

# Best Trapping Practices

The illustrations and data provided in these documents were inspired from the results of the trap testing completed through the work of the Trap Research and Development Committee of the Fur Institute of Canada



**FUR INSTITUTE  
OF CANADA**

**February 2024**



Published under the authority of the **Canadian Wildlife Directors Committee**.

All rights reserved. The content of this publication may not be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without the prior written permission of the Fur Institute of Canada.

#### **DESIGN AND COORDINATION**

**Pierre Canac-Marquis**

*Fur Institute of Canada*

**Gaétan Fournier**

*Fédération des Trappeurs Gestionnaires du Québec*

#### **GRAPHIC DESIGN AND ILLUSTRATIONS**

**Mélinda Morissette**

*Fédération des Trappeurs Gestionnaires du Québec*

**February 2024**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

## KILLING TRAPS

General information	5
Muskrat	6
Otter	7
Beaver	8
Weasel	9
Marten	10
Fisher	11
Raccoon	12
Canada lynx	13

---

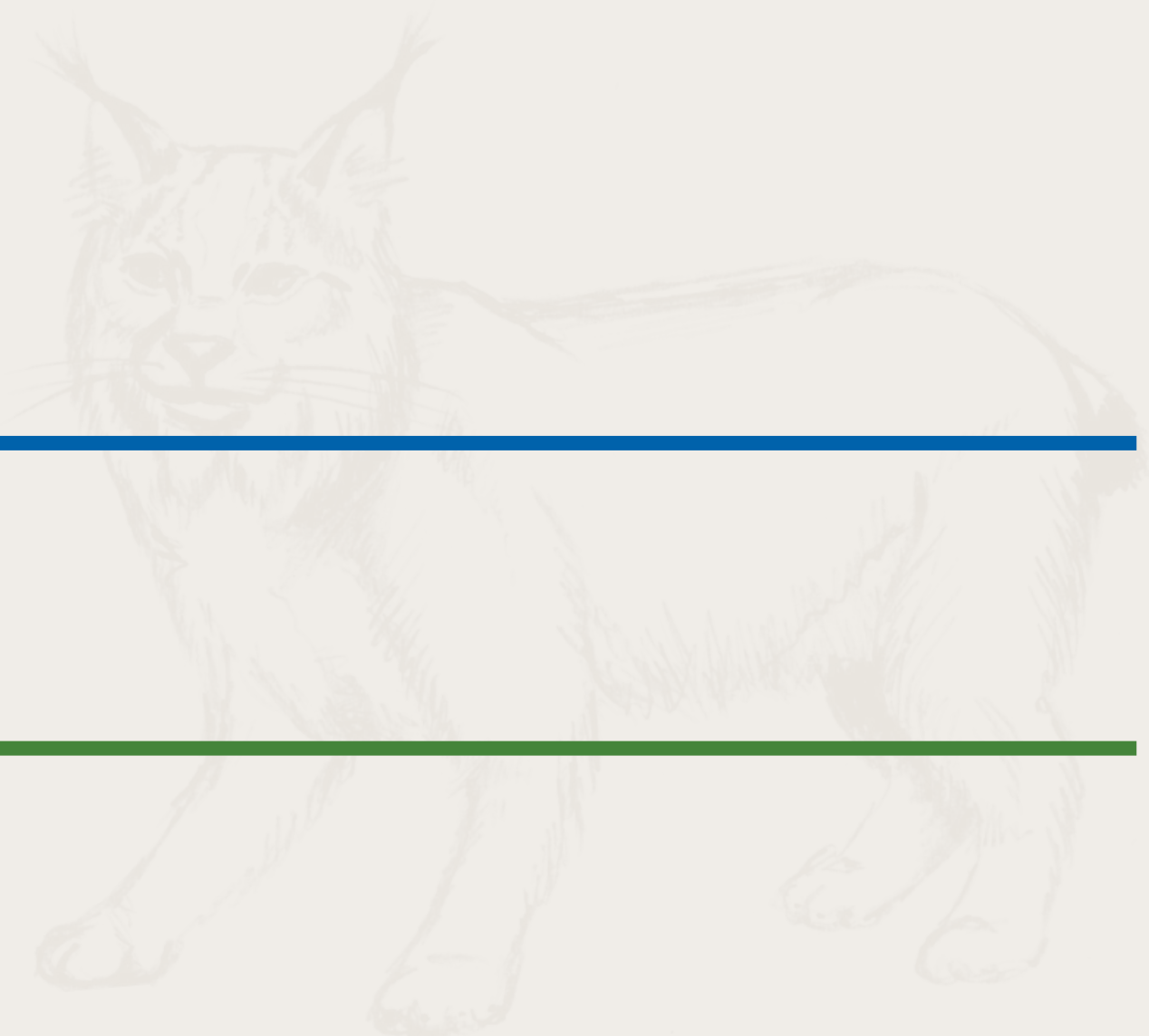
## KILLING NECK SNARES

General information	14-15
Setting principles	16
Accidental catches (cervidae)	17
Accidental catches (others)	18

---

## LIVE CAPTURE TRAPS

General information	19
Canids (fox, coyote, wolf)	20
Raccoon	21
Canada lynx	22
Raccoon and skunk (live capture cages)	23
Beaver (live capture cage)	24
Black bear	25-26
Coyote (relaxing cable restraint)	27-30



## **IMPORTANT NOTICE :**

Check with the authorities in charge  
of wildlife to confirm regulations  
related to trap use in your trapping area.



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

Principles	Criteria
<p><b>Approach angle</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>B</b> Centred approach facing the trap</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Pole will control the approach</p> </div> </div> <p><b>Trap position</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Dorso-ventral (ideal)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Side hit (avoid)</p> </div> </div> <p><b>Trigger Adjustment</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Slow (double strike)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Quick (single strike)</p> </div> </div> <p><b>Strike type</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Single</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Double</p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">J. Goodman ©</p>	<p><b>A</b> Trap dimensions (adapted to the size of the animal);</p> <p><b>B</b> Set (angle of approach by the animal, trap position, trigger position and configuration, trigger adjustment);</p> <p><b>C</b> Trap Model Mechanical properties (velocity, momentum and clamping forces);</p> <p><b>D</b> Strike locations (targeted vital strike zones).</p> <p>➔ Illustrations show rotating jaw traps but can be applied to other killing type traps.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>A B</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Bad strike</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Appropriate strike</p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">J. Goodman ©</p>	<p>➔ Illustrations show rotating jaw traps but can be applied to other killing type traps.</p>
<p>These criteria and principles apply to species-specific killing traps. For a list of certified traps for each species, see:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://fur.ca/certified-traps/">fur.ca/certified-traps/</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps">quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps</a></p>	



**Best Trapping Practices**

<b>MUSKRAT</b>	<b>KILLING TRAPS</b>
----------------	----------------------



→ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

### To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations

**On land and submerged**

120 frame

**Burrow or house entrance**

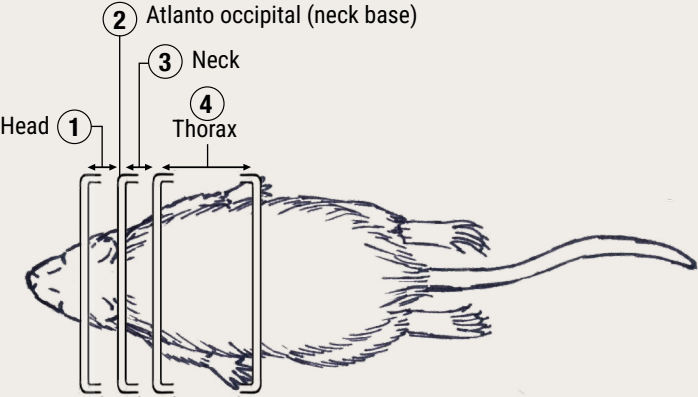
120 frame

Guiding sticks to reduce the opening thereby allowing rapid contact with the trigger

**Semi-submerged**

← = Approach by the animal

Strike Type	Recommended Strike Locations			
	①	②	③	④
Single	✓	✓	✓	✓



These specifications only apply to killing traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)

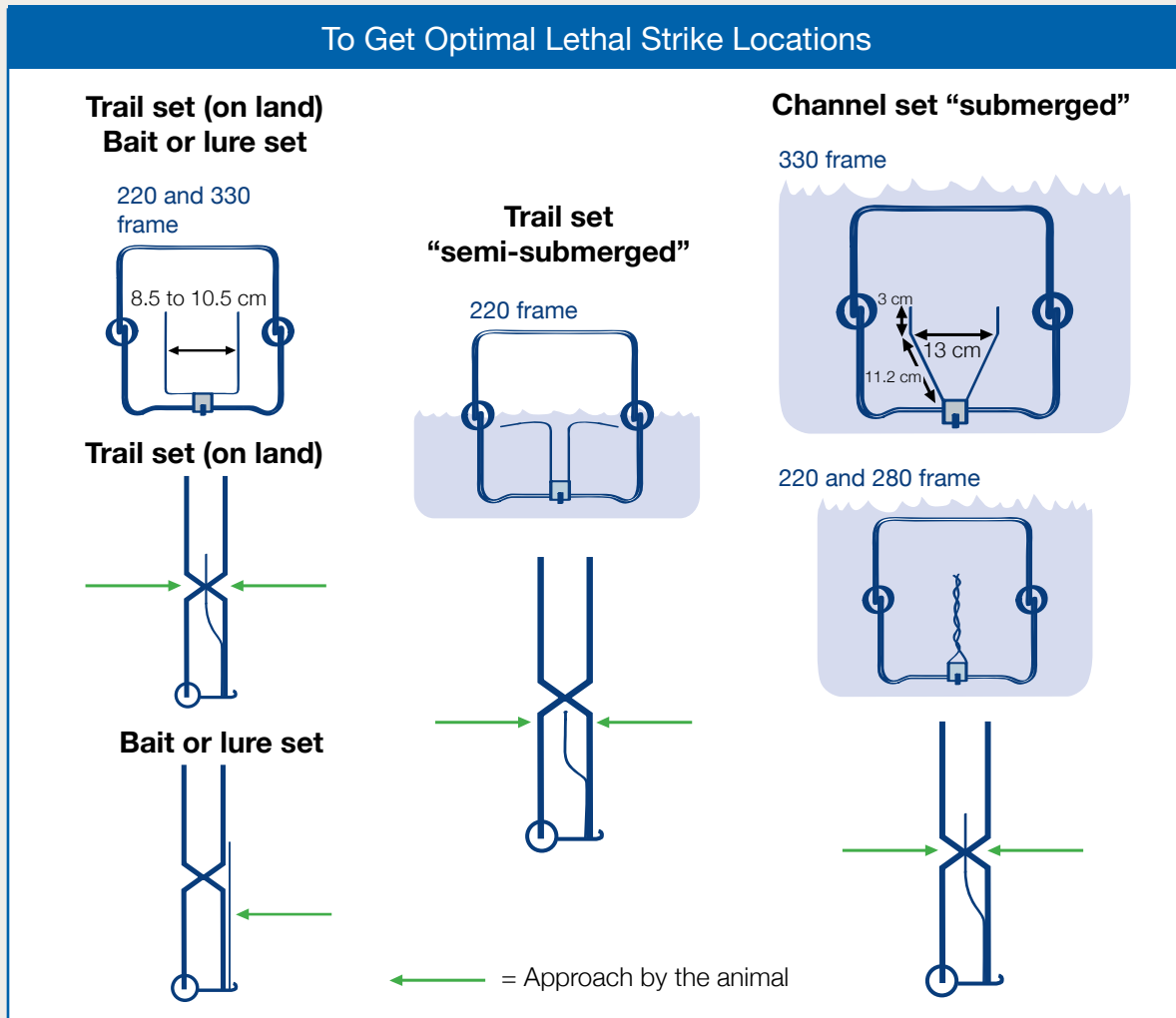


# Best Trapping Practices

<b>OTTER</b>	<b>KILLING TRAPS</b>
--------------	----------------------

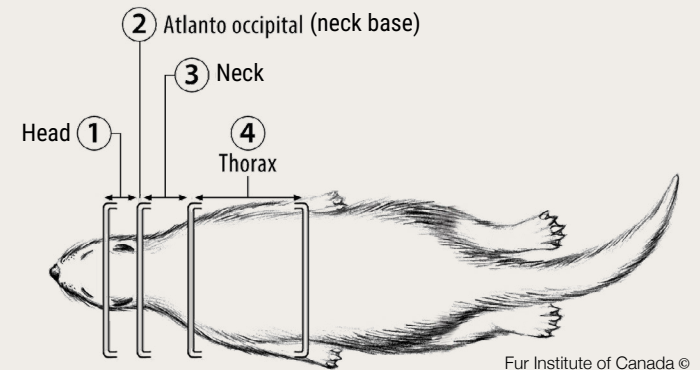


➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area



Strike Types	Recommended Strike Locations			
	①	②	③	④
Single		✓	✓	✓
Double*	✓	✓	✓	✓

\* Any combination of thorax ④ and strike location ① or ② or ③.



