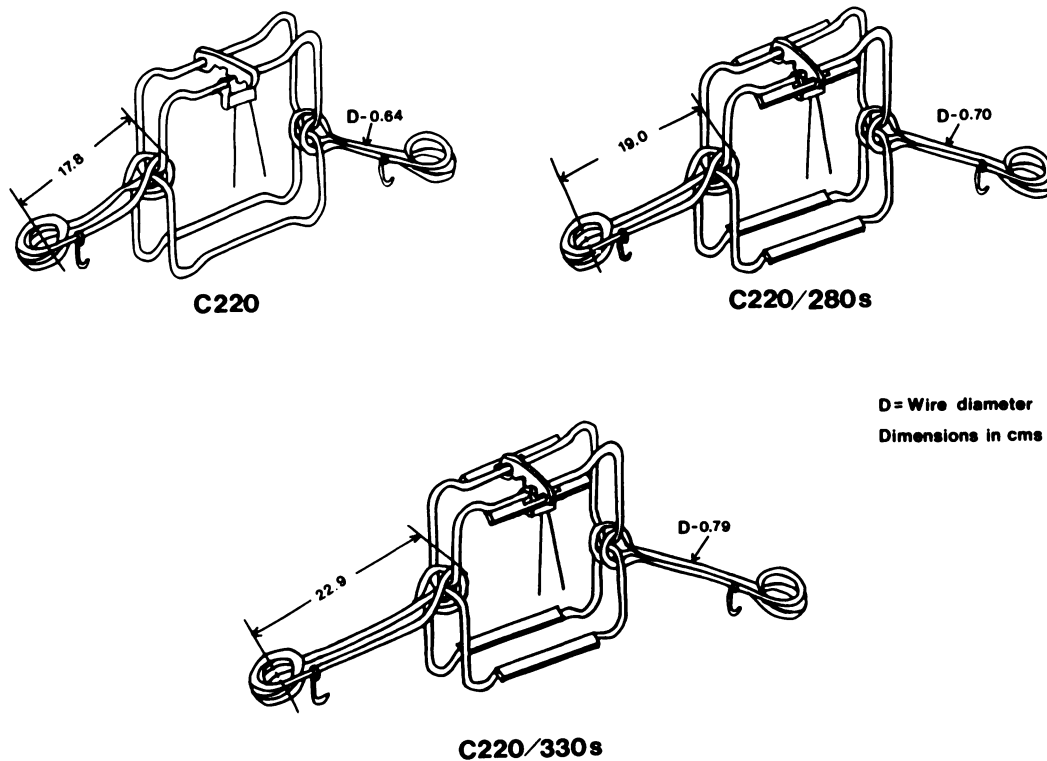


FIGURE 1. Diagrams of the Conibear 220[®], C220/280, and C220/330 traps.

had an average momentum of $2.253 (\pm 0.074)$ kg m/sec and clamping forces ranging from 317 to 633 N for 20 to 80 mm trap openings (R. Drescher, pers. comm.; Proulx, 1990).

In single-strike tests, where the animals were struck in the head-neck region by the proximal rotating-jaws, only the C220/330 trap was used. During these tests, the trap jaws were 10 to 60 mm apart at closing time. Clamping forces ranged from 119 to 633 N (R. Drescher, pers. comm.; Proulx, 1990) and were markedly greater than those of the Conibear 220[®] (21 to 472 N; R. Drescher, pers. comm.).

Six traps were evaluated in each series of preselection and kill tests described by Proulx et al. (1989b). Double-strike preselection tests were carried out with the C220/280 trap only. Because this trap passed the preselection tests, it was judged unnecessary to repeat these tests with the more powerful C220/330 trap. All the kill tests were carried out with the C220/330 trap.

Preselection tests were conducted with fishers immobilized with ketamine hydrochloride (10 to 20 mg/kg; Austin Laboratories, Joliette, Quebec, Canada). The immobilized animals were situated in traps in a position that duplicated placement in the approach tests (Proulx et al.,

1989b), and the presence of their eye reflexes was confirmed before firing the trap. Traps passed the preselection tests if they rendered at least five of a maximum of six fishers unconscious in ≤ 3 min (Proulx et al., 1989b, 1990); this is a control level without implied statistical significance to justify subsequent kill tests with unanesthetized animals. Unconsciousness was determined by loss of corneal and palpebral reflexes (Walker, 1979; Horton, 1980; Rowsell et al., 1981). Tests were successful only if fishers did not regain consciousness after the 3-min period and subsequently died, as determined by loss of cardiac activity using a stethoscope.

Upon success at the preselection-test level, the C220/330 was evaluated in kill tests with unanesthetized animals. In double-strike kill tests, the trap was equipped with a 12.8- \times -12.8-cm pan trigger used in approach tests to properly position the animals and ensure simultaneous strikes in the head-neck and thorax regions (Proulx and Barrett, unpubl.). The traps were set in baited cubby boxes (Proulx et al., 1990). In single-strike kill tests, the trap was set on a running pole (Barrett et al., 1989) and equipped with trigger systems which consistently positioned the animals for a head-neck strike (Proulx

TABLE 1. Location of strikes, time intervals between trap firing and irreversible loss of corneal/palpebral reflexes and heartbeat, and major trauma of fishers in double-strike preselection tests with the C220/280 trap.

Fisher number	Sex ^a	Location of double strikes	Time of loss after firing		Major trauma
			Corneal/palpebral reflexes (sec)	Heart-beat (sec)	
1096	M	Behind the eyes and thorax	E ^b	—	No strike trauma; severe congestion of the lungs.
1087	M	Neck and thorax	60	120	Compression of muscles dorsal and ventral to the third cervical vertebra; lungs congested.
1085	F	Back of head and thorax	5	48	No strike trauma; lungs congested.
1089	M	Back of head and thorax	76	196	No strike trauma; severe congestion of lungs.
1099	U	Back of head and thorax	75	106	No strike trauma.
1101	F	Neck and thorax	39	174	Dorsoventral compression of soft tissues.

^a M, male; F, female; U, unknown.

^b Euthanized.

and Barrett, unpubl.). One trigger system was a baited two-prong trigger. Fisher fired the trap by pulling on it. The other trigger system was a four-prong pitchfork; the middle prongs were 40 mm apart (Proulx et al., 1989b). Fishers fired the trap by pushing on the trigger in order to reach a bait placed approximately 30 cm behind the trap. The use of these two triggers allowed for a thorough assessment of the trap's ability to kill in the head-neck region, between the back of the eyes and the fourth cervical vertebra, as recommended by the Canadian General Standards Board (1984).

Upon firing of the trap, in the kill tests, we ran to the test enclosure to monitor the state of consciousness of fishers. The trap passed the kill tests if it rendered at least five of a maximum of six animals irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 min (Proulx et al., 1989b, 1990). The trap then became eligible for additional kill tests, termed performance confirmation tests (Proulx et al., 1990), in order to be 95% confident that it could be expected to humanely kill $\geq 70\%$ of all captured fishers (Proulx et al., 1993).

The 3-min period to unconsciousness was used as a guideline to identify humane traps (Proulx and Barrett, 1988). However, in previous research, such a time period was unrealistic for some species (Proulx and Barrett, 1988, 1990). It then is necessary to identify traps that can consistently render animals unconscious soon after the 3-min period and a new time period that can be accommodated practically. Therefore, in preselection and kill tests, if the fishers were struck in vital regions but were still conscious after 3 min, they were left in the trap for an additional 2 min; at that time they were eu-

thanzed by an intracardiac injection of 540 mg/ml sodium pentobarbital (Euthanyl forte; M.T.C. Pharmaceuticals, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada). Animals were necropsied by a veterinary pathologist at the Alberta Environmental Centre (Vegreville, Alberta, Canada). All animal husbandry and research procedures were approved by an institutional Animal Care Committee and carried out in accordance with the guidelines of the Canadian Council on Animal Care (1984).

RESULTS

Preselection tests with the C220/280 trap rendered five of six fishers double-struck in the head-neck and thorax regions irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 min. Mean (\pm SE) times to loss of consciousness and heartbeat were 51 (± 13) sec and 128 (± 26) sec, respectively (Table 1). In all cases, no major trauma was recorded. The trap passed the preselection tests but, because one fisher struck behind the eyes and in the thorax did not lose consciousness in ≤ 3 min and was euthanized (Table 1), it was replaced by the C220/330 trap in subsequent tests.

The C220/330 trap equipped with the pan trigger was successful in four of six kill tests. Mean (\pm SE) times to loss of consciousness and heartbeat were 107 (± 12) sec and 235 (± 12) sec, respectively (Table

TABLE 2. Location of strikes, time intervals between trap firing and irreversible loss of corneal/palpebral reflexes and heartbeat, and major trauma of fishers in double-strike kill tests with the C220/330 trap with a 12.8 × 12.8 cm trigger.

Fisher number	Sex ^a	Location of double strikes ^b	Time of loss after firing		Major trauma
			Corneal/palpebral reflexes (sec)	Heart-beat (sec)	
1176	M	C ₂ and T ₈	79	209	Severe dorsoventral compression at strike locations.
1100	M	C ₅	E ^c	—	Severe dorsoventral compression with bruising and hemorrhage at strike location. Trachea completely occluded.
1098	M	C ₁ and T ₇	135	225	Dorsoventral compression of soft tissues at strike locations.
1103	M	C ₂ and T ₁₀	100	267	No strike trauma.
1091	M	C ₁ and T ₁₀	115	238	Dorsoventral compression of soft tissues at strike locations.
1028	U	L ₃ and abdomen	E ^c	—	Dorsoventral compression of soft tissues at strike locations.

^a M, male; F, female; U, unknown.

^b C, cervical vertebra; T, thoracic vertebra; L, lumbar vertebra. Subscript refers to vertebra number.

^c Euthanized.

2). No major trauma was apparent. One double-struck fisher pulled its head from the trap, struggled, and ended with a single strike to the neck area. The animal did not lose consciousness in ≤3 min; hemorrhage at the strike location and complete occlusion of the trachea were recorded. Another fisher charged forward at firing time and ended with a double-strike in the thoracic and abdominal regions. This an-

imal did not lose consciousness in ≤3 min. No severe trauma was apparent (Table 2). The C220/330 trap with pan trigger failed the double-strike kill tests and was not eligible for additional kill tests.

Preselection tests with the C220/330 trap rendered five of five fishers single-struck in the head region irreversibly unconscious in ≤3 min. Mean (±SE) times to loss of consciousness and heartbeat were 11 (±4)

TABLE 3. Location of strikes, time intervals between trap firing and irreversible loss of corneal/palpebral reflexes and heartbeat, and major trauma of fishers in single-strike preselection tests with the C220/330 trap.

Fisher number	Sex ^a	Location of strike	Time of loss after firing		Major trauma
			Corneal/palpebral reflexes (sec)	Heart-beat (sec)	
646	F	Across the eyes	25	335	Fracture of nasal bones, maxillae, premaxillae and mandibles; subdural hemorrhage.
663	M	Top of skull	6	254	Multiple fractures of frontal, parietal, temporal and sphenoid bones, and the zygomatic arches.
775	M	Atlanto-occipital joint	10	330	Dorsoventral compression of soft tissues.
774	F	Top of skull	8	210	Massive fracture of parietal bones and zygomatic arches.
664	M	Behind the eyes	6	245	Almost complete severance of the frontal nasal bones.

^a M, male; F, female.

TABLE 4. Location of strikes, time intervals between trap firing and irreversible loss of corneal/palpebral reflexes and heartbeat, and major trauma of fishers in single-strike kill tests with the C220/280 trap.

Fisher number	Sex ^a	Location of strike	Time of loss after firing		Major trauma
			Corneal/palpebral reflexes (sec)	Heart-beat (sec)	
895 ^b	U	Top of skull	<44 ^c	330 ^d	
901 ^b	M	Behind the eyes	E ^e	—	Fracture of the junction of the two mandibles and the right zygomatic arch.
773 ^f	F	Cervical vertebrae 4 and 5	E ^e	—	Displacement and compression of the trachea, hemorrhage into spinal canal; deep bruising of muscles at the fourth and fifth cervical vertebrae.
898 ^f	F	Cervical vertebrae 2 and 3	E ^e	—	Apparent separation of the second and third cervical vertebrae with chip fracture of the second cervical vertebra and fracture of lateral process of the third cervical vertebra, ventral compression of soft tissues overlying the trachea.

^a M, male; F, female, U, unknown.

^b Baited two-prong trigger.

^c Animal was unconscious upon arrival of the observer.

^d Carcass destroyed before autopsy.

^e Euthanized.

^f Four-prong pitchfork trigger.

sec and 275 (± 25) sec, respectively (Table 3). In four cases, massive fractures of the cranial bones were recorded (Table 3).

In the kill tests, the C220/330 trap rendered one fisher struck on the top of the skull irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 min. However, it failed to quickly render unconscious two fishers struck behind the eyes and on the lower neck (Table 4). Despite these two failures, a fourth kill test was carried out with a more sensitized pitchfork trigger to obtain an upper neck strike. This fourth kill test was also a failure (Table 4). The C220/330 trap failed the single-strike kill tests and was not eligible for additional kill tests.

DISCUSSION

Although the Conibear 220[®] trap often is recommended as an alternative to steel leghold traps (Alberta Vocational Centre, 1987; Baker and Dwyer, 1987; Krause, 1989), it is unlikely that it has the potential to humanely kill this furbearer. The me-

chanically improved rotating-jaw traps used in this study were much more powerful than the standard model and yet, they did not consistently render fishers irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 5 min. Therefore, these rotating-jaw traps cannot be expected, at a 95% level of confidence, to render $\geq 70\%$ of fishers captured on traplines irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 min.

In previous studies with marten (Proulx et al., 1989a) and mink (Proulx et al., 1990), double strikes were effective by causing severe damage to the central nervous system or impeding the respiratory functions of the animals. With fisher, however, it is apparently difficult to produce sufficient trauma to result in a quick death. Failures of kill tests involving double strikes were probably due to a displacement of the striking jaws during the animals' struggle. Also, in any future development of the Conibear 220[®] trap, the striking jaws must hit the animals with adequate force and tightly close around their bodies.

Proulx et al. (1989b) suggested that the standard Conibear 120® trap could humanely kill marten if it would consistently strike the animals in the region extending from the ears to the first cervical vertebra. However, they concluded that it may be impossible to restrict the hits to an area smaller than the head and neck regions because of the variation in the size of the animals, the manner and speed of their approaches, and the sensitivity of the trigger. We believe that this also is true for fishers. In the present study, the majority of the strikes occurred elsewhere than on the back of the skull and they failed to render the animals irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 min.

Because there are presently no proven humane killing traps for fisher, the Conibear 220® still remains an alternative to the steel leghold trap. However, in order to humanely kill fisher, even with a 5-min period to unconsciousness, the trap's striking and clamping forces must be improved. In the search of humane traps that render fisher irreversibly unconscious in ≤ 3 min, more work should be carried out on new designs such as mousetraps (Proulx and Barrett, 1991), planar traps (Gilbert, 1981; Proulx, 1990), and others.

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Best Management Practices for Trapping Fisher in the United States

UPDATED 2014



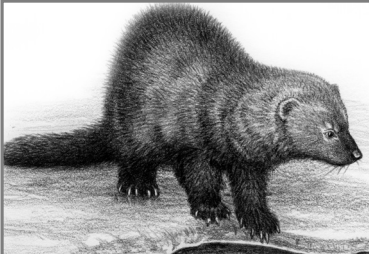


Figure FS1. Fisher (*Martes pennanti*)

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are carefully researched educational guides designed to address animal welfare and increase trappers' efficiency and selectivity. The extensive research and field-testing used to develop BMPs are described in the Introduction section of this manual. The evaluation methods used to develop BMPs have been standardized, enabling them to be easily updated and revised as new traps and techniques become available. All traps listed in the BMPs have been tested and meet performance standards for animal welfare, efficiency, selectivity, practicality and safety.

Trapping BMPs provide options, allowing for discretion and decision making in the field. BMPs are meant to be implemented in a voluntary and educational approach and do not present a single choice that can or must be applied in all cases. BMPs are the product of ongoing work that may be updated as additional traps are identified through future scientific testing.

The Fisher at a Glance

Characteristics

The fisher (*Martes pennanti*) (Figure FS1) is a member of the Mustelidae family. Like most other members of the "weasel" family, fishers have long and slender bodies, a noticeable growth of whiskers around the snout, a pointed face and relatively short, strong legs. A bushy tail makes up about one-third of the overall length, and often makes them appear much larger than they actually are. Adult males typically weigh nearly twice that of females and average about 8.5 pounds, with females averaging four to five pounds. Adult males average from 35 to 47 inches in overall length, while adult females average 29 to 37¹/₂ inches. The coat of most fishers is grayish brown to dark brown, though the fur on the rump, tail and legs is generally black. The fur on the head and shoulders may be grizzled with beautiful gold and silver coloration, especially on males. Most fisher have white colored patches on their chests and/or groin also. Fisher spend most of the time on the ground, though they are expert and agile climbers. Like other mustelids, fishers have anal scent glands that produce a pungent odor.

Range

The fisher occurs only in North America and is found throughout the northwest, northeast, and northern portions of the midwest regions of the United States. Fishers range throughout Canada from the east coast to the northwest and Yukon territories, but they are not found above the Arctic Circle.

Habitat

The fisher prefers forests with a variety of species and ages of hardwood and coniferous trees. Adequate overhead cover, provided by dense conifers, is an important habitat component during winter due to the fact that snow accumulation on the forest floor is reduced, permitting fishers to travel and hunt more efficiently. Hardwood trees are an important habitat component as well, as fishers rely on dead snags or cavities in live trees for den sites. Other important habitat components include temporary shelters and resting places such as the dens and burrows of other animals, brush piles, rock piles, hollow logs and tree cavities. Fishers spend considerable time hunting in edge habitats that contain an abundance of prey species.



Food Habits

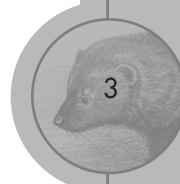
Fishers are primarily carnivorous with opportunistic feeding habits. Their diet varies with seasonal availability. Principle prey items include snowshoe hares, mice, voles, shrews, squirrels, birds, amphibians, reptiles, fish and insects. Uniquely, fishers are known to be efficient predators of porcupines, typically killing them with repeated bites to the face and head. Fishers will consume carrion, and they seasonally feed on fruit, nuts, berries and some types of fungi.

Reproduction

The fisher breeding season occurs in early spring with March and April being the peak months. The gestation period is between 327 to 358 days, due to delayed implantation (a period of arrested embryonic growth) with young typically being born from March to early April of the following year. The average litter size is three, but varies from one to five. Female fishers reach sexual maturity by one year of age and may become pregnant in their first breeding season, giving birth at age two. Males however, are usually not successful breeders until their second year. Female fishers have one litter per year. The female fisher typically makes a maternal den high above ground in the cavity of a large tree (often an abandoned woodpecker nest) where she will give birth to her litter of young (kits). Kits are born toothless, blind and sparsely furred. Kits are moved to a ground level or subterranean den at about two months of age. By five months of age, young fishers are nearly adult sized and are capable of killing their own prey. The young remain with the female in a family unit until late summer or early fall and then disperse to establish their own territories. The rearing of young is left solely to the female.

Populations

During the early to mid-1900s, fisher numbers continued to decline across the entirety of their range due to unregulated harvest and habitat reduction. Populations rebounded in the later half of the 20th century due to conservation efforts which included numerous reintroduction projects, controlled harvest and regulated seasons. These efforts continue where good habitat still exists and fisher populations have re-colonized a significant portion of their previously known range. Their populations remain low in the northwestern United States.



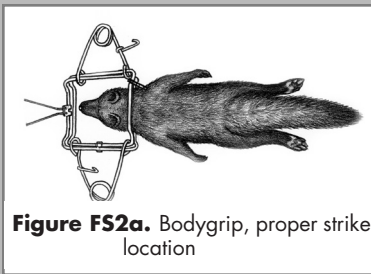


Figure FS2a. Bodygrip, proper strike location

General Overview of Traps Meeting BMP Criteria for Fisher in the United States

Three basic types of traps meet BMP criteria for fisher: cage traps, bodygrip traps and foothold traps (Table FS1). Examples, brief descriptions, and mechanical details of the various devices are given in the next section.

Trap Category	Total Dimensions* Length x Width x Height	Door Size* Width x Height	Mesh Size*/Gauge	
Cage	32 x 10 x 12.75	10 x 12	1 x 2 12 gauge galvanized	
	Height of Trap Window*	Width of Trap Window*	Frame Wire*	Spring Wire*
†Bodygrip	4 1/4 - 7	4 1/4 - 7 1/4	3/16 - 1/4	3/16 - 1/4
	Jaw/Frame Characteristics	Inside Jaw/Frame Spread at Dog*	Inside Width at Jaw/ Frame Hinge Posts	
Coil-spring (foothold)	Padded	4 1/2	4 9/16	

* Inches

† All bodygrip traps tested had two springs.

General Considerations When Trapping Fisher

Cage Traps

- Can be used to capture several furbearer species
- Can be used in locations and in weather conditions where other traps are less effective
- Capture and hold animals alive, allowing for release
- Often require bait
- Are bulky

Bodygrip Traps

- Should be placed so that the rotating jaws capture the animal by closing on the top and bottom of the animal's neck (Figure FS2a)
- Can be used in locations and in weather conditions where other traps are less effective
- May not be appropriate in some areas (captures and kills animals, no release)
- May need additional protection in some areas to avoid capture of non-target animals through use of restricted entry cubby sets and elevated pole sets (Figures FS2b and FS2c)
- Often require bait

Foothold Traps

- Can be used to capture several furbearer species
- Capture and hold animals alive, allowing for release
- Use in baited cubby sets to improve selectivity

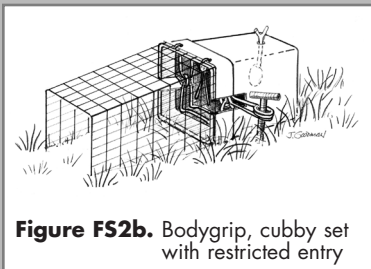


Figure FS2b. Bodygrip, cubby set with restricted entry

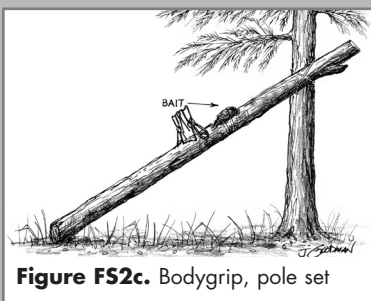


Figure FS2c. Bodygrip, pole set



Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps

By design, bodygrip traps must close with considerable force to humanely dispatch and efficiently capture wild furbearers. This is particularly true of larger sized and “magnum” type bodygrip traps. As a result, users should take special precautions to avoid potential injury when using these devices. Trappers should be familiar with the safe and efficient use of bodygrip traps and these are best learned in trapper education courses.

A setting tool (Figure FS3a) should be used to compress trap springs when setting large and magnum bodygrip traps. Use of a setting tool will not only make setting traps easier, it will make setting traps safer by allowing the trapper to keep hands and fingers away from the jaws (Figure FS3b). Most bodygrip traps that have double springs are equipped with spring latches that hold each spring compressed, and the trapper should use these latches on both trap springs. A safety gripper (Figure FS4a) should also be attached to the jaws when the jaws are moved to the set position (Figure FS4b). This will prevent the trap from accidentally closing. The above safety devices protect the trapper and make it easier to set, position and anchor the trap safely. Safety devices should be disengaged only when the set is completed.

If you are accidentally caught in a bodygrip trap you need to know how to free yourself. A setting tool is the most effective means to freeing yourself and should be used to compress the springs or jaws. You should always have one in reach when setting and placing bodygrip traps. In the event you are not able to reach one or use it with one arm, you should always carry a four foot piece of rope. The rope should have a loop tied on one end and should be stored in a pocket that can be easily accessed by either hand. You can use the rope to free yourself as follows:

- 1) Thread the rope through the eyes of one of the springs (Figure FS5a).
- 2) Bring the rope around and thread it back through the eyes a second time (Figure FS5b).
- 3) Place your foot in the looped end of the rope and pull the other end with your free hand until you can set the safety latch for that spring. (Figure FS5c).
You may need to do this to both springs to completely free yourself.

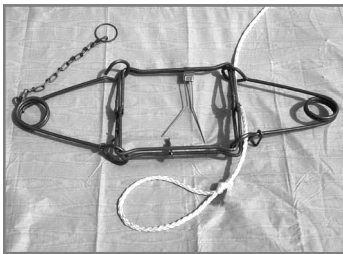


Figure FS5a. Step 1

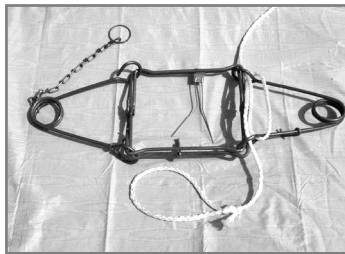


Figure FS5b. Step 2

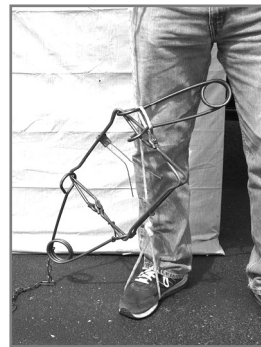


Figure FS5c. Step 3



Figure FS3a. Setting tool

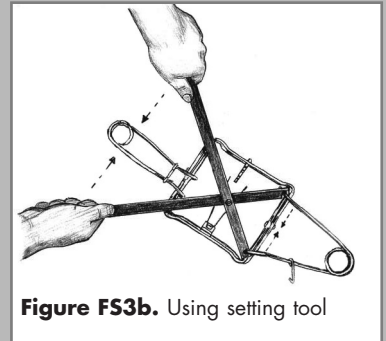


Figure FS3b. Using setting tool

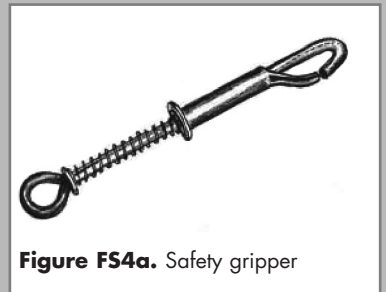


Figure FS4a. Safety gripper



Figure FS4b. Using safety gripper

Specifications of Traps Meeting BMP Criteria for Fisher in the United States

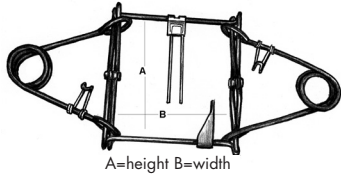


Figure FS6. Bodygrip trap

As more capture devices are tested and new information becomes available, they will be added to an updated list. Mechanical descriptions of tested traps are given as an aid to trappers or manufacturers who may wish to measure, build or modify traps to meet these specifications (Figure FS6). Also, other commercially available traps, modified traps, or other capture devices not yet tested may perform as well as, or better than the listed BMP traps. References to trap names are provided to identify the specific traps tested. This list is provided for information purposes only and does not imply an endorsement of any manufacturer.

Average mechanical measurements are rounded to the nearest $\frac{1}{16}$ inch. There may be up to a $\frac{1}{8}$ inch variation in specifications on the part of the manufacturer. Manufacturers use recognizable names, such as "No. 2" coil-spring, to identify certain traps. However, there is no standardized system linking mechanical design features with trap names. The mechanical features of these traps are listed so that similar traps may be identified.

Cage Trap (Figure FS7)

Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Cage material, and mesh size: 12 gauge galvanized steel wire mesh, 1 x 2 inches

Cage size (length x width x height): 32 x 10 x 12.75 inches

Door size (width x height): 10 x 12 inches

Weight: 14 pounds

Model tested: Non-collapsing (rigid); single door

Door closure: Spring operated

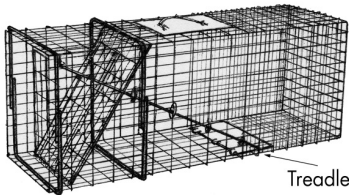


Figure FS7. Cage trap

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Tomahawk™ Cage Trap, No. 108.

Additional Information

- Selectivity features: Limited opening size and length—restricts large animals.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options; can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; large and easily seen (difficult to conceal completely); bulky—requires space for transport and storage; captured animals are easily released; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions when placed in a cubby. This device also meets BMP criteria for raccoons, gray foxes and opossums.



Bodygrip Traps (Figures FS8, FS9 FS10 and FS11)

Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 4 ⁷/₈ inches

Width of trap window: 4 ⁵/₈ inches

Diameter of frame wire: ³/₁₆ inch

Diameter of spring wire: ³/₁₆ inch

Additional clamping bar: None, but does have a magnum bend which eliminates the gap between the jaws when the trap is closed.

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Belisle™ Super X 120 bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Anchoring used in trap testing: 18 inch cable, anchored with a stake.
- Selectivity features: Due to limited opening size, this trap may selectively capture small, likely female, fisher.
- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for marten and muskrat.



Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 6 ¹/₈ inches

Width of trap window: 6 ¹/₄ inches

Diameter of frame wire: ³/₁₆ inch

Diameter of spring wire: ³/₁₆ inch

Additional clamping bar: None, but does have a magnum bend which eliminates the gap between the jaws when the trap is closed.

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Belisle™ Super X 160 bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Anchoring used in trap testing: 18 inch cable, anchored with a stake.
- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for raccoons.

Most bodygrip traps approved in this BMP were tested via computer simulation modeling relative to animal welfare performance. As a result, trap anchoring information does not exist for these traps. However, bodygrip traps should always be securely anchored. Anchoring information is provided on specific traps that were field tested.

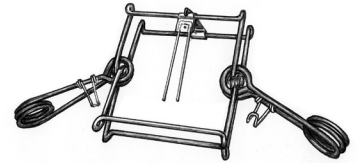


Figure FS8. Belisle™ Super X bodygrip (set)



Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: $6 \frac{7}{8}$ inches

Width of trap window: $7 \frac{1}{4}$ inches

Diameter of frame wire: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch

Diameter of spring wire: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch

Additional clamping bar: None, but does have a magnum bend which eliminates the gap between the jaws when the trap is closed.

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Belisle™ Super X 220 bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for raccoon; and for beaver, river otter and muskrat in submersion sets.



Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 6 inches

Width of trap window: $6 \frac{1}{16}$ inches

Diameter of frame wire: $\frac{3}{16}$ inch

Diameter of spring wire: $\frac{3}{16}$ inch

Additional clamping bar: Yes

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the LDL™ C160 Magnum bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby).

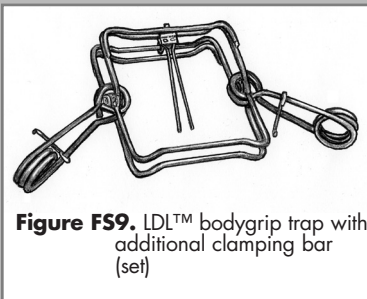


Figure FS9. LDL™ bodygrip trap with additional clamping bar (set)

Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 7 inches

Width of trap window: 7 ¹/₁₆ inches

Diameter of frame wire: ¹/₄ inch

Diameter of spring wire: ¹/₄ inch

Additional clamping bar: Yes

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the LDL™ C 220 Magnum bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for raccoon; and for beaver, river otter and muskrat in submersion sets.



Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 6 inches

Width of trap window: 5 ³/₄ inches

Diameter of frame wire: ¹/₄ inch

Diameter of spring wire: ³/₁₆ inch

Additional clamping bar: None

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Rudy™ 160 Plus bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Safety considerations: Use of setting tongs and safety gripper is recommended.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for marten and raccoon.



Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 4 1/4 inches

Width of trap window: 4 1/4 inches

Diameter of frame wire: 1/4 inch

Diameter of spring wire: 3/16 inch

Additional clamping bar: Yes

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Rudy™ 120 Magnum bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Selectivity features: Due to limited opening size this trap may selectively capture small, likely female, fisher.
- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for marten.



Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 5 inches

Width of trap window: 4 1/2 inches

Diameter of frame wire: 3/16 inch

Diameter of spring wire: 1/4 inch

Additional clamping bar: Yes

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices": Introduction pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Sauvageau™ C120 Magnum bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Selectivity features: Due to limited opening size, this trap may selectively capture small, likely female, fisher.
- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This trap also meets BMP criteria for marten and muskrat.

Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 5 inches
Width of trap window: 4 1/2 inches
Diameter of frame wire: 3/16 inch
Diameter of spring wire: 3/16 inch
Additional clamping bar: Yes
Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Sauvageau™ 2001-5 bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Selectivity features: Due to limited opening size this trap may selectively capture small, likely female, fisher.
- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for marten and muskrat.



Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 6 inches
Width of trap window: 6 inches
Diameter of frame wire: 3/16 inch
Diameter of spring wire: 3/16 inch
Additional clamping bar: Yes
Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Sauvageau™ 2001-6 bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for raccoon.

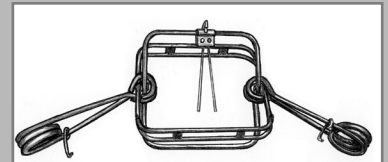


Figure FS10. Sauvageau™ bodygrip trap with additional clamping bar (set)



Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: 7 inches

Width of trap window: 7 inches

Diameter of frame wire: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch

Diameter of spring wire: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch

Additional clamping bar: Yes

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Sauvageau™ 2001-7 bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for raccoon.



Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Height of trap window: $6 \frac{3}{4}$ inches

Width of trap window: $7 \frac{1}{4}$ inches

Diameter of frame wire: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch

Diameter of spring wire: $\frac{1}{4}$ inch

Additional clamping bar: None, but does have a magnum bend which eliminates the gap between the jaws when the trap is closed.

Safety features: Spring latches

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see Introduction: "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices" pages 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Rudy™ 220 Plus bodygrip trap.

Additional Information

- Anchor trap securely.
- Safety considerations: This trap has complete jaw closure. The use of safety devices such as setting tongs and a safety gripper is highly recommended, and trappers should familiarize themselves with emergency release methods discussed in the "Safe Use of Bodygrip Traps" section.
- Special considerations for practicality: Versatile set options (cubby sets, leaning pole sets); can be used for multiple furbearer species in same sets; continues to operate in freezing weather conditions (when placed in a cubby). This device also meets BMP criteria for raccoons and river otter.

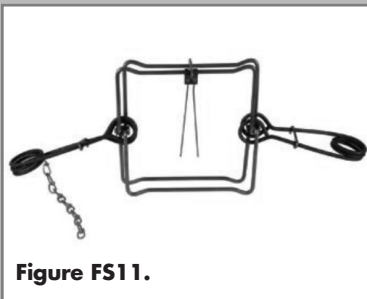


Figure FS11.

Foothold Traps (Figures FS12 and FS13)

Average Mechanical Description and Attributes

Inside jaw spread (at dog): 4 1/2 inches

Inner width: 4 7/8 inches

Inside width at jaw hinge posts: 4 9/16 inches

Jaw width: 9/16 inch padded jaw

Jaw thickness: 3/8 inch

Padding: Manufacturer supplied rubber pads

Main trap springs: Two 0.131 inch wire-diameter coil springs

Additional springs: Two 0.100 inch wire-diameter coil springs

Base plate: Reinforced with D-ring

Any trap that has similar specifications may be considered a BMP trap regardless of brand or source of modification, although performance information on all other BMP criteria (see "Criteria for Evaluation of Trapping Devices": Introduction pp. 4-6) needs to be considered as well. The trap tested was the Woodstream™ Victor No. 1 1/2 Softcatch modified coil-spring, four-coiled.

Additional Information

- Chain attachment used in trap testing: 7 1/2 inch, center mounted with two swivels, one shock spring and anchored with a stake.
- Selectivity features: Brass pan tension machine screw; pan tension was set to two pounds for testing, and checked and readjusted as needed after every capture.
- Special considerations for practicality: Some damage to trap pads should be expected and will require occasional replacement as a normal part of trap maintenance and upkeep. Special care should be taken to prevent odor contamination of the rubber jaws. Avoid using petroleum-based dye directly on the rubber pads. This device also meets BMP criteria for bobcat, Eastern coyote, gray fox, opossum and red fox.

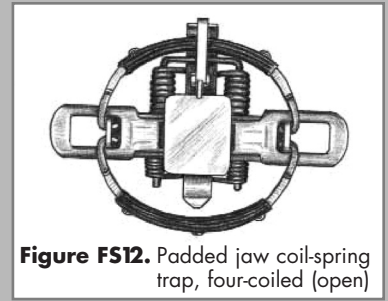


Figure FS12. Padded jaw coil-spring trap, four-coiled (open)

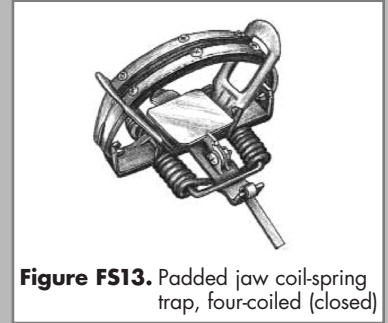
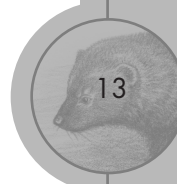


Figure FS13. Padded jaw coil-spring trap, four-coiled (closed)



From: M
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Comment Furbearer Rule - BMPs
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 11:58:45 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

Thank you for soliciting public comment on the proposed changes to recreational trapping in Vermont.

While the current proposal includes some important advancements for trap selectivity and target animal welfare, there is still room for Vermont's trapping community to set higher standards for the welfare of target animals and to reinforce its sincere commitment to the most ethical possible harvesting practices. The proposal that follows represents an embrace of the Legislature's mandate that the Department identify science-backed ways to meaningfully improve the welfare of trapped animals.

Recommendation: Increase the frequency of required checks for body-gripping traps set on land from once every calendar day to once every 12 hours.

Support for this recommendation is provided in a [2019 scientific literature review](#) published in *Animals*, a peer-reviewed open-access scientific journal for animal biologists. The review is authored in part by Gilbert Proulx, Ph.D., a zoologist and leading trap researcher who led Canada's landmark national trap testing and research program from 1985 to 1993.

In the review, Proulx provides evidence that jurisdictions committed to the most humane possible trapping practices have a responsibility to decrease trap check times to 12 hours for body-gripping traps set on land. He concludes that 24-hour trap checks, although of course preferable to longer trap check windows, are insufficient for the humane harvesting of furbearers. As Proulx shows, use of body-gripping traps that meet BMP standards is also insufficient for humane harvesting. As experienced trappers know, even BMP-compliant body-gripping traps set by experts can't quickly kill all potentially trapped species of wildlife under all possible conditions - that's the nature of the sport. And while animals caught in body-gripping traps are typically deceased when the trapper returns the next day, it's not always possible to know with confidence whether the animal was killed in fifteen seconds or fifteen hours. The only way to reduce the range of potential outcomes for body-gripping traps is to check them more frequently. I have included a few excerpts from the review here for your reference, although I encourage a complete read for additional context:

*"Because trappers use a variety of trigger configurations and trap sets, **all killing devices, even those certified by trapper organizations or governments, should be monitored at least once every 24 h on traplines, but preferably every 12 h, because one cannot know a priori whether traps will strike animals in appropriate locations for a quick kill.**"*

*"Work on traplines showed that killing traps and snares were not always performing as expected, and **≥ 30% of animals captured in legal traps in Canada and the USA were struck in non-lethal regions and lost consciousness many minutes past the acceptable time***

limit, or were still alive for hours after capture."

*"Without knowing a priori whether traps have struck animals in appropriate locations for a quick kill, **assuming that traps worked as advertised and humanely killed all captures may lead to long and painful suffering, and poor levels of animal welfare.**"*

*"When animals are captured by the abdomen or legs, they do not die quickly, and killing Conibear 120 traps then become restraining traps. **Animals stay alive and commonly die from exposure many hours after capture.**"*

Vermont has already aligned itself with part of Proulx's findings by banning killing snares. By further aligning Vermont policy with Proulx's data-driven recommendation for 12-hour trap checks, Vermont's trapping community would send a clear message that they will follow the science and align themselves with the policies that are proven to result in more humane harvests.

This change would be straightforward for trappers to understand and for wardens to enforce, it would require no new equipment, and it would impose only a minimal additional burden on trappers. In addition to benefiting targeted animals by reducing, in some percent of cases, the window of time between capture and humane dispatch, this policy would also benefit trappers by decreasing the likelihood of losing a trapped animal to predation and by increasing the likelihood of successfully releasing incidentally captured domestic or out-of-season animals. The cost here is time and gas, and for the many trappers who set lines on their own land, those would be negligible at best.

This type of proactive, evidence-based approach to animal welfare has the potential to substantially improve the image of trapping in Vermont and will give trappers confidence that their community is doing everything it can to make harvests as ethical as possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to seeing how these important findings can be incorporated into the proposed regulations.

Madeline Cowan
Resident of Northfield, Vermont (originally of Maine)

From: [Nathaniel](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public comments - trapping and hounding
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 9:43:25 PM

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Hello,

These comments concern suggested changes to the regulation of recreational trapping and coyote hounding in Vermont.

I strongly urge FWS to consider implementing the following key changes in the interest of humane treatment of wildlife and the property rights of Vermont landowners:

1. For recreational trapping, trap checks must occur at least once every 12 hours, as opposed to once every 24 hours as is currently mandated.
2. All individuals engaged in coyote hounding must have visual control over their dog(s) at all times. Relying on e-collars as a means of controlling dogs is inadequate and unacceptable.
3. For coyote hounding, there should be no more than one dog per coyote. This is the only approach consistent with fair chase and is in the interest of the welfare of the coyote.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nathaniel Williams, Northfield

From: [Mary Horne](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Hunting with Hounds
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 9:39:43 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I wanted to take the opportunity to weigh in on the issues of trapping and hunting with hounds in VT. I do not oppose hunting as a practice in general. Hunting with rifles, bows and arrows and muzzleloaders are activities that are largely thoughtfully executed and involve carefully targeted prey, usually harvested for sustenance.

Trapping and hounding, in contrast, have an inherently cruel and indiscriminate nature to them and can be a menace to endangered species and beloved pets. Hounding terrorizes target and non-target species alike and can be disruptive to private property and resident domestic animals as hounds run through without regard to property lines. The welfare of the hounds themselves is also a point of consideration.

There are safer, more humane ways to control "pests," gather food or pelts and garner research info on animals and their activities. Any measures to limit or eliminate trapping and hounding would be steps in a better direction.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Mary Horne
760 Old Stage Rd.
West Halifax, VT 05358

From: [Brian O"Gorman](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 9:15:32 PM

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From Joseph B. O’Gorman, tree farm owner in Bennington County, Vermont
1 Presby Farm Lane Road
East Sandwich, Massachusetts 02537

- These two proposals should take into acts of God or force majeure or natural disasters that that prevent the checking the traps.

4.1 A person trapping for fur-bearing animals under this rule shall visit his/her traps at least once every calendar day, except as provided in paragraph 4.2, and dispatch or release any animal caught therein.

4.2 A person who sets body gripping traps in the water or under the ice, colony/cage traps underwater or foothold traps under the ice shall visit his/her traps at least once every three calendar days and remove any animal caught therein.

- Provisions should be made for individuals or entities that maintains an agricultural or other usual operations that may be considered fur farms, i.e. places where furbearers are raised for market.

4.12 A person shall not possess a living fur-bearing animal, except as provided by rules of the board or 10 V.S.A. part 4.

- The taking of striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) shall be allowed by lethal injection, if in the opinion of the trapper this is necessary, and by a poisonous mixture, so to minimize the release of skunk quill and essence, a valuable product. This will also preserve the pelt of the striped skunk from noxious odors and avoid wastage.

- Many landowners trap on their own property bordering highways and public trails which are traveled. Perhaps a highway bisects their property. This may severely restrict the use of a private property. Set-backs are solution looking for a problem.

4.17 Trapping Set-backs

a) No foothold traps can be set on or within 25’ of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless set in a culvert, in the water, at least 5’ above the ground. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.

b) No body-gripping traps can be set on or within 50’ of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, at least 5’ above the ground, or in a set as

described above in 4.7. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.

- A trapper may not own a “muzzle loader, gun, crossbow, or bow and arrow”; or have a socio-economic objections and reasons that precludes to such ownership; or be unable to become proficient enough with archery gear or a firearm; may be precluded from constructing archery equipment; or a host of other reasons not to be able to avail themselves of the listed methods of dispatch. Perhaps an appropriate method of euthanasia could be granted to the trapper – as we have with slaughterhouses, including backyard processing of swine, cattle, poultry, etc. Do we prevent shechita by certain ethic and religious groups? Exsanguination, chest compression, lethal injection, asphyxiation, strangulation, stunning equipment (bolt guns), blunt force trauma, drowning, etc. is acceptable by many individuals that reside in Vermont and should be approved.

4.18 Dispatch of Trapped Animals: Upon discovery, a trapper shall immediately dispatch a live trapped furbearer with a muzzle loader, gun, crossbow, or bow and arrow. This provision may be amended upon receipt of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies recommendations regarding humane dispatch. This subsection shall not be interpreted to prevent a trapper from releasing an unharmed captured animal, or a domestic pet that requires treatment.

- The methods and caliber restriction on dispatching raccoons should be clarified and relaxed instead. Some trappers use older rifles inherited from ancestors or modern pellet guns that they cannot afford to replace.

4.21 Raccoons

a) A person shooting raccoons during the raccoon hunting season shall use a 0.22 caliber rimfire firearm or a shotgun with #2 shot or smaller.

Is someone going to have protractor or inclinometer to measure the 45 degree angle? Tree move in the breeze . The five foot height should have and four foot diameter at trap should have an error term.

4.24 Lynx

- iii. Off the ground as described below and as depicted in Diagram 2:
- a. at least 5' above the ground or if snow is on the ground at least 5 feet above snow level with the exception of the 24-hour period immediately following a snowstorm;
 - b. affixed to a standing tree which is free of branches below the trap or to a leaning section of pole that has not been planed or otherwise altered except for the removal of branches and is less than 4" in diameter at the trap and is angled at least 45° along its entire length from the ground to the trap; and
 - c. in an area that is free of any object within 4' of the trap.

From: [Jennifer Grant](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Insufficient Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 8:55:05 PM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented.

Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities.

Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Jennifer Grant

jgrant2020@outlook.com

802-436-3996 Landline

From: [Sarah Gorsline](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Herrick, Christopher](#); [Sausville, David](#); [Furfey, Brehan](#); [Ferland, Brad](#); [Patterson, Robert](#); [Hogan, Neal](#); [Frazier, Allison](#); [Kolsun, Michael](#); [Sweeny, Jay](#); [McCarthy, Bryan](#); [Dragon, Jamie](#); [Bancroft, Michael](#); [Noel, Paul](#); [VanBuren, Martin](#); [Bailey, Brian](#); [Deen, David](#); [Burnham, Nicholas](#); [Scott, Mark](#); [Connolly, Abigail](#); [Royar, Kim](#)
Subject: Public comment on Trapping BMPs and Coyote Hunting Regulations Updates
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 8:17:29 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from sarahgorsline@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, Members of the Board, Commissioner Herrick, Mr. Scott, Ms. Royar, Ms. Furfey, Mr. Sausville, Ms. Connolly,

I'm a Grand Isle County resident. I also work with the national, science-based nonprofit Project Coyote, which campaigns for nonlethal coexistence strategies with native carnivores, and helps inform the public and wildlife officials about the importance of native predators as keystone species within ecosystems. I want to be very clear about a few facts: We do not oppose fair-chase hunting, or subsistence hunting. Instead we're opposed to very specific hunting practices and methods, such as trapping, hound hunting, and wildlife killing contests. This is because these practices and methods do not serve any scientifically-based function, they lead to animal suffering, increase the incidences of human wildlife conflicts and they are not embraced by the majority of the public's values. I understand tradition, and passion for traditional activities, but at a certain point in history, tradition must be weighed against science and current understanding of best practices.

The Board and Department's proposed Trapping BMPs and Coyote Hunting Regulations Updates simply put, do not go nearly far enough at incorporating best available science and human wildlife coexistence best practices proven to reduce conflict with predators. A few points to consider about the proposed Trapping BMPs and Coyote Hunting Regulations Updates:

1) Opposition to trapping is growing rapidly in the U.S. Eight states (AZ, CO, MA, NJ, CA, RI, FL and NM) have banned leghold traps, and six states (CA, CO, FL, MA, OK and WA) have a full ban on conibear gripping (body gripping) traps. Vermont is falling behind what public opinion states. 68% of Vermonters in your Responsive Management Survey supported a ban on recreational trapping.

2) Wildlife advocacy groups in Vermont are increasingly speaking out against trapping because it is a cruel and ineffective means of managing wildlife, and it doesn't reflect the values placed on predators for their contributions to ecosystem health, rodent control, disease prevention and increased biodiversity of our state's natural communities. This is especially important to consider since a tiny fraction of the public participates in these activities.

3) This comes down to a difference in ethics, and scientific and medical understanding of animal suffering. Many scientists, veterinarians and wildlife advocates understand that no method of trapping for recreation, commerce, or nuisance/damage control can avoid inflicting some level of pain and suffering before death. No method of trapping for recreation, commerce, or nuisance/damage control can avoid the potential of capturing, with the risk of injuring or killing, non-target animals (including endangered species and domestic animals).

13 reported pets were killed in 2022 in Vermont traps, including Anne McKinsey's dog Clara, killed in a body-gripping trap. Because lethal trapping for recreation, commerce, nuisance, and population control is indiscriminate and ineffective at meeting wildlife management or conservation objectives, and cannot avoid unnecessary pain before death, such trapping should be prohibited.

4) Nonselective killing of native wildlife and specifically ecologically valuable predator species degrades ecosystem quality and biodiversity by undermining the ecological benefits these species have on ecosystems. Indiscriminate and “pre-emptive” killing of predators associated with trapping can lead to the disruption of predators’ social structure and foraging ecology in ways that increase the likelihood of depredations and conflict. In hunted coyote populations, for example, the number of surviving pups that must be fed by the alpha parents and the number of transient individuals may increase. Coyote pups learn hunting behaviors and food habits from their parents; therefore when trapping removes parents before they are able to teach their young, these factors predispose more coyotes to depredate livestock and increase the instances of conflict.

5) In Vermont, where eastern coyotes are the primary apex predator due to the loss of historical apex predators (eastern cougar and eastern wolf), their removal can precipitate an ecological chain reaction that leads to degradation of the health, integrity and diversity of the ecosystem. By arbitrarily allowing the indiscriminate killing of predator species such as coyotes from the environment, this removal may set off a cascade of negative environmental consequences. If the Board and Department continue to promote an open coyote hunting season (general hunting) this reinforces the idea to the public and Vermonters who hunt, that coyotes are vermin and are not critical allies in the maintenance of Vermont ecosystems.

6) The proposed coyote hound hunting rules unfortunately ignore the following key issues:

--Hounding involves hunters and guides using packs of powerful, GPS-collared hounds to pursue wildlife until physical exhaustion. Many hunters and wildlife advocates consider this a violation of “fair chase” principles of hunting.

--Studies suggest that wildlife managers should evaluate the allowance of hunting dogs particularly in areas with the presence of endangered and protected species which are likely to be negatively affected by hunting dog presence. In Vermont, hounds may be illegally harassing federally and state protected species such as transient wolves or lynx.

--Hounding is a common cause of conflict and threat to public safety across Vermont with multiple reports of individuals and their dogs being attacked specifically by hounds hunting coyotes and black bears. Vermont landowners have also reported hounds trespassing on their property violating private property rights and harassing them and their domestic animals.

--The Department’s own expert who gave a presentation on radio collars for dogs at the March 15, 2023 meeting, noted that the collars stop working at a 1 mile range, or when the hounds go over any kind of topographic incline such as a rocky slope, of which there are many in VT.

7) At Project Coyote we recommend identifying and following principles for ethical management of human-wildlife interactions. I'd welcome the opportunity to work with the Board and Department to prevent and decrease wildlife conflicts using nonlethal proven effective strategies, further educate Vermonters about the value of native carnivores, and

develop new ways to study furbearer species without trapping or killing these animals. In the weeks ahead I'll be gathering information on alternate models that other Fish & Wildlife Departments around the U.S. use to study furbearer species, without trapping or killing animals they're studying. I'll be bringing some of those ideas to the Department and Board at a future meeting.

I look forward to following the proposed furbearer rule changes, and to the creation of the 2025 Wildlife Action Plan. I have suggested to department biologists that the Northeast Wolf Recovery Alliance would be a great partner stakeholder in the 2025 Wildlife Action Plan, and would bring the latest canid science and studies to the planning process. Thus far the petition from Northeast Wolf Recovery Alliance, submitted to the Board last December, has been denied, despite legitimate questions about the required reporting on canids killed in Vermont, requests to work with the department on further DNA samples of suspected wolves and wolf-hybrids killed, and the request to be a partner in the 2025 plan. A reminder that the Board and Department are tasked with regulating wildlife policy for all Vermonters, not just the trapping, hounding and hunting community. I appreciate the opportunity to publicly comment on these critical wildlife and ecosystem-affecting issues.

Best wishes,
Sarah

Sarah Gorsline
Multimedia Associate, Project Coyote
Grand Isle County resident
e: sarahgorsline@gmail.com
c: 978-618-0561

From: [Wolf Patrol](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping & Hounding Public Comment
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 8:03:02 PM
Attachments: 0090-3558-29.2.317.pdf
Fisher BMP.pdf

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Dear Members of the Fish & Wildlife Board, Commissioner Herrick & Legislators,
My name is Rod Coronado and I'd like to provide some input to the supposed improvements to trapping in Vermont. I live in Orange, Vermont where annually a contract trapper with the Department of Transportation (VTrans) has come onto our property and killed every single beaver that ever lived in Riddel Pond. Has our road or the state highway ever been flooded? No. Have beavers damaged or destroyed state or town infrastructure? No.

