

NEWSLETTER Fall/Winter 2025

Yukon Trappers Association
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President's Message

Fall season is here, days are noticeably shorter, and fall colors here in S. Yukon are near peak. Trapping season will be upon us shortly. Now is the time to check over, and get all equipment ready, be it tuning up the snow machine, dyeing and checking over traps for broken springs, or defective triggers, making snares, the list is endless. Trappers have 2 seasons-trapping season and getting ready for trapping season.

Trappers who shipped to Fur Harvesters Auction last year were rewarded with vastly improved prices over previous years, and clearance on many species was high. Market forecast for the 2025/2026 season is that well-prepared, prime skins will be in demand. This is very encouraging news for trappers following the several years of low prices due to the inability of the international buying community to attend auctions due to travel restrictions during the Covid pandemic.

In this newsletter I will introduce "FOCUS ON FUR"- a brief section dealing with proper fur handling which will appear later in this newsletter.

For the first time in many years I will not be going to my fly-in line this season, however I would like to get out and help, or assist other trappers. If anyone would like help or company you can get hold of me through YTA.

In closing I wish all trappers a safe and prosperous season!

YTA PRESIDENT, Robert Stitt.

Fur Depot

by Jackie Yaklin

Tanning Services

The Association provides an excellent tanning service for our members. We negotiated a bulk tanning rate, an exceptional shipping rate; we ship regularly; we're organized; we provide the seals, get the export permit, and pay expenses to our suppliers.

When your tanning order returns, you are notified. Yes, sometimes the notification is not received, but we do leave messages.

The Association does not earn a large income from the tanning fees.

Fur in the Round

The Association is looking for fur in the round of species foxes, coyotes, wolves, marten, beaver. We intend to use them for our workshops. At the end, we'll send the fur for tanning and sell it at a Fur Sale or at Our Store.

These particular furs are difficult to keep in stock, in part because of the limited quantity. And in part, because they are Yukon furs. There is high demand for Yukon furs. When we sell these furs, we can provide information about the furs – where they came from, when they were harvested.

Fur Depot

Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday from 2pm to 5pm; Saturdays from 11am to 4pm. Closed Sundays and holidays. Phone 1-867-668-5648 for additional hours.

Fur depot services include: shipping to the auction house; export permits; sealing for lynx, wolverine and wolves.

Memberships

All memberships expire 12 months from the date of purchase. Members receive the following benefits: 10% discount on purchases from Our Store; tanning services; fur depot services. The Association advocates on behalf of its members for specific issues as they arise and for general issues that apply to all trappers.

The Association relies on memberships as the number of members makes us a more representative Association. Please join us. Thank you.

We have lots of forming boards. And our marten magic is in stock; also snare wire and snare parts.

See below our new price list for forming boards, traps and to send out tanning.

Yukon Trappers Association			
Price List		Effective September 16, 2025	
Stretchers			
Wolf, Split	\$125.00	Squirrel, Solid	\$12.00
Coyote / Wolverine, Solid	\$90.00	Weasel, Solid	\$12.00
Lynx, Solid	\$60.00	Marten, Solid	\$19.00
Fox, Solid	\$42.00	Belly Sticks, small	\$7.00
Fisher, Solid	\$42.00	Belly Sticks, large	\$9.00
Otter, Solid	\$60.00	Wolf, Solid	\$125.00
Muskrat, drying board	\$15.00	Mink, Solid	\$19.00
Marten Boxes	\$32.00	Fleshing Beam	\$395.00
dried white spruce, use rubbing alcohol for syrup removal			
Traps			
Belisle 330 SX	\$40.00	OV #3 Softcatch 4 spring	not available
Belisle 120 SX	\$24.00	Bridger #3 SC 4 Coil	\$55.00
Sauvageau 2001-5	\$26.00	OV #0	\$18.00
Sauvageau 2001-11	\$52.00	Underwater cage	\$28.00
MB 750 Wolf	\$95.00	Belisle 160	\$24.50
Bridger Brawn #9 Wolf	\$215.00	OV #3 not soft catch	\$42.00
Tanning	(Freight extra 12%)		
Beaver small	\$55.00	Marten	\$27.00
Beaver medium	\$59.00	Coyote	\$66.50
Beaver large	\$67.00	Wolverine	\$190.00
Beaver XL	\$71.50	Wolf	\$210.00
Beaver XXL	\$73.50	Black bear	\$320.00
Beaver 3X/2XL	\$78.00	Otter	\$97.50
Lynx	\$130.00	Rabbit (Ranch only)	\$30.00
Weasel	\$27.00	Muskrat	\$27.00
Fox	\$65.00	Squirrel	\$27.00
Mink	\$33.00	Wood bison (sq ft)	\$47.00
Grizzly	\$1,000.00	Wood bison permit	\$20.00
Fisher	\$66.50	Caribou, Moose (sq ft)	\$36.00
Trap Parts			
kit120	\$5.00	Safety Grabber	\$22.00
kit330	\$7.00	330 Lock Setters	\$52.00
T120	\$4.00		
T330	\$5.00		

