

Session 1A

VOTES

Public Collaborative Trapping Meeting, Group 1

Education and Awareness

Our purpose is to engage everyone to contribute to this process to make sense of profound challenges and guide potential regulatory/statutory development for trapping in Wyoming

Agreements

1. Suspend judgement as best you can
2. Respect one another
3. Seek to understand rather than persuade
4. Invite and honor diverse opinions
5. Speak what has personal heart and meaning
6. Go for honesty and depth without going on and on

Session 1A

Facilitator: Rene Schell

Scribe: Emily Gates

Education and Awareness

Discussion Questions:

1. Trapper Education - Should the Game and Fish require mandatory trapper education? 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 0
 - i. YES! X4
 - ii. Yes, should require mandatory education. Hunter need to take a hunter safety course to be able to hunt. Take the course to know how to humanely trap and not endanger people/pets
 - iii. No, not mandatory, optional would be ok. X2 similar to bow hunter
 - iv. Strongly in favor of mandatory. Per how they are handled and dispatched x2

2. Recommend use of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies approved North American Trapper Education online course. 5 5 3 5 5 5 4 0
 - i. Hard to comment without being familiar. Trust G&F judgement, but some training is awful-need assurance that people are actually listening and learning from training x3. Maybe a test at the end with a score required to pass
 - ii. Like the idea of online, might make it easier to access. There are ways to verify online participation. Ex code after watching videos
 - iii. Online training might be the best that will happen. Can ensure that listen through whole thing and then test at the end
 - iv. In favor of online. Traveling can be challenging at best. Yes test to ensure knowledge about subject.
 - v. Agree with mandatory
 - vi. In person may be better x2
 - vii. First time in person – follow ups online. Might stick better in person x2
 - viii. Education is great but shouldn't be mandatory. Online would be fine
3. Update/redesign the trapping brochure to provide more information (species ID, education opportunities, messages, etc.) 4 5 1 3 0
 - i. Reiterate message not to trap in popular places to walk dogs
 - ii. There should be some information about acceptable and unacceptable way to kill animals that are trapped
 - iii.

2. Public Education - Should the Game and Fish develop consistent trapping education topics/themes relevant to those using public lands

(hiking, walking dogs, bird watching, riding bikes, trail running, etc.)?

5455550

- i. Yes x2
- ii. Existing educational brochure is good and used all the time around Lander. More opportunities for trapping workshops
- iii. Public ed should include laws about tampering with traps
- iv. No user group interest should override others
- v. Maybe should be mandatory classes for dog walkers about responsibility on public land

2. Should we use this information for messaging on a dedicated page on the Game and Fish webpage and signs on Commission-owned lands, trailheads and recreation areas as well as working with other agencies to promote similar signage/education. 5555553

- i. Yes, for signage. Knowing there is potential for traps would impact having dogs on leash
- ii. Let trappers know to let people with dogs know if traps are present.
- iii. Yes, would like to know where there is a possibility of traps and also areas where trapping might not be allowed
- iv. Would be good to let visitors from outside of state especially to know that there is a possibility of traps
- v. Yes, a dedicated webpage would be good
- vi. Flagging individual traps might not impact animals, but humans would know what is going on
- vii. Concerns about cost of flagging indiv traps
- viii. Signage needs to be easy to read
- ix. Inform all user groups and make regulations that keep all public safe. Game and fish isn't doing a good job of this. Could have more regulations and could have seasons that rotate where there are no trapping seasons around state. Need to have more information.
- x. Make web information easy to find
- xi. Signage similar to "bear in area"

3. Should the Game and Fish continue to promote how to release your pet workshops and other non-trapper based trapping education and training around the state? 5555553
 - i. There are existing pdfs and classes for pet safety with trapping
 - ii. Yes, the workshops in Lander in the spring were very beneficial. Would like to see them more regularly
 - iii. Pet release instructions on phone would be really helpful
 - iv. Overview of trapping at these is hard for some people to sit through. Tailor content to the group being presented to. Keep it focused on pet release.
 - v. Was helpful to learn where traps are typically set – topography, natural funnels. What to look for, what baits
 - vi. Some trappers do already put symbols/signs/feathers on traps.
 - vii. Release workshops should have time for hands on practice
 - viii. There should be resource online, not all people might have time to attend class. Include video demonstration or release and trap types.
 - ix. Should be put on by wgfd personnel
 - x. Reach out to other partners to put on workshops
4. Should the Game and Fish work with partners and stakeholder groups to provide hand tools at major trailheads or parking areas that can be used to remove a pet from a trap or snare? Sell tools through the Game and Fish Website and Regional Offices?005000
 - i. No – too complicated
 - ii. People would steal them. Good idea to sell them through game and fish
 - iii. Other groups do sell kits currently
 - iv. Encourage dog owners to know that trapping is allowed (many do not know), have signs with instructions and info in what tools to buy.
 - v. Advisory about carrying a tool to release animal

