Wildlife Management Report ADF&G/DWC/WMR–2025–2

2024 Alaska Trapper Report:

1 July 2024–30 June 2025

Stephanie E. Bogle

Photo by Sikulik Johnson

2025

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Division of Wildlife Conservation

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This wildlife management report was reviewed and approved for publication by Natalie Weber, regulations program coordinator for the Division of Wildlife Conservation.

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Cover Photo: A trapper holds a recently trapped marten. ©2025 Sikulik Johnson. Photo used with permission.

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Code of Ethics

A Trapper's Responsibility

1. Respect other trapper's "grounds" – particularly brushed, maintained traplines with a history of use.
2. Check traps regularly.
3. Promote trapping methods that will reduce the possibility of catching nontarget animals.
4. Obtain landowners' permission before trapping on private property.
5. Know and use proper releasing and killing methods.
6. Develop set location methods to prevent losses.
7. Trap in the most humane way possible.
8. Dispose of animal carcasses properly.
9. Concentrate trapping in areas where animals are overabundant for the supporting habitat.
10. Promptly report the presence of diseased animals to wildlife authorities.
11. Assist landowners who are having problems with predators and other furbearers that have become a nuisance.
12. Support and help train new trappers in trapping ethics, methods and means, conservation, fur handling, and marketing.
13. Obey all trapping regulations and support strict enforcement by reporting violations.
14. Support and promote sound furbearer management.

This code of ethics is reprinted from the *Alaska Trappers Manual*. The manual was created in a joint effort between the Alaska Trappers Association and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The manual is currently available from the Alaska Trappers Association for $26.00, including shipping, or from some bookstores in Alaska.

