

Treaty Trapping Regulation Summary



1837 and 1842 Ceded Territories
of Wisconsin and Minnesota

2024

Introduction

The rules summarized in this booklet are the minimum rules that apply to Tribal members trapping in the Ceded Territories across Minnesota and Wisconsin.

This booklet is a snapshot; check with your Tribe to learn the appropriate, current rules. This guide does not state Tribal ordinance in their entirety. You are responsible for knowing your Tribe's regulations, which are subject to change and may be more restrictive.

This booklet summarizes regulations that will be enforced in Tribal court(s); it does not summarize local, state, or federal criminal laws.

Check with your Tribe or GLIFWC with questions.

Regulation Booklets

Camping &
Access



Hunting



Gathering &
Wild Rice



Trapping



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Tribe IDs

Bad River	BR	Lac du Flambeau	LDF
Fond du Lac	FDL	Lac Vieux Desert	LVD
Lac Courte Orielles	LCO	Mole Lake	ML
Mille Lacs Band	MLB	St. Croix	SC
Red Cliff	RC	Keweenaw Bay	KBIC

I. Trapping and Snaring Regulations

1. Permit and ID Requirements

You must possess a valid trapping permit issued by your Band's conservation department and a valid Tribal identification card while trapping.

You must display permits and proper identification to any Tribal, local, state, or federal law enforcement officer upon request.

It is illegal to share, gift, sell, or trade, or to offer to share, gift, or sell, permits or tags. It is also illegal to trap with a permit or tag issued to another person.

2. Identification of Traps

You must attach to each trap or snare a metal tag that is stamped or engraved with your name, address, or NAGFA™ ID and the initials of your Band.

3. Open Season Dates

Generally, the same species can be trapped during the same season in both the Minnesota and Wisconsin portions of the Ceded Territories. However, there are differences.

Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory

Oct.1–Mar. 31 open trapping season for badger; bobcat; beaver; bobwhite quail; cottontail rabbit; fisher; Hungarian partridge; marten; mink; muskrat; otter; pheasant (males only); raccoon; red fox; gray fox; red, gray and fox squirrel; snowshoe hare; and unprotected species (such as opossums, coyotes (brush wolves), skunks, weasels, woodchucks, gophers, porcupines, starlings, English sparrows, common pigeons, coturnix quail, chukar partridge, monk parakeet, and rock doves. There is no open trapping season for lynx, female pheasants, ruffed grouse, or sharp-tailed grouse.

Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territory

Oct. 1–Mar. 31 open trapping season for bobcat, bobwhite quail; coyote; cottontail rabbit; Hungarian partridge; mink; muskrat; pheasant; raccoon; red fox; gray fox; red, gray, and fox squirrel; ruffed grouse; sharp-tailed grouse (1/day bag limit); snowshoe hare; and unprotected species (such as opossums, skunks,

weasels, woodchucks, gophers, porcupines, starlings, English sparrows, common pigeons, coturnix partridge, and rock doves.

- Otter and beaver season Oct. 1–Apr. 30.
- Fisher season Saturday nearest Oct. 17–Mar. 31.
- No open trapping season for badger, marten, or lynx.

4. Management Zones, Quotas, and Limits

Otter, Bobcat, Fisher, and Marten

Bands may establish quotas for otter, bobcat, and fisher for both Minnesota and Wisconsin, and marten for Minnesota.

For most years tribal harvest will fall below the threshold and no quota will be established.

Information about the thresholds or quotas is available from your Band's conservation department, registration station, or GLIFWC.

Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territory

There is a bag limit of 1 sharp-tailed grouse per day. Otherwise, there is no limit on the number of animals you may take by trapping each day unless otherwise established by your Band.

5. Incidental Take, Harvest Beyond a Quota

Any animal that is trapped outside of an open season, or that is trapped after the quota for that species has been reached, must be immediately released if it has been live trapped or, if killed, must be surrendered as soon as possible to the Band's conservation department.

6. Carcass Tags, Registration

You must obtain carcass tags for otter, bobcat, fisher and marten before you trap and immediately affix the carcass tag to the animal after harvest.

You must register otter, bobcat, fisher, and marten by 5:00 pm on the 3rd regular business day (excluding holidays) following harvest at a Tribal registration station or in the field with a Tribal or GLIFWC warden. You may present the entire carcass or just the whole skin with the carcass tag attached.

You must provide date of harvest, management unit of harvest, and sex of the animal harvested.