3. Conservation Stamp- Should the Game and Fish require Conservation Stamps for trappers and anyone using Commission owned or administered properties (antler hunters, dog walkers, bird watchers, other recreators, etc.)? 5505
- i. Yes, it is a way to raise money across the board.
 - ii. All people using game and fish lands should
 - iii. Yes, it should be required for harvest of animals – all should need to follow the same rules
 - iv. People not taking from the land should not have to pay to be on the land – only those taking a resource from the land
 - v. Small tax on traps to fund management – conservation stamps for trappers might not raise additional money x3
 - vi. Stamp yes for trappers and other users for revenue
 - vii. No more fees
 - viii. No, would be hard to enforce – to both trappers and other users

Session 1B

VOTES

Public Collaborative Trapping Meeting, Group 1

Education and Awareness

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Agreements

1. Suspend judgement as best you can
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6. Go for honesty and depth without going on and on

Session 1B

Facilitator: Rene Schell

Scribe: Emily Gates

Education and Awareness

Discussion Questions:

1. Trapper Education - Should the Game and Fish require mandatory trapper education?
 - i. Will it be for any age? Been trapping for 40 yrs. Would be reasonable to require it for younger trappers. Could grandfather in older trappers
 - ii. Might be a middle ground for grandfathering in – continuing education
 - iii. Should not be mandatory for people with experienced mentors.

- iv. Could have a program similar to hunter mentor program. Older trappers could learn about new regulation through education
 - v. Those who trap will already have education and regulation to read. Against requiring mandatory education
 - vi. Not sure about mandatory, but can't require predatory trappers to have education without legislature but there are some new trappers that need education
 - vii. Should be some minimum requirement of continuing education requirement.
 - viii. Trapping is a constitutional right, adding more restriction violates const
 - ix. Against mandatory
 - x. Fish and game offers ethics classes for hunting and turnout seems good
 - xi. First time license buyers should have an ed requirement that is WY specific
2. Recommend use of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies approved North American Trapper Education online course.
- i. Not ok with mandatory so not ok with online being required
 - ii. Strongly opposed x3
 - iii. Could be offered as an option – would be good for people with trouble making it to classes
3. Update/redesign the trapping brochure to provide more information (species ID, education opportunities, messages, etc.)
- i. Brochure is fine the way it is – if have not seen brochure should get familiar with it.
 - ii. Brochure not a good way to spend budget

2. Public Education - Should the Game and Fish develop consistent trapping education topics/themes relevant to those using public lands (hiking, walking dogs, bird watching, riding bikes, trail running, etc.)?
 - i. Definitely for public education. Even people that grow up in WY might not have an idea that traps are out, what kinds of traps, how to release pets. Would be a public service to provide these facts
 - ii. Not many recreators would go to GF office to get this info
 - iii. Yes, it would be nice to have it coming from the GF/trusted source
 - iv. Reasonable public safety measure
 - v. Public education could shed a negative light on trapping
2. Should we use this information for messaging on a dedicated page on the Game and Fish webpage and signs on Commission-owned lands, trailheads and recreation areas as well as working with other agencies to promote similar signage/education.
 - i. Put signs on how to release a pet from trap
 - ii. Hiking in an area if you know trapping is going on, is the hiker's responsibility then to know how to be safe. But must know if trapping is happening in area
 - iii. Should the responsibility fall on the individuals to educate themselves. Can't have signs to cover every use
 - iv. Signing about only traps punitive to trappers
 - v. Agree that we can't sign every place but so many people do not know that trapping occurs on public land. Has to be some good way to ed the general public. Pet release is not intuitive
 - vi. Wildlife services signs traps and this has utility – don't dismiss signs
3. Should the Game and Fish continue to promote how to release your pet workshops and other non-trapper based trapping education and training around the state?
 - i. Release workshops are really important.
 - ii. The one in lander was good and taught a lot about trapping, where traps might get set and where to be on the lookout.

- iii. Depends on who is doing the workshops – trappers or the game and fish doing workshops would not be opposed.
 - iv. Should educate those who want it even though all may not be able to attend
4. Should the Game and Fish work with partners and stakeholder groups to provide hand tools at major trailheads or parking areas that can be used to remove a pet from a trap or snare? Sell tools through the Game and Fish Website and Regional Offices?
- i. Nice idea but without hands on training it will not be effective
 - ii. Tools would not be returned, but tools could be incorporated to the pet release classes
 - iii. Using the tools is complicated – would prefer demonstration and would need written instructions with tool
 - iv. Not opposed to selling the tools
 - v. There is a budget shortfall – where would money come from to provide tools?
3. Conservation Stamp- Should the Game and Fish require Conservation Stamps for trappers and anyone using Commission owned or administered properties (antler hunters, dog walkers, bird watchers, other recreators, etc.)?
- i. Hunters and anglers need stamps, trappers should too
 - ii. Trappers probably hunt or fish and already have a stamp
 - iii. Hunters and fishers bear the brunt of funding – no problem with requiring stamp for other land users x2
 - iv. Punitive to only discuss trappers that already have a stamp – should be discussing the other land users – all public lands
 - v. Fine with nonconsumptive users paying as long as they get input

- vi. Other recreators could support the use of the land through a conservation stamps
- vii. Other users need to know what the money is going to if they need a stamp
- viii. Hunters already support walkin and SAR. Other users could benefit from supporting this. Could utilize a checkbox contribution.

