



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Wildlife Division P.O. Box 200701 Helena MT 59620

November 13, 2012

To Montana Certified Wolf Trapper,

The FWP Commission adopted regulations for the first Montana wolf trapping season at their July 2012 meeting. The wolf trapping season framework included a variety of restrictions, some of which were intended to minimize the take of non-target species. Additionally, the Commission adopted a requirement that Montana trappers complete a wolf trapping education course.

As a person that has been certified for completing the wolf trapping education course, you are being informed that a new wolf trapping regulation was adopted at the November 8, 2012 Commission meeting. This new regulation is a **minimum 8 pound trap pan tension requirement**. This is considered a particularly effective approach to minimize non-target captures, particularly smaller carnivores including lynx, marten, and fisher.

The primary non-target concern is lynx, which is a federally listed ESA species. The FWP Commission has adopted this restriction in the following area that includes federally identified critical lynx habitat:

Wolf Trap Pan Tension Regulation Legal Description - Those portions of Trapping Districts 1 and 2 within the following described boundary: From the intersection of US Highway 2 with the Montana-Idaho state line then south and east along US Highway 2 to its intersection with US Highway 93 at Kalispell then southerly along US Highway 93 to its intersection with Interstate 90 then southeasterly along Interstate 90 to its intersection with US Highway 12 at Garrison then easterly along US Highway 12 to its intersection with the Continental Divide at McDonald Pass then northerly along the Continental Divide to its intersection with the Glacier National Park boundary at Marias Pass then westerly and northerly along the Glacier National Park boundary to the US-Canada border then west along said border to its intersection with the Montana-Idaho state line then south along said line to its intersection with US Highway 2 the point of beginning.

Again, please note that this is a new regulation for wolf trapping. If you have questions on this new requirement please contact us at fwp.mt.gov or 444-2612.