



2023 Survey of Minnesota Trappers

Final Report

06/29/2023

Suggested citation

Landon, A.C., Abraham, J., & Erb, J. (2023). 2023 Survey of Minnesota Trappers. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

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Background and purpose

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources periodically conducts surveys of fish and wildlife stakeholders to assess their attitudes toward fish and wildlife management, hunting, trapping, and fishing regulations, and patterns of participation in associated activities. This report details the results of one such investigation of Minnesota trappers.

Among other topics, this study sought to understand trappers’:

- 1) Participation in trapping,
- 2) Satisfaction with trapping in Minnesota,
- 3) Participation in nuisance wildlife trapping,
- 4) Locations of trapping activity and use of trap sets, and
- 5) Attitudes toward trapping regulations, including;
 - a. Minimum age required to harvest and register fur,
 - b. Non-resident trapping,
 - c. River otter season dates and bags,
 - d. Fisher/marten season dates and bags,
 - e. Simplifying trapping zones, and
 - f. Expanding fisher/bobcat trapping.

Methods

Participant selection

The Minnesota Electronic Licensing System (ELS) was the sample frame for the study. We randomly selected 3,416 individual trappers aged 18 and over for participation. Selection occurred in two equal strata (n=1,708) according to county of residence either north or south of U.S. Interstate 94 to ensure geographic coverage of participants. We selected respondents at an intensity necessary to make estimates within strata with 95% confidence +/- 4% margin of error.

Data collection and response rate

We collected data through postal mail in 2 waves. We sent participants a survey packet containing a cover letter describing the study, a paper questionnaire, and a self-addressed postage-paid business reply envelope. We adjusted the contact list between mailings and sent a second survey packet to non-respondents roughly 3 weeks after the first.

We removed 74 participants from the study owing to either a bad address, or the individual having been deceased. Data collection efforts yielded 1,495 responses, for an adjusted response rate of 45%. Table 1 contains a summary of the sample, undeliverable mail, and response rate.

Table 1. Survey response rate

Initial sample	Undeliverable	Adjusted sample	Returns	Raw response rate	Adjusted response rate
3,416	74	3,342	1,495	44%	45%

Weighting

We weighted the data for age according to the distribution in the population of licensed trappers, to account for differences in age between the respondents and the population, and within sampling strata. We generated categories corresponding to quartiles of age in the population of trappers. Tables 2 and 3 contain a summaries of the counts and proportions of trappers within age categories and by zone for respondents and the population. Smaller proportions of trappers in the 18-38 and 39-51 categories responded to the survey than exist in the population. Larger proportions of trappers in the 52-63 and 64+ categories responded to the survey than exist in the population. Consequently, weights slightly increase the contribution of the two younger age classes, and slightly decrease the contribution of the two older age classes in estimates. This pattern holds after accounting for north/south stratification.

Table 2. Weighting schedule age only for north and south zone estimates

Weight Category	Population #	Population %	Respondent #	Respondent %
18-38	2040	.2667	244	.1641
39-51	1862	.2434	276	.1856
52-63	1955	.2556	444	.2986
64+	1793	.2343	523	.3517

Table 3. Weighting schedule age and zone for all trapper estimates

Weight Category	Population #	Population %	Respondent #	Respondent %
North 18-38	1128	0.1474	139	0.0934
North 39-51	1025	0.1339	149	0.1002
North 52-63	1086	0.1419	245	0.1647
North 64+	1039	0.1358	247	0.1661
South 18-38	912	0.1192	105	0.0706
South 39-51	837	0.1094	127	0.0854
South 52-63	869	0.1135	199	0.1338
South 64+	754	0.0985	276	0.1856

Estimates

We made two sets of estimates from the data. Estimates labeled “All” in response tables and in text are extrapolations to the entire population of trappers in Minnesota and represent the overall population average. These estimates are weighted to account for the probability of selection within sampling strata, and post-stratified by categories of age to account for potential biases stemming from the data collection procedure. The finite population correction is applied at a population value of $n=7,650$.

Estimates labeled “North” and “South” refer to trappers’ response to a question within the questionnaire regarding their primary trapping location either north or south of U.S. interstate 94. These estimates are weighted for age (statewide) to account for potential biases stemming from the data collection procedure described above. We chose our sampling design to ensure a sufficient number of responses from trappers by primary trapping location to achieve 95% confidence in point estimates with a margin of $\pm 4\%$. We received responses from 550 trappers reporting that their primary trapping location is south of U.S. interstate 94, and 837 trappers reporting that their primary trapping location is north of U.S. interstate 94. The number of responses necessary to achieve the confidence and margin described above for the whole population of 7,650 trappers is 557. Given that the actual population of trappers whose primary trapping location is north and south of U.S. 94 is smaller than the total population, we are very confident our estimates are representative of these populations.

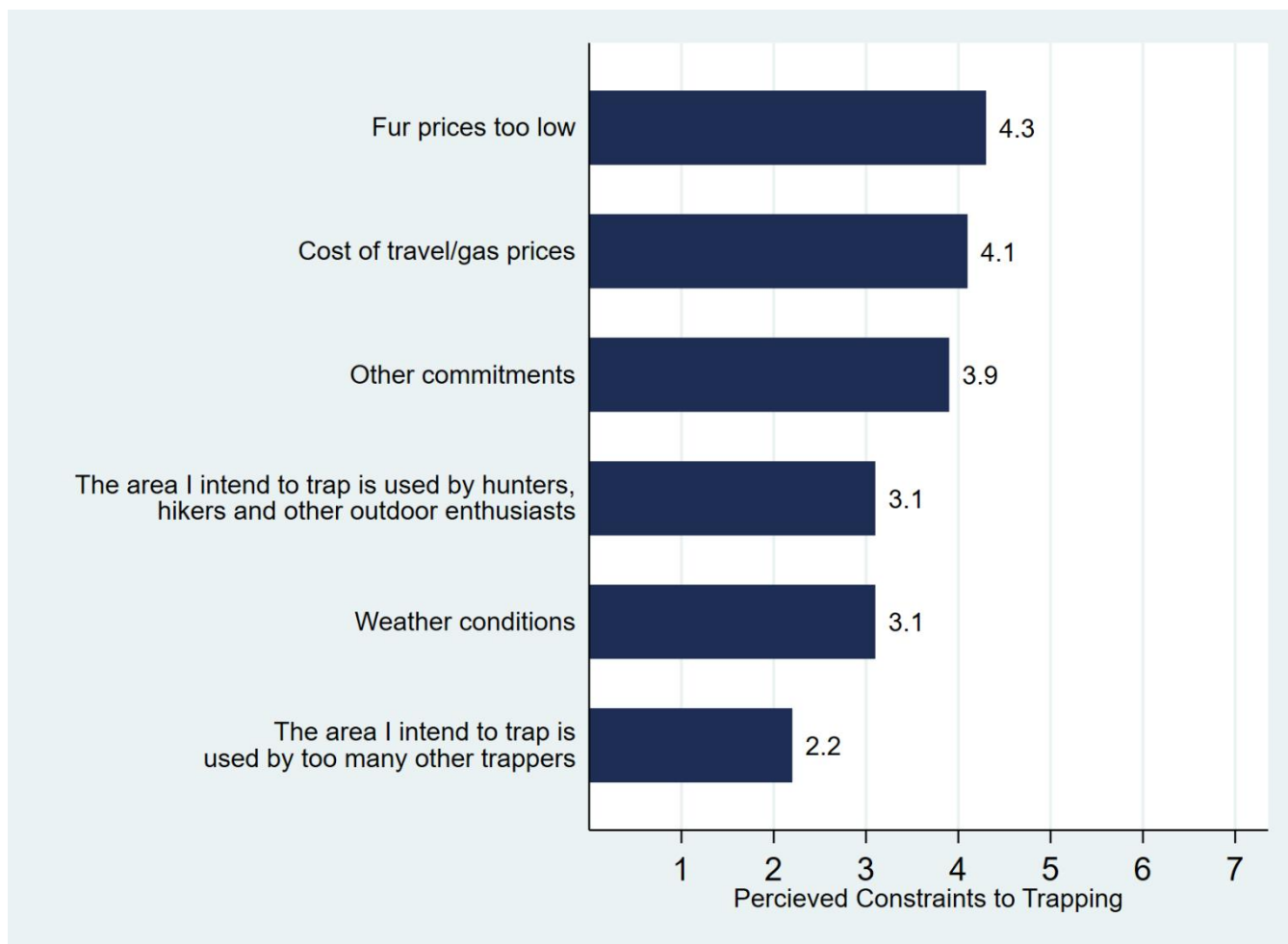
Results presented exclude individuals that reported that they have not trapped in Minnesota ($n=51$).

Executive Summary

Constraints to trapping

We asked trappers to evaluate several constraints that may limit their participation in trapping (Figure 1). Among those presented, trappers rated low prices of fur and costs of travel and gas as the most limiting factors in their trapping participation. Trappers reported that, on average, the presence of other trappers at intended trapping locations, weather conditions, and the presence of non-trappers at trapping locations were not particularly limiting. Mean values for items measuring constraints to trapping ranged from 2.2 to 4.3 on a scale where 1 = not at all limiting, and 7 = very limiting with respect to participation.

Figure 1. Minnesota trappers' perceived constraints to trapping participation

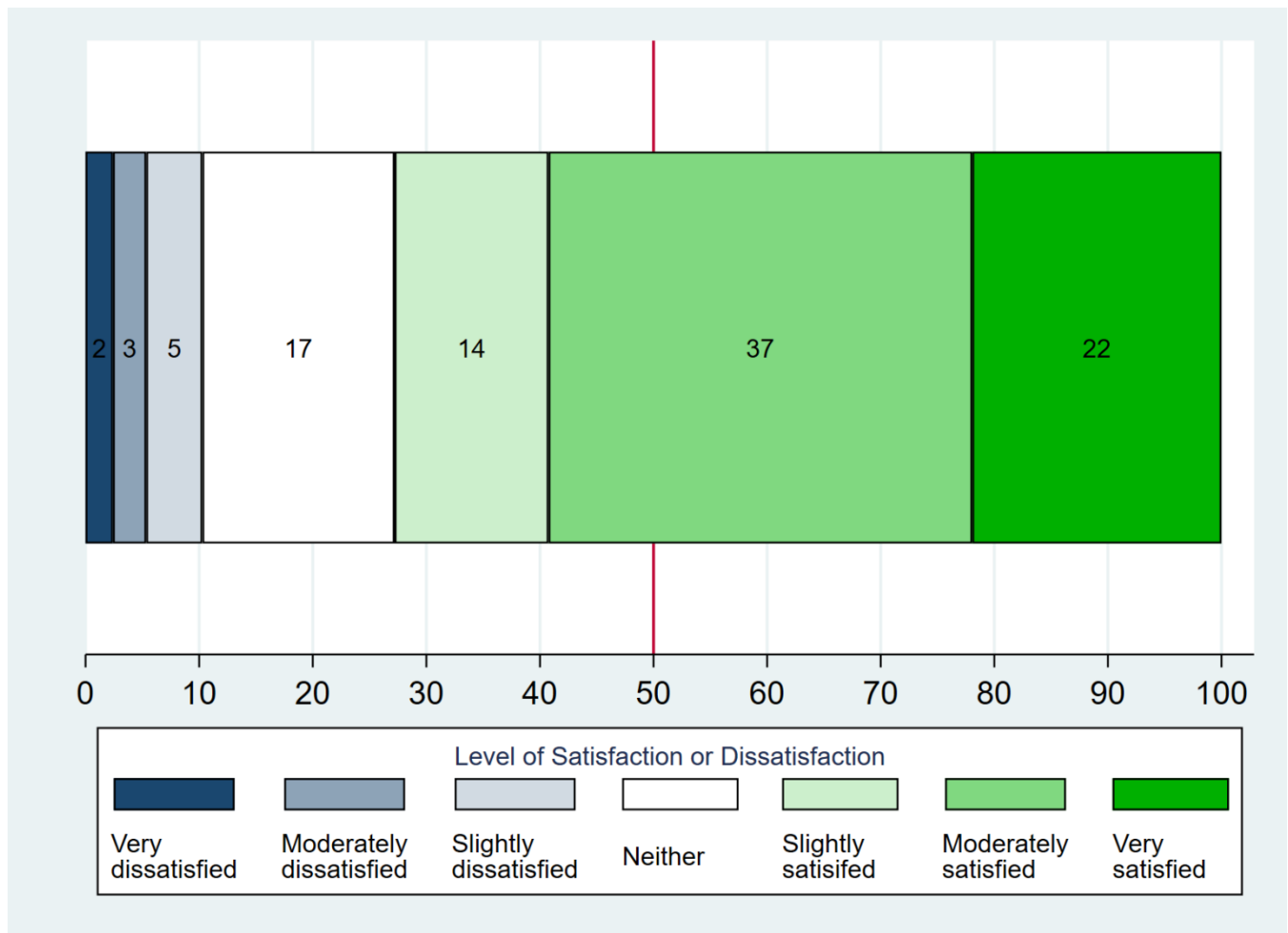


- Values are the mean of responses to items measured on a scale where 1= not at all limiting and 7 = very limiting.

Satisfaction with trapping in Minnesota

Trappers reported their satisfaction with elements of trapping in Minnesota in recent years. Figure 2 contains a summary of trappers' assessment of their overall experience. On average, trappers were highly satisfied with their experience, with nearly three-quarters reporting they were either slightly, moderately, or very satisfied. Twenty two percent of trappers reported that they were very satisfied with their overall trapping experience in Minnesota in recent years.

Figure 2. Minnesota trappers' satisfaction with their overall trapping experience in recent years



- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents fall into positive (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very satisfied) or negative (e.g. combined slightly, moderately, or very dissatisfied) categories by common colors (e.g., green or blue).

Human-wildlife conflicts

We asked trappers if they have ever trapped to resolve human-wildlife conflicts for other people, and what species they may have trapped. Very few trappers (2%) reported that they regularly trap nuisance wildlife as part of a business. Around a third (28%) of trappers reported that they regularly trap nuisance wildlife. Nearly half (47%) of trappers reported that they have trapped nuisance wildlife in the past, but do not do it regularly. Less than a quarter of trappers (22%) reported that they have never trapped nuisance wildlife.

The most commonly targeted species trappers reported trapping to resolve human-wildlife conflict was beaver (80%). Trappers also reported trapping raccoon (58%), skunk (40%), and coyote (37%) to resolve human-wildlife conflicts. Fewer trappers reported trapping muskrat, fox, opossum, and squirrel/rabbit (all 14%). Bobcat (2%) was the least commonly reported target of trapping effort to resolve human-wildlife conflict.

Trap sets and locations

We asked trappers several questions about the types of traps they set, the locations where they set them, and their target species. Of particular interest were trappers most common trap sets by species, and their setting of 160 or 220 body grip traps and snares.

Trappers reported the four species they most commonly targeted in recent years, and the two trap sets they most often used to target those species. The four most commonly targeted species reported by trappers were beaver (22% of all entries), raccoon (18% of all entries), coyote (13% of all entries), and muskrat (11% of all entries). These four species collectively accounted for 64% of the reported species targets by trappers. Body grip traps in water, and foothold traps in water were the most common trap sets for beaver. Encapsulating foothold and cage traps were the most common trap sets for raccoon. Snares on land and foothold traps on land were the most common trap sets for coyote. Finally, foothold traps in water and colony traps were the most common trap sets for muskrat.

We asked trappers if they placed any traps in ditches or road rights of way, and what kinds of traps they placed in those locations. Forty-five percent of trappers reported that they did not set any traps in road rights of ways or ditches. Among those that did, 59% reported placing footholds, 6% set snares in the forest zone, 58% set body grips, 8% set cage traps, 35% set dog proof encapsulating traps, and 16% set colony traps.