We live in a state where ecologically beneficial animals like beavers are trapped because state agencies like VTrans and members of my town's select board think they are a nuisance. None of the recommended changes proposed to trapping will affect the wanton waste of life committed by trappers in my town. No supposed "best management practice" will spare thousands of beavers a long and agonizing death in a body-gripping trap, which are completely exempted by these recommended "improvements" to trapping.

Last week, over 50 residents of the town of Orange presented a petition to our select board asking for a beaver policy that explored all non-lethal options available such as exclusion fencing, baffles and pond levelling devices, before trapping is considered. Instead of listening to the concerns of residents, our select board is choosing to do things the way they always have done, which is to kill the beavers, even though our town is not experiencing actual impact from the animals. This is the same response I see playing out across Vermont. When the public questions Vermont's trapping practices, we are told we are uneducated and that trapping is the only solution.

I have also attended every Fish & Wildlife Board meeting since January 2023, where 13 of the 14 members are trappers and/or hunters. Only one member of the board represents the 87% of Vermont's populace that does not hunt or trap. I have witnessed this super-majority at work, where it is regularly used to rubber stamp almost every single request from the trapping and hunting community, while outright ignoring the concerns of anyone who advocates for wildlife.

After hearing presentation after presentation on how trapping BMP's will reduce suffering experienced by trapped animals in Vermont, I read everything I could find on the actual research conducted to determine that a trap is a BMP trap. What I found was alarming. Literally thousands of wild animals are captured and anesthetized and placed in traps that are triggered on their drugged bodies. The drug used is Ketamine, which isn't anesthesia at all, but a paralytic. This means that the animal is conscious, only immobilized. The traps are sprung on their bodies and if 70% of the animals die within five minutes, the trap is approved as a BMP trap.

When I provided copies of a BMP research study that determined that particular BMP traps

recommended for fisher trapping in Vermont did not pass BMP tests, I was met with silence from Brehan Furhey, Furbearer Project Leader, David Sausville and Mark Scott, Director of Wildlife. When Ms. Furhey and Mr. Sausville attended one of my public meetings on wildlife that I hold monthly in Montpelier on June 14th, 2023, I asked them both to answer my questions about the unsafe trap and to this day I have yet to receive a response.

In addition, when I attended the public hearing on the supposed improvements to trapping and coyote hound hunting on June 21, a member of the hound hunting community threatened to "rip my head off." When I reported the incident to both Commissioner Herrick and Mark Scott, I was again met with silence. How am I supposed to receive such unprofessionalism by those entrusted to protect our state's wildlife?

These are just a few of the reasons why I have now dedicated my life here in Vermont to seeing the end of trapping in my lifetime. Vermont Fish & Wildlife's pro-trapping furbearer department has put the interests of a few hundred trappers before the interests of 16 different native furbearer species, and in doing so are violating the public's trust, all to serve the special interests of people wanting to continue a cruel practice that has infected this state since before it was founded.

You can approve of these changes to trapping laws, but it will in no way eliminate the public's demands for an end to indiscriminate trapping practices in Vermont. In closing I am once again attaching the research paper I provided to VFW months ago, looking for that answer on why Vermont will continue to allow the use of traps that are known to be ineffective at killing fishers humanely.

Good Day,
Rod Coronado
Vermont Wildlife Patrol
Cemetery Commissioner, Town of Orange

From: [Joshua Hardt](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: TRAPPING AND COYOTE REGULATIONS
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 5:49:13 PM

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Greetings,

My name is Josh Hardt. I am 43 year old and have three sons. I am a lifelong Vermonter and I am an outdoor educator. I teach at the high school and college levels. However, most of all I am a conservationist.

I am an emotional supporter of trapping in the Green Mountain State. As a proponent of the North American Conservation model, the direct hand that the people play in managing furbearers is nothing short of spectacular. I fear that the alternative will give way to the needless and senseless killing of furbearers, by state hired professionals, all in secrecy. I know I would not be half the educator I am if I was not a trapper. I have gained an intimate knowledge of ecology through trapping. As a poor Vermont kid it was a gateway to the outdoors that has given me unparalleled knowledge and spurred on a lifetime of outdoor pursuits including rock climbing, mountaineering and other activities one would have thought unobtainable for a kid of my socioeconomic status. Thank goodness I had the conservation lessons and the thrill of hunting and trapping or I could have gone other nefarious ways, so many others have gone.

While I believe reasonable trail and road setbacks, and conibear use above a #160 on dry land are logical, I support no other trapping restrictions. Legal trappers already adhere to BMP's and by in large desire to limit animal suffering.

Thank you and by all means if I can be of any other help, reach out.

Joshua Hardt

802-417-7901

Founder Moosalamoo Center

Adjunct Professor Castleton University

NE BHA State Leadership Team

SVUU School board

From: mgraffeo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [MARY T GRAFFEO](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 5:05:03 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. MARY T GRAFFEO
18 Osborne Ln Greenvale, NY 11548-1141
mgraffeo@optonline.net

From: murumus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tania Prego](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 4:58:38 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Miss Tania Prego
BALBARGOS Noia, 15200
murumus@hotmail.com

From: [ronald lyon](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Cc: [Anne Donahue](#); [Ann Cummings](#); awatson@leg.state.vt.us; Kgoslant@leg.state.vt.us; [Andrew Perchlik](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulation
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 4:16:19 PM

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Hello F&W Folks and Legislative Team;

I am a native Vermonter born in Northfield, and a long-time resident and rural landowner in Berlin. I would like to provide comments on the current review of rules addressing trapping and use of dogs in hunting.

Trapping results in unnecessary cruelty to animals. In the distant past trapping may have provided a limited source of food or income for people who needed help to support their families. However, trapping is now an unnecessary activity accomplished by very few Vermonters that requires the use of very cruel methods.

Hunting with dogs is similar to trapping in that it results in unnecessary cruelty to animals for no reason. With respect to coyote hunting, there is no food or economic resource benefit to this activity. It further results in impacting the property rights of landowners due to the difficulty in managing hunting animals and avoiding trespassing onto people's property.

Both activities are very,very different from other traditional hunting and fishing activities in the State.

If the State F&W needs information on wildlife that are currently being trapped for management data, the good people in F&W can undoubtedly accomplish that data collection by use of humane measures that have been used successfully in other states. Those proven humane measures can also be used for management of animals that cause problems for farmers and other landowners.

In discussions with many Vermonters recently and over the last few years, the vast majority believe we must eliminate both trapping and hunting coyotes (and bear) with dogs in the State. Of particular note is that almost all of the younger people I have talked to do not believe these activities should be allowed. We must adjust our wildlife management laws to meet the visions of our future. Also of note is that several landowners I know have either posted their lands or will post their lands soon if trapping and dog hunting continues. Most Vermonters do not want these activities to happen. By continuing to allow these activities will certainly result in a significant reduction in support for hunting in general and reduction of lands open to hunting and other recreation in the State. The time has come for the State to address this issue. I think the good people of Fish and Wildlife should take a leadership role in an initiative to ban these activities and lead Vermont into the future.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely
Ron Lyon

From: [Bill Lyon](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Cc: [bill.lyon](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulation
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 3:40:41 PM

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hello

My name is Bill Lyon and i am a resident of Northfield and spent most of my life in Vermont.

I am a woodland property owner and value all that is done in providing habitat for the animals

I am opposed to trapping and think that the need for that ihas expired except in rare cases and feel there is a more humane way to accomplish the taking of animals in those rare circumstances.

i am also opposed to the wanton killing of coyotes just for bragging rights.

It is especially cruel to kill them when the pups are in the den where they will stay and starve once the mother is dead.

if the coyotes become a problem managed hunting season could be developed in a season when they are for the most part done raising their offspring.

I also am totally against hunting coyotes and bears utilizing dogs.

There is no need for that type of cruelty to exist in this day and age.

I hope that all involved can come to some type of solution concerning these matters in the care of one our most important resources.

Thank you

Respectfully submitted

Bill Lyon
40 Partridge Terrace
Northfield Vt 05662

William Lyon
802.498.7775
catmanl@aol.com

From: jillana@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jillana Laufer](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 3:16:43 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

PLEASE STOP TRAPPING AND HUNTING YOUR COYOTES!!!

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jillana Laufer
3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd # 804 Studio City, CA 91604-3709
jillana@lauferco.net

From: [Ryan Zajac](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 2:59:00 PM

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Good afternoon F&W staff and board,

I am writing to share my thoughts on the proposed BMPs for regulated trapping in Vermont. First, I think the idea of having the BMPs is a noteworthy contribution to the Vermont trapping experience. I am pleased to see how involved the Agency and Vermont Trappers Assoc. have been in drafting them and I thank you for your work so far on that front.

A few general comments.

First, I am uncertain how the BMPs apply to nuisance trappers or professional pest control officers as compared to licensed "recreational" trappers. I think the document would benefit from some clarity on how these practices apply to nuisance wildlife trapping and why or why not that is the case.

In regards to the proposed restrictions on setting traps within certain distances from trails and roads, I am not in 100% support. I know a primary goal for these BMPs was to reduce the chance of domestic pets being caught in traps. I think the practices outlined here are in good order to achieve that goal, but I also think they miss one large factor - the control and management of the domestic animals themselves. I am concerned that without restrictions on the pets themselves, there are too many people willing to let their pets roam unattended which have negative consequences for wildlife. I know it is beyond the scope of this document to regulate dog and cat movement, however, I do not believe all the burden of preventing pets from being trapped rests on the trapper - the owners of said pets share in that responsibility as well.

It is unclear to me whether or not drags are currently removed from the draft under consideration or not. I think that type of set is justifiable and has the ability to meet the threshold of humaneness aimed at with these practices. Please consider retaining that option for Vermont trappers.

To conclude, I am fully in support of providing trapping opportunities in Vermont.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my thoughts on these matters.

Sincerely,

Ryan Zajac

Roxbury, VT.

From: [Connolly, Abigail](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: FW: 2023 Furbearer Rule Comments
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 2:04:29 PM
Attachments: [VTC Furbearer Rule 2023.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)



Abigail Connolly (she/her) | Principal Assistant to Commissioner Herrick
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources | Department of Fish & Wildlife
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 | Montpelier, VT 05620
802-828-1454 (o) | 802-636-7414 (c)
abigail.connolly@vermont.gov
www.vtfishandwildlife.com

Written communications to and from state employees regarding state business are considered public records and may be subject to public scrutiny.

From: Mike Covey <mcovey802@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 1:32 PM
To: mcovey802@gmail.com
Cc: Frazier, Allison <Allison.Frazier@partner.vermont.gov>; Ferland, Brad <Brad.Ferland@partner.vermont.gov>; Bailey, Brian <Brian.Bailey@partner.vermont.gov>; McCarthy, Bryan <Bryan.McCarthy@partner.vermont.gov>; Deen, David <David.Deen@partner.vermont.gov>; Dragon, Jamie <Jamie.Dragon@partner.vermont.gov>; Sweeny, Jay <Jay.Sweeny@partner.vermont.gov>; Scott, Mark <Mark.Scott@vermont.gov>; VanBuren, Martin <Martin.VanBuren@partner.vermont.gov>; Bancroft, Michael <Michael.Bancroft@partner.vermont.gov>; Kolsun, Michael <Michael.Kolsun@partner.vermont.gov>; Hogan, Neal <Neal.Hogan@vermont.gov>; Burnham, Nicholas <Nicholas.Burnham@partner.vermont.gov>; Noel, Paul <Paul.Noel@partner.vermont.gov>; Patterson, Robert <Robert.Patterson1@partner.vermont.gov>; Herrick, Christopher <Christopher.Herrick@vermont.gov>; Sausville, David <David.Sausville@vermont.gov>
Subject: 2023 Furbearer Rule Comments

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Hello All,

Attached please find the Vermont Traditions Coalition comments on the proposed furbearer rule changes.

My Best Regards,

Mike Covey
Executive Director

Vermont Traditions Coalition
802-461-3786



P. O. Box 323
Williamstown, VT 05679
mcovey802@gmail.com
www.VermontTraditions.org

From: [Hugo Liepmann](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Hugo Liepmann](#)
Subject: trapping & coyote regulations
Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 10:06:37 AM

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I urge VT to limit animal trapping to licensed trappers that have a bon fide need to deal with animals known to be doing serious damage.

I urge VT to ban the hunting or other killing of fox and coyotes. These critters are part of the natural environment. They, as well as beavers, have a critical biological role in the animal community.

That community is, in turn, critical to the health and survival of native plant life, other animal species and humans.

The natural world is not negotiable - and is not fodder for sport, commerce eg “hunting”, or profit.

Hugo Liepmann
81 Garand Hill Rd
Middlesex VT 05602

802.565.0059

From: [S A](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 9:39:30 AM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

S. Andujar
Bristol

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kathleen Kocher](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:59:26 PM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [greg smist](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: leghold traps and hound hunting
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:38:34 PM

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Fact: leghold traps cannot be made humane or selective.

Opinion: hound hunting is unfair and cruel.

Leave animals that are helpful and not invasive alone. The natural environment suffers enough from development and other human expansion.

Greg Smist
Westminster, VT

From: [mburke](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:24:05 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

It's time we treated coyotes with respect. This means ending trapping and coyote hounding. There is no good reason for it.

Sincerely,
Matthew Burke
Charlotte, VT

From: [Joanne Lertora](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Demanding Action
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:11:09 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

- VT Fish & Wildlife's Trapping & Coyote Hounding recommendations don't improve animal welfare or public safety.
- There is no way to make a leg-hold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.

How is it possible we're still discussing this in 2023???

Joanne Lertora
Hyde Park, VT 05655

From: [Carol j Scafuro](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:59:36 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

I hear Vt F&W as underwriters on VPR.. I wonder if F&W understands that the greater percentage of VPR listeners and supporters of VPR do not feel that VT F&W support the protection of VT.'s Wildlife

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

A very high percentage of us believe that F&W is there to protect the interest of hunters and trappers. This is reflected by the fact that your board is made up exclusively of the same. You are not a representation of the state of VT....The rest of us who pay taxes which support your efforts do not feel heard or represented..

I would appreciate a reply.

Carol Scafuro
Andover
VT

From: [L. Winter](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:53:26 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

I fail to see how a leghold trap can be made "humane," or able to discriminate between targeted and non-targeted species. I fail to understand how something like this can be allowed on public lands, putting the general public (children and pets) in danger. I love and train my own dogs and enjoy seeing different breeds doing what they were bred to do (herding, tracking, etc.), but how does one control a hound running great distances from their handler? How can one be certain the hounds are after the "correct" prey? How can any hunter or trapper think baiting coyotes is showing good sportmanship?

Thank you,

Laura Winter
Wilmington

From: [Neil Skinnon](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Act 159
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:05:49 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.

Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.

From: sgrdn37@aol.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:43:34 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Talking points:

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Sharon Gordon
very concern citizen
Mount Holly, Vermont

From: [Lorraine Johnson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:55:44 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jim Mayor](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:48:07 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Coyotes are predators and cull the weak and sick. Besides trapping is non-discriminatory and hounding is cruel.

--

Peace and always be kind.

Jim Mayor
952 Hartwell Pond Road
West Glover (Albany), VT 05875-9553
802-755-6307
<JasMayor@gmail.com>

--

This email has been checked for viruses by AVG antivirus software.
www.avg.com

From: [Carol Ballou](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:34:12 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall FAR short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

As a Vermonter, I am totally disgusted by the callous attitude of VT Fish and Wildlife when it comes to trapping and hounding!

Carol Ballou
Belmont, VT 05730

From: [Mark Tunney](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:24:34 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

From: [Kristine Tooker](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:11:24 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Kristine Tooker
Craftsbury

From: [Jenny Garber](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:47:05 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife, the Humane Society, and Vermont Wildlife Coalition provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Recreation trapping and hunting coyotes or bears with hounds should be banned in Vermont. Vermonters do not support this kind of inhumane treatment of our wildlife. Your poll and the 2017 UVM poll have shown the majority of Vermonters want recreational trapping banned.

Instead of acting as advocates for the trappers and hound hunters, do the right thing and advocate for the welfare of Vermont's wildlife.

Jennifer Garber
Waterbury Center, VT

From: [linda cacopardo](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:33:47 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

As a registered voter and resident of Sheffield, VT I am asking the department to create regulations that meet the wishes of the majority and the benefit to all wildlife. Traps are non selecting - domestic and nontarget species are equally at risk. Body crushing traps by design make releasing domestic and non-target animals a nonviable option. Leghold traps by their very design are nonselective, cruel and terrifying. No biological data has ever been obtained . There is no purpose other than to cater a very small number of users. Hunting is targeted, and to me understandable; trapping is not.. I urge you focus on the needs of wildlife and the wishes of the majority

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Respectfully,
linda cacopardo

From: [Karen Moulder](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:25:34 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Karen and Andrew Moulder
Ambleside Farm
469 South st
Middletown Springs VT 05757

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [linda cacopardo](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:20:54 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Body crushing traps cannot release non-target victims alive. Traps by their very nature are inhumane and nonspecific. There is no biological imperative to continue their use. For the sake of all inhabitants of our woodlands and domestic animal visitors, please end the use of leghold and body crushing traps. Citizens should have the ability to ask that regulations best meet the needs of the wildlife the department oversees. Continued trapping ensures that a very small minority interest override the majority and benefit of wildlife and domestic animals

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

From: [Carol Farmer](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 4:05:01 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Please ban all leghold traps and coyote hounding!

Carol Farmer
Montgomery Center, VT 05471

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tully Costa Evelyn](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 3:57:37 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Time to enter the 21st century for animal welfare:

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Evelyn Tully Costa
Mount Holly VT

From: [Abby Colihan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 3:51:22 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Animal welfare is important. How we treat animals says a lot about us. We need to show more respect for our earth and our fellow creatures on it.

Thank you.

Abby Colihan
16 Fuller Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

Sent from my iPad

From: [SHELAH VOGEL](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 3:42:37 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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Shelah Vogel
Charleston, VT

From: [Matt Green](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 3:40:39 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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-Mathias Green
Fletcher, VT

From: [Kerri Hansen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 3:14:37 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Kerri

From: [Beverly B.](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 2:52:41 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Beverly Buber

From: [Liana Koziupa](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 2:31:57 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

The inhumane practices of trapping and hounding need to end. I can not believe the state still allows people to kill as many animals as they please for no purpose other than a need to fulfill some mental illness in their minds. There's no need to harm and kill innocent animals and hang them from trees. I am embarrassed as a mother to live in a state my children have to drive by and see dead coyote hanging from a tree. I will teach my children empathy and respect, something that should be important and represented in the state. Empathy, compassion, and respect go much further than senseless hatred, killing, disrespect, and aggression. It's time for change. And you can make that happen.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Liana Koziupa
Washington VT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Diana Salyer](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 2:29:46 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Diana Salyer
Brattleboro, VT

From: [Michael Libecci](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 2:24:02 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Porter,

I am an avid outdoorsman that has hunted for most of my life. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent recommendations made by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department on trapping and coyote hounding. While I appreciate the department's efforts to address animal welfare and public safety concerns, I strongly believe that these recommendations fall short and do not effectively improve either aspect. Allow me to elaborate on my concerns.

Firstly, it is widely acknowledged that there is no humane way to employ leghold traps. These devices cause immense suffering and pain to trapped animals, often leading to severe injuries, amputations, or even death. I believe that the use of such traps is ethically unacceptable and contradicts our responsibility to protect wildlife while minimizing unnecessary harm.

Moreover, the allowance of body-crushing kill traps on land is deeply troubling. These traps, as demonstrated by the unfortunate incidents of last trapping season, are inherently designed to kill, making the safe release of non-targeted animals virtually impossible. This poses a significant risk to both wildlife and domesticated animals, undermining any claims of improved animal welfare or public safety.

Although Act 159 stipulated that traps should be set away from public areas on lands where recreational activities take place, I find the current recommendation by Vermont Fish & Wildlife to be inadequate. The recommendation, which only applies to a small percentage of public lands, fails to adequately protect the public. Even with the proposed 50-foot trap setbacks, the potential danger to the public and their dogs remains, and the risk of unintended consequences persists.

Furthermore, I am deeply concerned about the compliance with Act 165, which required that hounds used in coyote hunting be under the control of the hunter. The use of GPS and shock collars, as claimed by the department, does not effectively control the hounds, as evidenced by the video shared in the link you provided. The footage clearly illustrates hounds running miles away from the hunter, which raises serious concerns about the effectiveness of these control methods and the potential hazards they may pose.

Finally, the allowance of baiting by coyote hounders is problematic on multiple levels. Baiting attracts animals to areas near roads and residential regions, increasing the likelihood of dangerous encounters and conflicts. Furthermore, it provides hunters with an unfair advantage, undermining the principles of fair chase and ethical hunting practices.

In light of these concerns, I urge the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department to reconsider and revise its trapping and coyote hounding recommendations. It is essential to prioritize animal welfare and public safety by adopting more stringent measures that genuinely address these issues.

I respectfully request that the department:

-Prohibits the use of leghold traps and body-crushing kill traps on all lands within the state, thereby ensuring the humane treatment of animals.

-Expands the trap setback requirement to encompass all public lands where the public can reasonably be expected to engage in recreational activities, effectively minimizing the risks posed to both people and their pets.

-Conducts a thorough review of the control methods employed by coyote hounders, addressing the shortcomings highlighted in the video provided. The department should consider alternative methods that effectively maintain control over hounds, thus ensuring compliance with Act 165.

-Bans the practice of baiting coyotes, recognizing the potential dangers it poses to public safety and the unequal advantage it provides to hunters.

By taking these steps, the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department can demonstrate a small commitment to animal welfare and public safety, fostering an environment where coexistence between humans and wildlife is prioritized.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that you will consider these concerns seriously and take the necessary steps to address them effectively. I look forward to hearing about the department's actions in this regard.

Sincerely,

Michael Libecci
Pittsfield, VT

From: [Callahan, Renate M.](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 2:19:08 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. And once again, the many (!) protestations of thousands of Vermonters fall on deaf ears. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

The majority of Vermonters opposed to trapping demand to be taken seriously, for once!

Renate & Glenn Callahan
Johnson, Lamoille County

From: [Kerry](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 2:11:52 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

We have had a coyote attacked on our front lawn, on posted property. We have had a sow bear with cubs attacked behind our house. We had been harassed by hounders for more than 20 years before the governor and our town SB stepped in to help our community deal with daily and nightly hounding. We have caught more than 21 hounds and returned them to hounders. One was sleeping on our deck, another was attacking our cat through a cat door. Hounding is intentional cruelty based on recreation. There is no place for hounding of any animal in a civilized society.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

William and Kerry Edmunds
Craftsbury Cm, VT 05827

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Stephanie Farac](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public comment on coyotes
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 12:54:22 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello,

I think coyotes should Not be hunted using dogs. This is extremely unethical and is legalized dog fighting. I have seen the videos. This is a barbaric practice that should have been banned a long time ago. We are more evolved and educated now. Hounding is a public safety issue!! Hunting dogs do not belong on our public lands terrorizing people and wildlife.

Also coyotes mate for life and are important in regulating rodents!! All coyote hunting and trapping should be banned besides ranchers protecting livestock.

Concerned Vermont citizen
Stephanie Farac

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Admin Service](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 12:43:56 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

I have been a hunter for a good portion of my life and was raised on a farm. When I was taught to hunt by my elders the hard and fast rule was always: never kill anything unless you are going to eat it or unless the animal being killed presented a threat to your farm animals.

Trapping and the indiscriminate killing of coyotes is not only inhumane but also totally unnecessary. It runs counter to everything I have ever been taught about hunting. Its killing for thrill and without reason.

Someday I hope to see the State of Vermont change the laws to reflect a more "live and let live" focus when it comes to the stewardship of our wildlife.

Sincerely,
Warren Mills
12 Clems Drive
Essex Junction, VT
05452

From: [Leigh Steele](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 12:32:41 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sincerely,
Leigh Steele
Burlington

From: [Amanda Levasseur](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping & Coyote Hunting
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 12:07:07 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Thanks,
Amanda Levasseur

From: [Lucille Wheeler](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 11:50:12 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To Whom It May Concern:

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sincerely,

Lucy Wheeler Goodrum

631 Town Hill Rd

Reading, VT 05062

From: [Rosalind Finn](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 11:38:17 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

I am always appalled by the cruelty that this organisation - Vt. Fish & Wildlife - and the State of Vermont itself - allow towards the treatment of innocent wildlife. PLEASE WAKE UP TO WHAT YOU ARE ALLOWING TO HAPPEN. Start some good campaigns to raise money and, particularly, where to send it. This is meant to be one of the best states to live in and we are meant to be a civilised society - is trapping a civilised and humane way to live? NO NO NO, it is not. Roz Finn

From: [Glenn Sousa](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 11:34:56 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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Glenn Sousa
Burlington VT 05409

ps.: come of age F&W. I used to work for you from 1995-1998 before I took a full time job w TNC in 1998. I used to work w Steve Parren in the VT Nongame and Natural Heritage Program during those years. Please have a heart for all animals on this earth and come out of the Dark Ages. I dare you!!

From: [Molly Bezio](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 11:19:21 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Molly Bezio

From: [Catherine Bodnar](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 11:08:31 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Fish & Wildlife:

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

FACT: There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.

Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.

Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.

Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video

illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>

Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Regards,
Catherine Bodnar, Ph.D.
Williston Vermont

From: [Michelle Kaufman](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:53:54 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

All the valid points made below should be enough to ban leghold traps. Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed. Period.

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

From: [Thouron](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:46:26 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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PLEASE stop these horrible, inhumane practices in Vermont!

Janet Thouron
Middlesex VT

From: [Liz Furkay](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:40:16 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

PLEASE,

Ban leg-hold traps!

There is no reason on earth to use these barbaric methods of torture!

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sincerely,
Liz Furkay

From: P. J. LaPerle
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:39:02 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To whom it may concern,

Please consider my opinion regarding trapping in VT:

I am a lifelong Vermonter and very much enjoy outdoor recreation. I can often be found hunting, fishing, foraging, hiking and just enjoying our great state. I live in East Montpelier VT which isn't as rural as it used to be. I have 3 acres of land with neighbors and farm land on either side. I love the diversity of wildlife I see including deer, turkey, coyotes, bear, song birds, fur bearers and rodents just to name a few. All these creature have a place and a role in our ecosystem.

However, I see the ecosystem getting out of sync. Turkey hunting is my favorite recreational activity but there are not as many as there once was due to predation I believe. I believe nest predation by racoon and skunks severely damage turkey flock number. Wet springs also make nesting hens susceptible to attacks by coyotes, again hurting the population. Turkeys are a great game animal as well as nongame animal that does minimal damage to the environment. I believe we should increase trapping opportunities of nest raiders like skunks, opossums and raccoon during the spring nesting season.

Increasing trapping/hunting opportunity for fur bears would also help with diseases that are very prevalent in the furbearer population. Rabies and other diseases are impacting these populations and affecting human population and pets with more wildlife contacts. Healthy, balanced wildlife populations help control disease and dangerous contacts with humans.

I believe the coyote population is at carrying capacity. I would be very interested to hear how many coyotes are harvested either by trapping or hunting. I think if we ban harvesting coyotes, we will create more issues and will create a more out of balance ecosystem. I would encourage the state to keep coyote regulation were they are. I would support regulation on hunting coyote with dogs, simply because coyotes aren't like bears and can't climb trees. However I am extremely worried about regulations around hunting with hounds.

I think we are on very slippery slope when it comes to hound hunting. Hunting bears with hounds is a great way to selectively harvest a bear. The state's bear population is out of control! I've had too many run ins with bears and feel that the state is failing the bears. I've had to spend hundreds of dollars to protect my bees, I've had bears IN my garage destroying unused bee equipment, I have bears walking midday to attack quail that I was raising. Not to

mention the countless garbage bins I see tipped over all the time or bird feeders that can't be used half the time. We need to teach bears that humans are not food sources and hounds are a great way. I'm also concerned that rabbit/hare hunting would somehow get associated with hound hunting which would be devastating to that sport.

As far as the actions of trapping I find the current regulation to be adequate. During the COVID lockdown I was looking for something to do and decide to get my trapping license. I successfully completed the online trapping course and was surprised with the number of procedures that ensured humane harvest and ensuring non targeted wildlife can be safely released. It's actually a little overwhelming. Since obtaining my trapping license I have yet to set out a trap.

I appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinion. I would also like to caution the state regarding this process. It seems like every other day there an article in the newspaper talking about how inhumane and horrible trapping is. I've read most of these letters and they are filled with misinformation and scare tactics. It seems like there are well funded, out of state sources behind this. A quick google of Vermont trapping leads to "protect our wildlife" which ironically, if they had their way, would but more wildlife at risk. Like any other sport there are bad player and I'm sure trapping is no different but to lump all trappers as inhumane is not fair or realistic. I think trappers/hunter have a valuable and necessary role to play in balancing wildlife. The misinformation spread by the very vocal anti movement; I think represents a relatively small percentage of the population, while the silent majority does nothing more than grumble as our Vermont heritage is stripped away.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter. I would love to discuss thing further with you at your convenience. feel free to reach out to me by this email or contact me at 802-224-6417

Best,

PJ LaPerle
East Montpelier, VT

From: [Karen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:37:18 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Frederica Emerson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:36:32 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Rickie Emerson
Essex, Vt. 05452

--

Rickie Emerson

From: [Linda Burns](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:33:39 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Linda Burns
South Burlington, VT

From: [Beth Alden](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:26:36 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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Please listen to your constituents!

Beth Alden
Pawlet

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Donna Thomas](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:19:02 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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Donna Thomas
Plainfield

^..^
(oo))~
" "

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ginny Callan](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:15:38 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall extremely short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

My dog was caught in a keg hold trap on private land, the trap was set right along a trail, it could have caught curious children along with my poor dog.

You are in the pocket of the trappers and hunters and grill to protect so many Vermonters and their pets.

Sincerely,
Ginny Callan

From: [Anne Jameson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:09:06 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall far short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities.

It's impossible for leghold or body-gripping traps to be humane. They catch and kill or maim indiscriminately, including companion animals and endangered species. While Act 159 required traps to be set back from trails and other areas on all public lands where recreation may be expected, the VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendations actually apply to only a very small part of these lands. This is insufficient to protect the public. 50 foot setbacks can still present a real danger to the public and their canine companions.

Per Act 165 requirements, hounds used for hunting coyotes must be under control of the owner or handler. When hounds are running a coyote miles away, GPS and shock collars do not offer this control, contrary to Fish and Wildlife claims. In addition, use of bait should not be allowed by coyote hunters as it draws the animals next to residential areas and roads thereby offering the hunter even greater advantage over the coyote.

Fish & Wildlife's recommendations clearly do NOT meet the mandates from the 2022 legislature! .

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.
Anne Jameson
Marshfield

From: [R Linde](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:03:36 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Janice Stearns](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 10:01:40 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Janice D. Stearns
Middlebury, VT.

From: [Susan Gleiner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:37:35 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fearn Lickfield](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:36:57 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello folks, I am a concerned citizen and i wish you to hear me on this topic of Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
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- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

THank you for caring about our wildlife!
C Lickfield
Worcester, VT.

From: [BarnCatFarm](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Coyote terrorizing recommendations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:34:26 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi,

I have a farm, and I hunt. Coyotes aren't food, so there's no 'hunting' of them. Leave them alone, and focus on *protecting our native wolves* so that there are less coyotes in VT, ecosystems can finally start to rebound, deer and moose can return to health, and wildlife can flourish again. Stop disrespecting *tradition* on Abenaki lands by trying to 'manage' wildlife with foreign concepts from European colonialism.

-Samantha Nickerson
Topsham, VT

From: [Susan Gleiner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:28:43 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Susan Gleiner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:27:40 AM

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Eric Dahlin](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:22:43 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Eric Dahlin
Newfane Vt.

From: [Rachel Laliberte](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:18:39 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Rachel Laliberte
Grafton, Vermont

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- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

The idea of traps is truly disgusting - enough already!

From: [Jeremy Frederick](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:18:30 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Ignoring these issues will not make them go away.

- Jeremy Frederick

Fletcher, VT

From: [Rachel Laliberte](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:16:08 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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From: [Meghan Houlihan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations - please consider!
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:16:03 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department,

I live in Putney Vermont. PLEASE take action on this important issue. Coyotes (as well as the thirteen pet dogs caught in leghold traps in Vermont last year) are feeling creatures, just like us. They experience pain and fear. It is wrong to torment, injure, mutilate and terrorize them and the other animals that become ensnared.

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Family pets are endangered.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Meghan Houlihan

11 West St., Putney, VT

From: [Dorothy Dahm](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:12:05 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am concerned that the Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165 do not fully address public safety or animal welfare concerns.

To better protect people and domestic animals from coyote-hunting hounds, Act 165 originally required that coyote-hunting hounds be under the control of a human handler at all times. Contrary to what Fish and Wildlife officials claim, GPS and shock collars do not allow handlers to retain adequate control of hounds as this video illustrates: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q>

Act 159 sought to protect domestic and non-target wildlife from sustaining injuries or dying in traps. The Department of Fish and Wildlife has recommended that traps be at least fifty feet from trails on public lands. However, anyone who has ever walked a dog or observed someone walking a dog knows that hikers and their canine companions occasionally venture off trails. Body-crushing traps killed at least two dogs in Vermont last year, and it is nearly impossible to save a non-target animal who has been snared by such a trap. In addition, leghold traps are, by their very nature, inhumane. Although trapping advocates present padded leghold traps as "humane," people have found such traps with severed paws in the Vermont woods. This means the trapped animals chewed off a foot to escape the trap. It is hard to see such a device as humane.

Please uphold your role as a protector of Vermont's people, wildlife, and domestic animals and work with legislators to create legislation that keeps animals and people safe from harm.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Dorothy A. Dahm
Hubbardton, Vermont

From: [dator](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 9:10:26 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish

I am against both the practice of trapping coyotes and using dogs to hunt them.

They are a highly intelligent and a vital art of our ecosystem. Please end the suffering that both these practices create.

Thank you,

Julia Smist

From: [Ellen Kraft](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:59:55 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

As of Vermont resident, who enjoys the outdoors and is also a master naturalist, I see no reason to continue to threaten animals with leg hold traps. They are inhumane, animals are under enough threat from humans and climate change. Trapping is an outdated and unnecessary form of animal cruelty.

In some circumstances nuisance animals may be trapped, with the blessing of fish and game, but as sport, it just is plain cruel and unsafe for humans, our pets, and unintended animals ending up in the traps.

Please consider making the legislation stronger to keep our state safe and be a leader for protecting our precious wildlife.

Ellen Kraft McCune,
Richmond VT

From: [cake](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:58:42 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Fish and Wildlife,

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. You might also be called the Foxes guarding the hen houses department, in my opinion. Please open your minds to unnecessary cruelty, and impose limits and bans on practices that are unduly stressful for both wildlife and property owners.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sincerely,

Coleen Kearon
16 Harrison Ave
Montpelier, Vermont

From: [Debora Tramposh](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:48:53 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

There is simply NO way to make a leghold trap humane! When are we going to put the well-being of wildlife in Vermont first?

Debora Tramposh
Brattleboro, VT

From: [Karen Bourque](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Inadequate trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:47:41 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165 do absolutely nothing to address animal welfare and public safety concerns. How does allowing traps to be set a mere 50' from public trail systems protect pets and children from being harmed on public lands, or prevent the unintended bycatch of other species?

Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control hounds, despite VTF&W's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control.

We have had the displeasure of experiencing the result of GPS-collared coyote hounds cornering a coyote on our front porch, and the emotional and financial toll of that experience, including having to sand and repaint the porch and house at our own expense to remove the blood. **A pack of dogs, whether collared or not, should not be allowed to roam freely on private property.** Don't force property owners to take matters into their own hands to prevent hunting dogs from running on their land.

Vermont's citizens, pets, and wildlife will continue to be negatively impacted until VTF&W's recommendations meet legislative mandates.

Karen Bourque
West Fairlee

From: [Jim Ventresca](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Coyote and Trapping Regulation
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:42:20 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Friends,

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jim Ventresca
Calais, VT

Trying for a Better Life & Work Balance: The pace of life suggested by instant communication is just a bit too fast for my sensibilities. I typically check my email every day, and usually, but not always, on the weekends. I often take day or two to formulate a thoughtful response. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

From: [Lynne Fitzhugh](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:39:49 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

I strongly agree with this message. What possible reason exists for this kind of barbarity in the 21st century? Some will say "tradition," but civilization has eventually slunk away from most barbaric and cruel "traditions." It's time to outlaw this one.

Lynne Fitzhugh
Fairlee

From: [Trish C](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:27:19 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Trish Carney
Corinth VT

From: [Bruce McClelland](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:25:41 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Bruce McClelland
Woodstock, VT

From: [Claudia Welch](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:10:06 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Folks,

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

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- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

thank you.

warmly,

--

Dr. Claudia Welch
Calais, VT

From: [Samantha Giovanniello](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 8:02:35 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Samantha Giovanniello
Granville Vermont

--

Samantha Brayton

From: steved518@aol.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:58:41 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Why is alright to allow a pack of dogs to run wild through the countryside with no regard for property or domestic animals when my dog can be shot for chasing a deer? Having a GPS collar on does not mean the dog is under control especially considering the owner is more than likely in a truck miles away. How is this considered hunting or sport? It's nothing but legalized dog fighting. The chased animal is mauled while the hounders watch with great enjoyment. Cruelty at it's finest. And then there's trapping. More cruelty only it's considered "humane cruelty". How can an animal caught in a trap suffering for long periods of time or loosing a paw from struggling to get free be considered anything but inhumane and cruel. No matter how many positive phrases you use to describe hounding and trapping it does not change the reality that they are both cruel and the proponents of such things are also complicit in this cruelty.

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
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- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Steven F. DiCicco

Hyde Park

From: [Caroline Canning](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:58:38 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To Whom It May Concern:

Leghold traps are inhumane and were introduced at a time when respect for animals wasn't considered. We have evolved since then, and are much more knowledgeable about the impact these traps have and the pain and suffering that is caused.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

It's time Vermont Fish & Wildlife consider what we know today about the pain and suffering animals endure when caught in these traps a top priority.

Change needs to be made now.

Respectfully,

Caroline Canning
Burlington, Vermont

Sent from my iPhone

From: [karen Sheppard](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:55:57 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations for both trapping and hounding regulations do not go far enough to address animal welfare and public safety concerns. Their recommendations also fail to meet legislative mandate as required in Act 159 and Act 165.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife submitted recommendations to VT Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations were accepted in their original form.

Thank you, karen m sheppard burlington vt

From: [Nancy Fitzpatrick](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:55:09 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Nancy Fitzpatrick
Barre Town
Sent from my iPad

From: [Edward Morgan](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:47:13 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding (as required under Act 159 and Act 165), fall far short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

There is NO WAY to make a leghold trap humane.

Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.

Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public.

Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.

Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>

Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but NOT ONE of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations simply do not meet legislative mandates, and are out of step with the will of the majority of Vermonters.

Sincerely,
Edward Morgan
St. Johnsbury

From: P.S
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:44:28 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello!

I think trapping / leg trapping should NOT be permitted in Vermont. My brother trapped. My uncles trapped. But time and resources and knowledge about the natural world have changed since then. We need beavers and opossums, etc. to sustain and balance our ecosystem way more than someone needs their pelt. Also, set traps get forgotten and remain lurking for peoples' dogs and kids.

I think coyote hounding should NOT be allowed in Vermont.

Thank you,
Pamela Sonn

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Beth Cole](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:32:37 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165 don't begin to meet the stated standards. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Why? The public deserves to know.

And in the meantime, those that prey suffer needlessly. And our domestic pets are extremely vulnerable and when caught, suffer needlessly and illegally.

Finally, Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not even meet legislative mandates.

This pressure will never relent because Vermont's population overwhelmingly opposes trapping. I, for one, will never cease speaking up. For my own dogs and for the trapped animals.

Beth Cole
Northfield, Vermont

--

Beth Ellen Cole
Trauma Specialist, SE Practitioner, International Development & Peacebuilding Consultant
Member, Somatic Experiencing Trauma Institute

From: [Ann MacMichael](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:31:03 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Paula Spellacy](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 7:05:30 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Thank you- Paula Spellacy, Hancock VT

From: [Holly Cook](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:58:35 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

The points below are valid and should be taken into consideration in creating laws and guidelines.

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share> ;
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Sincerely,

Holly Cook

From: [Lesley Pollitt](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:53:22 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Fish and wildlife do not represent majority of Vermonters and clearly refuse to use current/ modern technology rather than cruel out dated trapping methods to get the information they need.

At a minimum they need to be required to adapt recommendations such as those of Protrect our Wildlife
Thank you,

Lesley Pollitt
Halifax, Vt.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Todd](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:38:47 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Thank you,
Todd Thomas
Morrisville

From: crowhillfarm@vermontel.net
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:37:10 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sent from my iPad

From: [lauren Alpert](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:36:29 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.
- LEASE TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY AS IT IS IMPORTANT TO A LARGE PORTION OF VERMONTERS!!

From: [Joe Payne](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:35:42 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
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From: [Kara Evarts](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:27:56 AM

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KC Evarts
Landgrove

From: [Sara Ross](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:23:20 AM

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Sara Ross
3394 Sheffield Square Rd
Sheffield VT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Deb](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:23:19 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Vicki Hopper](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:22:12 AM

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Vicki Hopper
Panton

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tracy Penfield](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:20:04 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

My name is Tracy Penfield and I live in Chelsea VT.

I am an ardent supporter of wildlife rights and still have not heard or read a viable validation for the use of leghold traps in this day and age. Not a single reason, other than for the "tradition" of killing and maiming wildlife who do not pose a threat to humans. In the popular book and film "Life of Pi" there is a tent at the zoo, with a sign "See the World's most Dangerous Animal." When one enters the tent and pulls back the curtain, there is a mirror.

Let's hold up the mirror to ourselves and stop being cruel.

I heard recently on the radio that trapping provides valuable info to the Dept. of Fish and Wildlife for the support of trapped species. This appalled and confounded me. Can someone please explain how it can be helpful to propagate a species by killing it in a brutal manner, often catching unwanted species, as well?

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Please enter the 21st century, we have far more dire problems to address if humans are to remain viable on this planet.

Yours, sincerely,
Tracy Penfield
Chelsea, Vermont

From: [Jean Hunt](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:18:09 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Jean Hunt
South Burlington, VT
Sent from my iPad

From: [Sheryl A.Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:18:08 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

From Sheryl Smith of Perkinsville, VT ~ any sort of trapping for any reason is CRUEL ~ would you like to be caught in a trap ~ I doubt you would find it 'pleasant' ~ I can hear 'you' screaming if 'you' (the trapper) were put into it & left for a day or more. And the other 'yous' ~ the ones to say it is ok to trap ~ put yourself into a trap & see if you think it is 'humane' to trap.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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--

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

From: [RoseAnn Johnson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:16:35 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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RoseAnn Johnson
P O Box 54
Rochester, VT 05767
Sent from my iPhone

From: [erin helmken](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:15:45 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Respectfully,
Erin Helmken, Moretown, VT

From: [Chris and Bettie Caldwell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:14:53 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I wanted to take a moment to address Act 159 and Act 165 which, in my opinion, are woefully inadequate to address the issues of animal welfare. Vermont is my new home. My wife and I moved here from a state that didn't understand the value of tourism, nature, and the increasingly fragile environment. Vermont was a fresh start for us. Imagine my horror when I found out that the Fish & Wildlife agency viewed our natural surroundings as no different than a rich coal vein to be sucked from the earth leaving behind a horrible mess. Unfortunately, that is the analogy that I keep coming up with when it comes to the heinous and inhumane treatment that these poor creatures suffer in the "recommended" traps.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates. Please listen to the vast majority of Vermonters, like me, who believe we need to adopt these recommendations and cease this cruel treatment. A society is no better than how it treats the least of thee and unfortunately, that doesn't make us very good right now.

Thank you,

Chris Caldwell

Sent from my iPad

From: [Claire Payne](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:14:14 AM

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Claire Payne,
Georgia, VT

From: [Kim Findlay](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:13:49 AM

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- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

KIM FINDLAY (she/her)
Charlotte, VT
802.425.2100 home/fax
802.999.3084 cell
farafieldfarm@gmavt.net

From: [Ken Kavanagh](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 6:00:07 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Kenneth Kavanagh
Windham County, VT

Sent from my iPhone

From: shatney@vtlink.net
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:56:33 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Linda Shatney
Greensboro, VT

From: [Trudy Jones](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:44:09 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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GPS collars do not control dogs.

There's no way a leghold trap can be humane.

Hunters should not be allowed to bait coyotes, it will lure all animals closer to roads and highways.

We must do better

Trudy Jones (Northfield)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bill Westervelt](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:41:33 AM

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Bill Westervelt
Warren

From: suki@stoweaccess.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:38:16 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Times are changing and we the people have become enlightened to the cruelty of trapping and hounding. This is not sport, nor is this done to put food on your table. It is senseless cruel killing for no reason. It must be stopped. Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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I am not against hunting. I am against cruelty and killing for no reason.

Suki Demar
Stowe

From: [Eesha Williams](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:37:24 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

My wife and I are veggie farmers. There are too many deer in VT. Deer bring ticks that cause human disease. Coyotes kill deer. We need to stop killing coyotes.

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Eesha Williams
Dummerston, Vermont

From: [Alice Ryan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:22:43 AM

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Alice Ryan
Newfane

From: suki@stoweaccess.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:22:26 AM

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Where is the sport in trapping and hounding? They are cruel and should be stopped immediately. I am not against hunting. I am against cruelty.

From: [Marilyn Dupre](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:14:42 AM

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Marilyn Dupre
Underhill, Vermont

From: [Janice Nadworny](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:13:44 AM

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Vermont should follow science during this critical time of climate change, not the outdated practices of the 19th century. Our state government needs to put forth policies that reflect the values of the majority of Vermonters who value nature, and who believe, unlike the tiny percentage of trappers driving current policy, that killing these important animals for fun is wrong.

From: [Cheri Bergeron](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 3:41:14 AM

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Sent from my iPad

From: coloneledamvc@aol.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 2:27:32 AM

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Regards

Richard Kite

From: [ATT-Update](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 12:23:39 AM

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From: [Katrine Wolfgang](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 12:23:13 AM

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Katrine Wolfgang
Skiessentials.com
Basin Sports -Killington Vt
Pinnacle Ski and Sports
Inner Bootworks
Stowe, Vermont

Like us on Facebook
Follow us on Instagram
Follow us on Twitter
Follow us on Pinterest

From: [K Bulnes](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 11:23:24 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Ana Bulnes
Colchester, VT

From: [Daniel Mosle](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 11:15:45 PM

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From: [Maxine Adams](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:54:03 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Public Comment from Maxine Adams, Hyde Park, VT:

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- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

From: [Sheila Hastie](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:52:13 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Leghold traps are INHUMANE. Animals are in severe pain and terrified which means they are being tortured whether it is a pet that inadvertently got caught in it, or a wild animal (targeted or non-targeted which is also a big black mark against kill traps).

I can't even believe baiting coyotes is legal. If it's illegal for deer and bear why is it ok for coyotes, as if hunters need even more advantages than they already have. Using hounds to chase anything to their death and often being torn apart by them is cruel. There are very few, if any, hunters that could keep up with their dogs who are on a chase, so it doesn't matter if they know where they are via GPS collars. The point is the hounds are often with the "prey" for a significant amount of time without the hunter.

We should not be hiding behind the "culture of Vermont" as in this is how it's always been done so that makes it okay. Slavery was part of the southern culture for years, women weren't allowed to vote, gay marriages weren't allowed. At some point people have to realize animal cruelty is animal cruelty, whether it's a pet or a wild animal. If it walks like a duck and sounds like a duck.....

By the way, I own 116 acres in Hartford and allow neighbors to hunt on my land so I am not anti-hunting but am anti-cruelty.

Respectfully,

Sheila Hastie
White River Junction, VT

From: [Kari Swierz](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:48:29 PM

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- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Kari swierz
- Lamoille county
- Home owner and VT resident for 30 years.
- Most inhumane thing I've ever seen. Leghold traps. Disgusting!

From: [Marilyn Donovan](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:44:46 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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I strongly agree with the points below :

-
- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

I live in an area where I routinely come across "hunters" running bear with their hounds. They have zero control over their dogs! GPS and shock collars are NOT control
Looking at your GPS while your hounds are in the woods out of sight is NOT control!
I've seen the dogs run on posted private lands, including my own land. The hounds have harassed my pet dog also.

Marilyn Donovan DVM
124 Parker Lane
Weston VT 05161

From: [Kellie Merrell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:41:34 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Please be mindful that the sentiment toward the practice of trapping and non-consumptive hunting has turned in Vermont and VTFW needs to respond accordingly. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is to be practiced in all departments within ANR, including in the refinement of VTFW's hunting and trapping regulations. The lack of diversity, equity and inclusion in the make up of key policy makers in this arena does not look good in the face of the current culture of inclusion the Agency is purporting to model.

I encourage VTFW to take advantage of opportunities to partner with students enrolling in Vermont Law School and Graduate School's new Master's degree in animal protection policy to begin charting new territory beyond catering to the white privileged male Vermonter.

Sincerely,
Kellie Merrell
Danville, VT

From: [Shyanne Roberge](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:38:26 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Shyanne Roberge
Colchester, Vermont

From: Rt7antiques@vermontel.net
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:27:33 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sent from my Galaxy Tab® A

From: [Noreen McDonough](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:14:38 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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From: [David Pistilli](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:08:56 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.

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Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters an even greater advantage.

David Pistilli
Middlebury

From: [M. C. Ruth](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:03:39 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Please re-examine and extend, or over rule Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations so that no living creature is negatively impacted by these issues of trapping and coyote hounding.

Thank you, Ron Ruth Morrisville, VT 05661

From: [Lili Cappello](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:01:41 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Please end the cruel practice of trapping animals and all wildlife.

Sincerely,
Joanne Cappello
Vermont

From: [sam battaglino](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:59:01 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sam Battaglino Grafton VT.

From: [sam battagline](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:57:29 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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From: [John Burke](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:56:30 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

How is the concept of a "Leg Hold Trap" considered humane? Trapping should have ended in the 1820's and I am very certain that the majority of Vermonters feel the same. Instead, let's ignore the wishes of the residents and perpetuate this inhumane assault on our wildlife!
A Disgusting and cruel sport.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

John Burke
Grand Isle Vermont

From: [Elo-Mai](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:42:08 PM

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It is crucial that Act 159 and Act 165 become law in VT. The people who engage in Bear Hounding and who use leghold traps and body crushing kill traps do not value the lives of creatures other than themselves. The only way these practices will end are if a large public outcry ensues. Vermonters who have a conscience have the right to be represented on the VT Fish and Wildlife Board.

Irving A. Rosado
Westminster, VT
Irving Rosado

From: [Howard Hall](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:40:56 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Paula Moore
410 Ridgeline Rd.
Panton VT.
05491
802-475-2699

From: [Lorraine Kayser](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:40:11 PM

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Sent from my iPad

From: [Laurette Dein](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:38:55 PM

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From: [Howard Hall](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:37:25 PM

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Howard Hall
410 Ridgeline Rd.
Panton VT.
05491-9301
802-377-1821

From: [Carole Reeves](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:36:08 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Carole Reeves
Burlington

From: [Cheryl Elovirta](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:35:53 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Too many animals - domestic and wildlife are injured and killed in traps.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Why is that?

Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Cheryl Elovirta

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Elo-Mai](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:35:31 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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What is so difficult for the members of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Board to comprehend? How would any one of them feel if their dog or child were killed or badly maimed as a result of being caught in a leghold trap? A padded leghold trap will still be cruel and debilitating. Trapping and torturing living creatures is barbaric and is an example of the type of mentality which does not value compassion for any living creature other than himself.. What does it take for this Wildlife Board. to allow Vermonters who are not hunters or trappers to participate in making decisions which impact public safety concerns? It takes many people going up to the State House to address their concerns with their state representatives. I will be one of these people.

Elo-Mai Noormets
Westminster, VT
Elo-Mai

From: [Angela](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:34:52 PM

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- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.

Angela Pollock
Hinesburg, VT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Maryam Nouri Aiin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:33:06 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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You're an awful organization!

Maryam Nouri-Aiin
Burlington

From: [Monica Farrington](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:32:25 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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There is no way on this earth that trapping is or can be made "humane." We have to get off this train of cruelty. This abhorrent practice must be stopped as soon as possible. Why do you think countries around the world have banned the leghold trap? Why do we have to look like a backward, heartless state and country?

Vermont has got to take the lead and get rid of trapping. No excuses. No "traditions" baloney. It's time for eighteenth century cruelty to meet twenty-first century intelligence, conscience and sensibilities.

Do you think this severed paw is "humane"? If so, then reason has fallen on deaf ears and blind eyes.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Monica Farrington, lifelong Vermonter
4 Green Dolphin Drive
South Burlington, VT 05403

Does this look humane?



Severed paw remaining in Oneida-Victor™ Softcatch leghold trap found by a VT resident.

This leghold trap, containing a severed paw, is referred to as a Softcatch "padded" leghold trap. It's listed under Fish & Wildlife's "Best Management Practices" for trapping.