These specifications only apply to killing traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)



# Best Trapping Practices

<b>BEAVER</b>	<b>KILLING TRAPS</b>
---------------	----------------------



→ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

### To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations

#### Lure Set "semi-submerged"

#### "Submerged"

330 frame

280 frame

"On land" also

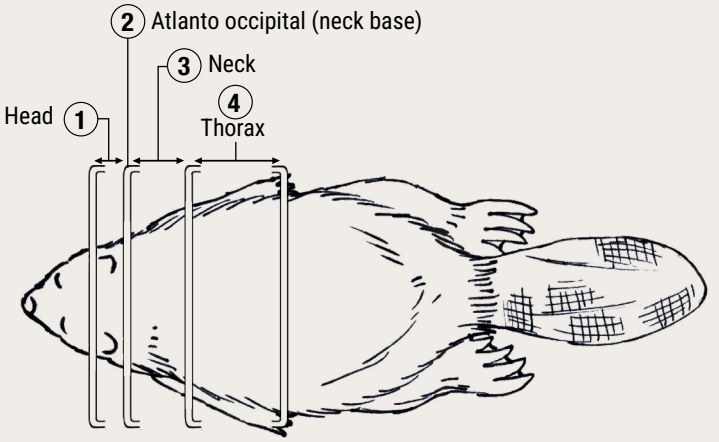
280 and 330 frame

#### Lure Set "On land"

X = Lure      ← = Approach by the animal

Strike Types	Recommended Strike Locations			
	①	②	③	④
Single	✓	✓	✓	✓
Double*	✓	✓	✓	✓

\* Any combination of thorax ④ and strike location ① or ② or ③.



These specifications only apply to killing traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)

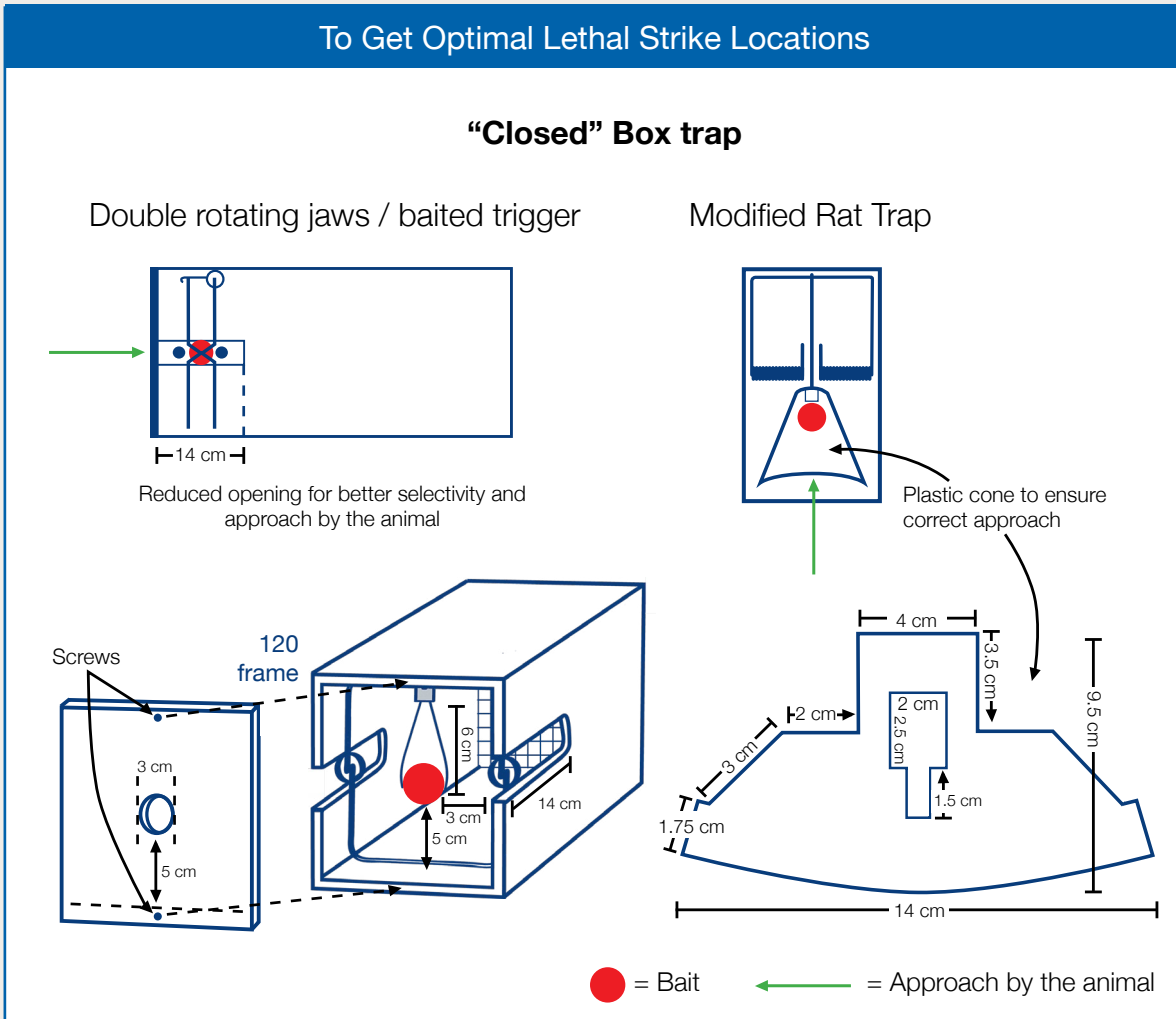


# Best Trapping Practices

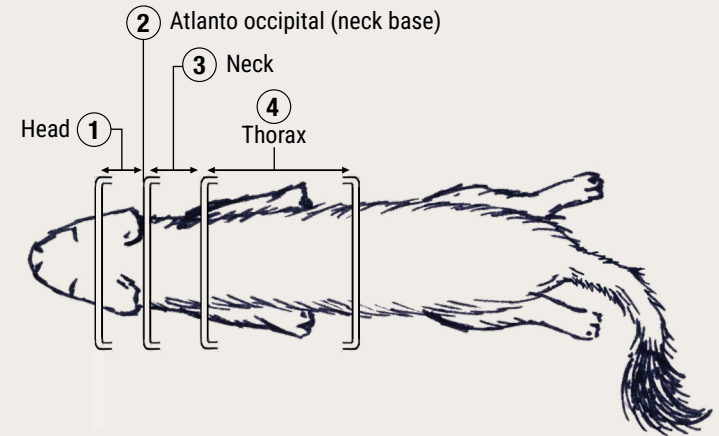
<b>WEASEL</b>	<b>KILLING TRAPS</b>
---------------	----------------------



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area



Strike Type	Recommended Strike Locations			
	①	②	③	④
Single	✓	✓	✓	✓



These specifications only apply to killing traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)

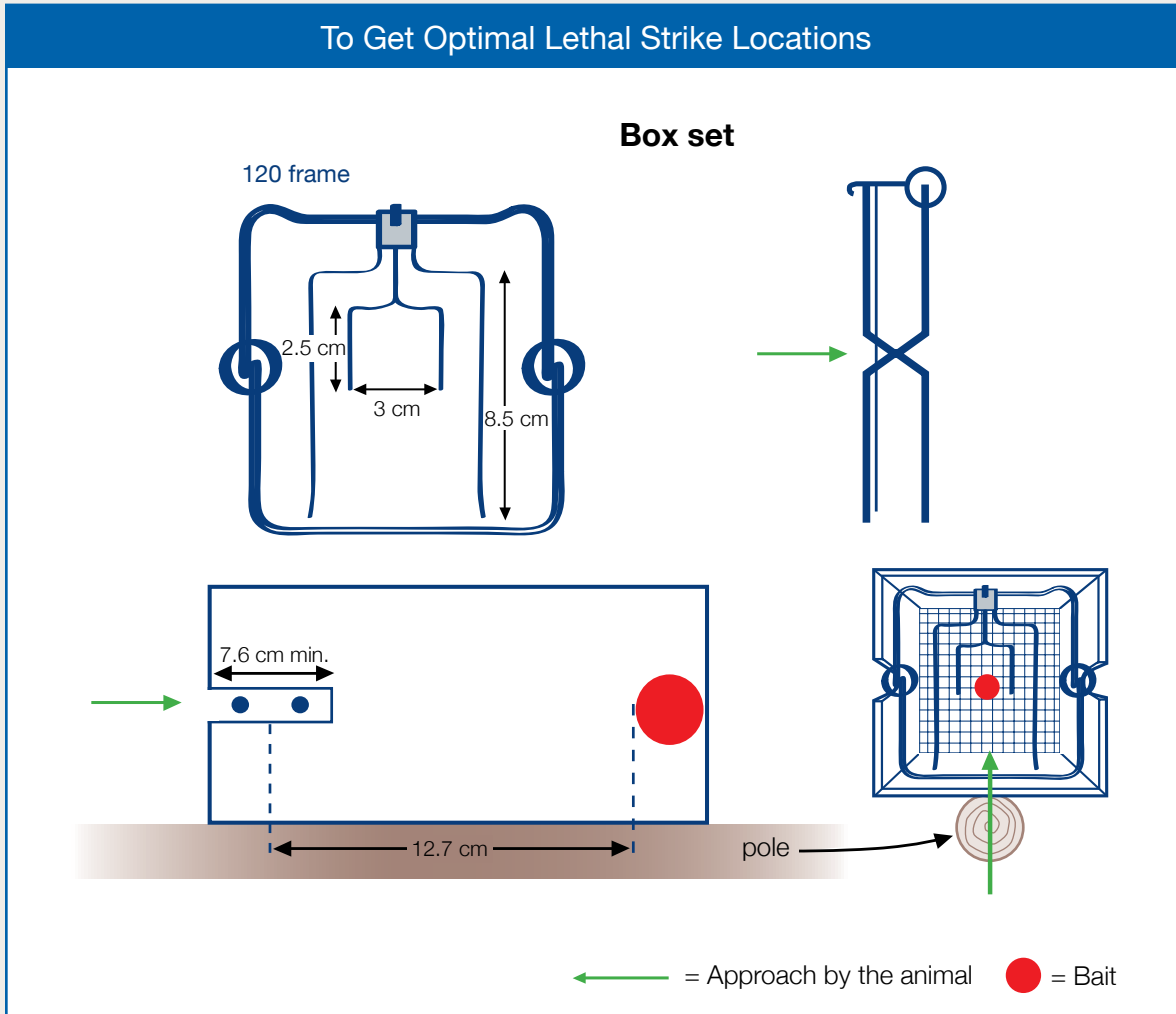


# Best Trapping Practices

<b>MARTEN</b>	<b>KILLING TRAPS</b>
---------------	----------------------

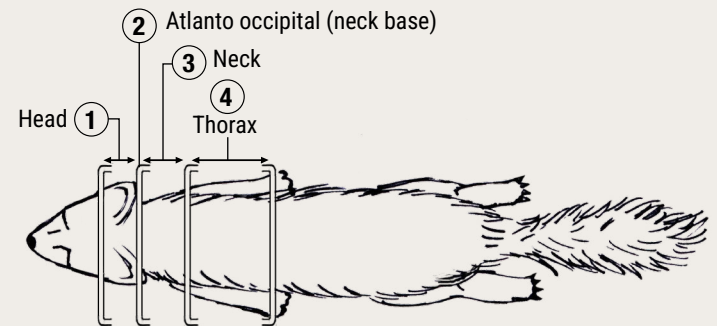


➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area



Strike Types	Recommended Strike Locations			
	①	②	③	④
Single	✓	✓	✓	✓
Double*	✓	✓	✓	✓

