

Re: 23-P15, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board Final Proposed Rule, 10 V.S.A. Appendix 44, Furbearing species, Written testimony for September 19, 2023 meeting of the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules

Dear Members of the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules,  
Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

My name is Larry Martin. I live in Worcester, VT. I have been a trapper for 54 years. I have trapped in nine different states and one Native American reservation. I trapped professionally for seven years.

I am from a five-generation trapping family, and trapping is my cultural heritage.

I give you this information so that you may understand my knowledge of trapping far exceeds that of the average person.

I have thoroughly reviewed the Best Management Practices (BMP) trapping proposal sent to you by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Board. I find these BMPs to be well thought out and based on research and fact. I think the proposed BMPs are a giant step in humane capture of furbearing animals.

Vermonters are leaders. If these BMPs become law, Vermont will be the first state in the United States to mandate Best Management Practices for trapping.

I urge this Committee to approve the Fish and Wildlife Board's BMP trapping proposal as originally proposed and to help ensure the future of trapping in Vermont.

Thank you.

Larry Martin