Photo from ADF&G files

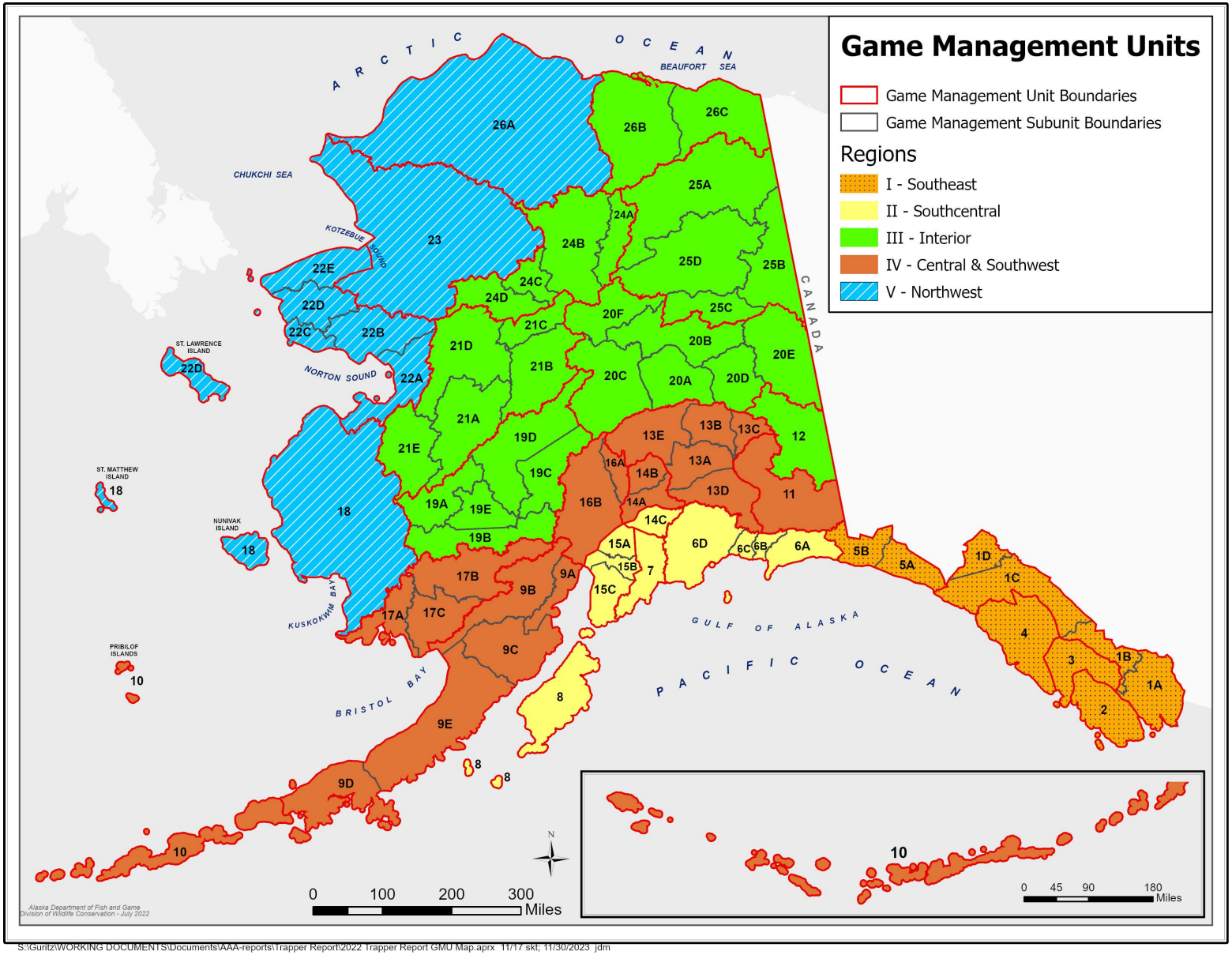


Figure 1. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation's regions and game management units.

Introduction

This *2024 Alaska Trapper Report: 1 July 2024–30 June 2025* contains information provided by trappers through the annual trapper questionnaire. On the following pages, you will learn how other Alaskans ran their traplines, what their primary target species were, how much effort they put into catching their target species, how abundant furbearer and prey species were on their traplines, and how many furbearers they trapped. You will also find fur sealing summaries from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) as well as comments from trappers throughout the state.

In 2015, ADF&G began offering the questionnaire in an online format in hopes of improving the data. We continue to work on improving the questionnaire and the reports generated from information provided by trappers on the questionnaire. We hope trappers and managers alike can use the information in this report to enhance their efforts during future trapping seasons.

The accuracy and value of information provided in this report depend on the number of trappers who reply to the questionnaire. To best reach trappers with this questionnaire, we identified potential trappers using licensing and fur sealing records. The 2024 questionnaire invitations were sent only to people who purchased a trapping license; a hunt or trap combination license; or a hunt, trap, or fish combination license authorizing them to trap in regulatory year 2024. Of the 5,590 questionnaire invitations mailed or emailed out, we received 502 responses, yielding a 9.0% response rate. The response rate increased from the 2023 survey response rate.

This year, trappers were assigned to one of the 5 standard regions found in Figure 1 based on their mailing address. If a trapper responded with a primary trapline that was in a region separate from his or her mailing address, we reassigned that trapper to the region where the primary trapline was located. This was done in an attempt to accurately reflect trapping effort and locations. Throughout this report, regions will be listed by a Roman numeral in place of the description: Region I refers to Southeast Alaska, Region II refers to Southcentral Alaska, Region III refers to Interior Alaska, Region IV refers to Central and Southwest Alaska, and Region V refers to northwestern Alaska.

As always, we maintain strict confidentiality. Any names of individuals and references to specific traplines will not be included in any reports. We hope you find this report informative, and we welcome your suggestions for improvement.

Trapper questionnaire reports are mailed to all trappers who responded to the survey. This report and all previous reports can be found on our website:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=trapping.reports

A Profile of Trapping in Alaska

TRAPPER INFORMATION

Did You Trap?

This year, 5,590 questionnaire invitations were mailed throughout the state, and 502 responded, for an overall response rate of 9.0% (Table 1). The response rate was highest in Regions I and II and lowest in Region III. Statewide, 42% of respondents who answered whether they "trapped" or "did not trap" (Table 2) said they trapped during the 2024–2025 season, or regulatory year (RY) 2024 (a regulatory year begins 1 July and ends 30 June; e.g., RY24 = 1 July 2024–30 June 2025).