Session 1C

VOTES

Public Collaborative Trapping Meeting, Group 1

Education and Awareness

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Session 1C

Facilitator: Rene Schell

Scribe: Emily Gates

Education and Awareness

Discussion Questions:

1. Trapper Education - Should the Game and Fish require mandatory trapper education?
 - i. Not sure about mandatory but education is always good for everyone – especially on controversial issues – especially best management practices.
 - ii. No mandatory education
 - iii. Yes rules and regulations should come with mandatory training to make aware of rules and regs
 - iv. Agree that education is always good and it should be mandatory so that all who actually need it are taking it – may not take it voluntarily

- v. Should be voluntary option of online and in person. If it is mandatory it should be online – maybe offer a mentorship program because it is hands on x2
 - vi. Have a mandatory education but a way to opt(test?) out for experienced trappers. The hunter ed is not overly burdensome with these options
 - vii. Test out option – demonstrate knowledge
2. Recommend use of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies approved North American Trapper Education online course.
 - i. Best to get a Wyoming tailored online course specific to WY species and terrain x4
 - ii. Online needs to be very user friendly and easy to navigate, not difficult to read or hear. Lots of videos of graphics would be hard without good internet x3
 - iii.
 3. Update/redesign the trapping brochure to provide more information (species ID, education opportunities, messages, etc.)
 - i. Some laws need to be clarified
 - ii. Put info about wildlife management, how trapping is being used in areas
 - iii. Opportunity to talk about issues of nontarget species in recreational areas – be cognizant of other public uses in areas where trapping
2. Public Education - Should the Game and Fish develop consistent trapping education topics/themes relevant to those using public lands (hiking, walking dogs, bird watching, riding bikes, trail running, etc.)?
 - i. Education for everyone is a great things. Good opportunity to talk about why there is trapping and what to be aware of.
 - ii. Could do a broader wilderness education – why trapping is in areas. Use education to remove stigma against trapping and trappers.

2. Should we use this information for messaging on a dedicated page on the Game and Fish webpage and signs on Commission-owned lands, trailheads and recreation areas as well as working with other agencies to promote similar signage/education.
 - i. Yes, this makes sense if it is balanced. Depending on what information is shared on the sign. Not if the theme is anti-trapping
 - ii. Trapping should be listed alongside other land uses – hunting, fishing, hiking. Not singled out
 - iii. Knowing specifically if traps are actually in an area would be more usable information rather than just that trapping is a land use
 - iv. Hunters and fishers do not need to be specifically announced on land
 - v. In favor of the facts on the sign and as many as possible
 - vi. Yes, in heavily used recreation areas a sign saying trapping might be in the area could be helpful
 - vii. Hunters wear orange for safety on landscape
 - viii. Hunting does have seasons and this information is available. Trapping seasons are also available

3. Should the Game and Fish continue to promote how to release your pet workshops and other non-trapper based trapping education and training around the state?
 - i. Yes x5
 - ii. People can use this information to remove other animals from traps. Clarify that trap tampering is against the law
 - iii. Should not replace taking measure to avoid pets getting caught in the first place x2
 - iv.

4. Should the Game and Fish work with partners and stakeholder groups to provide hand tools at major trailheads or parking areas that can be used to remove a pet from a trap or snare? Sell tools through the Game and Fish Website and Regional Offices?
 - i. Waste of money – people would take the tools. Could be offered in conjunction with workshops or online for purchase
 - ii. No
 - iii. No, educate people on what tools are necessary and they can take their own
 - iv. Not encourage releasing anything from traps – only in emergency for pets
 - v. Worthy ideas, but where do you stop? Don't think it would work

3. Conservation Stamp- Should the Game and Fish require Conservation Stamps for trappers and anyone using Commission owned or administered properties (antler hunters, dog walkers, bird watchers, other recreators, etc.)?
 - i. Trying to do this would not work, it costs money to operate and has not worked for predator work. Need to understand how stamp works and where the cost is going
 - ii. Hunters and anglers already have stamps. Nonconsumptive users should “pay to play” help fund the work x3
 - iii. Not sure that conservation stamps are the way to go, but yes pay your fair share
 - iv. No to conservation stamps
 - v. If online it would not be expensive to have program

Trapping meeting: Lander 2020-09-10, Session 2A

Facilitator: Ken Mills

Scribe: Erika

FINAL RANKING: (1,5,0,5,1,3,0,4,5,2,5,4: 12 votes: 36/60 possible)

Public Collaborative Trapping Meeting, Group 2

Trails and Campgrounds

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Agreements

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Session 2A

Trails and Campgrounds (Multiple use -playing nice on your lands)

Discussion Questions:

- 1) Trapping Setbacks- Should the Game and Fish develop trap setback requirements and definitions for trapping furbearing and predatory animals?