ProtectOurWildlifeVT.org

From: [mayasarada](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:28:35 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Thank you,
Brian and Maya Drummond
South Londonderry, VT

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S10+, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: [Comcast](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:23:41 PM

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Sent from my iPad

From: groundhog@gmavt.net
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:20:17 PM

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Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

--Krista Cheney
St. George

From: [Molly Coseno](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:18:26 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

I'm appalled that this is still an issue out for discussion, it's inhumane and disgracefully supported by an organization that's main function is to support our local wildlife and coexistence. I would like to see effort put into maintaining and supporting our wildlife in this age of climate change - tiresome to see these issues over and over again - makes me wonder who the decision makers are and their motivation.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sincerely,
Molly Coseno
Vermont resident and resident of Stowe, VT

From: [Meigan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:18:00 PM

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Please reconsider addressing the animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Thank you,
John and Meigan Risse
East Calais, VT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ann Owen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:11:07 PM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

There is no way to make trapping humane. And animals are sentient creatures. Vermont has a disgraceful track record on protecting animals from needless pain and destruction - to what end. This should not be a sport, just like bear hunting should not be a sport.

Ann Owen
148 Chipman St
South Burlington VT 05403

From: mekuitert@gmail.com
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:08:53 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Marianne Kuitert
Charlotte, Vermont 05445
Sent from my iPad

From: [Stephanie Scott](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:08:42 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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From: mekuitert@gmail.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:07:19 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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Sent from my iPad

From: [Res 555](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:06:43 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Rick S.
Brattleboro, Vt.

From: [Richard Fitzhenry](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:05:54 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Respectfully,

Richard Fitzhenry
Hyde Park

From: Laurie
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:04:52 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>;
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

There are NO HUMANE leg hold traps.

- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>;
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S21 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

I had coyote hunters come onto our posted private property a few yrs. Ago. They had NO control over their shock collar dogs. Was horrible with blood from the wounded coyote all over our horse barn area. Laurie Pratt Bridport VT.

From: [Rikki Shields](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:04:13 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

It is time to recognize and accept that animal welfare is an utmost concern to the majority of people and outdated, cruel practices need to end.

Sincerely,
Lynn Shields
Stowe

From: [Sarah Nilsen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:00:53 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sarah Nilsen

Associate Professor, University of Vermont

Shelburne Vermont

From: [Ann Rubright](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:58:22 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Karen Saunders](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:57:51 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Once again, Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, don't adequately address animal welfare and public safety concerns.

The suggestions still leave humans, dogs, cats, and wildlife at risk of being cruelly hurt. 50 foot setbacks from trails are not adequate for roaming dogs or kids - and regulations keeping tracks away from the public should apply to all public lands.

There just is no way to make a leghold trap humane, nor are body-crushing traps in any way humane. It's long past time for Vermont to join the states that ban these traps. They aren't the most effective wildlife management tools, and trappers are a much smaller segment of our state's population than those of us who use public land for other purposes. I myself would rather not inadvertently encounter a trap while engaged in a plant species inventory, nor would I want my son's lovely elderly German shepherd to encounter a trap while straying off trail on a long leash.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sincerely,
Karen Saunders
Brattleboro, Vermont

From: [Penny harris](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:56:56 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Trapping is antiquated. This is the 21st century where we should be treating wildlife with respect, not demeaning it. Please consider changing trapping by outlawing it.
Thank you

Penelope Harris
Cambridge, Vermont

From: [Marilyn holmberg](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:50:19 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Marilyn Holmberg
Hinesburg

Sent from my iPhone

From: [S. Peck](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:50:03 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sarah M. Peck
Jamaica, VT 05359

From: [M. Kaseweter](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:49:30 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing both animal welfare and human welfare. This is a public safety risk and a "humane" nightmare.

Wildlife advocacy organizations provided recommendations, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities.

Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates. Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed; they killed two dogs that we know of last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.

If you don't respect wildlife, you can at least respect companion animals enough to stop valuing trapping over the safety of Vermonters' pets.

Mikhala Kaseweter, MSc
Williston, VT

From: [Lynne Fagan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:49:13 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Especially leg trapping as well as killing without using the animal for food or livelihood.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Lynne Fagan, MD
143 Sterling Ridge Road
Stowe, VT 05672
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [AnnePace](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:43:41 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sincerely,

Anne Pace
East Wallingford, VT 05742

From: [Louise Rickard](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:42:02 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing any animal.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

The times have changed. Wildlife in general is under serious threat from human destruction of and intrusion into their environment. Vermont Fish and Wildlife needs to take bolder action to stop these inhumane practices.

Thank you for taking my comment.
Louise Rickard
Lincoln

From: [Craig Mooney](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:41:08 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mark Perrault](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:40:38 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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From: [Jessica Burl](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:38:57 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

There is no way to make a leg hold trap humane. Not to mention, that is just lazy hunting practices. How does anyone feel accomplished by capturing and injuring animals this way? Especially when non-targeted animals, like pet dogs, have been killed by the body-crushing kill traps. If this happens on public land, safe and humane methods should be used to prevent harm from occurring to non-targeted animals, as well as humans.

Take Care,
Jessica Burl
Middlebury, VT, Resident

From: [Felicia Bonanno](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:38:44 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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From: [Jan Shimp](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:37:06 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

It's just plain wrong to trap

Sent from my iPad

From: [kendel stafford](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:33:09 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

The legislature has overstepped it's authority, ignorantly reacting to the wants of the anti hunting and trapping 'groups' (in reality,, just a few individuals) Vermonters have hunted and trapped for generations without harm to the wildlife populations. The anti-hunters/trappers act purely out of ignorance and denigrate the wildlife experts of the F&W Department. The legislative dictates should be reversed. No further restrictions should be imposed.

From: [Peggy Larson](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:32:39 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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Peggy W Larson, DVM MS JD
Williston, VT. 05495

From: [Karin Bourassa](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:30:57 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

I hope the State of Vermont stops these barbaric tactics in the name of recreation.

Karin Bourassa
Colchester, VT

From: [Vera Nazarian](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:29:41 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations for both trapping and hounding regulations do not go far enough to address animal welfare and public safety concerns. Their recommendations also fail to meet legislative mandate as required in Act 159 and Act 165.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife submitted recommendations to VT Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations were accepted in their original form.

Thank you,

Vera Nazarian

From: [Nicole Furlan](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:28:56 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.

Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.

Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.

Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates
<https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>

Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Thank you,

Nicole Furlan
Troy, VT

From: [Kenneth MacLeod](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:28:55 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Production Designer
Saturday Night Live
kenmacleod.com
Positive Reinforcement Dog Trainer KPA CTP
mypositivepup.com
201-218-0413

sent from my iphone

From: [Janice McCann](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:27:14 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

No bating, no leg hold traps. No hounding!!!

Janice McCann

From: [Sumi Sin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:27:12 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

Sumi Sin (Bristol, VT resident)

From: [Lindsey Waldman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please consider: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:27:08 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

There is no such thing as a humane hold trap. Animals may eat their own paws off to escape.

Crush traps are a danger to dogs, cats and other unintended animals.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

From: [Wendy Benjamin Morgan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:26:23 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Wendy Morgan, J.D.
Animal Rights Attorney
Shelburne VT

Excuse any typos
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Patricia McGill](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:24:53 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

PLEASE :

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Patricia McGill
Kirby

From: [Carol Mcgranaghan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:24:30 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

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From: [Susan Gilfillan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:24:16 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Sent from my iPhone
Typos courtesy of my iPhone

From: [David Adkins](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 8:22:18 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Additionally,

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage.

David Adkins
Colchester, VT

From: [Valerie Sinnamon](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 7:31:23 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am a resident of Grand Isle County.

Trapping should be banned. **Even one minute of excruciating pain is one minute too long.**

Those who advocate trapping should all be sat down and made to watch an animal in a trap in excruciating pain and terror.

Ban all hunting with a pack of dogs on coyotes or any prey. Give the hunter a gun or gun and let them stalk the prey.

Do not issue any licenses to hunt with dogs on any animal.

There is no reason in 21st century Vermont that we cause needless cruelty and terror to a living animal. End it!!!!

Vermont Fish and Wildlife should be made up of 50% members who are not hunters.

Let's put these issues to a vote in the next Vermont -wide general election.

Valerie Sinnamon

From: [Norland](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 2:42:49 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I fear that my views on legislation stated below (#1 and #2) will be ignored and overridden by Fish and Wildlife because of the sort of thinking evidenced by the following:

In a May 4th email to me on the topic of shooting bear sows that have cubs, Director Mark Scott stated that stopping the shooting of bear sows with cubs would “have little effect to protect bear family units.” I would have laughed aloud at this statement were it not so sad.

Anyway...

1. Leghold traps should be a thing of the past. “Improving the welfare” of trapped animals is an oxymoron. In fact, *recreational trapping*—long out of favor with the general public—should no longer be allowed, much less encouraged.
2. Hunting coyotes 365 days a year is both barbaric and utterly unscientific. It makes absolutely no sense to continue to categorize a species as nothing more than a “varmint.” Hunting them with dogs makes even less sense.

Norma Norland
New Haven, VT

From: [Gene White, Jr.](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: hunting & trapping laws
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 2:18:11 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

My opinion:

1. There should be NO trapping. None. The proposed rules do not address the question of the inherent inhumane treatment involved in this primitive sport.
2. There should be NO hunting of coyotes with dogs. None. As sport or hobby, this is simply indulgent, primitive activity.

It is 2023, and there is no justification for the barbarism and inhumane activities of trapping and dog-hunting. What would a 2023 trapper do with wild animals he/she traps? Nobody buys fur anymore. Do they skin them and throw the rest away? What happens with the killed coyotes? C'mon -- people need to figure out less destructive and useless ways to amuse themselves.

Eugene D. White Jr.
6 Maplewood Lane
Essex Jct, VT 05452
802.316.6031

From: [Alexis Dubief](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 1:07:51 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Thank you for being open to comment.

When I consider trapping in Vermont a few things jump out at me:

- 1) Routinely pets are harmed/killed in these devices.
- 2) They are functionally a form of animal cruelty where animals are in pain and/or starving for hours or days.
- 3) While in theory we have guidelines to manage their use (where they can be placed, how frequently they need to be checked) the reality is the state doesn't have the resources to adequately enforce those guidelines.

Trapping is something that most Vermonters are unaware of but even the most cursory research into the reality of harm and suffering resulting from trapping makes it difficult to support. It's indiscriminate, unenforceable, cruel, and unnecessary.

I urge you to consider significant guardrails for a practice that has questionable value and is functionally a form of state-sanctioned animal abuse.

Sincerely,
Alexis Dubief
Essex Junction, VT

--



Alexis Dubief

Founder

Precious Little Sleep LLC

■ [8028812887](tel:8028812887)

■ alexis@preciouslittlesleep.com

■ www.preciouslittlesleep.com

■ 22 Essex Way #9051, Essex Junction, VT 05452

[Learn more!](#)

From: [Ann McCann](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:55:49 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department,

I live in Newfane Vermont. PLEASE take action on this important issue. Coyotes (as well as the thirteen pet dogs caught in leghold traps in Vermont last year) are feeling creatures, just like us. They experience pain and fear. It is wrong to torment, injure, mutilate and terrorize them.

There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.

Family pets are endangered. Our dogs, our neighbors dogs, all the possums and deer and wildlife can face horrible suffering and terrible death.

Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land.

Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public.

Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates

<https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>

Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes.

I am worried about my granddaughters playing in the West River, facing leghold traps and packs of dogs, on our own property!

Many thanks for your consideration,

https://vtdigger.org/2023/05/21/state-invites-public-to-comment-on-proposed-regulations-for-coyote-hunting-and-wildlife-trapping/?fbclid=IwAR06Wle8x8-mUFngARJbyf_iriqmm_x4jCRZXvDT2tul4lkr2cskn_Jz--s

From: [Laura Nelson](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:05:54 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide feedback. As a native Vermonter living in a hunting community, and having grown up in a family with hunters, I recognize the value and importance of ethical hunting, mostly with respect to putting food on the table. There are, however, limits to my support. I don't support practices that I consider to be unethical, and those would be practices that do not end in a "good death" - one that does not involve causing undue fear and suffering - which I believe ALL trapping causes. I've had multiple interactions with trappers, who feel attacked and just want to be left alone. Trapping is their way of communing with nature, said one. I'm all for communing with nature, and I know I don't fully understand what it is to be in the woods with one's traps. Still, I believe there are more humane ways to commune with nature (one trapper told me that there is no such concept as "humane" in the natural world. Where humans and animals intersect, I disagree.). I have followed trapping testimony and legislation all the way up to and including Act 159. **NO TO 159**

RE: "Trapping devices and components of trapping devices that are more humane than currently authorized devices and are designed to minimize injury to a captured animal as defined by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Best Management Practices"

I do not believe there is any such thing as a humane trapping device, padded or not, toothed or not, crushing or not. They all cause intense fear and struggle. And those trappers who deny this, who say the animal is just chilling or napping and in no distress are just not being truthful, in my opinion. I do not believe trapping IN ANY FORM is appropriate.

Act 165

I am against the use of hound dogs for hunting in general. I do not believe a radio collar constitutes having the dog under control when it is running a mile away. These dogs running the woods where I live are not under control, they are aggressive, and they don't necessarily corner a coyote and wait for owner to legally "dispatch" with a gun. Last year my neighbor woke to a pack of hounds ripping apart a live coyote in her front yard, snow awash in blood under her bedroom window. It was bedlam, and the houndsman, once he caught up with his dogs, didn't want to shoot because he was afraid of accidentally shooting one of his dogs. It was horrific. I am aware that this scene plays out among wild animals in nature. It's the way they survive. It's not the way humans survive. We have no business allowing such a grisly scene to play out. This is not a fair fight. A pack of well fed and cared for hounds tracking a wild animal is not a fair chase. And the hounds are really not all that well cared for. Every day I run past a yard filled with hounds chained on a short rope to their little houses, baying and pulling. This is no life. Last week I was driving on a dirt road in the morning, on my way to the supermarket, on a narrow winding dirt road, cause that's what we do here in the country. As I rounded the corner, suddenly there was a hound running straight toward my car in "my lane" - the hound was attached to a leash, attached to the hand of a guy with his arm out his truck window, driving down the road as he ran his dog!!! I had little time to brake and swerve, my safety was clearly at risk. Seeing me he brought the dog closer to his truck, but kept driving, putting the dog at great risk running so close to the truck in motion.

The point is that I do not see a place for hunting with hounds. It's not humane to the hounds, it's definitely not humane to the coyotes. I don't want them on my property and I don't want to be put in the position of having a "permission conversation" in order to keep them off. If my land is posted, and it is, they have no business on it. My land is for ME to enjoy the wildlife in MY WAY, which does not involve chasing it down and killing it. "Provisions to encourage persons pursuing coyote with the aid of dogs to seek landowner permission before entering..." Encourage? Just - no. They stay off the land unless the owner gives express permission. The no hunting sign is a clear and sufficient indication of my wishes.

There should be a limited season on coyote hunting, as there is with deer and other VT wildlife. And it shouldn't happen with the aid of domestic dogs. **NO TO 165**

Thank you
Laura

From: [Lynn Eisenbrey](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: coyote hunting
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 7:29:24 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

My opinion about the Vermont Fish and Wildlife rules for hunting of coyotes is the following:

1. Only allow for hunting during October- December and permit for one per hunter.
2. Allow only 50 permits during the allotted time.
3. Raise fees and increase penalties for anyone caught with carcass(s), without a hunting permit.

My personal opinion is that hunting is needed, but has been helter-skelter for too long. Too many guns but less living creatures to shoot at.

I've worked with guys who beef themselves up by declaring how many coyotes they kill each week. I was disgusted then by their bravado and lack of understanding of the need for coyotes and I remain so. Please re-educate people and place better limitations on where, when and how many coyotes can be killed.

Illegal trade of our country's natural wildlife has been mismanaged as well. It is all a web and we need better accountability of hunters as to what they're killing and where the pelts and body parts are being sent.

Coyotes maintain a natural order. Rats and cats are two large overpopulated species which coyotes will manage. Poisons don't and folks with guns can't, either.

--

Lynn Eisenbrey

802-503-4721

63Lynnc@gmail.com

From: [Lynn Eisenbrey](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Traps
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 7:11:50 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

My opinion is that using traps is an all-around unsafe method and should be permanently banned. Simple. People and animals don't always stick to trails. Wild animals of all ilks cannot know what they are close to and no hunter is going to report how many "others" got caught in their traps.

Traps are too dangerous and put animals through a slow, painful death.

If hunters want to use their traps, then they should use **their land** or find a friend who will allow the placement of those traps on **their property ONLY**, not on public lands, wilderness areas, nat'l forest lands or nat'l parks.

Thank you for allowing me to share my opinion.

--

Lynn Eisenbrey
802-503-4721
63Lynnc@gmail.com

From: [Karen Garbarino](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 6:47:11 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

We, as a society, have come such a long way in understanding that the animals we share this planet with have many of the same emotions and feelings that we do. We've banned dog fighting and cock fighting because we realized that causing others pain and fear in the name of entertainment was wrong.

We are at that point with trapping and coyote hunting. What gives us the right to cause foxes, beavers, coyotes and other animals pain and terror in the name of recreation? We all react with horror when a family's dog dies a painful death when mistakenly caught in a leghold or body crushing trap. Does a fox or coyote feel that pain and terror any less? Of course not.

It's time to stop causing so much pain and fear in the name of tradition or recreation. We are better than that. Please ban all trapping and coyote hunting.

Thank you.

Karen Garbarino
Johnson

[Sent from the all new AOL app for Android](#)

From: Kathleen Duich
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 11:15:19 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi -

I live in Putney Vermont. PLEASE take action on this important issue. Coyotes (as well as the thirteen pet dogs caught in leghold traps in Vermont last year) are feeling creatures, just like us. They experience pain and fear. It is wrong to torment, injure, mutilate and terrorize them.

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane.
- Family pets are endangered (13 dogs were caught in leghold traps in Vermont in 2022)
- Body-crushing kill traps should not be allowed on land.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Kathleen Duich

--
writer for nonprofits and purposeful companies
kathleenduich.com

maker and lover of beauty
thevermontretreat.com

From: [Clifford Loos](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 10:14:01 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To Whom It May Concern:

I grew up in Jeffersonville and snowshoe hares and ruffed grouse were plentiful. Since my 27 years of service in the US Navy, I returned and hunted in Vermont. I can clearly see that there is a huge decline. I hear coyote packs howling at night at my residence. Different In Wolves, coyotes destroy a population, wolves kill the weak and Rome. My question is what hunts Coyotes in Vermont ? If hunting is including either with dogs or whatever. How do we control the population?
Trapping is pretty much the same argument?

Can someone explain why this in the Vt legislation for consideration because of someone's feelings!

Respectfully,
Cliff Loos
3348 Hill West Road
Enosburg Falls, Vt 05450
843 490-0059

My number is because I was stationed in SC while in training for the US Navy.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Randy Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 7:23:02 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi - I'm a resident of Montgomery, Vermont, a member of the public, weighing in on Act165 and Act159. Thank you for this opportunity to share my views.

With particular regard to Act159, the short version is that **I believe these proposed changes favor trappers and don't protect wildlife and pets from inhumane practices that cause undue suffering. I am opposed to Act159** in its current form and would greatly prefer to see it significantly rewritten to further limit or eliminate all trapping practices except exclusively those that are deemed necessary as an irreplaceable wildlife management tool by an outside group of animal advocates.

Here is some longer background: I believe in animal rights but also the Vermont traditions of wilderness activities - I am a supporter of hunters' rights. I was selected to answer a phone survey by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department regarding my feelings on trapping. At that time, my intent was to communicate that I had grave concerns about the suffering trapping causes to targeted and bycatch animals, and that although trapping may be merited in certain circumstances its traditional value is dubious compared to hunting considering its historical impact on North American fauna. However, I was not able to express that view in the survey and felt like the survey was not designed to capture views like mine - the only thing that seemed to get across was that I had some support for trapping. This eroded my trust in the process, which further eroded when I saw the ratio in the working group of animal rights advocates to hunting advocates was 1:2, or more unbalanced.

I have followed this topic since answering the survey and my feelings have only moved further away from trapping rights. I struggle to understand why we need to leave animals like bobcats wounded and caught in traps for hours and days - it's clearly inhumane. I don't understand why active hunting with a firearm or bow isn't sufficient. I feel unsafe walking through the wilderness with my pets, knowing that I or they could be wounded by a trap. This isn't the 18th and 19th century anymore with millions of acres of untrammelled wilderness. The Vermont woods are backyards, hiking trails, and places of peaceful repose. We should not be littering it with traps.

My feelings on Act165 are similar. If you can already hunt coyotes with firearms with few restrictions, why do you need to hunt them with a pack of dogs? Both of these changes should be reworked to reduce the hunting activity and protect animals.

Thanks again for receiving my feedback.

Respectfully,
Randy Smith

From: [Jason Crooks](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 6:40:53 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello, thank you for taking public comments.

Please cease trapping completely. There's no place for it in today's society. No, it's not a sport and no, there are other better ways to earn income.

Please outlaw killing coyotes. Period.

They shouldn't be tracked with dogs and they shouldn't be shot for sport.

Please advocate for these creatures. There's so many more productive ways to spend one's time. Killing according to man's law is still killing.

Get with the program and understand that we're really screwing this planet up. Please take a few steps in the right direction and let these animals live unmolested.

Jason Crooks
Westford, VT

From: [Dave](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 5:39:45 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am a Vermont resident concerned about the welfare of wildlife, as well as a pet dog owner. I am also a hunter and angler and consider myself a conservationist. I strongly support regulated trapping, and I also strongly support the use of dogs for hunting. I believe both of these activities are beneficial or neutral for wildlife populations, and the connection to wildlife and nature that comes from participating in these activities, as well as the data gathered to help manage wildlife populations, is helpful for society at large. I do not want trapping regulations to be a roadblock that prevents new trappers from taking up the activity or people continuing to trap, nor do I want regulations on hunting with hounds to discourage people from this activity.

- I support overall requiring best management practices for foothold and body grip traps and adding the best management practices to trapper education.
- It would be helpful to apply a 2 or 3 year phase-in when full compliance is mandatory to allow trappers time to accumulate any necessary new equipment without a sudden "all or nothing" investment in one season.
- As a pet owner I support reasonable precautions, and in my experience most trappers exercise good judgement in this regard. A 25 or 50 foot buffer from roads is plenty, possibly excessive in many cases.
- I do not support a large buffer from hiking and mountain biking trails.
- If hiking trails and mountain bike trails (as opposed to "trails" as a 4th class road) are to get a buffer, there needs to be some concrete definition of what qualifies as a trail under this regulation—there are so many illegally cut trails on public land in Vermont, so many organizations and agencies manging trails, so many old skid roads that are used as trails occasionally, that it will require some definition for people to tell what is a trail and what isnt for the purposes of the regulation.
- coyote regulation—it seems odd to me that this regulation is focused only on coyotes. Some of the regulation is legislated it seems, but:
 - the arbitrary limit of 100 permits seems unnecessary. If the purpose is to study hound hunting, dont put a cap on permits at all. Only after there is data to show how many houndspeople there are, and what the associated problem with that is, should any cap be considered.
 - If there is to be a cap there should be a mechanism to ensure that the majority of permits go to Vermont Residents.
 - GPS equipment is very expensive, upwards of \$800 for one dog, prohibitively limiting for many people. This regulation is not at all inclusive of people with financially modest means.

- I worry this regulation is focused on only one type of dog, yet the very same problems with pet dogs are MORE common in my experience. I also worry this precedent gets applied to other dogs—next bear dogs, then beagles, after that bird dogs, etc, all of which are routinely expected to work out of sight from the handler. I do not support a control requirement on one type of dog and not also requiring exactly the same for all other dogs, including pet dogs.

Sincerely,
Dave Furman
Jericho, VT

From: [Gregory Gove](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comments about Trapping
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 1:11:06 PM
Importance: High

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi, I think this trapping proposal is much to do about nothing. When taking the trappers education course with the Vermont Fish and Game Department we are introduced to best management practices used across the country. I attached a link from the National Trappers Association showing these. All Vermont trappers that perform trapping legally already use BMP's and we don't need them tweaked or messed with. If trapping rules are to be changed it should come from the fish and game department and not people that have not seen the research. A few bad apples that do not follow BMP's make us all look bad. The main purpose of trapping is to monitor fur bearer populations and health, as well as control the population so that the egg nesting animals can thrive. We already do not have enough trappers on the landscape and continuing to restrict us will just push more trappers out of the game. Vermont Fish and Wildlife should be in control of policy change instead of the whims of public opinion controlled by extreme individuals. Take away the data collection and information that trapping provides and we take away our ability to help species that are in trouble. Trapping is not glamorous and is not for the faint of heart which makes is such a hot button issue. Trappers need to be more in tune of how we portray ourselves in person and on social media. We are our own worst enemy sometimes when it comes to our image so we have room to improve as well. Thank you for your consideration.

[BMP \(nationaltrappers.com\)](http://nationaltrappers.com)

Greg Gove
Business Manager
UA Local 693
greg@ualocal693.org
802-864-4042 ext.11

From: [James Samler](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Limit Coyote hunting
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 1:05:49 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Don't use dogs to hunt Bears and Coyotes. Be a man leave the dogs out of hunting! Jim Samler

From: [James Samler](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 1:00:56 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Ban all Trapping let the animals live. Jim Samler

From: [Roger Goldstein](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 12:14:24 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I oppose any weakening of the rules in place regarding trapping and hounding of coyotes. In fact, I believe the limitations on trapping and hounding of coyotes should be strengthened and the practices ended for coyotes and other species of wildlife as well.

Roger Goldstein
Dorset, Vermont
05251

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Chris Cunneen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Proposed regulations for coyote hunting and wildlife trapping
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 9:41:43 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Has anyone ever seen a coyote or ANY animal in a trap? Have you ever walked through the woods and seen any animal in agony ,screaming and in pain?

Lets be clear there is absolutely nothing in any way shape or form "humane" about trapping. It is torturing pure and simple - they die terribly through starvation and attacks by predators or at the least shot in the head by the trapper. If this is too honest a description- then its about time someone be honest.

Animals are starving. They are hungry and its a fact of life that we too as humans kill and torture what we want to eat in the name of trapping, baiting and hunting.
Must we deliberately advance this trapping, decade after decade and never get that there is a better way when coyotes etc, are hunting for food- just like people do.

Hopefully we are better than this and have better sense and humanity than what is being proposed to continue.

Chris Hartridge
Hartland, Vermont

From: [Stephen Page](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 6:52:47 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

These regulations must ban trapping of any kind in order to prevent the needless suffering caused by non discriminatory methods. It is a big stretch to label trapping as any kind of "sport".
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sue Adams](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Coyote hunting and wildlife trapping-Opposition
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 6:22:41 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Please consider my comments in opposition to the proposed rules concerning coyote hunting with dogs and wildlife trapping.

Why is the state even considering allowing people to hunt/trap these animals for “sport”? I understand hunting wildlife for food but I don’t support the unnecessary killing of wildlife. These proposed rules target predators which help keep the natural balance of fauna in our state. Homeowners complain about deer eating their landscape plantings yet allowing the killing of predators takes away a tool to keep the deer population in check.

I am opposed to the use of dogs in all hunting, whether for bear, coyote, rabbit, or whatever else hunters use them for. The “sport” of killing coyotes takes away from those of us who enjoy the howl of a coyote pack or the sight of the sly hunter.

I am also opposed to the trapping of wildlife. What a cruel, cruel way to die; and for what purpose? For someone to wear a fur or to bring the animal's remains to a taxidermist for ‘show and tell’?

Where we live in southern Vermont, we regularly see bobcat and bear cross through our property and find joy in their presence. We used to hear coyotes howl but neighbors have taken advantage of the lax state laws on coyote hunting and have eliminated them in our immediate area with a resulting absence of that wonderful sound on summer nights. Shameful that someone else’s right to hunt for the sole purpose of their pleasure and sport, eliminates the animal as well as the benefit that animal brought to the ecosystem and to the other Vermont residents who share this beautiful state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my input to the opposition of coyote hunting and wildlife trapping,
Susan Adams

From: [Judith Hills](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Coyote hunting with dogs
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:37:17 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I would like to express my concern for hunting coyotes with dogs. Dog fighting in Vermont is illegal and this is just another form of dog fighting.

Judith Hills,MD

Judith Hills, MD,MS
Box 1427
165 Lyman Batchellor Road
Quechee,VT 05059

Cell 802 280 5207

From: [Dianne Dashnow](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 4:47:10 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am 100% against any type of trapping. Banning it altogether is only way pets, birds, etc will be safe. Would you want to find your pet in a trap?

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Holly Tippet](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Ban All Trapping in Vermont and End the Use of Dogs in Hunting Coyotes
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 2:06:31 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Its hard to believe we keep having the same conversation about both of these subjects. Trapping is cruel, indiscriminate and no longer part of Vermont's culture. Most Vermonters disapprove of it and I would venture to say, many more would disapprove if they saw what it does to wildlife. There is zero reason to trap wildlife and you all know it. Even in protecting endangered species, there are alternatives to leghold or body crushing traps.

With regard to hunting with dogs (either coyote or bear), this is also barbaric, unscientific, and absolutely cruel. It disregards all the things we know about caring for our wildlife. It breaks up family units or packs, it is wasteful in that the fur and meat are rarely, if ever used, and it prevents nature from bringing itself into balance.

I feel as though my time writing these arguments is wasted since it feels as though we're all just shouting into the wind and the few, favored, special interests that control VFWD will win every time. How very un-Vermont of you all.

Holly Tippet
Panton

From: [Elinor Osborn](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 2:03:08 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

All trapping should be banned. It causes terrible pain and agony and has no redeeming value.

Coyote hunting with dogs should be banned as well. The proposed season is nearly year round for 9 months going through mating and young pup season, hardly a change at all. Coyotes are an important predator in the ecosystem by controlling the rodent population and they are no threat to humans unless they become habituated which the dept. could educate against that possibility.

Thank you
Elinor

Elinor Osborn
1286 Lost Nation Rd
Craftsbury Common VT 05827

802 586-9994
elinor91@me.com
www.elinorosbornphotography.com

From: [Nancy Wright](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping, Coyote Regs
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 1:03:08 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Thank you for inviting comment.

Trapping: The leg-hold traps need to be illegal. Period.

Whether the animal trapped is wild, or inadvertently someone's domestic animal, this method is barbarically cruel. In the "frontier" days, it may have been an important way to secure sufficient food for one's family. In our age, there is absolutely no justification. While people do hunt wild game, in a combination of sport & a food source, other methods are available which are more respectful of creatures.

Using a trap is not "hunting", not "sport". Cruel. Has no place in Vermont today.

Coyote Regs: It is your job to monitor this population responsibly – that means to allow wild creatures to live with as little human interference as possible.

Admittedly, I do not track the data on coyotes, but it is clear that we humans are forever encroaching on the territory of our native wild creatures. Hunting them down with packs of dogs is certainly predatory on the part of humans! Currently, humans are permitted to protect themselves & their property from coyotes which are threatening. Fine. Please set parameters which respect the wild.

Sincerely,
Nancy Wright
Hinesburg

From: [Sarah Lyda](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping, hounding and killing coyotes
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 12:09:05 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am 100% against recreational trapping, hounding bears and other wildlife with dogs and the wanton killing of coyotes.

The obvious suffering caused a trapped animal is certainly one reason I oppose trapping.

The life-threatening up-set and separation to mother bears and their cubs (never mind other innocent bystanders) being pursued by a pack of dogs is wrong and cruel and an utterly un-necessary selfish self centered SPORT

The wanton killing of our beautiful coyotes who have wrongly been mythologized as vermin or worse is outdated and untrue.

I am well aware that the Fish and Wildlife board is a group of appointed hunter/trappers that sees wildlife as a resource for fun and recreation, a resource for personal agendas, a resource for tradition, a resource to be used without consideration for the well-being of the animals.

In case I have not been clear - I am 100% against recreational trapping, hounding with dog packs and the wanton killing of coyotes. I am a land owner, a retired dairy farmer, a tax payer, I vote and I care very much about this issue.

Sarah Lyda
655 Doyle Rd
Washington Vt
05675

From: [Peter Spitzform](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyoty Regulations.
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 11:30:31 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am writing to state that Act 159 and Act 165 do not go far enough to protect wildlife in Vermont. In fact, I favor banning all animal trapping, and a ban on all hunting with dogs for ANY target species.

The proposed rules, while looking on paper like they might protect wildlife to a greater extent than at present, do not substantially reduce animal suffering, and also do not protect against the wrong animals being trapped--such as less common species and domestic pets.

Coyotes play a vital part in Vermont's ecosystem, as all predators do. Having an open season on Coyotes all year, with proposed many months of allowed dogs to hunt them, is misguided at best, and brutal.

Therefore, I urge you to go further and create rules that ban trapping and hounding completely.

Sincerely yours,

Peter Spitzform
28 West Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452
802-310-9739

From: paul@bartonchronicle.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Coyotes
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 9:20:42 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Implement a closed season on coyotes so they can only be legally hunted during the months their pelts are prime. To allow them to be hunted as a recreational sport any month of the year is unneeded and cruel.

Thank you.

Paul Lefebvre

Newark

From: [LLF LLC](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 9:08:22 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To Whom it May Concern,

I write to express my heartfelt and experiential plea to ban both hunting coyotes with dogs and any type of trapping in the state of Vermont.

Have you ever had your dog caught by a leghold trap? I have and the ensuing pain and panic will never be forgotten. Luckily, it was an old, rusty trap left illegally by some thoughtless "sport" and did not cause any physical damage. The mental and emotional damages were harder to quantify. And I know as the department of fish and game, mental and emotional harm is not weighed by your group, but they have as much affect as physical harm.

Why is trapping considered a sport and whose rights are infringed upon by banning such a "sport?" Surely, the sports who leave traps to rust are not going to abide by stricter rules or limits. They will do what they have always done. And that is why trapping must be banned. Regulating a fringe group has proven impossible and even detrimental to intended results time and time again. Banning will be difficult to enforce, but it's the only solution to an unseen but horrendously hurtful "sport."

Dogs chasing coyotes through the woods and fields is as barbaric as trapping and much more visible. Have you ever listened to a group of coyotes gathering for their night hunting? It's an incredible vocalization that transmits multiple messages and nuances. It is a beautiful chorus of the wild that is disappearing right before our eyes. Our domestic dogs and our wild cousins the coyote do not need the stress, danger, or brutal and uneven chase that gives people a thrill. The meat is not eaten, the pelts are worth far less than the cost of the chase. Again, is this a "sport?" Both dogs and coyotes deserve our protection from this cruel sport.

The definition of sport as found in Merriam Websters is as follows:

a: to amuse oneself : **FROLIC**

lamb*s sporting* in the meadow

b: to engage in a sport

and

1a: a source of diversion

b: physical activity engaged in for pleasure

c: a particular activity (such as an athletic game) so engaged in

SPORTSMAN

a person considered with respect to living up to the ideals of **sportsmanship**

a good *sport*

a poor *sport*

a companionable person

Are we amending and upholding two antiquated laws for the amusement of poor sports? Or to provide some diversion to poor sports? These practices are hardly sporting as defined.

I hope the department reconsiders its stance, which is in the minority, and bans both trapping and hunting coyotes with dogs as soon as possible.

Lisa Winkler

From: [ANR - FW Information](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: FW: Webform submission from: Contact
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 9:02:27 AM

From: jrcunningham77@yahoo.com <jrcunningham77@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 21, 2023 7:59 AM
To: ANR - FW Information <ANR.FWInformation@vermont.gov>
Subject: Webform submission from: Contact

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Submitted on Sun, 05/21/2023 - 07:58

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Your Question

Why would you allow dogs to be used to hunt? Using them to kill coyotes to me is disgusting. I also hate trapping. I wonder if controlling the population you could think of another way.

Type of Question

General Question

Your Name

Ronnie Cunningham

Your Email

jrcunningham77@yahoo.com

From: flobe@localnet.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 8:58:34 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Public Hearing comments;

Thank you for holding these opportunities for those of us who are no longer hunters.

We are land owners in Fairfield and have been negatively effected by both hunting and coyote dog hunters.

We have written on numerous occasions about my husbands sugar tapping experience of a bullet whizzing by

in our woods when dog hunters where running through our woods.....could have been deadly....no help came

from either State Troopers because although we had no Hunting Signs up we didn't have enough to make it

legally posted (another problem that needs discussion)

Trapping has been done with very sad results and wounded animals, and no one checking traps.....

S.281 and S.201 need your review and VT needs to respect the majority of us because we don't hunt and we, land owners are being ignored.

Phil and Florence Higgins
Fairfield, VT
02-849-6429

From: [Brian Tijan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 8:48:54 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

While the Fish and Wildlife Board has made it abundantly clear that it has zero regard for the opinion of the vast majority of Vermonters, I still want to register my opinion.

The trapping and coyote regulations should be far more restrictive based on both (1) public opinion which was overwhelmingly against trapping and killing for "fun" (as reflected in public opinion data, including your own methodologically questionable surveys) and (2) science, particularly with respect to the role of mesopredators - which this Board seems to think is irrelevant.

As you choose to push yourself further and further outside what the majority of Vermonters want, let's hope it spurs action by the legislature. After all, we do still live in a Democracy.

Brian Tijan

From: [ANR - FW Information](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: FW: Webform submission from: Contact
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 8:44:38 AM

From: oletaffy@aol.com <oletaffy@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 20, 2023 4:01 PM
To: ANR - FW Information <ANR.FWInformation@vermont.gov>
Subject: Webform submission from: Contact

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Submitted on Sat, 05/20/2023 - 16:01

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Your Question

Why is it necessary to use traps . . .not a humane kill!

Also, are the coyotes of such a threat that they must be hunted down with dogs?

Type of Question

Wildlife Questions

Your Name

Jeanette

Your Email

oletaffy@aol.com

From: [Chip Mayer](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 8:30:22 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To whom it may concern,
Please stop the barbaric use of traps! It is inhumane and kills beloved pets as well.
We must treat our wildlife with more respect.
Chip Mayer

Sent from my iPad

From: [Sherry SaintGermaine](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 8:10:07 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am appalled that only "regulations" of trapping in Vermont are being considered. Do not just "regulate" (which means: *do whatever you want out there in the woods*) but outlaw the practice. As it is permitted at all is therefore condoned cruelty.

The pain and terror any trapped animal experiences must not be deemed insignificant as it is brushed aside in deference to the *kicks* a trapper gets out of killing an animal for fun. Torturing animals is a psychological indicator of a very disturbed personality disorder, yet it seems to be ok in this instance? Really?

Dying a slow death and being attacked by other animals while being held defenseless and in pain is not an acceptable mode of entertainment for those who appear to be living out their "Jeremiah Johnson" (look it up) fantasies.

I'd like to think we live in a more civilized world, or at the very least, a more civilized State of Vermont. I am saddened, not to say outraged, disgusted (I could go on....) that this cruelty for fun is even up for debate. *STOP IT NOW.*

Sherry SaintGermaine
South Strafford Vermont

From: [Thomas Koch](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 8:06:59 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I just want to comment that I think the Department has done a good job creating these proposed regulations. I think they are responsive to the governing legislation and are an acceptable compromise.

Some people want no restrictions, but they need to realize that the legislature has mandated otherwise. Others would abolish hunting and trapping entirely, but they need to give some degree of respect to the traditions and constitutional rights of hunters and trappers.

Thomas F. Koch
Barre Town

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jenny Lane](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Coyote rules
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:59:00 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi,

I do not support, at all, allowing Vermonters to hunt or trap coyotes. Such an allowance makes coyotes, which are part of our natural world, seem worthless. It's not necessary to let people kill coyotes on a whim. No one I know eats coyote meat or uses the pelt.

It's a very bad precedent for our children as well. I worked at a public school for years. Children would often speak with me about their time in the woods. Some children from hunting families considered coyotes varmints - killing them was a learn to hunt sport and minimizing their suffering was not a concern (with some children the opposite).

Please take coyotes off the hunting and trapping list entirely.

Thank you,

Jenny Lane, Royalton and Barnard

From: [enrand](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and hounding
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:30:34 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Please BAN recreational trapping and hounding of ANY animals. It is immoral.

Earl Rand
802-747-8911 text only
05742

From: [Beth](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:29:40 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Please ban the barbaric practice of trapping animals and using dogs to hunt coyotes. The beautiful state of Vermont should not be contributing to the pain and suffering of animals who call the Green Mountains home.

Thank you,
Beth Friedman
Dorset, VT

From: [William Roper](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Hunting regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:28:19 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I fully support much more humane trapping, the change in composition of the Wildlife Board so it is not so stacked with only hunters, and a much more limited and humane coyote season, if the science supports coyote hunting at all. I am not convinced there is a surplus of coyotes in our state or a need yet to regulate the coyote population. Thank you. William Roper Weybridge, Vermont

From: [Adrienne Raymond](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Coyote hunting comments
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:24:18 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Sir or Madam, I am opposed to hunting mammals with dogs. No sentient being should be hunted to death, none. It is cruel- pure and simple. I've lived in the same rural town, Shrewsbury, for my entire adult, 43yrs+. Periodically groups of hunters and their pack of dogs descend on my town from outside. They ride the roads trying to follow their dogs who run over both Posted and unPosted properties barking and upsetting pets and livestock. Sometimes this is at 10pm or later. It is disruptive as well as cruel. Please disallow this cruel practice entirely- no more dogs chasing down prey in VT.

Adrienne Raymond
Shrewsbury, VT
802-353-0973

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Meredith Liben](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Coyote Hunting and Trapping Regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:17:00 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi there,

I live in Hartland with pet dogs, goats and chickens and surrounded by family systems of coyotes. The coyotes have never molested our goats or chickens. Nor have they attacked the livestock of our neighbors, who raises beef cattle and poultry for consumption or keep hens for eggs. No cats hauled away, nothing.

From what I understand, coyotes rebound after being hunted but the family fabric gets torn and orphaned coyotes are more likely to be rogue if they're not raised by a bonded pair that teaches avoidance and cooperation with humans and how to hunt in the wild.

So I'd love to see all these regulations time bound like other hunting seasons. I just don't understand the reason for year round hunting of coyotes against other species that have timebound seasons. You know better than I do what the appropriate timing would be so pups aren't orphaned while vulnerable, etc. But that's the change I'd like to see: a timebound hunting and trapping season.

Thanks,

Meredith Liben
48 Rice Road
Hartland, VT

From: [Susan Stock](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 7:01:53 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am writing to comment on the above regulations. Trapping is inherently inhumane. I realize that it is a tradition for some. But so was throwing plastic on the trash and denying Black people equal rights. I doubt the trappers are using fur to make clothes t the meat to eat. It is a sport and like many sports is violent and hurtful. The correct regulations would get rid of trapping in this state.

Coyotes are an important part of our ecosystem. A larger coyote population would help manage deer and other species naturally. Coyotes don't breed unless there is sufficient food on their territories. So it is a self managing system. Hunting with dogs is inherently cruel. Period. If people must kill coyotes which are harassing their livestock they should first make sure their stock is sufficiently protected behind fences and other barriers. If killing is still needed it should be done with a gun and when the coyotes are on the owners properties.

Thank you for your consideration

Susan Stock

sstock.neela.124@gmail.com Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jon Leibowitz](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 6:43:56 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear ANR,

Thank you for accepting public comments on the issue of trapping and coyote regulations.

I'd simply like to weigh in and say that we ought to prohibit unregulated hunting and trapping of coyotes. If people want to shoot or trap them, have a season and permit it like most other species. The current rules fly in the face of your continued argument that you are a science driven agency. You can't have it both ways.

The wanton waste and sport/thrill shooting of coyotes year-round is anti-science and unethical.

Best,
Jon Leibowitz
Middlesex

--

*sent from a mobile device.

From: [William Corbett](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 6:22:29 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am a 72 yr. old man who's lived in Vermont for 47 yrs. I retired from a municipal highway department and hold a mortgage in Saxtons River. I oppose the trapping of coyotes and fur bearing animals for fun or profit. This is the 21st Century and apparently we haven't gotten over the lust to dominate the animal kingdom. Some do not seem to care about the pain and suffering that animals suffer when caught in leg hold traps that can break their bones and tear their flesh. Maybe that was what was done long ago, but I believe it is time to stop. Now creating "meat" in labs is being advanced, something I don't know enough about and does not excite me being someone who gave up red meat in my diet when I read Diet for a Small Planet back when I was 21 yrs. old. Regardless trapping is NOT necessary unless your home or crops are threatened, or you're marooned on an island etc. It is inhumane, barbaric and unnecessary in our "society". I'd rather see it go the way of the dinosaur. I can cite an incident in Westminster West when I was sent to investigate a beaver-culvert issue. I almost stepped into a leg snap trap intended for the beavers. I had no idea such a device had been deployed by a trapper. That incident still angers me today. Ban those damn dangerous devices now ! Feel free to ask me on this any time. I believe I've submitted a statement on this issue previously and stand by them. Oh, and I've never received acknowledgement of my past comments and while your agency staff may be busy or small I think you're more likely dismissing my views. That does not impress me.

From: [David Beckett](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 6:08:38 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear legislators and Agency members

I write today to urge you to take every possible measure to move toward banning the trapping of animals in Vermont.

The practice of trapping causes excruciating pain and suffering not only to wild animals but to pets which have the misfortune of being trapped. 13 Pets died in traps last year according to a recent article in Vt Digger.

Kindly take a moment to contemplate the suffering which results and I believe you'll find it unsettling and unacceptable.

"We must fight against the spirit of unconscious cruelty with which we treat the animals. Animals suffer as much as we do. True humanity does not allow us to impose such sufferings on them. It is our duty to make the whole world recognize it. Until we extend our circle of compassion to all living things, humanity will not find peace."

Albert Schweitzer

David Beckett
david@askdavidbeckett.com
[802.578.6361](tel:802.578.6361)

From: L
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 6:01:11 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To Whom It May Concern,

Regarding trapping and coyote regulations, I believe a simple solution would be to not allow people to hunt, trap, fish or trespass at all anywhere without permission. That allows landowners to make their own decisions about their stance on the issue.

Personally, I find the posting of land to be onerous and frankly ridiculous. On top of that, there is the yearly registration process without which a game warden cannot enforce the no-trespassing status. Our land is both difficult terrain and open fields. Last year, we had to put out and take up the signs in the field portion numerous times in order for the farmer to hay and fertilize and to keep hunters off of our property. There is also a swampy section to navigate when posting which is surely infested with ticks. Lyme disease is a growing concern in Vermont, yet the residents are forced to be exposed to ticks to adhere to the no-hunting/trespassing rules.

Private land should be private; no exceptions.

Sincerely,
Lisa Hawthorne
Morrisville

From: [Richard Rowden II](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 5:06:00 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Some concerns,

4.17b set back rule should be 49.5 feet, as this is within the state's right of way. Bond this distance you are then tell people they can't trap on their own property.

4.19c allow bobcat trapping the same time as fisher cat trap and then the rule is not necessary. Are bobcat population is expanding and can withstand an extension to the season. As well as an extension to the hunting season.

4.18 dispatching of trapped animals, there are some concerns. At times trappers trap in town for skunks, raccoons, fox and coyotes. Using live traps and then transport them to a location to be safely displayed. Under this rule that will not be allowed and can make for unsafe situations. This rule does not also allow the use of a dispatch pole. Commonly used to dispatch skunks. This is a pole with a syringe on the end of and the skunk is euthanized by chemical. Today most skunks live trapped are drowned which is understandably not the most humane way to dispatch an animal but skunks spray when shot almost every time.

Thank you for taking the time to review this and considering my suggestion.

Richard Rowden II

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lauren Johnson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023 8:59:35 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear folks,

I am glad that these issues are being examined- it's a good start. I don't think they go far enough. I would like to see coyote hunting be limited to a season, and not be year round. I accept the need for nuisance hunting outside of the season. I would hope that killing lactating mothers and pups would be prohibited. As far as trapping, I don't think it should ever be allowed, except by native people with a history of trapping as a lifestyle. I'm glad that at least the new rule prohibits killing with anything but a fire arm or bow and arrow, as the videos of an animal being tortured and beaten to death are horrendous.

Thank you for giving me this chance to express my opinion.

Lauren Johnson
Craftsbury, Vt

From: perb@gmavt.net
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations."
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023 8:07:40 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To Whom it may concern:

It is absolutely necessary that our fish and game regulations reflect the times that we exist in. This is what has traditionally done in this state. White tailed deer were almost exterminated, and then regulations were adopted that protect them even more than we protect people from being hunted with huge magazines and automatic guns. Plume birds were as well hunted almost to extinction and we now have wildlife refuge areas. We have a huge tick issue and coyotes feast on the alternate hosts. They cull the sick and old deer population, helping to control the burgeoning deer herd, and the issue of diminishing numbers of hunters. Yes, there is a tradition of trophy hunting of supposed ferocious mega fauna, and while coyote hunting appears to fall into that category there is not only no reason for it, having it defies reason.

The existence of trapping for recreation also makes no sense. Your mission is not to protect tradition or your perceived patrons, the hunting, trapping, and fishing population. The department's mission is "the conservation of fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the people of Vermont. It is not to protect the outdated practices of a relatively small portion of our citizenry.

Read your mission statement and reflect it in your actions

Sincerely Peter Erb,

Hinesburg, Vermont

From: [Lynn Murrell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Hunting coyotes with dogs and Trapping
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023 8:04:35 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am opposed to trapping as it is indiscriminate as to target species and cruel and painful to the trapped animal. Hunting should result in rapid death without suffering and the hunted animal should be identified visually by the hunter. I am a retired Vermont Veterinarian and I once had to treat a pet dog which had been caught in a leg hold trap. It wasn't pretty.

Hunting coyotes with dogs is just a glorified form of dogfighting, which is illegal in Vermont.

--

Lynn A. Murrell, DVM, MS
PO Box 1427
Quechee, VT 05095
cell: (802) 299-8108

From: [Judith Hills](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: TRAPPING COYOTES
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023 7:32:34 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I would like to express my opinion about trapping coyotes or any animal. No matter how humane they try to make the traps they cause a significant amount of suffering for the animal. I would hope another way could be found to control the population.

Sincerely,
Judith Hills

Judith Hills, MD,MS
Box 1427
165 Lyman Batchellor Road
Quechee,VT 05059

Cell 802 280 5207

From: [John Bourbon](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Coyote hunting with dogs
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023 2:26:08 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Sirs, I would like to state my unequivocal opposition to the proposed rules limiting the use of dogs in coyote hunting.

This is just another example of the anti hunters typical tactic of nibbling away at something they don't like. Next year they advocate for another change, then the next year another restriction on hunting with dogs.

Within 5 years they will start advocating not using retrievers during waterfowl hunting. Say NO to these changes.

John Bourbon Jr.
348 Browns River Rd
Essex Jct Vt 05452
802-238-4697

From: [Richard Cowan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comment re hounding and trapping
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023 2:19:30 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear ANR,

I would like to register my strong opposition to any form of hounding and to the use of leg hold traps.

Both are cruel, inhumane and threaten the diversity of Vermont's wildlife.

Sadly, VT 's Fish & Wildlife Commission does not represent or respect the views of the majority of Vermonters who oppose hounding and trapping.

Richard Cowan
Rockingham, VT

From: [Carl Moses](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Hunting/Trapping reg.
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023 12:57:25 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I'm curious about the lack of common sense in Vermont. We have a Vermont Trappers Association and a Fish & Wildlife board who are supposed to be representing the VT Sportsman and I see absolutely 0 of representation for the sportsman. With these new proposed changes to coyote hunting and trapping would be extremely hurtful to the Deer Herd. We cannot control the population on coyotes now and our deer herd is paying for that now. If the liberal bunny huggers think that hunting&trapping is barbaric and inhumane then they have never seen a deer eaten alive or a coyote or fox in the winter freezing to death because it has no hair on its body due to MANGE. Better yet an animal that has RABIES. I believe that is BARBARIC and INHUMANE. When the coyotes run out of Deer to eat they will resort to family pets and farmers livestock. So due to the influx of Out of State Transplants who have moved from the cities and do not agree with our lifestyles and hunting traditions they are dictating the change in our way of life. There are still Vermonters who depend on hunting and trapping for their way of life. Not only with income but putting food in their freezers. I'm a licensed trapper and why should I have to get a special license for trapping when I already hold a trappers license. If the liberal bunny huggers don't like the VT way well nobody is forcing them to stay here. If they want vt like California I suggest they go back to California. The waste of taxpayers money and fish & wildlife funds is unacceptable. The socialist liberal agenda in VT that is being crammed down the throats of the true Vermonter is only HURTING the ELDERLY and the Vermonters that still live paycheck to paycheck thanks to the current administration's policies of driving Vermonters to move out of their home state and that's sad. All being done to suit a group of liberals who want to drive the average Vermonter out. Why does Burlington/chittenden county dictate the fish & wildlife hunting and trapping laws??? I'm also very curious about the so called survey that was done and how 64% of all Vermonters were in favor of a trapping ban and coyote hunting. Sorry if my percentage is off a bit but I'm curious about the survey and results due to myself being a licensed trapper and hunter in vt for over 40 +years and I never received or saw any surveys about trapping and hunting coyotes. So I started contacting my fellow hunters and trappers and low and behold none of them received any surveys. I have contacted over a thousand people/hunters and trappers and my results were what I expected. Not 1 of the over a thousand who were contacted and asked about any surveys had received any kind of survey except for the migratory birds survey on the vt license. So surveys were only sent to a pre selected group of people who were guaranteed to give the answers they were looking for and wanted. SHAMEFUL. Has VT Fish & Wildlife gone WOKE as well ??? If these proposed changes to our hunting and trapping laws do become a laws I will make changes. I already have made some. First year since turkey hunting began I refused to buy a license and I still have not purchased a vt hunting license and I don't intend on buying one if these no common sense laws are pushed through I will be selling my home and property/business and then will move to NH a more sportsman friendly state. Thanks for your time. I could go on and on with concerns.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Shawn Thayer](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulation
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023 11:16:13 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To The Department of F&W, et al,

For Gods sake, it's time to put an end to trapping and the lack of decent regulations regarding the hunting of coyotes.