\* Any combination of thorax ④ and strike location ① or ② or ③.



These specifications only apply to killing traps for this species. For a certified traps list, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)



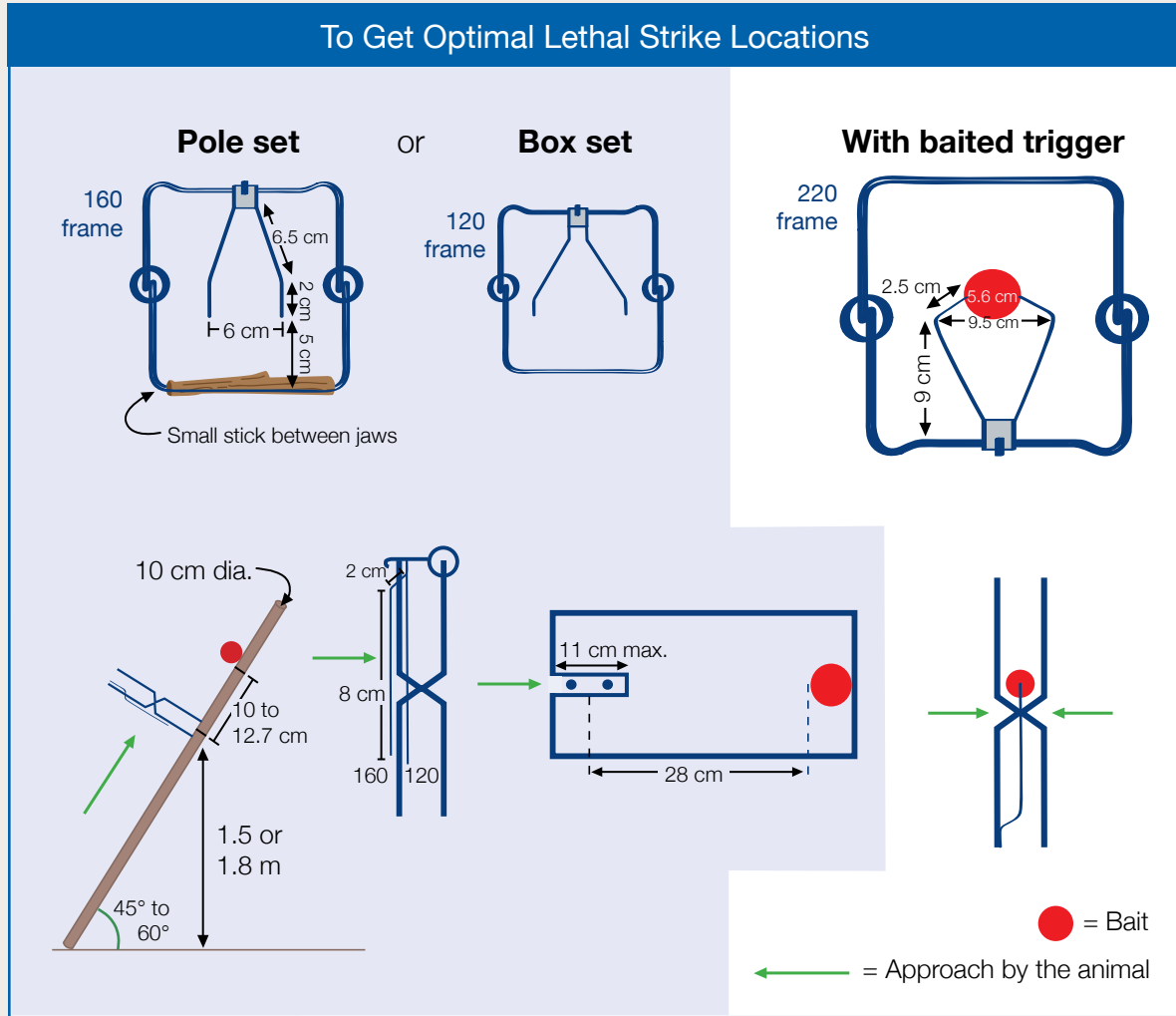


# Best Trapping Practices

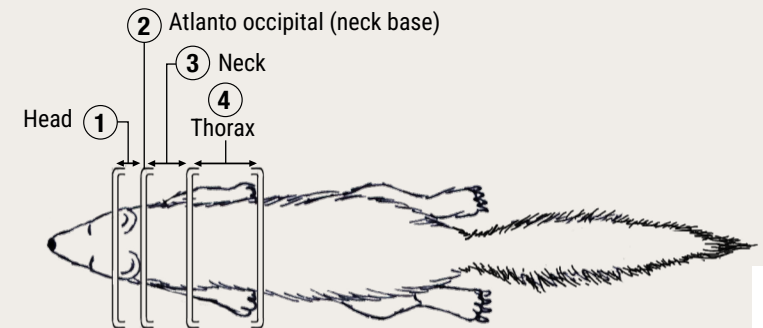
<b>FISHER</b>	<b>KILLING TRAPS</b>
---------------	----------------------



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area



Strike Type	Recommended Strike Location			
	①	②	③	④
Single		✓		



These specifications only apply to killing traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)

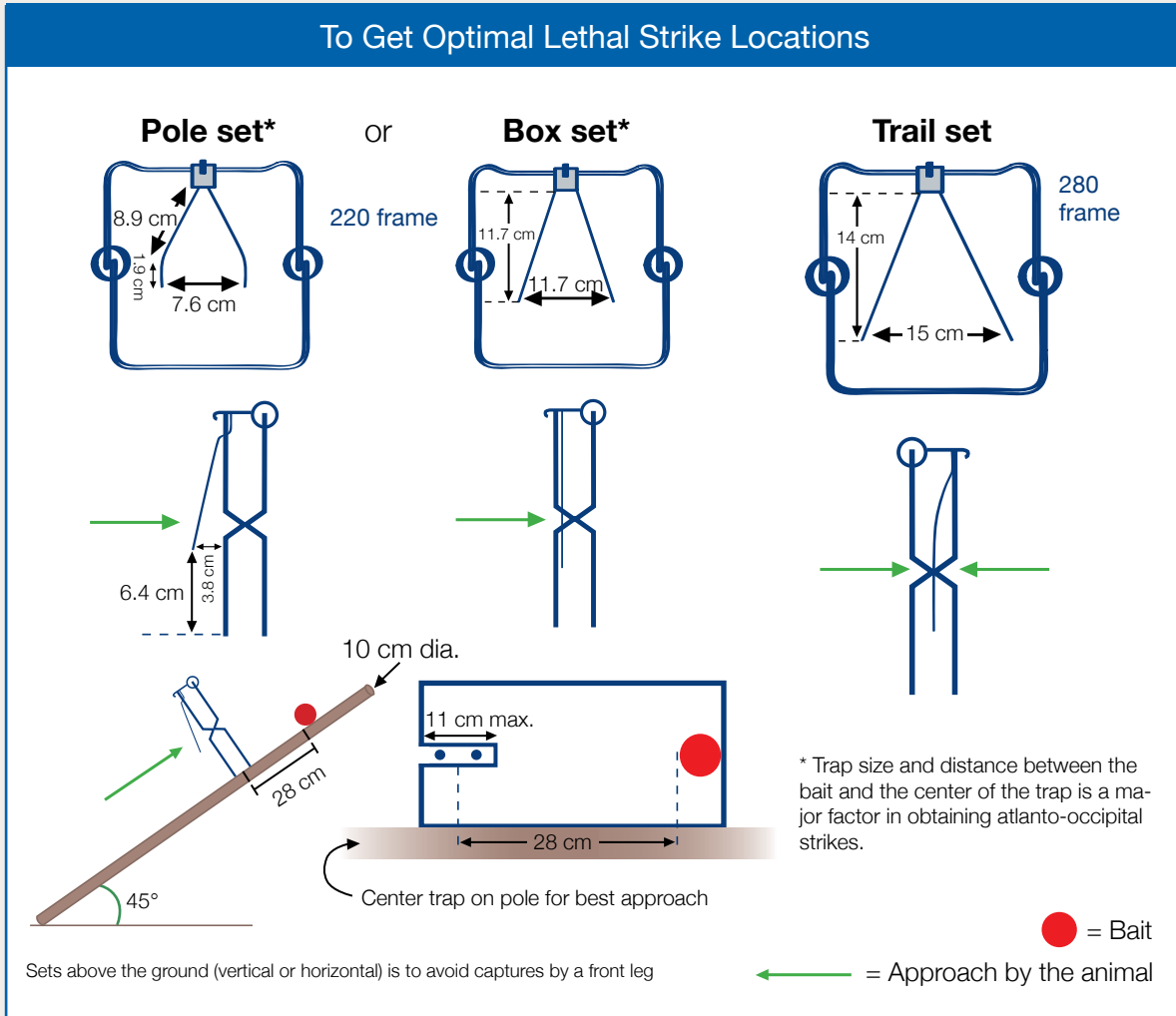


# Best Trapping Practices

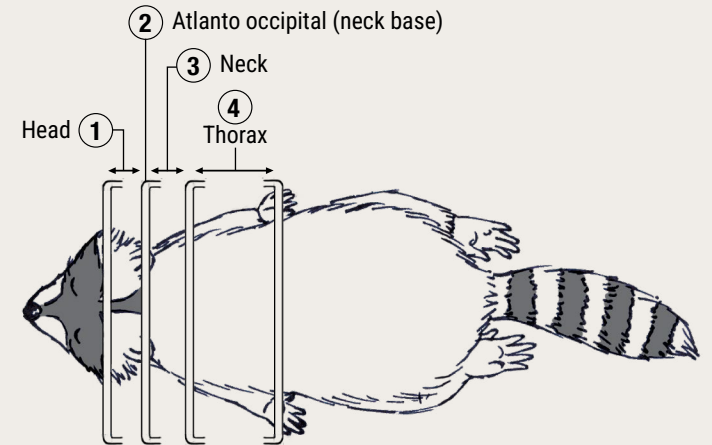
<b>RACCOON</b>	<b>KILLING TRAPS</b>
----------------	----------------------



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area



Strike Type	Recommended Strike Location			
	①	②	③	④
Single		✓		



These specifications only apply to killing traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)



**Best Trapping Practices**

<b>CANADA LYNX</b>	<b>KILLING TRAPS</b>
--------------------	----------------------



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

### To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations

**Set details**

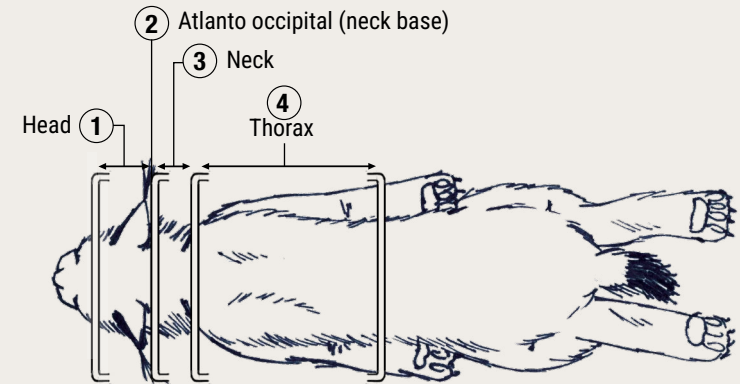
**Pull trigger**

● = Bait

← = Approach by the animal

Technique to encourage lynx to take the bait with its mouth thus avoiding capture by a front paw.