If requested by the Band or GLIFWC, you must provide the animal's carcass (except the skin) for scientific research purposes.

The number of otters, fishers, bobcats, and martens are limited to the number of carcass tags you have.

Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory

You must obtain carcass tags for otter, bobcat, fisher and marten.

Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territory

You must obtain carcass tags for otter, bobcat, and fisher. **Trapping marten is not allowed.**

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

You should contact a GLIFWC warden to obtain a (CITES) tag before selling any otter or bobcat fur.

7. Trapping Location Restrictions

Knowing where areas are open and closed to trapping is the harvester's responsibility. You may trap on most public lands; however there are restrictions.

No trapping is allowed at:

- Public parks, except for areas in Wisconsin open to trapping as described in the Tribal State Park Hunting Opportunities document, and in Minnesota parks open to hunting;
- Public water access sites (MN only); or
- Where small game hunting is prohibited, and/or where notice of the prohibition is clearly posted.

Generally, you may not set traps on **private lands** under your Band's ceded territory conservation code. The one exception is in the *Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory* where you may trap on private lands that are enrolled in Minnesota's tree growth tax program.

Note: If you set traps on private land without the owner's consent, state trespassing laws could be enforced against you.

Bands may **close areas to trapping** by an emergency closure order. Emergency closures will be publicized by your Band and by GLIFWC.

In addition, where harvest of an animal is governed by a quota, trapping may be closed in the applicable management unit when the quota is reached.

Management unit closures will be publicized by your Band and GLIFWC.

Trapping in **game refuges, scientific and natural areas, and wildlife management areas is generally not permitted.** Trapping is allowed in some of these areas under special conditions and, in some cases, a special permit is required.

8. Trapping, Snaring Methods, and Restrictions

Traps and snares can only be placed during the open season.

Water sets can only be used during the open season for beaver, muskrat, or otter.

Bait or scent can only be used during the open season. You cannot use sight-exposed bait, visible from above, consisting of feathers, animal flesh, fur, hide or entrails within 25 ft. of a trap or snare.

The general rules governing the use of bait also apply. You cannot use bait contained in metal, plastic, glass, wood or non-degradable materials, and bait cannot contain honey.

Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory

Bait cannot contain uncured swine products.
Bait or liquid scent cannot be placed within 150 yds. of any public campsite.

Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territory

Bait or liquid scent cannot be placed within 50 yds. of any public trail, road, or campsite. In addition, if you use meat for bait, you must place a metal identification tag indicating your name and address or Band affiliation and NAGFA ID on the tree nearest the baits, at eye level, and directly facing the bait.

You can set or tend traps, snares any time of day or night. The rules for checking traps, snares and removing animals are:

Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory

Traps and snares must be checked and all animals removed at least once each day.
Body-gripping traps and water sets capable of drowning an animal must be checked and all animals removed at least once, each 3rd day unless set under the ice.

Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territory

Dry land sets must be checked, and all animals removed, at least once each day except for sets placed for weasels.

Weasel sets may be checked every four days if the set is placed entirely within an enclosure, with no opening larger than $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. diameter and is anchored to an immovable object. There is no required time period for checking water sets.

Size and Area Restrictions

Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory

Jaw-traps with teeth must be set or staked so that the trapped animal can reach water.

If you disturb or make an opening in a muskrat house, runway, or bank den, you must replace the material removed to prevent freezing inside the house.

You may not damage a beaver house or dam, and you may not set a trap inside of a beaver house or above the water line on the outside of a beaver house.

Body-gripping traps larger than 7.5 in. x 7.5 in. must be at least half submerged in water.

Body-gripping traps larger than 6.5 in. x 6.5 in. or 6.5 in. diameter cannot be placed in the road right-of-way within 500 ft. of an occupied (human or livestock) building without the owner's written consent or within 3 ft. of the opening of a 6 ft. wide or smaller road culvert, unless completely submerged in water.

Jaw-traps cannot have a spread width of more than 8.75 in.

Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territory

Jaw-traps with teeth must be used as water sets.

You cannot place on the ice any artificial house or den, or any trap or snare which has the effect of taking furbearers.