Table 1. Responses to the 2024 Alaska Trapper Questionnaire.

Region	Total invited	Percent responded	No response
Region I	679	10.0	611
Region II	1,707	10.1	1,534
Region III	1,236	07.4	1,145
Region IV	1,414	08.4	1,295
Region V	273	08.8	249
Not specified	281	09.6	254
Total	5,590	09.0	5,088

Table 2. Responses to "trapped" or "did not trap" in the 2024 Alaska Trapper Questionnaire.

Region	Trapped	Did not trap	Total
Region I	30	36	66
Region II	44	121	165
Region III	53	43	96
Region IV	57	54	111
Region V	12	13	25
Not specified	–	–	–
Total	196	267	463

Note: En dash (–) indicates not applicable.

Statewide, among the respondents who reported they did not trap in RY24 but reported when they last trapped (n = 254), 24% (n = 62) had last trapped within the past 2 years and 48% (n = 123) had last trapped more than 2 years ago. The remaining 27% (n = 69) stated they were not trappers.

Trapping Experience

During the RY24 season, active trappers statewide averaged 14.59 years of overall experience trapping and 11.83 years of experience trapping in Alaska (Fig. 2; n = 187). This is down from the averages over the last 15 years, suggesting there is a younger group of trappers in the field. However, the overall average for the past 3 years has remained relatively steady. The average

experience trapping in Alaska decreased slightly compared to RY23, possibly indicating that Alaska may be retaining a younger generation of trappers even as older generations retire. Trappers in Region III averaged the most trapping experience overall (17.89 years). No data were collected in RY14.

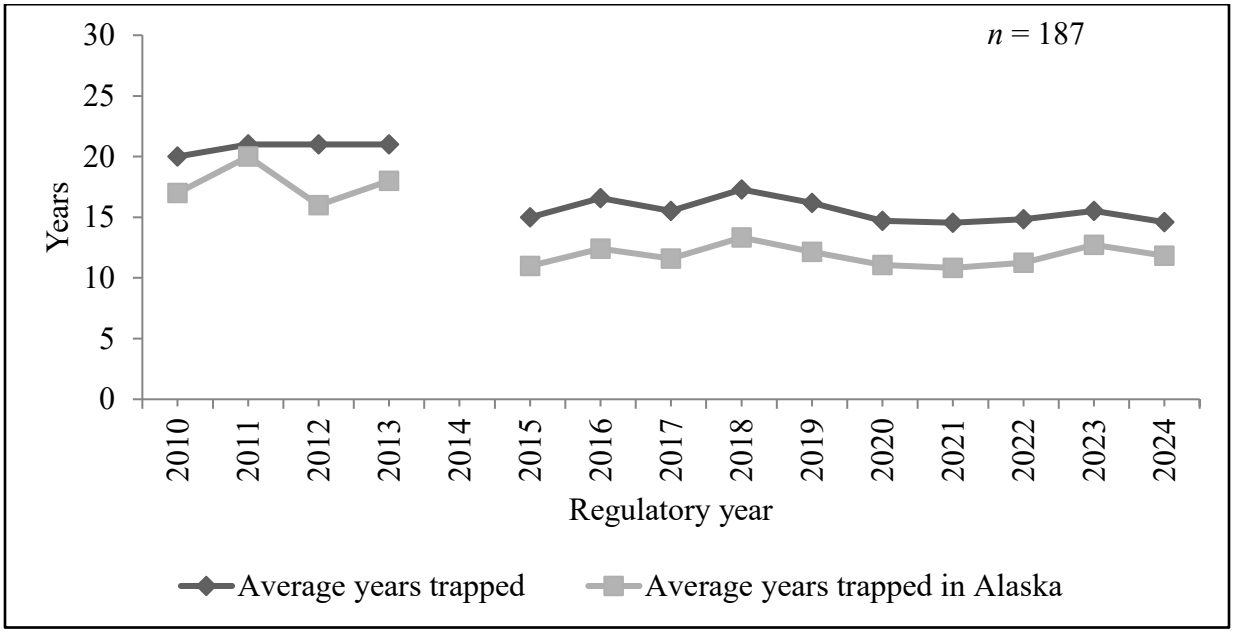


Figure 2. A statewide 15-year trend of trapper age and experience, regulatory years 2010–2024, Alaska.