Strike Type	Recommended Strike Location			
	①	②	③	④
Single			✓	



These specifications only apply to killing traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)



**Best Trapping Practices**

**GENERAL INFORMATION | KILLING NECK SNARES**

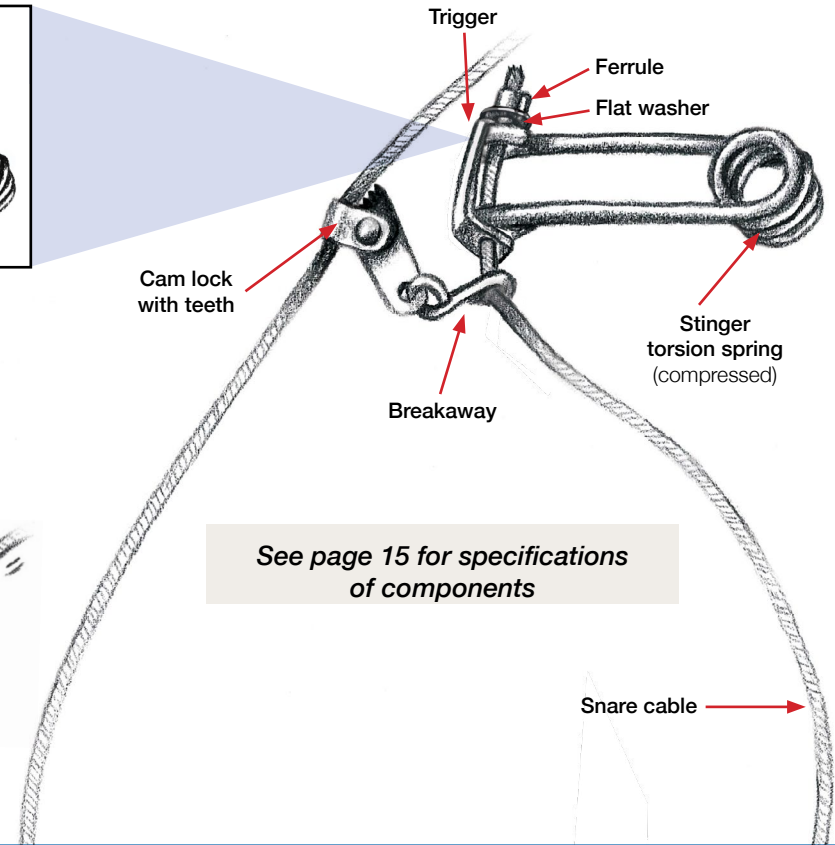
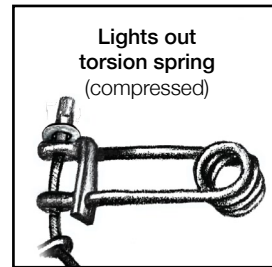


➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

**Types of cable  
(galvanized steel)**

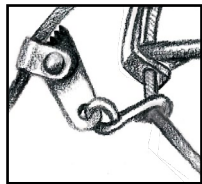
Target species	Diameter (inches)	Construction
+ Lynx/Bobcat Fox/Coyote	1/16 and 5/64	1 x 19 and 7 x 7
Wolf	3/32 and 5/64	1 x 19 and 7 x 7

**Recommended design and components**

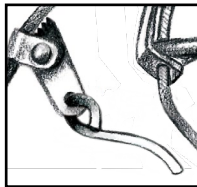


**Types of breakaway devices**

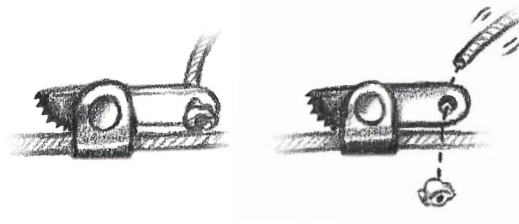
S-Hook + J-Hook



Camlock with teeth and S-Hook



Camlock with breakaway ferrule (single crimp)



See page 15 for specifications of components



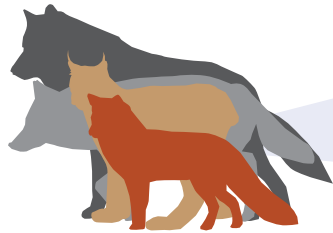
**Best Trapping Practices**

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	<b>KILLING NECK SNARES</b>
----------------------------	----------------------------



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

Recommended Parts



**Torsion springs**

Model	Foxes	Lynx/ Bobcat	Coyote	Wolf
*Stinger 22 Mag Economy	✓	✓	✓	
*Stinger 22 Mag Deluxe	✓	✓	✓	✓
*Stinger 33 Mag Deluxe			✓	✓
**Lights Out A1	✓	✓	✓	✓
**Lights Out Signature 75			✓	✓

\*All Stinger springs to be mounted with #2 trigger.

\*\*All Lights out springs to be mounted with Lights Out incorporated trigger.

**Camlocks with teeth (e.g. Bridger Sure-Hold Camlock with teeth) or other designs that will stay in place while the torsion spring is opening. They must be of the same diameter as the snare cable.**

**Breakaway devices**

Breakaway model	Hold foxes/lynx/ bobcat	Hold coyote/ foxes/lynx/ bobcat	Hold wolf/coyote/ foxes/lynx/ bobcat	Release white-tailed deer/mule/ caribou	Release elk/moose
	(Caught by a leg)				
Senneker S-Hook 265	✓			✓	✓
Senneker S-Hook 385	✓	✓		✓	✓
Senneker S-Hook 750	✓	✓	✓		✓
Senneker S-Hook 1000	✓	✓	✓		✓
Snare Shop					
S-Hook 285	✓	✓		✓	✓
S-Hook 525	✓	✓	✓		✓
Sullivan S-Hook 280	✓	✓		✓	✓
J-Hook 285	✓	✓		✓	✓
J-Hook 350	✓	✓			✓
Fastach #150 or Ferrule/single crimp					
1/16" cable	✓	✓		✓	✓
3/32" cable	✓	✓	✓		✓
5/64" cable	✓	✓	✓		✓
Fastach	✓	✓		✓	✓

**Note: the breakaway model numbers may not match the values obtained by standardized testing (e.g. S-Hook 285 releases at 335 lb).**



# Best Trapping Practices

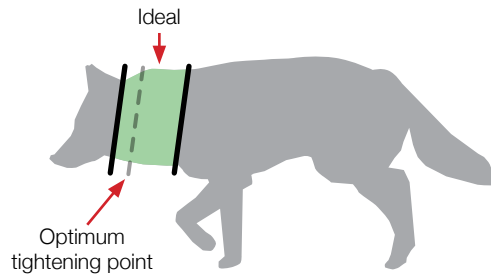
SETTING PRINCIPLES

KILLING NECK SNARES

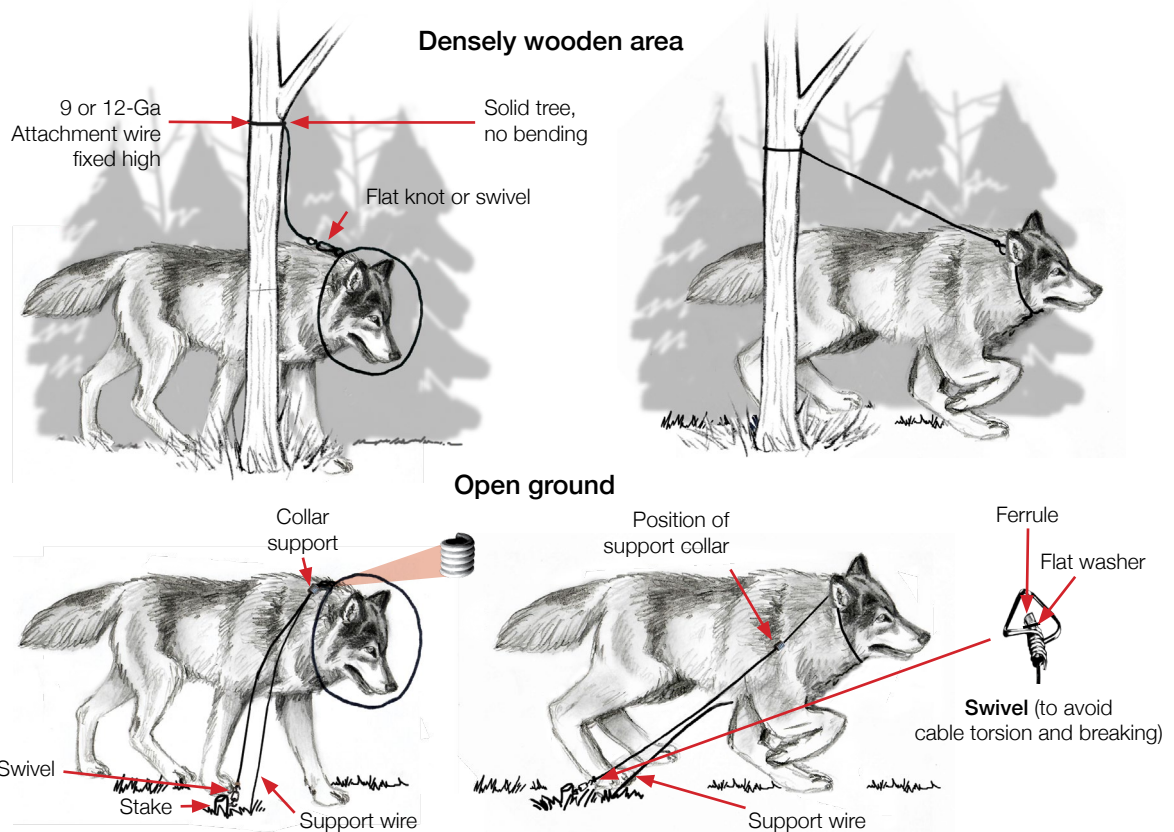


➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

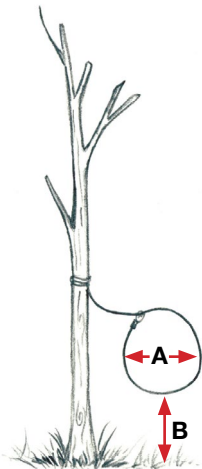
### Strike zone (Canids + Felids)



