



## LEGAL METHODS and EQUIPMENT FOR HUNTING FURBEARERS

(see Special Hunting Restrictions section for exceptions)

- Centerfire or rimfire gun.
- Shotgun no larger than 10-gauge and plugged to hold a maximum of 3 shells (two in magazine and one in chamber). There is no limit on shot size. Shot shells with a single projectile may only be used during daylight hours. Shotguns must be shoulder fired.
- Bow and arrow or crossbow
- Air guns with pellets that are at least .22 caliber in size
- Hand or mouth operated calls, electronic calls, or attracting devices.
- Falconry.

- Trappers must harvest furbearers upon capture, unless they possess a captive wildlife permit from Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.
- Spotted skunks are protected year round and may not be taken or possessed. Report incidental trappings to Kentucky Fish and Wildlife.
- It is illegal to intentionally obstruct or disrupt the right of a person to lawfully take wildlife by trapping.

## TELECHECK and CITES TAGGING

Harvested bobcats and otters must be telechecked by calling 1-800-245-4263 by midnight on the day the animal is recovered. A hunter or trapper who wants to have a bobcat or otter mounted shall provide his or her name, telephone number and telecheck confirmation number to the taxidermist. Taxidermists cannot legally accept an unchecked otter or bobcat for mounting.

A Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) tag, issued by Kentucky Fish and Wild-



Sample trap tags

## LEGAL METHODS and EQUIPMENT FOR TRAPPING FURBEARERS

Trappers may use lights from boats or vehicles to check traps.

Traps may not be set in trails/paths commonly used by people or domestic animals.

There shall be no restrictions on the size or type of trap used as a water set.

The following equipment is permitted for dry-land sets, but traps may not be set closer than ten (10) feet apart.

- Deadfall
- Wire cage or box trap.
- Foothold traps with a maximum inside jaw spread of six (6) inches measured perpendicular to the hinges.
- Body-gripping traps with a maximum inside jaw spread of seven and one-half (7.5) inches measured parallel with the trigger.

A snare is a wire, cable, or string with a knot, loop, or a single piece closing device, the deployment of which is or is not spring-assisted, but any spring-assisted device is not for the purpose of applying tension to the closing device.

life, must be attached to the raw fur of any bobcat or river otter taken in Kentucky, if the hunter or trapper intends to sell or export internationally.

To complete and submit a CITES tag request form online, access the "My Profile" feature on Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's website at [fw.ky.gov](http://fw.ky.gov). Those

without internet access may call the department at 1-800-858-1549 on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time) and provide the animal's telecheck confirmation number.

CITES tags must immediately be attached to the animal or pelt per the instructions included with the tag and remain with the pelt until it is processed. Possession of an unused bobcat or otter CITES tag is prohibited.

A person who transfers, but does not sell, a river otter or bobcat to another person or taxidermist, is not required to request a CITES tag. But, this person must attach a handmade carcass tag to the animal that contains the telecheck confirmation number and the hunter or trapper's name and phone number.

## BUYING and SELLING HIDES

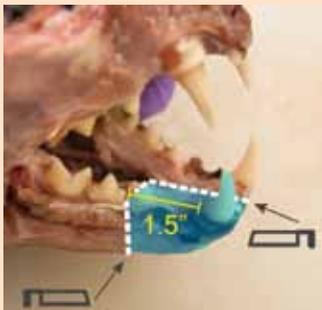
There is no time restriction on the holding of raw furs of furbearers by a trapper or hunter after the close of furbearer season. Raw furs may be sold only to licensed taxidermists, licensed fur buyers or licensed fur processors.

## FREE YOUTH WEEK

Resident and nonresident youth hunters and trappers ages 15 and under may hunt and trap small game without a hunting or trapping license for seven consecutive days starting the Saturday after Christmas.

Please refer to the hunter orange clothing law section for guidelines.

Youth hunters must comply with all equipment regulations and bag limits for furbearers when hunting or trapping. Hunter education is not required for license-exempt hunters. Adults accompanying youth hunters/trappers during the Free Youth Hunting & Trapping Week do not need a license if they are not hunting/trapping.



## FURBEARER HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS: WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Kentucky Fish & Wildlife is collecting lower canines from harvested bobcats and river otters for a population study. Please contact the department at 1-800-858-1549 to request a sample packet and instructions. Thank you for your contribution to furbearer management.