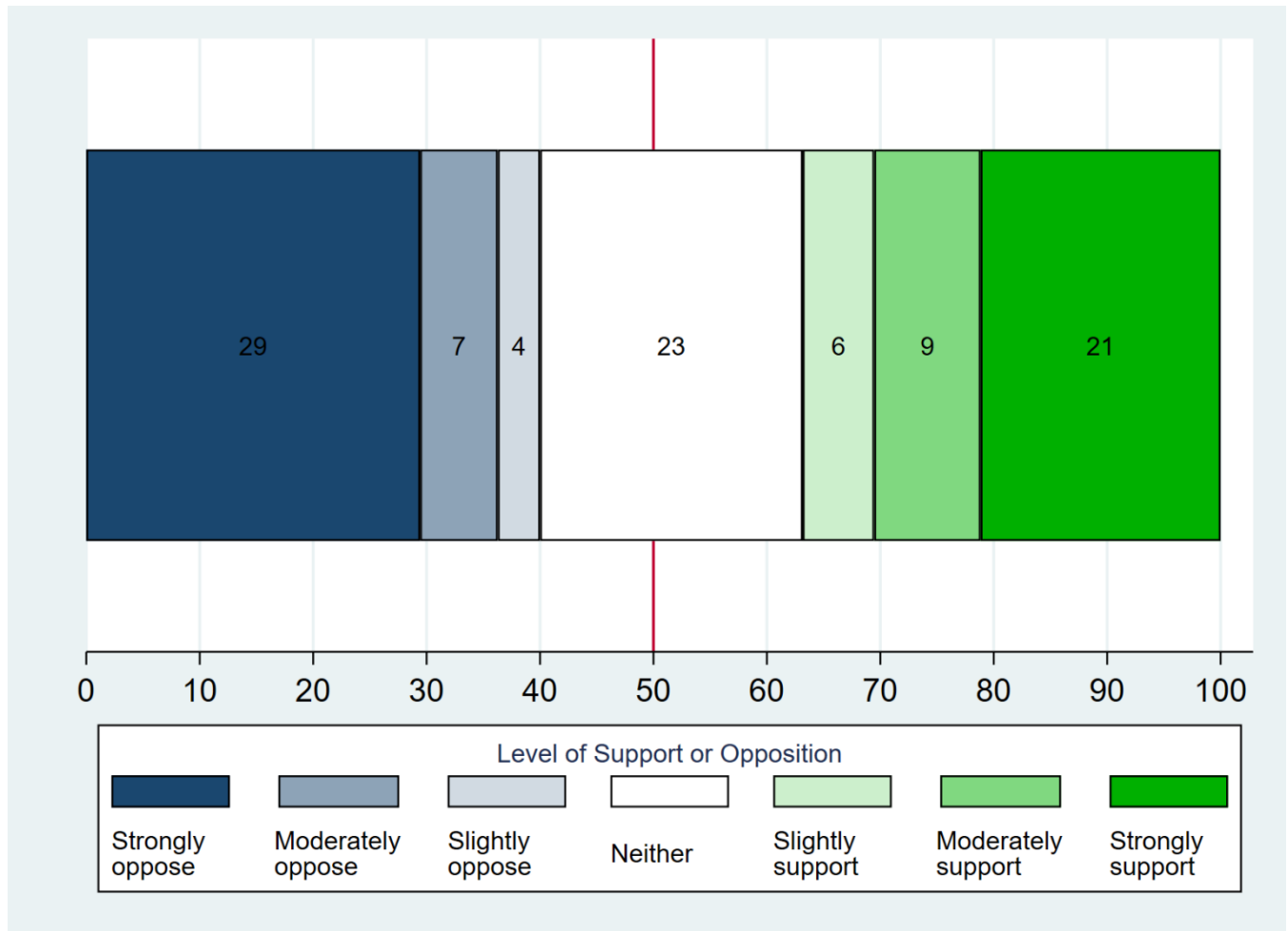
A majority of trappers (65%) reported that they set 160 or 220 body grip traps in Minnesota in recent years. Of those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps 71% reported that they never set them in road rights of way, 21% sometimes, 6% often, and 2% always. A clear majority of trappers reported that they never set 160 or 220 body grip traps in wildlife management, aquatic management, or waterfowl production areas (84%), on the frozen surface of public waters (75%), within a 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail (86%), or within a 100 feet of a private property where they do not have permission (75%). Somewhat more trappers reported setting 160 or 220 body grip traps within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road with 56% reporting never, 32% reporting sometimes, 11% reporting often, and 2% reporting always.

We also asked trappers about their activity setting snares in the farmland and forest zones. Nearly a quarter (23%) of trappers reported setting snares in the forest zone in recent years, and 27% reported setting snares in the farmland zone.

Minimum age required to register fur

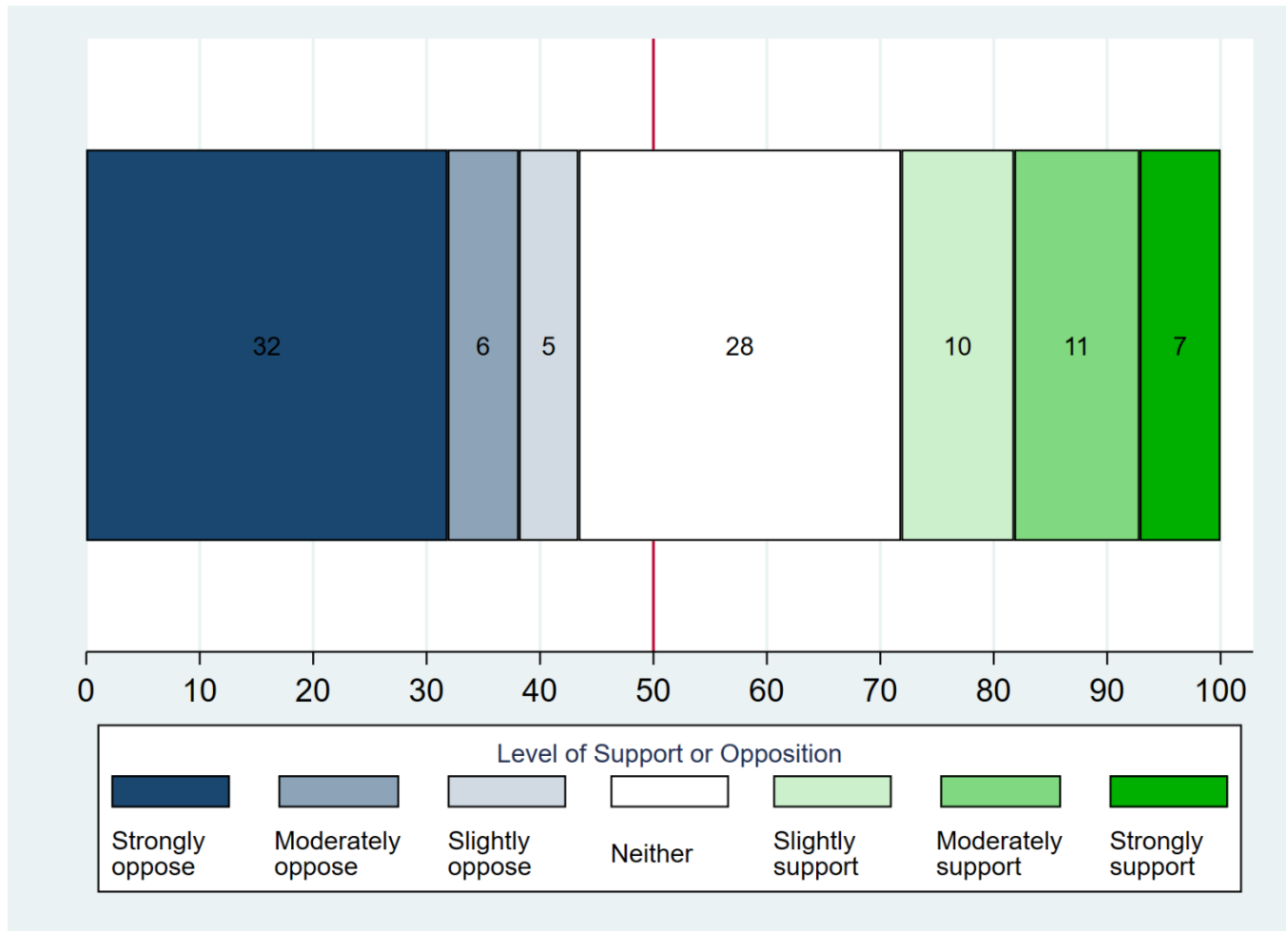
Current regulations allow individuals aged 5 and older to harvest and register their own bag of limited-quota species (fisher, marten, bobcat, river otter) in the state of Minnesota. Some stakeholders feel that age is too low, and that the minimum age should increase. We asked trappers to evaluate several hypothetical changes to the minimum age required to harvest and register their own bag of limited-quota species in Minnesota including, a) 10 years old (Figure 3), b) an age between 5 and 10 years old (Figure 4), and c) maintaining the current regulation of 5 years old (Figure 5). Minnesota trappers were relatively split on their support or opposition to increasing the minimum age to 10 years old. 40% of trappers either strongly, moderately, or slightly opposed the change, while 36% expressed support. A further 23% of trappers were neither in support nor opposition of the proposal. A greater proportion of trappers opposed increasing the minimum age to an age between 5 and 10 years old, with 43% reporting some level of opposition. A plurality of trappers (44%) either slightly, moderately, or strongly supported maintaining the current minimum age of 5 years old.

Figure 3. Minnesota trappers’ support or opposition to increasing the minimum age required to register fur to 10 years old



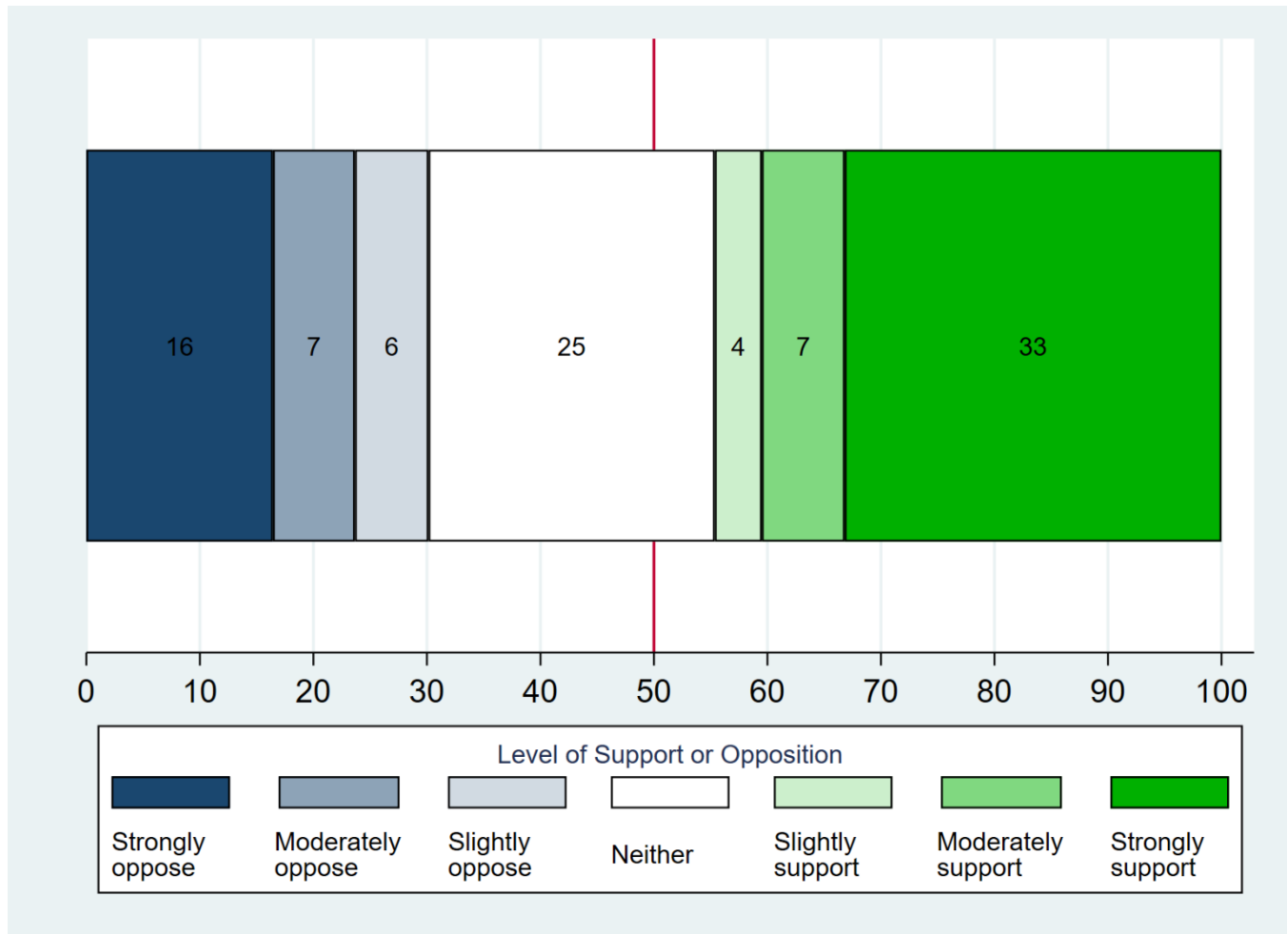
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents fall into positive (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very satisfied) or negative (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very dissatisfied) categories by common colors (e.g., green or blue).

Figure 4. Minnesota trappers' support or opposition to increasing the minimum age required to register fur to an age between 5 and 10 years old



- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents fall into positive (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very satisfied) or negative (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very dissatisfied) categories by common colors (e.g., green or blue).

Figure 5. Minnesota trappers’ support or opposition to maintaining the current minimum age required to register fur of 5 years old

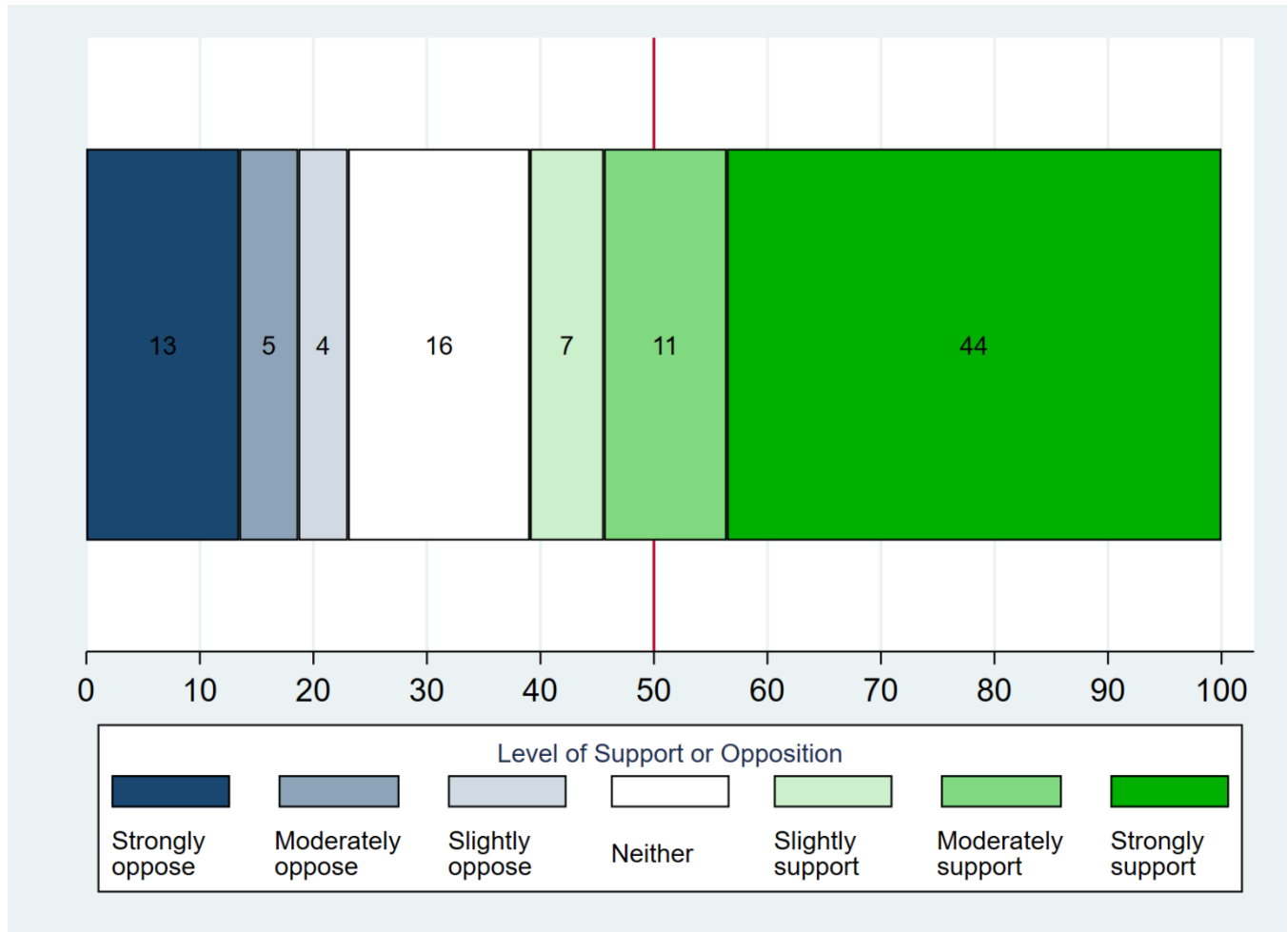


- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents fall into positive (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very satisfied) or negative (e.g, combined slightly, moderately, or very dissatisfied) categories by common colors (e.g., green or blue).

