

Best Management Practices

Sustaining the Future of Regulated Trapping



Trapping in North America is heavily regulated by state and provincial wildlife agencies, providing a critical wildlife management technique used to:

- 1) capture wildlife for sustainable utilization by the public,
- 2) protect property,
- 3) recover and protect endangered species,
- 4) manage population levels, and
- 5) capture animals for scientific research.

Trapping Best Management Practices (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.

Trapping BMPs exist for 22 species of furbearers:

www.fishwildlife.org/afwa-inspires/furbearer-management

TRAPPING BMPs: DID YOU KNOW?

- In the U.S., 41 states have actively participated in field testing and developing BMPs.
- Over 600 types of traps have been evaluated, including foothold traps, cage traps, bodygrip traps, cable restraints, and more.
- Over 2000 teams of experienced trappers and biologist have participated in field testing traps and gathering data.
- Data collected and used to develop BMPs are consistent with internationally-accepted scientific standards for the evaluation of trapping techniques and the welfare of animals captured in traps.
- Trapping BMPs are recommendations, not laws. Each state fish and wildlife agency decides how BMPs are used in their trapper education and furbearer management programs.
- Trapping BMPs are updated and expanded as more traps are tested for each furbearer species. This work is ongoing.
- *The Wildlife Techniques Manual, 7th edition*, provides information and support for BMPs.
- The Wildlife Society has a Standing Position which supports regulated trapping and the development and application of BMPs.

BMPs are intended to maintain the integrity of furbearer management programs throughout the nation and to sustain trapping methods now and in the future.

For more information visit <https://www.fishwildlife.org/afwa-inspires/furbearer-management>



**AFWA and TWS encourage you to
SPREAD THE WORD about Trapping BMPs!**

