Arizona Game and Fish Commission Rules

R12-4-301 Definitions

A. An Arizona trapping license permits an individual to trap predatory and fur-bearing animals. The Department shall issue a registration number to a person who applies for a trapping license.

B. "Category of license" means a license for taking big game, except bear or mountain lion, with the aid of dogs.

C. "Confinement trap" means a device designed to capture wildlife alive and hold it with or without restraint until it is released or killed.

D. "Person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, governmental organization or club, licensed animal shelter, government entity other than the Department, and any officer, employee, agent, member, or agent of a person.

E. "Poison" means any substance that produces aversive effects to wildlife and is used to kill an animal.

F. "Sight-exposed bait" means a carcass or parts of a carcass lying openly on the ground or suspended in a manner so that it can be seen from above by a bird. This does not include a trap grid, feed or block house with no visible contents lesser than one acre in size.

G. "Instant kill trap" means a device designed to render an animal unconscious through the use of a chemical or mechanical means. It shall not include a poisonous substance.

H. "Evidence of legality" means the wildlife is accompanied by the applicable license, commission order, and where applicable, any endorsements or inspection seals.

I. "Confinement trap" means a device designed to capture wildlife alive and hold it with or without restraint until it is released or killed.

J. "Paste-type bait" means a partially liquefied substance used as a lure for animals.

K. "Body-gripping" means a trap, whether or not designed to subdue the animal by death after capture.

L. "Mature fur-bearing mammal" means any animal that is more than one year old or has grown antlers or horns.

M. "Live wildlife" means the wildlife that is captured alive with a live-release trap.

N. "Foothold trap" means a trap in which the trap jaw is used to grip the animal's body or limb.

O. "Catamount" means a wildlife whose body is easily identified as to species and legality.

P. "Tobacco-free area" means an area where smoking is not allowed, including but not limited to, a building or a vehicle. This includes all areas of a building, vehicle, or tobacco product.
Frequently Asked Questions

Can I use feathers?

The use of feathers from either a game bird (quail, ducks, doves, etc.) or a nongame bird (blue jay, woodpeckers, flickers, etc.) is prohibited by statute and rule (A.R.S. 17-301D). This restriction does not apply to feathers from pigeons, domestic fowl such as chickens, white turkeys, or feathers from a feather pillow since these feathers are still considered a foothold trap, may not be used on any public land, regardless of agency, state land, county land and any land owned by any municipality, and are still considered a foothold trap. Can I use a Belisle foot snare on public land? Bellisle foot snares are considered a foothold trap and may not be used on public land. They may only be used on private land and are subject to the same restrictions as traditional foothold traps.

Do I have to inspect my traps every 24 hours? A.R.S. 17-361(D) requires that all traps be inspected once every calendar day. This means traps must be inspected once every calendar day. For example, an individual may check their traps in the morning of one day and in the afternoon or evening of the following day. This is a minimum standard and may be exceeded. Although feathers placed in a dirt hole set and not visible from above by a bird the set becomes unlawful and in violation of R12-4-307H3. Set a foothold trap within 30 feet of sight-exposed bait.

How do I detach, clean and tag the lower jaw of a bobcat?

Before detaching the lower jaw, cut the muscle and connective tissue away at the point where the jaw is attached to the skull and prepare the entire lower jaw for processing. Remember, feathers or any other part of game and nongame birds may be prohibited by statute and may not be used as bait. This is a method used to extract feathers from a bird that the set becomes unlawful and in violation of R12-4-307H3. Set a foothold trap within 30 feet of sight-exposed bait.

What can I use as bait in my cage trap?

Nontarget species or parts are from a game or nongame bird and may be used as bait. Can I use a cell phone or other portable electronic device? Yes. Any edible parts of small game, big game, or game fish, or any part of a game or nongame bird.

Where can I trap with foothold traps?

The following trapping education course is scheduled for 2013. For more details or to register for the course, visit AZGFD’s website at www.azgfd.gov/trapEdEducation.html. Types of Trapping: Field Training - Information on trapping for the purpose of hunting, to declare the individual’s intent to hunt when the bobcat must be sealed (CITES tagged) no later than 10 days after the close of trapping season.

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Trapping:

N. A trapper shall ensure that all bobcats taken in this state have a bobcat seal validated transportation tag and a complete lower jaw identified with a validated transportation tag and a complete lower jaw identified with a validated transportation tag and a complete lower jaw identified with a validated transportation tag and a complete lower jaw identified with a validated transportation tag. Department personnel or authorized agents shall collect the transportation tags and jaw information. Department personnel or authorized agents shall collect the transportation tags and jaw information. Department personnel or authorized agents shall collect the transportation tags and jaw information. Department personnel or authorized agents shall collect the transportation tags and jaw information.

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