Some of the information in this letter has been provided through the cooperative efforts of North Carolina’s licensed trappers and licensed fur dealers. The information they provide helps the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission monitor furbearer harvest levels and track trends in the population.

Regulations changes for the 2008-09 furbearer harvest season

- Removed the restriction on trapping and taking otters in areas north of US64/264 on Roanoke Island.
- Removed season and possession bag limits on raccoons taken by trapping.
- Removed restriction on setting steel traps on upland terrain for muskrat and mink in portions of WRC Districts 7, 8, and 9.
- Clarified that trappers need to obtain tags for fox, bobcat and otter before leaving N.C.
- Consolidated the four regional trapping seasons into two seasons:
  a. November 1 – end of February in WRC Districts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.
  b. December 1 – end of February in WRC Districts 1 and 2.

Additional fox trapping opportunities

During the most recent North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA) legislative session, two additional counties were opened to fox trapping:

- Craven – New season
- Stokes – Extended season

Public Hearing Schedule for January 2009

(To find out what district you are in, please see map on other side.)

There are a number of hunting and trapping rule change proposals being considered for the 2009-2010 hunting and trapping season. Please attend the public hearing in your district to have your voice heard on these proposals.

- District 4 – January 5\textsuperscript{th}
- District 5 – January 7\textsuperscript{th}
- District 6 – January 8\textsuperscript{th}
- District 8 – January 13\textsuperscript{th}
- District 9 – January 14\textsuperscript{th}
- District 7 – January 15\textsuperscript{th}
- District 1 – January 20\textsuperscript{th}
- District 2 – January 21\textsuperscript{st}
- District 3 – January 22\textsuperscript{nd}

*Public hearing locations have not been finalized. Please check [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org) in late fall for public hearing locations.
Season Results from 2007-2008 Furbearer Harvest Season

Information on the harvest of furbearer species taken comes from the voluntary mail survey of licensed trappers and information provided by licensed fur dealers.

### 2007-2008 Furbearer Harvest, Average Pelt Prices and Value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Harvest 2006-07</th>
<th>Harvest 2007-08</th>
<th>% change in harvest from prior season</th>
<th>Average Pelt Price</th>
<th>Value of 2007-08 season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaver</td>
<td>11,458</td>
<td>9,919</td>
<td>-13%</td>
<td>$16.25</td>
<td>$161,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mink</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>$9.30</td>
<td>$3,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muskrat</td>
<td>7,412</td>
<td>3,543</td>
<td>-52%</td>
<td>$3.15</td>
<td>$11,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutria</td>
<td>3,720</td>
<td>2,436</td>
<td>-35%</td>
<td>$2.13</td>
<td>$5,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otter</td>
<td>1,751</td>
<td>1,457</td>
<td>-17%</td>
<td>$23.25</td>
<td>$33,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobcat</td>
<td>791</td>
<td>1,045</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>$28.12</td>
<td>$29,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyote</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>1,434</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>$18.12</td>
<td>$25,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Fox</td>
<td>3,020</td>
<td>5,560</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>$26.46</td>
<td>$147,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Fox</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>1,180</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>$14.83</td>
<td>$17,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opossum</td>
<td>4,317</td>
<td>6,393</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>$2.55</td>
<td>$16,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raccoon</td>
<td>5,967</td>
<td>6,712</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>$10.75</td>
<td>$72,154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skunk</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>641</td>
<td>245%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weasel</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-100%</td>
<td>$6.12</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>40,525</strong></td>
<td><strong>40,651</strong></td>
<td><strong>0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>--</strong></td>
<td><strong>$522,929</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Rabies information

During 2007, there were 418 furbearers, comprising of beaver, bobcat, coyote, fox, opossum, raccoon and skunk, which tested positive for rabies. This was 14% decrease in the number of rabies-positive furbearers than during 2006.
**Websites of interest**

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission  
http://www.ncwildlife.org/

North Carolina Trappers Association  
http://www.nctrappers.com/

National Trappers Association  
http://www.nationaltrappers.com/

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Furbearer Resources  
http://www.fishwildlife.org/furbearer.html

Conserve Wildlife  
http://www.conservewildlife.org/

Furbearers Unlimited  
http://www.furbearers.org/

Fur Takers of America  
http://www.furtakersofamerica.com/

Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management  
http://icwdm.org/

N.C. Department of Health and Human Services Rabies Information  
http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/vet.html

Southeast Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study  
http://www.scwds.org/

**Phone numbers of interest**

Big Game Harvest Reporting  
(800) I-GOT-ONE  
(800) 446-8663

Violations Reporting  
(800) 662-7137  
(919) 707-0040 (in Raleigh area)  
(800) 662-7137 (TTY machine for people with hearing disabilities)

Regulation Information  
(919) 707-0030

License Information  
(919) 707-0391

License Purchases by credit card  
(888) 2HUNTFISH  
(888) 248-6834

Wildlife Management Division  
(919) 707-0050

Created and Edited by:  
Colleen Olfenbuttel  
Black Bear and Furbearer Biologist Surveys and Research Program  
Division of Wildlife Management  
N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission  
1701 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1701  
olfenbuttelc@earthlink.net