Fur Harvesters' Last Receiving & Auction Dates

2025/26 Auction Schedule

YTA last rec. date	FHA rec. date	Auction date
January 10, 2026	January 18, 2026	March 19-21, 2026
April 2, 2026	April 12, 2026	June 2-4, 2026

All sales are being held in North Bay, Ontario.

FUR HARVESTERS' ANNUAL CONVENTION IS HELD IN NORTH BAY, ONTARIO, ON JANUARY 9 AND 10, 2026.

If you have Facebook and Youtube, Fur Harvesters Auction is on it too and they also post videos.

News from Environment Yukon

by Ryan Sealy

Trapper training workshops



Want to get your trapping licence?

Complete the mandatory 4 ½ day trapper training. Registration opens June 17 at 8:30 am.

Book a workshop:

- in person at a Department of Environment office
- by phone at 867-667-5652

Cost: \$300 + GST

Questions? Call 867-393-6273 or email ryan.sealy@yukon.ca.



Community	Dates	Location
Burwash Landing	October 2 to 6	Jacquot Hall
Mayo	November 3 to 7	Multi-Purpose Room
Carmacks	November 20 to 24	Heritage Hall
Carcross	December 11 to 15	Haa Shagóon Hídi Clan Room

Yukon.ca/trapper-education

Yukon

WANTED: WOLVERINE CARCASSES



Trappers - Bring your skinned wolverine carcass to the nearest Environment Yukon office and receive **\$50 per carcass**.

Each carcass must be tagged securely with the information below. As of November 2022 we have switched to full carcasses. Heads must be included.

Required Information:

- Trapper name
- Trapper license number
- Concession number
- Date of harvest

Trappers play a key role in effective furbearer management in Yukon. By bringing in your wolverine carcasses, you help increase our understanding of the biology of wolverine. This information then helps inform long-term management decisions for this important furbearing species.

For more information contact: Anna.Smith@yukon.ca




Wolf Incentive Program at YOA

We have not heard yet if the program will go ahead this upcoming season. We will keep you posted

Upcoming Events

YUKON TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION 2025 FALL FUR AND CRAFT SALE



**OCTOBER 25
2025**
11AM-4PM
Elks Hall
401 Hawkins Street
Whitehorse

Trappers and Crafters: Tables are free with YTA membership.
YTA is offering a consignment option for trappers who want to sell fur but can't attend the show.
To reserve a table or for information on consigning fur contact us at:
YUKONFUR@YKNET.CA
867-667 7091

Miscellaneous

FOCUS ON FUR – MARTEN

by Robert Stitt

Marten are one of the most important fur-bearers to northern trappers. At auction marten are graded on three criteria: size, which is measured from tip of nose to base of tail, color, and density of fur. Using the proper forming board (stretcher) is necessary to obtain the proper shape. Both male, and female marten should be placed on the male board. Draw a line on the board at 19", 21", 23", and 25". These correspond to L, XL, XXL, and XXXL respectively. I do not recommend using two-piece or split boards for marten. When the pelt is placed on the board do not over-stretch as this will reduce the density of the fur.