Non-resident trapping regulations

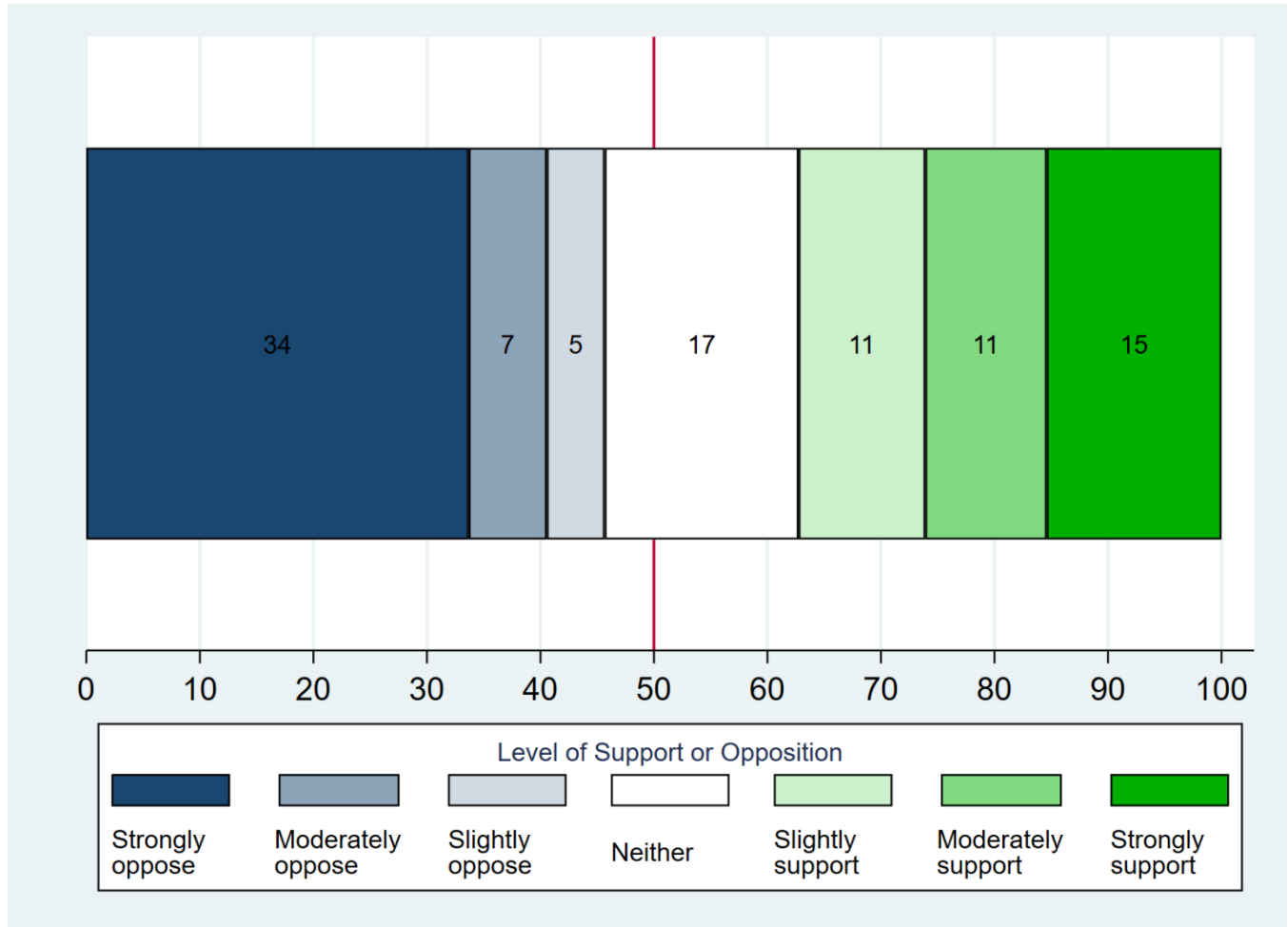
Minnesota is one of several states that does not allow non-resident trapping, and as consequence Minnesota residents are not permitted to trap in some states that require reciprocity. We assessed Minnesota trappers' attitudes toward changing regulations regarding non-resident trapping, as well as maintaining status quo. A majority of trappers (62%) either slightly, moderately, or strongly supported maintaining the current regulation prohibiting nearly all non-resident trapping (Figure 6). A near majority of trappers opposed allowing non-resident trapping even if non-resident trappers were not permitted to take quota species (Figure 7). Majorities of trappers opposed allowing non-resident trapping even if the non-resident season started after the resident season (Figure 8), or the non-resident season started after the resident season and non-residents were not permitted to take quota species (Figure 9).

Figure 6. Minnesota trappers’ support or opposition to maintaining the current regulation for non-resident trapping (i.e., not allowing non-resident trapping)



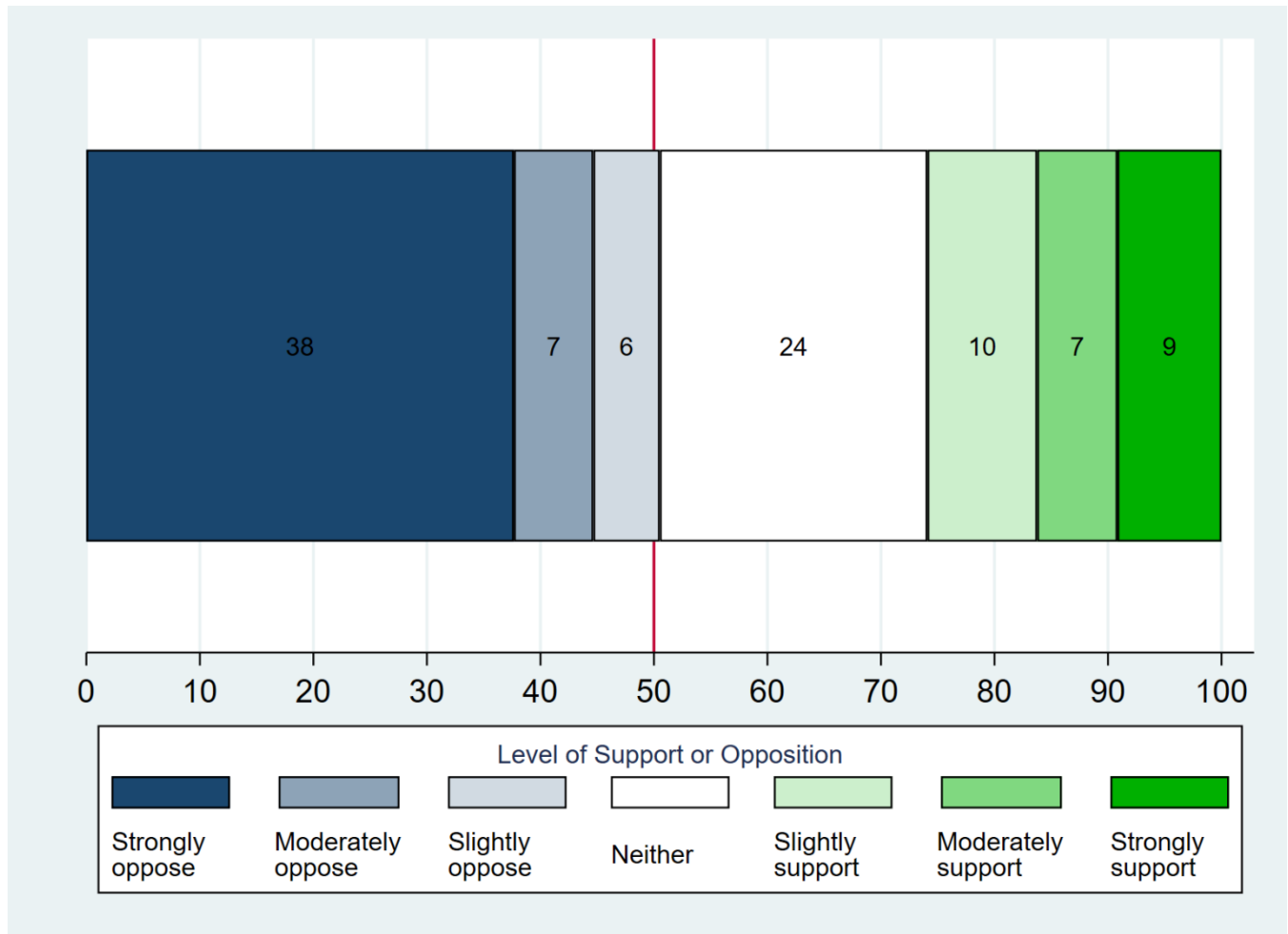
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
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Figure 7. Minnesota trappers’ support or opposition to allowing non-resident trapping provided that non-resident trappers would not be permitted to take quota species such as fisher, marten, river otter or bobcat



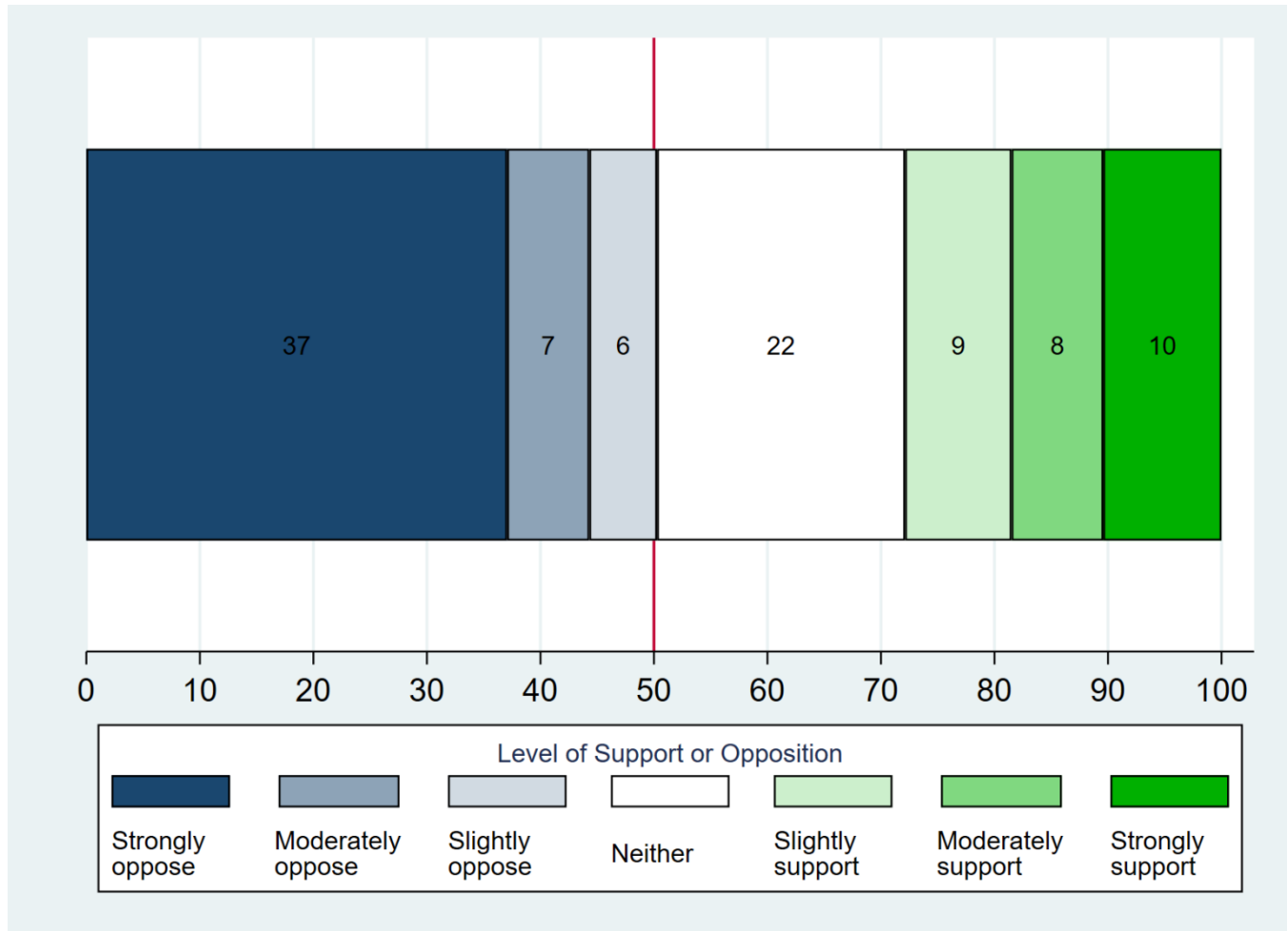
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
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Figure 8. Minnesota trappers’ support or opposition to allowing non-resident trapping provided that the trapping season for non-residents would start after the resident trapping season



- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents fall into positive (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very satisfied) or negative (e.g, combined slightly, moderately, or very dissatisfied) categories by common colors (e.g., green or blue).

Figure 9. Minnesota trappers’ support or opposition to allowing non-resident trapping provided that non-resident trappers would not be permitted to take quota species such as fisher, marten, river otter or bobcat, AND the trapping season for non-residents would start after the resident trapping season

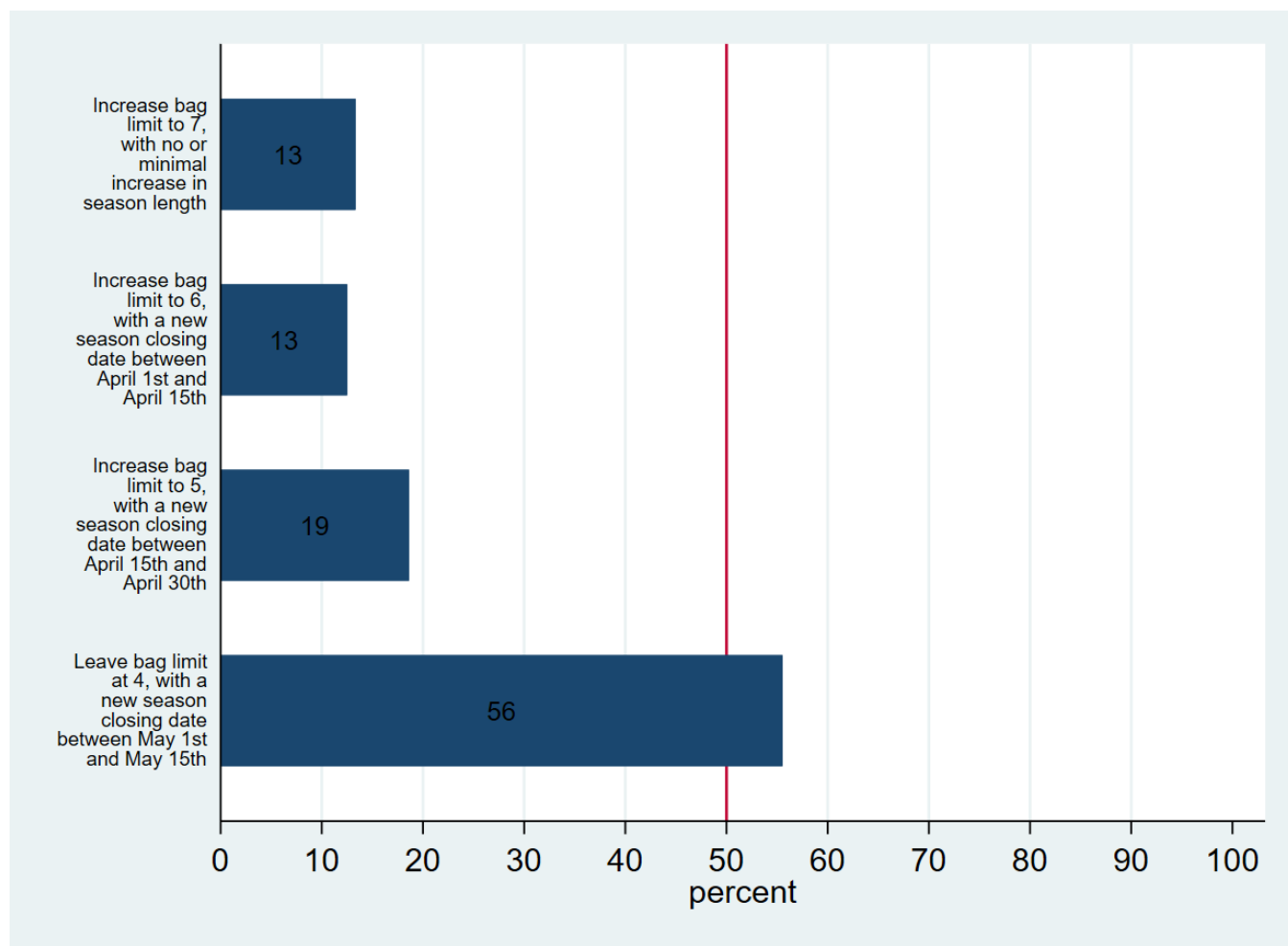


- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents fall into positive (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very satisfied) or negative (e.g, combined slightly, moderately, or very dissatisfied) categories by common colors (e.g., green or blue).