### Snare set sites and attachment points vs. strike zone (Canids + Felids)



### Loop diameters and setting heights



Species	A	B
Fox	18 cm (7")	18 cm (7")
Bobcat	20.5 cm (8")	20.5 cm (8")
Lynx	20.5 cm (8")	30.5 cm (12")
Coyote	25 cm (10")	25 cm (10 to 12")
Wolf	35 cm (14")	35 cm (14")
Wolf (Northern)	40.5 cm (16")	45.5 cm (18")





# Best Trapping Practices

<b>ACCIDENTAL CATCHES</b> (cervidae, cattle, sheep)	<b>KILLING NECK SNARES</b>
--------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------

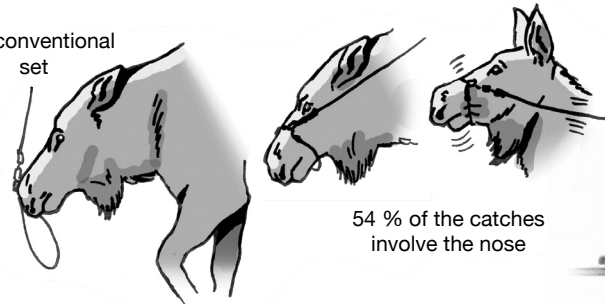


➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

**To avoid capture and retention of cervidae, cattle and sheep, killing neck snares must be constructed and set the proper way.**

Accidental catches of moose in neck snares intended for wolves

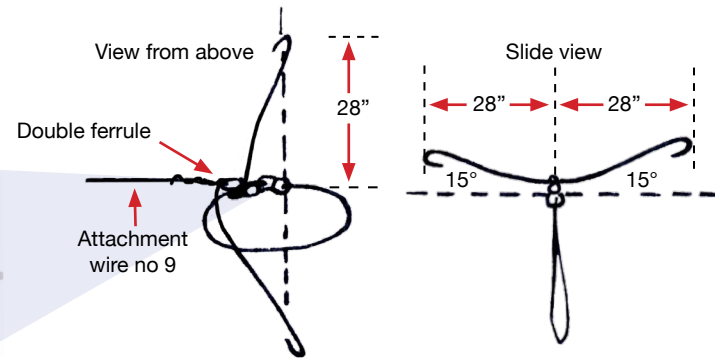
In a conventional set



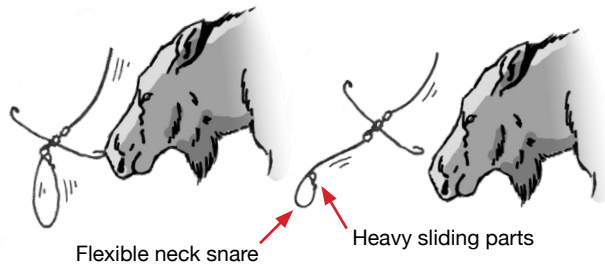
54 % of the catches involve the nose



Diverter; wire no 11 (set details)

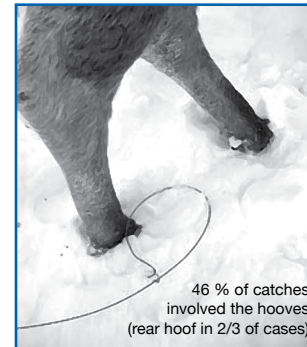


Using a diverter wire

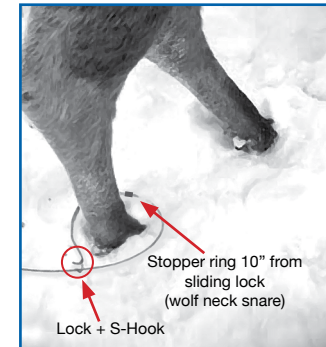


Flexible neck snare

Heavy sliding parts



46 % of catches involved the hooves (rear hoof in 2/3 of cases)



Stopper ring 10" from sliding lock (wolf neck snare)  
Lock + S-Hook

Leg catch = rupture produced by S-Hook



# Best Trapping Practices

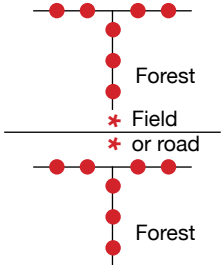
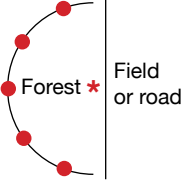
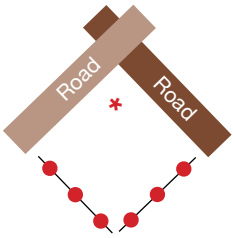
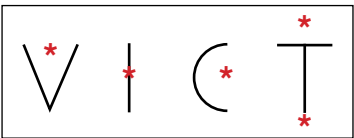
<b>ACCIDENTAL CATCHES</b> (dogs, eagles, birds of prey)	<b>KILLING NECK SNARES</b>
------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

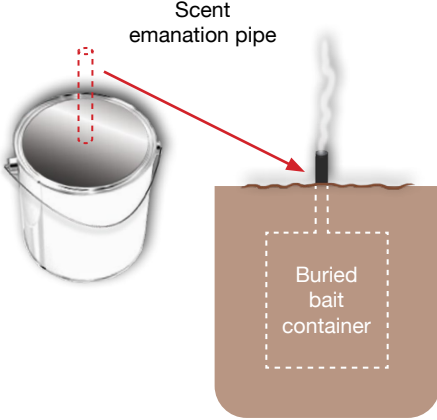
## General Set Guidelines (dogs, eagles, birds of prey) - solutions

### 1. Proper neck snares and attractives positioning



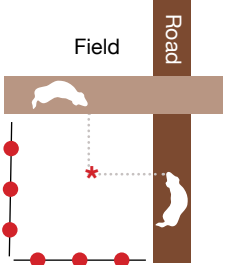
### 2. Hiding baits (buried, inside a bait container, covered)

Use of a adapted bait container (eg. steel bucket with lid)



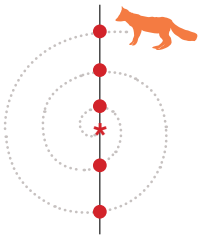
### Behaviors

Dogs



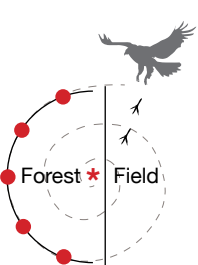
When smell detected, will go straight to the attractive (lure/bait)

Canids (fox, coyote, wolf)



The suspicion of these wild canids leads them to turn around the smells detected before approaching them

Eagles or birds of prey



Requires an open area for landing

- \* Attractive (lure/bait)
- Neck snare
- Movements on the ground (wild canids)
- - - Flying travel trajectory (birds of prey)
- Movements on the ground (birds of prey)

Covered bait





**Best Trapping Practices**

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	<b>LIVE CAPTURE</b>
----------------------------	---------------------



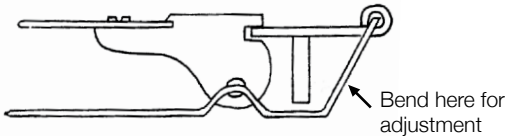
➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

**Elements of Trapping to Avoid Injuries / Limb Holding Traps**

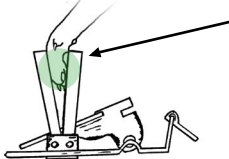
**For all species when possible, use a fixed anchor**

**Jaw type traps and certain footsnares**

Proper adjustment of the pan trigger...

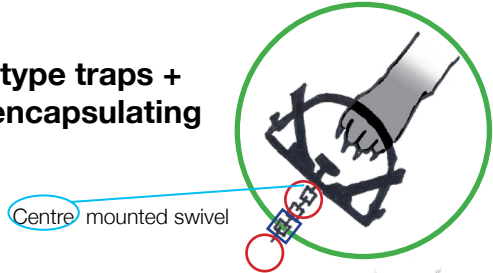


...Produces an appropriate strike location



**Daily check of the trap sets**

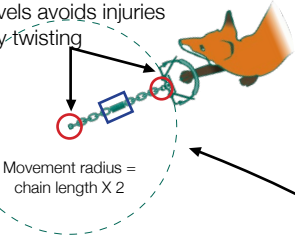
**Jaw type traps + Foot encapsulating**



**Jaw Type Traps, Footsnares, Foot Encapsulating Traps**

Use of swivels avoids injuries by twisting

Jean-François Houle ©



Shock absorber springs

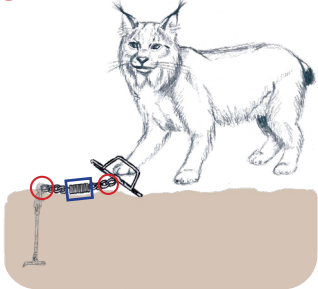
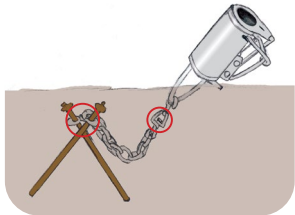


Strong (coyote, wolf)



Regular (fox)

All limb holding traps for raccoon and lynx: use stake anchoring systems



Canids, lynx, raccoon:

With a stake, use short chain or cable

Canids jaw trap only:

With a drag anchoring system, use a long chain (see Canids sheet)

Stake or drag trap anchoring:

Use an inline shock absorber spring and a sufficient number of swivels



○ = Swivel

□ = Shock absorber spring

These specifications only apply to the species-specific live capture traps. For a list of certified traps for each species, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)



# Best Trapping Practices

<b>CANIDS</b> (fox, coyote, wolf)	<b>LIVE CAPTURE</b>
-----------------------------------	---------------------



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

### Trap Set Details to Avoid Injuries

#### Jaw type trap

Centre mounted swivel

#### Footsnare

(not set)

(set)

#### Recommended anchoring chain maximum length

	Mobile (drag)	Stake
Fox	1.5 m	0.3 m
Coyote	2.5 m	0.5 m
Wolf	3 m	1.2 m

It is preferable to use a fixed anchor system in most cases

#### Shock absorber springs

Strong (coyote, wolf)

Regular (fox)

#### Jaw type trap and footsnare

Use of swivels avoids injuries by twisting

Movement radius = chain length X 2

With a stake, use short chain or cable (see table)

Use of at least one shock absorber spring and a sufficient number of swivels

With a drag anchoring system, use a long chain (see table)

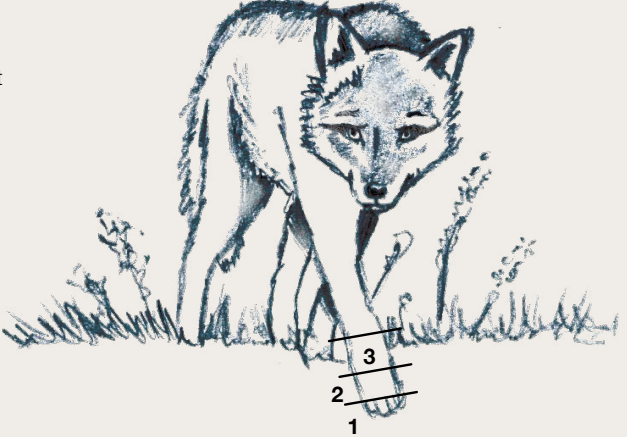
= Swivel  
 = Shock absorber spring

N.B.: For all footsnare cable, use stake only, no drag

### FOOTSNARE / JAW TYPE TRAP

Optimal Strike Locations		
1	2	3
✓	✓	

- 1 Toes
- 2 Pad
- 3 Wrist



These specifications only apply to the live capture traps for these species. For a certified trap list for coyote and wolf, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)



