

PROPOSED BOBCAT MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Procedure 1: Collect information to index bobcat abundance.

- A. Develop and implement standardized statewide survey methods to index relative bobcat abundance. This may include scent posts, hair snares, scat surveys, or a combination of these methods.
- B. Monitor trends in bobcat abundance through consistently gathered road kill records.
- C. Require trappers to submit an estimate of "unit-effort" such as trap-nights (1 trap for 1 night) on their annual report so that total harvest by trappers can be related to catch per unit effort, such as bobcats trapped per 100 trap nights.

Procedure 2: Collect bobcat harvest information.

- A. Develop an annual harvest survey for bobcats and other predator-furbearers separate from the current small game questionnaire in an expanded format that allows for additional data gathering.
- B. Provide predator caller groups with annual logs to document harvest, sex of harvest, and harvest intensity by GMU.
- C. Evaluate age structure of harvested bobcats through jaws submitted by hunters and trappers.
- D. Maintain a database containing information from bobcat transportation tags and CITES tags.

Procedure 3: Encourage the public to respond to depredation situations, within the limits established by ARS 17-239.

Procedure 4: Increase public awareness of bobcats and their habits, to reduce conflicts with humans.

- A. Maintain brochures regarding predator and human interactions and urban predators for distribution statewide.
- B. Conduct focused outreach efforts to include media releases and public forums in areas where conflicts are likely to occur.