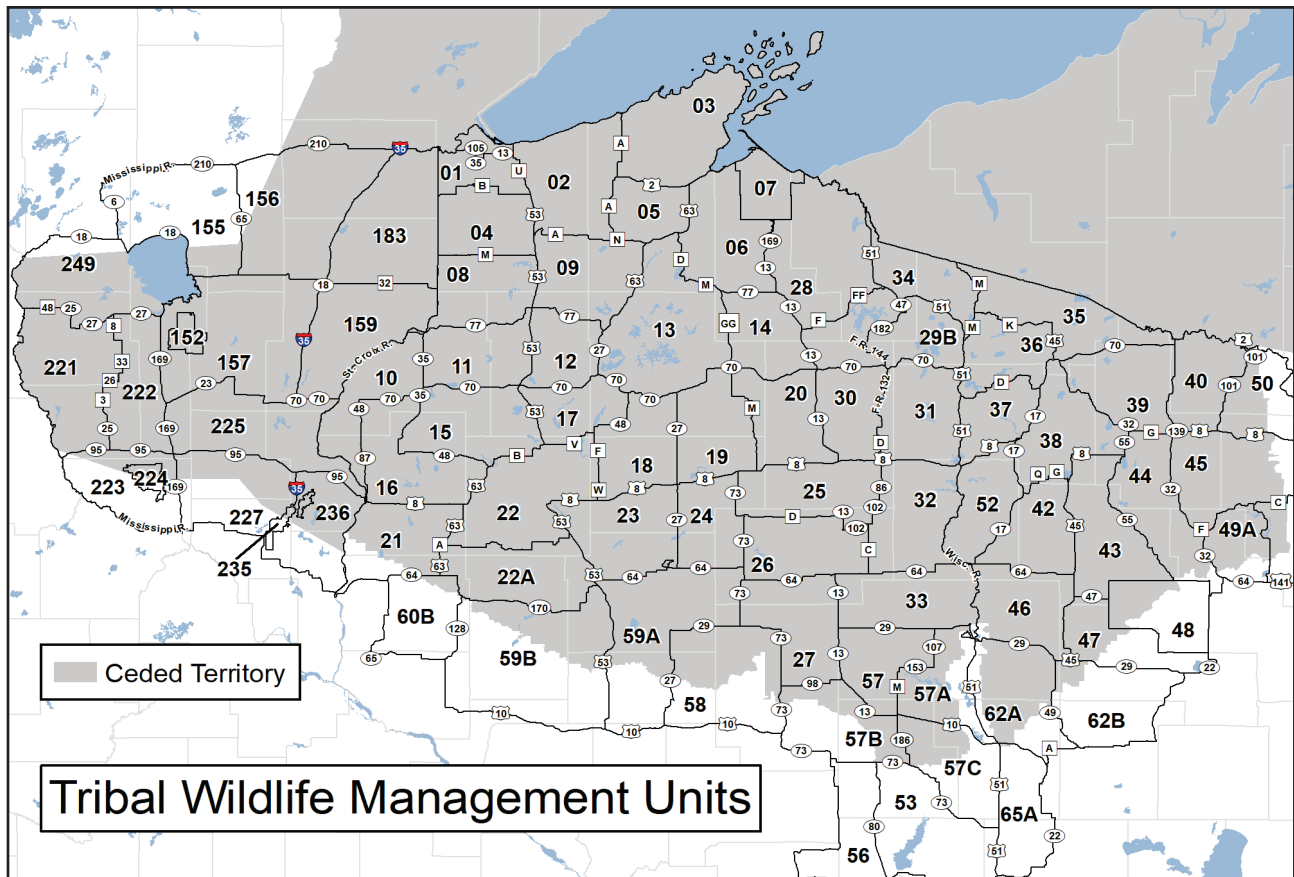
Body-gripping traps larger than 8 in. x 8 in. or 7.5 in. diameter cannot be placed within 100 yds. of an occupied building without the owner's consent, or within 3 ft. of any wire mesh-type fence, or a road culvert unless completely submerged in water.

Body-gripping traps larger than 8 in. x 8 in. may only be used as a water set at least half submerged in water at all times.

Except for **colony traps**, you may only use a body-gripping trap, enclosed trap, snare, restraining snare, jawed trap, or box trap capable of taking one animal in a single setting. Jaw-traps cannot have a spread width of more than 8 in.

Colony traps may be used for muskrats as long as the trap is set entirely under the water at all times, not placed within 3 ft. of any culvert, the trap and set does not use bait, the trap is not used in conjunction with any fencing netting or other underwater material that creates an underwater obstruction designed to force or channel any animal into the trap.

Incidentally harvested mink may be retained from a lawfully set colony trap.



Prohibited Trapping Methods

Nets, pitfalls, spring poles, deadfalls, and similar devices are prohibited. Dynamite, other explosives, poisonous or stupefying substances or devices cannot be used. Pole traps and any other elevated traps used to capture birds on a perch more than 3 ft. above the ground are also prohibited.

