Trapping Matters

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 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, 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 the following:

- 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

Trapping Matters Exit Survey

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

HOW MUCH INFORMATION COVERED IN THE WORKSHOP DID YOU ALREADY KNOW?
24% Most
54% Some
22% Not Very Much

DID ATTENDING MAKE YOU MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF TRAPPING?
28% A Great Deal
48% Moderately
17% Somewhat
6% Very Little
1% Not at All

ARE YOU MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE BMP PROCESS TO IMPROVE TRAPPING?
54% A Great Deal
36% Moderately
9% Somewhat
1% Not at All

ARE YOU MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT HOW TO COMMUNICATE ABOUT TRAPPING TO OTHERS?
31% A Great Deal
51% Moderately
14% Somewhat
2% Very Little
1% Not at All

ARE YOU BETTER PREPARED TO DISCUSS TRAPPING WITH THE PUBLIC?
36% A Great Deal
42% Moderately
17% Somewhat
2% Very Little
1% Not at All

PLEASE INDICATE THE CHANGE IN YOUR PERCEIVED KNOWLEDGE BEFORE AND AFTER THE WORKSHOP.

35.7%
Average knowledge gained

Public Understanding/Opinions of Trapping

The Key Messages and Techniques in Communicating Trapping Information