-setbacks are one thing, but they wouldn't hunt or trap where people are anyway, because if people are there, there are not likely to be animals. High traffic areas will not have game anyway.

-The problem is not with people knowing where to trap, problem is with trappers who don't avoid high recreation areas. Particularly during high fur prices, setbacks might be needed.

-In areas where there are children and pets, there is trapping occurring. Can be problematic with children and dogs in the area.

-Issues with someone setting tracks right along a road, within 6 feet of a public roadway.

-Feelings that most trappers do not trap along public roadways. Having a trapping setback could effectively take away thousands of acres from trapping. Feels that having setbacks would be taking things too far.

-Are there leash laws in some of these high recreation areas?

-Feelings that trapping is fine in certain areas, and there are other areas where people should be able to recreate with dogs. Other areas of recreation should be signed that trapping is occurring in the area.

-If people were aware where trapping was occurring, those places could be avoided for other recreationalists with kids, dogs, etc.

a) Some definitions to consider.

i) Public trails: defined as any trail on public land designated by administrative signs or numbers or as designated on the most current official map of the agency.

-Continental Divide Trail was mentioned and that there are lots of activities that occur there.

-Concern over the definition being a leading question.

-Public trails could be way far back in areas where people who are dog walking would not be utilizing. Against setbacks on trails all together.

-Setbacks from trailheads could be utilized, not in favor of setbacks on trails in general.

-Hopefully compromises can be made so that multiple uses can occur.

-Sharing is already occurring on public land. Not in favor of posting signs about trapping when people don't have to notify that they may be walking dogs in the area. Does not see trails as being an issue.

-Safety can be a concern with dogs and kids.

-Concern with traps where people are bird hunting.

ii) Campground: defined as any campground on public land designated by an administrative agency.

-Probably not a lot of predator trapping occurs in designated campgrounds, as they likely avoid those areas.

-No problem with there being setbacks around campgrounds.

- Campgrounds are used by locals as well as out-of-state tourists that may have no idea that traps are in the area. This seems to be a reasonable safety issue.

iii) Trailhead: defined as any trailhead on public land designated by an administrative agency..

-likely people are not trapping at trailheads, but not opposed to there being setbacks near trailheads.

- people regularly bobcat trap with bait around the Sunlight bridge pullout where I live just 50' from the bathroom. I feel bait like that so close attracts dogs and so should have a 1000' setback around a campground or road pullout.

- By definition, recreation sites are clearly multiple use, and should have reasonable safety precautions.

iv) Recreation site: defined as any site with construction improvements made for recreation as designated by an administrative agency including, but not limited to, picnic areas, boat launches, fishing access areas, etc.

-No inherent issues with a setback here, but it would depend on the distance of the setback. Many of the sites are seasonal, could depend on the time of year.

-Would it apply to marten trapping that is above the ground? An easy answer for the game and fish

-seems that the majority of trappers feel that these recreation areas with high use are not good places to trap anyway.

-Could be areas where trapping could safely occur, but not safely with firearms.

b) Should public trails have a setback requirement of 30'

-Does not think that they should

-No

-Fine with setbacks, but there could be other approaches.

-No

-Doesn't think that 30 feet is an unreasonable setback. As people cross other people on the trail, they typically move off the trail to let them by (horseback). Should be areas that are safe to step off-trail.

-How many people are on the trail November-March where it would be making a difference?

-Lots of activity on the trails at these times in certain areas.

-Other areas do not have a lot of hiking use in this time period.

-Some people do a lot of hiking in the winter. If 30 feet was unreasonable to trappers, at least some kind of flagging so that a person would know where the traps are located to be avoided.

c) Should public campgrounds, trailheads and recreation sites have a recommended setback of 300'?

-No

-Is "recommended" a suggestion or a requirement?

-Where would the setback begin? The center of an area or the perimeter?

-No

-No. With campgrounds it would be possible, but not a blanket setback over all areas.

-If these are areas with a lot of people and not a lot of animals (Low-value trapping area), why not let these restrictions prevail?

-Trappers see very little activity in these type of areas while trapping. Can go days and not see another person.