River otter trapping regulations

The current bag limit for river otter is 4 statewide. We asked trappers about their preference for changes to this bag limit, and the season dates and length for river otter trapping. Options included a) Increase bag limit to 7, with no or minimal increase in the season length, b) Increase bag limit to 6, with a new season closing date between April 1 and April 15, c) Increase bag limit to 5, with a new season closing date between April 15 and April 30, and d) Leave bag limit at 4, with a new season closing date between May 1 and May 15. A majority of trappers (56%) preferred the latter option, preserving the current bag limit but increasing the season length to close between May 1 and May 15 (Figure 10).

Figure 10. Minnesota trappers' preference for changes to river otter trapping season dates and bag limits

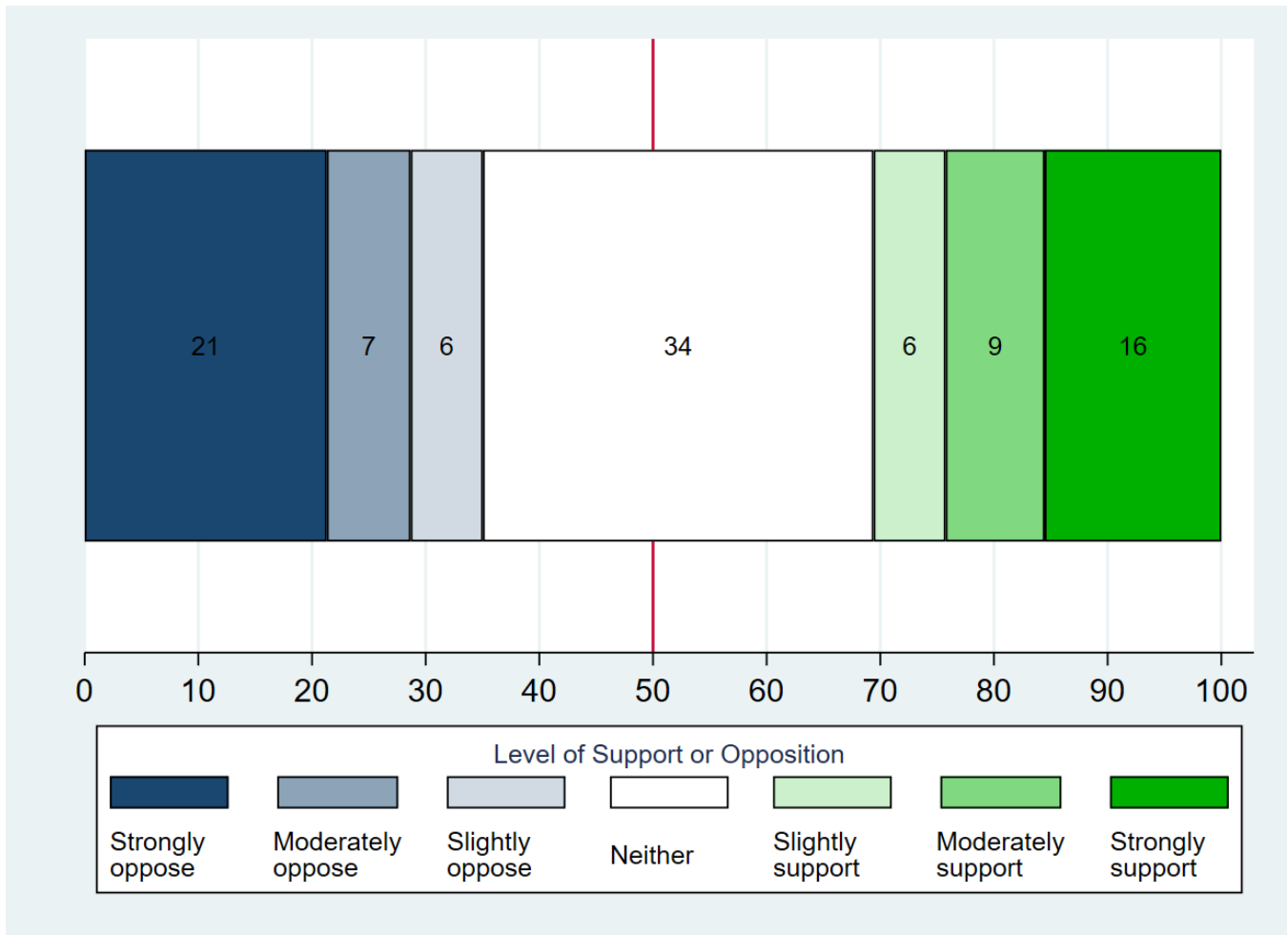


- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents selected any single category.

Fisher/marten trapping regulations

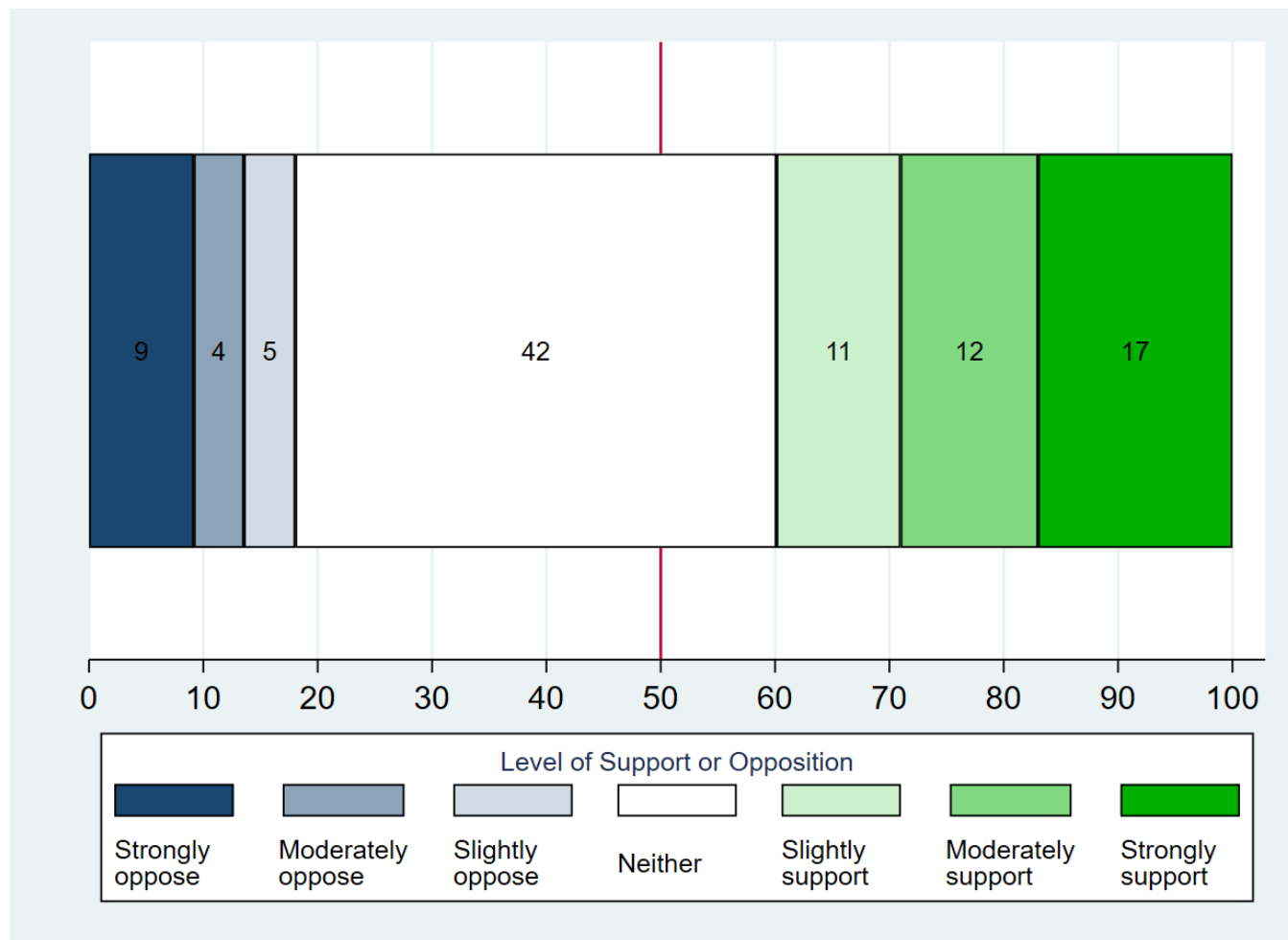
We evaluated Minnesota trappers' support or opposition for several hypothetical changes to the fisher/marten trapping season structure, as well as maintaining the status quo. With respect to maintaining the current season structure, trappers were relatively split with 34% either strongly, moderately or slightly in opposition, 34% neutral, and 31% in support (Figure 11). The largest percent support (40%) for season structures evaluated was for a season "Open the fisher/marten and bobcat season the second Saturday in December and run the fisher/marten season for the first 9 days of the bobcat season. (Fisher/marten fur registration days would occur before Christmas, and rarely on Dec. 24th)." However, none of the options exhibit a clear pattern of support or opposition, and large proportions of trappers were neutral toward the changes.

Figure 11. Minnesota trappers' support or opposition to maintaining the current season structure for fisher/marten trapping



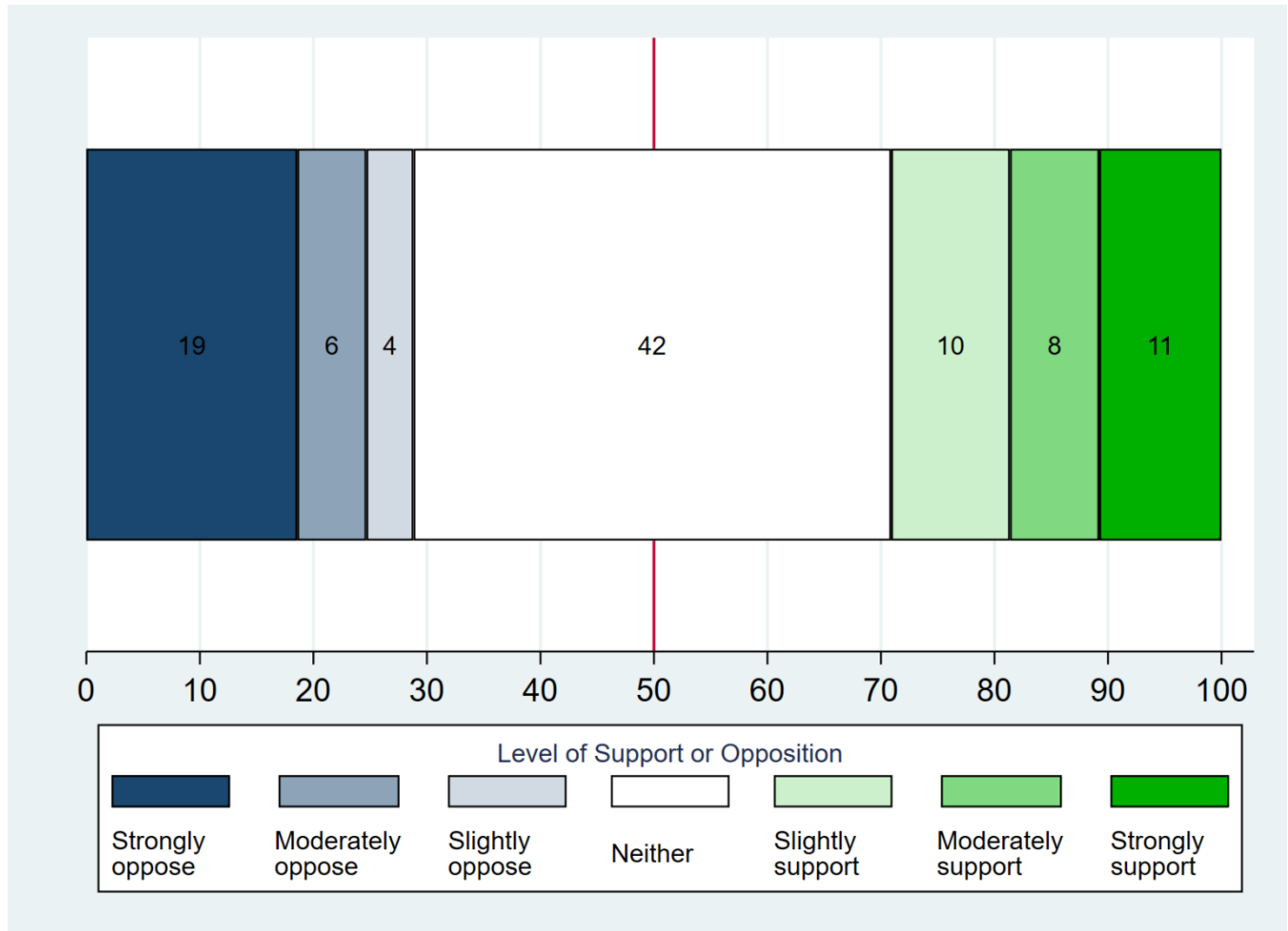
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents fall into positive (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very satisfied) or negative (e.g, combined slightly, moderately, or very dissatisfied) categories by common colors (e.g., green or blue).

Figure 12. Minnesota trappers' support or opposition to potential changes to the fisher/marten season structure: Open the fisher/marten and bobcat season the second Saturday in December and run the fisher/marten season for the first 9 days of the bobcat season. (Fisher/marten fur registration days would occur before Christmas, and rarely on Dec. 24th)



- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents fall into positive (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very satisfied) or negative (e.g, combined slightly, moderately, or very dissatisfied) categories by common colors (e.g., green or blue).

