Trapping Matters

REPORT ON 2019 WORKSHOPS
Welcome to Trapping Matters

REGULATED TRAPPING CAN BE AMONG THE MOST CONTENTIOUS and least understood of all programs within an agency’s wildlife responsibilities. Many agencies have some staff unfamiliar with trapping, and as a result, avoid discussions about it.

TRAPPING MATTERS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS were initiated in 2003 to help improve agency professionals’ ability to communicate about the role and benefits of regulated trapping in wildlife management. Since their inception, more than 5,000 wildlife professionals have attended workshops throughout the United States. The Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, The Wildlife Society, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services, and state fish and wildlife agencies partner to deliver workshops related to effective communication and regulated trapping. The fundamental purpose of these professional development workshops is to advance awareness and communication skills related to regulated trapping among agency professionals and to increase understanding of Best Management Practices for regulated trapping in the United States.

WHAT’S IT ABOUT?
Workshops cover:
- Introduction to Best Management Practices (BMPs) for trapping
- A cursory demonstration and overview for familiarity with basic trapping techniques
- Human dimensions studies overview and public understanding of regulated trapping
- How the media works and how to use key messages
- Tips on effective communication
- Social media tips
- Key messages for communication about trapping and wildlife management.

IN 2019, WE ENGAGED ...

15 State Agencies
5 Federal Agencies
1 Provincial Agency
14 Universities
2 Indian Tribal Organizations
8 NGOs

Partnering to fund conservation and connect people with nature.

THESE PROJECTS WERE SUPPORTED BY Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration funds, through grants administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
Trapping Matters Exit Survey

OVERALL WORKSHOP  Ranked on a scale from 1 to 5. 257 surveys completed.

Value of Information ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Objectives Clearly Stated ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Knowledge of Instructors ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Delivery Style of Instructors ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Are you better prepared to discuss trapping with the public? 98% YES
Are you more familiar with the BMP process to improve trapping? 98% YES
Are you more knowledgeable about how to communicate about trapping to others? 98% YES
Did attending make you more knowledgeable about technical aspects of trapping? 93% YES

Increase in knowledge on Trapper Motivations  [PRE] 48% [POST] 50%
Increase in knowledge on Trapper Demographics  [PRE] 50% [POST] 50%
Increase in knowledge on relationship to conservation  [PRE] 47% [POST] 53%
Increase in knowledge on messaging and techniques  [PRE] 53% [POST] 53%