Photo by Drew Hamilton

Photo by Sikulik Johnson

TRAPLINE INFORMATION

Trapping Area

Statewide, trappers have trapped in the same area for an average of 7.82 years (Fig. 3; n = 186). Trappers in Region III spent the longest amount of time trapping the same area (an average of 9.3 years), while Region I trappers spent the least amount of time trapping the same area (an average of 5.6 years). The longest time spent trapping in a single area was 57 years, reported by a respondent in Region IV.

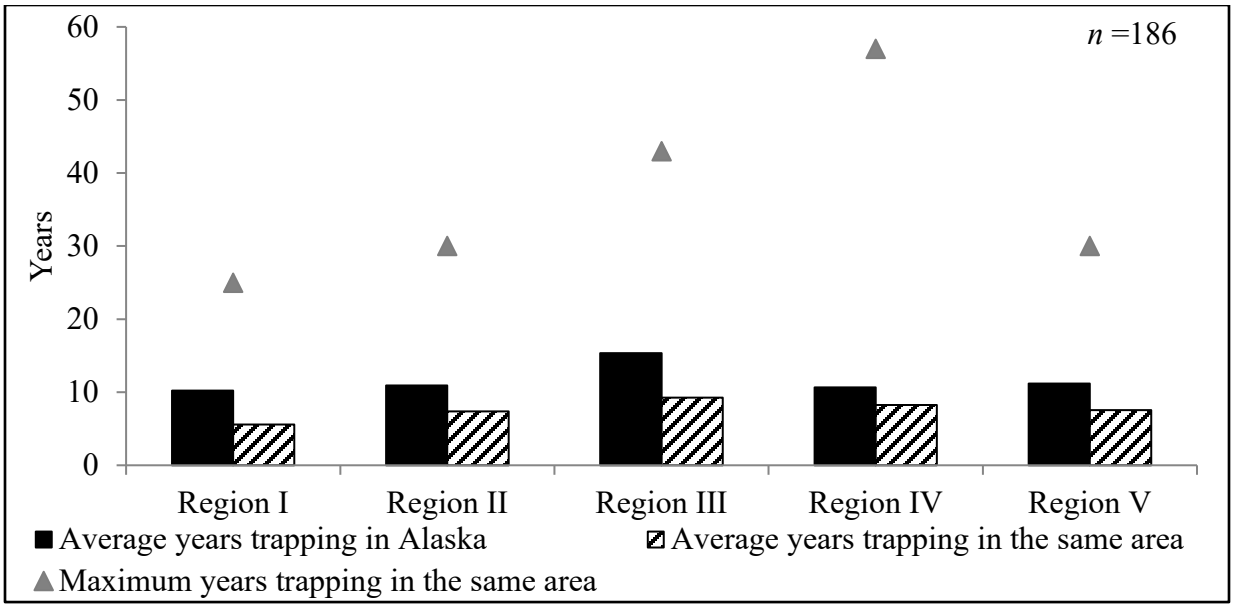


Figure 3. Length of time spent trapping by region, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Trapping Frequency

During the RY24 season, respondents averaged 8.8 weeks trapping (Fig. 4; *n* = 187). Those in Region V spent the longest time trapping (an average of 13.3 weeks), while those in Region II spent the least amount of time trapping (an average of 6.9 weeks). Statewide, 69% (*n* = 130) of respondents trapped a total of 9 weeks or less.