As a lifelong, 6th generation and proud Vermonter, I find it disgusting and disturbing that we are still allowing this outdated, barbaric practice.

I am also offended by the term anti-hunting to describe myself and those who are opposed to the current cruel practice of trapping and hounding.

I am from a long line of deer hunters who respect the animals and land and make every effort to avoid the suffering of any of our precious wildlife.

Please do the right thing by putting an end to these outdated practices.

Shawn Thayer
Milton, VT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Daniel Galdenzi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023 8:23:35 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As much as everyone knows that the VT Fish and Wildlife department only cares about hunting and trapping license revenue and has zero interest in animal welfare or even scientific facts, we must continue to play this public comment game so they can say they “listened” to other opinions beside their own insular echo chamber of voices.

So, with that said, my comment is that Coyote hounding and recreational trapping have no place in our state. Over 75% of Vermonters (UVM survey) oppose trapping. We are allowing a small minority of Vermonters to terrorize our wildlife, trespass on private property with hounds and kill countless animals for their hobby.

The legislature is the only way any real change will occur, this entire public comment process is a joke. Vermont Fish and Wildlife are an entrenched political organization that does not care about wildlife, animal welfare or change of any kind.

I don't even trust my comment will be tallied at all, but I must continue to try.

Dan Galdenzi
Stowe, VT

Sent from my iPad

From: kkwagner8@verizon.net
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: "trapping and coyote regulations,"
Date: Saturday, May 20, 2023 4:39:43 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello,

I know that there is a long tradition of hunting and trapping in Vermont. One thing to consider, a lot of traditions change or go away. We used to have a Federal policy to exterminate Indians – thanks Andrew Jackson. Doesn't mean that we should have continued. We used to exterminate a LOT of animals, doesn't have to continue.

Given climate change, population growth and the elimination of many plant and animal species, we should be proud that Vermont still has enough wild areas for animals to live and not be killing them just because we've always done it, either for sport or money. Just like my Indian example, in the 1600's & 1700's the Massachusetts Bay Company had a bounty on Indian men, women and even children. Imagine that. Killing a child for a few coins. A great New England tradition.

It's also time for Vermont to put scientists, wildlife biologists and other professionals on the Wildlife/Hunting Committee, or whatever it's called, instead of only hunters. That's like having AA or AI anon group run by drug dealers.

Regards,

Karl

Karl Wagner
7142 VT. Rt#14
South Royalton, VT 05068

From: jsh@doctorbeer.com
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: New proposed regulations don't go far enough
Date: Saturday, May 20, 2023 10:56:33 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello,

I am writing to comment on the New proposed regulations which I believe don't go far enough to protect wildlife and to prevent non targeted animals from becoming entrapped. The buffer you call for is nowhere near sufficient to prevent pets from potentially becoming trapped. In addition I object to any coyote hunting with dogs which is cruel and inhumane. I would also like to see the catch limits for bears reduced and those for moose eliminated. Both these species have been over hunted in VT to the point where tourists who come to visit as well as residents of VT who wish to view such wildlife are no longer able to do so because their numbers have dwindled...

- Jay Hersh
Hyde Park, VT

From: [Alan Garrow](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Date: Saturday, May 20, 2023 7:17:39 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Sick of fighting with dog hunter's on my own property. It's My Land!!! They are mouthy rude mean people. It's my Land!!!!!!!!!! Don't c how you can give them permission to go on My Land. I bought it.

From: [Kim Findlay](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and hounding recommendations
Date: Friday, May 19, 2023 2:02:40 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

VT Fish & Wildlife's trapping and hounding recommendations fall way short of improving animal welfare and protecting the public. There is no way to make a leghold trap humane! And there's no way to control a pack of coyote hounds that are running miles away from their owner.



KIM FINDLAY (she/her)
802.425.2100 home/fax
802.999.3084 cell
farafieldfarm@gmavt.net

From: [Judy Wade](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Judy Wade](#)
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Friday, May 19, 2023 11:50:33 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I read with interest the proposed changes to the trapping guidelines. They seem to acknowledge the harm done to irreparable unintentional prey and the need to increase the timing for a “humane” end of life for trapped beings.

My question is why are people trapping? My understanding is that hunting is allowed by certain guns and bows, perhaps for food but more generally for trophy, so why are animals trapped in a device that anyone, who has witnessed a trapped animal, would understand to be terrifying and very painful for the animal.

Is the fur trade still lucrative? Are people in Vermont so starved that they need to eat raccoon, beaver, coyote, muskrat etc.? Why not end this barbaric torture of animals all together?

Being a human being does not automatically give us the right to harm animals in the wild. “Owning” land does not give us the right to torture other beings who live on the land. What are we thinking?

Trapping is not a human right. It is an archaic practice. It is not a Vermont tradition with meaning in the 21st Century. It had economic meaning during the barbaric fur trade of another century, but not now!

End ALL trapping on any land and live in wonder with other beings. We who love our pets and perhaps our livestock need to open our caring to other beings. Be a true humane being.

Best to all beings in Vermont,
Best to hunters and trappers,
Judith Wade
Jericho, Vermont

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Cindi Duff](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: "trapping and coyote regulations".
Date: Friday, May 19, 2023 11:27:34 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I support the banning of the proposed regulations for the trapping and coyote . Thank you for this bill.

C G Duff

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Alexandra Duffy](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Comment regarding Act No. 159
Date: Friday, May 19, 2023 11:15:52 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello,

As a landowner, wildlife enthusiast, and pet owner, I have the following comments about this proposal. I should mention that I am not against hunting, but I am against trapping.

I am glad that these regulations are being tightened, but in my opinion they do not go far enough.

- There should be no trapping allowed at all, as it is an extremely cruel and inhumane method of hunting. There is no sport there...only suffering for the trapped animals. These animals are not being consumed by their captors. Therefore, there is not a good reason to trap them. Leave these animals alone.
- Traps should not be allowed to be baited, as this is extremely unfair and unsporting. This attracts the animals to their death.
- The portion of the rules that says that live-trapped animals must be killed **immediately** is not possible to fulfill, unless the hunter is always present, monitoring the trap. This language is deceiving and makes it sound like these trapped animals do not suffer. Since that is not the case, the term "immediately" should be changed to "traps must be monitored on a daily basis, and when an animal has been trapped, it must be killed immediately as soon as the hunter arrives at the trap."

Again, I wish that trapping was not permitted at all in the state of Vermont.

Those are my comments about this proposal.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Duffy

From: [John F.](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping & Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, May 19, 2023 10:55:57 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

One hundred years from now people will look back and wonder how trapping persisted into the new millennia and how it was sanctioned by our state government without regard to the overwhelming consensus against it. The Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife will most certainly be sitting on the wrong side of history.

Beyond your preferred science, the economic gain, rules, regulations, policy, beliefs, and bureaucracies, an animal with the same nervous system as you and I will struggle painfully in a trap, out its mind with fear, waiting for death. For what? Tradition? A fur hat? No philosophy or government, no law or reason, gives justification to this unnecessary suffering. Granted, not all suffering is preventable. But, in my opinion, this is.

Please note that I have nothing against putting food on your table. I am not anti-hunting (unless it involves hounds). I am against needless suffering.

Is it not enough that we wield the power of life and death under the guise of 'management'? Must we wield such power to perpetuate this unnecessary suffering? Our Wildlife and forests have managed themselves, quite successfully, for billions of years. In a relatively short span of time, we have claimed all the animals and the land as our personal resource to dominate and parcel out. We have created 'Wildlife Management Areas' but are we really managing the 'wildlife' or the 'people' who harvest said wildlife? Trust in the fact that the forest and the sentient beings that reside there would be perfectly fine without our 'management'. We need to shift from our current paradigm of living on this beautiful planet to living with this beautiful planet. "If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men."

-Francis of Assisi.

Finally, if you wonder what the people of Vermont want, the good citizens that pay your salary, put it to a vote.

John Frigault - Monkton Vermont

From: [Linda Suter](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Friday, May 19, 2023 8:41:41 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am not in favor of trapping of any animal for any reason. Trapping is cruel and harmful to the individual animal and to our ecosystem. Please outlaw trapping altogether in the state of Vermont.

Thank you.

Linda Suter
Montpelier

From: [Leon H Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Alan Smith, Sr.](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulation
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 2:17:18 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Good afternoon,

I am adamantly opposed to ALL new ant-hunting and anti-trapping regulations. I therefore oppose these new trapping and coyote regulations. Recreationalists who allow their dogs to roam about without leashes are the ones who need to be regulated. These recreationalists are creating the conflicts with hunters and trappers who have often used the lands for decades unmolested. Hunters and trappers are required to be licensed and already adhere to regulations and seasons. Recreationalists who do NOT pay to use the forests and lands, yet regularly disturb flora and fauna, should yield the forests to hunters and trappers during seasonable times.

Lastly, as these ant-hunting and anti-trapping regulations, as well as anti-firearm legislation, move forward, our family land will be POSTED. Recreationalists will no longer be permitted to traverse our land (which bisects a VERY popular trail) in the Green Mountain National Forest. If recreationalists do NOT respect hunters and trappers, they will NOT be permitted to traverse our lands with bicycles, hiking, etc.

Leon H Smith
Middlebury, Vermont

From: [Diane Taveby](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 1:16:37 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Please do not allow trapping of coyotes or any animals in Vermont. It's cruel and inhuman.

From: [Brigan, Robert P Collins](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regs
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 12:08:31 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I know you are under a lot of pressure from the anti's, please don't change anymore!!! Our hunting ways are under attack. And most if not all of this is based on feelings and no scientific data. None what so ever!!!! Thank you for all you do, and for sticking up for our outdoor lifestyle!! Bob Brigan

From: [Chris Johnson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations.
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 11:14:50 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I think you should not have to modify foothold traps used with a lethal drowning system while water trapping.

Chris Johnson

From: [Gibbs, Gary](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Fw: Trapping changes
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 10:24:50 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

From: Gibbs, Gary
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2023 10:11 AM
To: anr.fwpubliccomments@vermont.gov <anr.fwpubliccomments@vermont.gov>
Subject: Trapping changes

Good day. Please explain to me the risk to a pet of a 110 conibear set on the ground in December. Unfortunately these rule changes are a thinly veiled attempt to eridicatet hunting and trapping in Vermont. The risk you are attempting to address is miniscule. I am adamantly against these changes.

Thanks,
Gary Gibbs
Leicester VT

From: [devon craig](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 8:53:46 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

How about a rule that requires all pets to be leashed when not on the owners property ! Put the responsibility on the owners , not on society .

And affect control of animal populations by the seasoned reasoning of professionals, not by the emotions of a few !

Devon Craig
Plainfield , Vt

Sent from my iPhone

From: [COTE, MARK A](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations.
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 8:52:45 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

The rule should be within 50 ft of roads as well as well used trails.

There should be no hunting of coyotes using dogs. Totally inhumane!

Mark A. Cote
CBP Technician
1-802-868-2778 x2139
480 Welcome Center Road
Highgate Springs, VT 05488
Mark.a.cote@cbp.dhs.gov

From: erin
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and hounds
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 8:12:58 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Good morning,

Your attempt to "appease" the majority of Vermonters falls short. There is no humane trap. All trapping should be illegal, period. Stop catering to the minority.

The same goes with your ideas for "regulating" coyote hunting. This does nothing to protect wildlife or the public. No hunter can control hounds running miles away from them, and this will do nothing to create good relationships with landowners.

Sincerely,

Erin Niles
Eden Mills, VT
Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

From: [Dustin Shaw](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: "trapping and coyote hunting"
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 6:48:29 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am against the proposed rule change. This country was founded and made on trapping and hunting! The coyote population has exploded in the areas where these yuppies have stopped us from hunting, and a controlled coyote population, and it gives the rest of the animal population a chance to survive.

Thank you, sincerely Dustin Shaw.

From: [GREGORY PARKHURST](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping rules
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 6:10:35 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

how can the department be so out of touch .obviously you havent hunted coyote or trapped its the trespassing people and there pets that need to be regulated not a century old pass time that is highly regulated any way etc where is the support that sportsmen and women pay for with there license fees etc it is to bad this state is losing all its traditions a shame

Greg

From: [Steven Hamilton](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 5:35:18 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Running coyotes with dogs is in no way fair chase, or ethical.

It would amount to nothing more than running the animal to a point of exhaustion, and end in a cruel death by being torn apart by a pack of dogs!

It amounts to nothing more than a training exercise for the dogs.

Not only is the above a inevitable outcome through such practices, it opens the door to unscrupulous hunters to chase, pursue, through personal choice, a legal avenue to run the game of there choosing, under the pretense of the so called sport!! Not to mention

There would be absolutely no oversight whatsoever, in the field of the practice to regulate just who's running what!!

As Wardens simply do not spend time in the field, outside of public roadways, and possibly some that may briefly set foot into the woods, at a very limited distance, for a very brief amount of time!

It's just simply not fair to the game being pursued to enact such a practice, and not have the man power, or in most cases the caliber of personnel to actually take responsibility for regulating the practice!

I have spent my entire life in the woods, hunting, fishing, trapping, etc, I'm the entire southern Vermont area, and outside of that, and not once have I ever encountered a single warden that was off the roadway, and more than 40' from there vehicle.

For whatever the reason!!

Which I believe should be a mandatory requirement of the wardens to at the very least show a presence so as to show the effort towards regulations!

Nor have I ever spoken to any hunter in the field that's has ever seen a presence in the field of wardens.

That should be the first, and foremost effort, to put in place, a system that can, and will, at the very least show effort to regulate any such practice of pursuing game with dogs in particular !!

Seems like just another way to generate revenue at the cost of our dwindling natural resources, at the games expense!!!

Sent from my iPhone

From: sunblades@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara Sunblade](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 11:47:42 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs Barbara Sunblade
16312 Parkside Dr Parker, CO 80134-3742
sunblades@msn.com

From: sjkoen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sarah Koenig
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 11:34:32 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Sarah Koenig
24 Royal Ct San Rafael, CA 94901-4221
sjkoen@yahoo.com

From: esheltie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elizabeth Jache](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 11:08:58 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Esq Elizabeth Jache
2151 Glencoe Dr Lemon Grove, CA 91945-3716
esheltie@hotmail.com

From: lunaturner545@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Stanco](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:48:17 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

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Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Jennifer Stanco
4 Garden Ct Glen Head, NY 11545-1580
lunaturner545@gmail.com

From: shiftsoultoicare@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ashley Bircher](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:24:58 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ashley Bircher
FL
shiftsoultoicare@gmail.com

From: claudio.jessica.elise@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jessica Harvey](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:28:05 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Dr Jessica Harvey
318 Webster St SW Nya, MN 55397-9218
claudio.jessica.elise@gmail.com

From: chloebell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Blake Michael](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:19:45 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Blake Michael
chloebell@aol.com

From: dwilliams3880@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diana M. Williams](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:00:36 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Diana M. Williams
3880 Stikes Dr SE Lacey, WA 98503-8207
dwilliams3880@aol.com

From: alicialulu@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Leslie Billings](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 8:47:57 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Leslie Billings
5 Laurel Dr Wallingford, CT 06492-5009
alicialulu@hotmail.com

From: vapors.dyer-0u@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amber Tory](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 8:43:25 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Miss Amber Tory
45632 Klingkammer St Utica, MI 48317-5775
vapors.dyer-0u@icloud.com

From: tarasinatho@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tara Sina](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 7:47:52 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

Coyotes are not vermin. They are highly emotional, sentient beings with familial relationships. The traps are inhumane and highly dangerous to the community. My son was caught in a trap as a child and nearly died.

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Tara Sina
tarasinatho@gmail.com

From: wmdiamedi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Walter Diomedi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 7:47:47 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Walter Diomedi
325 Ridgewood Rd # M Coral Gables, FL 33133-6615
wmdiamedi@icloud.com

From: colyersnr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [John Colyer](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 7:37:14 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. John Colyer
152 NW Bentley Cir Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986-2430
colyersnr@shaw.ca

From: evaterval39@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mimma Terval](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 7:27:17 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Miss Mimma Terval
10 ENGELINAUKIO Helsinki, 00150
evaterval39@gmail.com

From: janelle.d.snyder@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [JanelleD SnyderJD](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 7:16:55 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a visitor to Vermont .

Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Please strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
JanelleD SnyderJD
4915 10th Ave Sacramento, CA 95820-2207
janelle.d.snyder@gmail.com

From: anwaiwmodel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anya Oleynik](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 7:08:23 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind. Pets and children have been caught in the traps, they are a danger.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Anya Oleynik
anwaiwmodel@gmail.com

From: carolroyle11@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carol Royle](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:50:07 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Carol Royle
carolroyle11@gmail.com

From: cashelton2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carol Shelton](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:45:34 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Carol Shelton
937 Chattanooga Dr Bedford, TX 76022-7663
cashelton2@yahoo.com

From: simonaviciuter@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ruta Soltanpour](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:41:37 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ruta Soltanpour
1021 Lincoln Blvd Apt 114 Santa Monica, CA 90403-4062
simonaviciuter@yahoo.com

From: deborahhaws@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debbie Haws](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:35:33 PM

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Sincerely,
Debbie Haws
deborahhaws@att.net

From: tracylwood73@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tracy Wood
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:32:33 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Tracy Wood
536 BEACONSFIE Terrace Brighton Stephensport, KY 40170
tracylwood73@gmail.com

From: sheenat00@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [sheena Timbs](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:15:50 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms sheena Timbs
Glasgow,
sheenat00@aol.com

From: labegr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lori Bushey](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:15:20 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Lori Bushey
280 Tropic Blvd E Largo, FL 33770-2103
labegr@aol.com

From: jsmbh032@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joanna Hardeman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:58:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Joanna Hardeman
jsmbh032@gmail.com

From: jdm.pilley@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jacqueline MacDonald](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:58:28 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Jacqueline MacDonald
Manon Des Sources 580 Route De Tourtour Huston, ID 83630
jdm.pilley@outlook.com

From: joannejeff7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joanne Jeffers
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:54:31 PM

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Sincerely,
Joanne Jeffers
joannejeff7@gmail.com

From: snason67@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sheila Nason
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:49:05 PM

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Sincerely,
Sheila Nason
snason67@yahoo.com

From: kcaspers@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [K Caspers](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:47:27 PM

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Sincerely,
K Caspers
kcaspers@yahoo.com

From: c.rarroux@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Chiarita Tarroux](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:37:37 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Chiarita Tarroux
120 VITALIANO ROTELLINI St Rome, 00128
c.rarroux@yahoo.it

From: timothy.trantham01@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tim Trantham](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:30:06 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Tim Trantham
Tampa, FL 33614
timothy.trantham01@gmail.com

From: kmbnyc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Katherine Babiak](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:20:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Katherine Babiak
8350 Woody Rd Port Tobacco, MD 20677-3105
kmbnyc@aol.com

From: barbaratranjan0@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara Tranjan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:02:19 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Barbara Tranjan
Rua dos Artistas 35 104 Rio de Janeiro,
barbaratranjan0@gmail.com

From: carolborota@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carol Borota](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:01:47 PM

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Sincerely,
Carol Borota
1609 Gettysburg Pl Atlanta, GA 30350-3043
carolborota@bellsouth.net

From: oyoumans98941@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [O.Youmans](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:01:25 PM

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. O. Youmans
PO Box 291 # 291 Roslyn, WA 98941-0291
oyoumans98941@gmail.com

From: fatehsidhu08@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Fateh Sidhu](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:58:14 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont regarding Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs. These recommendation do not address critical animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Dr. Fateh Sidhu
fatehsidhu08@gmail.com

From: simontempest59@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Simon Tempest](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:56:43 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Simon Tempest
57 Bungay Road Holton Halesworth,
simontempest59@gmail.com

From: hdogscats1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vickie Dysard](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:53:57 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Vickie Dysard
8175 Petersburg Pike Petersburg, PA 16669-3100
hdogscats1@verizon.net

From: graciesmom2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lynne Boehm](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:48:19 PM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms Lynne Boehm
20910 41st Ave Bayside, NY 11361-1964
graciesmom2@icloud.com

From: trish_ellisnurse@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Trish Ellis-Nurse
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:29:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Trish Ellis-Nurse
trish_ellisnurse@icloud.com

From: hollyd1225@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Holly Dowling](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:29:16 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Holly Dowling
VT
hollyd1225@gmail.com

From: marfid05@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maria Fidler-Fundora](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:27:09 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Maria Fidler-Fundora
122 Widener Memorial Pkwy Winder, GA 30680-2590
marfid05@gmail.com

From: enciu.delia@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Delia Enciu](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:17:47 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Delia Enciu
enciu.delia@yahoo.com

From: kathyvad907@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathleen Vadnais](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:17:15 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathleen Vadnais
101 Providence St Chicopee, MA 01020-1128
kathyvad907@aol.com

From: cbs1cpm2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nancy Stier](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:16:10 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a person who cares about this country's wildlife. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Nancy Stier
8411 Harris Ave Parkville, MD 21234-4904
cbs1cpm2@gmail.com

From: mjstanek@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marsha Stanek](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:15:58 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Marsha Stanek
mjstanek@wisc.edu

From: laurenblazic@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lauren Blazic](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:09:45 PM

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Sincerely,
Lauren Blazic
laurenblazic@gmail.com

From: rose.bellamy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rose La cour](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:05:45 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Rose La cour
KRIK 98 Vestervig, WA 55500
rose.bellamy@talk21.com

From: marjadecaputi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [mary caputi](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:04:28 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. mary caputi
1520 Dempster St Mt Prospect, IL 60056-4989
marjadecaputi@yahoo.com

From: kathyjones100@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathrine Jones](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:02:24 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathrine Jones
100 B J Pl Pottsville, AR 72858-8874
kathyjones100@aol.com

From: chesterpops18@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Julie Sewill](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:54:36 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

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Sincerely,
Julie Sewill
Newark, CA 94560
chesterpops18@gmail.com

From: coralprescott@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Christine Reeder](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:51:41 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Christine Reeder
1500 Little Joe Ave Sebring, FL 33872-2714
coralprescott@hotmail.com

From: i_love_dobes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lori Kyle](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:43:59 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lori Kyle
11905 Technology Dr # 324 Eden Prairie, MN 55344-3622
i_love_dobes@yahoo.com

From: oyoumans98941@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [O.Youmans](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:43:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. O. Youmans
PO Box 291 # 291 Roslyn, WA 98941-0291
oyoumans98941@gmail.com

From: fannynlwhitman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Fanny Whitman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:41:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Fanny Whitman
PO Box 191 Westport Pt, MA 02791-0191
fannynlwhitman@gmail.com

From: mcarneyv@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Carney
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:41:22 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Carney
650 N Black Horse Pike Apt B Runnemede, NJ 08078-1362
mcarneyv@gmail.com

From: dkwestom@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debra Westom](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:38:00 PM

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Sincerely,
Debra Westom
dkwestom@hotmail.com

From: southern.belle67@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rebecca Lee](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:32:57 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Rebecca Lee
167 Highway 85 Connector Brooks, GA 30205-1618
southern.belle67@yahoo.com

From: [Jim White](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:27:51 PM

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I have followed the arguments for and against trapping for some years now. Trapping is by its nature cruel, and I have no confidence in the FWD and trappers' willingness and capacity to manage it. I think leghold traps for recreational purposes should be banned. They serves no useful purpose despite FWD/trapper rhetoric. The use of body-crushing traps on land should be prohibited.

Despite FWD claims, there is little evidence that hounders can or will control their dogs. Coyote hounders should be required to be with their dogs. Bait should not be allowed for obvious reasons.

Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates as enacted under Acts 159 and 165.

Jim White
Shelburne

PS

I also think that there should be a defined hunting season for coyotes as there is for deer, etc.

From: Izzybeth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elizabeth Ullrick](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:16:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Elizabeth Ullrick
Izzybeth@cox.net

From: smithcindy117@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cindy Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:05:32 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Cindy Smith
117 Cambridge St Indiana, PA 15701-2404
smithcindy117@yahoo.com

From: mkaplinski@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maarja Kaplinski](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:03:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Maarja Kaplinski
33 -9A NISU Tartu, 50407
mkaplinski@gmail.com

From: ktesch9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristen Tesch](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 3:02:27 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Kristen Tesch
Pine, CO 80470
ktesch9@gmail.com

From: sallyjburke@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sally Burke](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 12:40:37 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Sally Burke
1057 Shaw Toronto,
sallyjburke@gmail.com

From: lincolnbobinkon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lincoln Beaubinkon](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 12:40:13 PM

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Sincerely,
Lincoln Beaubinkon
1057 Shaw Street Toronto,
lincolnbobinkon@gmail.com

From: parrythehoot@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Pierre le Houte](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 12:39:36 PM

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Sincerely,
Pierre le Houte
1057 shaw Toronto,
parrythehoot@gmail.com

From: lochoa3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lisa A Ochoa](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 12:14:14 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lisa A Ochoa
2400 N Arizona Ave Apt 1069 Chandler, AZ 85225-1252
lochoa3@outlook.com

From: lynn.f.hancock@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lynn Hancock](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 11:44:44 AM

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Sincerely,
Lynn Hancock
lynn.f.hancock@gmail.com

From: rhodna2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Camille Wickstrand](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 11:43:28 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Camille Wickstrand
4819 Augusta Blvd Monee, IL 60449-8908
rhodna2@aol.com

From: dgmilner@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [David Milner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 11:05:21 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. David Milner
420 E 55th St New York, NY 10022-5139
dgmilner@nyc.rr.com

From: savingtheplanetwithtaco@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kath Stevens
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:51:39 AM

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Sincerely,
Kath Stevens
Bergerac, 24100
savingtheplanetwithtaco@gmail.com

From: kimhost57@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kimberley Host](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:42:30 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Kimberley Host
Oostvest 8 Marion, IN 46953
kimhost57@gmail.com

From: vnessa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vanessa Escamilla](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:21:50 AM

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Sincerely,
Vanessa Escamilla
1222 N Olive Dr West Hollywood, CA 90069-2756
vnessa@gmail.com

From: miawyatt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mia Wyatt](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:03:15 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms Mia Wyatt
7762 Chatfield Ln Ellicott City, MD 21043-7915
miawyatt@verizon.net

From: Sabe502@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joe Scriff](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:49:50 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Joe Scriff
21 Ferndale Rd North Caldwell, NJ 07006-3916
Sabe502@aol.com

From: kkarla311@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karla Okelley](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:44:02 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Karla Okelley
kkarla311@msn.com

From: orev7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Véronique Gauvain](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:28:58 AM

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Sincerely,
Véronique Gauvain
4 Ter Place De La Memoire Edmore, ND 58330
orev7@orange.fr

From: veric@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Véronique Gauvain
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:28:47 AM

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Véronique Gauvain
4 Ter Place De La Memoire Edmore, ND 58330
veric@orange.fr

From: hollycrawfordb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Holly Crawford](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:10:35 AM

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Sincerely,
Holly Crawford
122 Romano Ave Coral Gables, FL 33134-7242
hollycrawfordb@hotmail.com

From: lukemartone@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luke Martone](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 8:31:37 AM

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Sincerely,
Luke Martone
Morrisville, VT 05661
lukemartone@gmail.com

From: lenadarlink@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lena Donaker](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 7:12:59 AM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms Lena Donaker
7385 W Ohio Ave Lakewood, CO 80226-4983
lenadarlink@gmail.com

From: kimmytrixibelle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kim Ayers](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:59:48 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Kim Ayers
kimmytrixibelle@yahoo.co.uk

From: [Christian Matthews](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 6:49:40 AM

You don't often get email from cmatthews@tutaimail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Fish & Wildlife,

We agree with Brenna Galdenzi and Protect Our Wildlife that the newly proposed rules don't go far enough to protect wildlife, pets, and humans. We urge you to reopen discussions with POW to implement the changes requested by them in their numerous letters and op-eds. To do otherwise will result in continuous cruelty to wildlife, unnecessary pet deaths, and the resulting harm to the their owners. The number of Vermont citizens who don't trap vastly outweighs those that do. It's past time Fish & Wildlife, our rules, and regulations surrounding trapping represent the interests of the whole citizenry, not the small minority that does trap.

Sincerely,
Christian Matthews and Nicole Gruet-Matthews
Underhill

From: halek08@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of P A
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 5:24:23 AM

[You don't often get email from halek08@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
P A
halek08@gmail.com

From: barrybaudains@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barry Baudains](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:37:50 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr Barry Baudains
VINCENT Ct Schenectady, NY 12345
barrybaudains@gmail.com

From: kclockejr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kenneth Locke](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 1:02:47 AM

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Sincerely,
Kenneth Locke
26 Cowbarn Ln Apt 20 Novato, CA 94947-5137
kclockejr@gmail.com

From: earthladyj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Janis Keller
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 12:50:37 AM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Janis Keller
90 NE 59th St Ocala, FL 34479-5622
earthladyj@aol.com

From: mjustmike@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Martin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 10:25:30 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Maryland and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Martin
727 Shore Dr Edgewater, MD 21037-2139
mjustmike@verizon.net

From: soca_butterfly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Chantel Ramnanan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 9:44:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Chantel Ramnanan
73 Gunn Ave Sparta, WI 54656
soca_butterfly@hotmail.com

From: edithlobrot@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of EDITH LOBROT
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 9:16:27 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. EDITH LOBROT
30 AVENUE JEAN PERRIN Sceaux, 92330
edithlobrot@gmail.com

From: k9mama1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Deborah Myers](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 9:08:53 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Deborah Myers
16753 Cache Creek Ln Clearlake, CA 95422-8934
k9mama1@gmail.com

From: janetbennett501@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janet Bennett](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 7:32:51 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Janet Bennett
201 Park Row Apt 207 Saint Peter, MN 56082-2000
janetbennett501@yahoo.com

From: jacquicat60@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jacqueline Corbett
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 7:23:19 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Jacqueline Corbett
jacquicat60@gmail.com

From: manthabearDEB@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debbie Brent](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 6:55:27 PM

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Sincerely,
Mx. Debbie Brent
6523 Smokehouse Ct Columbia, MD 21045-4495
manthabearDEB@verizon.net

From: 03-subplot.blazers@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anastasia Stepanova
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 6:41:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Anastasia Stepanova
03-subplot.blazers@icloud.com

From: mkunbeldi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Koski](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 6:37:02 PM

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Sincerely,
Mary Koski
182 Mill Pond Ln Water Mill, NY 11976-2410
mkunbeldi@aol.com

From: tatievanile@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Valérie Paillard](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 5:40:09 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Miss Valérie Paillard
1 RUE DE LANCIEN Collège Savigny Le Temple, AK 77176
tatievanile@gmail.com

From: fleck-schwindling@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Andrea Fleck](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 5:35:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Andrea Fleck
Am Herzen Lincoln, NE 68542
fleck-schwindling@web.de

From: kjo2626@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristin Johnson](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 5:31:23 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Kristin Johnson
2626 Alamo Cir NE Blaine, MN 55449-5766
kjo2626@yahoo.com

From: meyer-katharina@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Katharina Meyer
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 5:28:55 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Katharina Meyer
RATHAUSSTR90 Columbia, MO 65203
meyer-katharina@gmx.de

From: tobyareese@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Toby Ann Reese](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 5:27:54 PM

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Sincerely,
Toby Ann Reese
Valley City, OH 44280
tobyareese@me.com

From: brendaceril4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brenda Ceril](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:32:08 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Brenda Ceril
Aritao Aritao, FL
brendaceril4@gmail.com

From: wendyeastwell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Wendy Eastwell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:27:27 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Wendy Eastwell
high view, knoll place, graveley lane lindfield,
wendyeastwell@gmail.com

From: kmdaley4434@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Daley](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:09:28 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Karen Daley
15022 W Eureka Trl Surprise, AZ 85374-4441
kmdaley4434@yahoo.com

From: mercedesdotter@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mercedes Dotter
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:04:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Mercedes Dotter
mercedesdotter@yahoo.com

From: debbiewatson1312@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debbie Sanson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:02:54 PM

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Sincerely,
Debbie Sanson
debbiewatson1312@gmail.com

From: kylasht@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kylash Thamby](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:01:53 PM

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Sincerely,
Kylash Thamby
kylasht@gmail.com

From: quailrun38@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Roseanne Sobkow](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 3:55:02 PM

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Sincerely,
Roseanne Sobkow
quailrun38@gmail.com

From: Ladyowoods@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joan Grishman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 3:41:47 PM

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Sincerely,
Joan Grishman
Ladyowoods@optonline.net

From: amandafloyd44@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amanda Floyd](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 2:57:44 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Amanda Floyd
1609 Antler Trl N Jacksonville, FL 32234-4023
amandafloyd44@yahoo.com

From: hutchinson2007@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Fiona Hutchinson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 2:46:41 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Fiona Hutchinson
8 Brackenrig Road Thornliebank Glasgow,
hutchinson2007@btinternet.com

From: mgil2000@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Margarita Gil](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 2:40:28 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Margarita Gil
ISLA DE LOBEIRA 106 PORTAL Cile 5 3°C Villalba, 28400
mgil2000@hotmail.com

From: Alexis.font@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alex font](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 2:25:18 PM

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Sincerely,
Alex font
10121 80 Ave NW 23000
Alexis.font@gmail.com

From: braccino@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Curzio Bruni](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 2:16:55 PM

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Sincerely,
Curzio Bruni
braccino@hotmail.it

From: dlsdls412@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Didier Lallemand](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 1:08:21 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Didier Lallemand
Ch Bartholomez 58 Cornish, ME 04020
dlsdls412@gmail.com

From: sylvi.louise.christiansen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sylvi Christiansen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 12:56:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Sylvi Christiansen
Fridtjofsgate Allentown, NY 14707
sylvi.louise.christiansen@gmail.com

From: tom.olszewski@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tom Olszewski
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 12:56:11 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Tom Olszewski
Katonah, NY 10536
tom.olszewski@two-ponds.com

From: gazschutt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gary Schutt
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 12:27:22 PM

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Sincerely,
Gary Schutt
17 The Garth Watford,
gazschutt@gmail.com

From: barrybaudains@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barry Baudains](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 11:57:21 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr Barry Baudains
VINCENT Ct Schenectady, NY 12345
barrybaudains@gmail.com

From: hanneke1563@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Hanneke Mol
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 11:32:58 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Hanneke Mol
6 Hogedorpstraat Greentown, IN 46936
hanneke1563@gmail.com

From: kurt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kurt Amsler
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 11:28:34 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Kurt Amsler
128 BV PIERRE PUGET Bandol, 83150
kurt@photosub.com

From: susanmichelledevereaux@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Susan Devereaux
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 11:14:49 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Susan Devereaux
207 Kings Way Historic New Castle, DE 19720-4957
susanmichelledevereaux@gmail.com

From: sarika.k.arora@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sarika Arora
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 10:49:50 AM

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Sincerely,
Sarika Arora
2323 Piedmont Rd NE Atlanta, GA 30324-3457
sarika.k.arora@gmail.com

From: atelierurbainmeditation@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Julien Brunois
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 10:16:46 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Julien Brunois
15 RUE AU MAIRE Paris, CT 75003
atelierurbainmeditation@gmail.com

From: j.hagerty@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [James Hagerty](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 9:59:55 AM

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Sincerely,
James Hagerty
Tiverton, RI 02878
j.hagerty@att.net

From: bkbella594@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Babs Jansen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 9:21:21 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Babs Jansen
Zandstraat Oakwood, OH 45873
bkbella594@gmail.com

From: jbrookes58@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Judith Brookes](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 7:51:20 AM

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Sincerely,
Judith Brookes
Pennyholme Liveton Sheffield,
jbrookes58@icloud.com

From: niina.anttinen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Niina Anttinen
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 6:41:38 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Niina Anttinen
16 A 5 North Attleboro, MA 02760
niina.anttinen@gmail.com

From: lovuor2807@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kat Pinch](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 5:44:40 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Kat Pinch
10 SELIN 10 Selin Rokuni, CT 45100
lovuor2807@gmail.com

From: oincyandthebrain@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of armer teufel reger
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 5:38:04 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. armer teufel reger
14 BAUERNGASSE Nuremberg, 90443
oincyandthebrain@gmx.de

From: brittamhansen69@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Britta Hansen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:26:54 AM

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Sincerely,
Britta Hansen
brittamhansen69@gmail.com

From: tupu-58@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tupu Seppänen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:24:48 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Tupu Seppänen
tupu-58@hotmail.com

From: gabi.calva69@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gabriela Calva Kellner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:00:27 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Gabriela Calva Kellner
- INDUSTRIESTR51A - Eschelbronn, DE 74927
gabi.calva69@gmail.com

From: marinariss@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marina Ris](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:00:08 AM

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Sincerely,
Marina Ris
marinariss@gmail.com

From: monneron8@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Monneron Sophie
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 4:00:08 AM

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Sincerely,
Monneron Sophie
AVENUE ALICE-ET-WILLIAM-FAVRE 18 01207
monneron8@yahoo.fr

From: dominique.benoit.girard@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dominique Girard
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 1:55:03 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Dominique Girard
19 Cité Ampère Wavrin, AL 59136
dominique.benoit.girard@gmail.com

From: lindanreilly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Linda Reilly](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 11, 2023 1:32:45 AM

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Sincerely,
Linda Reilly
LINDA Cypress, CA 90630
lindanreilly@gmail.com

From: iristerval@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Iris Terval](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 11:58:03 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Iris Terval
PUUTARHURINTIE 18-20 A Providence, RI 02940
iristerval@gmail.com

From: PamZ@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Pamela Miller
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:50:38 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Pamela Miller
6230 Thomas Ct Tolar, TX 76476-6917
PamZ@WinstonProperties.Net

From: bootsgold@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Goldman](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 8:35:27 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Laura Goldman
39 Worth St New York, NY 10013-2989
bootsgold@aol.com

From: marco.moir2007@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marco Salvetti](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 7:49:45 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Marco Salvetti
SALITA COSTA DEI RATTI 1/2 Genova, 16144
marco.moir2007@libero.it

From: scrappinmurfette@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Robin Babcock](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 7:29:02 PM

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I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Robin Babcock
FL
scrappinmurfette@gmail.com

From: lilaniemok@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rosalia Nieto](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 7:18:34 PM

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Sincerely,
Rosalia Nieto
lilaniemok@gmail.com

From: ccollins54@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Carol Collins
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 6:13:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Carol Collins
1935 Nault Rd Dover, DE 19904-5823
ccollins54@msn.com

From: lalderman88@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lisa Alderman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 6:05:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lisa Alderman
640 New Hope Rd Alexandria, TN 37012-3448
lalderman88@gmail.com

From: nanooks@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nancy S Spittler](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 6:02:21 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Nancy S Spittler
3227 Acalanes Ave Lafayette, CA 94549-3206
nanooks@pacbell.net

From: manthabearDEB@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debbie Brent](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 5:23:14 PM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Debbie Brent
6523 Smokehouse Ct Columbia, MD 21045-4495
manthabearDEB@verizon.net

From: kallen1719@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kelly Allen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 5:15:35 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Kelly Allen
kallen1719@gmail.com

From: anjajohansen0@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anja Johansen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 4:55:28 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you in support of In Defense of Animals who has pointed my attention to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs that do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns.

I sincerely urge you to strengthen these rules to secure the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The Department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety.

Hoping to see your immediate action in this urgent matter,

Sincerely,
Ms. Anja Johansen
anjajohansen0@gmail.com

From: analiacaiazza@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Analía Caiazza](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 4:27:29 PM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Analía Caiazza
Sarmiento 1645 Rosario,
analiacaiazza@gmail.com

From: mcorbin9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marion Corbin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 4:22:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Marion Corbin
mcorbin9@gmail.com

From: tabbykat7285@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Raleigh Koritz](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 3:47:32 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Raleigh Koritz
4505 Nathan Ln N Apt 313 Minneapolis, MN 55442-3162
tabbykat7285@outlook.com

From: lkgsasfo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lawrence Kepic
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 3:45:52 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Lawrence Kepic
776 Cindy Way Pacifica, CA 94044-2910
lkgsasfo@aol.com

From: janicemarywash@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janice M Washienko](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 3:22:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Janice M Washienko
4950 S Outlet Center Dr # 159 Tucson, AZ 85706-1839
janicemarywash@gmail.com

From: rochelle.toddroy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rochelle Roy](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 2:44:23 PM

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Sincerely,
Rochelle Roy
rochelle.toddroy@gmail.com

From: marianne.pierce58@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marianne Pierce](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 2:37:50 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Marianne Pierce
marianne.pierce58@gmail.com

From: gail.bowers73@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gail Bowers](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 2:06:54 PM

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Sincerely,
Gail Bowers
gail.bowers73@ntlworld.com

From: squ99@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vanessa Bartley](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 1:28:39 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Vanessa Bartley
826 Annlau Ave SE Huntsville, AL 35802-2607
squ99@icloud.com

From: sukurabegum@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sukura Begum
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:46:30 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Sukura Begum
33 Richard Neale House Flt Beverly Hills, CA 90210
sukurabegum@yahoo.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:45:58 PM

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:43:13 PM

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:42:56 PM

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:42:36 PM

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:42:25 PM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:42:03 PM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:41:45 PM

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:41:28 PM

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luciredo@gmail.com

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:41:12 PM

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:40:53 PM

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luciredo@gmail.com

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Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
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Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
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Luciana Redolfi
Fornace
luciredo@gmail.com

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Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:39:42 PM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:39:19 PM

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luciredo@gmail.com

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:39:01 PM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:38:38 PM

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luciredo@gmail.com

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:38:18 PM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:37:56 PM

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:37:39 PM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:37:22 PM

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luciredo@gmail.com

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:37:00 PM

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: e.brzezniak@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elzbieta Brzezniak](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 11:38:25 AM

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Sincerely,
Elzbieta Brzezniak
e.brzezniak@wp.pl

From: annicae@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eriksson Annica
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:47:40 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Eriksson Annica
10 AVTALSVÄGEN Täby, 18750
annicae@icloud.com

From: tamiholden@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tami Holden
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:35:33 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Tami Holden
PA
tamiholden@hotmail.com

From: antvane@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anthony Curtis](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:29:38 AM

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Sincerely,
Anthony Curtis
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688
antvane@gmail.com

From: avac1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vanessa Al](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:29:03 AM

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Sincerely,
Vanessa Al
Wesley Chapel, FL 33545
avac1@live.com

From: ironrancher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [heidi ahlstrand](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:19:45 AM

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heidi ahlstrand
ironrancher@yahoo.com

From: marierafles85@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rolfes Marie
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:19:35 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Rolfes Marie
1018 S Moline St Aurora, CO 80012-3212
marierafles85@gmail.com

From: marierafles85@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rolfes Marie
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 10:17:02 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Rolfes Marie
1018 S Moline St Aurora, CO 80012-3212
marierafles85@gmail.com

From: litemikie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Carroll](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 9:45:52 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Carroll
225 W Cypress Ave Kingsland, GA 31548-4269
litemikie@yahoo.com

From: clarrette@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Claire Paquette](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 9:45:51 AM

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Sincerely,
Claire Paquette
2223 Starling Rd Dothan, AL 36303-2353
clarrette@hotmail.com

From: ehittra312@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Hittra Eric](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 9:42:32 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Hittra Eric
3 PLACE DALSDORF St Brieuc, 22000
ehittra312@gmail.com

From: artbyrev.debi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rev.de Mutis](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 9:38:48 AM

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Sincerely,
Rev. de Mutis
artbyrev.debi@gmail.com

From: rhodna2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Robert McMullins](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 9:36:20 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr Robert McMullins
4866 Augusta Blvd Monee, IL 60449-8910
rhodna2@aol.com

From: lcklumb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carole Klumb](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 9:34:55 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Carole Klumb
W370S9784 State Road 67 Eagle, WI 53119-1555
lcklumb@outlook.com

From: bhakti74@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristie Devost](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 8:59:46 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms Kristie Devost
27 Hillcrest Ter Brattleboro, VT 05301-4104
bhakti74@me.com

From: nascarbill8@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [William Parhamenko](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 8:49:13 AM

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Sincerely,
William Parhamenko
nascarbill8@hotmail.com

From: umflat@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lana Umflat](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 8:40:50 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lana Umflat
259 Piedmont F Delray Beach, FL 33484-5043
umflat@aol.com

From: Edwingonzalez@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tina Gonzalez](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 8:39:52 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Tina Gonzalez
3 OBTUSE Rd Brookfield, CT 06804
Edwingonzalez@gmail.com

From: mamoraathi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Miguel Mora](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 8:39:41 AM

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Sincerely,
Miguel Mora
mamoraathi@aol.com

From: amhakam7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alexander Hakam
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 8:27:11 AM

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Sincerely,
Dr. Alexander Hakam
amhakam7@yahoo.com

From: luvallbeings@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Perino Nina](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 8:16:21 AM

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Sincerely,
Perino Nina
2678 Megan Ct Palm Harbor, FL 34684-4630
luvallbeings@gmail.com

From: juliaskip@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Julia Freund](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 8:15:54 AM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

This is pure and simple animal abuse and is cruel and outdated!!!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Julia Freund
4665 Pittman Rd Cumming, GA 30040-6595
juliaskip@yahoo.com

From: juliahealinganimalhealing@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Julia Rogers](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 7:35:22 AM

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Sincerely,
Julia Rogers
juliahealinganimalhealing@hotmail.co.uk

From: reginapowell51@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Regina Powell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 7:31:29 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms Regina Powell
10956 Green St Spc 143 Columbia, CA 95310-9748
reginapowell51@yahoo.com

From: gibsondebbieanne5005@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debbie Gibson](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 7:08:36 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Debbie Gibson
691 Mohawk Road Ancaster,
gibsondebbieanne5005@gmail.com

From: dlsdls412@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Didier Lallemand](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 5:50:41 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Didier Lallemand
Ch Bartholomez 58 Cornish, ME 04020
dlsdls412@gmail.com

From: emilycoffey@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Emily J Elford](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 4:00:49 AM

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Sincerely,
Emily J Elford
emilycoffey@hotmail.com

From: zsuzsa666@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Reubl Jánosné](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 2:54:25 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Reubl Jánosné
Templom Utca Lee, MA 01238
zsuzsa666@gmail.com

From: tlfisher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [T.L.Fisher](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 2:28:01 AM

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Sincerely,
T.L. Fisher
tlfisher@cablelynx.com

From: lynngriffith3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lynn Griffith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 2:26:48 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lynn Griffith
81 E Ellinor Peak Pl Belfair, WA 98528-7519
lynngriffith3@gmail.com

From: austin.mich1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michelle Austin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 2:19:20 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Michelle Austin
34 IPEIROU Athina, 10433
austin.mich1@gmail.com

From: evawis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Eva Wischhusen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 1:57:44 AM

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Sincerely,
Eva Wischhusen
41 Jahnstraße Mora, MO 65345
evawis@gmx.de

From: debi6763@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debi Kaufmann](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 1:48:52 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Debi Kaufmann
8271 Pecos Way Denver, CO 80221-7725
debi6763@gmail.com

From: silimavanya@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Merit Tabak](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 1:38:44 AM

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Sincerely,
Merit Tabak
silimavanya@gmail.com
silimavanya@gmail.com

From: holliewb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Hollie Bertram](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 1:21:56 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Hollie Bertram
63 Division Ave Fairfield, CT 06825-4234
holliewb@gmail.com

From: catherine_tb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Catherine Torrese Benyi
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:40:28 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Catherine Torrese Benyi
270 yonge Blvd Toronto,
catherine_tb@hotmail.com

From: susiebohner@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan Richardson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 10, 2023 12:17:43 AM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms Susan Richardson
406 Myrtle Ave Modesto, CA 95350-5925
susiebohner@aol.com

From: istepstone@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Stephanie Stone](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 11:45:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Stephanie Stone
New York, NY 10040
istepstone@aol.com

From: dyan8536@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Eva Dyan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 11:12:25 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Eva Dyan
214 S Orange Dr Los Angeles, CA 90036-3011
dyan8536@gmail.com

From: had1100@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Eve Lee](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 10:38:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Eve Lee
had1100@yahoo.com

From: fondest311dream@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rachel Ptacek](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 10:35:01 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Rachel Ptacek
5209 Clark St New Windsor, NY 12553-8280
fondest311dream@aol.com

From: dominique.antoniazza@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dominique Antoniazza
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 10:31:48 PM

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Sincerely,
Dominique Antoniazza
11 PSGE SAVARY 11PASSAGE SAVARY 11Passage Savary Angers, 49100
dominique.antoniazza@outlook.fr

From: blueround@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marianne Manning](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 10:01:14 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Missouri and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety.

And finally, this is a barbaric and heartless practice, beneath any thinking or feeling human person's who participate in this cruel slaughter are more base than the most small creature Do better Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Marianne Manning
Florissant, MO 63033
blueround@outlook.com

From: tjhb47@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [John Berkland](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:18:32 PM

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Sincerely,
mr John Berkland
27 South St Waltham, MA 02453-3504
tjhb47@yahoo.com

From: A.Viveros-Lopez@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Angela Viveros-Lopez](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 8:49:38 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Angela Viveros-Lopez
Cubitt Terrace 78 Cubitt Terrace London,
A.Viveros-Lopez@outlook.com

From: farrenberg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [karen Harding-Farrenberg](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 8:45:52 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. karen Harding-Farrenberg
33 BODLEY Melbourne, 03193
farrenberg@westnet.com.au

From: erinsave94@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Erin Averill](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 7:46:10 PM

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Sincerely,
Erin Averill
437 NE 29th St Miami, FL 33137-4685
erinsave94@gmail.com

From: dakottagie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gina Yaccarino](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 7:41:59 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Gina Yaccarino
43 Longman St Toms River, NJ 08753-2437
dakottagie@aol.com

From: mcdougall_laurie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laurie Mcdougall](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 7:28:10 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Laurie Mcdougall
30 Nalybunion Way Bluffton, SC 29910
mcdougall_laurie@ymail.com

From: brendaceril4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brenda Ceril](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 7:13:30 PM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs Brenda Ceril
Aritao Aritao,
brendaceril4@gmail.com

From: cd1andonly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Charlotte Traore](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 7:00:35 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Charlotte Traore
Saddle River, NJ 07458
cd1andonly@hotmail.com

From: jfolkins@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joanne Folkins](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 6:55:55 PM

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Sincerely,
Joanne Folkins
jfolkins@conumacable.com

From: jkaptur@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jill kaptur](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 6:46:47 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Jill kaptur
29 Red Tail Dr Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047-8434
jkaptur@yahoo.com

From: mnissangh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nissangh Mohan Babu](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 6:29:21 PM

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Sincerely,
Nissangh Mohan Babu
San Jose, CA 95132
mnissangh@gmail.com

From: shiela9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Shiela Cockshott](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 6:28:33 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Shiela Cockshott
2753 Yosemite Dr Belmont, CA 94002-3019
shiela9@cal.berkeley.edu

From: gillflores@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Flores Gilbert
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 6:16:44 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Flores Gilbert
4137 W Yucca St Phoenix, AZ 85029-3846
gillflores@cox.net

From: stacey_lavelly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Stacey Heinz](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 6:10:05 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Stacey Heinz
5751 Ring Ct Hanover Park, IL 60133-5320
stacey_lavelly@yahoo.com

From: lcs89@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nora Coyle](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 6:01:24 PM

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Sincerely,
ms Nora Coyle
8066 E Woodsboro Ave Anaheim, CA 92807-2508
lcs89@yahoo.com

From: lindanreilly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Linda Reilly](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 5:51:21 PM

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Sincerely,
Linda Reilly
LINDA Cypress, CA 90630
lindanreilly@gmail.com

From: marasoltanis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mara Soltanis](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 5:48:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Mara Soltanis
3100 Collins Ave Apt 406 Miami Beach, FL 33140-4114
marasoltanis@gmail.com

From: pat.moebus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Patricia Moebus
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 5:41:42 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Patricia Moebus
150 GRANVILLE Ave Fairfield, IA 52557-0001
pat.moebus@gmail.com

From: kittyandmoose@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michelle Hayward](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 5:36:06 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Michelle Hayward
58 Ditmas Avenue Kempston,
kittyandmoose@yahoo.co.uk

From: jbanks4710@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jerry Banks
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 5:34:16 PM

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Sincerely,
Jerry Banks
jbanks4710@gmail.com

From: janese@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [janese hexon](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 5:14:25 PM

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Sincerely,
dr janese hexon
1019 Flemington St Pittsburgh, PA 15217-2637
janese@hexonstudios.com

From: mbchel1958@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Chelosky](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 5:09:27 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Mary Chelosky
800W7THH Monroe, MI 48161
mbchel1958@gmail.com

From: cr11ri@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [carolyn rice](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 5:07:27 PM

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Sincerely,
ms carolyn rice
530 Fairview Ave Apt 300 Westwood, NJ 07675-1656
cr11ri@aol.com

From: patriciamalherbe@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia Malherbe](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:58:10 PM

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Sincerely,
Patricia Malherbe
Borde 38 Lausanne,
patriciamalherbe@bluewin.ch

From: pcrowl45@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peggy Crowl](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:56:14 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Peggy Crowl
171 W Dogwood Rd Trinity, TX 75862-8384
pcrowl45@yahoo.com

From: mjhatcher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Merissa Hatcher](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:46:20 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Merissa Hatcher
9203 Cedar Creek Rd Louisville, KY 40291-3113
mjhatcher@bellsouth.net

From: jnd1101@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Deborah Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:40:19 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Deborah Smith
1317 Old Highway 109 N Gallatin, TN 37066-8108
jnd1101@comcast.net

From: mp.claude.berjot@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [marie-pierre berjot](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:29:31 PM

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Sincerely,

Mrs. marie-pierre berjot

21 RUE DS VIGNES LES VERSANTS DU MONT OLYMP Charleville-Mézières, 08000

mp.claude.berjot@orange.fr

From: junecat1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [June Bullied](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:25:33 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. June Bullied
2108 55th St Boulder, CO 80301-2827
junecat1@hotmail.com

From: greenwindfarmandsanctuary@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [cristine pryce](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 4:18:50 PM

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Sincerely,
cristine pryce
1632 Marshfield Rd Marshfield, VT 05658-7148
greenwindfarmandsanctuary@gmail.com

From: kellyguhanick@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kelly Martone](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 3:39:11 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Kelly Martone
83 Fenimore St Unit 10 Morrisville, VT 05661-6120
kellyguhanick@gmail.com

From: mkntaa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [karina husing](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 3:25:05 PM

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Sincerely,
karina husing
mkntaa@gmail.com

From: soonini60@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [hyerin kim](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 3:24:51 PM

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Sincerely,
hyerin kim
soonini60@gmail.com

From: alleycattus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [masami hirose](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 3:24:40 PM

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Sincerely,
masami hirose
alleycattus@gmail.com

From: teganht@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [luca husing](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 3:24:25 PM

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Sincerely,
luca husing
teganht@gmail.com

From: mrhuising@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mark huising
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 3:24:07 PM

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Sincerely,
Mark huising
mrhuising@gmail.com

From: mayhemgrrl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tamei W](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 3:18:03 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Tamei W
mayhemgrrl@hotmail.com

From: tammyluppino@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tammy Luppino](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 2:28:50 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Tammy Luppino
118 Alger St Winchendon, MA 01475-1811
tammyluppino@yahoo.com

From: orev7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Véronique Gauvain](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 8:30:34 AM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Véronique Gauvain
4 Ter Place De La Memoire Edmore, ND 58330
orev7@orange.fr

From: veric@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Véronique Gauvain
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 8:30:51 AM

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Sincerely,
Véronique Gauvain
4 Ter Place De La Memoire Edmore, ND 58330
veric@orange.fr

From: brittanyjacobsen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brittany Jacobsen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 9:52:54 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Brittany Jacobsen
Hoboken, NJ 07030
brittanyjacobsen@gmail.com

From: samyukta.meow@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Samyukta Ramjheetun](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 11:33:50 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Samyukta Ramjheetun
2071 Second Avenue, Whitehorse, Yukon Canada
samyukta.meow@gmail.com

From: jenrier@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Rier](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 3:05:35 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Jennifer Rier
9747 S Bass Ct Pinckney, MI 48169-8229
jenrier@gmail.com

From: antonellanielsen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Antonella Nielsen
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:03:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Antonella Nielsen
47 Rørsangervej Copenhagen, 02400
antonellanielsen@hotmail.com

From: p.s.guibert@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sylvie Guibert](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:32:29 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

Personalisieren Sie Ihre Nachricht Ich schreibe Ihnen als Einwohner von Vermont und als einer der 250.000 Unterstützer von In Defense of Animals. Die Empfehlungen von Vermont Fish and Wildlife gemäß Act 159 und Act 165 zum Fangen von Wildtieren bzw. zur Kojotenjagd mit Hunden gehen nicht auf Tierschutz- und öffentliche Sicherheitsbedenken ein. Ich bitte Sie respektvoll, diese Regeln zu verschärfen und dabei das Wohlergehen der wilden Tiere in Vermont und die Sicherheit von Menschen und tierischen Begleitern im Auge zu behalten.