Figure 13. Minnesota trappers’ support or opposition to potential changes to the fisher/marten season structure: Open the fisher/marten and bobcat season the second Saturday in December and run the fisher/marten season for the last 9 days (mid- January) of the bobcat season

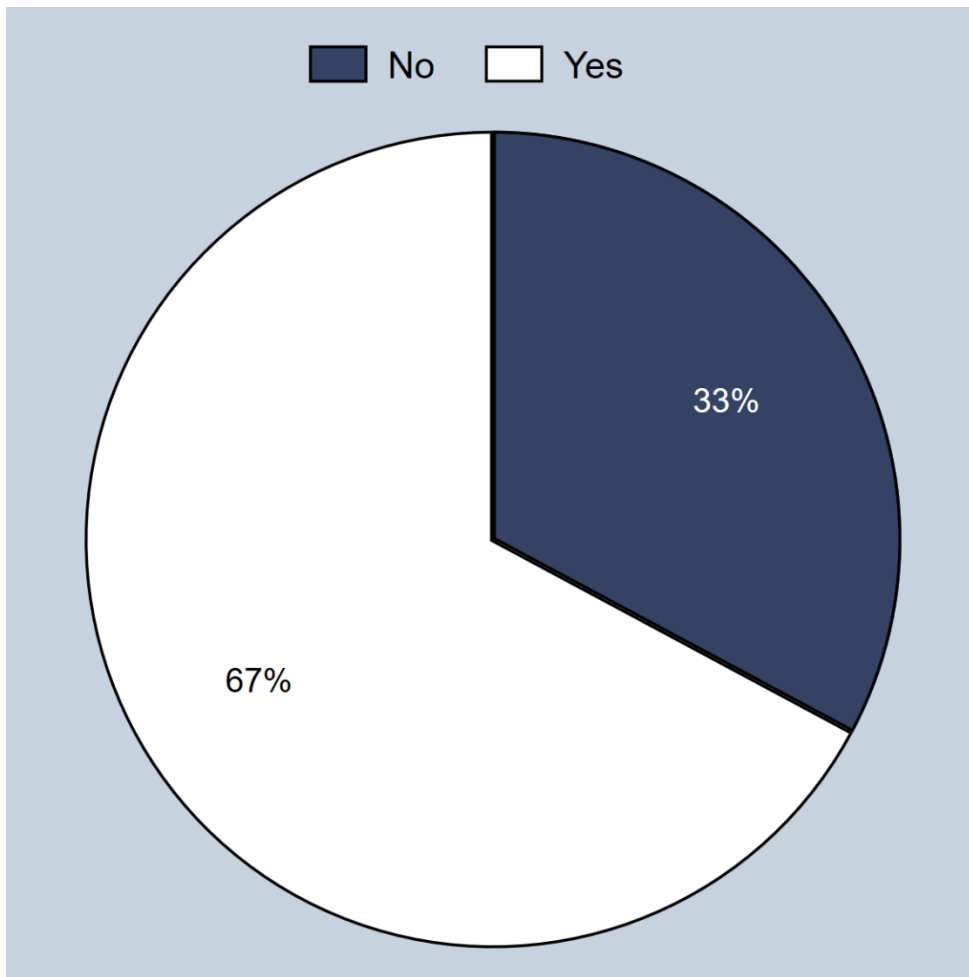


- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents fall into positive (e.g., combined slightly, moderately, or very satisfied) or negative (e.g, combined slightly, moderately, or very dissatisfied) categories by common colors (e.g., green or blue).

Trapping zones

Minnesota possesses multiple zones that regulate aspects of trapping seasons. We asked trappers if they support combining the current north/south and fisher/marten/bobcat zones into a single zone with a dividing line following U.S. Interstate 94. A majority of trappers (67%) reported that “yes” they support combining the zones.

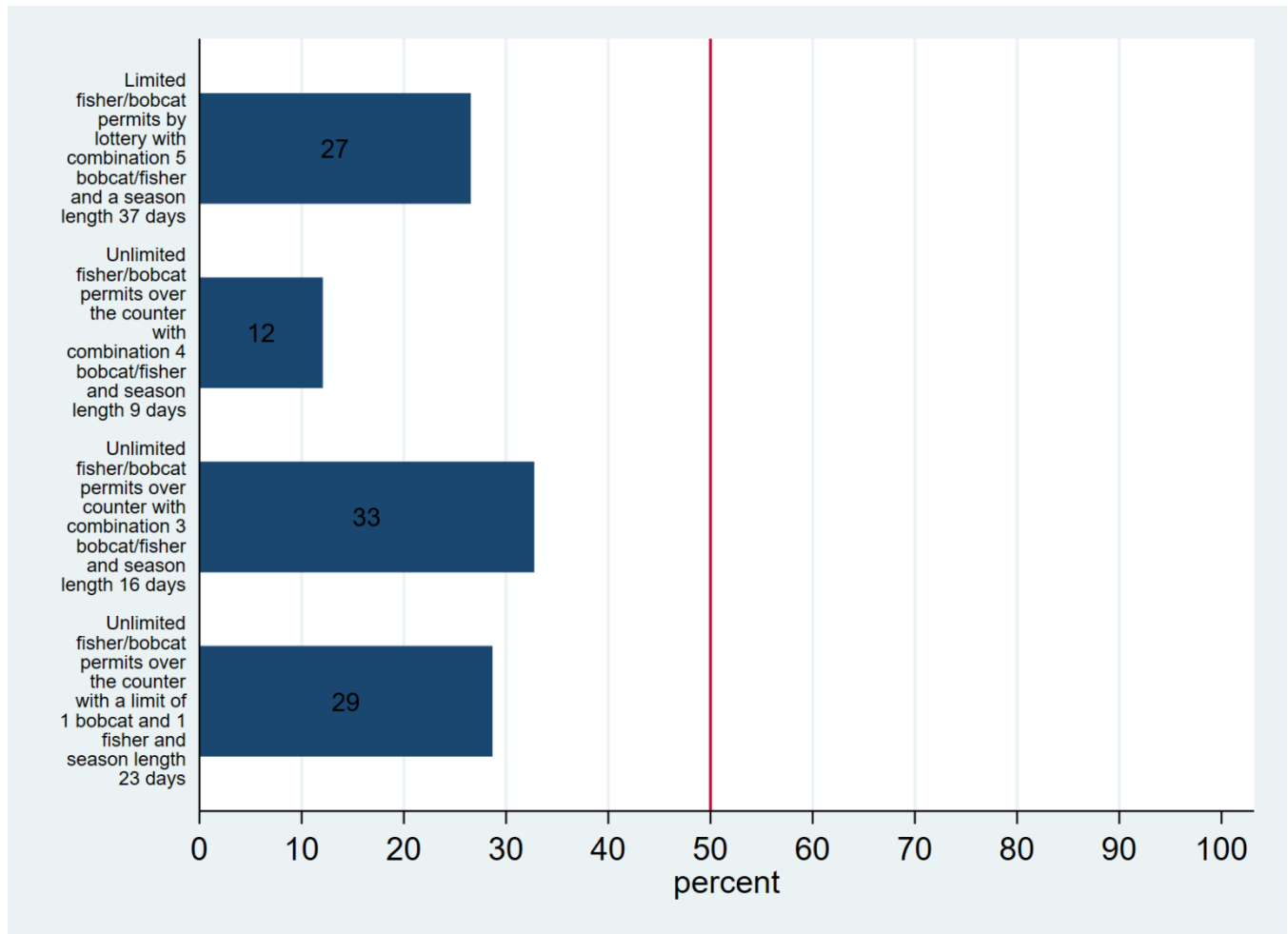
Figure 14. Minnesota trappers’ support for combing the north/south and fisher/marten/bobcat zones into a single north/south zone along U.S. 94



Fisher/bobcat trapping in southern Minnesota

Trapping for fisher and bobcat is not permitted south of U.S. interstate 94 under current regulation. We asked trappers their preference for fisher and bobcat trapping season structures south of U.S. 94 if targeting these species were permitted (Figure 15). Season structures evaluated included a) A limited number of permits to trap fisher/bobcat issued by lottery with some combination of 5 bobcat or fisher and a season length of 37 days, b) Unlimited permits to trap fisher/bobcat available over the counter with some combination of 4 bobcat or fisher and a season length of 9 days, c) Unlimited permits to trap fisher/bobcat available over the counter with some combination of 3 bobcat or fisher and a season length of 16 days, and d) Unlimited permits to trap fisher/bobcat available over the counter with a limit of 1 bobcat and 1 fisher with season length of 23 days. Among the season structures evaluated, we did not find a clear regulation preferred by trappers.

Figure 15. Minnesota trappers' preference for potential regulations if trapping fisher and bobcat became legal in the southern part of the state



- Values are the percent of respondents selecting each option.
- The red line in the center references 50% of respondents and serves as a guide to quickly determine whether a majority of respondents selected any single category.

Appendix B – Derived estimates of use of 160 or 220 body grip traps and snares

Appendix B contains tables with estimates of the percent of Minnesota trappers setting 160 or 220 body grip traps by location (Table B1), the use of 160 or 220 body grip traps with baited cubby, trail sets with bait or lure, or trail sets without bait or lure by location (Table B2), setting of snares in the forest zone and setting with intent to quickly dispatch the animal by location (Table B3), and setting snares in the farmland zone and setting with intent to quickly dispatch the animal (Table B4).

We derived estimates of the percent of trappers setting 160 or 220 body grip traps by location by multiplying the proportion of trappers setting any 160 or 220 body grip traps by the proportion reporting that they either sometimes, often, or always set 160 or body grip traps by location, among those that set any 160 or 220 body grip traps. The estimated percent of Minnesota trappers reporting setting 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years ranged from a low of 9% within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail, to a high of 29% within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road. We used a similar method to estimate the percent of Minnesota trappers using a baited cubby, a trail set with bait or lure, or trail set without lure in combination with a 160 or 220 body grip trap by location. The estimated percent of trappers setting a 160 or 220 body grip traps using a baited cubby ranged from a low of 6% in Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs), and Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail, to a high of 17% Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road. We estimated that very few trapper (1-2%) set a 160 or 220 body grip trap using a trail set with bait or lure at any location. Estimates for the percent of Minnesota trappers using a trail set without bait or lure in conjunction with a 160 or 220 body grip trap ranged from a low of 3% within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail, to a high of 12% in road rights of way.

We estimated that fewer than 10% of all trappers set snares in the forest zone or farmland zone regardless of location, except in the case of “within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road” at an estimated 11%. Estimated percents of all trappers that set snares in the forest zone with an intent to dispatch the animal quickly ranged from a low of 2% on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs), to a high of 8% Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road. Estimated percents of trappers setting snares with an intent to dispatch animals quickly in the farmland zone were 5% or fewer regardless of location.

Results

Participation in trapping

Table 4. Mean year trappers started trapping

	n	Mean
All	1362	1989 [1989, 1990]
North	801	1988 [1987, 1990]
South	526	1991 [1990, 1993]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Rounded to the nearest year.

Table 5. Mean age trappers started trapping

	n	Mean
All	1346	19 [18, 19]
North	792	19 [18, 20]
South	526	19 [18, 20]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Rounded to the nearest year.

Table 6. Mean number of years trappers have trapped in Minnesota

	n	Mean
All	1336	25.0 [24.3, 25.8]
North	784	26.0 [24.7, 27.4]
South	519	23.4 [21.9, 25.0]

- [95% Confidence interval]

Constraints to trapping

Table 7. Trappers’ perception of factors limiting trapping activity in Minnesota: The area I intend to trap is used by too many other trappers

	Not at all limiting	2	3	4	5	6	Very limiting	n	Mean
All	47	20	12	10	5	2	3	1386	2.2 [2.2, 2.3]
North	45	20	13	11	6	2	3	816	2.3 [2.2, 2.4]
South	52	19	11	9	4	2	2	540	2.1 [1.9, 2.2]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Many factors can influence peoples’ participation in trapping. How limiting are the following factors in your trapping activity in Minnesota?

Table 8. Trappers’ perception of factors limiting trapping activity in Minnesota: The area I intend to trap is used by hunters, hikers and other outdoor enthusiasts

	Not at all limiting	2	3	4	5	6	Very limiting	n	Mean
All	27	17	16	14	13	7	5	1384	3.1 [3.0, 3.2]
North	28	17	15	14	14	6	6	815	3.1 [3.0, 3.2]
South	27	18	16	14	12	8	5	539	3.1 [2.9, 3.2]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Many factors can influence peoples’ participation in trapping. How limiting are the following factors in your trapping activity in Minnesota?

Table 9. Trappers’ perception of factors limiting trapping activity in Minnesota: Fur prices too low

	Not at all limiting	2	3	4	5	6	Very limiting	n	Mean
All	22	9	8	11	9	12	29	1380	4.3 [4.2, 4.4]
North	23	9	8	13	8	11	27	812	4.1 [4.0, 4.3]
South	20	8	7	9	10	1	32	537	4.5 [4.3, 4.7]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Many factors can influence peoples’ participation in trapping. How limiting are the following factors in your trapping activity in Minnesota?

Table 10. Trappers’ perception of factors limiting trapping activity in Minnesota: Other commitments

	Not at all limiting	2	3	4	5	6	Very limiting	n	Mean
All	15	9	13	18	17	15	13	1250	4.1 [4.0, 4.2]
North	14	9	13	20	16	16	12	733	4.1 [3.9, 4.2]
South	15	9	12	17	19	16	13	491	4.1 [4.0, 4.3]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Many factors can influence peoples’ participation in trapping. How limiting are the following factors in your trapping activity in Minnesota?

Table 11. Trappers’ perception of factors limiting trapping activity in Minnesota: Cost of travel/gas prices

	Not at all limiting	2	3	4	5	6	Very limiting	n	Mean
All	20	12	12	13	14	14	15	1361	3.9 [3.8, 4.0]
North	20	12	12	14	14	15	13	799	3.9 [3.7, 4.0]
South	20	13	11	12	14	14	16	533	3.9 [3.8, 4.1]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Many factors can influence peoples’ participation in trapping. How limiting are the following factors in your trapping activity in Minnesota?

Table 12. Trappers’ perception of factors limiting trapping activity in Minnesota: Weather conditions

	Not at all limiting	2	3	4	5	6	Very limiting	n	Mean
All	27	18	14	16	10	8	7	1370	3.1 [3.0, 3.2]
North	28	18	13	15	11	8	8	803	3.2 [3.0, 3.3]
South	27	19	15	18	10	7	5	536	3.1 [2.9, 3.2]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Many factors can influence peoples’ participation in trapping. How limiting are the following factors in your trapping activity in Minnesota?

Table 13. Trappers’ perception of the importance of trapping to them

	My most important outdoor activity	One of my most important outdoor activities	Less important than my other outdoor activities	n
All	11	54	35	1395
North	12	52	36	821
South	9	57	34	542

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Responses followed the question: How important is trapping to you?

Table 14. Percent of trappers’ reporting membership in trapping organizations

	MN Trappers Association	MN Forest Zone Trappers Association	National Trappers Association	Fur Takers of America	Other	n
All	35	3	12	5	2	1436
North	37	5	13	5	2	824
South	34	3	12	5	2	545

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Responses followed the question: Are you currently a member of:

Table 15. Percent of trappers reporting their primary trapping location north or south of U.S. 94

	North	South	n
All	58	42	1369
North	NA	NA	NA
South	NA	NA	NA

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Responses followed the question: Where in the state of Minnesota did you do most of your trapping in a typical season?

Satisfaction with trapping

Table 16. Trappers' satisfaction or dissatisfaction with elements of trapping in Minnesota: Overall trapping experience

	Very dissatisfied	Moderately dissatisfied	Slightly dissatisfied	Neither	Slightly satisfied	Moderately satisfied	Very satisfied	n	Mean
All	2	3	5	17	14	37	22	1383	5.4 [5.3, 5.4]
North	3	3	5	15	16	36	22	814	5.3 [5.2, 5.4]
South	2	2	5	19	11	39	23	540	5.4 [5.3, 5.5]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the following aspects of trapping in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 17. Trappers' satisfaction or dissatisfaction with elements of trapping in Minnesota: Number of animals harvested

	Very dissatisfied	Moderately dissatisfied	Slightly dissatisfied	Neither	Slightly satisfied	Moderately satisfied	Very satisfied	n	Mean
All	3	5	8	21	19	31	14	1375	5.0 [4.9, 5.0]
North	4	5	9	20	19	30	13	808	4.9 [4.8, 5.0]
South	1	4	7	23	18	33	15	538	5.1 [5.0, 5.2]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the following aspects of trapping in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 18. Trappers' satisfaction or dissatisfaction with elements of trapping in Minnesota: Trapping regulations

	Very dissatisfied	Moderately dissatisfied	Slightly dissatisfied	Neither	Slightly satisfied	Moderately satisfied	Very satisfied	n	Mean
All	8	13	17	25	11	19	8	1384	4.1 [4.0, 4.1]
North	11	15	20	21	9	17	7	815	3.8 [3.7, 3.9]
South	4	9	12	31	13	23	8	538	4.4 [4.3, 4.5]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the following aspects of trapping in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 19. Trappers' satisfaction or dissatisfaction with elements of trapping in Minnesota: Access to places to trap

	Very dissatisfied	Moderately dissatisfied	Slightly dissatisfied	Neither	Slightly satisfied	Moderately satisfied	Very satisfied	n	Mean
All	3	5	9	23	12	28	21	1388	5.1 [5.0, 5.1]
North	3	4	9	22	11	27	24	818	5.1 [5.0, 5.2]
South	2	6	9	23	13	29	19	540	5.0 [4.8, 5.1]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the following aspects of trapping in recent years in Minnesota?