# Best Trapping Practices

<b>RACCOON</b>	<b>LIVE CAPTURE</b>
----------------	---------------------



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

### Trap Set Details To Avoid Injuries

#### Lil' Grizz Get'rz

- Bait set under pull trigger

± 60°

Light compacted soil

#### Egg trap

Ideal raccoon approach angle

- Positioned this way, the restraining arm (steel rod) strikes on the pad side

#### Duffer

Compacted

For all trap models:

- Short chaining system
  - 2 swivels
- Stake anchoring system

Duffer and Egg trap:

- Partly buried underground (compacted soil)
- Bait set on the trigger

Obstacle behind the trap

Compacted soil

← = Approach by the animal
 ○ = Swivel

### FOOT ENCAPSULATING TRAPS

Optimal Strike Location		
1	2	3
	✓	



These specifications only apply to the live capture traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)





**Best Trapping Practices**

<b>CANADA LYNX</b>	<b>LIVE CAPTURE</b>
--------------------	---------------------



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

### Trap Set Details to Avoid Injuries

Trap anchoring

- Stake only
- Short (max. length 24.5 cm)

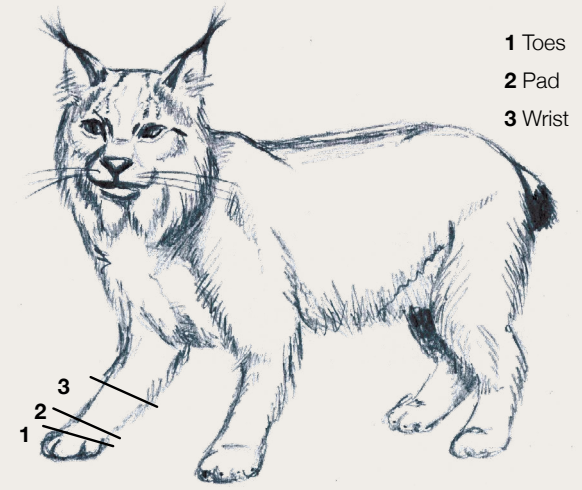
...To obtain this strike, properly position the trap

Set only for capture by one front foot

← = Approach by the animal    ○ = Swivel

### FOOTSNARE / JAW TYPE TRAP

Optimal Strike Locations		
1	2	3
✓	✓	



These specifications only apply to the live capture traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)





## Best Trapping Practices

### GENERAL INFORMATION

### LIVE CAPTURE CAGES

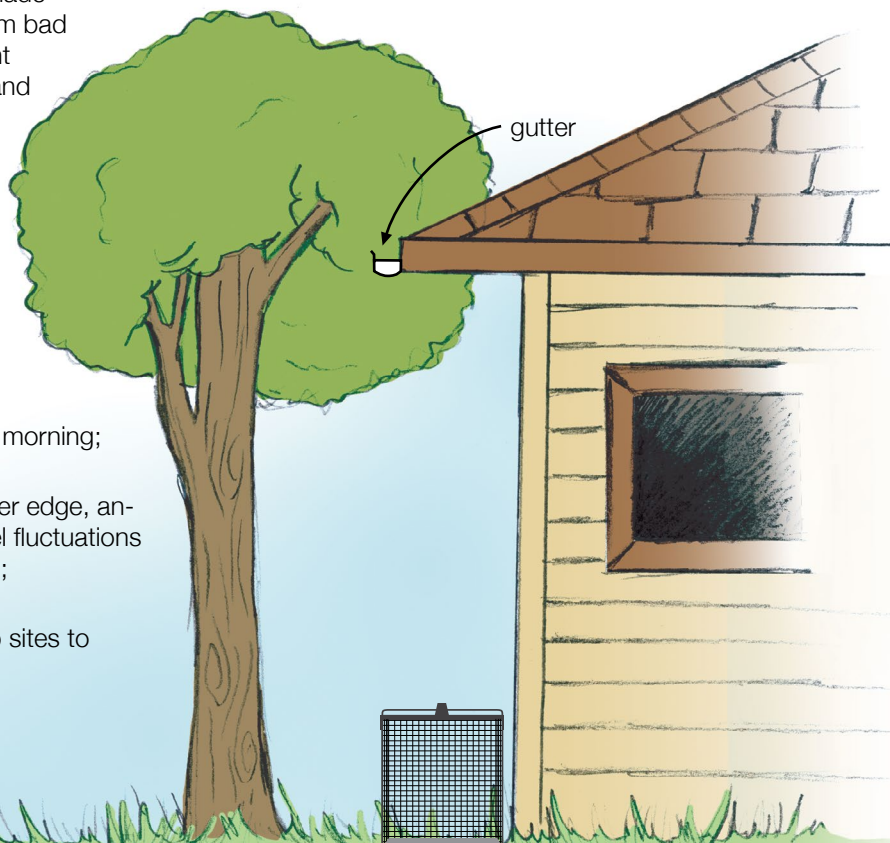


FUR INSTITUTE  
OF CANADA

➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

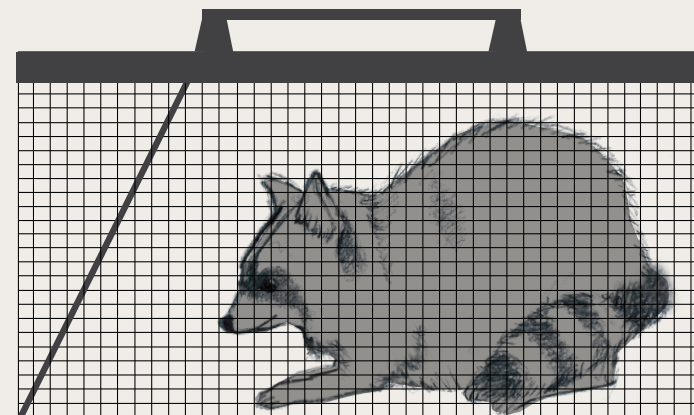
### Installation Details

- Cage set in the shade and protected from bad weather to prevent exposure to sun and hypothermia;



- Daily check, early morning;
- If set close to water edge, anticipate water level fluctuations to avoid drowning;
- Choose quiet trap sites to avoid stress.

### CAGE



For a list of raccoon certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)



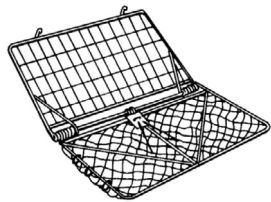
Best Trapping Practices	
<b>BEAVER</b>	<b>LIVE CAPTURE</b>



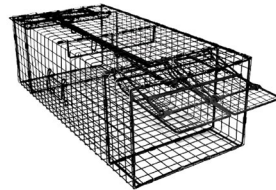
➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

Daily visit check. Trap set time = end PM or day.  
Visit = early morning (prevents insolation, hyperthermia, injuries)

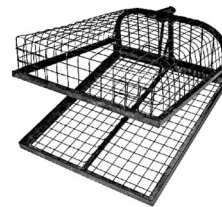
**AIHTS Certified beaver live capture cage models**



Hancock/Koro



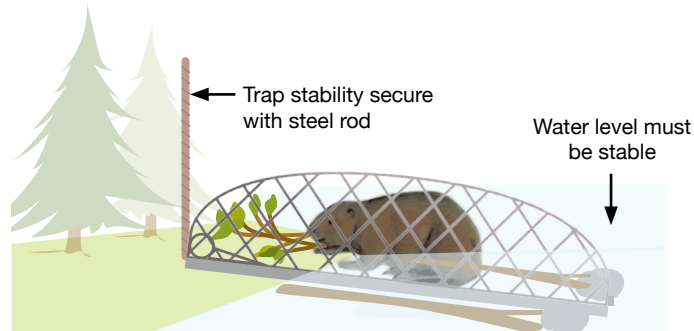
Comstock



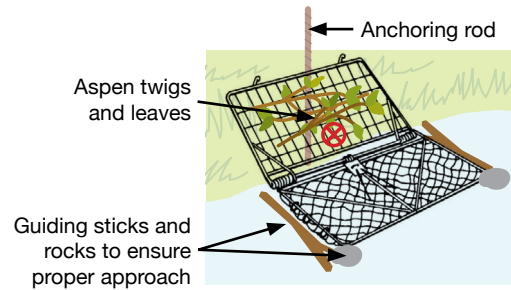
Ezee Set/Dam Beaver

Recommended trap set details to avoid injuries, stress, mortality:

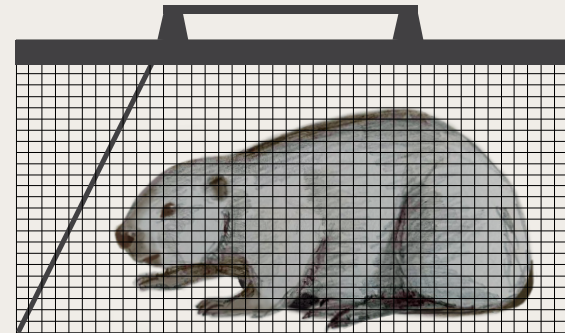
Covered and shaded site :



⊗ = Lure position (beaver castoreum)



**CAGE**



These specifications only apply to the live capture traps for this species. For a list of certified traps, see:

[fur.ca/certified-traps/](http://fur.ca/certified-traps/)

[quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps](http://quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/trapping/traps/list-certified-traps)