Ich unterstütze die Empfehlungen von Protect Our Wildlife Vermont und anderen Tierschutzorganisationen sowohl zu Act 159 als auch zu Act 165.

Der vom Ministerium vorgeschlagene Sicherheitspuffer zwischen öffentlichen Straßen, Staatswegen und Land reicht nicht aus, um die Öffentlichkeit zu schützen. Gesetz 159 schreibt vor, dass Fallen nicht in öffentlichen Bereichen aufgestellt werden müssen, in denen Einzelpersonen vernünftigerweise erwarten, sich zu erholen, und daher sollte die Regel die Verwendung von Fallen auf allen öffentlichen Grundstücken regeln.

Darüber hinaus sollten Körperquetschfallen an Land nicht erlaubt sein. Nicht-Zielarten, die in diesen Fallen gefangen werden, stehen vor dem sicheren Tod, und das gilt auch für tierische Begleiter. Erst in der letzten Fangsaison wurden zwei Hunde in Leichenfallen getötet. 50-Fuß-Fallenrückschläge stellen immer noch eine Gefahr für die Öffentlichkeit und auch für ihre Hunde dar.

Gesetz 165 muss von Jägern verlangen, dass sie die Kontrolle über ihre Jagdhunde haben. Die Verwendung von GPS und Schockhalsbändern ist ein unzureichendes Mittel zur Kontrolle, da Jäger jederzeit meilenweit von ihren Hunden entfernt sein können. Kojotenjäger sollten auch keine Kojoten ködern dürfen. Dadurch können die Tiere näher an Straßen und Wohngebiete heranrücken und stellen eine Gefahr für Mensch und andere Tiere dar.

Zusammenfassend bin ich der festen Überzeugung, dass diese Vorschriften nicht weit genug gehen, um das Wohlergehen von Wildtieren zu gewährleisten, die gefangen sind, und dass sie die Sicherheit von Mensch und Tier nicht ausreichend schützen. Vielen Dank für Ihre sorgfältige Prüfung dieser Vorschläge.

Sincerely,
Miss Sylvie Guibert
Leimgrubenweg 2 Binningen,
p.s.guibert@bluewin.ch

From: natashaselynm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [natasha medina](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:33:57 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. natasha medina
natashaselynm@gmail.com

From: plnb72@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amy Polenberg](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:43:41 PM

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Sincerely,
Amy Polenberg
5700 Arlington Ave Apt 110 Bronx, NY 10471-1515
plnb72@aol.com

From: jcashell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janice Cashell](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 5:40:42 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Janice Cashell
181 Wood Creek Rd Riad Bethlehem, CT 06751-1721
jcashell@earthlink.net

From: maleitch@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Ann Leitch](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 6:26:35 PM

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Sincerely,
Mary Ann Leitch
maleitch@live.com

From: carla.forsythe@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carla Forsythe](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 8:19:51 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Carla Forsythe
3216 W Bijou St Colorado Springs, CO 80904-1423
carla.forsythe@hotmail.com

From: samantha_lau@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [SAMANTHA LAU](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 9:29:10 PM

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Sincerely,
SAMANTHA LAU
28 N Granada Ave Alhambra, CA 91801-2715
samantha_lau@yahoo.com

From: dmorradavis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jill Morra Davis](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 9:41:08 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Jill Morra Davis
806 Cypress Grove Ln Pompano Beach, FL 33069-5065
dmorradavis@gmail.com

From: ANTHONY KERAS
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 10:21:16 AM

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Hello,

My name is Sam and I live in South Burlington. I have a degree in wildlife biology from UVM and run a dog training business in Colchester. I would just like to share that I support the proposed regulations on trapping. My dog was caught in a leg hold trap and we only found her because my neighbor said they heard her barking. We live in a suburban neighborhood and the trap was set on the farm property behind my house. Our dog got out of our fence (we were not letting her run off leash in the farmers property.) I can only assume she was attracted to the bait because she had never been interested the cows. I hate to imagine what would have happened to her if we did not find her before the farmer. I hear gunshots on his land quite often. This first-hand experience makes this an emotional issue for me. I realize the proposed changes might not have made a difference in my specific situation. However, I feel the changes will make a difference in similar cases with both domestic and wild animals.

I also strongly support proposed regulations on coyote hounding because packs of off-leash dogs with no handler in sight make me very nervous. However, I do find shock collars are not a reliable method of control, and have questionable ethics, but that is a separate issue.

Thank you for your time and your dedication to finding realistic solutions to complicated problems.

Best,

Samantha Keras

From: kimberlyaj4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kimberly Jones](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 12:57:52 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Kimberly Jones
5455 Longview St Dallas, TX 75206-5605
kimberlyaj4@gmail.com

From: culbincats@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lynda Hughes](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 1:01:07 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lynda Hughes
4283 Express Ln Sarasota, FL 34249-2602
culbincats@btinternet.com

From: phxrising13@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karina Gutierrez](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 9:34:02 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Karina Gutierrez
25901 SW 139TH CR Homestead, FL 33032
phxrising13@gmail.com

From: rkmg56@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gerri Ricciardi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 10:42:58 PM

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Sincerely,
Dr. Gerri Ricciardi
10 Madonna Ln Annandale, NJ 08801-3100
rkmg56@gmail.com

From: lilaniemok@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rosalia Nieto](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 16, 2023 12:15:00 AM

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Sincerely,
Rosalia Nieto
lilaniemok@gmail.com

From: kathleencaldwell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathleen Caldwell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 16, 2023 12:36:21 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Kathleen Caldwell
2319 White Cross Rd Chapel Hill, NC 27516-9731
kathleencaldwell@bellsouth.net

From: zagorita1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rita Zago](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 16, 2023 4:01:06 AM

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Sincerely,
Rita Zago
zagorita1@hotmail.com

From: dogz73@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Maureen Dale
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 16, 2023 4:06:44 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Maureen Dale
15 Cliff Rd Saranac Lake, NY 12983-1135
dogz73@aol.com

From: [Jane Kolas](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 7:43:29 AM

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Thank you for taking comments on this subject.

I am against coyote hunting with by either trapping or with dogs. These activities pose risks to pets, other wildlife and the general public. There just are no avenues in which to eliminate the risks... reducing the risk is just not enough. These activities are also inherently inhumane. I am not a hunter but do support legal and safe hunting of coyotes with guns by responsible hunters.

Jane Kolas
Putney

May our earth be peaceful and our hearts hopeful

From: [Linda](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Cc: [christopher Bray](#)
Subject: Ban recreational
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 5:30:10 PM

You don't often get email from landrews@gmavt.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear ANR,

We must be better stewards of our wildlife. It is time to stop recreational trapping. Please pass S.111 and H191.

Best
Linda Andrews
Bristol, Vermont

From: [laval thibodeau](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 12:08:24 PM

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To Committee members

Having grown up in the Canaan, VT area (i.e., NEK) I have several trapping friends. Over the last 50 years their attitude towards trapping has changed. They trapped because of the \$, if they had had an alternative \$ source they would have NOT trapped.

My sense if they have *evolved* I would hope that our state would have also evolved also! I am nor have I ever been a trapper, however I would hope there are more humane ways! I trust that the responsible committee members can move away from trapping on to a more efficient and humane practice.

Sincerely,

Laval Thibodeau

From: [John Gonter](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comments on Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 6:10:08 PM

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Proposed change comments:

4.5.c All foot hold traps...be padded, offset or laminated. This means all of my US made traps, many of which have been adjusted very carefully to minimize harm to target and non-target species will become illegal. They can not be replaced. Modifications would be prohibitively expensive. 5/16" thickness of traps adds significant weight to the trap and would force the use of "too heavy" traps for certain types of subtle sets. The department repeatedly has recommended BMPs that didn't have these requirements and I just acquired some more US made traps that I see now will be banned under this subsection.

4.18. This regulation effectively ends foothold trapping in all areas where firearms discharge is prohibited including 2 WMA areas in Burlington where I have trapped off and on for 7 years. It is not practical and borders on silly to suggest the use of bow/crossbow. How would you dispatch an injured mink in a foot hold trap at any distance with a bow or crossbow. If you are holding a catch pole, any firearm is difficult to use effectively. The larger the animal, the more true this is. I see the alignment with the approved tools for hunting, but muzzleloader? I can't see how a trapper could regularly load a muzzleloader wearing waders, soaking wet in cold conditions in a marsh or swamp. This also makes it impossible to legally dispatch (in Rutland, Burlington, parts of Shelburne and Colchester, Brattleboro etc,...where firearms are not allowed or limited;shotgun only areas) an animal caught in a body grip trap that is still alive...are we then supposed to release it with critical injury? As I have personally experienced, using a firearm does not guarantee a quick dispatch at any time—this should be obvious to any trapper and the board/VTFW staff. A skilled trapper can more "humanely" render an animal unconscious and use a cervical dislocation than shoot it. In my own experience a catch pole and "priest" followed by a cervical dislocation is for more likely to produce a humane result than a firearm. Additionally, shooting forces a trapper to chose to damage the pelt, probably in the head area, but also any off target shot can damage the neck or chest area as well making the pelt less useful. This subsection seems to be an attempt to appease people who do not really understand dispatch e.g. "Bludgeon animals to death"...

4.22.3.c As above, I believe it should be allowed to render a coyote unconscious and use a cervical dislocation. A trapped coyote is not easy to control on a catch pole and using firearm may be less humane than other approaches.

As a VTFW volunteer instructor, I understand the pressure faced by the department and the board, but the above create problems that don't seem to have been considered fully from my perspective. I am surprised that after a work session specifically about means of dispatch, this is what the board and leadership came up with. I have chosen to leave the State of Vermont in part because of my perception that "Wildlife Advocates" and their hate campaigns are succeeding in legislation that goes against what real trappers, wardens and biologists know are best practices. I regret deeply that the vocal Vermonters pushing for these changes are so far removed from the real practices of trapping and woodcraft that we are forced to backpedal. I will be moving to Maine this year where I hope, but am not certain, a more receptive trapping environment will be preserved.

Sincerely

John Gonter
Burlington, VT

From: [Melissa Jacobs](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: immoral cruel
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:01:04 AM

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Need I say more oh yes an imbalance of nature caused by a money hungry corrupt good ol
boy club disgusting unevolved psychotic unGodly barbaric etc etc etc

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Susan Shea](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Proposed Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 12:27:15 PM

You don't often get email from sshea28@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To the VT Fish and Wildlife Board:
Re: Proposed Trapping Regulations

I do not think the proposed new regulations go far enough to protect pets and non-target species from getting caught in traps. Covering traps and moving them away from trails is not effective as dogs and non-target wild mammals will smell the bait. I am in favor of a ban on trapping, except in cases of nuisance animals killing livestock or damaging property. There is no valid reason to continue trapping, and few Vermonters do it anymore. Many more residents enjoy walking/hiking with their dogs and observing all species of wildlife. Wildlife research and population surveys can be conducted by using game cameras, or if necessary through livetrapping and release.

Re: Proposed Coyote Hunting Regulations

If it is necessary to hunt coyotes at all, I believe they should receive the same protection as other hunted species through a seasonal hunting season. Fall, after the pups are grown, would be the best time. An open season indicates that the department considers coyotes "varmints", an outdated attitude. Coyotes play an important role in our ecosystems and are partially filling the niche that the wolf did before it was exterminated. Coyotes help to control prey populations such as deer which are damaging our forests in some locations. In our neighborhood, they regularly hunt rats and mice at the dairy farm's silage pile.

- Susan Shea
West Brookfield, Vermont

From: [Jennifer Fenn](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Management
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:08:54 PM

You don't often get email from freyalisa@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I strongly oppose trapping of any nature in Vermont. Best management practices do nothing regarding animal welfare. The majority of Vermonters DO NOT SUPPORT TRAPPING. Ten US states and more than 100 countries have banned trapping because its beyond cruel, non selective.

This state likes to talk about how we take care of our own and are good stewards of the land, but in reality we use "management" as an excuse for very loose hunting laws that lack any evidence to support it. It seems that the F&W board seem reticent to accept members who aren't active hunters and trappers and thus the recommendations and support coming forth are not representative of most of the residents who live here.

I do not support these changes. I support a BAN on this cruel practice once and for all. Vermont can do better.

--

~jenn

From: [Bright](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulation.
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:54:53 PM

[You don't often get email from scrabble39@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I'm writing to ask you to ban trapping in Vermont. The two bills- S.111 and H.191- that were proposed this last session had several co-sponsors yet they were not brought out of committee. Instead the Fish and Wildlife Department are proposing Best Management Practices which would be ineffectual in controlling the horrors of trapping.

I urge that there be introduction in the next session of strong bills to ban trapping.

Mary Louise Bright
Middlebury

From: bryanobey92@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bryan Obi-Wan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 10:13:34 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Bryan Obi-Wan
1101 Creekstone Dr Carrollton, TX
bryanobey92@gmail.com

From: morningdawn5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dawn Sartori
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 9:23:48 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Dawn Sartori
64 Linden Ave # 2 Malden, MA 02148-8206
morningdawn5@yahoo.com

From: reginas59@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Regina Reginas](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 4:50:44 AM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Regina Reginas
reginas59@yahoo.com.br

From: shakadja@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Yvonne Ouedraogo](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 4:02:23 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Yvonne Ouedraogo
Deichland 38 Bremen, 28279
shakadja@yahoo.de

From: riverhudson3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Beth C](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 12:46:31 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Beth C
2080 W La Loma Dr Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-3267
riverhudson3@gmail.com

From: ymdesignsllc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Yolanda Mendoza](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 9:27:30 PM

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Sincerely,
Yolanda Mendoza
8149 Silver Palm Ct Tamarac, FL 33321-2728
ymdesignsllc@gmail.com

From: meatcat43@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cynthia Allen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 8:24:24 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Cynthia Allen
1853 Jameson Cir Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8213
meatcat43@yahoo.com

From: tabbykat7285@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Raleigh Koritz](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 6:29:44 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Raleigh Koritz
4505 Nathan Ln N Apt 313 Minneapolis, MN 55442-3162
tabbykat7285@outlook.com

From: [Ann Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 5:23:15 PM

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Annie Smith
Westminster VT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ann Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 5:21:08 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

From: moonseii@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [kathryn gargano](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 5:01:23 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. kathryn gargano
3005 Spearman Ln Spring Valley, CA 91978-1135
moonseii@aol.com

From: plnb72@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amy Polenberg](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 3:05:53 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Amy Polenberg
5700 Arlington Ave Apt 110 Bronx, NY 10471-1515
plnb72@aol.com

From: melissasmitchell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Melissa Bottoms
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 2:46:13 PM

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Sincerely,
Melissa Bottoms
2351 Zion Church Rd Emporia, VA 23847-7347
melissasmitchell@aol.com

From: moniquebalaban@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Monique Balaban](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 11:56:36 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Monique Balaban
1487 N Livernois Rd Rochester Hills, MI 48306-4159
moniquebalaban@yahoo.com

From: [Aimee Motta](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 10:56:16 AM

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Abusive practices make for abusive mindsets and that saddens me as an elementary school teacher. Teaching kindness and compassion are tenets of developing caring individuals.

PLEASE reconsider banning trapping and hounding. Thank you!

Peace,

Aimée Motta
Huntington, VT

"Each moment is a chance for us to make peace with the world."
Thich Nhat Hanh

From: mnissangh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nissangh Mohan Babu](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 10:13:37 AM

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Sincerely,
Nissangh Mohan Babu
San Jose, CA 95132
mnissangh@gmail.com

From: squ99@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vanessa Bartley](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 7:20:30 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Vanessa Bartley
826 Annlau Ave SE Huntsville, AL 35802-2607
squ99@icloud.com

From: kekesmom@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ethel Cokely](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 2:49:59 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Ethel Cokely
8328 Goodrich St Spring Hill, FL 34606-3131
kekesmom@aol.com

From: veric@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Véronique Gauvain
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 2:20:23 AM

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Sincerely,
Véronique Gauvain
4 Ter Place De La Memoire Edmore, ND 58330
veric@orange.fr

From: orev7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Véronique Gauvain](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 2:19:52 AM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Véronique Gauvain
4 Ter Place De La Memoire Edmore, ND 58330
orev7@orange.fr

From: bcsitekaren@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Winter](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 8:08:18 PM

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Sincerely,
Laura Winter
VT
bcsitekaren@yahoo.com

From: Sharonmhirth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sharon Hirth
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 6:50:10 PM

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Sincerely,
Sharon Hirth
Sharonmhirth@gmail.com

From: damthithuy2372@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ha Nguyen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 6:44:38 PM

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Sincerely,
Ngoc Ha Nguyen
Hanoi,
damthithuy2372@gmail.com

From: chelseaacordner@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Chelsea Cordner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 6:16:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Chelsea Cordner
54 Brown Ledge Rd Colchester, VT 05446-6478
chelseaacordner@hotmail.com

From: junecat1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of June Bullied
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 4:43:45 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. June Bullied
2108 55th St Boulder, CO 80301-2827
junecat1@hotmail.com

From: mrrexmsjd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Earl Jordan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 4:22:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Dr. Earl Jordan
35 Balfour Rd W Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418-7091
mrrexmsjd@aol.com

From: trantules@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of SUSAN TRANTULES
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 4:16:46 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. SUSAN TRANTULES
128 Crider Ave Fayetteville, PA 17222-1104
trantules@centurylink.net

From: miawyatt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mia Wyatt](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:55:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Mia Wyatt
7762 Chatfield Ln Ellicott City, MD 21043-7915
miawyatt@verizon.net

From: lcs89@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nora Coyle](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:45:27 PM

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Sincerely,
ms Nora Coyle
8066 E Woodsboro Ave Anaheim, CA 92807-2508
lcs89@yahoo.com

From: kathyvad907@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathleen Vadnais](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:19:46 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathleen Vadnais
101 Providence St Chicopee, MA 01020-1128
kathyvad907@aol.com

From: realistically@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Steven Clair](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 2:40:07 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Steven Clair
2144 Rockingham Rd Chester, VT 05143-9318
realistically@gmail.com

From: eisenhauer.jessica@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jessica Eisenhauer
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 2:14:21 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Jessica Eisenhauer
7202 Williston Rd Williston, VT 05495-5291
eisenhauer.jessica@gmail.com

From: carlorosebud@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carlos Otero](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 2:01:39 PM

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Sincerely,
Carlos Otero
81 Río De Janeiro Avda 2-3 Burlington, NJ 08016
carlorosebud@gmail.com

From: braccino@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Curzio Bruni](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 12:46:34 PM

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Sincerely,
Curzio Bruni
braccino@hotmail.it

From: kathyvad907@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathleen Vadnais](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 12:39:58 PM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathleen Vadnais
101 Providence St Chicopee, MA 01020-1128
kathyvad907@aol.com

From: vilebovagen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gunilla Lofstrom
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 11:32:22 AM

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Gunilla Lofstrom
vilebovagen@gmail.com

From: lodiza333@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lodiza LePore](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 9:01:31 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lodiza LePore
334 Dewey St Bennington, VT 05201-2225
lodiza333@gmail.com

From: lakin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Justine Lakin
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 8:37:21 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Justine Lakin
PO Box 53 P.O. Box 53 Springfield, VT 05156-0053
lakin@vermontel.net

From: lakin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Robert Lakin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 8:36:49 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Robert Lakin
211 Cenate Way Springfield, VT 05156-2234
lakin@vermontel.net

From: 3logi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sam Outhorn](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 6:12:42 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Sam Outhorn
UNIVERSITY Ave Palo Alto, CA 94303
3logi@skynet.be

From: judrees@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Judy Rees](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 5:25:59 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Judy Rees
36 Margaret Ave North Hartland, VT 05052
judrees@hotmail.com

From: pjajod5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peggy Carlisle](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 5:23:19 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Peggy Carlisle
326 Pleasant St Saint Johnsbury, VT 05819-1165
pjajod5@gmail.com

From: vtlooncat@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of M Grimes
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:08:53 PM

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Sincerely,
M Grimes
vtlooncat@aol.com

From: ruswift@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Robert Swift](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 9:07:37 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Robert Swift
304 Edison Glen Ter Edison, NJ 08837-2924
ruswift@yahoo.com

From: lodiza333@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lodiza LePore](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 8:56:33 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lodiza LePore
334 Dewey St Bennington, VT 05201-2225
lodiza333@gmail.com

From: mymy102882@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Yvonne Fedeyko-Kirby](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 6:16:46 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Yvonne Fedeyko-Kirby
8601 Cook Ranch Rd Apt 244 Benbrook, TX 76126-1612
mymy102882@att.net

From: tofajorita@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rita Tofalo](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 5:58:57 PM

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Sincerely,
Dr. Rita Tofalo
tofajorita@gmail.com

From: dtramposh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debora Tramposh](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 5:19:32 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Debora Tramposh
120 Western Ave Brattleboro, VT 05301-6101
dtramposh@gmail.com

From: bhakti74@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristie Devost](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 4:34:14 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Kristie Devost
27 Hillcrest Ter Brattleboro, VT 05301-4104
bhakti74@me.com

From: slcohen312@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sharon Cohen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 4:13:29 PM

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The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Sharon Cohen
1755 E Hallandale Beach Blvd Hallandale Beach, FL 33009-4684
slcohen312@bellsouth.net

From: texas1480@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia DIERICKX](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 4:11:45 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Miss Patricia DIERICKX
RUE DES Herbières 49 Tertre, 07333
texas1480@gmx.com

From: litemikie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Carroll](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:49:47 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Carroll
225 W Cypress Ave Kingsland, GA 31548-4269
litemikie@yahoo.com

From: heilleonwheelsvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Holly Heile
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:43:05 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Holly Heile
VT
heilleonwheelsvt@gmail.com

From: demetrioslekkas@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Demetrios Lekkas
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:38:44 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

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Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Dr. Demetrios Lekkas
10 THERMOPYLON Amarousion, NY 15124
demetrioslekkas@gmail.com

From: tobyareese@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Toby Ann Reese](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:36:31 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Toby Ann Reese
Valley City, OH 44280
tobyareese@me.com

From: rhonda.thrift@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rhonda Thrift](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:31:38 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Rhonda Thrift
rhonda.thrift@gmail.com

From: brenshhr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brenna Wright](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:23:00 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Brenna Wright
2056 VT Route 100 Stockbridge, VT 05772-9528
brenshhr@gmail.com

From: r.fitzhenry@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Richard Fitzhenry](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:09:13 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Richard Fitzhenry
286 Carpenter Rd Hyde Park, VT 05655-9222
r.fitzhenry@icloud.com

From: marinariss@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marina Ris](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 2:36:42 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Marina Ris
marinariss@gmail.com

From: lyngold054@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lynda Goldsmith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 2:35:54 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Fairfax, Vermont, owner of 340 acres of conserved woodland, and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Sincerely,
Lynda Goldsmith
lyngold054@gmail.com

From: marinariss@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marina Ris](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 2:14:40 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Marina Ris
marinariss@gmail.com

From: roy_sharma@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rohit Sharma
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:20:30 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Sincerely,
Rohit Sharma
roy_sharma@hotmail.com

From: dangaldenzi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dan Galdenzi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:16:26 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Dan Galdenzi
138 Alpine View Rd Stowe, VT 05672-4014
dangaldenzi@gmail.com

From: boognish3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Erin Cleere](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:15:56 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of northern Vermont. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal welfare organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars (which are cruel to the dogs) are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Erin Cleere
195 Gazo Ave Burlington, VT 05408-1011
boognish3@yahoo.com

From: mikeliounis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Liounis](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:09:01 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Michael Liounis
146 ave Sauriol Laval,
mikeliounis@gmail.com

From: njrivet@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nancy Rivet](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:06:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Nancy Rivet
njrivet@yahoo.com

From: haukebsup@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lorna Fortune
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:06:24 PM

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I would also encourage you to ban the hideous CRUELTY OF ALL TRAPPING, NOW! PLUS, STOP THE HORRIFYING CRUELTY OF RUNNING DOGS AGAINST BEARS! THIS IS ATROCIOUS!!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lorna Fortune
1127 North Ave Burlington, VT 05408-2757
haukebsup@gmail.com

From: sarahburke1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sarah Burke
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:05:28 PM

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Sincerely,
Dr. Sarah Burke
62 Main St Bennington, VT 05201-2829
sarahburke1@mail.com

From: minke5412@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jean Farrell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:01:39 PM

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Sincerely,
Jean Farrell
750 Middletown Rd Andover, VT 05143-9053
minke5412@gmail.com

From: cherielewis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cherie Lewis](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 12:47:15 PM

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Sincerely,
Cherie Lewis
cherielewis@duck.com

From: whitesoul@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sandra Sass
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 12:14:30 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Sandra Sass
139 S 6th St Hilbert, WI 54129-9526
whitesoul@duck.com

From: atelierurbainmeditation@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Julien Brunois
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:41:23 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Julien Brunois
15 RUE AU MAIRE Paris, CT 75003
atelierurbainmeditation@gmail.com

From: dibasile1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diane Basile](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:20:24 AM

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Sincerely,
Diane Basile
9405 Burgundy Cir Highlands Ranch, CO 80126-8610
dibasile1@gmail.com

From: resq4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dean Escue](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 10:15:31 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Dean Escue
26 Crestview Dr Milford, NJ 08848-1929
resq4@msn.com

From: angelfishhinson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Katherine Hinson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 3:29:06 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Katherine Hinson
3617 E Sexton St Gilbert, AZ 85295-7212
angelfishhinson@aol.com

From: laura.margini@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Margini](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 6:01:06 PM

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Sincerely,
Laura Margini
laura.margini@gmail.com

From: laura.margini@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Margini](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 6:05:14 PM

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Sincerely,
Laura Margini
laura.margini@gmail.com

From: debi6763@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debi Kaufmann](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 7:13:07 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Debi Kaufmann
8271 Pecos Way Denver, CO 80221-7725
debi6763@gmail.com

From: lasymbio@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lori Sandham](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 7:33:11 PM

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Sincerely,
Lori Sandham
27 Wolff Dr Essex, VT 05452-3846
lasymbio@hotmail.com

From: letran1704@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Le Tran](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 8:16:38 PM

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Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Le Tran
4930 Sugar Grove Blvd Apt 3402 Stafford, TX 77477-2608
letran1704@yahoo.com

From: mszostakm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Margaret Woodard
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 10:07:20 PM

[You don't often get email from mszostakm@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Margaret Woodard
96 Triangle Ln Baiting Hollow, NY 11933-1303
mszostakm@optonline.net

From: hearts.and.diamonds@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia Hammons-Lewis](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 2:39:39 AM

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Sincerely,
Patricia Hammons-Lewis
2437 Corinth Ave Los Angeles, CA 90064-3000
hearts.and.diamonds@aol.com

From: 3logi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sam Outhorn](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 8:36:44 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Sam Outhorn
UNIVERSITY Ave Palo Alto, CA 94303
3logi@skynet.be

From: ferhannurova@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ferhan Öztürk
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:17:02 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Ferhan Öztürk
İstanbul Turkey Istanbul, 34400
ferhannurova@hotmail.com

From: dgavilanes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diego Gavilanes](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:22:26 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sincerely,
Diego Gavilanes
dgavilanes@gmail.com

From: thezone63@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Melody Flury](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:28:48 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Melody Flury
890 N Davis Rd Elma, NY 14059-9558
thezone63@aol.com

From: hewettguitars@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jim Hewett
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:32:19 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Jim Hewett
100 Mockingbird Hls Livingston, TX 77351-6508
hewettguitars@yahoo.com

From: tingeylis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lisa Tingey
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:34:55 AM

[You don't often get email from tingeylis@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lisa Tingey
160 Delaware St. London,
tingeylis@gmail.com

From: lynn.f.hancock@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lynn Hancock](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:43:39 AM

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Sincerely,
Lynn Hancock
lynn.f.hancock@gmail.com

From: oxer77@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Neil Adelman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 10:27:55 AM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Mr Neil Adelman
32148 Beachlake Ln Westlake Village, CA 91361-3606
oxer77@outlook.com

From: [Susan Cloutier](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:29:10 AM

You don't often get email from sclout59@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Please vote for Act 159 and 165 to regulate trapping.

I believe that trapping should be banned but anything you can do to restrict areas and make our trails safer for our pets and other animals is much appreciated.

Thank you,
Susan Cloutier

From: [Jessica Laughlin](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 11:46:58 AM

[You don't often get email from jesslaughlin93@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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I am proposing that the permit number for coyote hunting with dogs is raised from 100 permits, to 300 permits. Think of the money you will make when you are selling these permits at \$50 a piece. I agree with the season and training season just like bear hunting but the permit number of only 100 is going to cause an out rage. We have coyotes coming up to our back yards trying to get after the dogs we use to hunt them with. They need to be regulated.

-Jess Laughlin
802-349-2441

From: [Alex Knight](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 12:08:33 PM

You don't often get email from vermontvoluntaryist@keepandbeararms.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Vermont's time-tested hunting and trapping regulations need NO modification. Nor do its fishing laws. Nor do its gun laws. All of these things are proposed strictly on the basis of left-wing ideological dogma that has precisely NOTHING TO DO with factual evidence, or even basic reality.

But of course you will continue the march to the Total State. Everything that isn't under government control is, after all, OUT of control, and cannot be tolerated. One day, when enough laws and taxes exist, and enough bureaucrats are watching us all, we WILL have a perfect, flawless society in which there is no risk, and everyone is invincibly safe.

Alex Knight

Marlboro

From: [Bob Mccabe](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 1:24:53 PM

[You don't often get email from bobmccabe51@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Please do not change the current regulations.

Bob McCabe. Note new email: bobmccabe51@gmail.com

From: [kendel stafford](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 4:01:53 PM

You don't often get email from staffordkendel8@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To: Vt F&W Department. I have read each of the categories of proposed rules and changes regarding the trapping and hunting of coyotes. I offer these comments: #1. It is obvious that the rules and changes being proposed are meant to appease, to some extent, the anti hunting and trapping groups that have invaded our state, in hopes of placating them. I have read the public articles in the Washington World that vilify and condemn the F&W board and Department. These compromises will do nothing to stop these out of state groups from trying to ban all hunting and trapping in the State of Vermont. I realize that you are in a difficult position, having to face the onslaught from these ignorant people. The latest article by one of these women calls the F&W Department uncaring and immoral, which makes me seethe with rage. . I realize that there are those people who, while believing themselves to be "sportsmen" are really nothing but slobs, which makes things even worse. Although I have never been a trapper, I have hunted (sometimes with dogs) off and on for over 60 years. The efforts of these anti hunting and trapping groups should be resisted without compromise. Thank you for allowing me to comment. Kendel Stafford, Waterbury.

From: [KEVIN FRENCH](#)
To: [KEVIN FRENCH](#)
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 9:42:55 PM

You don't often get email from kevin.g.french@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Good evening, I would like to share my concerns with you about the proposed regulations on trapping.

1. item 4.5b should be changed from "Be anchored with a maximum of 18 inches in chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock springs can be added to the chain system" to "Be anchored with a minimum of 12 inches and a maximum of 18 inches in chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock springs can be added to the chaining system". Needs to be a minimum chain length.

2. item 4.5c should be changed from " Foothold traps set on land must "Be padded or offset and laminated with a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16 of an inch or fully encapsulate the foot" to " Be padded, offset, laminated, or have a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16 of an inch." Fully encapsulate the foot needs to be removed.

3. item 4.17a should be changed from " No foothold traps can be set on or within 25 feet of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless set in a culvert, in the water, at least 5 feet above the ground." to "No foothold traps set on or within 25 feet of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless set in a culvert or in the water." No reason to set a foothold 5ft above ground.

Please make these changes to the proposed regulations to make them realistic for trappers to adhere to them. Also no other changes to the proposal should be made at this time. Thank you for your work on this.

Kevin French
Quechee VT

From: deppe@together.net
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Cc: deppe@together.net
Subject: Coyote hunting/trapping Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 8:43:28 PM

You don't often get email from deppe@together.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Please reject the proposed rules for coyote hounding and trapping. These rules are inhumane and will not protect other animals or people. We should ban leghold traps and other cruel methods. Vermont can do better. Thank you.

Susan Leigh Deppe, MD

From: [Kate Selby](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: NO trapping
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 2:25:08 PM

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Set backs from roads won't help dogs and other animals trapped incidentally, and trapping is one of the cruelest ways to reduce a population I've ever known.

People who claim to "trap responsibly" still leave the trapped animal for hours, a whole day, or more before retrieving and dispatching them.

The argument that trapping is a "right" and banning it a form of taking away more "freedoms" is right up there with claiming you need assault-style weapons to defend yourself.

PLEASE BAN TRAPPING.

--

Katherine Selby
1896 Quaker Village Rd
Weybridge, VT 05753
(802)236-6349

The beauty of anti-racism is that you don't have to pretend to be free of racism to be an anti-racist. Anti-racism is the commitment to fight racism wherever you find it, including in yourself. And it's the only way forward. -Ijeoma Oluo

From: [Vivien Rabin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Opposition to proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:57:09 PM

You don't often get email from vivienrabin@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [marcrph](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 7:38:28 AM

[You don't often get email from marcrph@vermontel.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

--

Gina Cote
P.O. Box 405
Saxtons River, Vermont 05154
Home:(802)869-2506 Cell: (802)289-9200
E-mail: marcrph@vermontel.net

From: [Caroline Canning](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 7:08:04 AM

[You don't often get email from carcan43@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To Whom This May Concern:

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sincerely,

Caroline Canning
Burlington

From: [Richard Joy](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 6:53:55 AM

You don't often get email from rjoy1217@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. In addition:

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.
- Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an

animal's limbs, and no amount
of modifications will make them
any more humane

Thanks,
Richard Joy

From: [Katherine A. Collins](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 6:06:42 AM

You don't often get email from zkzkac@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, and long time animal welfare advocate, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will NOT protect wildlife, pets or the public.

This is antiquated policy rearing it's ugly head and I continue to be horrified by these outdated and cruel practices. Since returning here after a 30 yr. absence, I have been ashamed to say I am a native Vermonter as I continue to read of such intentional cruelty to animals disguised as best hunting practices. If only more of the general public were aware of what really goes on

1. Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
2. Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds. Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.
3. Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

From: [Liliana Askos](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 5:47:58 AM

You don't often get email from askoslili@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Victoria A. Scott](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 8:53:59 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thank you for your consideration.

Victoria Scott
Florence, VT

From: [Jarryd Audette](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 7:50:28 PM

[You don't often get email from jrod3412@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sincerely,
Jarryd Audette

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Patricia Cobb](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 7:49:36 PM

[You don't often get email from cobb.patricial@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Good Evening,

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPhone
Sincerely,
Patricia Cobb

From: [Janice Solek-Tefft](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 7:33:31 PM

[You don't often get email from jst05489@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

I am a nature advocate and trapping is cruel and inhumane as well as using hounds! Please oppose Act 159 and Act 165.

Thank you,
Janice SolekTefft
Underhill, Vermont

Sent from my iPhone

From: [aimee Pallozzi](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 7:11:05 PM

You don't often get email from aimeepallozzi@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.
- Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane.

Please stop this needless cruelty.

Sincerely,
Aimee Pallozzi

From: [Charity Kehaya](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 7:00:19 PM

[You don't often get email from ckehaya@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sincerely,
Charity Kehaya

From: nancy_dagostino
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 6:22:35 PM

You don't often get email from nhdagostino@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state.

These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Please ...these are animals in their habitat.

These actions and traps are cruel and inhumane.

Please consider how you would feel if this happened to your pet or any domesticated animal you know.

Wow know a dog that got caught in one of these traps.

Horrifying for any creature to suffer like this!

Please oppose!

Thank you, Nancy D'Agostino
Burlington

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [Michelle Vicary](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 6:21:54 PM

You don't often get email from mdvic91@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Jan Shimp](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 6:20:26 PM

[You don't often get email from janshimp@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Amy Whitney](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 5:58:31 PM

You don't often get email from alwhit73@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To whom it may concern:

As a 7th generation Vermonter, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

I come from a longstanding family of dairy farmers and, in my several decades, never experienced my family needing to trap or hound species of wildlife. There is a healthy respect for nature and wildlife, and we know how to coexist.

So often in today's environment, we see humans take the easy way out to the detriment of other species rather than putting more thought into a viable alternative, not to mention the horrible desires of a minority to unnecessarily maim and torture animals indiscriminately. If any of these acts were against what society refers to as companion animals, they would fall under "animal cruelty" and Fish and Wildlife would be called in to respond. I ask how this same agency can then be responsible for encouraging and promoting animal cruelty on specific species. If we turned this to think about the human race, it would be likened to condoning acts of violence against one race and not on another.

I try to keep my faith in humanity that we will progress to be a more humane people and move away from acts of violence against any species.

I ask you to please oppose the proposed rules under Act 159 and Act 165.

Thank you for your consideration.

Amy Whitney
Fairfield, VT
Cell: 802-309-2885

From: [kristin juliano](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 5:56:03 PM

[You don't often get email from chopvt@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thank you!

Kristin Juliano

From: [Reto Pieth](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 5:55:48 PM

[You don't often get email from rpieth@sover.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Best regards,
Reto Pieth

409 Rt 121 E
Grafton, VT 05146

802 843 2270

From: [Gabriela da Silva Gomes](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 4:42:10 PM

You don't often get email from gabrieladasilvagomes2@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: nckittenbird@aol.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 4:07:39 PM

You don't often get email from nckittenbird@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I PLEASE urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thank you for your consideration!

From: [Meg](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 4:03:51 PM

You don't often get email from megb9113@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Meg Bardossi
East Montpelier Vermont

From: [Linda Gage](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 3:38:02 PM

You don't often get email from linda@softpawranch.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose these two proposed rules, Act 159 and Act 165, for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.

Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane. Please oppose Act 159 and Act 165.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Linda Gage
Hinesburg VT

From: [Lindzey Beal](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 3:33:30 PM

[You don't often get email from lindzey86@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Lindzey and Jeff Beal
Wolcott, VT

From: [Maura Pichett](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 2:41:13 PM

You don't often get email from happyhensandchicks@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.
Sincerely, Maura Pichette

From: [Susan Friedland](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 2:36:08 PM

You don't often get email from s_friedland@sbcglobal.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Susan Friedland
818 Churchill Rd.
Cabot, VT 05647

From: [Holly-lynn Busier](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 2:07:49 PM

[You don't often get email from holly.busier@uvm.edu. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPhone
Dr. Holly-Lynn Busier
Senior Lecturer Emerita
College of Education and Social Services
University of Vermont
Burlington, Vermont 05405

From: [Joyce Rodgers](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 2:01:14 PM

You don't often get email from jero9384@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. They are cruel and inhumane.

J. Rodgers

From: [Michelle Kaufman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:58:41 PM

[You don't often get email from marsupigal@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. They are also incredibly inhumane.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Imogen Corcoran](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:57:08 PM

You don't often get email from imogencorcoran@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am a resident of Vermont. I am writing to urge you to oppose the proposed rules of Act 159 and Act 165 that concern trapping and coyote hounding in the state. They are inhumane and will not protect wildlife, companion animals, or people.

Imogen Corcoran
601 Gage Road
Bethel, VT 05032

From: [Jill Richardson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:39:55 PM

[You don't often get email from jillrichardsonvt@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Remember the golden rule of life - treat all others as you want to be treated!
Jill

Jill Richardson
jillrichardsonvt@gmail.com
802.644.6630
802.760.7517
269 Cady Hill Road
Cambridge, VT 05444

From: [Kris Winnicki](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:38:00 PM

You don't often get email from kwinnicki@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thank you,

Kristine Winnicki

From: [Catherine Colman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:33:30 PM

You don't often get email from imeagle1.cc@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Get [TypeApp](#) for Android

From: [nancy rivet](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:18:20 PM

[You don't often get email from njrivet@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Nancy Rivet

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Richard Fitzhenry](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:10:16 PM

You don't often get email from r.fitzhenry@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.
- Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Respectfully,
Richard Fitzhenry
Hyde Park

From: [Victoria Conti](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 1:00:08 PM

You don't often get email from jesariconti@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds. Also, Shock collars are a cruel way of trying to control their dogs. The dogs will only learn fear of their owners.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.
- Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane. Family pets being caught in leghold traps, not to mention other wildlife that these devices are not meant to trap. They should be banned entirely.

Thank you for your attention.

Victoria Conti
Barre, VT

From: [Jennifer Trojbom](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:52:35 PM

[You don't often get email from liveygrace@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPhone

From: J.TROJBOM
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:52:27 PM

[You don't often get email from redoctbr16@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [lakin](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:50:06 PM

You don't often get email from lakin@vermontel.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thank You!

Sincerely,
Justine K. Lakin
211 Cenate Way
Springfield, VT 05156

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Gregory Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:43:04 PM

You don't often get email from gmainesmith@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Gregory Smith
Charlotte, VT

From: [topher plimpton](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:42:54 PM

[You don't often get email from tplimp@outlook.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Topher

From: [Molly Bezio](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:40:51 PM

[You don't often get email from beziosb@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Molly Bezio

From: [Sally Reeve](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:40:14 PM

[You don't often get email from sally_reeve45@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sally Reeve](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:39:54 PM

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Linda Burlak](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:29:13 PM

[You don't often get email from lkb@catscoffeechocolate.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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To the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department:

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. More clear and stringent rules are needed that deal with the issue of leghold traps and that will decrease the chance of family pets being caught in such traps.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Linda Burlak
Pownal, VT
lkb@catscoffeechocolate.com

From: [Carolyn McMurray](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:26:09 PM

[You don't often get email from carolynandgerrymcmurray@verizon.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thanks for your consideration.
Carolyn and Gerry McMurray

Sent from my iPhone

From: [JoAnne Packard](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:17:37 PM

You don't often get email from jojopackard@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Karen Bourque](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:13:21 PM

You don't often get email from karen.m.bourque@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs. Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane.

Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. I have direct experience with the fact that the GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control hounds chasing wildlife. Further, coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals near roads and residential areas, exacerbating avoidable negative human/animal interactions.

Thank you,
Karen Bourque
West Fairlee

From: [Edward Morgan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:10:22 PM

You don't often get email from thechildrensgarden@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will NOT protect wildlife, pets or the public.

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.
- Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and NO AMOUNT of modifications will make them any more humane.

Edward Morgan
St. Johnsbury, Vermont

From: [Eliza Renner](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:10:38 PM

You don't often get email from elizaren97@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.

- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.

- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.

- Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane.

There's no way to make a kill trap or the act of siccing a pack of powerful hounds on a lone coyote humane. Animal cruelty is not a sport.

Thank you,

Eliza Renner, Addison County

From: [Tima Beci](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:07:24 PM

You don't often get email from loving.children@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Kevin Downey](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:02:51 PM

[You don't often get email from kdowney@uvei.org. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To whomever has the Authority,

As a Vermont resident, I speak my voice loud and clear to oppose the proposed rules for a hunting and trapping coyotes in Vermont.

Coyotes are one of the last large predators that we have in the region and help maintain a fragile balance in the ecosystem. We should learn from our past mistakes, in terms of extirpating large predators.

As a father and educator, I often have young children and pets in areas that are off trail. Traps and uncontrolled hound hunting in our public areas creates a danger for the public.

Additionally, the current laws and practices are inhumane. There's no other reason to kill a coyote except for the sport of blood. Hunting for meat and substance is a different story. Furthermore, research shows that hunting is not a viable option for controlling coyote populations.

I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thank you,
Kevin Downey

From: [Alice Berliner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:02:01 PM

[You don't often get email from alb172cs@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

It is more than time to address such cruel, inhumane and unequal practices.

Regards, Alice Berliner

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Carol Ballou](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:01:14 PM

[You don't often get email from wmsgal@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I am disgusted with the way we are treating our wildlife. The proposed rules for Act 159 and 165 ignore the concerns of people who really care. Both trapping and hounding are inhumane!

I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. They simply propose the ineffectual modifications that trappers and hounders want. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

It's way past time we took the inhumanity out of hunting.

Carol Ballou

From: newhotar@gmail.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:59:15 AM

You don't often get email from newhotar@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Zee Bunny](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:55:08 AM

[You don't often get email from zahirazahid@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jayne](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:54:18 AM

[You don't often get email from jaynevt@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

These are the most vicious and cruel abuses to coyotes that are not in anyway necessary. A slow and painful death for any living thing is horrific, especially when there are plenty of other alternatives.

Jayne Von Wurmb
Brattleboro, VT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [christine mix](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:47:42 AM

You don't often get email from cmixart2@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not do enough to protect wildlife, pets or the public.

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.
- Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane.

Chris Mix

From: [LCM](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:46:08 AM

You don't often get email from mann.lisac@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To whom it may concern at the Dept of Fish and Wildlife,

I am APPAULED to learn that barbaric means of trapping and hounding are still legal in Vermont.

I personally witnessed a terrified bear cub with an injured paw scramble up the river bank on our property followed by a hound with a radio collar. Had I known this hunting would have ended when the exhausted bear couldn't run anymore and was shot at close range by a trophy hunter I would have intervened as the dog was on my property.

This practice is absolutely abhorrent. Hunters cannot police themselves. Gung ho human predators who devalue wildlife for the sake of drunken 5 minute brag need laws not suggestions to control their disgusting hunting practices.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sincerely,
Lisa Mann
Jamaica, VT

From: [Susan Haigh](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:41:23 AM

[You don't often get email from suelafever@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Susan Haigh,
South Hero, VT

From: [Becki Trudell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:39:51 AM

You don't often get email from trudellbecki@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To whom it may concern,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to bring your attention to some pressing matters related to wildlife regulations in our state. As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets, or the public, and as a concerned citizen and advocate for public safety, I believe it is crucial to address these issues promptly.

Firstly, I want to highlight the shortcomings of Act 159, which mandates that traps be set away from public areas on all lands accessible to the public for recreational purposes. While this is a step in the right direction, I am deeply concerned that the recommendations put forth by Vermont Fish and Wildlife only cover a small percentage of public lands. This leaves a significant portion of our public areas vulnerable, posing potential risks to the safety of our community. Even with the recommended 50-foot trap setbacks, there remains a genuine danger to the public and their beloved pets, as well as other wildlife.

Moreover, I would like to draw your attention to Act 165, which focuses on the control of hounds by coyote hunters. Although the use of GPS and shock collars has been recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife, it has proven ineffective in ensuring the proper control of the hounds. This inadequacy raises significant concerns regarding public safety and the ethical treatment of animals involved in coyote hunting.

Additionally, I firmly believe that coyote hounders should be prohibited from baiting coyotes. Baiting practices not only attract animals closer to roads and residential areas but also provide hunters with an unfair advantage. Such practices undermine the principles of responsible wildlife management.

Finally, I want to emphasize the inhumane nature of leghold traps. These devices, with their spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp onto an animal's limbs, are indiscriminate and cause unnecessary suffering. Despite claims of modifications to increase their humaneness, no alterations can justify their continued use.

In light of these concerns, I kindly request that you take immediate action to address the shortcomings in Act 159 and Act 165, as well as support legislation to prohibit the baiting of coyotes and the use of leghold traps. By doing so, we can ensure the safety of our community, promote ethical hunting practices, and demonstrate our

commitment to responsible wildlife management.

Thank you for your attention to these urgent matters. I trust in your dedication to the well-being of our constituents and the preservation of our natural resources.

Sincerely,

Rebekah Trudell

From: floaeveia@gmail.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:36:01 AM

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To Whom it May Concern:

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.
- Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane.

I urge you to adapt humane practices for all living beings. This is not representative of the Vermont I know.

Thank you

Flo Magdalena

Flo Aeveia Magdalena
802-722-9554/cell 802-579-6276
floaeveia@gmail.com

"I marvel at the image of the world that awaits us through our choice to create it."

Mary Magdalene

From: [Allan Fiore](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:30:42 AM

[You don't often get email from allanafiore@hotmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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As a Brattleboro, Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. The conflict with the values we need to protect wildlife.

Thank you,
Allan Fiore

Thank you,
Allan Fiore
347-843-9920

From: [SALLY MADEIRA](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:25:39 AM

You don't often get email from sallymadeira@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

I am appalled that in this day and age such cruel, barbaric methods are allowed. I am also appalled that input by wildlife protection groups such as the Humane Society and others are largely ignored. Lastly, I'm appalled, upset, and angry that Vermonters such as me are largely ignored or receive dismissive, terse replies....which has happened to me.

Hunters make up a small % of the population. I understand that hunters have rights. I grew up around guns. But must we really move forward with such inhumane methods? Shooting is one thing; torturing is another.

Dr. Sally Madeira
Waterbury Center, VT.

From: [Karen Hoover](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Cc: [Humane Society of the United States](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:24:05 AM

[You don't often get email from fourcatshoover@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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As a Vermont resident, I am shocked at the lack of concern for wildlife as reflected in your proposed rules (Act 159 and 165) regarding trapping and coyote hounding in this state. I urge you to oppose them. These recommendations will clearly not protect wildlife, pets or the public. It is simply wrenching to see pictures of wounded hurting animals downed by cruel trapping mechanisms which were devised in an age when the social, emotional, and family lives of our wildlife were little understood or regarded. Times have changed but apparently not the mindset that animals are objects to be treated at will by hunters and others. The majority of Vermonters need our Fish and Wildlife Department to place more balance on their regulations and thus protect these valuable (and sadly diminishing in many cases) animals. Please oppose these ineffectual rules. With great concern and sadness, Karen L Hoover MD ScD

From: [Dana Gilbert](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:21:08 AM

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mary Abbru](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:20:31 AM

[You don't often get email from maryabbru@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.
Please, stop the cruelty!

Mary Abbruzzese

From: [Polly Haynes](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:17:45 AM

[You don't often get email from haynespb@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Anthony](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:17:43 AM

You don't often get email from arzito28@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Colleen Schuster](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:11:57 AM

You don't often get email from caseyjonesvt1@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

1. Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.

2. Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds. Also shock collars are inhumane and cause damage to a dog's esophagus.

3. Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.

4. Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane. These are cruel, outdated torture devices and have no place in society today.

Please oppose the proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165.

**Colleen Schuster
Bristol, VT**

From: dawn@catpeoplerule.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:16:20 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

How would you like to be stuck in a trap? These animals have families and they feel the loss. Stop this cruel trapping methods!!!

From: [Kitty Werner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:10:55 AM

You don't often get email from kwerner@gmavt.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. The cruelty is heartless. And it isn't just the intended victims that get caught.

Besides -- I love our coyotes! And yes, they are around our area as well.

- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.
- Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane.

Kitty Werner

Waitsfield

From: [Nick Swasey](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:10:29 AM

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Kelli A. Lee-Allen](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:09:29 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

You don't often get email from kleeallen@bmhvt.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

There are safer, more effective ways to control the coyotes who have lost their habitat that we have intruded on.

Many thanks,

Kelli Lee-Allen



Kelli Lee-Allen (she/her)

Purchasing Supervisor
Brattleboro Memorial Hospital
p: 802.257.8212
website: www.bmhvt.org

 Please consider the environment before printing this email.

PROUD 



From: [Janice Nadworny](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:07:46 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Janice Nadworny
Hinesburg, VT

From: [Leslie Mahoney](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:06:17 AM

You don't often get email from lms531@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Leslie Mahoney

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Willoughby Wellbeing](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:02:08 AM

You don't often get email from willoughbywellbeing@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: CHARLES WOLF
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 8:09:41 AM

[You don't often get email from cw10631@aol.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [John Schwerdtle](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 8:46:05 AM

You don't often get email from jbschwerdtle@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Karin McGrath](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 9:28:27 AM

[You don't often get email from karin1326mcg@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kathy Archibald Clarkson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 11:21:48 AM

You don't often get email from kathyaclarkson@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Liz Furkay](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 11:54:00 AM

You don't often get email from ef14art@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. These cruel, painful methods of trapping and hounding are barbaric!

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.” — Mahatma Gandhi

Sincerely,
Elisabeth Furkay

From: [Julie Barclay](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 11:58:17 AM

You don't often get email from jujub9272@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Mary Lawrence](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 12:28:17 PM

[You don't often get email from maryjlawrence360@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Mary Lawrence](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 12:28:29 PM

[You don't often get email from maryjlawrence360@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Mary Lawrence](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 12:28:35 PM

[You don't often get email from maryjlawrence360@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Mary Lawrence](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 12:28:37 PM

[You don't often get email from maryjlawrence360@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Mary Lawrence](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 12:28:50 PM

[You don't often get email from maryjlawrence360@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sent from my iPad

From: Annie
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 12:50:42 PM

[You don't often get email from dreamon@sover.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. And please Ban Leghold Traps completely . Please, Ann Kellam , Putney... resident since 1976

From: [Marion Villalibby](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 1:34:33 PM

You don't often get email from villalibbymarion@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sincerely

Marion Villalibby-Hendrix CAGS

Retired educator

Bradford VT

From: [Jean Vulte](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 2:21:35 PM

You don't often get email from jdvulte@sbcglobal.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Robert Feinberg](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Karen Anderson](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:04:30 PM

You don't often get email from mtngoat00@icloud.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To Whom it may concern,

I can't believe that you would allow hunters to "self regulate" trapping and dog hunting as proposed by Act 159 and 165. I know a lot of hunters and do not oppose hunting in a Humane and sporting manner. But this is just cruel and immoral. It has been seen throughout history that humans can not be trusted to curb their base instincts and act in a manner that is humane and in the best interest of those we are responsible for. I know some of these hunters locally who use dogs and traps. They are not someone I would leave my dog with, trust to act humanely or care for the environment. We have a responsibility to treat the animals we use for food with dignity and respect. This type of hunting is the complete opposite of that ideal.

I urge you to vote no on these poorly conceived and obviously designed to quell the political power of trapping hunting interest groups.

Thank you for your consideration,

*Robert Feinberg
Westminster West, VT
r.feinberg@hotmail.com*

From: [Diana Burritt](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:46:34 PM

[You don't often get email from dmgburritt@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Polly A. Hill](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 7:24:35 PM

You don't often get email from rosemerefarm@protonmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thank you for concern for our wildlife. Please stop the barbaric treatment of all of our wildlife. Wildlife is treated horrifically. If a domestic animal was treated the same way it would be a criminal offense of abuse. Animals are sentient beings. It is time Vermont acknowledged this and treated our wildlife humanely.

Polly Hill

Sent from Proton Mail for iOS

From: [David Pistilli](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 10:05:17 PM

[You don't often get email from david.pistilli@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, its recommended 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.

Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. The GPS and shock collars recommended by Vermont Fish and Wildlife do not control the hounds.

Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and offers hunters even more of an unfair advantage.

Leghold traps are indiscriminate, spring-loaded metal jaws designed to clamp on an animal's limbs, and no amount of modifications will make them any more humane.

I understand that hunting and trapping are a way of life for a minority of Vermonters, and I want their rights to be respected, but I also want them to conduct themselves in the most humane way possible. I know that it's hard to square "kill" with "humane" but we should strive for it. We can do better than this. Please reconsider and build the strongest possible rules to do so.

David Pistilli
Middlebury

From: Brian Lyttle
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 7:37:36 AM

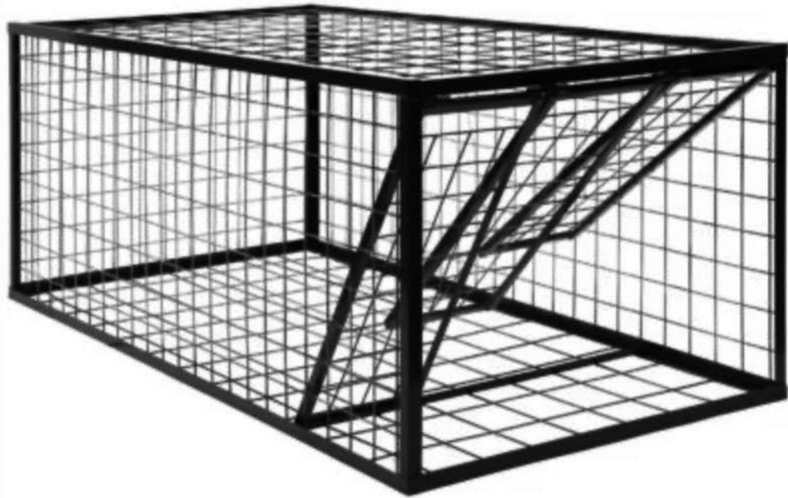
[You don't often get email from lyttledoc@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello,
There are much more human ways to help control the coyote population.

Tractor Supply

< > ⋮ ✕



Voorhies Outdoor Products 3-Door Feral Hog Trap, 4 ft. x 8 ft. x 3 ft. at Tractor Supply Co.

Visit

Images may be subject to copyright. [Learn More](#)

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Know you are the Solution!

From: [SHELAH VOGEL](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 9:38:08 AM

You don't often get email from shelah.vogel8@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. Hounding and trapping are barbaric and sadistic. Not a tradition to be proud of !

From: [S Geb](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 2:21:37 PM

You don't often get email from hoofnvt@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Sheryl M Gebauer](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 3:29:36 PM

You don't often get email from hoofnvt@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sheryl Gebauer, N Clarendon, VT

From: [Sarah Nilsen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 8:02:44 PM

You don't often get email from sarah.nilsen@uvm.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I have lost all faith in the Department of Fish and Wildlife. As has become very clear during the Phil Scott administration, the DFW is a political organization funded by the hunting and trapping lobbies. You do not use any scientific basis for your decisions and your policies are determined by these lobbyists. As has been well documented, the wildlife populations in the US have plummeted because of the outdated, non-scientific, politicized policies of the DFW. Please listen to the science and the best policy recommendations recommended by experts in wildlife management (and that's not the hunters and trappers) and oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. There are many, many Vermonters who actually care about the conservation of wildlife in this state and not solely about their slaughter.

Sarah Nilsen
Associate Professor
University of Vermont

From: [morgan_rye](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 8:11:54 PM

You don't often get email from hannahjean312@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Morgan Kirk](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 8:42:17 PM

[You don't often get email from morgan.kirk3@yahoo.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thank you,
Morgan Kirk

From: [Wanda Bezio](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023 9:59:15 PM

You don't often get email from wbezio@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Thanks
Wanda Bezio

From: [Kate Kenner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Friday, June 16, 2023 9:07:53 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public. To think that wildlife and others caught in this web of violence do not suffer is wrong. They do and I sincerely hope that you will do what is right for them.

Sincerely,
Kate Kenner
Guilford

From: [Marion Villalibby](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Friday, June 16, 2023 10:24:44 AM

You don't often get email from villalibbymarion@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Sincerely

Marion Villalibby-Hendrix CAGS

Retired educator

Bradford VT

From: [Marion Villalibby](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Friday, June 16, 2023 10:25:25 AM

You don't often get email from villalibbymarion@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

Marion Villalibby-Hendrix CAGS

Retired educator

Bradford VT

From: [tom brown](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 7:58:11 AM

You don't often get email from barisaxual@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [ADS - Service Desk Information](#)
Cc: [ADS - Service Desk Information](#)
Subject: RE: Enable Encryption for Cisco VoIP Voicemail Platform (Unity) for Calls Made from Hardened Cisco VoIP Deskphones
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 1:50:50 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
Importance: High

To: SOV – All Exchange Users

We ran into technical difficulties and were unable to complete this change until further notice.

Thank you,
ADS Service Desk

From: ADS - Service Desk Information <ADS.ServiceDeskInformation@vermont.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2023 12:25 PM
Cc: ADS - Service Desk Information <ADS.ServiceDeskInformation@vermont.gov>
Subject: Enable Encryption for Cisco VoIP Voicemail Platform (Unity) for Calls Made from Hardened Cisco VoIP Deskphones

Enable Encryption for Cisco VoIP Voicemail Platform (Unity)

To: SOV – All Exchange Users

Who: All Users of the Cisco VoIP Phone Platform Voicemail (Unity) –Calls made from hardened desk phones only, this will not include calls to Voicemail from Cisco IPC Softphones at this time.

When: June 10th, Between 2am and 5am

What/why: All voicemail on the Cisco VoIP voicemail platform (Unity) will be encrypted when called from a hardened phone. Calls made to voicemail from Cisco IPC Softphones are not included at this time. Encryption is essential for securing data protection, privacy, and regulatory compliance.

You will see that your call to Voicemail is encrypted by the padlock icon appearing next to the line of the call into the voicemail platform. This will be visible on both desk phones, not on Cisco IP Communicators at this time.



Impact: During the process of enabling encryption there will be no access to voicemail and any auto-attendants for about 1 hour.

ADS Service Desk (802) 828-6620 Opt. 1
<https://itsupport.apps.vermont.gov>

From: [Moshe Braner](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 10:00:03 PM

[You don't often get email from mbraner@airpost.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Comment to the Fish & Wildlife Department regarding the debate over trapping:

I find it rather strange that actions that would get one in trouble with the law, as "cruelty", if done to domestic animals, are permitted when done to wild animals. As a matter of fact, relative to leghold traps, much milder actions are considered cruelty to domestic animals. This legal situation is contradictory and wrong. Leghold traps should be banned.

- Moshe Braner, Essex, Vermont

From: sdaohrr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rod McCabe](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 1:32:37 PM

[You don't often get email from sdaohrr@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Rod McCabe
4323 Leavenworth St Omaha, NE 68105-1031
sdaohrr@gmail.com

From: shall3991@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Suzanne Hall](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 1:25:24 PM

[You don't often get email from shall3991@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Suzanne Hall
10646 Sunburst Dr Unit H Waynesboro, PA 17268-8800
shall3991@yahoo.com

From: sschreck08@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sylvia Schrecker Schrecker](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 1:02:37 PM

[You don't often get email from sschreck08@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Sylvia Schrecker Schrecker
6822 W Crest Ln Glendale, AZ 85310-5218
sschreck08@gmail.com

From: meganmops2004@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Megan Watson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 5:44:04 AM

[You don't often get email from meganmops2004@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Megan Watson
meganmops2004@outlook.com

From: nancypetersen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nancy Petersen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:29:47 AM

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Sincerely,
Nancy Petersen
nancypetersen@verizon.net

From: mazur.anna1998@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anna Mazur
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:12:22 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Anna Mazur
Kokotów 9 Wieliczka,
mazur.anna1998@gmail.com

From: mazur.anna1998@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anna Mazur
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:07:01 AM

[You don't often get email from mazur.anna1998@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Anna Mazur
Kokotów 9 Wieliczka,
mazur.anna1998@gmail.com

From: mam2two@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Majella Hunston](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:04:47 AM

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Sincerely,
Majella Hunston
mam2two@gmail.com

From: oincyandthebrain@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of armer teufel reger
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 2:47:53 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. armer teufel reger
14 BAUERNGASSE Nuremberg, 90443
oincyandthebrain@gmx.de

From: hewettguitars@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jim Hewett](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 1:31:42 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Jim Hewett
100 Mockingbird Hls Livingston, TX 77351-6508
hewettguitars@yahoo.com

From: vonnie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vonnie Iams](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:20:58 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Vonnie Iams
Anthem, AZ 85086
vonnie@theprrt.com

From: kittyluv362.mam@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maryann Mendoza](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 8:47:50 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Maryann Mendoza
1343 N Cleveland Ave Apt 803 Chicago, IL 60610-6248
kittyluv362.mam@gmail.com

From: mkg1863@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mia Kraft](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 5:59:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Mia Kraft
703 Bridge Rd Akron, OH 44312-2336
mkg1863@gmail.com

From: orionnetje@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [rosette putzeys](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 3:51:18 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. rosette putzeys
Groenplaats Adger, AL 35006
orionnetje@gmail.com

From: lmartinpsy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [L.Martin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 3:37:23 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. L. Martin
62 CROSS St Island Pond, VT 05846
lmartinpsy@gmail.com

From: d7mason@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [David Mason](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 2:42:15 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. David Mason
1586 Sheffield Dr Ypsilanti, MI 48198-3630
d7mason@gmail.com

From: Alexis.font@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alex font](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 2:40:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Alex font
10121 80 Ave NW 05500
Alexis.font@gmail.com

From: jumeyama@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jeanette Umeyama](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:24:01 PM

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Sincerely,
Jeanette Umeyama
2333 Bering Dr Houston, TX 77057-4763
jumeyama@gmail.com

From: annalisakelly1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [anna-lisa kelly](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:28:31 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Miss anna-lisa kelly
7 la paz link clarkson perth, WA
annalisakelly1@gmail.com

From: eventslewis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Steven Wiles](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:09:00 AM

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Sincerely,
Steven Wiles
13 Martin-Opitz-Str Ilion, NY 13357
eventslewis@hotmail.com

From: jennamallen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jenna Allen
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 11:01:22 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Jenna Allen
14577 Alexander Rd Walton Hills, OH 44146-4920
jennamallen@yahoo.com

From: e.brzezniak@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elzbieta Brzezniak](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:36:59 AM

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Sincerely,
Elzbieta Brzezniak
e.brzezniak@wp.pl

From: annettevargas02@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Annette Vargas
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:35:50 AM

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Sincerely,
Annette Vargas
annettevargas02@gmail.com

From: jigsaw.gus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Denise Gustafson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:24:50 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Denise Gustafson
75 Crystal Lake Rd Halifax, MA 02338-1001
jigsaw.gus@gmail.com

From: a.kilgore@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anne Kilgore](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 9:42:46 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Anne Kilgore
3213 Beauchamp St Houston, TX 77009-6611
a.kilgore@oplink.net

From: blimycapn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Scott McClimans](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 9:42:17 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Scott McClimans
10525 Airline Dr Houston, TX 77037-1252
blimycapn@oplink.net

From: osjosm1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ern Parrott
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 9:29:32 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Ern Parrott
osjosm1@gmail.com

From: lcklumb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carole Klumb](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 9:09:49 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Carole Klumb
W370S9784 State Road 67 Eagle, WI 53119-1555
lcklumb@outlook.com

From: antval11@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Antoinette Valdez](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 8:40:28 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Antoinette Valdez
2875 Dafina Dr Loveland, CO 80537-2050
antval11@hotmail.com

From: letizia.ruggeri@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [letizia ruggeri](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 4:37:10 AM

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Sincerely,
letizia ruggeri
letizia.ruggeri@gmail.com

From: carolshopgirl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carol Drabin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 4:07:14 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Carol Drabin
Jupiter, FL 33478
carolshopgirl@aol.com

From: christianecros0@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Christiane Cros](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 4:00:39 AM

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Christiane Cros

2841 BOULEVARD DE L'EAU BLANCHE Cavalaire-Sur-Mer, 83240

christianecros0@orange.fr

From: amipina71@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Angie Miranda](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 2:14:57 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Angie Miranda
5316 E State Highway 107 Edinburg, TX 78542-7281
amipina71@gmail.com

From: melissa.allen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Melissa Abreu](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:46:57 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Melissa Abreu
8405 SW 156th St Palmetto Bay, FL 33157-2164
melissa.allen@hotmail.com

From: jzo36@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Judy Zoerman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 12:30:50 AM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Judy Zoerman
jzo36@yahoo.com

From: [Linda](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Cc: [christopher Bray](#)
Subject: Ban recreational
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 5:30:10 PM

You don't often get email from landrews@gmavt.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear ANR,

We must be better stewards of our wildlife. It is time to stop recreational trapping. Please pass S.111 and H191.

Best
Linda Andrews
Bristol, Vermont

From: [laval thibodeau](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 12:08:24 PM

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To Committee members

Having grown up in the Canaan, VT area (i.e., NEK) I have several trapping friends. Over the last 50 years their attitude towards trapping has changed. They trapped because of the \$, if they had had an alternative \$ source they would have NOT trapped.

My sense if they have *evolved* I would hope that our state would have also evolved also! I am nor have I ever been a trapper, however I would hope there are more humane ways! I trust that the responsible committee members can move away from trapping on to a more efficient and humane practice.

Sincerely,

Laval Thibodeau

From: [John Gonter](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comments on Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 6:10:08 PM

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Proposed change comments:

4.5.c All foot hold traps...be padded, offset or laminated. This means all of my US made traps, many of which have been adjusted very carefully to minimize harm to target and non-target species will become illegal. They can not be replaced. Modifications would be prohibitively expensive. 5/16" thickness of traps adds significant weight to the trap and would force the use of "too heavy" traps for certain types of subtle sets. The department repeatedly has recommended BMPs that didn't have these requirements and I just acquired some more US made traps that I see now will be banned under this subsection.

4.18. This regulation effectively ends foothold trapping in all areas where firearms discharge is prohibited including 2 WMA areas in Burlington where I have trapped off and on for 7 years. It is not practical and borders on silly to suggest the use of bow/crossbow. How would you dispatch an injured mink in a foot hold trap at any distance with a bow or crossbow. If you are holding a catch pole, any firearm is difficult to use effectively. The larger the animal, the more true this is. I see the alignment with the approved tools for hunting, but muzzleloader? I can't see how a trapper could regularly load a muzzleloader wearing waders, soaking wet in cold conditions in a marsh or swamp. This also makes it impossible to legally dispatch (in Rutland, Burlington, parts of Shelburne and Colchester, Brattleboro etc,...where firearms are not allowed or limited;shotgun only areas) an animal caught in a body grip trap that is still alive...are we then supposed to release it with critical injury? As I have personally experienced, using a firearm does not guarantee a quick dispatch at any time—this should be obvious to any trapper and the board/VTFW staff. A skilled trapper can more "humanely" render an animal unconscious and use a cervical dislocation than shoot it. In my own experience a catch pole and "priest" followed by a cervical dislocation is for more likely to produce a humane result than a firearm. Additionally, shooting forces a trapper to chose to damage the pelt, probably in the head area, but also any off target shot can damage the neck or chest area as well making the pelt less useful. This subsection seems to be an attempt to appease people who do not really understand dispatch e.g. "Bludgeon animals to death"...

4.22.3.c As above, I believe it should be allowed to render a coyote unconscious and use a cervical dislocation. A trapped coyote is not easy to control on a catch pole and using firearm may be less humane than other approaches.

As a VTFW volunteer instructor, I understand the pressure faced by the department and the board, but the above create problems that don't seem to have been considered fully from my perspective. I am surprised that after a work session specifically about means of dispatch, this is what the board and leadership came up with. I have chosen to leave the State of Vermont in part because of my perception that "Wildlife Advocates" and their hate campaigns are succeeding in legislation that goes against what real trappers, wardens and biologists know are best practices. I regret deeply that the vocal Vermonters pushing for these changes are so far removed from the real practices of trapping and woodcraft that we are forced to backpedal. I will be moving to Maine this year where I hope, but am not certain, a more receptive trapping environment will be preserved.

Sincerely

John Gonter
Burlington, VT

From: [Melissa Jacobs](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: immoral cruel
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:01:04 AM

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Need I say more oh yes an imbalance of nature caused by a money hungry corrupt good ol
boy club disgusting unevolved psychotic unGodly barbaric etc etc etc

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Susan Shea](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Proposed Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 12:27:15 PM

You don't often get email from sshea28@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To the VT Fish and Wildlife Board:
Re: Proposed Trapping Regulations

I do not think the proposed new regulations go far enough to protect pets and non-target species from getting caught in traps. Covering traps and moving them away from trails is not effective as dogs and non-target wild mammals will smell the bait. I am in favor of a ban on trapping, except in cases of nuisance animals killing livestock or damaging property. There is no valid reason to continue trapping, and few Vermonters do it anymore. Many more residents enjoy walking/hiking with their dogs and observing all species of wildlife. Wildlife research and population surveys can be conducted by using game cameras, or if necessary through livetrapping and release.

Re: Proposed Coyote Hunting Regulations

If it is necessary to hunt coyotes at all, I believe they should receive the same protection as other hunted species through a seasonal hunting season. Fall, after the pups are grown, would be the best time. An open season indicates that the department considers coyotes "varmints", an outdated attitude. Coyotes play an important role in our ecosystems and are partially filling the niche that the wolf did before it was exterminated. Coyotes help to control prey populations such as deer which are damaging our forests in some locations. In our neighborhood, they regularly hunt rats and mice at the dairy farm's silage pile.

- Susan Shea
West Brookfield, Vermont

From: [Jennifer Fenn](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Management
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:08:54 PM

You don't often get email from freyalisa@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I strongly oppose trapping of any nature in Vermont. Best management practices do nothing regarding animal welfare. The majority of Vermonters DO NOT SUPPORT TRAPPING. Ten US states and more than 100 countries have banned trapping because its beyond cruel, non selective.

This state likes to talk about how we take care of our own and are good stewards of the land, but in reality we use "management" as an excuse for very loose hunting laws that lack any evidence to support it. It seems that the F&W board seem reticent to accept members who aren't active hunters and trappers and thus the recommendations and support coming forth are not representative of most of the residents who live here.

I do not support these changes. I support a BAN on this cruel practice once and for all. Vermont can do better.

--

~jenn

From: [Bright](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulation.
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:54:53 PM

[You don't often get email from scrabble39@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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I'm writing to ask you to ban trapping in Vermont. The two bills- S.111 and H.191- that were proposed this last session had several co-sponsors yet they were not brought out of committee. Instead the Fish and Wildlife Department are proposing Best Management Practices which would be ineffectual in controlling the horrors of trapping.

I urge that there be introduction in the next session of strong bills to ban trapping.

Mary Louise Bright
Middlebury

From: bryanobey92@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bryan Obi-Wan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 10:13:34 AM

[You don't often get email from bryanobey92@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Bryan Obi-Wan
1101 Creekstone Dr Carrollton, TX
bryanobey92@gmail.com

From: morningdawn5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dawn Sartori
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 9:23:48 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Dawn Sartori
64 Linden Ave # 2 Malden, MA 02148-8206
morningdawn5@yahoo.com

From: reginas59@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Regina Reginas](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 4:50:44 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Regina Reginas
reginas59@yahoo.com.br

From: shakadja@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Yvonne Ouedraogo](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 4:02:23 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Yvonne Ouedraogo
Deichland 38 Bremen, 28279
shakadja@yahoo.de

From: riverhudson3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Beth C](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 12:46:31 AM

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Sincerely,
Miss Beth C
2080 W La Loma Dr Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-3267
riverhudson3@gmail.com

From: ymdesignsllc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Yolanda Mendoza](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 9:27:30 PM

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Sincerely,
Yolanda Mendoza
8149 Silver Palm Ct Tamarac, FL 33321-2728
ymdesignsllc@gmail.com

From: meatcat43@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cynthia Allen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 8:24:24 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Cynthia Allen
1853 Jameson Cir Lawrenceville, GA 30043-8213
meatcat43@yahoo.com

From: tabbykat7285@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Raleigh Koritz](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 6:29:44 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Raleigh Koritz
4505 Nathan Ln N Apt 313 Minneapolis, MN 55442-3162
tabbykat7285@outlook.com

From: [Ann Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 5:23:15 PM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Annie Smith
Westminster VT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ann Smith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 5:21:08 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

From: moonseii@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [kathryn gargano](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 5:01:23 PM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. kathryn gargano
3005 Spearman Ln Spring Valley, CA 91978-1135
moonseii@aol.com

From: plnb72@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amy Polenberg](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 3:05:53 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Amy Polenberg
5700 Arlington Ave Apt 110 Bronx, NY 10471-1515
plnb72@aol.com

From: melissasmitchell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Melissa Bottoms](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 2:46:13 PM

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Sincerely,
Melissa Bottoms
2351 Zion Church Rd Emporia, VA 23847-7347
melissasmitchell@aol.com

From: moniquebalaban@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Monique Balaban](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 11:56:36 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Monique Balaban
1487 N Livernois Rd Rochester Hills, MI 48306-4159
moniquebalaban@yahoo.com

From: [Aimee Motta](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 10:56:16 AM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Abusive practices make for abusive mindsets and that saddens me as an elementary school teacher. Teaching kindness and compassion are tenets of developing caring individuals.

PLEASE reconsider banning trapping and hounding. Thank you!

Peace,

Aimée Motta
Huntington, VT

"Each moment is a chance for us to make peace with the world."
Thich Nhat Hanh

From: mnissangh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nissangh Mohan Babu](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 10:13:37 AM

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Sincerely,
Nissangh Mohan Babu
San Jose, CA 95132
mnissangh@gmail.com

From: squ99@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vanessa Bartley](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 7:20:30 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Vanessa Bartley
826 Annlau Ave SE Huntsville, AL 35802-2607
squ99@icloud.com

From: kekesmom@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ethel Cokely](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 2:49:59 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Ethel Cokely
8328 Goodrich St Spring Hill, FL 34606-3131
kekesmom@aol.com

From: veric@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Véronique Gauvain
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 2:20:23 AM

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Sincerely,
Véronique Gauvain
4 Ter Place De La Memoire Edmore, ND 58330
veric@orange.fr

From: orev7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Véronique Gauvain](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023 2:19:52 AM

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Sincerely,
Véronique Gauvain
4 Ter Place De La Memoire Edmore, ND 58330
orev7@orange.fr

From: bcsitekaren@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Winter](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 8:08:18 PM

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Sincerely,
Laura Winter
VT
bcsitekaren@yahoo.com

From: Sharonmhirth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sharon Hirth
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 6:50:10 PM

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Sincerely,
Sharon Hirth
Sharonmhirth@gmail.com

From: damthithuy2372@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ha Nguyen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 6:44:38 PM

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Sincerely,
Ngoc Ha Nguyen
Hanoi,
damthithuy2372@gmail.com

From: chelseaacordner@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Chelsea Cordner](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 6:16:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Chelsea Cordner
54 Brown Ledge Rd Colchester, VT 05446-6478
chelseaacordner@hotmail.com

From: junecat1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of June Bullied
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 4:43:45 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. June Bullied
2108 55th St Boulder, CO 80301-2827
junecat1@hotmail.com

From: mrrexmsjd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Earl Jordan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 4:22:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Dr. Earl Jordan
35 Balfour Rd W Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418-7091
mrrexmsjd@aol.com

From: trantules@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of SUSAN TRANTULES
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 4:16:46 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Mrs. SUSAN TRANTULES
128 Crider Ave Fayetteville, PA 17222-1104
trantules@centurylink.net

From: miawyatt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mia Wyatt](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:55:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Mia Wyatt
7762 Chatfield Ln Ellicott City, MD 21043-7915
miawyatt@verizon.net

From: lcsw89@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nora Coyle](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:45:27 PM

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Sincerely,
ms Nora Coyle
8066 E Woodsboro Ave Anaheim, CA 92807-2508
lcsw89@yahoo.com

From: kathyvad907@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathleen Vadnais](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 3:19:46 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathleen Vadnais
101 Providence St Chicopee, MA 01020-1128
kathyvad907@aol.com

From: realistically@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Steven Clair](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 2:40:07 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Steven Clair
2144 Rockingham Rd Chester, VT 05143-9318
realistically@gmail.com

From: eisenhauer.jessica@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jessica Eisenhauer
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 2:14:21 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Jessica Eisenhauer
7202 Williston Rd Williston, VT 05495-5291
eisenhauer.jessica@gmail.com

From: carlorosebud@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carlos Otero](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 2:01:39 PM

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Sincerely,
Carlos Otero
81 Río De Janeiro Avda 2-3 Burlington, NJ 08016
carlorosebud@gmail.com

From: braccino@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Curzio Bruni](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 12:46:34 PM

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Sincerely,
Curzio Bruni
braccino@hotmail.it

From: kathyvad907@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathleen Vadnais](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 12:39:58 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Kathleen Vadnais
101 Providence St Chicopee, MA 01020-1128
kathyvad907@aol.com

From: vilebovagen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gunilla Lofstrom
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 11:32:22 AM

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Sincerely,
Gunilla Lofstrom
vilebovagen@gmail.com

From: lodiza333@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lodiza LePore](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 9:01:31 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lodiza LePore
334 Dewey St Bennington, VT 05201-2225
lodiza333@gmail.com

From: lakin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Justine Lakin
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 8:37:21 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Justine Lakin
PO Box 53 P.O. Box 53 Springfield, VT 05156-0053
lakin@vermontel.net

From: lakin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Robert Lakin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 8:36:49 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Robert Lakin
211 Cenate Way Springfield, VT 05156-2234
lakin@vermontel.net

From: 3logi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sam Outhorn](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 6:12:42 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Sam Outhorn
UNIVERSITY Ave Palo Alto, CA 94303
3logi@skynet.be

From: judrees@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Judy Rees](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 5:25:59 AM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Judy Rees
36 Margaret Ave North Hartland, VT 05052
judrees@hotmail.com

From: pjajod5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peggy Carlisle](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023 5:23:19 AM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Peggy Carlisle
326 Pleasant St Saint Johnsbury, VT 05819-1165
pjajod5@gmail.com

From: vtlooncat@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of M Grimes
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:08:53 PM

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Sincerely,
M Grimes
vtlooncat@aol.com

From: ruswift@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Robert Swift](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 9:07:37 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Robert Swift
304 Edison Glen Ter Edison, NJ 08837-2924
ruswift@yahoo.com

From: lodiza333@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lodiza LePore](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 8:56:33 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lodiza LePore
334 Dewey St Bennington, VT 05201-2225
lodiza333@gmail.com

From: mymy102882@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Yvonne Fedeyko-Kirby](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 6:16:46 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Yvonne Fedeyko-Kirby
8601 Cook Ranch Rd Apt 244 Benbrook, TX 76126-1612
mymy102882@att.net

From: tofajorita@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rita Tofalo](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 5:58:57 PM

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Sincerely,
Dr. Rita Tofalo
tofajorita@gmail.com

From: dtramposh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debora Tramposh](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 5:19:32 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Debora Tramposh
120 Western Ave Brattleboro, VT 05301-6101
dtramposh@gmail.com

From: bhakti74@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristie Devost](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 4:34:14 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Kristie Devost
27 Hillcrest Ter Brattleboro, VT 05301-4104
bhakti74@me.com

From: slcohen312@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sharon Cohen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 4:13:29 PM

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Sincerely,
Sharon Cohen
1755 E Hallandale Beach Blvd Hallandale Beach, FL 33009-4684
slcohen312@bellsouth.net

From: texas1480@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia DIERICKX](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 4:11:45 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Patricia DIERICKX
RUE DES Herbières 49 Tertre, 07333
texas1480@gmx.com

From: litemikie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Carroll](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:49:47 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Carroll
225 W Cypress Ave Kingsland, GA 31548-4269
litemikie@yahoo.com

From: heilleonwheelsvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Holly Heile
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:43:05 PM

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Sincerely,
Holly Heile
VT
heilleonwheelsvt@gmail.com

From: demetrioslekkas@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Demetrios Lekkas
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:38:44 PM

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Sincerely,
Dr. Demetrios Lekkas
10 THERMOPYLON Amarousion, NY 15124
demetrioslekkas@gmail.com

From: tobyareese@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Toby Ann Reese](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:36:31 PM

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Sincerely,
Toby Ann Reese
Valley City, OH 44280
tobyareese@me.com

From: rhonda.thrift@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rhonda Thrift
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:31:38 PM

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Rhonda Thrift
rhonda.thrift@gmail.com

From: brenshhr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brenna Wright](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:23:00 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Brenna Wright
2056 VT Route 100 Stockbridge, VT 05772-9528
brenshhr@gmail.com

From: r.fitzhenry@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Richard Fitzhenry](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 3:09:13 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Richard Fitzhenry
286 Carpenter Rd Hyde Park, VT 05655-9222
r.fitzhenry@icloud.com

From: marinariss@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marina Ris](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 2:36:42 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Marina Ris
marinariss@gmail.com

From: lyngold054@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lynda Goldsmith](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 2:35:54 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Fairfax, Vermont, owner of 340 acres of conserved woodland, and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Lynda Goldsmith
lyngold054@gmail.com

From: marinariss@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marina Ris](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 2:14:40 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Marina Ris
marinariss@gmail.com

From: roy_sharma@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rohit Sharma
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:20:30 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Rohit Sharma
roy_sharma@hotmail.com

From: dangaldenzi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dan Galdenzi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:16:26 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Dan Galdenzi
138 Alpine View Rd Stowe, VT 05672-4014
dangaldenzi@gmail.com

From: boognish3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Erin Cleere](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:15:56 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of northern Vermont. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal welfare organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars (which are cruel to the dogs) are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Erin Cleere
195 Gazo Ave Burlington, VT 05408-1011
boognish3@yahoo.com

From: mikeliounis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Liounis](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:09:01 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Michael Liounis
146 ave Sauriol Laval,
mikeliounis@gmail.com

From: njrivet@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nancy Rivet](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:06:26 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Nancy Rivet
njrivet@yahoo.com

From: haukebsup@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lorna Fortune](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:06:24 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

I would also encourage you to ban the hideous CRUELTY OF ALL TRAPPING, NOW! PLUS, STOP THE HORRIFYING CRUELTY OF RUNNING DOGS AGAINST BEARS! THIS IS ATROCIOUS!!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lorna Fortune
1127 North Ave Burlington, VT 05408-2757
haukebsup@gmail.com

From: sarahburke1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sarah Burke
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:05:28 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Dr. Sarah Burke
62 Main St Bennington, VT 05201-2829
sarahburke1@mail.com

From: minke5412@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jean Farrell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 1:01:39 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Jean Farrell
750 Middletown Rd Andover, VT 05143-9053
minke5412@gmail.com

From: cherielewis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cherie Lewis](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 12:47:15 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Cherie Lewis
cherielewis@duck.com

From: whitesoul@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sandra Sass](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 12:14:30 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Sandra Sass
139 S 6th St Hilbert, WI 54129-9526
whitesoul@duck.com

From: atelierurbainmeditation@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Julien Brunois
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:41:23 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Mr. Julien Brunois
15 RUE AU MAIRE Paris, CT 75003
atelierurbainmeditation@gmail.com

From: dibasile1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diane Basile](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:20:24 AM

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Sincerely,
Diane Basile
9405 Burgundy Cir Highlands Ranch, CO 80126-8610
dibasile1@gmail.com

From: resq4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dean Escue](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 10:15:31 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Dean Escue
26 Crestview Dr Milford, NJ 08848-1929
resq4@msn.com

From: angelfishhinson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Katherine Hinson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 3:29:06 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Katherine Hinson
3617 E Sexton St Gilbert, AZ 85295-7212
angelfishhinson@aol.com

From: laura.margini@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Margini](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 6:01:06 PM

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Sincerely,
Laura Margini
laura.margini@gmail.com

From: laura.margini@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Margini](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 6:05:14 PM

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Sincerely,
Laura Margini
laura.margini@gmail.com

From: debi6763@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debi Kaufmann](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 7:13:07 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Debi Kaufmann
8271 Pecos Way Denver, CO 80221-7725
debi6763@gmail.com

From: lasymbio@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lori Sandham](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 7:33:11 PM

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Sincerely,
Lori Sandham
27 Wolff Dr Essex, VT 05452-3846
lasymbio@hotmail.com

From: letran1704@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Le Tran](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 8:16:38 PM

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Sincerely,
Le Tran
4930 Sugar Grove Blvd Apt 3402 Stafford, TX 77477-2608
letran1704@yahoo.com

From: mszostakm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Margaret Woodard
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 10:07:20 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Margaret Woodard
96 Triangle Ln Baiting Hollow, NY 11933-1303
mszostakm@optonline.net

From: hearts.and.diamonds@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia Hammons-Lewis](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 2:39:39 AM

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Sincerely,
Patricia Hammons-Lewis
2437 Corinth Ave Los Angeles, CA 90064-3000
hearts.and.diamonds@aol.com

From: 3logi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sam Outhorn](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 8:36:44 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs Sam Outhorn
UNIVERSITY Ave Palo Alto, CA 94303
3logi@skynet.be

From: ferhannurova@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ferhan Öztürk
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:17:02 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Ferhan Öztürk
İstanbul Turkey Istanbul, 34400
ferhannurova@hotmail.com

From: dgavilanes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diego Gavilanes](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:22:26 AM

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Sincerely,
Diego Gavilanes
dgavilanes@gmail.com

From: thezone63@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Melody Flury](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:28:48 AM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs Melody Flury
890 N Davis Rd Elma, NY 14059-9558
thezone63@aol.com

From: hewettguitars@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jim Hewett
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:32:19 AM

[You don't often get email from hewettguitars@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Sincerely,
Mr. Jim Hewett
100 Mockingbird Hls Livingston, TX 77351-6508
hewettguitars@yahoo.com

From: tingeylis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lisa Tingey
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:34:55 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Lisa Tingey
160 Delaware St. London,
tingeylis@gmail.com

From: lynn.f.hancock@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lynn Hancock](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 9:43:39 AM

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Sincerely,
Lynn Hancock
lynn.f.hancock@gmail.com

From: oxer77@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Neil Adelman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 10:27:55 AM

[You don't often get email from oxer77@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Mr Neil Adelman
32148 Beachlake Ln Westlake Village, CA 91361-3606
oxer77@outlook.com

From: [Susan Cloutier](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 11:29:10 AM

You don't often get email from sclout59@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Please vote for Act 159 and 165 to regulate trapping.

I believe that trapping should be banned but anything you can do to restrict areas and make our trails safer for our pets and other animals is much appreciated.

Thank you,
Susan Cloutier

From: [Jan Schilling](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 12:46:57 PM

You don't often get email from janschill@earthlink.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi,

I would like to express my opinion regarding the proposed trapping regulation of traps having to be at least 50 feet from roads and trails. I would like to see trapping discontinued completely, but until that is achieved a 50' setback is simply common sense!

Thanks,

Jan Schilling
Cambridge, VT

From: lillianrdaly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lillian Daly
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, July 1, 2023 1:12:30 PM

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Sincerely,
Lillian Daly
4427 Deerpath Ln Philadelphia, PA 19154-4320
lillianrdaly@gmail.com

From: bugdoc012000@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Hiedi Tan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, July 1, 2023 11:12:53 AM

[You don't often get email from bugdoc012000@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Dr. Hiedi Tan
bugdoc012000@yahoo.com

From: susanwheaton23@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Susan Wheaton
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, July 1, 2023 1:16:20 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms Susan Wheaton
435 Freeway Dr Napa, CA 94558-5881
susanwheaton23@gmail.com

From: joanntrupiano@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [JoAnn Trupiano](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, July 1, 2023 10:05:41 PM

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Sincerely,
JoAnn Trupiano
3470 Bent Rd Kodak, TN 37764-2317
joanntrupiano@yahoo.com

From: [Carol Hatcher](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, July 2, 2023 8:41:50 PM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

From: ericamunn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Erica Munn](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, July 2, 2023 12:29:58 PM

[You don't often get email from ericamunn@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Ms. Erica Munn
1680 Vine St Los Angeles, CA 90028-8804
ericamunn@hotmail.com

From: plattipus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mayura Samath](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 1:32:39 AM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Mayura Samath
2913 QUADRA St Victoria, 58213
plattipus@telus.net

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:02:17 AM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:02:54 AM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:03:52 AM

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:04:25 AM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:04:54 AM

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:05:18 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:05:46 AM

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Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:06:19 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:07:02 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:07:22 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:07:42 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:08:12 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:08:41 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:09:05 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:09:33 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:09:54 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:10:19 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:10:37 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:11:09 AM

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Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:11:32 AM

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Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:11:56 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:12:29 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:13:27 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:14:12 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:17:00 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:18:59 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:19:50 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:20:18 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:21:02 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:21:23 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:21:28 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:21:48 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:21:57 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:22:22 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:22:35 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:22:45 AM

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Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:22:54 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:23:03 AM

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:23:27 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:23:50 AM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:24:34 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:24:33 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:24:41 AM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:24:53 AM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:25:03 AM

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Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:25:34 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, July 3, 2023 8:26:03 AM

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Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: planetjulija@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Julija Merljak
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, July 1, 2023 6:37:42 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Julija Merljak
18 Rooibekkie St Fairplay, CO 80440
planetjulija@yahoo.com

From: baxterk2@aol.com
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 1:01:49 PM

You don't often get email from baxterk2@aol.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Vermont Fish and Wildlife has refused to meet it's State mandate of representing all Vermonters when it comes to managing Wildlife.

Especially when it comes to Trapping and Hounding, whether against Coyotes or Bears.

There are NO best practices either in place now or to be developed. BMP's will never exist when cruelty is the primary hunting tactic.

F&W has tried to sugarcoat this by citing unscientific "facts" and studies and ignoring any compelling "facts" from wildlife advocacy groups local and national.

Once again F+W has failed to address Legislative mandates and has failed the majority of Vermonters, while it caters to it's primary support groups - hunters and trappers.

Wayne Curley
Huntington, VT

From: [Joseph Stacy](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations.
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 12:45:09 PM

You don't often get email from joseph.stacy36@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello,

I would just like to comment on how I appreciate all of the work that VT F&W has put into these regulations. Trapping is a valuable management tool and a valued Vermont tradition that we must preserve. We as trappers, hunters, and fishers, are passionate about the animals that we share the outdoors with and show a great appreciation for them. We are portrayed as non-caring individuals which is the exact opposite of what we are. For this reason I support the updates to the trapping regulations up to the date of the meeting on April 5th.

All the best,
Joe Stacy
Newport VT.

From: oyoumans98941@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ona Youmans](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 10:06:27 AM

[You don't often get email from oyoumans98941@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Ms. Ona Youmans
PO Box 291 # 291 Roslyn, WA 98941-0291
oyoumans98941@gmail.com

From: [Lesley Pollitt](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: please support House Bill 159 and 165
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 6:15:04 AM

You don't often get email from lesleypollitt@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As a landowner in Vermont (who allows hunting) I am strongly opposed to the recreational cruelty of Hounding and and the out dated cruelty and hazards of trapping. Most Vermonters do not want Vt Fish and Wildlife to continue to cater to this small number who trap and or hound. These bills are an important start. Please listen to the majority of Vermonters and support House Bill 159 and 165.

Thank you.
Lesley Pollitt
Halifax, VT

From: jwaldo707@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [James Waldo](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 30, 2023 12:03:29 AM

[You don't often get email from jwaldo707@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Mr. James Waldo
364 Deepwood Dr Wadsworth, OH 44281-9450
jwaldo707@gmail.com

From: [Robert McMullin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: "trapping and coyote regulations"
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 11:38:44 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

As I was unable to attend the public comment hearing at Montpelier High School or access the on line option I would like to present what I would have said at those hearings.

Many of you probably remember the bumper stickers which read, "THINK GLOBALLY - ACT LOCALLY". I am one very small voice and I cannot save the elephants, giraffes and other wildlife in danger around the world, but by speaking out here in Vermont, maybe I can save some animals from suffering. I am standing up for the rights of animals who have no voice and cannot speak for themselves.

Trapping and hounding are considered traditions in Vermont. Public opinion has changed, so must tradition. It is time to make changes to how these pursuits are conducted by making improvements to Act 159 and Act 165 to reduce cruelty and suffering.

Mahatma Gandhi said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

I would like to see the leadership of Fish and Wildlife be judged by that axiom.

Thank you,

Beverly McMullin
1684 Airport Road
Moretown, VT 05660
mac@gmavt.net

From: Valerie Hogue Forni
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 10:30:22 PM

[You don't often get email from jeannehf@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Trapping is cruel and unnecessary and should not be permitted in Vermont or any other state. I cannot believe that this is happening in Bernie Sanders state. All animal rights groups say no to trapping and you will have a fight!
Valerie Hogue Forni

Sent from my iPhone

From: Valerie Hogue Forni
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-hunting coyotes with dogs
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 10:24:43 PM

[You don't often get email from jeannehf@icloud.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Knowing that animals and coyotes are not considered fit to live on this planet by many states mostly western, I never imagined that this terrible and cruel practice regarding killing coyotes would happen in Vermont, the very Blue State of Sen Bernie Sanders. This is wrong and scientifically it has been proven that killing coyotes does not reduce the number of coyotes. Animal rights groups will fight you hard on this one and I am now spreading this sad news to everyone of them and to as much of the public as possible. This law must not pass.

Jeanne Hogue Forni
114 Roberts Ct
Alexandria, Va
22314

Sent from my iPhone

From: [K Cameron](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 8:19:15 PM

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Hello ANR:

I am writing as a follow-up to my public comment at the hearing held on June 22, 2023 about the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165. The recommendations fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns and real problems faced by Vermonters.

TRAPPING

Traps are inherently inhumane. These small changes to the trap set won't change that. In his testimony to the District Court of Idaho, Dr. Winston Vickers, a wildlife veterinarian, said that after just 2 hours in a trap, non-target animals are likely to die after being released, which tells you something about the potential for pain and injury. Short trap check times or trap sensors so trappers can get the target or non-target animal out of the trap before serious injury and pain would be somewhat more humane but is not any part of these recommendations.

Traps are inherently indiscriminate. Even rigid scientific studies catch animals they don't intend. A survey on coyotes caught 10.8 non-target animals for every coyote they caught ([Tomsa & Forbes, 1990](#)). In another study on foxes, so many raccoons were caught despite conscious efforts to avoid raccoons that they had to change their study to include raccoons. The study is titled *Evaluation of a Padded Leg-Hold Trap for Capturing Foxes and Raccoons* (Tullar, 1984).

The trap setback proposal, which should have been the easiest of compromises and frankly should have been recommended years ago when a petition was before the Fish & Wildlife Board, still falls well short of what is reasonable. The recommendation applies to only a very small portion of public land. Even well-trained dogs in off-leash areas might wander more than 50 feet of a trail just following their nose to scented baits that are specifically to attract canines.

HOUNDING

The FWD regulations proposal is close to what is happening now with the addition of shock collars which makes things worse, not better.

The idea that shock collars would control dogs that the hounder cannot see or even hear but watches move on a GPS screen is preposterous. Existing rules for GPS collars on hounds have not kept the hounds from chasing and attacking humans and their pets or most likely non-target wildlife (but we'll never hear about those encounters). GPS collars have not stopped hounders' dogs from running roughshod over people's private property making them prisoners in their own homes. Adding a shock collar when the dog is not in the hounder's sight simply adds cruelty to the dog.

Allowing 4 hounds to go after a coyote is less fair and more inhumane than dog fighting which is illegal in Vermont. Also, the more hounds the harder it is to control them.

Summer coyote hound training season will increase conflicts with landowners and also introduce animal welfare concerns since coyotes are birthing their pups that time of year. Wildlife and the public barely get a break. Plus, people are being tormented by hounders all across the state. A long season will not make this better.

Further, part of the argument for needing to hounding coyotes is to keep them fearful of people and prevent them from becoming a nuisance. Contrary to logic, FWD's recommendations allow the baiting of coyotes. Feeding coyotes is a great way to habituate them and draw them into roads and residential areas.

In summary, the regulations proposed do not make traps more humane. The hounding regulations will only add to the cruelty and not protect people and animals on their own property or while recreating on trails. It will not protect the other non-target wildlife that are in the path of the hounds, like ground-nesting birds. Legislative intent includes the following: "management of the population in concert with sound ecological principles." VFWD has not provided any science-based evidence that supports this.

Sincerely,
Kristen Cameron
Burlington, Vermont

References:

Vickers, W. Declaration, Declaration of Winston Vickers, US District Court for the District of Idaho in Case No. 1:14-CV-00258-BLW, Center for Biological Diversity v. C.I. "Butch" Otter, et al. and Idaho Trappers Assn, et al. 2015.

T. N. Tomsa and J. E. Forbes. "Coyote Depredation Control in New York — An Integrated Approach." USDA-APHIS-ADC. 1990.

B. F. Tullar. "Evaluation of a Padded Leg-Hold Trap for Capturing Foxes and Raccoons." NY Fish and Game Journal 31 (1984): 97–103. From [Fox, 2004](#))

From: [Barbara Felitti](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Public Comment for Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 7:26:43 PM

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Dear ANR and FWD Representatives,

Comments on Proposed Changes to Trapping Regulations:

- The regulations are insufficient and should include a ban on leghold/foothold traps and disallow body-crushing traps on land. The practices incorporated in the proposed regulation do not adequately address concerns regarding capture of domestic animals, non-target species, and target species out of season.
- Trail setbacks of 25' are insufficient for public safety and safety of domestic animals. Set-backs should be at least 100' on ALL lands that the public may be able to recreate on, not limited to lands as proposed in the regulation.
- Funds to purchase replacement traps to comply with the regulations should not be funded with taxpayer dollars when there are higher priority issues for the state to fund, e.g., homelessness.

Questions:

- Why can't the trap set-back distance be increased to 100"? Why isn't public safety being prioritized over trapper convenience?
- Why are body-crushing traps allowed on land when there are instances of domestic and non-target animals being caught and killed in these traps? How will you prevent these types of deaths if body-crushing traps are allowed on land?
- Why should public taxpayer money be used to pay for replacement traps? What precedent does this set anytime the state proposes a new regulation that will have costs to implement for an individual/business owner or municipality?

Comments on Proposed Regulations for Hunting Coyotes with Dogs

- There should be no hunting of coyotes with dogs under any circumstances. The practice should be banned.
- The proposed regulation definition of "control of dogs" is wholly inadequate. Dogs cannot be adequately controlled remotely by GPS and shock collars. Control of dogs must be defined as having visual and voice command control. As an incident in Ripton showed, it took a half hour for hunters to arrive at the scene where their hounds were attacking a couple and their pet dog. All of whom were injured.

Questions:

- How does the proposed definition for “control of dogs”:
 - prevent trespass by hunting dogs and their owners (when they need to retrieve them) on posted property?
 - prevent hunting dogs from causing injury to persons and their pets if hunters are ½ mile or more away, monitoring with GPS and using a training/shock collar?
- Why are public safety and private property rights being subverted to trapper convenience/preference?

Sincerely,
Barbara Felitti
Huntington, VT

From: jenn.miller@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Miller](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 6:30:43 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Jennifer Miller
2660 Miami St Lake Station, IN 46405-2158
jenn.miller@live.com

From: [Bruce Martin](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Herrick, Christopher](#); [Scott Fowler](#)
Subject: Proposed Trapping Changes
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 2:41:27 PM

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Good Afternoon,

I'd like to express my concerns, and frustrations, with some of the proposed trapping regulations that are being presented to the Fish and Wildlife Board.

First, there is some language that was voted on on April 5th that needs to be revised as it is not as I've been told that the errors were typos yet nothing has been changed.

4.5(b) reads: Foothold traps on land must be "Anchored with a maximum of 18" of chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock springs can be added to the chain system."

This should read **"Be anchored with a minimum of 12" and maximum of 18" chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock springs can be added to the chaining system."**

It is important to provide a minimum of 12" to not allow a trapped animal to gain leverage to pull a stake.

4.5(c) reads: Foothold traps on land must "Be padded or offset and laminated with a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16th of an inch or fully encapsulate the foot"

This should read **"Be padded, offset, laminated, or have a minimum jaw spread of 5/16th of an inch."**

To require that a trap include the lamination, on top of other features, is not necessary.

It really needs to be stressed that these modifications will create a financial burden on trappers to create modifications or purchase new traps that meet the requirements. Act 159 states that the report "shall include a recommendation from the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife for funding the replacement of currently authorized traps with devices that are compliant with the recommended BMPs." I'd like to know why we didn't see any recommendation or why it hasn't been explained to the trappers why a recommendation wasn't made.

Second; the current recommendation, following the April 5th vote, would eliminate the use of body-gripping traps to be set on the ground unless in the specified enclosure. This would not allow for the use of body-gripping traps to be used as blind sets on land in areas that could be non-conducive for a foothold trap. In areas I trap along cornfields, thick and brushy trails are ideal locations to set for raccoon to help farmers with protection of their corn. The brushy aspect is not good for a foothold as they should be set in areas without possibility of entanglement, therefore, a body-gripping trap would be the most effective, and humane, for these locations. Similar locations exist for mink, muskrat, and beaver where a body-gripping trap would be the most humane and effective. This change would take away a humane

technique. I strongly urge you to vote against the changes in 4.6 that take away the use of these techniques.