Human-wildlife conflicts

Table 20. Percent of trappers’ reporting participation in nuisance trapping

	No, I do not trap problem animals	Yes, I have done this in the past but not regularly	Yes, I trap problem animals but not as a business	Yes, I have a business and regularly do this work	n
All	22	47	28	2	1375
North	25	47	26	2	810
South	19	47	31	2	534

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Responses followed the question: Have you trapped to resolve human-wildlife conflicts for other people?

Table 21. Percent of trappers’ reporting trapping species of problem animals, if they have trapped problem animals in the past

	All	n	North	n	South	n
Beaver	80	1132	87	627	77	442
Raccoon	58	1129	47	622	75	444
Skunk	40	1126	43	621	39	442
Coyote	37	1133	35	625	41	445
Muskrat	20	1123	19	620	22	440
Fox	14	1130	16	625	12	442
Opossum	14	1122	4	618	27	441
Squirrel/rabbit	14	1121	14	618	14	440
Bobcat	2	1125	4	622	0	440

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Responses followed the question: Have you trapped to resolve human-wildlife conflicts for other people?
- An option for other was presented, commonly listed species include gopher, woodchuck, mink, chipmunk, badger, cat, mouse.

Trapping locations and trap sets

Table 22. Trappers' use of lands for trapping activity: Land that I own

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	29	40	19	11	1348
North	23	44	22	12	794
South	38	35	17	10	526

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 23. Trappers' use of lands for trapping activity: Private land that I do not own that I have permission to trap

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	18	39	30	13	1343
North	24	45	25	6	785
South	11	29	38	22	529

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 24. Trappers’ use of lands for trapping activity: Ditches and road rights of way

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	47	38	12	3	1301
North	50	37	12	2	765
South	44	41	12	3	508

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 25. Trappers’ use of lands for trapping activity: DNR Wildlife Management Area

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	69	24	6	1	1275
North	71	23	5	1	743
South	66	26	6	2	504

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 26. Trappers' use of lands for trapping activity: National Forest land

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	73	18	8	2	1271
North	61	25	12	2	752
South	91	7	1	1	492

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 27. Trappers' use of lands for trapping activity: State Forest land

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	59	27	11	2	1286
North	42	37	18	3	765
South	85	13	1	1	495

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 28. Trappers’ use of lands for trapping activity: County Forest land

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	63	24	10	2	1284
North	46	35	16	3	765
South	89	9	1	1	492

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 29. Trappers’ use of lands for trapping activity: National Wildlife Refuge

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	94	4	1	1	1247
North	95	3	2	1	725
South	92	5	1	1	496

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 30. Trappers' use of lands for trapping activity: Tribal-owned land within a reservation boundary that I have permission to trap

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	98	1	0	0	1256
North	97	2	1	0	736
South	99	0	0	1	494

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 31. Trappers' use of lands for trapping activity: Private land within a tribal reservation boundary that I have permission to trap

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	98	2	0	0	1254
North	97	3	0	0	733
South	99	1	0	0	495

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 32. Trappers' use of lands for trapping activity: Federal Waterfowl Production Area

	None	Some	Most	All	n
All	87	11	2	0	1263
North	92	7	1	0	738
South	80	16	2	1	499

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota?

Table 33. Percent of trappers’ reporting using different trap sets on ditches and road rights of way, among those that set traps on ditches and road rights of way

	All	n	North	n	South	n
I did not set traps on ditches or road rights of way*	45	1436	49	824	43	545
Footholds	59	781	61	421	63	310
Snares (Forest Zone)	6	781	10	421	1	310
Body grips	58	781	68	421	52	310
Cage traps	8	781	8	421	10	310
Dog proof foot-encapsulating traps	35	781	23	421	55	310
Colony traps	16	781	14	421	18	310

- *Percent of trappers reporting that they did not set traps in ditches or road rights of way.
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Responses followed the question: If you placed traps in ditches and road rights of way in recent years in Minnesota, what kinds of traps did you set?

Table 34. Percent of trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in Minnesota in recent years

	Percent	n
All	65	1363
North	70	787
South	59	530

- Responses followed the question: Did you set any 160 or 220 body grip traps in Minnesota in recent years?

Table 35. Trappers’ reported frequency of setting 160 or 220 body group traps in Minnesota by location, among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years: Road rights of way

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n
All	71	21	6	2	861
North	76	19	4	1	530
South	63	25	9	2	306

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set 160 or 220 body grip traps on dry land or ice (excluding water sets AND sets 3 feet or more above ground) in recent years in the following locations in Minnesota?

Table 36. Trappers’ reported frequency of setting 160 or 220 body group traps in Minnesota by location, among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years: Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n
All	84	12	3	1	855
North	84	12	3	1	526
South	82	14	3	1	302

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set 160 or 220 body grip traps on dry land or ice (excluding water sets AND sets 3 feet or more above ground) in recent years in the following locations in Minnesota?

Table 37. Trappers’ reported frequency of setting 160 or 220 body group traps in Minnesota by location, among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years: On the frozen surface of public waters

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n
All	75	18	6	1	857
North	73	18	8	1	529
South	77	18	3	1	303

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set 160 or 220 body grip traps on dry land or ice (excluding water sets AND sets 3 feet or more above ground) in recent years in the following locations in Minnesota?

Table 38. Trappers’ reported frequency of setting 160 or 220 body group traps in Minnesota by location, among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years: Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n
All	86	10	4	0	855
North	83	12	5	0	526
South	90	7	3	0	304

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set 160 or 220 body grip traps on dry land or ice (excluding water sets AND sets 3 feet or more above ground) in recent years in the following locations in Minnesota?

Table 39. Trappers’ reported frequency of setting 160 or 220 body group traps in Minnesota by location, among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years: Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n
All	75	21	3	1	855
North	78	19	3	0	524
South	71	25	3	1	304

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set 160 or 220 body grip traps on dry land or ice (excluding water sets AND sets 3 feet or more above ground) in recent years in the following locations in Minnesota?

Table 40. Trappers’ reported frequency of setting 160 or 220 body group traps in Minnesota by location, among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years: Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n
All	56	32	11	2	865
North	55	32	12	1	533
South	57	32	8	3	305

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set 160 or 220 body grip traps on dry land or ice (excluding water sets AND sets 3 feet or more above ground) in recent years in the following locations in Minnesota?

Table 41a. The locations and manner in which trappers most often used 160 and 220 body grip trap sets on dryland, among those that set any 160 or 220 dryland body grip traps in Minnesota in recent years: All trappers

	<i>Did not set trap here</i>	Baited cubby	Trail set with bait or lure	Trail set without bait or lure	n
Road rights of way	69	10	3	18	863
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)	83	9	1	6	852
On the frozen surface of public waters	74	15	2	8	853
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	85	9	1	5	853
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	75	15	2	8	856
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	56	26	3	15	865

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: What type of 160 or 220 body grip dryland trap set did you use most often in each of the following locations in recent years in Minnesota? Among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in MN in recent years (Table 34).

Table 41b. The locations and manner in which trappers most often used 160 and 220 body grip trap sets on dryland by location, among those that set any 160 or 220 dryland body grip traps in Minnesota in recent years: North trappers

	<i>Did not set trap here</i>	Baited cubby	Trail set with bait or lure	Trail set without bait or lure	n
Road rights of way	73	10	3	13	531
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)	83	12	1	4	523
On the frozen surface of public waters	73	17	2	8	524
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	82	12	1	6	524
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	78	15	1	6	526
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	55	31	3	11	533

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: What type of 160 or 220 body grip dryland trap set did you use most often in each of the following locations in recent years in Minnesota? Among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in MN in recent years (Table 34).

Table 41c. The locations and manner in which trappers most often used 160 and 220 body grip trap sets on dryland by location, among those that set any 160 or 220 dryland body grip traps in Minnesota in recent years: South trappers

	<i>Did not set trap here</i>	Baited cubby	Trail set with bait or lure	Trail set without bait or lure	n
Road rights of way	62	10	3	25	306
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)	82	6	2	10	302
On the frozen surface of public waters	78	12	2	8	302
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	91	4	1	4	302
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	70	16	2	12	304
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	58	19	3	20	305

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: What type of 160 or 220 body grip dryland trap set did you use most often in each of the following locations in recent years in Minnesota? Among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in MN in recent years (Table 34).

Table 42. Percent of trappers that set snares on land or ice in the forest zone in recent years

	Percent	n
All	23	1389
North	35	802
South	7	537

- Responses followed the question: Did you set any snares on land or ice in the *forest zone* in Minnesota in recent years?

Table 43. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the forest zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the forest zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: Road rights of way

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	80	15	4	1	322	62	108
North	80	15	4	1	272	66	89
South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the *forest zone* in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?
- Too few south trappers reported setting snares in the forest zone, we did not generate estimates for this group.

Table 44. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the forest zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the forest zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	85	12	3	1	317	55	85
North	85	12	3	1	268	56	70
South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the forest zone in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?
- Too few south trappers reported setting snares in the forest zone, we did not generate estimates for this group.

Table 45. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the forest zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the forest zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: On the frozen surface of public waters

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	63	27	9	1	320	71	139
North	63	27	9	1	271	74	116
South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the forest zone in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?
- Too few south trappers reported setting snares in the forest zone, we did not generate estimates for this group.

Table 46. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the forest zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the forest zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	79	15	5	1	321	56	100
North	77	15	6	1	272	63	85
South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the *forest zone* in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?
- Too few south trappers reported setting snares in the forest zone, we did not generate estimates for this group.

Table 47. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the forest zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the forest zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	71	23	5	2	321	66	121
North	72	21	5	2	272	70	99
South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the *forest zone* in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?
- Too few south trappers reported setting snares in the forest zone, we did not generate estimates for this group.

Table 48. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the forest zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the forest zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	54	34	11	1	324	73	157
North	53	33	12	1	274	77	133
South	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the forest zone in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?
- Too few south trappers reported setting snares in the forest zone, we did not generate estimates for this group.

Table 49. Percent of trappers that set snares on land or ice in the farmland zone in recent years

	Percent	n
All	27	1374
North	17	792
South	42	534

- Responses followed the question: Did you set any snares on land or ice in the *farmland zone* in Minnesota in recent years?

Table 50. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the farmland zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the farmland zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: On the frozen surface of public waters

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	71	23	5	1	351	46	161
North	73	21	4	2	132	55	51
South	70	23	6	1	210	42	104

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the *farmland zone* in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?

Table 51. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the farmland zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the farmland zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	91	7	1	1	344	-	-
North	91	7	1	1	129	-	-
South	92	7	1	1	206	-	-

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the *farmland zone* in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?
- Too few trappers reported setting snares in this location to estimate the prevalence of intent to dispatch animals quickly.

Table 52. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the farmland zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the farmland zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	65	27	7	1	346	51	173
North	70	25	3	2	130	53	59
South	63	26	10	1	209	51	107

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the *forest zone* in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?

Table 53. Trappers’ use of lands for snaring activity in the farmland zone, among those that set any snares on land or ice in the farmland zone, and intent to set traps in those to dispatch animals quickly: Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	n	Set with intent to dispatch	n
All	66	27	5	2	347	50	172
North	66	30	1	3	129	59	58
South	67	25	7	1	209	46	108

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: How often did you set snares on land or ice in the farmland zone in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations?

Table 54. Most commonly used trap sets regardless of species

	All	North	South
Foothold trap in water	21	19	23
Snare on land	16	18	13
Foothold trap on land	14	15	14
Body grip trap in water	11	13	8
Body grip trap on land	10	14	4
Cage trap	9	6	12
Encapsulating foothold	7	5	11
Snare in water	6	7	5
Colony trap	6	4	8
n	3791	2199	1492

- Values are the percent of all selections, since respondents selected two categories of traps per species reported.
- Items followed the stem: In the table on the next page, please enter the 4 species that you trapped most frequently in recent years in Minnesota. For each of these 4 species, please choose 2 categories of trap sets (e.g. body grip trap on land, foothold in water) you most commonly used to trap that species in recent years in Minnesota. For each of the two categories selected, please choose the single most common trap size you used (if that option is listed) and answer any additional questions.

Table 55. Most commonly reported species targeted by Minnesota trappers

	All	North	South
BEAVER	22	23	19
RACCOON	18	12	26
COYOTE	13	10	15
MUSKRAT	11	8	14
MINK	6	5	8
FOX	6	7	4
FISHER	6	9	<1
RIVER OTTER	5	6	3
BOBCAT	5	8	<1
MARTEN	4	6	<1
SKUNK	3	2	3

- Values are the percent of all species reported.
- Species reported by respondents representing less than 1% of all responses are omitted from reporting, may not sum to 100%
- Multiple species listed within a single category were excluded from analysis.
- Items followed the stem: In the table on the next page, please enter the 4 species that you trapped most frequently in recent years in Minnesota. For each of these 4 species, please choose 2 categories of trap sets (e.g. body grip trap on land, foothold in water) you most commonly used to trap that species in recent years in Minnesota. For each of the two categories selected, please choose the single most common trap size you used (if that option is listed) and answer any additional questions.
- “Fox” includes entries for red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) and gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) combined.

Table 56. Most commonly reported trap sets used by trappers targeting most commonly targeted species in Minnesota: All trappers

	Foothold trap in water	Foothold trap on land	Encapsulating foothold	Body grip trap in water	Body grip trap on land	Snare in water	Snare on land	Cage trap	Colony trap	n
BEAVER	38	1	<1	29	<1	27	3	1	<1	757
RACCOON	13	10	35	1	8	<1	4	29	1	625
COYOTE	1	32	<1	0	1	1	64	<1	<1	436
MUSKRAT	42	2	1	10	2	<1	<1	1	42	383
MINK	62	5	1	12	7	2	2	3	7	230
FOX	1	40	<1	1	2	1	53	1	0	199
FISHER	2	20	0	1	63	1	7	5	<1	183
RIVER OTTER	32	0	0	47	3	12	4	2	<1	171
BOBCAT	1	24	2	1	23	<1	41	7	0	159
MARTEN	2	27	0	2	66	0	1	2	1	121
SKUNK	0	25	9	0	15	0	4	46	0	90

- Values are the percent of all trap set selections for that species, since respondents selected two trap sets per species.
- Items followed the stem: In the table on the next page, please enter the 4 species that you trapped most frequently in recent years in Minnesota. For each of these 4 species, please choose 2 categories of trap sets (e.g. body grip trap on land, foothold in water) you most commonly used to trap that species in recent years in Minnesota. For each of the two categories selected, please choose the single most common trap size you used (if that option is listed) and answer any additional questions.
- “Fox” includes entries for red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) and gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) combined.

Tables to follow contain counts of selections made by respondents for sub-questions (size, jaw types, cubby use, intent to dispatch) pertaining to trap sets used to target different species. We present results for sub-questions (where appropriate) for the three most commonly selected trap sets by species, for those trap sets selected by at least 10% of respondents. Categories containing sub-questions included footholds on land (size of trap and jaw type), footholds in water (size of trap and jaw type), body grip on land (size of trap), body grip in water (size of trap and use of cubby), and snare on land (intent to dispatch).