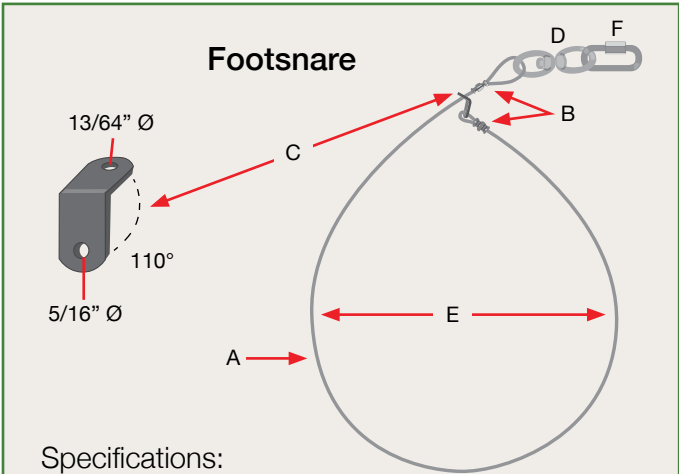
**Best Trapping Practices**

<b>BLACK BEAR</b>	<b>LIVE CAPTURE</b>
-------------------	---------------------

**FOOTSNARE**  
MAX. 24 HOURS TRAP CHECK



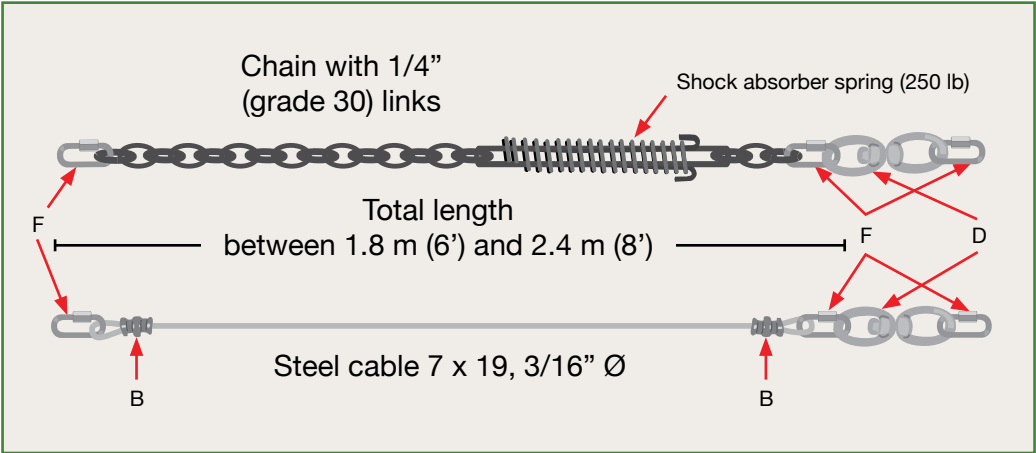
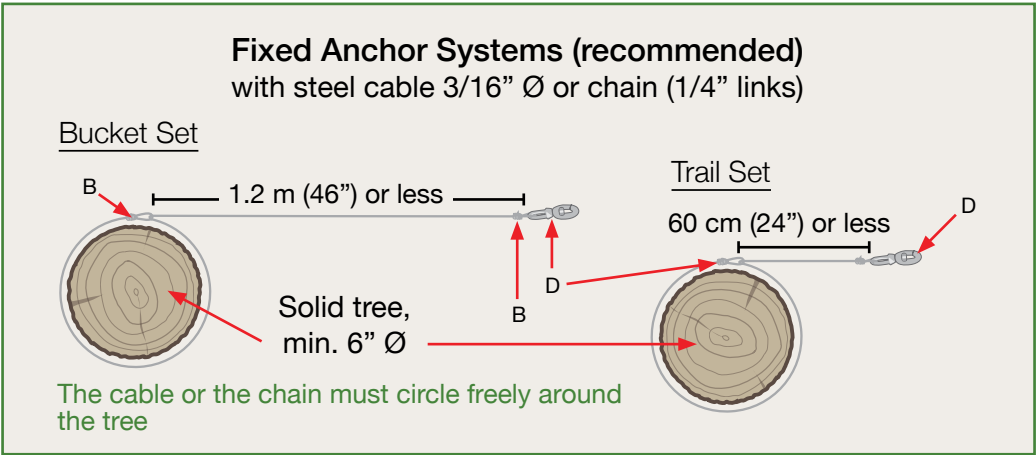
➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area



Specifications:

- A. Flexible steel cable, construction 7 x 19, 3/16" diameter
- B. Double ferrule 3/16"
- C. Lock: 110° angle, 3/16" thickness, 5/8" width, rounded edges **(single use)**
- D. Swivel: minimum 880 lb test
- E. Diameter of 6" and less (bucket set)  
8" and less (trail set)
- F. Quick link 5/16 (1 760 lb test)

**IMPORTANT:** fixed anchor ensures a more reliable operation of the footsnare swivel.





Best Trapping Practices

<b>BLACK BEAR</b>	<b>LIVE CAPTURE</b>
-------------------	---------------------

(recommended) **FOOTSNARE / FIXED ANCHOR SYSTEMS**

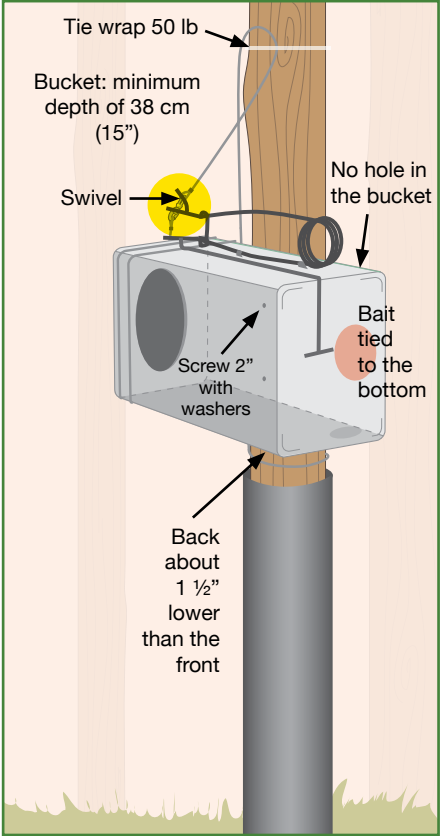
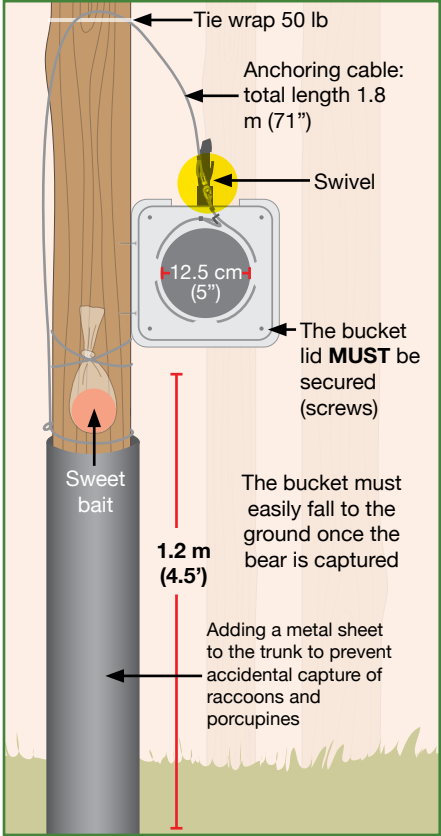


➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

**THE SWIVEL MUST ALWAYS BE FUNCTIONAL**

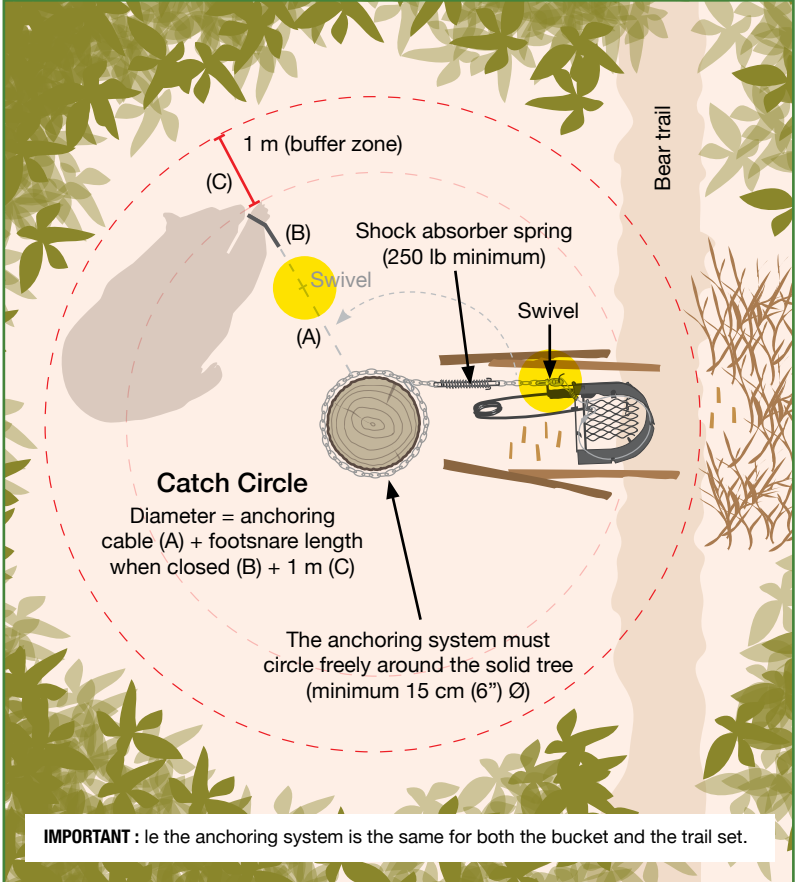


**BUCKET SET**



**IMPORTANT:** the anchoring system is the same for both the bucket and the trail set.

**TRAIL (GROUND) SET**



**IMPORTANT:** the anchoring system is the same for both the bucket and the trail set.



## Best Trapping Practices

**COYOTE**

**LIVE CAPTURE**

## RELAXING CABLE RESTRAINT



➔ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

### RECOMMENDED TRAPPING PRACTICES AND CABLE SYSTEM COMPONENTS AND DESIGN

Relaxing cable restraint is a cable used to capture and hold an animal by the neck with the objective of maintaining it alive while minimizing injuries during the contention time period.

It is used in several parts of North America to live capture coyotes for different reasons, mainly where there is a risk of incidental capture of non-target species such as domestic dogs, livestock and big game species.

Properly built and set, it allows for the releasing of non-target animals and, if necessary, of target species with minimal harm.

Ongoing recent trap research programs in Canada and the USA involving government agencies, veterinarians, trappers, trap manufacturers have permitted to identify different characteristics that will permit to achieve these goals for the capture of coyotes. This document is identifying these different components that trap research results have confirmed as to be the basic ones in order to minimize injuries and stress to captured animals.

Since capture efficiency and selectivity are related to local field conditions and wildlife species, and therefore can vary from one region to the other, we recommend that you consult your provincial or state wildlife agencies and trappers association to learn about the best applicable setting techniques in your trapping area.

- **CABLE (AVIATION CABLE)**
  - Strand Construction: single 1 × 19 or 1 × 7, multi 7 × 7 or 7 × 19;
  - Diameter: 1/8" or 3/32". If too small, it will increase possibility of injuries and chewing by coyote (escape).
- **LOCKS (RELAXING)**
  - Relaxing models, e.g. Micro Lock, Penny (90-Degree Bend Washer Lock), Kaatz Relax-a-Lock, Berkshire Washer Lock, Reichart™ Washer Lock, No. 4 Gregerson™ Lock, BMI™ Slide Free Lock;
  - Passively non-powered activated (by the animal itself);
  - No Powered assisted locks (e.g. Ram Power Snare, Stinger Spring, Amberg Spring).

- **CABLE LOOP (FIGURES 1, 3)**
  - Size (diameter) minimum 10" (25 cm), maximum 12" (30 cm);
  - Height from the ground to the bottom part of the loop: 10" (25 cm);
  - Deer Stop (to prevent capture by a leg): single ferrule cramped on cable to allow a closed loop at 2 1/2" (6 cm) diameter.
- **SWIVEL**
  - Install swivel number 1 on the cable as close as possible to the end of the 10 to 12" (25 to 30 cm) diameter snare loop; (FIGURES 1, 4)
  - Install swivel number 2 at the end of the cable extension on the fixed anchoring point. Cable extension must be as short as possible; (FIGURES 1, 4)
  - Captured animal must be able to circle (360°) freely around the fixed anchoring point. (FIGURES 4, 5, 6)
- **EXTENSION TO THE CABLE (FIGURE 2)**

Must be as short as possible to prevent a whipping action when the coyote in movement hits the full extension of the cable. This reduces the risk of injury and possible cable entanglement resulting in death. (FIGURE 4)
- **ANCHORING POINT**

Snare cable or extension cable has to be attached to a solid (fixed) anchoring point directly by a swivel. The cable MUST be able to freely turn around the anchoring point. (FIGURES 4, 5, 6)

For ground stake, it should be a metal rod of 30" (75 cm). In loose substrate, use a double one. Ground cable anchor (e.g. Berkshire, Finned) and solid tree can also be used as anchors.
- **ENTANGLEMENT OF THE CABLE**

There MUST BE NO entanglement of the snare or extension cable. The swivel(s) MUST be able to function freely during the captive time period. (FIGURE 4)
- **BREAKAWAY DEVICE (BIG GAME AND LIVESTOCK) (FIGURES 2, 3)**

An appropriate breakaway component is added to allow self releasing of non-target species. Check appropriate resistance per species.