I would also like to bring up the fact that Act 159 states that "The BMPs shall be based on investigation and research conducted by scientists and experts at the Department of Fish and Wildlife....." The need for a working group was not part of Act 159, more importantly, a working group consisting of groups and parties that are totally against trapping and the only regulation acceptable is a full ban on trapping. I was a part of the working group, so my frustrations that those parties were involved may not be valid, however, as a trapper I do have experience and knowledge on trapping techniques. Trappers are the subject matter experts....experts were asked for in Act 159. Other groups that want a full-out ban are not experts on trapping techniques yet were still asked to participate.

Now moving forward since April 5th, changes were made by the Department that were not asked for by the F&W Board. These changes are a little suspect and makes me question the reasoning for them and why they came about without the request of the Board. I would hate to think that some of the groups that want a full out ban of trapping could have been involved, or could have influenced, these changes. I would like the Department to stand side by side with the trappers and hunters but it appears that more consideration is being given to those who would like to take our livelihood, our culture, away from us.

If you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,
Bruce Martin
Montpelier, VT

From: [Julia Anderson](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 1:24:38 PM

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I'm very concerned about the trapping and hounding in Vermont. When I moved to Vermont in the early 70s this was a dairy farming state. Most farmers had hundreds of acres. The farmers I knew were very busy without much time for hounding or trapping. If they ran a trap line it was on their own property for extra money. I knew one friend who had hounds and if there was a problem animal they would ask for his help. He was with the dogs when they got a scent running along.

This hounding with GPS collars is not only dangerous it doesn't appear to me to have anything to do with hunting as far as I can observe. The idea that people hound bear all summer when they have their babies seems cruel and irresponsible to me.

I have my land posted and if hounds came on my land I would have to shoot them. I have sheep and dogs. I also have grandchildren.

I can't see any sport in sitting in a vehicle watching a tablet to see when the dogs stop so they can go out and shoot the animal in a tree. Where is the sport in that?

Julia Anderson

From: Brenna Wright
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations.
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 12:57:32 PM
Attachments: H191 BW vermont.pdf

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My name is Brenna Wright and I am writing to you from the town of Stockbridge,VT

I joined the call on June 22nd in regards to the new laws and regulations for trapping and coyote hunting. First of all I want to say how appalled I am that you would even consider trapping in any way humane. Putting an animal thru any kind of pain for sport is INHUMANE. To say its been tested on 9,000 animals. You are really ok with that? . Have you tested it on yourselves or a fellow loved one?

There are better ways to manage wildlife and protect wildlife, such as working with groups and private citizens who would like to create wildlife sanctuaries. To say it's up to a private citizen to post the land to keep hunters and trappers out is ridiculous .

There is a majority of vermonters who are against all of this and the majority should rule. Not the few hunters, trappers that enjoy chasing bears with cubs, seeing an animal lie in a trap chewing its leg off. There is no economic benefit from any of them..Have any one you actually watched a video of the fear these animals are going through? Have you watched a coyote, bear cub, fox kit be clubbed to death? My guess is not. I also know that some in VT fish and wildlife , as well as Vt legislators practice this kind of inhumane behaviour,

As a tax payer in Vermont and a Vermont citizen I am 100 percent against both bills, and I will not support VT fish and Wildlife in torture of animals and the total disregard for the majority of Vermonters who are against this.

Brenna Wright
Stockbridge VT

From: [Rick Reed](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 11:17:55 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed furbearer BMP rules and new coyote hound hunting season. I did attend the Montpelier hearing. Hunting, fishing and trapping are important to me and I appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinion.

I don't hunt coyotes with hounds, but do have a few thoughts on the practice:

The gap between the end of training season and beginning of hunting season doesn't sound very practical for anyone training young dogs. I don't think allowing training to continue to the start of hunting season would be disruptive to other stakeholders.

I think it's worth noting that coyotes are doing very well all across the state. They have saturated the Vermont landscape without any protection.

In regard to the proposed trapping rule changes:

I agree with the suggestions offered by the VT Trappers Association.

4.5b Change to read "Be anchored with a minimum of 12 inches and maximum of 18 inch chain length. Extra swivels and or shock springs can be added to the chaining system."

4.5c Change to read "Be padded, offset, laminated or have a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16 of an inch."

4.6 This as written would eliminate cubby sets and brushy trail sets both of which are safe and effective when responsibly employed.

4.17 Change to read "No foothold traps can be set on or within 25 feet of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless set in a culvert or in the water. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas."

I have always researched and tried to follow current Best Management Practices. When I make a set it's always to the very best of my ability and with animal welfare first and foremost in mind. I am proud to be a trapper.

We are lucky in Vermont to have a dedicated and talented team of state scientists whose sole mission is to ensure the health and wellbeing of our fish and wildlife resources. I trust that we can continue to scientifically manage our wildlife, to the benefit of all stakeholders.

Respectfully,

Rick Reed
8384 Williston Rd
Williston, VT 05495

From: [emitt759](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Hound hunting Coyotes
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 11:02:42 AM

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Hello, my name is Steve and I thought I would weigh in on the Hound hunting. First, I'm an avid hunter and was a trapper for many years. Spent a few decades in the military. While there I was fortunate to have been a military combat rifle and pistol competitor for 20 years. So, I believe, I'm well versed on both hunting and shooting. So here we go.

First I'll list my issues i have with the practice of Coyote hunting with hounds.

1. My dog was shot behind my house in the back leg. A Sheppard mix. He survived and am quite sure it was Coyote hunters. However, I did not see it happen. Good thing.
2. I have had to ask Coyote hunters to not stand next to my horse shed, with there rifles, as they wait for hounds to push out the prey.
3. Not really sporting as four or five vehicles surround a tracked of land, wait in their vehicles. Then when a coyote runs out in the field, they get out and shoot. Two years ago, they stepped out and shot one(coyote) 25 yards from my neighbors beef cattle. The cattle was the backstop I guess.
4. Not sure if you all believe using snowmobiles is ok to get ahead of the dogs so they can shoot. Isn't that basically chasing animals with a motorized vehicle? Can I deer hunt like that? No.
5. I know that many of the animals taken are not even processed to get their fur.

I have no problem hunting coyotes out away from houses. But the practice in the last 10 years resembles something that, I think, gives hunters a bad name. Ithink the big change i would make in your proposal is, must have written permission to be on private land. Posted or not. You are going to press land owners to post their property. And of course, they cannot control where their dogs go. No matter what they do.

Anyway if I had my way it would only be allowed in the Green Mt Nat Forest. No snowmobiles or vehicle hunting. I know if they're are on my land I will secure their dogs until you all can come get them.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9+, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

From: [barbara sachau](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: vermont question on traps and coyotes
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 6:34:14 AM

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i do not think the fws proposal is in accordance with the vermont legislature

we need to go back and discuss it further.

the method of going after coyotes to kill them involves trespassing and people need to be secure in their homes so chasing with ;dogs is creating [chaos.it](#) needs to be banned totally.

all the traps seem to be painful and abuse to animals.

From: [o](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: coyote and trapping
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 6:29:07 AM

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all traps are horrendous. the little money that a trapper gets for killing an animal who has a right to life is not worth allowing any trapping to happen at all. none of the traps are humane. a trap that is humane does not close on an animal and make it lose its head or its leg and wait for a greedy selfish human to come along and kill it the entire act of killing is from 1860 and does not belong in 2023. it is vicious and from another era. leave the animals alone. sick people prey on animals.

as to the coyote being chased by 4 dogs to kill it, that too is sick and perverse and perverted. sick people do this. sick people who are so stupid they don't understand this is 2023 and we have a sixth extinction. leave the animals alone.
b ker
bk1492@aol.com

From: evaarvaniti7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Eva Arvaniti](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 4:00:38 AM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Eva Arvaniti
Griva 38 Halandri Athens,
evaarvaniti7@gmail.com

From: litemikie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Carroll](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 2:33:38 AM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Carroll
225 W Cypress Ave Kingsland, GA 31548-4269
litemikie@yahoo.com

From: [Bonnie Brown](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 2:24:36 AM

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Having read the new proposed regulations on hunting coyotes with dogs I submit the following comments:

—Overall, the practice of hunting coyotes with dogs is a cruel and barbaric practice and should be banned unless restricted the property of a property owner who requests assistance because of concern about safety and the protection of other game (from packs of coyotes) or pets.

—It is completely unrealistic to assume that the licensed persons conducting the hunt will be aware of when their dogs will cross into posted land prohibiting all hunting. In many communities this varies from parcel to parcel. Property owners will have no recourse to prevent this. There should be a substantial fine for any hunter whose dogs enter posted land, and hunters should be required to provide their identification to any land owner who requests it. Any property owner who feels threatened by dogs hunting coyotes on their property should have the recourse available to shoot the dogs (such as if the coyote tries to escape near a house and the dogs are in pursuit).

—While the Department has done a careful job trying to restrict coyote hunting with dogs to a limited number of authorized people, there will still be people who will run the risk of not being detected and do unauthorized hunting with dogs.

I still would request the Department to ban the practice, except for property owners who specifically request assistance as in my first comment above.

Bonnie Brown
141 Vaughn Road
Halifax, VT. 05358
Tel. (802) 368-2088
Email: bonniebrown1@verizon.net

From: oyoumans98941@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ona Youmans](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023 12:32:39 AM

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The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Sincerely,
Ms. Ona Youmans
PO Box 291 # 291 Roslyn, WA 98941-0291
oyoumans98941@gmail.com

From: biancaborris@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Samantha Eveland](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 11:17:19 PM

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Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Samantha Eveland
2450 S Barrington Ave Los Angeles, CA 90064-2910
biancaborris@gmail.com

From: hhollon1221@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bob Hollie](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 9:11:36 PM

[You don't often get email from hhollon1221@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

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Sincerely,
Mr. Bob Hollie
2816 Overlake Ave Orlando, FL 32806-7455
hhollon1221@aol.com

From: catlver5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Hollie Hollon](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 9:11:22 PM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Hollie Hollon
2816 Overlake Ave Orlando, FL 32806-7455
catlver5@att.net

From: soniaalic07@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sonia Alic](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 9:03:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Sonia Alic
soniaalic07@gmail.com

From: [Stephan Chait](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comments on furbearer rule and hunting coyotes with dogs
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 7:28:42 PM
Attachments: [Comments to ANR for June 30 lac.docx](#)

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To Whom It May Concern;

Please see the attached comment letter from the Halifax Conservation Commission.

Thank you,
Stephan Chait

From: jldughman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Judy Dughman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 4:26:54 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Judy Dughman
2180 Savage Rd Elizabeth, CO 80107-8462
jldughman@outlook.com

From: [ADS - Service Desk Information](#)
Cc: [ADS - Service Desk Information](#)
Subject: RE: PLEASE READ: Vermont.Gov currently down
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 4:04:24 PM
Importance: High

Update 4:00 PM: Most State of Vermont websites are available. Some limited outages may still occur as we work with our vendor to re-route traffic over failover connections. We will continue to provide updates until we are fully recovered.

To: All Exchange users

RE: Vermont.gov site is currently unreachable



ADS – Service Desk
802-828-6620 option 1
<https://itsupport.apps.vermont.gov>

ADS Intranet: <https://vermontgov.sharepoint.com/sites/ADS-IT/>

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- If you see an email in any mailbox from a sender you don't recognize, aren't expecting an email from, or contain attachments you aren't expecting, DON'T OPEN THE ATTACHMENT and report the email with "Report Phishing" ASAP. Instructions here:

From: [jennifer lovett](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Act 159 and Act 165: Trapping and Hounding Public Comments
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 3:02:08 PM
Attachments: Do Best Management Practices Really Improve Animal Welfare.docx

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To the Fish and Wildlife Department,

As a conservation biologist, living in Starksboro, who has done a great deal of work related to beavers and coyotes, I am writing to comment on the proposed changes to BMPs for trapping (Act 159) and the proposed regulations on coyote hounding (Act 165). I consider both policies to be egregious, biased, and useless. Neither Act is based on sound, peer reviewed science, and neither reflects the obvious consensus of Vermont landowners and taxpayers.

I would like to remind the FWD of your mission as it is stated on your website: **The mission of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is the conservation of all species of fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the people of Vermont.**

This statement does not say that wildlife is to be exclusively managed according to the desires of hunters, trappers, and anglers. But, in fact that is the reality here in Vermont. Actual conservation takes a consistent back seat to the exploitation of wildlife for recreational hunters and trappers. Those of us who prefer science-based, humane, and ecologically sound wildlife and habitat management are frequently labelled "antis" by the department. Recently, at a public comment hearing in Montpelier, advocates were referred to as "eco terrorists" by a member of the VT Trappers Association. He was not reprimanded for this offensive name-calling. In fact, when his comment was challenged by another meeting participant, that person was hushed by Mark Scott. It really is discouraging to know the extent of bias toward special interest groups that regulates FWD policy and behavior. And, frankly, it reflects very poorly on the Department when you appear threatened and fearful of anyone who opposes your opinions or policies. There is a real lack of professionalism and informed action on your part.

There are many reasons to object to **Act 165** and far more to object to the current open season and nonsensical persecution of coyotes in Vermont. This important species delivers several valuable eco-services, including rodent control, tick control (and hence tick-borne disease mitigation), dispersal of native plant seeds at a time when invasives are threatening native species, control of meso-predator populations, carrion and winter-kill clean-up, and removal of diseased and injured deer from the growing herd. The knowledge of coyote behavior and biology, as is outlined on your own website, demonstrates that killing this species not only results in greater population numbers but it also increases conflicts with humans, livestock, and domestic animals. The science is very clear and very well established. To control coyote populations and behavior toward non-native prey, the only effective means

is coexistence. You, the FWD, should be educating farmers and the public about strategies to protect livestock and pets that are based on coexistence with local packs, hazing, fencing, guard animals, etc.. Hunting, especially targeting alpha coyotes, is counterproductive, as you apparently know.

Hounding is a particularly inhumane and environmentally toxic activity that serves no purpose other than to appease and entertain hounders. Their dogs cannot be controlled with GPS collars; shock collars are also ineffective and inhumane. If the dogs are not visible to the hounder, he cannot effectively manage their behavior or know what victims they are pursuing or tormenting. This should be unacceptable for any organization mandated to protect wildlife and habitat. The dogs are free to trespass on private and posted land and they disturb ground nesting birds, small mammals, and young wildlife dependent on their parents. Landowner rights are meaningless in the context of hounding. Summer weather is often too hot for both dogs and their prey to be running at full speed for miles. This activity is simply cruel ---- to the coyotes, their abandoned and potentially orphaned offspring, other collateral victims of the chase, as well as the hounds themselves who are often injured and abused.

As an example of the misdirected nature of Act 165, I refer to text section 3A:

"The General Assembly through the rules required under this section intends to reduce conflicts between landowners and persons pursuing coyote with the aid of dogs by reducing the frequency that dogs or persons pursuing coyote enter onto land that is posted against hunting or land where pursuit of coyote with dogs is not authorized. In addition, the General Assembly intends that the rules required under this section support the humane taking of coyote, the management of the population in concert with sound ecological principles, and the development of reasonable and effective means of control."

The statement highlighted in red completely contradicts the reality of hounding. There is no ecological basis for, or humane means of "taking" (i.e.: killing) coyotes by chasing them for miles, often away from their territory and offspring, with packs of trained hounds (4 hounds to one coyote). And because, clearly no effective means to control packs of dogs running through the landscape after prey exists, Act 165 has no basis and should be nullified. Because all science regarding coyote behavior, biology, and management, supports coexistence and not hunting as the best means to control numbers and human conflicts, hounding coyotes should not be legal in Vermont. The current moratorium on coyote hounding should be revised to a permanent ban. If you must appease your coyote-hating followers, create a closed coyote hunting season in the winter.

With regards to **Act 159**, it is discouraging to know that the FWD dismisses its responsibilities to the majority of VTers who clearly disapprove of recreational trapping. This has been demonstrated more than once with perhaps the most relevant being the results of the recent survey done by the FWD in which almost 70% of respondents said they disapprove of

trapping. In my experience, I have met many VTers, from all walks of life, who were completely unaware that trapping and hounding take place and were horrified to hear that these activities are legal. You are clearly NOT fulfilling your mandate to the people of Vermont.

I have researched BMPs and authored a clarification paper (literature review) for Protect Our Wildlife about the current science related to this issue. I have attached my sourced paper below. The conclusion reached by most wildlife biologists and animal welfare organizations is that BMPs do not work. There are many reasons for this including: the lack of monitoring and enforcement of trappers, the inherent sadism (extreme physical injuries) and resulting trauma of restraining a wild animal for hours in a leghold trap, the truly indiscriminate nature of trapping, the toll it takes on non-target (often endangered species or domestic animals), and the lack of a science-based rationale. There is certainly no valid reason for recreational trapping, and it directly conflicts with several tenets of the honored NAMWC that the VT FWD claims to adhere to.

I am all about science and it's distressing to see so much important and current research routinely ignored by the FWD. Given the current dire situation regarding the climate crisis and the associated loss of biodiversity. It seems to me, as a conservation biologist, that the FWD should be prioritizing strategies to mitigate habitat loss, the effects of extreme weather events, drought, and pollution. The FWD should be focusing its resources and energy on resolving human and wildlife conflicts through coexistence rather than promoting exploitation and recreational killing. There are many recent peer reviewed studies demonstrating the value of beavers in ecosystems to protect water quality, promote biodiversity, and the ability of beaver wetlands to mitigate drought, wildfire, and floods. A recent large multi-year study in Ontario concluded that hunting bears does little to deter human-bear conflicts. They concluded that coexistence is a much better strategy to manage this important species. It goes on and on, study after study, and yet the FWD continues to perpetuate and support a culture that belongs in the history books. Your actions cater to a small number of people and, by doing so, infringe on the rights of everyone else and endanger our children's and grandchildren's futures.

Thank you,

Jennifer Lovett
Starksboro, VT
802-453-6715



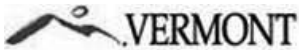
Sender notified by
[Mailtrack](#)

From: [ADS - Service Desk Information](#)
Cc: [ADS - Service Desk Information](#)
Subject: RE: PLEASE READ: Vermont.Gov currently down
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 3:01:01 PM
Importance: High

Update 3:00 PM: Most State of Vermont websites are available. Some limited outages may still occur as we work with our vendor to re-route traffic over failover connections. We will continue to provide updates until we are fully recovered.

To: SOV - IT Leaders, SOV - IT Managers, SOV - IT Technicians, SOV - Small Boards And Commissions IT Contacts - **Please share with users**

RE: Vermont.gov site is currently unreachable



ADS – Service Desk
802-828-6620 option 1
<https://itsupport.apps.vermont.gov>

ADS Intranet: <https://vermontgov.sharepoint.com/sites/ADS-IT/>

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- If you see an email in any mailbox from a sender you don't recognize, aren't expecting an email from, or contain attachments you aren't expecting, DON'T OPEN THE ATTACHMENT and report the email with "Report Phishing" ASAP. Instructions here:

From: [Joanne Bourbeau \(she/her\)](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 2:55:07 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[HSUS statement on proposed trapping and coyote hounding rule.docx](#)

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The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) would like to submit the attached statement in opposition to the proposed rule for Act 159 and Act 165. Thank you.

Joanne Bourbeau

Northeastern Regional Director/State Affairs
Pronouns: she/her

jbourbeau@humanesociety.org
C 301-529-3378
humanesociety.org



Fight for all animals. The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's most effective animal protection organization, fighting for all animals for more than 65 years. To support our work, please make a [monthly donation](#), give in [another way](#) or [volunteer](#).



From: [Eliza Mabry](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 2:38:24 PM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

I have not recently reviewed the regulations that the Department proposes, but I do want to register my strong opposition to recreational hunting of coyotes with dogs. Without a limited season and with the use of GPS and electric collars the practice is a cruel mockery of hunting, something the Department of Fish and Wildlife should be ashamed of.

Trapping is indiscriminant and hard to oversee. In my view it should be a tool of last resort managed by Fish and Wildlife professionals not allowed as a "sport" on public lands.

I look forward in the future to a greater understanding and responsiveness on the part of the Agency of Natural Resources' Department of Fish and Wildlife to all of Vermont citizens who appreciate our wildlife resources.

I found it very difficult to find the online site for comments, the above seemed to be closed on the website though I think comments were due by June 30. Thank you for the opportunity for public comment.

Sincerely,

Eliza Mabry
Shrewsbury, VT.

From: [Ted Vogt](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Comments re. Proposed Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 12:48:28 PM

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Comments re. Proposed Trapping Regulations:

I am against trapping except in limited and well-defined circumstances to protect livestock and property.

Commercial or “recreational” trapping benefits a limited user group and adversely impacts the interests of most Vermont residents who wish to enjoy Vermont’s natural environment. The modest changes in the proposed regulations do not adequately protect pets, non-target animals, children and even adults from possible injury.

Even these modest changes are useless without a demonstrated commitment by VT Fish and Wildlife to enforcement.

Comments re. Proposed Coyote Regulations

Coyote hunting, if it is allowed at all, should be limited to a defined hunting season which recognizes the need to protect coyote cubs.

Better definition is needed of the phrase “in control of the dog” (Section 4.22.3: The Taking of Coyote with Aid of Dogs (d) Dogs and Packs (1) or dogs.). “Control” of dogs through electronic devices is not meaningful control in my opinion.

Hunting with uncontrolled dogs effectively results in torture of wild animals — inappropriate whether it involves coyotes, bears, or other animals.

From: [Michelle Pierpont](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 9:30:33 AM

You don't often get email from michelle.pierpont@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Michelle Pierpont,
Leicester

From: annalou228@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anna Stoudemire
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 6:00:19 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

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Sincerely,
Anna Stoudemire
annalou228@yahoo.com

From: [Airwheel](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Travel in Style and Comfort with Electric Luggage!
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 5:04:32 PM

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BLACKPINK are riding a new kind of scooter SE3S at their concert, it has many fashion designs, such as breathing lights, USB charging ports for mobile phones, even a reverse gear.



From: [Chris Cano](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 3:43:38 PM

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To whom it may concern,

It is time to ban recreational fur-bearing trapping; the practice is grossly inhumane.

Each year in Vermont, body-gripping and foothold traps cause undue and cruel suffering, injury, maiming and death to targeted and many non-targeted animals, including pets. These traps do not provide any semblance of animal welfare. Rules about trapping are intended to reduce injury for animals caught, prevent the capture of non-targeted species and protect pets. It is misleading to use the term "best management practices" for trapping when those practices still allow for tremendous pain, distress and suffering to individual animals. A 50-foot safety buffer for where traps can be located on public highways and trails on state lands leaves plenty of lands where trappers can set traps next to trails and is inadequate to protect the public

Vermont should also prohibit the hounding of Coyotes with dogs, which can imperil other wildlife falling to the hound's tracking aggression. The free-running hounds also put other people, domestic animals and personal property at risk. Vermont needs a regulated coyote-hunting season that considers pup rearing and does not cause orphaned pups to starve to death or be vulnerable to attack and death by predators.

Ronald Hill
East Montpelier, VT

From: ruswift@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [robert swift](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 3:14:08 PM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. robert swift
304 Edison Glen Ter Edison, NJ 08837-2924
ruswift@yahoo.com

From: [Chris Cano](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: "trapping and coyote regulations"
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 2:41:27 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear VTANR and DF&W,

Please, abolish the recreational trapping of VT fur-bearing wildlife and ban the cruel and reprehensible use of leghold and body-crushing kill traps that are inherently indiscriminate, cruel, and inhumane, that allow for the unnecessary inflicting of injury, prolonged suffering, maiming, and death of targeted sentient wildlife and non-targeted animals, protected and endangered species, and beloved pet dogs and cats each year in Vermont. The majority of Vermont residents disapprove of recreational and fur trapping; trappers are only a tiny subset.

Coyotes should not be "hunted" all year long, day and night, and killed during times of the year when mothers are rearing and nursing pups, leaving pups orphaned to starve to death. Please prohibit any hunting of coyotes with dogs. Running dogs to chase down, exhaust, attack, and maul the cornered injured wild animal is a cruel, unfair, and loathsomely violent way to so-called "hunt."

Wildlife is held in trust for all Vermonters. As a lifelong Vermonter, I implore you to ensure our wildlife regulations make Vermont a more humane place for current and future generations. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Christine Cano
E. Montpelier, VT

From: [Patricia Hunt](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 1:52:46 PM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

I want to go on record as someone who believes strongly that recreational trapping and hounding of any kind should be banned in Vermont!

Patricia Hunt
Bristol, Vermont

From: [RANDY BARROWS](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment furbearer rule-BMPs
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 11:18:19 AM

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Good morning all:

The purpose of this writing is to ask all involved to vote against all new proposals to our current trapping laws. As we are all painfully aware these new proposed laws were mandated by the legislature to enact new rules for trapping in Vermont, The request started with the folks at Protect our Wildlife , who yearly submit bills to end trapping in Vermont,

Many hours were spent hashing out these proposals with members of pow, VFW and VTA, thinking that we had come to some what of a compromise, only to find out that a new bill to outlaw all trapping was submitted prior to us implementing the new agreed upon regulations,.It is quite clear the folks at pow have no intentions oh coming to a agreement on any recommendations.

There is no need to make trap configurations at all. Putting a shorter or longer chain on a trap makes no difference at all. Having off set jaws or regular jaws makes no difference at all.Using a drag or no drag makes no difference at all.

Putting longer chains on traps allows a animal to make a lunge for freedom, only to get snapped to a hard stop at the end of the chain. Off set jaws allow the foot to travel back and forth while caught, unlike a regular jaw. Drags allow a animal to move away from the trap site out of view from other animals and to get out of harsh enviroments.

I have no problem with the set backs being proposed, although they are quite silly as no trapper will trap within miles of a park.

As far as euthanization proposals, I feel having archery equipment being used is outrageous. Animals die from blood heemmorage using archery equipment, a much more cruel way of going than a quick club to the head.

Concerning body grip traps I have no problem with these proposals. I have taught trapper ed in Vermont for twenty plus years and have allows taught these guidelines.

On the hound issue, I am firmly against the use of shock collars. A trained hound will quickly become useless after a few shocks. All of these issues are about cruelty to animals, yet this new law is suggested as being ok.

I have trapped in Vermont for 56 years and the traps I have used still work fine to this day. I have run beagles for 60 years and never have had a problem. Unfortunately we listen to the same regurgitation from pow year after year to erode what we as sportsmen enjoy doing.

I own a trap supply company and have contact with many trappers who advised me that if these new proposals pass they will be done trapping, period.The cost of bringing traps to compliance would far out weigh the benifits.

The loss of all of these trappers would be very harmful for the state. I nuisance trao for the state and there has been a explosion of nuisance calls already this year. Rabies is rampant in Chittenden county. Google the state of Massachusetts and see what kind of issues they are having since they banned trapping. Not anything I want to see in Vermont!!!

I too will stop trapping if these laws pass. I will shutter my business and sit back and remember the

good old days , when Vermont was Vermont and not run by folks who can move in and direct us how we can live. Shame on us.

Thank you for listening, again. I appreciate the hard work all involved have wasted on this project.

Respectfully submitted

Randy Barrows

802-355-7496

88 North Road

Milton Vermont 05468

Please call with any questions or comments.

With these new plans we will be “saving animals to death!”

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: Amabel Kylee Siorghlas
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Re: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 10:47:06 AM

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By the way, I live in Marshfield, Vermont; Washington County. I forgot to put that under my signature. Thanks!

On Mon, Jun 26, 2023 at 2:04 PM Amabel Kylee Siorghlas <bluets4riley@gmail.com> wrote:

I am writing about Act 159 and Act 165 to express my belief that the Fish and Wildlife Department has not gone far enough to address the concerns of the majority of Vermont citizens regarding hounding and trapping, or to protect wildlife from inhumane treatment. It continues to pander to the trapping and hounding contingency.

1. Leghold traps are simply not humane. No matter how much "padding" one puts on one. Imagine the pain and terror an animal goes through with a foot stuck in any leghold trap, even one with padding. The pain from the pressure, exposure to the elements without being able to get under cover (rain, snow, heat, cold), fears of predation by other animals. It's just horrible.

If you don't agree, I challenge any one person at Fish and Wildlife to stick your fingers or wrist or foot in a leghold trap and sit out in the middle of the woods in bad weather, overnight, or even in nice weather for oh, say twelve hours or so. Feel free to use the padded traps! Even then, I will bet you that you will want to chew off your own appendage by morning.

2. These traps and the body crushing traps are a threat to public safety under current rules. Companion animals have been killed by the body crushing traps and also gotten caught in leghold traps. If the argument is that it's not that many companion animals, ask yourself, how would you feel if it was your dog or cat? And how long is it until a toddler or young child is injured?

Really, what is the argument for either of these kinds of traps in the current, modern era? For "sport"? That is just unconscionable. For the fur? For profit? (The fur industry is pretty out of favor these days, and again, furred clothing is not necessary.) For the most part, we are not clothing ourselves in fur vests or coonskin caps anymore. For food? We have really good rifles if we need to hunt meat for food for our tables.

3. Last, hounding. A subject of bitter divide and an issue in Vermont that seems to

get nowhere. Traditional-minded hunters carry out a loud and consistent howling to keep their rights to let their dogs chase various unfortunate creatures through the woods.

When I grew up, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, a story of a boy in the South who saves his pennies to buy two coon hounds, Dan and Ann, was one of my favorite books. Yeah, it bothered me, the primitive "leg-hold" traps the boy made out of tin cans with nails and bait at the bottom to catch coons to sell the fur to get his pennies for the dogs. It bothered me, the dogs bellowing and thundering after the coons once he had trained them. But I was caught up in the impoverished boy's story and I cried when his dogs died at the end, every time. I now look at this book much differently. It's a historical icon, for sure. It's a story of another time.

Hound hunting, really, should also be a story from another time. Again, there is no need, in our modern era, for this cruel endeavor any longer. Again, we have rifles which allow a quick, mostly painless death for pretty much most animals we'd need to kill. This can solve the need for food, or sport, or for controlling herd numbers.

Hounding is not a "sport" — it's torture. It's frightening wild animals for no good reason. It's running them to exhaustion. It's separating them from their young. It's the tearing apart of coyotes (and yes, I know that coyotes tear apart young fawns, but that is for their FOOD) in horrible ways. It's injurious to the hounds themselves at times. And it definitely risks injury (or at the least the trauma of having the unfortunate opportunity to witness this practice as the hounds careen through our property, unattended) to our state's humans, adults and kids, and to their companion or farm animals. GPS is at the core of this danger, for it allows the hounds to be running amok far from their owners who claim they are "in control." To this claim, I say, "baloney."

Come on Fish and Wildlife. It's your job to set an example for humane wildlife management. Let's ban hounding and leg hold traps for starters. Let's step into the modern era.

Sincerely,
Amabel Siorghlas

--

All the best,
Amabel Kylee

From: ivosoares719@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ivo Soares](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 9:54:59 AM

[You don't often get email from ivosoares719@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Ivo Soares
Rua De Salgueiros Apartment,
ivosoares719@gmail.com

From: vic9160c@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [vickie corum](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 9:38:46 AM

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Sincerely,
Ms. vickie corum
102 Pine Cone Dr Stoneville, NC 27048-8716
vic9160c@yahoo.com

From: sofia.rebecka@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sofia Jensen](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 7:25:26 AM

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Sofia Jensen
sofia.rebecka@gmail.com

From: [Starr Wolfe](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 6:29:57 AM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Please stop ALL Hounding and Trapping.

Thank you,
Starr Wolfe
Brattleboro, Vermont

From: [Starr Wolfe](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 6:06:36 AM

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Please listen to the majority of Vermont and stop ALL

Hounding and Trapping. It is cruel and inhumane.

It is a sign of mental health issues that we as teachers are trained to observe in young children who are living with violence, sexual abuse and extreme physical abuse.

People who harm animals in this way need to be stopped.

Please do the right thing.

Thank you,
Starr Wolfe

From: [KEVIN FRENCH](#)
To: [KEVIN FRENCH](#)
Subject: H159
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 9:23:18 PM

You don't often get email from kevin.g.french@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Good evening, after listening to the conversation on June 22 about Act 159 I have a few additional comments.

1. I don't believe we need to extend the buffer to 50 ft. If the length of a retractable dog leash is 25 ft than I think 35 ft would be a reasonable distance for a buffer. We need to realize this will only work on a leashed dog. It seems that many people think that letting their dog run free while they are hiking is okay which certainly.. is not. The same people that want a hound under a hunters control at all times should want the same for their pet. From what I heard from some of the callers the only thing they want is a complete ban on trapping so I wasn't surprised to hear opposition to most of the department suggestions. I for would never set that close to a trail for that reason but not everyone shares that opinion.
2. While I don't believe we should have to post signs where we have set traps, (for obvious reasons of tampering or theft which I believe are the real reasons why some want traps marked. I think the seasons should be posted at a kiosk at the trail entrance on state lands. Not just trapping but all seasons.
3. I think there needs to be more detailed conversation on cable restraints to be used as an alternative to traps.
4. It certainly would be a terrible shame to lose the right to trap in VT but as one caller said one committee in Montpelier certainly seems to believe all they say and this will be quite an obstacle to overcome. Trapping seems to be an area where they don't listen to the science and work purely off emotion. Yet fail to state how painful a natural death can and will be as populations rise. Or that so called nuisance trappers can and will kill animals when their fur is not prime. A complete waste of the resource.

Thank you for your work on this for the continued legal use of traps and trapping in the State of VT.

Kevin French
Quechee VT

From: [Linda Huebner](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 8:48:20 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I've tried attending hearings and speaking, despite challenges in traveling to listening sessions. I hope this email is as effective and saves us all time.

In short, I'm concerned and disappointed that Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

Further:

- There is no way to make a leghold trap humane. These are indiscriminate traps, despite offsets and pan tension alterations.
- Body-crushing Conibear kill traps should not be allowed on land. This trap type killed two dogs last trapping season. They are designed to kill, so there is little chance of safely releasing non-targeted animals. They also strike nontarget animals around the abdomen, rather than the neck, resulting in slow and painful deaths.
- Act 159 required that traps be set away from public areas on all lands where the public can be reasonably expected to recreate. VT Fish and Wildlife's recommendation applies to only a small percentage of public lands and is insufficient to protect the public. Additionally, 50 foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs.
- Act 165 required that hounds be under control of the coyote hunter. GPS and shock collars do not control the hounds, despite Fish and Wildlife's claim. Coyote hounds that are running miles away from the hunter are not in control as this video illustrates <https://youtube.com/shorts/AALz1USdb3Q?feature=share>
- Coyote hounders should not be allowed to bait coyotes. Baiting draws animals next to roads and residential areas and also offers hunters an even greater advantage. There is no element of Fair Chase with baiting or hounding.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Linda Huebner, Halifax, VT

From: [Todd Mower](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 6:23:21 PM

You don't often get email from tmmower@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Greetings folks,

I am a resident of Corinth, Vermont, and spend a great deal of time working in the woods, managing our small woodlot (80 acres) for wildlife and sustainable firewood production. I've enjoyed sharing the natural environment with all of the wildlife, including deer, foxes, coyotes and bear. The only times I have been nervous or upset about other creatures in the woods is when hound dogs pass through, harassing the bears and coyotes. The dogs have come close to harassing my draft horses while they were patiently waiting for me. Moreover, owners of hunting dogs can not control where their dogs go...they merely try to collect them after their terror excursion is completed.

Setting dogs upon coyotes and bear is a cruel practice, both to the wildlife and to the dogs that may get mauled by the terrified "prey." I see absolutely no reason why both bear and coyotes should be hunted at all, let alone with dogs. That practice seems created only for the enjoyment of the dog owners, who apparently get joy and satisfaction from causing great distress to the wildlife by harassing them with dogs, and then killing the wild animals with cruel methods after they have been tortured by the dogs. That scenario brings to mind the Roman Colosseum, in which slaves and prisoners were thrown to lions so that the upper class could watch them get ripped to shreds while they sipped wine and ate cheese. Haven't we advanced our culture beyond that?

The proposed new regulations purport to implement Best Management Practices, which are nothing more than a ploy by the hunting alliances to hoodwink the public into believing that a humane and safe approach has been researched, evaluated and proven. That is very much not the case. The only Best Practice would be to completely ban hunting with dogs, both for coyotes and bear.

Please oppose the proposed new management plan, and strive towards more humane treatment of the wildlife that thousands of residents enjoy.....and do not cave in to the 350 trappers and even smaller numbers of "hounders."

Thank you,
Todd Mower
Corinth VT

From: [Ben Vicere](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Regarding the proposed changes to trapping
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 3:27:25 PM

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Dear Fish and Wildlife Board or to whom it may concern,

I thank you for allowing public comment on this subject.

I was unable to attend any of the in-person sessions but attended and participated in the discussion on Microsoft Teams on June 22nd. I did not have pre-written notes for the meeting like many others.

While I have hunted and fished all of my life, I am relatively new to trapping, and it has quickly become a passion of mine. The sense of place I have out on the line is something that only another trapper would understand—the sense of being connected to the land and the animals that call it home.

About ten years ago, I was inspecting a timbersale in Fayston, Vermont, in the middle of January. This is a cold and inhospitable place to be that time of year, but as a forester, it was good to have a crew operating the frozen ground. At the end of the day, a movement caught my eye on a nearby ridge. At first, I had no idea about what I was looking at. It looked like an overgrown possum with a whippy tail and short, patchy fur. Upon closer observation I realized it was a coyote that was suffering greatly from sarcoptic mange. I watched it struggle along and disappear over the other side of the ridge to the west. This vision has stuck with me to this day and is, in a lot of respects, the reason I started trapping. I figured that while I did my part to keep deer numbers healthy, as a steward, I wasn't doing enough for the furbearer populations.

Although the assault on trappers' rights is not a new thing in Vermont, it has now been thrust front and center of late by those that would like nothing more than to strip me and others of their rights to manage furbearer populations simply due to their emotional dislike of trapping. All it takes is one bad incident, and I and many others have to fight tooth and nail to keep our rights from being revoked. While the anti-trappers say that banning trapping is for animal wellbeing, they forget that Mother Nature is a cruel keeper. They seem to push overpopulation and the profound effects it has to the side and conveniently forget about the carrying capacity of the ever-shrinking habitat and diseases such as rabies and mange. According to their position, they would rather see furbearers suffer these slow fates than for me to humanely trap and utilize these wonderful animals. Trappers care for animal well-being by abiding by the laws and regulations set forth to manage healthy levels of furbearers that are in tune with the available habitat. We also strive to utilize our catches to the fullest.

After reading and re-reading the proposed changes, there are two major things that stick out to me.

First, I believe that bludgeoning should be a listed dispatch method. Firearms are not always good choices in areas with a lot of dwellings or in close proximity to livestock. Archery

equipment, while quiet, would be extremely cumbersome to carry on the line and, in most cases, not practical.

The second is in regard to section 4.17(b). In my opinion, this is the broad brush approach. ALL body grip traps is too broad and effectively eliminates my ability to make brush sets for mink within those setbacks; with anything, including a little 110, I will now have to place it in an enclosure. We need to remember that, unfortunately, not every dog owner abides by leash laws, and 50 feet is not going to matter if the dog is let loose to run freely. To me, THIS issue is a serious problem and creates a double standard. Rules for thee and not for me. I understand that my activities afield don't necessarily mirror those of other folks. I just wish these folks had the same mindset.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Fish and Wildlife's stance on preserving trapping rights in Vermont. This is as far as the regulations should go, however. All anyone needs to do is look at the beaver situation in Massachusetts to see what the banning of trapping will do. All anyone needs to see is a skunk that is stricken with the rabies virus in an advanced state or a coyote crossing a ridge in Fayston, Vermont, in the middle of January with severe mange to understand that "letting nature take its course" is much more unforgiving and ruthless than a foothold trap under a 24-hour check or a "body crushing" 330 conibear.

Respectfully,
Ben Vicere
Springfield, Vermont

--

Ben

From: joelle.verdez@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of JOELLE VERDEZ
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 3:25:45 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

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In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
JOELLE VERDEZ
42 B RUE DE LA FORET Romorantin Lantheny, 41200
joelle.verdez@sfr.fr

From: occ1020@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [JIMMY RIVERA](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 3:20:36 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr JIMMY RIVERA
408 S Plum St Mount Joy, PA 17552-2710
occ1020@aol.com

From: da2930@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Debra Andris
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 3:16:04 PM

[You don't often get email from da2930@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Sincerely,
Debra Andris
da2930@comcast.net

From: [Patty Swanson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 2:56:00 PM

You don't often get email from patriciapickle888@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations for both trapping and hounding regulations do not go far enough to address animal welfare and public safety concerns. Their recommendations also fail to meet legislative mandate as required in Act 159 and Act 165. Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife submitted recommendations to VT Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations were accepted in their original form. Thank you,

Leave wildlife alone ! Do you care about your children's future ?!

Patricia Swanson

From: Amabel Kylee Siorghlas
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 2:04:16 PM

You don't often get email from bluets4riley@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am writing about Act 159 and Act 165 to express my belief that the Fish and Wildlife Department has not gone far enough to address the concerns of the majority of Vermont citizens regarding hounding and trapping, or to protect wildlife from inhumane treatment. It continues to pander to the trapping and hounding contingency.

1. Leghold traps are simply not humane. No matter how much "padding" one puts on one. Imagine the pain and terror an animal goes through with a foot stuck in any leghold trap, even one with padding. The pain from the pressure, exposure to the elements without being able to get under cover (rain, snow, heat, cold), fears of predation by other animals. It's just horrible.

If you don't agree, I challenge any one person at Fish and Wildlife to stick your fingers or wrist or foot in a leghold trap and sit out in the middle of the woods in bad weather, overnight, or even in nice weather for oh, say twelve hours or so. Feel free to use the padded traps! Even then, I will bet you that you will want to chew off your own appendage by morning.

2. These traps and the body crushing traps are a threat to public safety under current rules. Companion animals have been killed by the body crushing traps and also gotten caught in leghold traps. If the argument is that it's not that many companion animals, ask yourself, how would you feel if it was your dog or cat? And how long is it until a toddler or young child is injured?

Really, what is the argument for either of these kinds of traps in the current, modern era? For "sport"? That is just unconscionable. For the fur? For profit? (The fur industry is pretty out of favor these days, and again, furred clothing is not necessary.) For the most part, we are not clothing ourselves in fur vests or coonskin caps anymore. For food? We have really good rifles if we need to hunt meat for food for our tables.

3. Last, hounding. A subject of bitter divide and an issue in Vermont that seems to get nowhere. Traditional-minded hunters carry out a loud and consistent howling to keep their rights to let their dogs chase various unfortunate creatures through the woods.

When I grew up, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, a story of a boy in the South who saves his pennies to buy two coon hounds, Dan and Ann, was one of my favorite books. Yeah, it bothered me, the primitive "leg-hold" traps the boy made out of tin cans with nails and bait at the bottom to catch coons to sell the fur to get his pennies for the dogs. It bothered me, the dogs bellowing and thundering after the coons once he had trained them. But I was caught up in the impoverished boy's story and I cried when his dogs died at the end, every time. I now look at this book much differently. It's a historical icon, for sure. It's a story of another time.

Hound hunting, really, should also be a story from another time. Again, there is no need, in our modern era, for this cruel endeavor any longer. Again, we have rifles which allow a quick, mostly painless death for pretty much most animals we'd need to kill. This can solve the need for food, or sport, or for controlling herd numbers.

Hounding is not a "sport" — it's torture. It's frightening wild animals for no good reason. It's running them to exhaustion. It's separating them from their young. It's the tearing apart of coyotes (and yes, I know that coyotes tear apart young fawns, but that is for their FOOD) in horrible ways. It's injurious to the hounds themselves at times. And it definitely risks injury (or at the least the trauma of having the unfortunate opportunity to witness this practice as the hounds careen through our property, unattended) to our state's humans, adults and kids, and to their companion or farm animals. GPS is at the core of this danger, for it allows the hounds to be running amok far from their owners who claim they are "in control." To this claim, I say, "baloney."

Come on Fish and Wildlife. It's your job to set an example for humane wildlife management. Let's ban hounding and leg hold traps for starters. Let's step into the modern era.

Sincerely,
Amabel Siorghlas

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:53:24 AM

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:53:07 AM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:52:44 AM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:52:28 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:52:08 AM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:51:52 AM

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luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:51:27 AM

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Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:51:07 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:50:50 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:50:21 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:50:01 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:49:41 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:49:22 AM

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Sincerely,
Luciana Redolfi
luciredo@gmail.com

From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:49:03 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:48:44 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:48:29 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:48:06 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:47:57 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:47:31 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:47:14 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:46:48 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:46:23 AM

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To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:46:05 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:45:42 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:38:23 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:38:02 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:37:38 AM

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Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:37:17 AM

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From: luciredo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luciana Redolfi](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 11:36:55 AM

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From: [Borni, Karima](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Coyote Hounding Testimony
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 9:34:43 AM

You don't often get email from kborni@middlebury.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Greetings,

Please see my concerns below regarding the Dept of Fish & Wildlife's insufficient regulation proposals in response to Act 165 directives. I have a residence in Shoreham, Vermont.

My ultimate point stands that a pack of hounds, whose owners are out of sight and often miles away, are an uncontrolled hazard -- despite the use of GPS or shock collars -- and pose reckless endangerment to people, animals and property. These hounds cannot be expected to heed property lines and trespass signs. Their presence where they are unwanted is unavoidable. They make a terrible noise and disturb people in their homes, spook livestock potentially leading to their release or injury, as well as harass all other wildlife in the vicinity.

In addition, if their handlers are not present -- who intervenes in the case of altercations with citizens, domestic animals and livestock? Who is supposed to call off the inevitable dog fight when dogs at their own homes react to trespassing hounds? Innocent Vermonters who are minding their own business are left to fend for themselves.

I do not go to hounders' properties and engage in reckless activity in their backyards. Why are they on mine? Ultimately, this is an activity that will lead to further harm, and that offers no service or benefit to communities.

As the new regulation proposals stand, tax-paying Vermonters are put on the defensive to deal with this threat. We must prove that the hounds have been on our land (when the hounds move very quickly so chasing them is futile) and we must find the hounders themselves if we want them reprimanded -- putting ourselves in harm's way to track down armed men in their trucks. On the weekends I am caring for my toddler and my infant -- am I just supposed to drop everything and leave them to run after trespassers? Am I supposed to take my kids with me and put them in harm's way? If a game warden is called, they may not be able to respond in time. And moreover, the wardens' limited time and energy should be with other more important concerns -- not chasing hounders all over the state.

The regulations as currently posed state that the violators of policies will first receive "warnings," then a few points of their licenses, and then eventually a small fine. Those violations expire after 365 days. Meaning they can be back on your land again in a year and

you have to go through the whole process again to get them off. **In summary, in order for any deterrent to take place, I have to track down and report hounders/hounds numerous times within one calendar year. Why have you placed the onus on the landowner to do this when they shouldn't be on my land in the first place?**

Since there is no adequate system of legal disincentive -- residents are left to put our well-being in the hands of hounders who often, in my experience, I have never seen before, and certainly don't live in my neighborhood. Laws should exist as a system of checks and balances on individuals who will not do the right thing and do not exhibit prosocial behavior. **Why do a few individuals engaged in a violent hobby for their own amusement have privileges and rights? And myself, a mother of two small children, with a small farm of six animals to care for, as well as a full-time job as a teacher in the community (so I can pay my mortgage and property taxes) -- why don't I have rights?**

Every single time a hound has trespassed on my property, it was already wearing a GPS/shock collar. So I ask you, what is different now? What will change if that is the only and main regulation in place?

No hounder has ever asked my permission to be in my woods. I have heard them shoot coyote back there several times over different winters. They have never asked me if I have a coyote problem or nuisance. They aren't there to provide a service to anyone, they are there for their own amusement.

I have tried to speak directly to hounders to request they stop harassing my family. I have received very rude responses. One hounder stated, "my dogs can't read your posted signs." Another hounder told me there was nothing I could do: "I'm not doing anything illegal," he stated. I witnessed hounders in their trucks driving at very high speeds down dirt roads passed homes with small children to avoid me photographing their license plates. I have observed a hounder chasing after two hounds across a snowy field, screaming at them to stop. They were both wearing GPS/shock collars and yet they were completely out of control. Inevitably he was only able to catch one hound (I have video from this incident). And the owner of the field, a neighbor of mine, had to come out on his 4-wheeler to complain to him that his other hound was ripping across his meadow.

After testifying with these factual accounts at the VT senate committee meeting last year, I received hate email from a hounder (via my work email address) to try to intimidate me.

These are the types of people the Department of Fish & Wildlife are actively supporting and defending through their policies. These are the types of people whose deranged sense of fun and excitement (defined as waiting in their truck while they create dog fights on other people's properties) takes precedent over the 99.99% of other Vermonters who don't

engage in this activity and want to be left alone.

How many hard-working people with families have the time to deal with this kind of stress? The onus should not be on our hands to provide a safe and peaceful environment for our children and animals on property that we pay considerable taxes for.

As legislators and other government officials, you know that we are dependent on our representatives to protect our rights and our pursuit of liberty. I do not have liberty if I am afraid to leave my house on a Saturday morning to engage in recreation with my children due to the threat that this hounding practice presents. I do not have liberty if a leisurely walk to observe birds is disrupted by the raucous braying of these hounds. I do not have liberty if I am stressed every weekend in the winter worrying that when the hounds spook my horses in their paddock they will slip on the ice and snow and injure themselves.

Now the DFW is proposing an additional training season in the summer. So, when my kids or neighbors are riding their ponies in our area, who are then startled by hounds, there is potential for accidents and harm to our young people. **I don't know how the DFW committee and board sleep at night knowing that they are condoning these kinds of situations.**

I ask anyone living in the state of Vermont to engage in a simple thought experiment and to put yourself in my shoes: consider the situation where you are taking a walk (perhaps with your grand/child or dog) -- and ask yourself if you would feel comfortable being approached by a hound or pack of hounds, whose owners and location you do not know, are nowhere in sight, and completely unreachable to communication? **Would you feel like those hounds were somehow "under control"?** Now imagine that happening on your own property, at your own house or in your own backyard. Now imagine that happening every weekend for months. That is my experience. And that is intolerable.

I stand behind the current language posted on the status of the activity via the DFW website: a ban on the sport -- with exceptions to deal with individual cases of defense as requested specifically by the landowner:

"An exception to the current moratorium: Hunters may pursue and take coyotes with the aid of dogs if they are on their own property and acting in defense of a person or property, or if they have signed permission from a landowner who has a **legitimate defense** of persons or property concern."

My concern is that the current moratorium expires January 2024. I am requesting that the moratorium be continued if the DFW cannot adequately and safely regulate this practice. Which I contend is a ban, with the exception outlined above.

I guarantee that if this practice continues there will be media attention faulting those who allow it to happen, and probably there will be lawsuits. I hope that there won't be further harm to innocent people and animals, but it feels inevitable due to the reckless nature of this practice. Vermonters are not stupid: no one in their right mind could argue that a dog trained to cover ground at a fast speed to follow a scent, even with a GPS collar, is "under control." These dogs blow across roads potentially causing car accidents, they scare livestock to the point that they push them out of their fences, and there have been several documented cases of hounds assaulting and causing injury to people walking their pet dogs (dogs that are on a leash by the way).

I don't know what else I need to say. I've said everything before at Senate and House hearings. To view the inadequacy of the proposed regulations by the DFW is an insult. But I will not stand by and tolerate feeling stressed, intimidated, and threatened on my own property. I will continue to make my voice and experience heard.

Please do the right thing and ban coyote hounding (with the exception noted above). And please, at least, extend the moratorium so that people are not harassed until we can reach such a logical outcome.

Kari Wolfe Borni Ph.D.
Dance Department
Middlebury College

From: vince gygax
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 8:46:52 AM

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165, fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

Wildlife advocacy organizations like Protect Our Wildlife provided recommendations to Fish & Wildlife, but not one of their recommendations was accepted as originally presented. Both targeted and non-targeted animals, as well as the Vermont public, will continue to be negatively impacted by these activities. Fish & Wildlife's recommendations do not meet legislative mandates.

I don't see how leghold traps can be made more humane. Anything that can grip an animal and keep it from leaving has to do some permanent damage. As for hounding, the challenge is for the hunter to pit themselves solely against their prey. That is the challenge and the reward. Loose hounds DO stress all they encounter including people and pets. I support all recommended restriction as noted in the opening paragraphs.

Thank you,

Vince Gygax
Newfane
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: kimsellon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Louise Sellon](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023 8:45:40 PM

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Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Louise Sellon
1253 Springfield Ave New Providence, NJ 07974-2931
kimsellon@gmail.com

From: gailfj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gail F. Johnson](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023 3:54:28 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Gail F Johnson
126 Orchard Ct Blue Bell, PA 19422-2813
gailfj@yahoo.com

From: judykmm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Judy Mercado
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023 3:12:55 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Judy Mercado
2517 SW 54th St Oklahoma City, OK 73119-5812
judykmm@yahoo.com

From: [Carole O'Connell](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Please oppose proposed rules Act 159 and Act 165
Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023 2:38:27 PM

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As a Vermont resident, I urge you to oppose the proposed rules for trapping and coyote hounding in the state. These recommendations will not protect wildlife, pets or the public.

From: [Matt Breton](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: 2023 Draft Furbearer Rule
Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023 9:22:39 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am an avid hunter and angler who does not hunt coyotes or participate in trapping.