9. Additional Snaring Restrictions

Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory

Snare Types and Sizes

- A spring-activated snare may be used unless it wholly or partially lifts an animal off the ground.
- A snare cannot suspend an animal unless it is attached to a drowning mechanism.
- A snare wire cannot be larger than $\frac{1}{8}$ in. diameter.
- Upland snares must be set with a loop size 12 in. diameter or smaller.

Location, Other Restrictions

Both upland and water set snares must be removed by Mar. 31.

No upland snare shall be set such that the bottom of the loop is more than 12 in. above the first surface beneath the bottom of the set loop, where the surface is ground, ice, crusted or packed snow or any other hard surface.

Upland snares cannot be set on well-defined deer trails.

The Commissioner may prohibit the setting of snares in certain locations. If you have a question about this, check with your Band's conservation department or GLIFWC.

Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territory

Snare Types and Sizes

(A “snare” is a noose with a non-relaxing lock used for catching furbearing animals.)

- A snare must be anchored so that it cannot be dragged.
- A snare cannot suspend an animal unless it is attached to a drowning mechanism. Snares cannot be spring activated.
- A snare wire cannot be larger than 1/8 in. diameter.
- Braided picture-wire snares without locks or swivels may be used for rabbits and hares.

- For all other species, a snare must have a mechanical lock to prevent the loop size from becoming smaller than 2.5 in. or a breakaway mechanical lock and must have a swivel device on the anchor end.
- Upland snares must be set with a loop size 10 in. diameter or smaller.

Other Restrictions

Both upland and water set snares must be removed by Mar. 31.

Upland snares cannot be set on a well-defined deer trail. The bottom loop of an upland snare cannot be more than 6 in. above the first surface, and when the ground is snow covered, no more than 6 in. above the first hard surface below the snow (ground, ice, hard-pack snow).

Restraining Snares (Cable Restraints)

Restraining snares may only be used for fox, coyote, and bobcat from Oct.1-Mar. 31.

Incidentally caught raccoons may be retained from a lawfully set restraining snare.

Snares must be set so the bottom of the loop is at least 6 in. above the ground or snow and cannot exceed 12 in. above the first surface and cannot be staked in a manner that allows the restraint to reach any part of a fence, rooted woody vegetation greater than ½ in. diameter, or any other immovable object or stake that could cause entanglement.

- Cable length may not exceed 7 ft.
- Restraining snares cannot be spring activated.
- Cable must be galvanized and include a swivel.
- Cable must be made of multiple strands of wire with a diameter of $\frac{3}{32}$ in. or larger.
- Cable must include a breakaway device or stop rated at 285 lbs. or less.
- Cable must include a relaxing reverse bend washer lock with a minimum outside diameter of 1¼ in.
- Cable stops must ensure that the noose loop is no longer than 38 in. when fully opened or less than 8 in. when fully closed.

Foot-Activated Restraint Snares (Cable Restraints)

Foot-activated restraining snares may only be used for the following species and time periods

Bobcats: Dec. 1–Jan. 31

Fox and Coyote: Dec. 1–Feb. 15

Cable length may not exceed 7 ft.

Cable must include a roller or barrel in-line swivel that acts as the maximum opening cable stop to ensure that the loop is no longer than 22 in. when opened.

Cable must be made of multiple strands of wire with a diameter of $\frac{3}{32}$ in. or larger.

Cable must include a breakaway device or stop rated at 285 lbs. or less.

Cable must include an in-line shock swing.

10. Live Animals

Generally, trapped animals must be immediately killed or released. You may temporarily control a live animal in very limited circumstances. Check with your Band's conservation department or GLIFWC with questions.

11. Shipment of Furs

When you ship furs, you must mark the outside of the package showing your name, address, and the number and kinds of hides that are inside.

12. Waste

Waste of natural resources is prohibited.

13. Equipment Tampering, Stealing Game

It is illegal to tamper with traps or snares set by another person.

It is also illegal to remove game from a trap or snare without the consent of the owner.

14. Resisting Conservation Wardens

It is illegal to resist or obstruct any law enforcement officer authorized to enforce your Band's ordinance.

15. Threatened, Endangered Species

It is illegal to take, transport, possess, process, or sell any endangered or threatened species. A *Threatened and Endangered Species List* is available from your Band's conservation department or GLIFWC.