Trapping meeting: Lander 2020-09-10, Session 2B

Facilitator: Ken Mills

Scribe: Erika

FINAL RANKING: (votes: possible) **5,5,0,0,0,0,0,5 (8 votes: 15/40)**

Public Collaborative Trapping Meeting, Group 2

Trails and Campgrounds

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Session 2A

Facilitator: Ken

Scribe: Erika

Trails and Campgrounds (Multiple use -playing nice on your lands)

Discussion Questions:

- 1) Trapping Setbacks- Should the Game and Fish develop trap setback requirements and definitions for trapping furbearing and predatory animals?
 - Definitely need setbacks for public trails. At least 1,000 feet. Need to have somewhere to take dogs to run. Only far to be able to take them out to run from time to time. People with pets and children are in these areas. Setbacks of at least 1,000 feet.
 - Setbacks of at least 1,000 feet. There would be no reason to be trapping right next to public trails. It is a public safety issue.
 - Looking into setbacks could be good on really highly used trails, but not everywhere.
 - If it is a public trail, it should have a setback.
 - Need to have setbacks. More and more people using all of the recreation areas in the state. More and more potential for conflicts.

-Not opposed to setbacks. 1,000 feet is too much. There also needs to be a discussion as to a definition as to what a trail is. A well used game trail can be inviting to hike on, but we cant inhibit the trappers too much either. Some kind of a setback distance, not as high as 1,000 feet.

-What about marten trappers whose traps are not on the ground? Do traps up in a tree require a setback?

-Pertaining to water sets, this definition would not apply very well.

-For people that run drags, how would this pertain to them?

-1,000 feet is not a long distance to a running dog. People walk to look at beaver dams, that could be a threat to them also.

-People should be responsible for their pets. Most of the citations in the presentation were where people were cited for their dogs chasing deer.

-People are also responsible for their traps.

- No setbacks we have enough rules
people are responsible for there own pets

a) Some definitions to consider.

i) Public trails: defined as any trail on public land designated by administrative signs or numbers or as designated on the most current official map of the agency.

-How often are the maps updated? Agency dependent.

-What management agency is being referenced? As written, any land management agency.

-Way too broad. Should be on a case by case basis.

-Two others in agreement with the previous/above comment.

-No problem with the definition as long as “administrative agency” is clarified.

ii) Campground: defined as any campground on public land designated by an administrative agency.

- Would this pertain to non-designated camping? Just designated campgrounds on public land.

- Are some of these campgrounds closed at certain times of the year?

- Another person in agreement with the above comment.

- there are a lot of trails and campground s to keep track of setbacks on each one of them

iii) Trailhead: defined as any trailhead on public land designated by an administrative agency..

-What about snowmobile trailheads/parking? How would this be defined?

-Rather than restricting trappers, perhaps a sign informing when trapping is occurring would be helpful.

-What is the area defined for a trailhead? Does this include the parking area? Is there a definition for this?

-Regarding seasonal use, people cross country ski with their dogs and could use the trails at any time of year.

-There are issues with people not reading signs. Does not think that signage is going to work.

-Regarding parking area and trailheads. If there is a trailhead there is typically a parking area that is delineated by fencing. Maybe a to address the definition would be the trailhead and the parking area associated with it.

iv) Recreation site: defined as any site with construction improvements made for recreation as designated by an administrative agency including, but not limited to, picnic areas, boat launches, fishing access areas, etc.

-It seems very broad. Would this include a ski area? Some downhill ski areas in the summer are used for grazing. Would these be included?

-The definition needs to be clarified. There are recreation sites that don't have much construction improvement.

-Also agrees that the definition is very broad. Are the pullouts or turnarounds included as well?

-Agreement with the previous three comments.

b) Should public trails have a setback requirement of 30'

-Why bother at 30 feet? Better than nothing, but not very much.

-OK with 30, but not on all trails. Can't see all trails having the need for this restriction.

-Agreement with different requirements for different trails. 30 feet is not enough on a heavily used trail. It's not enough, if a setback is needed it should be more than 30 feet. May not be required in all places. Recommending 1,000 foot setback.

-Dependent on the "public trail" definition.

-Why 30 feet? Does not think it needs to be a requirement at all. It seems that with other states it becomes greater and greater distances over time. For marten trappers does it matter if it's exactly 30 feet?

-It should be more than 30 feet.

-Agreement with comments that what kind of trail and what are the needs on a case by case basis. 1,000 feet would be too great, 30 feet could not be far enough in certain circumstances.

c) Should public campgrounds, trailheads and recreation sites have a recommended setback of 300'?

-Usually when you are going camping, you are going hiking also, so yes.

-300 feet is an absolute minimum. 1,000 feet is recommended.

-Game and Fish should have a breakout to develop a set of criteria so that there is transparency on discussion of setbacks.

-How many people are going to be camping with families in the winter when folks are trapping.

-Oppose setbacks completely overall. If needed could they be seasonal?

-If it's a mild winter, people could be camping into the winter.

-Another commenter agreeing that there are people out and about in the winter.

-Agreement in winter camping.

-Normally there is less traffic during the winter, but the trappers are out then due to fur being in prime.