Table 57. (Beaver) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap in water

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	1	1.65	1	Standard	366
1	-	2	10	Offset	105
1 1/2	5	3	54	Double	35
1 3/4	2	4	177	Padded	3
Other	102	5	153	Laminated/Wide/Cast	53

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: TS85, MB750 and MB650

Table 58. (Beaver) Most common size - body grip trap in water

Trap size	
Size	n
110	1
120	-
150	-
160	1
220	51
280	4
330	677

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 59. (Raccoon) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap in water

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	1	1.65	5	Standard	243
1	5	2	37	Offset	21
1 1/2	8	3	3	Double	32
1 3/4	211	4	3	Padded	3
2	16	5	2	Laminated/Wide/Cast	30
Other	62				

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: TS85, MB750 and MB650

Table 60. (Raccoon) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap on land

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	-	1.65	7	Standard	254
1	5	2	81	Offset	86
1 1/2	3	3	17	Double	30
1 1/4	184	4	2	Padded	4
1 3/4	28	5	3	Laminated/Wide/Cast	42
Other	-				

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 61. (Coyote) Intent to dispatch quickly - snare on land

Set snare with intent to dispatch quickly	n
Yes	260
No	52

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 62. (Coyote) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap on land

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	-	1.65	3	Standard	143
1	-	2	96	Offset	212
1 1/2	9	3	119	Double	29
1 3/4	34	4	36	Padded	4
Other	90	5	23	Laminated/Wide/Cast	88

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: Dog Proof, MB750, MB550, and MB650

Table 63. (Muskrat) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap in water

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	1	1.65	-	Standard	292
1	100	2	8	Offset	12
1 1/2	8	3	-	Double	14
1 3/4	178	4	1	Padded	-
2	3	5	2	Laminated/Wide/Cast	6
Other	39				

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: TS85, MB750

Table 64. (Muskrat) Most common size - body grip trap in water

Trap size	
Size	n
110	229
120	17
150	10
160	10
220	3
280	-
330	3

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 65. (Mink) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap in water

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	1	1.65	1	Standard	172
1	19	2	7	Offset	6
1 1/2	7	3	-	Double	10
1 3/4	144	4	-	Padded	-
2	3	5	-	Laminated/Wide/Cast	9
Other	20				

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: TS85, MB750, MB650

Table 66. (Mink) Most common size - body grip trap in water

Trap size	
Size	n
110	100
120	26
150	7
160	9
220	4
280	-
330	-

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 67. (Fox) Intent to dispatch quickly - snare on land

Set snare with intent to dispatch quickly	n
Yes	99
No	23

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- “Fox” includes entries for red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) and gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) combined.

Table 68. (Fox) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap on land

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	-	1.65	7	Standard	97
1	-	2	67	Offset	71
1 1/2	28	3	21	Double	16
1 3/4	25	4	9	Padded	2
Other	42	5	5	Laminated/Wide/Cast	28

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- “Fox” includes entries for red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) and gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) combined.
- Commonly listed other traps include: Dog Proof, MB750, MB550, and MB650

Table 69. (Fisher) Most common size and use of baited cubby - body grip trap on land

Trap size		Used baited cubby	
Size	n		n
110	1	Yes	175
120	16	No	1
150	7		
160	52		
220	125		

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 70. (Fisher) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap on land

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	-	1.65	1	Standard	44
1	-	2	14	Offset	19
1 1/2	25	3	13	Double	6
1 3/4	10	4	3	Padded	1
Other	13	5	2	Laminated/Wide/Cast	6

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: MB550, MB650, MB750

Table 71. (River Otter) Most common size - body grip trap in water

Trap size	
Size	n
110	1
120	2
150	-
160	3
220	45
280	9
330	94

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 72. (River Otter) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap in water

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	-	1.65	1	Standard	57
1	-	2	6	Offset	15
1 1/2	6	3	16	Double	9
1 3/4	3	4	21	Padded	-
Other	31	5	18	Laminated/Wide/Cast	10

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: TS85, MB650, MB750

Table 73. (Bobcat) Intent to dispatch quickly - snare on land

Set snare with intent to dispatch quickly	n
Yes	73
No	10

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 74. (Bobcat) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap on land

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	-	1.65	-	Standard	40
1	-	2	21	Offset	44
1 1/2	4	3	36	Double	8
1 3/4	6	4	12	Padded	-
Other	5	5	4	Laminated/Wide/Cast	21

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: MB550, MB650, TS850

Table 75. (Bobcat) Most common size and use of baited cubby - body grip trap on land

Trap size		Used baited cubby	
Size	n		n
110	-	Yes	114
120	-	No	1
150	-		
160	17		
220	121		

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 76. (Marten) Most common size and use of baited cubby - body grip trap on land

Trap size		Used baited cubby	
Size	n		n
110	15	Yes	97
120	53	No	3
150	6		
160	38		
220	14		

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Table 77. (Marten) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap on land

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	-	1.65	3	Standard	30
1	-	2	4	Offset	4
1 1/2	1	3	1	Double	1
1 1/2	22	4	-	Padded	-
1 3/4	3	5	-	Laminated/Wide/Cast	-
Other	6				

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: MB550, MB650

Table 78. (Skunk) Most common size and jaw type - foothold trap on land

Trap size				Jaw type	
Size	n	Size	n	Jaw	n
0	-	1.65	1	Standard	33
1	1	2	10	Offset	9
1 1/2	18	3	10	Double	6
1 3/4	5	4	-	Padded	1
Other	17	5	-	Laminated/Wide/Cast	8

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.
- Commonly listed other traps include: Dog Proof, MB550, MB750

Table 79. (Skunk) Most common size and use of baited cubby - body grip trap on land

Trap size		Used baited cubby	
Size	n		n
110	4	Yes	42
120	6	No	12
150	3		
160	10		
220	29		

- Values are the raw count of selections made by respondents.

Attitudes toward trapping regulations

Table 80. Trappers' support or opposition to options for the minimum age necessary to register fur: Increase to 10 years old

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	29	7	4	23	6	9	21	1281	3.8 [3.7, 4.0]
North	32	7	4	20	6	10	21	756	3.8 [3.6, 3.9]
South	26	7	3	28	6	9	20	485	3.9 [3.7, 4.1]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Trappers must be 5 years of age or older to register fisher, marten, river otter, or bobcat in Minnesota. How much do you support or oppose increasing the minimum age to register these species from 5 to 10 years old, to an age between 5 and 10 years old, or maintaining the current minimum age of 5 years old?

Table 81. Trappers' support or opposition to options for the minimum age necessary to register fur: Increase to an age between 5 and 10 years old

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	32	6	5	29	10	11	7	1201	3.4 [3.3, 3.5]
North	34	6	6	25	10	11	7	701	3.3 [3.2, 3.5]
South	29	5	5	34	9	10	7	461	3.5 [3.3, 3.7]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Trappers must be 5 years of age or older to register fisher, marten, river otter, or bobcat in Minnesota. How much do you support or oppose increasing the minimum age to register these species from 5 to 10 years old, to an age between 5 and 10 years old, or maintaining the current minimum age of 5 years old?

Table 82. Trappers’ support or opposition to options for the minimum age necessary to register fur: Maintain the current regulation of 5 years old

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	16	7	6	26	4	7	33	1232	4.5 [4.4, 4.6]
North	16	8	6	25	5	8	35	718	4.6 [4.4, 4.7]
South	16	7	7	29	3	7	31	474	4.4 [4.2, 4.6]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Trappers must be 5 years of age or older to register fisher, marten, river otter, or bobcat in Minnesota. How much do you support or oppose increasing the minimum age to register these species from 5 to 10 years old, to an age between 5 and 10 years old, or maintaining the current minimum age of 5 years old?

Table 83. Trappers’ support or opposition to options for changing non-resident trapping regulations: Maintain the current regulation

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	13	5	4	16	6	11	44	1348	5.0 [4.9, 5.2]
North	13	6	4	14	6	11	46	787	5.1 [5.0, 5.3]
South	14	5	5	18	7	10	40	517	4.9 [4.7, 5.1]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Minnesota is the only state where trappers must be residents or own land in the state to purchase a trapping license. How much do you support or oppose the following potential regulations for non-resident trapping in Minnesota?

Table 84. Trappers’ support or opposition to options for changing non-resident trapping regulations: Allow non-resident trapping, but non-resident trappers would not be permitted to take quota species such as fisher, marten, river otter or bobcat

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	34	7	5	17	11	11	15	1296	3.6 [3.5, 3.7]
North	36	7	5	15	11	12	14	762	3.5 [3.3, 3.6]
South	31	7	5	20	11	9	18	493	3.7 [3.5, 3.9]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Minnesota is the only state where trappers must be residents or own land in the state to purchase a trapping license. How much do you support or oppose the following potential regulations for non-resident trapping in Minnesota?

Table 85. Trappers’ support or opposition to options for changing non-resident trapping regulations: Allow non-resident trapping, but the trapping season for non-residents would start after the resident trapping season

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	38	7	6	24	9	7	9	1288	3.2 [3.1, 3.3]
North	41	7	6	22	9	7	8	756	3.0 [2.9, 3.2]
South	32	7	6	26	11	7	10	491	3.4 [3.2, 3.6]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Minnesota is the only state where trappers must be residents or own land in the state to purchase a trapping license. How much do you support or oppose the following potential regulations for non-resident trapping in Minnesota?

Table 86. Trappers’ support or opposition to options for changing non-resident trapping regulations: Allow non-resident trapping, but non-resident trappers would not be permitted to take quota species such as fisher, marten, river otter or bobcat, and the trapping season for non-residents would start after the resident trapping season

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	38	7	6	24	10	7	9	1288	3.2 [3.1, 3.4]
North	42	6	5	20	8	9	10	758	3.1 [3.0, 3.3]
South	32	8	6	25	11	8	11	491	3.4 [3.2, 3.6]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: Minnesota is the only state where trappers must be residents or own land in the state to purchase a trapping license. How much do you support or oppose the following potential regulations for non-resident trapping in Minnesota?

Table 87. Percent of trappers that would travel to other states to trap, if Minnesota allowed non-resident trapping

	Percent	n
All	30	1378
North	26	806
South	33	527

- Responses followed the question: Many states allow nonresidents to trap only if their home state also allows non-resident trapping (e.g. reciprocity). If Minnesota allowed non-resident trapping, would you travel to a state that also has reciprocity requirements to trap?

Table 88. Percent of trappers reporting that restrictions on non-resident trapping have prevented their friends or family from trapping in Minnesota

	Percent	n
All	17	1371
North	17	804
South	18	524

- Responses followed the question: Have restrictions on non-resident trapping prevented any of your friends or family from trapping in Minnesota?

Table 89. Percent of trappers aware of AFWA trapping BMPs

	Percent	n
All	29	1357
North	29	795
South	27	519

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Responses followed the question: The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) has published documents with best management practices (BMPs) for trapping individual species of furbearers. Were you aware of these documents prior to receiving this survey?

Table 90. Influence of AFWA BMPs on trappers' choice of traps, among those aware of AFWA BMPs

	None	Some	A moderate amount	A considerable amount	n
All	27	31	27	16	424
North	25	31	26	19	257
South	27	32	28	12	151

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: When considering new traps, how much priority do you place on purchasing BMP approved traps?

Furbearer season dates, lengths and zones

Table 91. Trappers preference for potential changes to river otter trapping bag limits and season dates in Minnesota

	Increase bag limit to 7, with no or minimal increase in season length	Increase bag limit to 6, with a new season closing date between April 1 st and April 15 th	Increase bag limit to 5, with a new season closing date between April 15 th and April 30 th	Leave bag limit at 4, with a new season closing date between May 1 st and May 15 th	n
All	13	13	19	56	1290
North	12	14	18	57	766
South	16	11	19	53	482

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Responses followed the question: The current annual bag limit for river otter is 4 statewide. If the otter season length or bag limit were to change, *which of the following regulations* would you *most prefer*?

Table 92. Trappers' support or opposition to options for potential changes to the fisher/marten season structure: Maintain the current season dates

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	21	7	6	34	6	9	16	1276	3.9 [3.8, 4.0]
North	28	10	7	23	7	10	15	757	3.6 [3.5, 3.8]
South	10	4	5	52	6	7	16	481	4.2 [4.1, 4.4]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: The current fisher/marten season in Minnesota is open for 9 days in late December. This season structure has been in place since 2019. How much to do support or oppose the following potential fisher/marten season structures.

Table 93. Trappers’ support or opposition to options for potential changes to the fisher/marten season structure: Open the fisher/marten and bobcat season the second Saturday in December and run the fisher/marten season for the first 9 days of the bobcat season. (Fisher/marten fur registration days would occur before Christmas, and rarely on Dec. 24th)

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	9	4	5	42	11	12	17	1226	4.5 [4.4, 4.6]
North	12	6	6	32	10	14	20	724	4.4 [4.3, 4.6]
South	5	2	2	60	11	10	10	463	4.4 [4.3, 4.5]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: The current fisher/marten season in Minnesota is open for 9 days in late December. This season structure has been in place since 2019. How much to do support or oppose the following potential fisher/marten season structures.

Table 94. Trappers’ support or opposition to options for potential changes to the fisher/marten season structure: Open the fisher/marten and bobcat season the second Saturday in December and run the fisher/marten season for the last 9 days (mid- January) of the bobcat season

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support	n	Mean
All	19	6	4	42	10	8	11	1221	3.9 [3.8, 4.0]
North	25	8	5	30	11	9	13	723	3.7 [3.5, 3.8]
South	8	3	4	63	9	7	6	460	4.1 [4.0, 4.2]

- [95% Confidence interval]
- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Item followed the stem: The current fisher/marten season in Minnesota is open for 9 days in late December. This season structure has been in place since 2019. How much to do support or oppose the following potential fisher/marten season structures.

Table 95. Percent of trappers in support of combining the north/south and fisher/marten/bobcat zones into a single zone split north/south by U.S 94

	Percent	n
All	67	1318
North	62	771
South	73	507

- Responses followed the question: Do you support simplifying trapping regulations by combining the north/south furbearer and the fisher/marten/bobcat zones? The line for both zones would be Interstate 94.

Table 96. Trappers' preference for regulations for fisher and bobcat, if trapping fisher or bobcat became legal in the southern part of the state

	A limited number of permits to trap fisher/bobcat issued by lottery with some combination of 5 bobcat or fisher and a season length of 37 days	Unlimited permits to trap fisher/bobcat available over the counter with some combination of 4 bobcat or fisher and a season length of 9 days	Unlimited permits to trap fisher/bobcat available over the counter with some combination of 3 bobcat or fisher and a season length of 16 days	Unlimited permits to trap fisher/bobcat available over the counter with a limit of 1 bobcat and 1 fisher with season length of 23 days	n
All	27	12	33	29	1234
North	27	13	36	23	710
South	26	10	29	36	484

- Values are the percent of respondents selecting response categories unless otherwise noted.
- Responses followed the question: If taking fisher or bobcat became legal in the southern part of the state (south of I-94), tradeoffs between trapper participation, species limits and season lengths would need to be considered. As examples, which of the following regulations would you most prefer for fisher and bobcat trapping in the southern part of the state?

Appendix A. Questionnaire

THE 2022-2023 TRAPPING SEASON IN MINNESOTA

A study of trappers' opinions and activities



Your help on this study is greatly appreciated!

PLEASE COMPLETE EVEN IF YOU DID NOT TRAP

Please return your completed questionnaire in the enclosed envelope. The envelope is self-addressed and no postage is required. Thanks!

m DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

(PIN)

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Fish and Wildlife Division
500 Lafayette Rd.
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

PART I. PARTICIPATION IN TRAPPING

Q1. What year did you first go trapping, not necessarily in Minnesota? (If uncertain please estimate) _____ year
 (If you have never trapped, please check here and return your survey) → I have never trapped

Q2. How old were you when you first started trapping? (If uncertain, please estimate) _____ years

Q3. How many years have you trapped in Minnesota? (If uncertain, please estimate) _____ years

Q4. Many factors can influence peoples' participation in trapping. How limiting are the following factors in your trapping activity in Minnesota? (please choose one for each)

	Not at all limiting						Very limiting
The area I intend to trap is used by too many other trappers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
The area I intend to trap is used by hunters, hikers and other outdoor enthusiasts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Fur prices too low	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Other commitments	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cost of travel/gas prices	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Weather conditions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Q5. How important is trapping to you? (please choose one)

_____ My most important outdoor activity _____ One of my most important outdoor activities
 _____ Less important than my other outdoor activities

Q6. Are you currently a member of: (please choose all that apply)

_____ MN Trappers Association _____ MN Forest Zone Trappers Association
 _____ National Trappers Association _____ Fur Takers of America
 _____ Other trapping organization, please specify: _____

Q7. Where in the state of Minnesota did you do most of your trapping in a typical season?