I support both of these activities continuing, as well as their regulation.

As a concerned VT citizen, I support the 2023 draft furbearer rule as passed on April 5th.

Thank you,

Matthew Breton
Charleston, VT

From: marinariss@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marina Ris](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023 6:19:08 AM

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Sincerely,
Marina Ris
marinariss@gmail.com

From: cdklockhart@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cheryl Knight Lockhart's
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 11:30:51 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms Cheryl Knight Lockhart's
701 E Bank St Iowa Park, TX 76367-2105
cdklockhart@gmail.com

From: joshtude@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joshua Beth](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 11:21:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Joshua Beth
1484 76th Ave Oakland, CA 94621-2709
joshtude@sonic.net

From: wendy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Wendy Morgan](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 6:29:49 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Wendy Morgan
Shelburne, VT 05482
wendy@wendymorganfamilylaw.com

From: sneakers676@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Beck](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 6:04:20 PM

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Sincerely,
Miss Karen Beck
331 Bella Vista Dr Ithaca, NY 14850-5789
sneakers676@gmail.com

From: [Julia](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 5:43:21 PM

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To whom it may concern:

If fish and wildlife proposes a trail setback where traps can't be, there really should be no traps at all allowed in that setback - as a hiker and dog owner, who these regulations are ostensibly there to protect, I can't understand why some traps would still be allowed in the no trap setback!?

Jules Lees
Danby, VT

From: goblets_wordier_0s@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mia Gross
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 3:35:57 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Mia Gross
8132 Lyon Valley Rd New Tripoli, PA 18066-2924
goblets_wordier_0s@icloud.com

From: [Brian T. Fitzgerald](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Furbearing Species Rule §44 Comments
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 1:51:06 PM

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I have reviewed the proposed §44 rule and offer the following comments:

Vermont statute (10 V.S.A § 4081) describes the State's role as the trustee of wildlife for Vermont citizens. Further, it uses the terms protection and conservation in describing the State's role as trustee. The proposed rule falls far short of fulfilling those responsibilities, as it does nothing for the protection and conservation of wildlife.

I participated in both hounding and trapping while growing up in southern Vermont, and eventually concluded that both are nasty, inhumane, and definitely not sporting. Trapping kills and injures non-targeted wildlife and pets and the notion that the proposed rule requirements will do anything to make trapping more humane is just silly. As for coyote hounding, how can anyone think it is "sporting" to release a pack of hounds to run down a coyote with the intent of killing it? Dog-fighting is a felony offense in federal law and in all fifty states. How does it differ from coyote hounding, other than one of the animals is wild? Further, the lack of control of the dogs, the requirement to use control collars notwithstanding, raises a private property issue as the pack ranges over the countryside.

Tradition is one of the arguments I have seen for continuing these practices. This argument has been used many times to justify bad things, and should be rejected.

It's time to end trapping and hounding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Brian T. Fitzgerald

From: [Jim Calchera](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping BMP's and Coyote Hunting
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 12:03:47 PM

You don't often get email from calcherajim@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hello Folks. I am a trapper and resident of Westminister, VT. Below are my comments on the proposed trapping BMP language:

1: General comment. It does not make sense why the rule edits were done after the April 5, 2023 Board meeting. It would have made more sense to do that before the Board had voted. It seems the state of VT would have had more than enough time to propose rule edits well before the April 5 date.

2: Item 4.5(c) needs to be changed. The intent of this item is to minimize potential for damage to a trapped animals foot while held in a foothold trap. The item should allow a padded jaw trap, a trap with an offset, a trap with a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16" (this can include lamination of the jaws) or a trap that fully encapsulates the foot (i.e. dog-proof traps that are popular for raccoon trapping). So wording should be changed to add "or" in multiple locations that would allow all of the above. As an aside, many tens of thousands of animals have been trapped with foothold traps that do not meet the above requirements yet caused no foot damage to the trapped animal. As long as there are no sharp edges on the jaws and minimal chance of the foot moving inside the trap, then there is little chance of doing damage to the foot with a 24 hour trap check rule as VT has.

3: The edit deleted the discussion on use of drags. Is this intended to outlaw the use of drags to anchor foothold traps on land? I rarely use drags but they are useful in allowing an animal to move away from the set location and find cover close by to increase its comfort by making it feel hidden. I own numerous drags that if outlawed would essentially become worthless.

4: Item 4.7: 110 or 120 sized body gripping traps should be allowed on land without being in an enclosure. These are effective mink trapping tools that have very minimal opportunity to harm a dog. The discussion on body gripping traps in an enclosure as described in the rule is acceptable to me for the larger sized traps (up to 60 square inches).

5: Item 4.8 as edited. I assume that this would still allow the use of meat based bait as long as trap is at least 5' above ground; is that right? I and many other fisher trappers rely on meat based baited body gripping traps 5' above ground. There is no reason why meat based baited bodygrippers should not be allowed if they are >5' above ground and have jaw opening of 60 square inches or less.

6: I do not typically set traps within 25' of "trails". However, I have set within 50' of "trails". I think 25' should be the restricted zone.

7: I am concerned with Item 4.18. I rely on lethal injection of skunks to essentially eliminate the chance of a skunk spraying which allows me to process the skunk. Eliminating lethal injection (and drowning) of a trapped animal will make it much more difficult to make use of the trapped skunk.

8: General comment: I will be required to modify 90% of my foothold traps to make them compliant with the new rules. This is a big imposition for an unmeasurable "improvement". I don't fully understand what the intent of the new laws are other than to appease a vocal minority of folks with minimal understanding of the workings of nature. If these folks were truly concerned about animal well being then they would be pushing all the so-called animal welfare groups to procure land and provide suitable habitat for animals. If they pay taxes on

the land, then they could POST the property and allow nature to take its course as they seem to think is the humane thing to do. The large national animal "welfare" groups have advertising budgets in the many millions of dollars; why don't they spend this money on what would truly benefit animals?

Regarding Coyote Hunting with Hounds:

I have been on only 3 hunts with hounds and enjoyed hearing the hounds pursue the coyotes. We were successful in getting one coyote on these three hunts but the dogs worked hard on all of them and were clearly doing what they loved. The only comment I have on the proposed wording is that we started the dogs about 45 minutes to 1 hour prior to sunrise versus the prescribed 30 minutes. The 30 minutes does not seem like a big imposition as it is consistent with almost all of the other legal shooting times. Coyote and bear hounding are important to keep these animals wild and understand that they should stay away from humans to minimize negative interactions.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments and feelings on these new rules.

Jim Calchera
233 McCaffrey Ridge
Westminster, VT 05246

From: [Douglas Shane](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 11:46:17 AM

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Dear Fellow Vermonters,

In order to address the concerns of many of our fellow citizens, I've been thinking about the most effective things I can say to persuade you to reconsider Vermont Fish & Wildlife's recommendations on trapping and coyote hounding as required under Act 159 and Act 165.

Many of us think that the recommendations fall short of addressing animal welfare and public safety concerns.

As the apex predators in Vermont's environment, I believe that we - *Homo sapiens* - have a responsibility to steward our wildlife humanely. What has been permitted in the past need not be prologue; we can better "manage" our wildlife populations without hounding and trapping in barbaric contraptions that maim.

I ask that you make your decisions employing both heart and mind; we can - and should - do better.

Thank you for your consideration,

Douglas R. Shane
Vershire, VT

Retired Naturalist & Tropical Forest Consultant

From: mabstoa13354@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anthony Trotta
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 11:42:21 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Commissioner Chris Herrick,

I am writing to you as a resident of Vermont and one of In Defense of Animals' 250,000 supporters. Vermont Fish and Wildlife's recommendations under Act 159 and Act 165 on trapping wild animals and coyote hunting with dogs, respectively, do not address animal welfare and public safety concerns. I respectfully ask that you strengthen these rules keeping the well-being of Vermont's wild animals and the safety of humans and animal companions in mind.

I support the recommendations made by Protect Our Wildlife Vermont and other animal advocacy organizations on both Act 159 and Act 165.

The department's proposed safety buffer between public roads, state trails, and land is insufficient to protect the public. Act 159 requires traps to be set away from public areas where individuals reasonably expect to recreate, and so the rule should address the use of traps on all public lands.

Additionally, body-crushing traps should not be allowed on land. Non-target species caught in these traps face certain death, and this includes animal companions as well. Just last trapping season, two dogs were killed in body hold traps. 50-foot trap setbacks still present a danger to the public and their dogs as well.

Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mr. Anthony Trotta
1156 Vincent Ave Bronx, NY 10465-1449
mabstoa13354@aol.com

From: [Elinor Osborn](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 9:18:58 AM

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Here are my responses to the new proposed regulations come in response to the Vermont Legislature's [Act 159](#) and [Act 165](#),

Best Management for trapping still allows cruelty and suffering for no good reason. All trapping, except for real problems which cannot be dealt with any other way, and after other methods fail, should be banned.

Hunting coyotes with dogs should also be banned. Coyotes are valuable in controlling rodents and cause no danger to humans; and no danger to pets unless pets are allowed to roam freely.

Thank you.
Elinor

Elinor Osborn
1286 Lost Nation Rd
Craftsbury Common VT 05827

802 586-9994
elinor91@me.com
www.elinorosbornphotography.com

From: frankiebob.1966@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of A Newton-Brown
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Saturday, June 24, 2023 2:38:44 AM

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Act 165 must require hunters to be in control of their hunting dogs. The use of GPS and shock collars are insufficient means of control since hunters can be miles from their dogs at any given point. Coyote hunters should also not be allowed to bait coyotes. This can draw the animals closer to roads and residential areas, posing a risk for humans and other animals alike.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that these regulations do not go far enough to ensure the welfare of wild animals who are trapped and are not protective enough of human and animal companion safety. Thank you for your careful consideration of these suggestions.

Sincerely,
Mrs. A Newton-Brown
11 Rigby Avenue Mt Rascal,
frankiebob.1966@outlook.com

From: janicemarywash@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janice M Washienko](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 11:35:19 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Janice M Washienko
4950 S Outlet Center Dr Tucson, AZ 85706-1839
janicemarywash@gmail.com

From: squ99@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Vanessa Bartley
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:40:57 PM

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Sincerely,
Ms. Vanessa Bartley
826 Annlau Ave SE Huntsville, AL 35802-2607
squ99@icloud.com

From: vianneyventura@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vianney Ventura](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:26:50 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Vianney Ventura
13820 Charleville Dr Westminster, CA 92683-4007
vianneyventura@gmail.com

From: mariaestrada63@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maria del socorro Estrada Giraldo](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 7:02:41 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Maria del socorro Estrada Giraldo
11-9, 4 chome House Remari A, Tokyo,
mariaestrada63@yahoo.com

From: michaelhenderson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Henderson](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 6:27:54 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Henderson
5352 Sisson Dr Huntington Beach, CA 92649-2443
michaelhenderson@hotmail.com

From: hnnuhl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Henny Uhl](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:50:36 PM

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Henny Uhl
E Pre Gaumont 0 L Finley, ND 58230
hnnuhl@gmail.com

From: litemikie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Carroll](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Trapping and Coyote Regulations
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:42:13 PM

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Sincerely,
Mr. Michael Carroll
225 W Cypress Ave Kingsland, GA 31548-4269
litemikie@yahoo.com

From: [Jess Wikle](#)
To: ANR - FW Public Comment
Subject: trapping and coyote regulations
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 3:05:45 PM

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I have a couple of questions about the proposed regulations:

Regarding the trail/highway setbacks - Why are any traps still allowed in the setback zones at all? If there are multiple loopholes around these setback zones, it does not seem like they will actually serve their purpose.

Why are you still allowing body gripping traps that have been known to kill pet dogs in places dogs can easily get to them, such as the recent occurrence in Corinth? To me, death of family pets does not seem like an acceptable loss.

Thank you,

Jess Wikle, Essex

From: [Nelson, Eric](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: recreational trapping
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 2:41:10 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am writing to call for a ban on recreational trapping in Vermont. even if it had an historical place in the outdoor culture of Vermont, it has long outlived that place. Trapping is cruel and indiscriminate to our wildlife in Vermont. Please consider a ban on trapping while we continue to support hunting and fishing here in Vermont.

Eric Nelson
Middlebury, Vermont

From: [Cameron Chapman](#)
To: [ANR - FW Public Comment](#)
Subject: Act 165: An Act Relating to Hunting Coyotes with Dogs
Date: Friday, June 23, 2023 1:29:41 PM

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Besides the fact that hunting coyotes in Vermont throws off entire ecosystems, hunting coyotes with dogs is barbaric and cruel, not to mention poses risks to the dogs themselves.

Eastern coyotes are a vital part of Vermont's ecosystem. When wolves were hunted to extinction in New England, there was a vacuum created in the ecosystem that was not filled until Eastern coyotes established themselves between the 40s and 70s.

Hunting of coyotes does not effectively reduce the number of coyotes present in any lasting way, and in fact, may increase their numbers by throwing their social structure into chaos. When pack leaders are killed, it creates a frenzy of breeding by younger animals, resulting in dozens of extra pups. The fewer coyotes we kill in Vermont, the fewer we'll have to affect both livestock and wild animals.

Coyote kills should be limited to those animals that pose a direct threat to livestock or people (you're more likely to be killed by a champagne cork than you are to be bitten by a coyote, but I digress...). This is particularly true if we want to keep popular game animals like deer, rabbits, grouse, and moose populations healthy.

I hope that the department will reconsider allowing the use of hunting dogs to hunt coyotes (and will reconsider the use of pursuit dogs in other game hunts as well).

- Cameron Chapman
Hardwick, VT

General Comments - Rutland

6/20/23

Kevin Lawrence - Newbury

- Thanking Dept

(3rd column)

- Didn't appreciate the additional comments
from dept after initial board vote

on rules

- Another step to losing trapping/hunting
- losing freedom

- Are these rule changes for recreation (only) or
to nuisance as well

- Does the Dept consider cable restraints?
Effective out west

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Andrew Barton Town: VTFW

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.

b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Andrew Baxter VTFW

~~stet~~

Recommendations are shock and GRS collars
Dog trainers say shock collars are not
control.

This is what they do now so
what changes are there?

FW has not met legislative intent of control
Have not talked to a dog trainer

On the working group

talked about releasing 1 hound vs 4
handlers thought a coyote would take
advantage.

what is to prevent legalized dog fighting
because no control

a dog that is pursuing a species that
it is trained to pursue it is
inherently under control.
same way that police dog released is
still under control

There was recent VTdigger commentary
behaviorist
Opinion dogs who have shock collars
out of sight are not under control

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: [Signature] Town: Rutland

Email: [Signature]@Coed.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
4.9: Covered bait
4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

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i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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NO COMMENT

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Bob Galvin Town: Richmond

Email: bobgalvin777@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5-I strongly approve of the Dept.'s recommendation to exclude drag traps from the BMP-approved trap list. I don't think swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, etc. actually do anything to improve welfare of trapped animals. I would also like to see some limits on # of traps. Finally, according to the BMP Research Program, the animal welfare standard for killing traps on land is the trap must cause irreversible loss of consciousness in 70% of sample animals within 300 seconds.

4.6-4.8 I support the dept's decision to restrict body-gripping kill traps on land beyond the board's recommendations.

4.17 The trail setbacks by the department are insufficient to prevent pets near trails from being trapped. At the working group meetings wildlife advocates asked for much larger setbacks. ~~1000 feet~~

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Agree w/ 4.5(f), 4.6-4.8 are better than board's proposal but still insufficient. 4.17 is better than board's recommendation but still a far cry from what wildlife advocates asked for.

These still do nothing to limit the number of traps a trapper can set. ~~There is also~~

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

The 4.5 swivel changes ~~do nothing for~~ are largely unenforceable! The wardens already ~~are~~ are overburdened and I don't think it is realistic to expect them to do so.

Also, a general comment - ~~someone~~ one member of my table was talking about me to other people at the table. He was selling people false info and I would appreciate F+W facilitating a safe place for folks to share their opinion.

(More on back)

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

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Coyote dog training season is too long. This time-frame does not account for nesting season of birds. See the recent Silvio B. Conte NWR decision on bear hounding for ~~the~~ science behind restricting the training season.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

The definition of control put forth by the Board and department do not meet the legislative mandate. A pack of dogs that is miles away from their owner with only a shock collar is not under control according to the average Vermonter's sensibility. Several experts in dog behavior have spoken out against this method constituting control. ~~The idea of monitoring the dogs is~~ The idea of monitoring the dogs is not equivalent to controlling them.

There was a comment made comparing police K-9s to coyote hounds, and I want to point out that a police K-9 receives a ton of specific training and has to pass certain tests to be a trained police dog. Coyote hounds are not required to go through any standardized training, so the comparison does not adequately apply in this situation.

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Martin Markowski Town: Pittsford

Email: Martyski97@icloud.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Generally I don't trap but proposals
Seem Reasonable

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Seems Reasonable

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Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Concerned about substituting dogs
during the hunt

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Kevin Thompson Town: Rutland

Email: Kevin.ThompsonVT@gmail.com

1. **What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.**
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
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Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

b. Do not see any RATIONAL Reason what ^{A Season} ~~you~~ should be defined!

comment:

Control OR Dogs ~~appear~~ places significant Burden on Houndsman to purchase electronic Equipment. many have GPS systems w/ collars but now have additional burden by having to purchase additional TRAINING Equipment.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Jeff Mack Town: Shoreham

Email: Jimkaw@yahoo

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
- 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
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Sitting at the table with hunters + trappers and one pointed at me and said if he had his way he would end all hounding. He was looking for a fight. And how does he know how I feel.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Bruce Martin Town: East Montpelier

Email: stumpft3@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5(c) should be padded, offset, or laminated with a minimum jaw spread of $\frac{5}{16}$ th of an inch.

4.5(b) a minimum of 12" chain length should be included.

4.6 the prohibition of body-gripping traps set on the ground, un-baited, is taking away one of the most effective, practical, and humane techniques in many trail sets that are too brushy and narrow for foothold traps.

For Item 2

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

See ~~sheet~~ Question 1 for response
to 4.6

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Regarding hunting with dogs. I do not believe
~~it~~ should be at the desgression of the
commissioner wether ^{or not} who gets a permit.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Joel Hewelling Town: _____

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

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4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

On property owned by the trapper, the 50' rule shouldn't apply.
Where is the 50' measured from?

Coyotes are commonly caught within 50' of the edge of the road.

Enclosure over trap for woodchuck would not work.

Exposed bait is the best method to catch bobcat.

5 inch rule during March doesn't make sense.

Does not agree with any further restrictions on trapping

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Agree with extra Swivels

Does not understand the limitation of the drag, not in favor of that.

Does not agree with enclosure rule for ^{all} body-gripping traps.

60" is a weird way to describe traps - Should use Standard trap sizes, or stay the way it is now.

Need to Clarify where the set-back distance is measured from.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Does set back distance apply to private lands

Coyote trapping Season is too short.

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Coyotes are an invasive species and they should be treated as such.

This discriminates against one type of hunter.

Dog limit is less than bear. why?

Coyote tournaments reduced problems farmers had with coyotes.
why do hand hunters have to report harvest and others don't.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Is there science that suggest that these restrictions are necessary.

Change the name of the Department to the Predator Protection Department.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Josef Peterson Town: Clarendon

Email: timbercraft79@aol.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

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- I think the primary concern I have is effort/cost to 4.5 ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~traps~~ traps would have to be retrofitted or discarded.
- 4.6 would appear to exclude ^{by} trail sets for a number of furbearers
- 4.9 Not sure why ~~covered~~ ~~exposed~~ bait is an issue.
- 4.17 How is the 50' setback measured? Edge of travel way

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Joseph E Plor Sr Town: Ferrisburg

Email: trapperjoe@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5. Recommend as presented

4.5. "

4.9. "

4.17. "

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 Recommend extra 2 swivel

4.5 F not in favor of Elimination they have a purpose on Animal welfare and to avoid public siting

4.6 4.7 4.8 no comment

4.17 no comment, what determines the distance from a Road?

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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not a hound hunter
no comment

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Joe Epler Town: Rutland town

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5 is going to limit and restrict trappers on use of traps currently used and require them to purchase excessive amount of gear.

4.6 4.7 4.8 is going to heavily restrict current practices of nuisance trapping such as woodchuck havers to be inside a box

4.9 covering bait will serve little purpose, most likely be blown off or taken off by other smaller animals and then so putting the trapper in violation of the law.

4.17 require walkers and other pedestrians to adhere to current leash laws

Focus Questions
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Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

*Most Trappers already run swivels Additional requirements
will just restrict/prohibit most people land trappings.*

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: KEITH ARMSTRONG Town: FOWNAL + Ferrisburgh
350000
Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
 - 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
 - 4.9: Covered bait
 - 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5 eliminate
4.8. Don't agree
4.9 allow it
4.17 Not that important
Suggest changing name of
Dept to Predator Protection Dept

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Department suggested changes/additions:

Not changing name of

Department

Focus Questions
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remove all these restrictions

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

*Stop listening to the Progressive
Lawe Brains*

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Matt Lawton Town: Bridport

Email: MattLake84@yahoo.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.6, 7, 8 As a former we use
Body gripping traps for woodchucks (placed at their
hole to reduce
cattle losses
from broken legs)
By having to use an enclosure
this would not work

4.17 As a trapper and land owner I catch a large
portion of animals near roads (I also own the land)
If I'm paying taxes on the land I should be
able to use it as I see fit

Focus Questions

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Body gripping traps should be legal to use everywhere but especially on private land within 50' of roads, thus making better use of traps time and being the most common place to catch many animals

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Restricting Body Gripping traps to 5"
under Beaver maskant is not practical—
Will result in many incidental catches

Focus Questions

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Coyotes are an invasive species in Vermont
and should be managed as such

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Why 4 dogs not 6?

Why is this handled any different than other

(hunting in regard to permission?)

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: KAMERON BROOKS Town: MIDDLEBURY

Email: kmcn=brookx@yahoo.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Focus Questions

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Send response Summary

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Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Facilitators

Frost Hammond

Katy Gieder

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School

Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: _____ Town: _____

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- 4.5 (C) "and" needs to be "or" b/c it is very expensive to make it both. Asking a lot especially of Vermonters, we don't have a lot of money and you can't just pick them up from store like that. Lot of time investment to change and in general making traps ~~are~~ ready for the season.
- ~~so~~ 4.17 I wonder if some towns might take advantage and all of a sudden there are a lot more trails. Mountain biking at Ascutney is a good example of how a 50' setback can become complicated, you don't know where all the trails are necessarily b/c there are so many.
- 4.9 for coyotes when you have a trap that is a hole in the ground, does that mean you can just put leaves & if wind blows them off, that is ok? Also, what does "covered" mean?

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Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Question about swivels: why is 2 better than 1?
A lot of trappers use 2 or more because it reducesinking.

These enclosures - no one is going to use them, we already have to build additional for traps. unnecessary. You already build a natural enclosure/cubby when you set a trap.
4.7 No body gripping traps unless... this basically eliminates body gripping traps. It's ridiculous. It eliminates blind setting with conibears. It takes away a huge amount for trapping.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

• Our intention is already to eliminate catching dogs or birds of prey because that destroys the trap so that's why cubbies are already made and that's why the location for traps is so intentional for these species that having an anchored enclosure per the rules making it difficult to set under a roof or similar.

• concern about blind sets for mink the recommended rules would not allow for this b/c' of the restrictions

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- My concern is that this regulation will spill over to more restrictions on bird dogs, I like the idea of matching it to bear hound rules.
- Where does the number of 4 dogs come from? it might increase risk for health and safety to hunting dogs versus a larger group of 6 dogs.
- Hounding is a great Vermont tradition, it should be upheld.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: CHRIS INGRAM Town: MIDDLEBURY

Email: CHRISTOPHER.INGRAM85CGMAIL.COM

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- EVERYTHING SEEMS OKAY BUT I WORRY ABOUT HAVING SPECIFIC MEASUREMENTS DOWN TO THE 16th OF AN INCH. THIS MEANS TRAPPERS AND GAME WARDENS WILL HAVE TO CARRY MEASURING DEVICES.

- THERE NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERATION TO BEING AS ACCOMMODATING AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID INCURRING TRAPPERS WHO WOULD NEED TO MODIFY THEIR GEAR.

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

~~ARE TWO 5'~~

FOR BODY-GRIPPING TRAPS

MAYBE CONSIDER A SETBACK OF 25'[✓] TO MATCH
THE REGULATIONS FOR HUNTERS

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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MUCH OF THIS SEEMS DIFFICULT TO ENFORCE W/ HUNTERS AND DOGS.
IF THERE IS NO SEASON, NO REPORTING, NO ~~CONTROL~~ LANGUAGE, NO SHOOTING
HOURS OR REGULAR COYOTE HUNTING, WHY RESTRICT DOG HUNTERS?

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- 4 DOGS SEEMS TOO LOW, IT COULD BE 6, ALONG W/ BEAR DOGS.

- I WORRY THE LANDOWNER/PERMISSION IS GOING TO GET MORE FOCUS TO POST THEIR LAND & CLOSE IT TO HUNTING

- I FEEL WE'RE NOT BEING FAIR TO NON-RESIDENTS BY LIMITING THEIR PERMIT #'S & TRAINING ABILITY TO ALLOW THEM TO TRAIN THEIR DOGS W/ TRAINING SEASON

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Zachariah Plummer Town: Brownsville

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.6 4.7 4.8 Leave body ~~rip~~ grip jaws the way they stand.
why fix whats not broke.

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8

~~4.6, 4.7, 4.8~~
This eliminates a lot of blind setting with smaller
coyote traps, unnecessary.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Focus Questions
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This regulation makes hounding next to impossible. Hounding is a Vermont tradition. That should be upheld.

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Joshua Plaustener Town: Brownsville

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
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4.6 4.7 4.8 . leave Body grip laws
the way they stand. why fix whats not
broke. I stand with the VTA
First Proposal.

Focus Questions
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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8

This eliminates a lot of blind setting
with smaller conibear traps, unnecessary.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

4.7. absolutely unnecessary!
eliminates setting smaller conibear
traps for mink and brushy trail
sets for raccoons.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Asha Plawsteiner Town: Brownsville

Email: aplawsteiner@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5 c) should say OR instead of and in regards to padded or offset and laminated.

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

For all of the above I think we should stick to what was voted on 4/5, with the exception of what was mentioned in previous question.

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Angelo Plavsteiner Town: Brownsville

Email: angelo.plavsteiner@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

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4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

In 4.5 I feel that they should use or instead of and for being padded, offset end laminated.

~~In 4.6, 4.7, 4.8~~

In 4.7 I think we should allow meat based trapping.

In 4.8 we should allow a body gripping trap up to a 220.

*

Focus Questions

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs

Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School

Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Body gripping traps should be allowed on the ground!!!

I feel the rules on body grip trap laws are perfect as they are now.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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3. What are your comments on the Board's first vote for the coyote hunting and training season while hunting with the aid of dogs (see dates below)?

4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

radios

how many people can hunt

Focus Questions

8 people.

1 no comment

Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping

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just want to know if there will be

quiet season.

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Brehan Furfay.

Town: UDFW

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- 25-50 ft no one would do it that close anyway (domestic dog, no one wants to trap them)
- ok with BMP's b/c new with trapping helps with welfare
- don't know how you'll catch otter/beaver with offsets for footholds.
- need more
- gap in the trap. - not sure if that will be requirement that makes sense, for
- 50 ft setbacks + if I own land + it butts up against state owned land. - does that rule
- eliminate blind sets (with only covered set being used)

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- problem with elimination with drags.
- traps on ground w/ anchored enclosure (same issue as # 1)
- setback - dont want to catch a dog.

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- Number of permits - don't know how many -
want rather have more permits in the beginning.
just in case some can't get it.
- ~~the~~ Allowing out of state is wrong (other states don't allow this)
NH should not (MA, NY, etc.)

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

- Issue with out of state hunters disrespecting landowners.
- no out of state hunters - taken away from Vermont hunters
- Going down to 4 dogs - ^{quality need a} ^{to buy to have} ^{residing in} ^{both states,} ^{hard for} ^{members to} ^{follow} ^{see that} ^{happening} Bear hunting is allowed 6,
found that limit
difficult to train pups b/c they need to learn from each other
4 seem to be pups - they are all in different abilities
mirror bear rules - why not six.
takes a long time to train dogs
when you start to have rules
- Curious on 100 permits decision

posted property - everywhere else you need
property permission

one state

state needs paint or some other marker
for WMA land.

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Phil King Town: Oswell

Email: Philking14@gmail.com

- 1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.**
i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
4.9: Covered bait
4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

If am curious how you decided 100 permits will be given out. Do we know how many hunters we have?

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

I don't believe an extra swivel is needed.

I have never seen one fail

elimination of drag why.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

I am curious how you arrived at 100 Tags with 10% going to non-residents. How many hunters do hunt with ~~with~~ dogs. Also New Hampshire does not allow Vermonters to hunt there with dogs. Should they be allowed here?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Aidan Fletcher Town: Fairfax

Email: aidan.fletcher2019@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

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4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

** Restricting bodygrips on land restricts many trapping sets used by trappers.*

— adjustable pan tension can't be adjusted on older traps that many use

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Having Bodygrips in enclosures eliminates blind sets.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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No out of state permits, it takes away from hunters of this state

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Roger Blake Town: Roxafon

Email: _____

1. **What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.**
 - i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
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 - 4.9: Covered bait
 - 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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No out state hunter
150 Permit

If we can't hunt there
They should not come here
They come here and
Don't follow law

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
Focus Questions

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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Holden Larmie Town: Stratford

Email: hlarm311@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

~~Sounds good to me, they all seem~~

~~fair and reasonable.~~

set back is good to me

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

6 makes sense

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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no out of states hunting
seasons so vld good
legal hours are good
6 dogs allowed
easier to train

150 permits so rare people
can hunt
→ limited amount of permits
so they should all go to
vermonters

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Focus Questions
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Kirby Sprague Town: Wells

Email: KirbyJennySprague@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I'm ok with the BMP recommendations.
I agree because of the animals welfare (feet). The only problem I could see is trying to hold a web footed animal like an otter or a beaver.

Body grip - sound idea to help prevent dogs getting caught.
Covered bait - good idea - already do that. I don't want to waste my time having birds or other non target in my set.

Setbacks - I understand the proposal. but what's the fine for a person's dog not on a leash. I would think a statewide leash law to protect all wildlife from domestic dogs.

Focus Questions

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Extra Swivel - I agree - Animal welfare

Drags - I don't agree. There are areas that an animal would be exposed when caught. But with a drag can move into cover where they aren't seen.

NO Body Grips - good idea - again makes sets safer for the domestic dogs.

Setbacks - ok. But what's the penalty for unleashed dogs.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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I support the coyote hound hunters. But I don't hunt with hounds and would not be able to make an informed comment.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Chris Bernier ~~Town~~ Facilitator/Notes

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- = A lot of these rules are already in practice.
- Alternate methods of creating offset by adding beads of weld that hold jaws slightly open, etc.
- Randed edges to foothold traps are important
- How obscured does the bait need to be? In other words, will the rule specify how much of the bait will be covered? i.e., "completely" covered.
- Eliminating drags is a "bit" severe. Will never get it back. Hard to drive stakes in VT.
- Wants the ability to deploy blind sets!!
- Need to have @ least 12" of chain - i.e., coyotes will "pump" out bedded traps w/ less chain.
- Typo in 4.5c "...padded, offset, ~~and~~ or laminated."
- What is the "traveled portion of the Road." Needs better definition

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- 4.17 will this eliminate traps under bridges but not otherwise in the water.
- what happens when the water recedes and trap is no longer "in the water"?
- Likes being able to use drags for animals to escape to cover.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

- our legislature is "Scary" and we don't want them coming back so we should be supporting the dept. recommendations.
- why did the dept. need to go further than what was previously agreed upon?
In other words, the dept. did NOT need to go beyond original recommendations !!

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- Does not hunt coyotes but should be allowed as a control measure.
- Why do we allow non-residents to train their dogs in our state?
- Vermonters should have priority for all of the permits with any leftovers going to non-residents.
- How will wardens be able to enforce coyote rules if hunters say they are pursuing fox?

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

General comment related to all FSW rules - participant has been somewhat surprised, even discouraged, by the apparent lack of stiff penalties for repeat offenders.

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: STEVE BARTLETT Town: POULTNEY

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

NEED TO KNOW WHAT THE BMT REQUIREMENT FOR WATER TRAPPING (MUSKRAT - MINK) FEET ARE SO SMALL FOOTHOLDS WITH JAW GAPS WOULD BE USELESS -

IF MY LAND THAT I OWN ABUTTS STATE LAND I KIND OF HAVE A PROBLEM WHY I MUST KEEP 50' FROM BOARDER " ITS MY LAND YOU SHOULDNT BE ON THERE "

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DRAGS have there place THEY shouldn't
AFFECT where - How you place TRAP

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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DONT PICTURE DEAD COYOTES
ON FACE BOOK !!

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
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Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing - June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Doug Blodgett Town: Wallingford
Email: KD Blodgett@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
 - 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
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 - 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

Generally, strikes me that the proposed recs. are a reasonable attempt to address the legislative changes

Focus Questions
Development of Best Management Practices for Furbearer Trapping
Hunting Coyotes with the Aid of Dogs
Public Hearing---June 21, 2023, Rutland Middle School
Public Hearing – June 21, 2023, Montpelier High School

2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Some general response here as ~~at~~ my
comments on Item 1 (previous page)

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

These strike me as improvements from
the Board recommendations

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b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

Should have a 'quiet' season for coyotes



Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Larry Martin Town: Worcester

Email: lm31750@comcast.net

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5 a. OK

4.5 b. the original language called for a
minimum of 10" of chain

4.5 c. The word and after offset needs
to be changed to "or." This
was a typo and needs to be
changed

4.5 d. OK

4.5 leave in the

4.5 e. OK

"meat based"

4.5 f. OK

to allow conibears on the
ground

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 a not necessary

4.5 f ok

4.6-7-8 — Bombars should be allowed to be "blind" set on the ground without the use of bait.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

Why why why

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c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

I do not hunt coyotes with hounds
however, I feel it should be
allowed as a control measure

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Justin Lindholm Town: Mendon

Email: justin.lindholm@icloud.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I am in favor of all of the Department's recommendations, instead of the Board's recommendation because ~~because~~ the State Legislature may be unhappy with anything that is watered down, and the legislature may take all control of trapping away from the Board. (The legislature has become very commanding lately.)

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

*All for these Department
recommendations*

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.

c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

The Board vote is O.K.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: MESERVEY, MATTHEW Town: KILLINGTON

Email: MATT.MESERVEY@ATT.NET

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
- 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
- 4.9: Covered bait
- 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION THAT MANY OF THESE PRACTICES ARE ALREADY IN USE BY MYSELF AND OTHER TRAPPERS I KNOW AND VENDORS. MUCH OF MY EQUIPMENT IS GOOD TO GO.

4.6, 7, 8 - MEAT BASED BODY GRIP TRAP SOUNDS LIKE BAIT ON THE TRIGGER. I STILL DON'T KNOW IF I CAN USE A 220 CUBBY W/ MEAT IN THE BACK EVEN IF TRAP IS 12" INSIDE.

4.9 WHAT MESH CONSTITUTES COVERED?

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4, 5 SHOULDN'T EXTRA SWIVEL ALSO INCLUDE SPRING OR SHOCK DAMPENING DEVICE? MAYBE IT DOES.

4.5 COMPLETELY ELIMINATING DRAGS IS TOO SEVERE, THERE IS ALMOST NO CHANCE OF RETURNING THEIR USE IF THIS IS DONE,

4.6, 7, 8 SHOULDN'T TRAP ALSO BE ANCHORED?

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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WHY IS OUT OF STATE TRAINING IN OUR STATE? MAKE THEM PAY.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: DAVE BARGREDE Town: ANDOVER VT.
Email: DFBARG@GMAIL

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.
- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
 - 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
 - 4.9: Covered bait
 - 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.17 - WHAT IS THE TRAVELED PORTION? IS IT WHEEL TRACKS OR WIDTH OF RIGHT OF WAY. IS IT MEASURED FROM CTR OR EDGE TO EDGE?

4.5 - BMP = PROVEN TO ACCOMPLISH OUR OBJECTIVES

4.6-4.8 - AGRSE

4.9 - I CAN LIVE WITHIN THIS RULE,

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4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.17- DOES THIS ELIMINATE SETTING TRAPS UNDER BRIDGES?

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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ok

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Jeff Davenport Town: Wallingford

Email: jacdavenport@yahoo.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
- 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
- 4.9: Covered bait
- 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.17 I don't feel its necessary to have 50' off a trail. I feel a person walking their dog or on a trail themselves should have control of said animal and themselves.

4.5c - not in favor of a padded or offset jaw. I don't like offset traps because it doesn't allow the foot to wiggle.

4.5d - I like bigger traps than $< 6\frac{1}{4}$ " when trapping bigger animals - there are less injured animals.

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 - does the 18" maximum length of chain include the extra swivels or are they included in the overall 18"?

4.5.f elimination of drags is concerning. Given that I trap at our farm and I like having the animal able to go into the hedgerow for its comfort and have it out of sight.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

What was the reasoning to update the best practices? What were the concerns that lead to the need for these changes?

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I don't hunt with hounds but I feel it should be unrestricted to control the coyote population.

I also think that if there are only 100 permits they should go to Vermonters first then if there are leftovers they would be available to out-of-staters.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Tyler Brown - VT FWD Town: _____

Email: _____

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- Cast Jawed traps? - Do they count as laminated
- Wording is too restrictive. Should be an "or" statement. (4.5)
- Covered bait - one land only? 5ft off the ground?
- Cages for covered bait works great
- 4.5c - should be offset or laminated
- offsets work great but don't like padded
- Want to be able to set a body gripping trap less than 50 in² on ground w/meat
- How does this play into nuisance trapping?
- A lot of old traps don't have adjustable pan tension
- Earth Anchors - does that count as chain length?
- Dogless traps - do they have adjustable pan tension
- What defines ground? - leaf material, snow?

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4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- Why eliminate drags?

- Want to be able to use a drag

X2 - Why not keep set back at 25' - Don't agree w/ 50'

- Hunters have to be 25' off the road.

- traps set in water but water lowers overnight - is that a violation

- Want to be able to set under bridges. Include bridges in language

- Make it clear that allows meat based lingers 5' off ground

- Center Mounted trap w/o base plate. change language to only set

- Nuisance trapping - concerned about these regulations related to

#11 - Double long springs don't have center swivels

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

- Don't want to have to use chain. Want to be able to use cable from trap to anchor

Center mounted
nuisance trapping

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- Expensive for equipment - collars
- A lot of coyotes
- Acceptable rules for hunting w/ dogs
- Good luck enforcing posted land
- Points seem excessive for violation

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

What if anti hunters buy all 100 permits?

- Coon hunters?

Why can't we use cable restraints?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Daniel Olmstead Town: Marlboro

Email: dEO5170W+dccr@yahoo.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.17 distance from traveled portion of roads + Trails should be 25'. Vermont's terrain being what it is, steep, waterways near roads, + Rural roads that pass through large areas of wild lands I believe 50' is excessive.

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

OK i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

NO 4.5 (f) elimination of drags

OK 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

NO 4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 Their are times when drags serve to hide catches from view.

4.17 25' should be adequate

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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I do not hunt with dogs so I feel I lack the knowledge to comment.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Jim Calchera Town: Westminster
Email: calcherajim@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

- 4.5 b - should restrict chain length from 12-18" allowing swivels/springs to minimize stake pumping.
- c. should allow padded or offset or laminated or with a jaw thickness of 5/16"
- f. I don't use dregs but there are some locations where they would be appropriate
- 4.6 a. ok
- ~~4.7. Should allow 110 sized traps w/ bait in water~~
- 4.7. Should allow 110 sized traps w/ bait.

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 a) I have no concern w/ two swivel requirement.

f) Drags should be allowed. Very beneficial in some areas.

4.8: Meat based body gripping traps ok if 5' above ground?

4.17 B allow setting under bridges as well as culverts.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

~~The~~ The department changes came after the F&W Board vote; is very inefficient. The F&W input should have been provided

Cable restraints are a BMP acceptable practice and should be acceptable/legal in VT.

They are legal in NJ and numerous other populated states.

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I am not a coyote hunter w/ dogs (been twice) and have no problems with it.

These dates & times seem acceptable to me although we started about 1 hour prior to sunrise. Also could be issues retrieving dogs before sunset.

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Robert Ebbighausen Town: Rutland

Email: baya234@comcast.net

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

I ~~think~~ like it long as they hear the trapper out,

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2. What are your comments on the changes being recommended by the Department and the reasons why?

i.e., 4.5 (a) addition of an extra swivel

4.5 (f) elimination of drags

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: No body-gripping traps on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure or 5' above the ground.

4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

Like to see 25'

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

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a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder:

June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Kevin Lawrence Town: Newbury
Email: Appleman2@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.5c - Many problems. Must trappers who have centered-mounted coil springs add another baseplate??
- Many cast jaws can not be laminated.
→ 4.5c change to padded or offset or 5/16"

4.6 A → change to Baited conibears on
Land of 50"² (220 conibear) are acceptable

4.5 E - Unacceptable for "dogless" traps - not always adjustable.

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.7 - "Unacceptable". Trappers set minik sets with 160
conibears, baited near streams. No conflicts occur.

4.17a Setbacks - Keep 25'

4.17 B - Some trails have bridges, not just culverts where
I set conibears.

Comments on Department suggested changes/additions:

4.17-a - "unacceptable" -
25', please.

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100 permits? - "what if anti-hunters buy the 100 permits?"

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Bob ALDRICH Town: MONKTON, VT
Email: aldrichb@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

- i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.
- 4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land
- 4.9: Covered bait
- 4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8 → classic half chewed muskrat
Place in tree roots guarded by
#110, #160, or #120

WANT IT
TO BE
AVAILABLE

→ body grip on
Land
meat baited"
Very effective Mink
set

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4.5 (f) I want to be able to use a drag in certain situations

4.5(a) Long Spring
Footholds?

4.6, 4.7, 4.8 see page 1

#11 Double Longspring

For 4.17
see set described on page 1.

"Mink set" w/ Bodygrip Just outside of culvert but
50' away would
NOT Be
ideal

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How to decide the 100 permit holders?

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Why not cable restraints if
agreeing to BMP's?

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: John LAPRE Town: RUTLAND

Email: BEAVERTRAPPER1@AOL.COM

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

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4.9: Covered bait

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Better Than Some Language in
ACT 159

4.5e Pro tenton for water TRAPS

4.5B 18" what about EARTH ANCHORS? is that
Part of 18"

4.5C offset of laminated

4.8 Define ground

* Rat Traps

4.5E Dogless No Adjustment

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

4.5 A, why ADD 2? seems Restrictive

4.5 F. Drags

Keep setbacks @ 25'

Bridges & culverts should Be OK

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If willing, please fill in your name, email address, and town of residence and any responses you have to the questions below:

Name: Gaiotti, Bill Town: Mount Tabor

Email: KNINESWAQ@gmail.com

1. What are your comments on the Boards' first vote to change regulations for legal, regulated trapping in Vermont? Please add your reasons why.

i.e., 4.5 recommendations for foothold trapping systems including swivel requirements, chain length, jaw thickness, lamination, etc.

4.6, 4.7, 4.8: recommendations for body-gripping traps on land

4.9: Covered bait

4.17 trapping setbacks: No traps may be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail on state-owned land except WMAs, or highway unless set in the water.

• 25 ft to be consistent to be with hunting requirement - i.e. shooting

• ~~Dispatch, seems worse to shoot, bow & arrow etc...~~

• Dispatch shouldn't include bow & arrow, crossbow
Shouldn't include ordnance

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4.17 change set-back distance for all traps from 25' to 50'. Apply setback to town trails.

- Disagree with getting rid of drags if requiring swivels, paw tensioners... what is reason for it?
- Disagree with 50' vs 25' for consistency, i.e. shooey

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• it's a solution to a problem that doesn't exist

• why does it end on March 31st

Any other comments or questions for the Board on the proposed rule changes for both coyote hunting with the aid of dogs and regulated, legal trapping?

Act 159 and Act 165 and the Amendments to the Furbearing Species Rules

Act 159 directives: BMPs for Trapping	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23	Recommended rule edits following the April 5, 2023 Board meeting
<p>Trapping devices and components of trapping devices that are more humane than currently authorized devices and are designed to minimize injury to a captured animal as defined by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Best Management Practices (BMP's).</p>	<p>4.5 Foothold traps on land must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Have base plates that feature a center chain mount with swivel, with free moving chain and at least one additional swivel that allow mobility for a captured animal; (b) Be anchored with a maximum of 18" chain length. Extra swivels and/or shock-springs can be added to the chaining system; (c) Be padded or offset and laminated with a minimum jaw thickness of 5/16th of an inch or fully encapsulate the foot; (d) Have a spread of no more than 6 1/4 inches measured inside the widest expanse of the jaws; (e) If a foothold trap is triggered by downward pressure, it must be adjustable for pan tension. (f) Not withstanding section 4.5, a drag may be used to anchor a foothold trap, provided that the trap meets 4.5 subsections a), c), d), and e). 	<p>4.5 (a) Proposed revision: Have base plates that feature a center chain mount with swivel, with free moving chain and at least two one additional swivels that allow mobility for a captured animal;</p> <p>4.5 (f) Proposed revision: Not withstanding section 4.5, a drag may be used to anchor a foothold trap, provided that the trap meets 4.5 subsections a), c), d), and e).</p>
<p>Criteria for adjusting or maintaining trapping devices so that they operate correctly and humanely;</p>	<p>4.5 – see 4.5 above Also taught in mandatory trapper education classes.</p>	
<p>Trapping techniques, including the appropriate size and type of a trap for target animals, use of lures or other attractants, trap safety, and methods to avoid nontarget animals;</p>	<p>4.5 above and: 4.6 A person shall not set a body gripping trap with a jaw spread opening greater than 60 square inches measured inside the widest expanse of the jaws unless the trap is set five feet or more above the ground, or in the water.</p>	<p>4.7 Proposed revision: No meat-based baited, body-gripping traps shall be set on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure with openings no greater than 60 square inches and with a trap trigger that</p>

7x7 = 49"

8x8 = 64"

220

Act 159 directives: BMPs for Trapping	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23	Recommended rule edits following the April 5, 2023 Board meeting
	<p>4.7 No meat-based baited, body-gripping traps shall be set on the ground unless placed within an anchored enclosure with openings no greater than 60 square inches and with a trap trigger that is recessed at least 12" from all openings.</p> <p>4.8 Meat based baited body-gripping traps with a jaw spread up to and including 60 square inches can be used on land if the trap is placed at least 5' above the ground.</p> <p>4.9 All meat-based bait shall be covered at the time that a trap is set. Coverings shall include, but are not limited to, brush, branches, leaves, soil, snow, water, or enclosures constructed of wood, metal, wire, plastic, or natural materials.</p>	<p>is recessed at least 12" from all openings.</p> <p>4.8 Proposed revision: Meat based baited Body-gripping traps with a jaw spread up to and including 60 square inches can be used on land if the trap is placed at least 5' above the ground ✓</p>
<p>Requirements for the location of traps, including the placing of traps for purposes other than nuisance trapping at a safe distance, from public trails, class 4 roads, playgrounds, parks, and other public locations where persons may reasonably be expected to recreate.</p>	<p>4.17 Trail Setbacks:</p> <p>(a) No foothold traps can be set on or within 25' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, or at least 5' above the ground. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.</p> <p>(b) No body-gripping traps can be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, at least 5' above the ground, or in a set as described above in 4.17. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas. Prohibits "foothold traps within 25' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway unless in a culvert, under water, or 5 feet above the ground." Does not apply to Wildlife Management Areas.</p>	<p>4.17 Proposed revision:</p> <p>(a) No foothold traps can be set on or within 25' of the traveled portion of a public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, or at least 5' above the ground. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas.</p> <p>No body-gripping traps or foothold traps shall be set on or within 50' of the traveled portion of a town trail, public trail or highway, unless set in a culvert, in the water, at least 5' above the ground, or in a set as described above in 4.7. This setback requirement shall not apply to public trails and Class IV highways located in Wildlife Management Areas</p> <p>3.16 Proposed revision: Add: "Town Trail" defined: a public right of way as</p>

Act 159 directives: BMPs for Trapping	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23	Recommended rule edits following the April 5, 2023 Board meeting
		defined in 19 V.S.A. § 301 (8), shown on the highway maps of the respective towns, made by the Agency of Transportation.
Criteria for when and how live, captured animals should be released or dispatched.	4.18 Dispatch of Trapped Animals: Upon discovery, a trapper shall immediately dispatch a live trapped furbearer with a muzzle loader, gun, crossbow, or bow and arrow. This provision may be amended upon receipt of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies recommendations regarding humane dispatch. This subsection shall not be interpreted to prevent a trapper from releasing a non-target animal unharmed.	

Act 165 directive: Hunting Coyotes with dogs	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23
<p>A limit on the number of dogs that may be used to pursue coyote.</p>	<p>3.9 "Department Registered Dog" means a dog bearing a numbered identification dog-tag (Department Registration Dog-Tag) approved or issued by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, with the permit holder's coyote dog permit number and a number one through four.</p> <p>3.11 "Pack of dogs" means one to four dogs, acting as a unit during taking coyote with the aid of dogs.</p>
<p>A prohibition on the substitution of any new dog for another dog during pursuit of a coyote.</p>	<p>3.14 "Relaying packs and dogs" means the removal and replacement of one or more dog or dogs, during taking coyote with the aid of dogs, to the original pack of dogs once the pursuit has begun.</p> <p>4.21.3 d (4) A person taking a coyote with the aid of dogs shall only take a coyote with a Pack of Dogs as defined in this rule. No person shall pursue, hunt, or take coyote by Relaying any Dog or Pack of Dogs.</p>
<p>The legal method of taking coyote pursued with the aid of dogs, such as rifle, muzzle loader, crossbow, or bow and arrow;</p>	<p>4.21.3 (c) Legal methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A person shall not take a coyote into their possession except by killing the coyote by legal means or methods. Legal means includes utilizing a muzzleloader, gun, bow and arrow or crossbow. • A person taking coyote with the use of a bow and arrow or crossbow shall, upon demand of a game warden or other law enforcement personnel, show proof of having a prior archery license, or of having passed a bow hunter education course in Vermont, another state or a province of Canada approved by the Commissioner <p>4.22 Taking Coyote by Bow and Arrow and Crossbow</p> <p>4.22.1 No person shall take coyote with or without the aid of dogs, with a bow and arrow or crossbow if the arrow or bolt has an arrowhead that measures less than seven-eighths of an inch at its widest point or that has less than two sharp cutting edges.</p>
<p>A definition of control to minimize the risk that dogs pursuing coyote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enter onto land that is posted against hunting; • enter onto land where pursuit of coyote with dogs is not authorized; • harass or harm people or domestic animals; and • cause other unintentional damages to people or property. 	<p>3.6 "Control of dog/dogs" means the transportation, loading, or unloading of dogs from vehicle(s); and the handling, catching, restraining, or releasing dogs to take coyote with the aid of dogs. GPS collars with track log and training/ control functions or separate GPS and training/ control collars shall be required to locate and track dogs at all times while taking coyote with the aid of dogs. At no time shall dogs be in pursuit of coyote without a GPS track log being maintained by the permit holder.</p> <p>3.9 "Department Registered Dog" means a dog bearing a numbered identification dog-tag (Department Registration Dog-Tag) approved or issued by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, with the permit holder's coyote dog permit number and a number one through four.</p>

Act 165 directive: Hunting Coyotes with dogs	Proposed regulations as a result of the first vote by the Fish and Wildlife Board on 4/5/23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisions to encourage persons pursuing coyote with the aid of dogs to seek landowner permission before entering or releasing dogs onto land that is not posted in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 5201 	<p>3.16 "Training/control" collar is any family of collars that deliver electrical stimulation of varying intensity and duration to the neck of a dog via a radio-controlled electronic device incorporated into the collar.</p> <p>4.21.3 d).</p> <p>(1) A person shall not take coyote with the aid of dogs unless the person is in control of the dog or dogs.</p> <p>(2) No person shall take a coyote with the aid of dogs by using any Unregistered Dog. No person shall have an Unregistered Dog in their possession while hunting, pursuing, or taking a coyote. Requires Department registered dogs with GPS collars, a GPS track log, and behavioral control collars. Requires the permit holder to be in control of the dogs at all times.</p> <p>(3) A person hunting with dogs, pursuing, and taking coyote with the aid of dogs shall attach a Department Registration Dog-Tag and a metal identification name plate with the person's name, address and telephone number to the dog's collar.</p>
<p>Required reporting of every coyote killed during pursuit with the aid of dogs.</p>	<p>4.21.6 Reporting - A person taking coyote with the aid of dogs shall, no later than 48 hours after the close of season, report the taking of all coyotes during the season in a manner required by the Commissioner.</p>
<p>The Board shall consider whether to include within the rule required by this section provisions related to seasonal restrictions and baiting.</p>	<p>4.21.4 Seasons and Shooting Hours for Taking Coyote with the Aid of Dogs.</p> <p>a) Coyote Dog Training Season: For Vermont Resident and Nonresident Permit Holder: June 1 through September 15, all dates inclusive, except that a nonresident may train dogs to pursue coyote only while the training season is in effect in the nonresident's home state and subject to the requirements of these rules.</p> <p>b) Coyote Dog Hunting Season December 15 through March 31, all dates inclusive.</p> <p>c) Legal hours for taking coyote with the aid of dogs: One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.</p>