16. Protected Species

It is illegal to trap wolverine, flying squirrel, timber wolf, lynx, cougar, homing pigeon or any wild bird, except where bird trapping is specifically allowed and regulated.

Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory

- Elk are a protected species in Minnesota.

Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territory

- Badger, marten, and moose are protected species in Wisconsin.

17. Trapping with Non-Members

You may trap or be in the woods with non-members as long as that non-member is legally trapping under Minnesota or Wisconsin state laws or otherwise is not violating state laws.

However, group trapping between members and non-members is not allowed.

In addition, the only non-members who may assist you while trapping are those in your immediate family, including grandparents, parents, children, spouses and siblings.

If you are present, assistance may be rendered in all trapping activities except in the setting or placing of traps or snares.

It is legal for non-members to help you with an animal that you have already reduced to your possession.

18. Gifting, Selling Game

It is your responsibility to know what you may legally sell and to comply with certain record-keeping requirements.

You may give away or sell animals or animal parts that have been legally trapped under your Band's ordinance. Special record keeping requirements must be met and **CITES** tags should be obtained before selling otter or bobcat furs for the purpose of exportation to another country.

Sales, Receipts, and Gifts

Except for the **sale of furs**, you must keep a record of each transaction.

When a written record is required, it must be made within 24 hrs. of the transaction on forms

that you can get from your Band's conservation department indicating

- Quantity, type of animal
- Parties to the transaction
- Date of the transaction

You must forward these records *monthly* to your Band's conservation department.

Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory

For sales, you do not need to keep a record for subsistence uses, which include consumption by your family, making or selling of craft, cultural items, and barter between Band members.

For gifts, you must give a receipt to the recipient, *except* for gifts within a household, that detail the harvester's name and address, the recipient's name and address, the date of transfer, a description of the item(s) given, including species and quantity, with the permit number under which the animal was taken or, if you acquired it other than by taking, a description of how you acquired the animal. The recipient must retain the receipt as long as they have the item(s) transferred.

Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territory

It is recommended that you follow the above Gifts Receipts procedure, particularly to non-members, of animals and/or animal parts that have been trapped in the Wisconsin 1837 and 1842 ceded territories.

II. Enforcement

1. Wardens

Tribal, GLIFWC, and state DNR wardens are empowered to enforce your Band's ceded territory conservation code. They may seize evidence of alleged violations, including animals, traps, and may issue citations.

2. Tribal Court

Alleged violations will be prosecuted in your Band's court under tribal law.

3. Penalties

The Band's court may set the fines for violations up to \$5,000. The court may also revoke or suspend your trapping rights, order you to forfeit any property used in committing the violation, order you to pay a natural resources assessment up to 75% of the fine, and impose court costs.

The court may order community service and penalties may be enhanced for repeat offenders.

4. Civil Damages

In addition to other penalties, your Tribal court may also order payment of damages to the Band for the value of the resources taken illegally.

5. Parties to a Violation

If you aid, abet, assist or in any way involved with another member who commits a violation, you may be charged with the same violation as if you committed it yourself.

6. Harvesting After Revocation or Suspension

It is illegal to trap while your ceded territory privileges have been revoked or suspended by the Band's court.

III. Contacts

GLIFWC General Office.....(715) 682-6619

Enforcement Office(715) 685-2112

Bad River

Conservation Department(715) 682-7123
ext 1509

Fond du Lac

Natural Resources Director.....(218) 878-7101

Enforcement Office(218) 878-7155

Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC)

Registration Station.....(906) 353-6623

Lac Courte Oreilles

Conservation Department(715) 634-0102

Lac du Flambeau

Conservation Department(715) 588-4172

Registration Station.....(715)588-4245

Lac Vieux Desert

Registration Station.....(906) 358-0137

Mille Lacs

Onamia, MN.....(320) 532-7896

McGregor, MN.....(218) 768-3311

Sandstone, MN.....(320) 384-6240

Minneapolis, MN.....(612) 872-1424

Sokaogon (Mole Lake)

Environmental Dept.(715) 478-7605

Registration Station.....(715) 478-0218

Red Cliff

Natural Resources Dept.(715) 779-3795

Registration Station.....(715) 779-3732

St. Croix

Natural Resources Dept.(715) 349-2195

Registration Station.....(715) 349-2195
ext. 5185

Notes

Find us at glifwc.org and follow us on

Instagram [@glifwc](https://www.instagram.com/glifwc) Facebook [@glifwc](https://www.facebook.com/glifwc)