Trapping meeting: Lander 2020-09-10, Session 2C

Facilitator: Ken Mills

Scribe: Erika

FINAL RANKING: (votes: possible) **5,5,5,5,5,5,5,0,5,0,0,5,0,0,0 (15 votes: 45/70)**

Public Collaborative Trapping Meeting, Group 2

Trails and Campgrounds

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Session 2A

Facilitator: Ken

Scribe: Erika

Trails and Campgrounds (Multiple use -playing nice on your lands)

Discussion Questions:

1) Trapping Setbacks- Should the Game and Fish develop trap setback requirements and definitions for trapping furbearing and predatory animals?

-Yes, definitely

-No

-Absolutely

-Positively

-Affirmatively

-definitely not

-Definitely yes

-Yes

-No definitely not

-Yes on setbacks

-This is one of the major ways to address a lot of the issues occurring currently regarding trapping and recreating.

a) Some definitions to consider.

i) Public trails: defined as any trail on public land designated by administrative signs or numbers or as designated on the most current official map of the agency.

-Seems like a good definition

-The "public trails" needs to be defined differently. Trappers often use two-tracks and roads, whereas hikers use single trails and other types of use. Could go a long ways in reducing conflict.

-There are trails that are not on maps, but are areas that are heavily used by walkers, bikers and hikers.

-Adding to the above comment, there needs to be a designating of places where people go often (High recreation areas) that she be excluded from trapping.

-Supporting the comment about two-track trails, that they are utilized by coyote hunters in particular.

- agree with above comments on two tracks public needs to know that predator trapping can occur year round on "two tracks"

-Would like seasonality added to the definition. Trails not in use wouldn't need a setback.

-Hard to have a one size fits all definition. Seems to be a high recreation area vs. low recreation areas issue.

-definition is way too broad. Too many agencies to have to deal with. It should be defined by one agency (game and fish).

ii) Campground: defined as any campground on public land designated by an administrative agency.

-Perfect

-Makes sense

-Looks OK

-Looks good

-Two agreements to above comment.

-Would there need to be clarification as to whether the campground was open? If no one was there would it still apply?

-If the campground was closed for the season, would it still apply?

-Dealing with raccoons in campgrounds. Could be something to consider allowing.

-The foothold traps are not the ones that people have issues with, but the kill-traps. If things were controlled with where they were there would not be these problems.

- would people intending to use distributed camping on the forest be made aware that there may be trapping in the area?

iii) Trailhead: defined as any trailhead on public land designated by an administrative agency.

-Good definitions

-Missing motorized vs. non-motorized. If there was a definition that it was allowed within motorized that could include trapping.

-definition is adequate.

- how is the area encompassed by the trailhead defined

iv) Recreation site: defined as any site with construction improvements made for recreation as designated by an administrative agency including, but not limited to, picnic areas, boat launches, fishing access areas, etc.

-Very broad, would like game and fish to spell out which the problem areas are.

-Thinks that it should be more regionally designated. Define these areas as general areas such as picnic areas, boat launches, etc. But then regionally, specific geographic areas should be defined.

-Traps were set around a parking area for a WHMA, should be considered o expanding the definition to parking areas.

-Commenting regarding not ever having run into a trapper on a non-motorized trail.

-Trap was found near an outhouse, is this a recreation site?

- I don't set traps where there is lots of human activity

- Agree about a rec area plus defined "specific sites"

-Agree with Donal, need to include parking area setbacks too. Heard from a friend today who is a scout leader that they had stopped at a pull out/parking area on highway over Togwotee Pass in winter and the kids found a trapped fox - still alive - right by the parking area. Several traps were set around the parking area

need to include parking area setbacks too. Heard from a friend today who is a scout leader that they had stopped at a pull out/parking area on highway over Togwotee Pass in winter and the kids found a trapped fox - still alive - right by the parking area. Several traps were set around the parking area

Scout group pulled off highway on Togwotee Pass and the kids found a fox still alive in a trap. This was in the winter and there were several traps set around the parking area.

b) Should public trails have a setback requirement of 30'

-thinks it should be more than 30 feet, 30 feet is not very far. In some areas where there are a lot of trails in a small area. Possible for setbacks to overlap.

-500 feet may not even be enough.

-Agreeing that 30 feet is not enough, needs to be more significant than that.

-Something more along the lines of 500 feet in a high recreation area.

-no they should not

-Definitely need much more than 30 feet, agreeing with above comment.

-Agrees with above it should be ore

-Disappointed that game and fish hasn't dealt with this sooner. Many other regulations for other things and furbearers should be no different.

-In talking with Montana in the past the trappers were in support of setbacks and they worked together to come up with something that worked. Variability was used depending on the trails and areas.

- If we have setbacks for trappers maybe there should be a regulation for hikers as to how far they can get off the trail

- if there were trapping areas, you would not need setbacks.

- would agree with setbacks if they weren't so far. At what point do we ask dog owners to be responsible?

-Game and fish needs to regulate this issue to prevent conflicts between user groups.