Photo by Phil Mooney

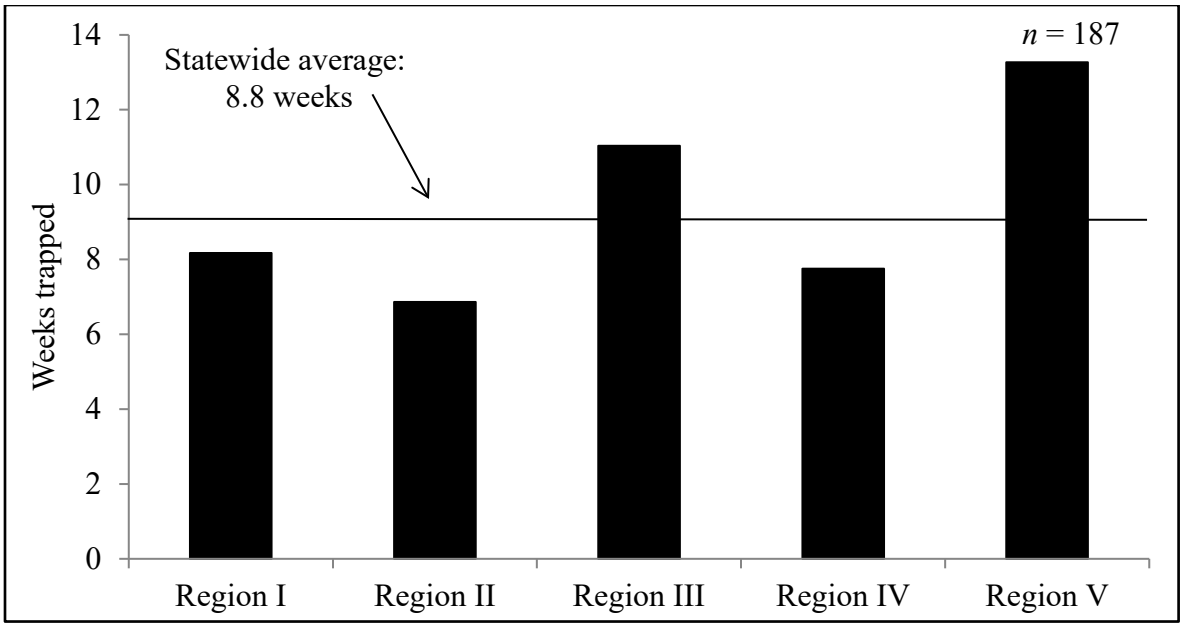


Figure 4. Number of weeks trappers spent trapping by region, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Photo by Sikulik Johnson

Trapline Transportation

Trappers who received the 2024 questionnaire were asked what their primary mode of transportation was both for traveling to their traplines (n = 196) and running their traplines (n = 196) during the RY24 season. Statewide, the most common mode of transportation used by trappers to get to their trapline(s) was a highway vehicle (55%; n = 107; Fig. 5). Trappers in the state also commonly reported accessing their trapline(s) using snowmachines (n = 42). Highway vehicles were the most common mode of transportation to access traplines in Regions I–IV while snowmachines were the most common mode of transportation in Region V.

The most common mode of transportation that trappers used in the state for running their trapline(s) (Fig. 6) was a snowmachine (45%; n = 89), followed by walking, skiing, or snowshoeing (29% combined; n = 57). Snowmachines were the most common mode of transportation for running traplines in Regions III–V; walking, skiing, or snowshoeing was the most common mode of transportation for Region I and II. Statewide, only 1 trapper reported using a dog team to get from their home to their trapline or for running the trapline.