Let's take for example a marten pelt that will reach almost to the 21", or XL line. The bottom of the pelt should be pinned right where it is, just above the line. By pulling the pelt down beyond the line to get the XXL size will reduce the density of the fur, and hence its value. Next pin the legs on the opposite side of the board from the tail and pin, or screen the tail open. Don't forget to insert a belly stick which will make removing the pelt much easier. When the leather is dry-which can take only a few hours, turn fur out and put back on the board, and leave there until the nose is dry which can take several days. Before putting it into the fur bag for shipping give the pelt a light brushing.

Oh yes, and one final comment: for those trappers who are curious as to who are the major buyers of our marten; commercial, or lower-end pelts go to Russia. The higher-quality skins are eagerly sought after by S. Korea.



September 29, 2025.

RTC#104. Family trapline for sale due to health. This is a fly-in camp. My wife and I built this concession up from bare land from 2010. Base camp 16x24, 8x8 skinning shack, some building materials on site to start a 8x12 addition on the skinning shack. 2012 Renegade 550 Fan with about 3,800km. Spare oil, plugs, skis, some parts. 16 ft boat, 9.9 Yamaha 4 stroke, chain saws. Over 200 traps of all kinds. 2 generators, 800 pounds dry goods, fuel, fishing equipment, freezers, new bed foams, solar panels. Spare boat and beaver camp at a lake close to base camp. 1 base camp lease and 3 line cabin leases in place ready to build. 2,000 ft airstrip in middle of concession with 1 lease 5km away. Trap from Oct 1 to Dec 10 harvest ability on cut trails, 150 marten, 20+ beaver, 50+ muskrat, 5+ mink, odd wolverine, many lone wolves in area and 2 large packs of 14+ in area. Some colored fox, ermine, squirrel. Only 1 lynx ever caught, never see sign of them. No coyote. With 1 person trapping.

Lake has whitefish, northern pike, burbot. Some dolly are in the lake behind camp. Forest fire on opposite side of lake 2 years ago, loads of building logs and firewood. I spent 5 years building and cutting trails, trapped on snowshoe. Filmed TV shows, trapline tours, and built international Fur Sales business.

Due to health unable to return, currently have 5 year lease, last 2 seasons gave the bush a break. Intended to trap this season, unfortunately not looking good. Willing to go in for 2 weeks and set up/lay out to help you get established. And continued support for your first season with fur handling and marketing. Can do a Vender Take Back, if you're unable to get financing.

Looking for \$200,000.00. Email melanson.brian@outlook.com or call 867 334 1864. Regards, Brian Melanson.

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September 25, 2025.

Scott has some trapline equipment for sale for pick up in Mayo area or delivered to Steward Crossing or Whitehorse at times.

Well-used prospector wall tent 400.00. Originally 10x12 but has shrunk over the years to ca 9.3x11.2, 32 inch side walls, ca. 6.5-7 foot ridge. Some sod fabric frayed off. Sheet metal stove jack plate in ceiling. Someone ripped the roofline grommets out on me but easily remedied with internal ridge pole in in set-up. Has worked very well for line work and base camp moves.

Woods Yukon 30 (-45) winter sleeping bag. Large, thick and warm, multi-layered. Lightly used in 2 minus 40-50 cold snaps, clean with carry-stuff duffle bag. 300.00 firm.

Assorted traps (450 for the lot, or individually below)

Ca. 18 marten traps (14 savageau double frames, 3 bellisles), all in good working condition. 350.00.

2 LDL 280 body grippers (never used). 50.00.

2 bellisle 330 body grippers. 60.00.

1 11x12 savageau double-frame. 35.00.

Pelting boards (180.00)

3 marten forming boards, 1 fox board (solid), 1 lynx/otter board, 1 wolf (split board).