-no to setbacks on any trails

-Setbacks could be influenced by type of trap/trapping method.

-more than 30 foot setback

- If we have setbacks for trappers maybe there should be a regulation for hikers as to how far they can get off the trail

-Very good point.

-Maybe the best way to do this is that there should be time periods for trapping and time period for other recreation

-No more than 30 feet

-Setbacks should be based on trap type and whether the trail is motorized or non-motorized, recreational use levels (high vs. low).

-Asking for non-trap areas for specific geographic areas, so that there would not have to be a setbacks to be worried about.

-In agreement with above comment with high use areas. That these areas should be designated as non-trapping areas. Particularly on areas that are adjacent to town which wouldn't be high value trapping areas.

c) Should public campgrounds, trailheads and recreation sites have a recommended setback of 300'?

-Should be more. People are not just staying at their campground.

-1,000 feet. Baited traps attract predators.

-No trapping in high recreation areas.

-1000 feet set back at minimum

-The rec discussion is really important. The trend in this covid era is for big increase in rec uses. And often by people who are new to Wyoming.

- Why do all concessions have to come from trappers?

-Game and fish needs to step up and manage the use on the land to prevent conflicts. It is done with hunting and other forms of recreation and it should be done with trapping as well.

-Against any setback and it is common sense.

Session 3A

VOTES

Public Collaborative Trapping Meeting, Group 3

Regulations & Reporting

Our purpose is to engage everyone to contribute to this process to make sense of profound challenges and guide potential regulatory/statutory development for trapping in Wyoming

Agreements

1. Suspend judgement as best you can
2. Respect one another
3. Seek to understand rather than persuade
4. Invite and honor diverse opinions
5. Speak what has personal heart and meaning
6. Go for honesty and depth without going on an on and on

Session 3A

Facilitator:

Scribe:

Regulations & Reporting

Discussion questions:

1. Reporting of Non-target Species - Should the Game and Fish develop a database and app to track voluntary reporting of non-target species trapped (including dogs) and work to require reporting in the future?
 - Yes, support for the Dept to develop such a program to track what is happening/being trapped.
 - Similar to check stations, would support such a requirement for mandatory reporting.
 - Concern that developing such a tracking mechanism would take valuable time/money/resources away from other important programs.
 - Others support the idea of developing an online database that would not be costly to develop and operate.
 - 0, 5, 1, 3, 0, 0, 0, 5, 3, --, --

- Others support voluntary reporting –vs- mandatory and would like to see the information to be anonymous.

2. Snare Check Periods - Should the Game and Fish reduce the check period requirement for snares and consider additional trap and snare restrictions (RAM power snare, spring-loaded snares)?

- No change needed at this time. There is adequate regulation in place now.
- Support for reduction of the check period to a more reasonable time period.
- 24-hr check period.
 - Other states require 24-hr check periods.
- Should restrict some of power/spring assisted traps.
- Concern a 24-hr check period is too restrictive and in result in predator control agencies to be less effective.
 - Trap placement (distance from rds, etc.) makes this impractical.
 - Other uncontrollable factors such as weather can impact ability to check within 24-hrs.
- Should be a balance between effectiveness and animal welfare. Current trap check periods are just too long.
- Concern a 24-hr check period is too short resulting in some trappers placing sets closer than where they would normally set perhaps resulting in more non-target captures.
- Support for a 72-hr check period, consistent with the current requirement for live trap sets.
- Shorter trap check periods may also result in more pressure in a smaller area, negatively impacting that small scale population(s).
 - Others disagree.
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3. Furbearer Working Group - Should the Game and Fish form a Department Furbearer Working Group to keep up to date with furbearer management practices, population trends and evaluate the need for harvest quotas and seasons?

- Do not believe there is a need to hire yet another biologist for this purpose.
- Otherwise would be a good thing if the Dept could accomplish with existing resources.
- Mixed support, right down the middle.

4. Commission Owned Land Closures - Should the Game and Fish consider Commission owned or administered land closures during heavy use periods (pheasant release areas, etc.)?

- Yes
- Generally support such closures but depends on what activity(s) are occurring on a given unit. May be a non-issue on some properties.
- Would like to see the Dept add a standard for evaluating the need for suggested closures.
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Session 3B

VOTE

Public Collaborative Trapping Meeting, Group 3

Regulations & Reporting

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Session 3B

Facilitator: A. Kerr

Scribe: J. Stephens

Regulations & Reporting

Discussion questions:

1. Reporting of Non-target Species - Should the Game and Fish develop a database and app to track voluntary reporting of non-target species trapped (including dogs) and work to require reporting in the future?
 - Yes, it would be good for the Dept to develop this to see what is being caught in traps.
 - Would like to see this to be a requirement, specifically for dogs.
 - Support for mandatory reporting for pets AND protecting spp.
 - Mandatory for all non-target captures
 - To provide data for the G&F
 - No support for mandatory reporting
 - Do we require reporting on ally vehicle kills?
 - Support for mandatory reporting

- Is there a problem with non-target captures or isn't there? There is currently no data. Support for mandatory reporting would provide key data to this end.
- App should be available to the public.
 - Would be a good idea to have the app info made available on an informational kiosk.
- Not in favor of mandatory reporting.
- In favor of mandatory reporting as a means to collect data on the subject.
- Not in favor of mandatory reporting.
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2. Snare Check Periods - Should the Game and Fish reduce the check period requirement for snares and consider additional trap and snare restrictions (RAM power snare, spring-loaded snares)?

