

## PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF TRAPPING IN ALASKA

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In 1992 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game conducted a public opinion survey of Alaska voters regarding their attitudes towards wildlife, wildlife management, and wildlife uses. The number of voters who responded to the survey was 2,370. All survey results were analyzed to adjust for response biases between geographic areas of the state. Several questions in the survey concern Alaska voters' attitudes towards hunting and trapping. The results of those question are:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly Agree	Mod. Agree	Mod. Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
In general, I approve of hunting wildlife for meat.	60.8%	25.9%	5.0%	2.6%	5.7%
I like to eat game meat.	49.9%	25.8%	6.8%	9.6%	7.9%
In general, I approve of hunting wildlife for trophies.	8.4%	14.0%	19.0%	51.8%	6.8%
In general, I approve of trapping wildlife.	21.6%	31.5%	17.3%	20.3%	9.3%

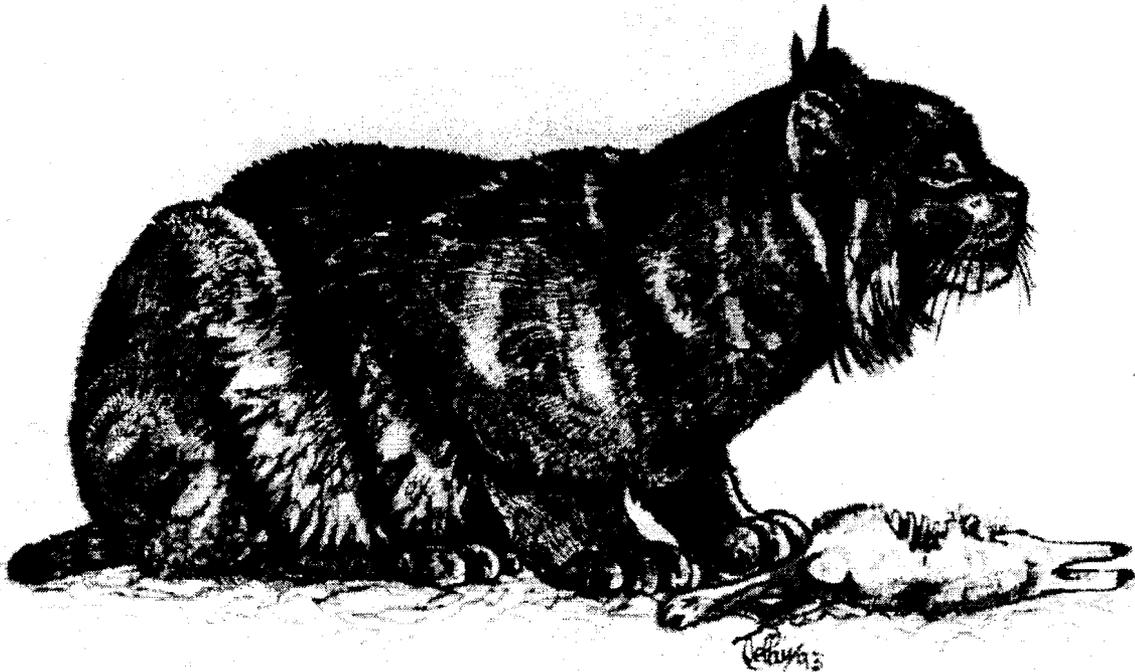
These results clearly indicate strong approval of hunting wildlife for meat and a general enjoyment of eating game meat by Alaska voters. However, over 50% of Alaska voters strongly disapprove of hunting wildlife for trophies. While a slight majority (53.1%) of Alaska voters approve of trapping wildlife, there is also strong disapproval by 20.3% of voters. These results can help both government resource agencies and the public better understand the social values held by Alaska voters regarding the uses of wildlife. Such an understanding is critical in forming wildlife management programs which are acceptable to the public.

**8TH NORTHERN FURBEARER CONFERENCE**

*In Conjunction With*

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
ALASKA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

*“Tradition and Transition -- Moving into the 21st Century”*



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