1995 Bravo 250 LT for repair or parts. 1500.00. Has a bent slide frame and ripped seat foam/cover. Also needs a cross tie tack weld on left side under front of hood. Had a carb tune done on it by a "pro" but never ran right due to fuel pump defect (mounting screws were loose so I tightened them). Aside from the slide rail issue, it basically still needs a proper carb tune up and checking that a bush mechanic did not mis-route the gas lines. Has a nice external bush-bomber alum tube frame around the front bonnet and windscreen to protect from willow whiplash, floats like a dream and easy to wrestle a "manual reverse" when the turning tight. I developed a hernia so shifted to full-snowshoe mode for winter travel. Comes with original under-hood tool kit, spare belt and owner's manual (PDF).

Please contact Scott at buckbrushworks@proton.me or 902.215.8434

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🐾 🌲 Pass on your knowledge and let the tradition live on 🐾 🌲

Hey y'all!

We're a married couple in our 30s and looking to become an assistant for a trap line holder.

We both have a gun license, hunting license and have completed the Trapper course.

Got an ATV, a Chainsaw and other equipment.

We're very diligent, humble and pragmatic and would just love to learn more about the trapping tradition.

If you'd like to get in touch with us, please shoot me a message by email: Ytfm1789@gmail.com

Cheers, Fay and Blake

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Seeking; Trapline to Trap

20 years experience. I have been in the Yukon for 4 1/2 years and now have my Yukon trapper course under my belt.

Hello my name is Misty. I was born on my father's trapline in Ontario and raised on the trapline in Manitoba. We moved there when I was 2. It was fly-in and we lived there year-round. I learned trapping along my father's side.

"Trapping is not a job to me. It's a way of life where everything makes sense."

- Long term goal is to have my own line.
- Short term goal is to get out there and start living (trapping).

Contact Misty Dawn, bushgirls@icloud.com. Thank you.

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The Fur Institute of Canada has revamped their website. Check out <https://fur.ca/educational-materials/> for brochures and videos. Also go to youtube (<https://www.youtube.com/c/truthaboutfur>) for videos showing techniques to trap selectively and avoid non-target species including birds of prey and pet dogs.

Please check out <https://yukon.ca/en/engagements> once in a while in order to find Yukon Government surveys for you to participate in.

Do the same by checking out Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board' webpage at <https://yfwmb.ca/conservation-topics/>.

Then check out the Yukon Fish and Game Association at <https://yukonfga.ca/> to stay on top of important issues.

The Yukon Conservation Society's five current priorities are mining, energy, conservation, outdoor education, and climate change. Check out <https://www.yukonconservation.ca/conservation>.

A poem to prepare yourself for the next dark, cold winter months

Night Visitor

by Robert Stitt

*It was the night before Christmas on the Beaver River
I'd just finished a scoff of fried moose liver.
The silence is real, not like in the city
Inhabitants of such I often feel pity.
The dogs are asleep, curled up in their house
nothing is stirring, not even a mouse.
But wait, what's that, a sound that I hear,
no clatter of hooves, not Santa's reindeer.
It's more of a shuffle with big hairy feet,
by gosh it's a Sasquatch, now isn't that neat!
He peers in my window, a big toothless grin,
It's plain to see he wants to come in.
I open the door with much apprehension,
he shakes my hand which eases the tension.
It's been a week since my house guest arrived,
I'm beginning to wonder how I've survived.
He grunts, he groans, he craps on the floor,*

*I've had enough as I point to the door.
Get out of my cabin you nasty beast,
Go back to the forest, why don't you head east.
I've hurt his feelings, it's plain to see,
a tear in his eye, he clearly likes me.
He comes back in spring, he thinks I'm his mate!
Now what have I done to deserve such a fate.
Not meant to be I quickly explain, I have a girl friend, her name is Jane.
He takes this all in with dignity and grace,
Looks like I've convinced him he needs his own race.
Next morning he is gone, not leaving a trace,
peace, and quiet are now in place.
Now who would believe such a dubious tale,
He sent me a selfie to my email.
I'll be rich, I'll be famous, I'm sure you will agree.
A Sasquatch selfie for all to see.*

Written by Robert Stitt from remote Yukon trap-line during cold snap. Between January 9-19 temperature ranged from -40 to -50. One day it "warmed up" to -48.

Hope to see you at the Fur and Craft Sale. Think ahead and get your warm and fluffy Christmas presents early.

Sincerely,
the Board of Directors