Photo from ADF&G files

Primary mode of transportation from home to the traplines

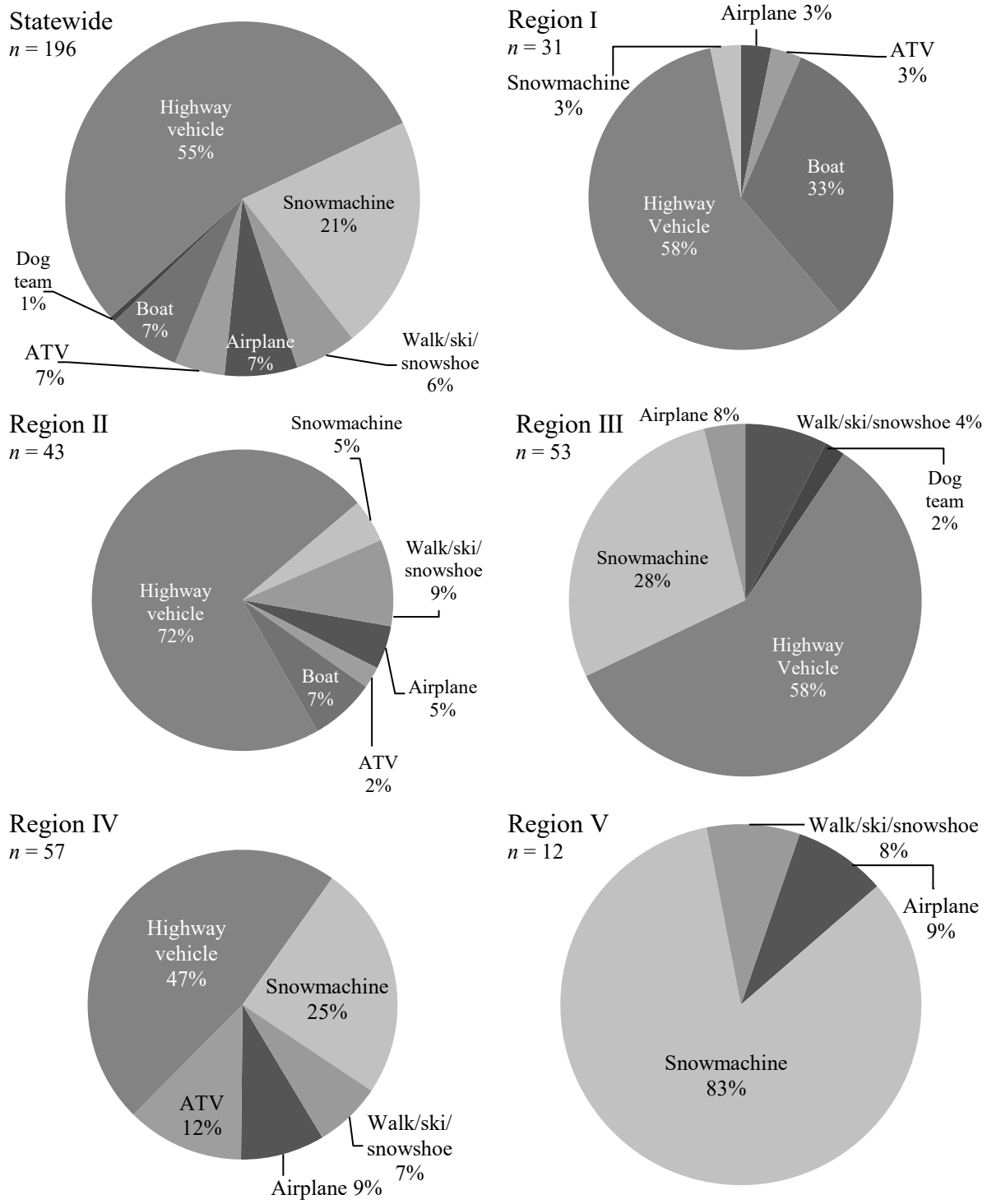


Figure 5. Primary mode of transportation used by trappers to reach their traplines, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Primary mode of transportation used to run the trapline