_____ North of Interstate 94 _____ South of Interstate 94

PART II. SATISFACTION WITH TRAPPING

Q9. How satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the following aspects of trapping in recent years in Minnesota? (please choose one for each)

	Very dissatisfied	Moderately dissatisfied	Slightly dissatisfied	Neither	Slightly satisfied	Moderately satisfied	Very satisfied
Overall trapping experience	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Number of animals harvested	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Trapping regulations	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Access to places to trap	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Q8a. If you were dissatisfied with any item in Q6, please explain why [here](#)

PART III. HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICTS

Q9. Have you trapped to resolve human-wildlife conflicts for other people? ([please](#) choose one)

- No, I do not trap problem animals (If, "No," skip to Part IV.)
- Yes, I have done this in the past, but not [regularly](#)
- Yes, I trap problem animals regularly, but not as a [business](#)
- Yes, I have a business and regularly do this [work](#)

Q10. What species have you trapped for other people to resolve human-wildlife conflict issues? ([please](#) choose all that apply from the list below)

- Beaver Coyote Skunk Squirrel/rabbit Raccoon
- Bobcat Fox Muskrat Opossum Other _____

PART IV. TRAPPING LOCATIONS AND TRAP SETS

Q11. How much of your trapping did you do on the following types of land in recent years in Minnesota? ([please](#) choose one for each)

	None	Some	Most	All
Land that I own	1	2	3	4
Private land that I do not own that I have permission to trap	1	2	3	4
Ditches and road rights of way	1	2	3	4
DNR Wildlife Management Area	1	2	3	4
National Forest land	1	2	3	4
State Forest land	1	2	3	4
County Forest land	1	2	3	4
National Wildlife Refuge	1	2	3	4
Tribal-owned land within a reservation boundary that I have permission to trap	1	2	3	4
Private land within a tribal reservation boundary that I have permission to trap	1	2	3	4
Federal Waterfowl Production Area	1	2	3	4

Q12. If you placed traps in ditches and road rights of way in recent years in Minnesota, what kinds of traps did you set? ([please](#) choose all that apply)

- I did not set traps on ditches or road rights of ways Footholds Snares (Forest Zone only)
- Body grips Cage Traps Dog proof foot-encapsulating traps Colony traps

Q13. Did you set any 160 or 220 body grip traps in Minnesota in recent years?

___ Yes ___ No (please skip to Q16.)

Q14. How often did you set 160 or 220 body grip traps on dry land or ice (excluding water sets AND sets 3 feet or more above ground) in recent years in the following locations in Minnesota? (please choose one for each)

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
Road rights of way	1	2	3	4
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)	1	2	3	4
On the frozen surface of public waters	1	2	3	4
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	1	2	3	4
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	1	2	3	4
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	1	2	3	4

Q15. What type of 160 or 220 body grip dryland trap set did you use most often in each of the following locations in recent years in Minnesota? (please choose one for each)

	Did not set traps here	Baited cubby	Trail set with bait or lure	Trail set without bait or lure
Road rights of way	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On the frozen surface of public waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The following questions pertain to snaring on land or ice (excluding in water or under ice) in the farmland and forest zones in Minnesota. Page 51 of the 2022 Minnesota Hunting and Trapping Regulations contains a map of the forest and farmland snaring zones.

Trapping Regulations → <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/regulations/hunting/index.html>

Q16. Did you set any snares on land or ice in the forest zone in Minnesota in recent years?

___ Yes ___ No (If, "no" please skip to Q18)

Q17. How often did you set snares on land or ice in the forest zone in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations? (please choose one for each)

<i>Forest zone snaring</i>	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	Did you set snares here with the intent to dispatch rapidly? (e.g., with a non-relaxing snare lock, a compression spring, or near entanglement)
Road rights of way	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
On the frozen surface of public waters	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Q18. Did you set any snares on land or ice in the farmland zone in Minnesota in recent year?

Yes No (If, "no" please skip to Q20)

Q19. How often did you set snares on land or ice in the farmland zone in Minnesota in recent years in the following locations? (please choose one for each)

<i>Farmland zone snaring</i>	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	Did you set any snares in this location with the intent to dispatch rapidly? (e.g., with <u>an</u> non-relaxing snare lock, a compression spring, or near entanglement)
On the frozen surface of public waters	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	1	2	3	4	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Q20. In the table on the next page, please enter the 4 species that you trapped most frequently in recent years in Minnesota. For each of these 4 species, please choose 2 categories of trap sets (e.g. body grip trap on land, foothold in water) you most commonly used to trap that species in recent years in Minnesota. For each of the two categories selected, please choose the single most common trap size you used (if that option is listed) and answer any additional questions.

Choose 2 below for each species	Species 1	Species 2	Species 3	Species 4
Write species name here →				
Body grip trap on land →	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
If yes, choose one size you used most often	___110 ___160 ___120 ___220 ___150	___110 ___160 ___120 ___220 ___150	___110 ___160 ___120 ___220 ___150	___110 ___160 ___120 ___220 ___150
If yes, did you use a baited cubby?	___Yes ___No	___Yes ___No	___Yes ___No	___Yes ___No
Body grip trap in water →	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
If yes, choose one size you used most often	___110 ___220 ___120 ___280 ___150 ___330 ___160	___110 ___220 ___120 ___280 ___150 ___330 ___160	___110 ___220 ___120 ___280 ___150 ___330 ___160	___110 ___220 ___120 ___280 ___150 ___330 ___160
Foothold trap on land →	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
If yes, choose one size you used most often	___0 ___1.65 ___1 ___2 ___11 ___3 ___1 ½ ___4 ___1 ¾ ___5 Other _____	___0 ___1.65 ___1 ___2 ___11 ___3 ___1 ½ ___4 ___1 ¾ ___5 Other _____	___0 ___1.65 ___1 ___2 ___11 ___3 ___1 ½ ___4 ___1 ¾ ___5 Other _____	___0 ___1.65 ___1 ___2 ___11 ___3 ___1 ½ ___4 ___1 ¾ ___5 Other _____
If yes, which trap jaws did you use? (choose all that apply, for the trap selected above)	___Standard ___Offset ___Double ___Padded ___Laminated/ Wide/Cast	___Standard ___Offset ___Double ___Padded ___Laminated/ Wide/Cast	___Standard ___Offset ___Double ___Padded ___Laminated/ Wide/Cast	___Standard ___Offset ___Double ___Padded ___Laminated/ Wide/Cast
Foothold trap in water →	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
If yes, choose one size you used most often	___0 ___1.65 ___1 ___2 ___11 ___3 ___1 ½ ___4 ___1 ¾ ___5 Other _____	___0 ___1.65 ___1 ___2 ___11 ___3 ___1 ½ ___4 ___1 ¾ ___5 Other _____	___0 ___1.65 ___1 ___2 ___11 ___3 ___1 ½ ___4 ___1 ¾ ___5 Other _____	___0 ___1.65 ___1 ___2 ___11 ___3 ___1 ½ ___4 ___1 ¾ ___5 Other _____
If yes, which trap jaws did you use? (choose all that apply, for the trap selected above)	___Standard ___Offset ___Double ___Padded ___Laminated/ Wide/Cast	___Standard ___Offset ___Double ___Padded ___Laminated/ Wide/Cast	___Standard ___Offset ___Double ___Padded ___Laminated/ Wide/Cast	___Standard ___Offset ___Double ___Padded ___Laminated/ Wide/Cast
Snare on land →	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
If yes, did you set snares intending to rapidly dispatch (e.g., non-relaxing snare locks or a compression spring)?	___Yes ___No	___Yes ___No	___Yes ___No	___Yes ___No
Snare in water →	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
Encapsulating foothold (dog proof, reach-in trap) →	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
Cage trap →	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
Colony trap →	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> YES

PART V. ATTITUDES TOWARD TRAPPING REGULATIONS

Q21. Trappers must be 5 years of age or older to register fisher, marten, river otter, or bobcat in Minnesota. How much do you support or oppose increasing the minimum age to register these species from 5 to 10 years old, to an age between 5 and 10 years old, or maintaining the current minimum age of 5 years old? (Please choose one for each)

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support
Increase to 10 years old	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Increase to an age between 5 and 10 years old	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Maintain the current regulation of 5 years old	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Q22. Minnesota is the only state where trappers must be residents or own land in the state to purchase a trapping license. How much do you support or oppose the following potential regulations for non-resident trapping in Minnesota? (Please choose one for each)

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support
Maintain the current regulation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Allow non-resident trapping, but non-resident trappers would not be permitted to take quota species such as fisher, marten, river otter or bobcat	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Allow non-resident trapping, but the trapping season for non-residents would start after the resident trapping season	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Allow non-resident trapping, but non-resident trappers would not be permitted to take quota species such as fisher, marten, river otter or bobcat, and the trapping season for non-residents would start after the resident trapping season	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Q23. Many states allow nonresidents to trap only if their home state also allows non-resident trapping (e.g. reciprocity). If Minnesota allowed non-resident trapping, would you travel to a state that also has reciprocity requirements to trap?

Yes No

Q24. Have restrictions on non-resident trapping prevented any of your friends or family from trapping in Minnesota?

Yes No

Q25. The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) has published documents with best management practices (BMPs) for trapping individual species of furbearers. Were you aware of these documents prior to receiving this survey? (please choose one). AFWA BMPs → <https://www.fishwildlife.org/afwa-inspires/furbearer-management>

Yes No (If "No," please skip to Part VI.)

Q26. When considering new traps, how much priority do you place on purchasing BMP approved traps? (please choose one)

None Some A moderate amount A considerable amount

PART VI. FURBEARER SEASON DATES, LENGTHS AND ZONES

Q27. The current annual bag limit for river otter is 4 statewide. If the otter season length or bag limit were to change, which of the following regulations would you **most prefer**? (*please choose only one*)

- Increase bag limit to 7, with no or minimal increase in season length
- Increase bag limit to 6, with a new season closing date between April 1st and April 15th
- Increase bag limit to 5, with a new season closing date between April 15th and April 20th
- Leave bag limit at 4, with a new season closing date between May 1st and May 15th

Q28. The current fisher/marten season in Minnesota is open for 9 days in late December. This season structure has been in place since 2019. How much to do support or oppose the following potential fisher/marten season structures. (*please choose one for each*)

	Strongly oppose	Moderately oppose	Slightly oppose	Neither	Slightly support	Moderately support	Strongly support
Maintain the current season dates	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Open the fisher/marten and bobcat season the second Saturday in December and run the fisher/marten season for the first 9 days of the bobcat season. (Fisher/marten fur registration days would occur before Christmas, and rarely on Dec. 24 th)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Open the fisher/marten and bobcat season the second Saturday in December and run the fisher/marten season for the last 9 days (mid- January) of the bobcat season	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

MN DNR uses 3 different zones to regulate trapping in Minnesota. They are the north/south furbearer zone (season start dates for mink/muskrat/otter/beaver), the fisher/marten/bobcat zone, and the farmland/forest snaring zone. Maps of these zones exist in the MN Hunting and Trapping Regulations, on page 51. The following questions pertain to potential changes to season dates, bags, and lines for the north/south and fisher/marten/bobcat zones.

Trapping Regulations → <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/regulations/hunting/index.html>

Q29. Do you support simplifying trapping regulations by combining the north/south furbearer and the fisher/marten/bobcat zones? The line for both zones would be Interstate 94.

- Yes No

Q30. If taking fisher or bobcat became legal in the southern part of the state (south of I-94), tradeoffs between trapper participation, species limits and season lengths would need to be considered. As examples, which of the following regulations would you most prefer for fisher and bobcat trapping in the southern part of the state? (*please choose only one*)

- A limited number of permits to trap fisher/bobcat issued by lottery with some combination of 5 bobcat or fisher and a season length of 37 days
- Unlimited permits to trap fisher/bobcat available over the counter with some combination of 4 bobcat or fisher and a season length of 9 days
- Unlimited permits to trap fisher/bobcat available over the counter with some combination of 3 bobcat or fisher and a season length of 16 days
- Unlimited permits to trap fisher/bobcat available over the counter with a limit of 1 bobcat and 1 fisher with season length of 23 days

Please return your completed survey in the envelope provided. Thank you!

Appendix B. Derived estimates

The tables to follow contain derived estimates of the percent of all trappers setting snares or traps at various locations in Minnesota in recent years, the types of trap sets used, and intent to dispatch animals quickly using snares.

Table B1. Estimated percent of trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in Minnesota in recent years at various locations

Location	Percent of all trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years (A)	Percent of trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps at various locations, among those set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years (B)	Percent of all trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps at various locations in recent years (A x B)
Road rights of way	65	29	19
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)	65	16	10
On the frozen surface of public waters	65	25	16
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	65	14	9
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	65	25	16
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	65	45	29

- Percent that any traps in that location derived from tables 35-40, value is the sum of categories “sometimes,” “often,” and “always” versus “never.”
- Rounded to the nearest percent.

Table B2. Estimated percent of trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in Minnesota in recent years at various locations, by trap set

Location	Percent of all trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years (A)	Percent of trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years at various locations using a baited cubby , among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years, and (percent of all trappers) B (B x A)	Percent of trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years at various locations using a trail set with bait or lure , among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years, and (percent of all trappers) C (C x A)	Percent of trappers that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years at various locations using a trail set without bait or lure , among those that set 160 or 220 body grip traps in recent years, and (percent of all trappers) D (D x A)
Road rights of way	65	10 (7)	3 (2)	18 (12)
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)	65	9 (6)	1 (1)	6 (4)
On the frozen surface of public waters	65	15 (10)	2 (1)	8 (5)
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	65	9 (6)	1 (1)	5 (3)
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	65	15 (10)	2 (1)	8 (5)
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	65	26 (17)	3 (2)	15 (10)

- Percent that any traps in that location derived from table 41a.
- Rounded to the nearest percent.

Table B3. Estimated percent of trappers that placed snares at various locations in the forest zone, and with the intent to dispatch

Location	Percent of all trappers that set snares on land or ice in the forest zone in recent years (A)	Percent of trappers that set snares in various locations, among those that set snares in the forest zone on land or ice in recent years (B)	Percent of all trappers that set snares on land or ice in the forest zone by location (A x B)	Percent of trappers that set snares with intent to dispatch by location, among those that set snares in the forest zone on land or ice in recent years (C)	Percent of all trappers that set snares with an intent to dispatch on land or ice in the forest zone in recent years by location ((A x B) x C)
Road rights of way	23	20	5	62	3
Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), or Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs)	23	16	4	55	2
On the frozen surface of public waters	23	37	9	71	6
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	23	21	5	56	3
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	23	30	7	66	5
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	23	46	11	73	8

- Percent that any snares in that location derived from tables 43-48, value is the sum of categories “sometimes,” “often,” and “always” versus “never.”
- Rounded to the nearest percent.

Table B4. Estimated percent of trappers that placed snares at various locations in the farmland zone, and with the intent to dispatch

Location	Percent of all trappers that set snares on land or ice in the farmland zone in recent years (A)	Percent of trappers that set snares in various locations, among those that set snares in the farmland zone on land or ice in recent years (B)	Percent of all trappers that set snares on land or ice in the farmland zone by location (A x B)	Percent of trappers that set snares with intent to dispatch by location, among those that set snares in the farmland zone on land or ice in recent years (C)	Percent of all trappers that set snares with an intent to dispatch on land or ice in the farmland zone in recent years by location ((A x B) x C)
On the frozen surface of public waters	27	29	8	46	4
Within 100 feet of a public water access, or designated bike/ATV, walking/hiking, ski, or hunter walking trail	27	9	2	-	-
Within 100 feet of private property where you do not have permission	27	35	9	51	5
Within 100 feet of a public (federal, state, county, or township) road	27	34	9	50	5

- Percent that any snares in that location derived from tables 50-53, value is the sum of categories “sometimes,” “often,” and “always” versus “never.”
- Rounded to the nearest percent.