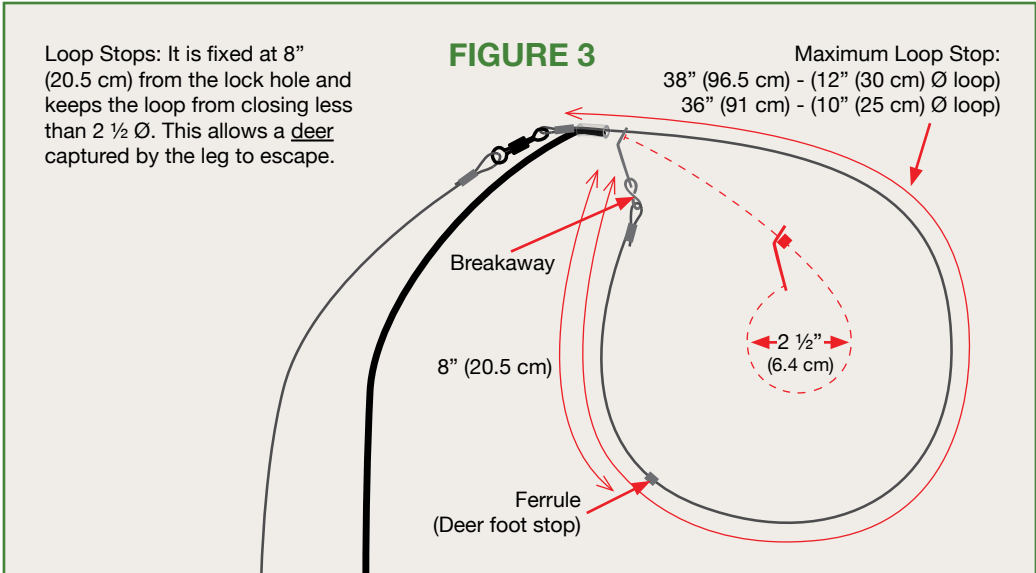
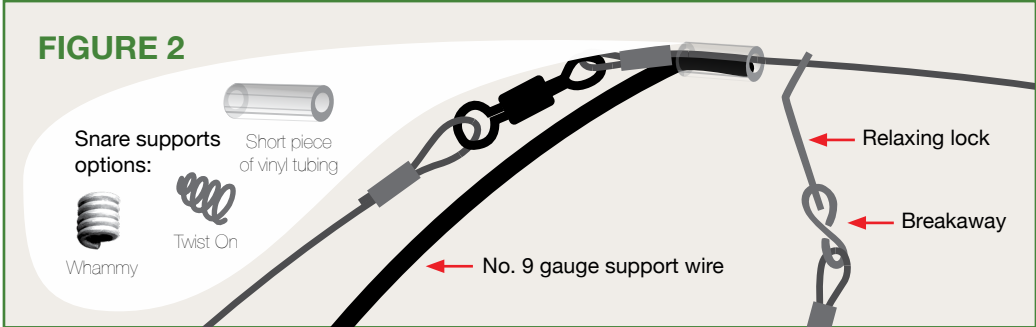
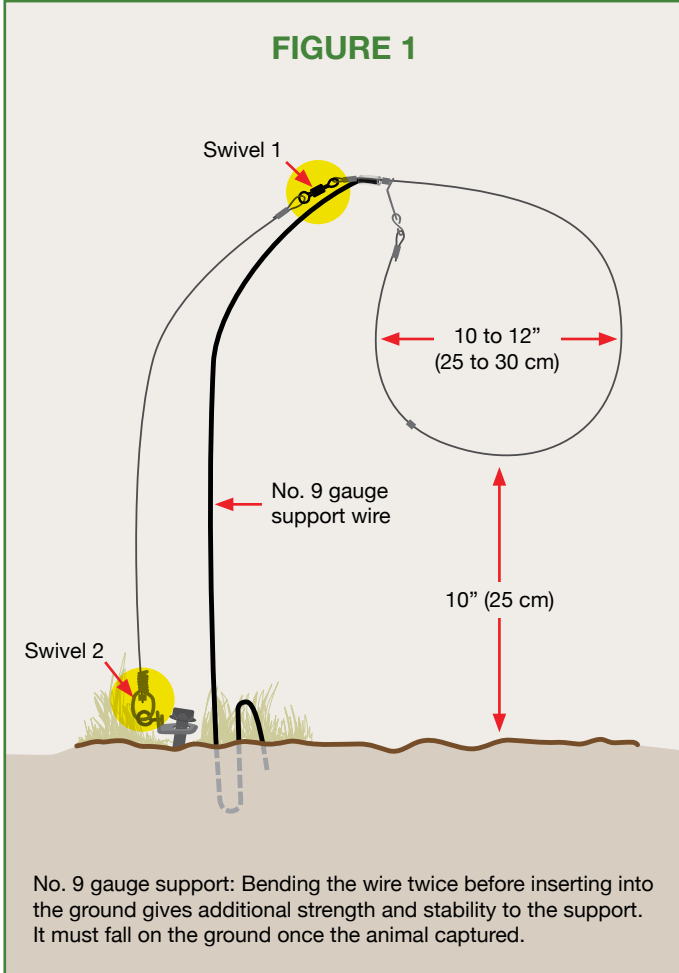
**Best Trapping Practices**

<b>COYOTE</b>	<b>LIVE CAPTURE</b>
---------------	---------------------

**RELAXING  
CABLE RESTRAINT**

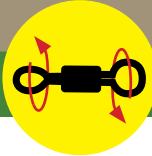


→ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

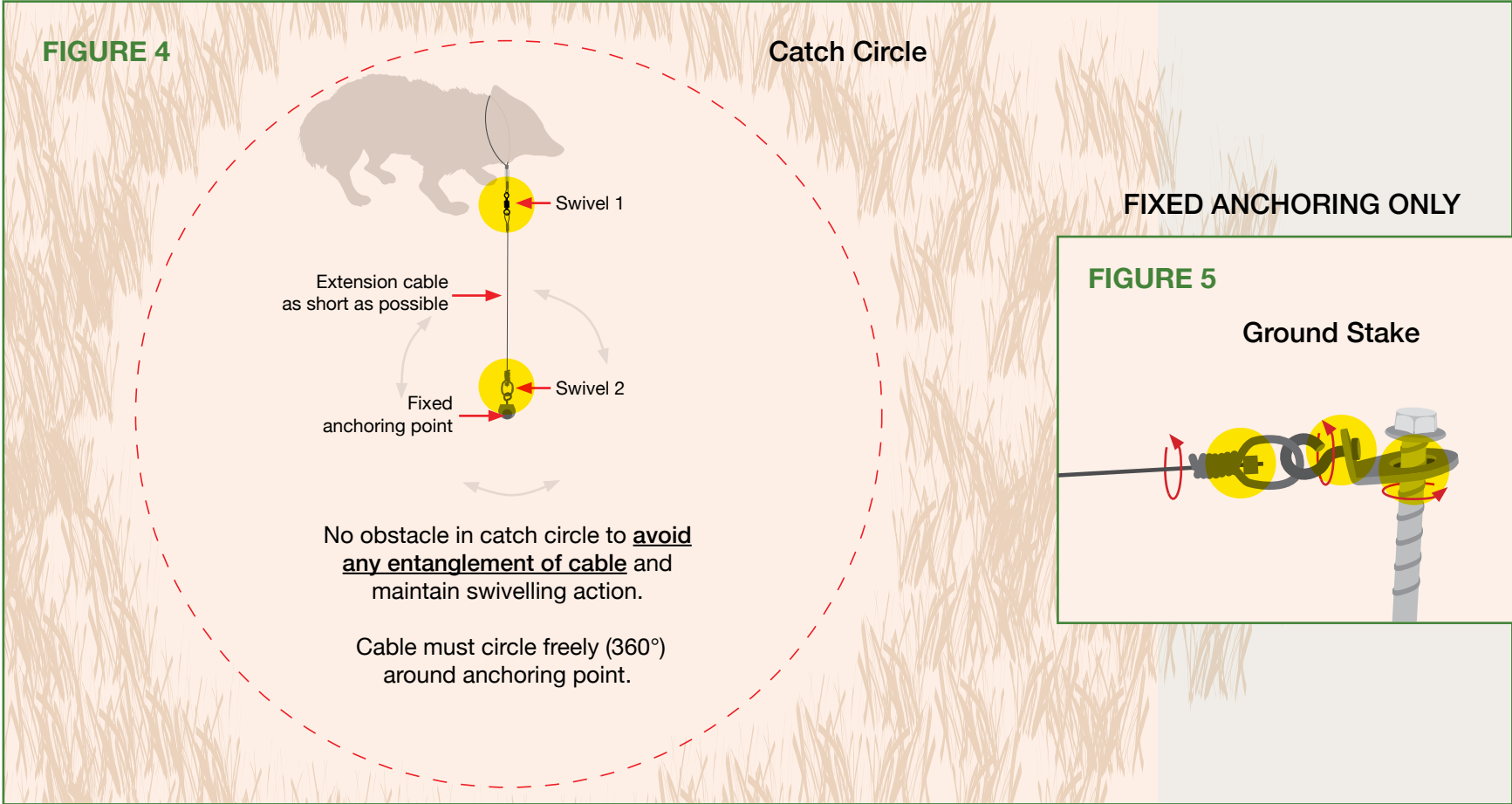




→ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area



**! NO ENTANGLEMENT OF CABLE SWIVELS MUST ALWAYS BE FUNCTIONAL**



→ Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area

## COYOTE RELAXING CABLE RESTRAINT MEETING AIHTS\* REQUIREMENTS DESCRIPTION OF COMPONENTS

### KAATZ RELAX-A-LOCK, BERKSHIRE LOCK, 90-DEGREE BEND WASHER LOCK (PENNY LOCK) AND MICRO LOCK



Kaatz Relax-a-Lock



Berkshire  
Washer Lock



90-Degree Bend  
Washer Lock  
(Penny Lock)



Micro Lock

### SNARE + SET CHARACTERISTICS

- 3/32" diameter 7 x 7 or 1 x 19 weave cable (both loop and extension).
- Devices of a total of 6' (1.83 m) in length composed of two parts: a 38" (96.5 cm) catch loop cable and a 34" (86.5 cm) extension cable.
- A first No. 8 barrel swivel placed between the loop and extension cables, 38" (96.5 cm) from the cable loop end (to create a maximum catch loop diameter of 12" (30 cm)).
- A second No. 9 wire end swivel attached for staking.
- A ferrule stop placed 8" (20.5 cm) from the cable end loop to create a 2.5" (6.4 cm) diameter loop stop (deer stop).
- A breakaway ferrule clamped on the cable end (behind the lock) and designed to break at 350 lb.
- Vinyl tubing as the snare support collar.
- Bottom of cable loop set between 9-12" (23-30 cm) from the ground or packed snow.

\*Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards

Source: Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, USA



© Copyright  
Fédération des Trappeurs Gestionnaires du Québec  
Fur Institute of Canada  
Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements  
climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs

**PUBLISHED BY THE**

Fédération des Trappeurs Gestionnaires du Québec  
February 2024 (4<sup>th</sup> edition)

**LEGAL DEPOSIT**

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec 2024  
ISBN : 978-2-924030-37-0  
978-2-924030-38-7 (PDF)