- Yes, should restrict the spring loaded snares and placement in or near high use areas.
- Yes, check period should be reduced/shortened from the humane perspective for the animal.
- Check-periods need to be shortened for non-target captures to all traps.
- Agree to reduce check periods, inhumane.
- No change to current regs.
- Agree with reducing check periods.
- Check period should be eliminated if animal is already dead.
- Shorter check periods may drive trappers closer to town.
- Location and placement of traps and weather factor into the ability to check traps within a given timeframe.
- Power snares or snares in general are very humane and effective in quickly killing the animal.
- Should look into the use of live-traps.
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3. Furbearer Working Group - Should the Game and Fish form a Department Furbearer Working Group to keep up to date with furbearer management practices, population trends and evaluate the need for harvest quotas and seasons?

- Does the Dept have the resources to effectively accomplish this given State budget cuts, etc. ?
- Support for this idea so long it can be done properly.
- Point the Dept currently does not have a furbearing biologist on staff.
- Support for a “mixed” working group with representatives from all sides of the table.
- Working group may be able to put together additional key information on the subject.
 - Recreational income related to non-cumer activities – hiking, bird watching, etc.
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4. Commission Owned Land Closures - Should the Game and Fish consider Commission owned or administered land closures during heavy use periods (pheasant release areas, etc.)?

- Yes, the Dept should absolutely be considering closures.
- Yes, split the season for the different user groups.
- No support for closures.
- There should be “seasons” for given activities on Dept lands.
- Is there even an issue on some of these properties?
 - Currently no data available.
- Yes, as the manager the Dept should implement closures based on who the user groups are.
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Session 3C

VOTE

Public Collaborative Trapping Meeting, Group 3

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Session 3C

Facilitator: A. Kerr

Scribe: J. Stephens

Regulations & Reporting

Discussion questions:

1. Reporting of Non-target Species - Should the Game and Fish develop a database and app to track voluntary reporting of non-target species trapped (including dogs) and work to require reporting in the future?
 - Absolutely not.
 - Critical to understand whether or not there is a prob and need to collect data to determine if that prob exists.
 - Yes, the collection of that data is critical.
 - Yes, would support collecting the data.
 - What would the data be used for? Banning dogs?
 - Opposed. Currently no requirement to report vehicle accidents.
 - Opposed as most dog owners will be the ones who find their pets in the traps.

- A requirement for all non-target reporting would be useful to have the data.
2. Snare Check Periods - Should the Game and Fish reduce the check period requirement for snares and consider additional trap and snare restrictions (RAM power snare, spring-loaded snares)?
- Is there any way for the Dept to even enforce or monitor a change like this? Concern the Dept does not have the resources to enforce this.
 - Opposed to changing check period.
 - Opposed to changing existing regulations.
 - Would support loosening existing regulations.
 - Issue of dogs being caught in snares is not being brought up.
 - Would support a reduction in check times, just too cruel.
 - The Dept needs to also address other forms of recreation occurring on the landscape.
 - Is there a means or way to alert others that snares may be out on the land?
 - If done, concern others would manipulate and/or steal traps/snares.
3. Furbearer Working Group - Should the Game and Fish form a Department Furbearer Working Group to keep up to date with furbearer management practices, population trends and evaluate the need for harvest quotas and seasons?
- Are there similar groups with other spp?
 - Due to issues with weather, access, etc data may be sig skewed on year to the next.
 - Bobcat example and difficulties in monitoring pop
 - Opposed from a financial/budgetary standpoint. Don't want to see the Dept spending more money.
 - Dept should not ignore furbearer harvest.
 - Harvest data can help the Dept get a glimpse into what is going on with the pop.
 - More science is a good thing.
 - Strongly disagree with the formation of such a group.

- May be advantageous for the Dept to know what pops are doing and where they are going
 - Beaver example, what drainages are impacted.
4. Commission Owned Land Closures - Should the Game and Fish consider Commission owned or administered land closures during heavy use periods (pheasant release areas, etc.)?
- Why is Springer closed but not Ocean Lake – Both have lots of pheasant hunting.
 - Dept should also consider then restricting the other recreational activities on said lands, specifically the non-consumptive activities – biking, hiking, etc.
 - Absolutely not.
 - Concern that collection of data is just to go against/shut down trapping