

# Tips For Avoiding Traps



## ➤ Be Aware of the **Seasons** When Traps Are Set in Western Montana

| January                | February               | March                 | April                  |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Mink, muskrat, beaver  | Mink, muskrat,         | Mink, muskrat, beaver | Mink, muskrat, beaver  |
| Bobcat, marten, fisher | Bobcat, marten, fisher | 5 6 7 8 9 10 11       | closes April 15th      |
|                        |                        | 12 13 14 15 16 17 18  | 9 10 11 12 13 14 15    |
|                        |                        | 19 20 21 22 23 24 25  | 16 17 18 19 20 21 22   |
|                        |                        | 26 27 28 29 30 31     | 23 24 25 26 27 28 29   |
| Wolf                   | Wolf                   | July                  | August                 |
| Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su   | Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su   | Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su  | Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su   |
| 1 2 3 4 5 6            |                        | 30 31                 | 1 2 3 4 5              |
| 7 8 9 10 11 12 13      | 4 5 6 7 8 9 10         | 2 3 4 5 6 7 8         | 6 7 8 9 10 11 12       |
| 14 15 16 17 18 19 20   | 11 12 13 14 15 16 17   | 9 10 11 12 13 14 15   | 13 14 15 16 17 18 19   |
| 21 22 23 24 25 26 27   | 18 19 20 21 22 23 24   | 16 17 18 19 20 21 22  | 20 21 22 23 24 25 26   |
| 28 29 30 31            | 25 26 27 28 29 30      | 23 24 25 26 27 28 29  | 27 28 29 30 31         |
| September              | October                | November              | December               |
| Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su   | Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su   | Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su  | Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su   |
|                        |                        |                       |                        |
| 1 2                    | Coyote pelts prime     | Coyote pelts prime    | Coyote pelts prime     |
| 3 4 5 6 7 8 9          | 8 9 10 11 12 13 14     | Mink, muskrat, beaver | Mink, muskrat, beaver  |
| 10 11 12 13 14 15 16   | 15 16 17 18 19 20 21   | 19 20 21 22 23 24 25  | Bobcat, marten, fisher |
| 17 18 19 20 21 22 23   | 22 23 24 25 26 27 28   | 26 27 28 29 30        | Wolf opens Dec 15th    |
| 24 25 26 27 28 29 30   | 29 30 31               |                       |                        |

*Designed by Amy, amystudio.com*

## ➤ Be Aware of the **Places** Where Traps Are Set in Western Montana

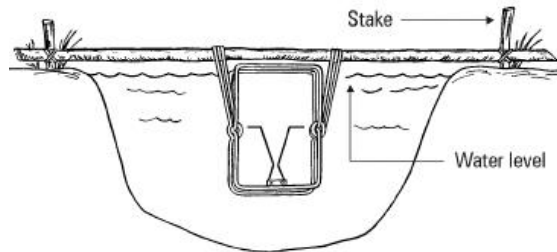


Snares are used for coyotes and bobcats on game trails



Only foothold traps are legal for wolf trapping

Conibear traps are commonly used for beaver



Conibears submerged and partially submerged

Banks and beaver runs—humps and mounds and beaver dams



# Tips For Avoiding Traps



## ➤ Be Aware of the **Places** Where Wolf and Bobcat Traps Are Commonly Set



Bobcat traps set back at least 50 feet from roads & trails



Wolf traps set back at least 150 feet from designated open roads or trails



Coyote traps—typically snares—are not regulated by FWP and do not have to be set back from roads or trails



Bobcat traps set back at least 300 feet from a trailhead

Wolf traps set back at least 1,000 feet from a trailhead

Wolf and bobcat traps set back at least 1,000 feet from a public campground



Snowshoe tracks or footprints may indicate a trapper's presence



Notice flagging, feathers, pie tins or structures that may be used to attract bobcats to sets

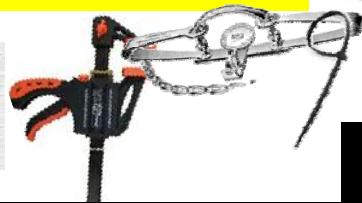


Keep pets close to guide them away from hazards and high risk areas

## ➤ Be Prepared To **Release** A Pet From A Trap



Cable cutters cut snares



Bar clamp for depressing springs of longspring foothold traps. Cable-tie to secure it.



Vice grips for depressing springs on coil spring foothold traps



Leash for depressing springs on conibear traps

Download Trap-Release video  
<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/trapping>

Call FWP at 1-800-TIPMONT anytime if you need help or to report violations

## ➤ Make Use of Designated **Trap-Free Areas** in the Missoula Area

- Blue Mountain Recreation Area, including Maclay Flats
- Pattee Canyon Recreation Area
- Rattlesnake Recreation Area, outside the Wilderness
- Bass Creek Recreation Area

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Lolo and Bitterroot National Forests  
Montana Trappers Association