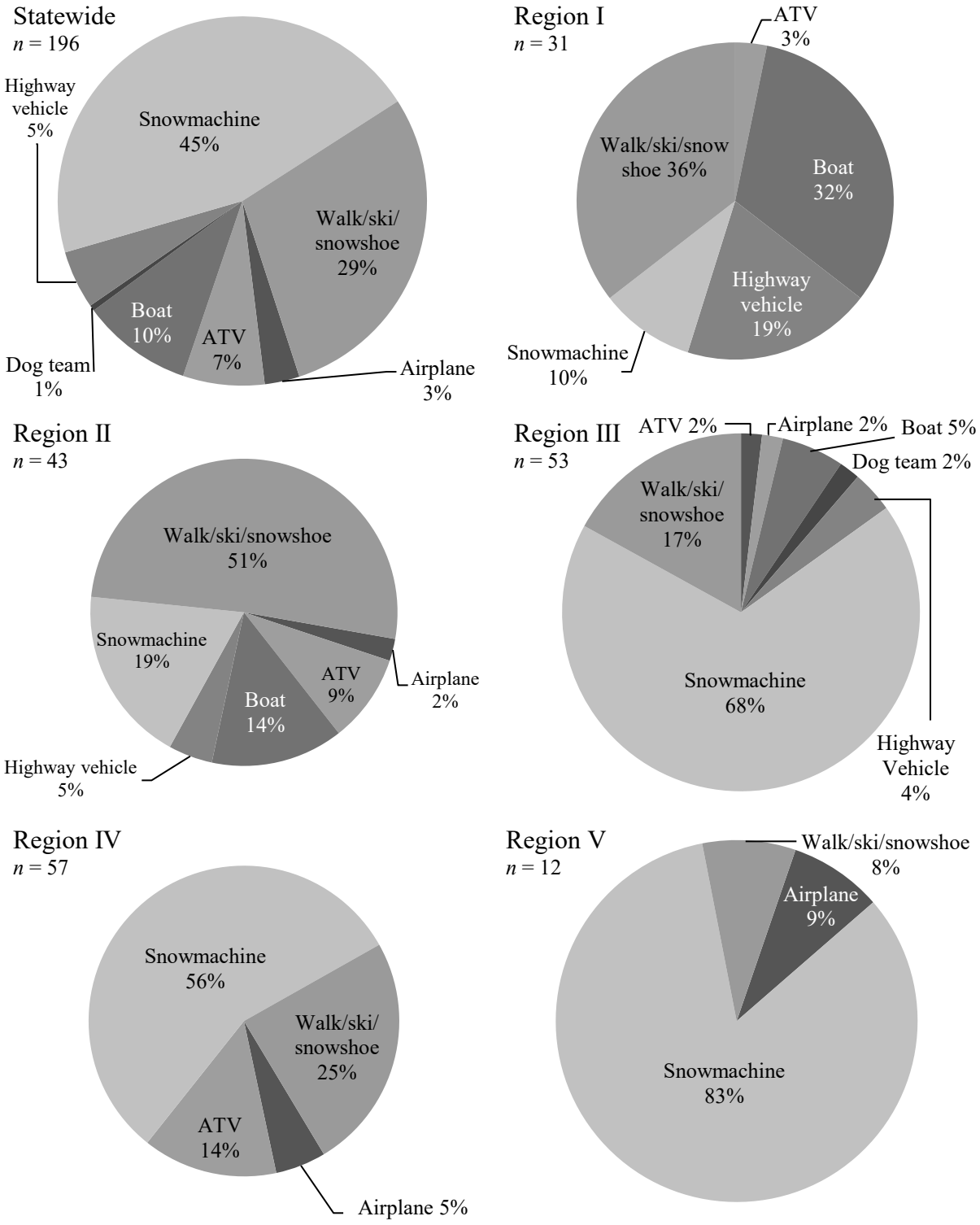


Figure 6. Primary mode of transportation used by trappers to run their traplines, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Trapline Composition

Statewide, traplines averaged 16.3 miles in length with an average of 24.3 sets per trapline (Table 3). Region IV respondents had the longest average trapline length at 120 miles. Region III had the highest maximum number of sets per trapline, at 275. Region II respondents reported the shortest average trapline length (7.9 mi), and Region I reported the lowest average number of sets (75) per trapline.

Table 3. Average reported trapline length and number of sets per trapline, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Region	Average trapline length (mi)	Maximum trapline length (mi)	Average number of sets per trapline	Maximum number of sets per trapline
Region I	11.5	60	18.5	75
Region II	07.9	60	15.9	95
Region III	22.8	100	39.6	275
Region IV	17.6	120	21.8	140
Region V	24.3	62	21.0	92
Statewide	16.3	120	24.3	275

Photo from ADF&G files

Trapping Efforts

During the RY24 season, 38% (*n* = 71) of Alaska trappers who answered question 10 (*n* =187) did not change their efforts compared to last season (Fig. 7). Of those who did change their efforts (*n* = 77), 41% increased their efforts. As a result, 82% (*n* = 63) of trappers who increased their efforts also saw an increase in their overall catch.

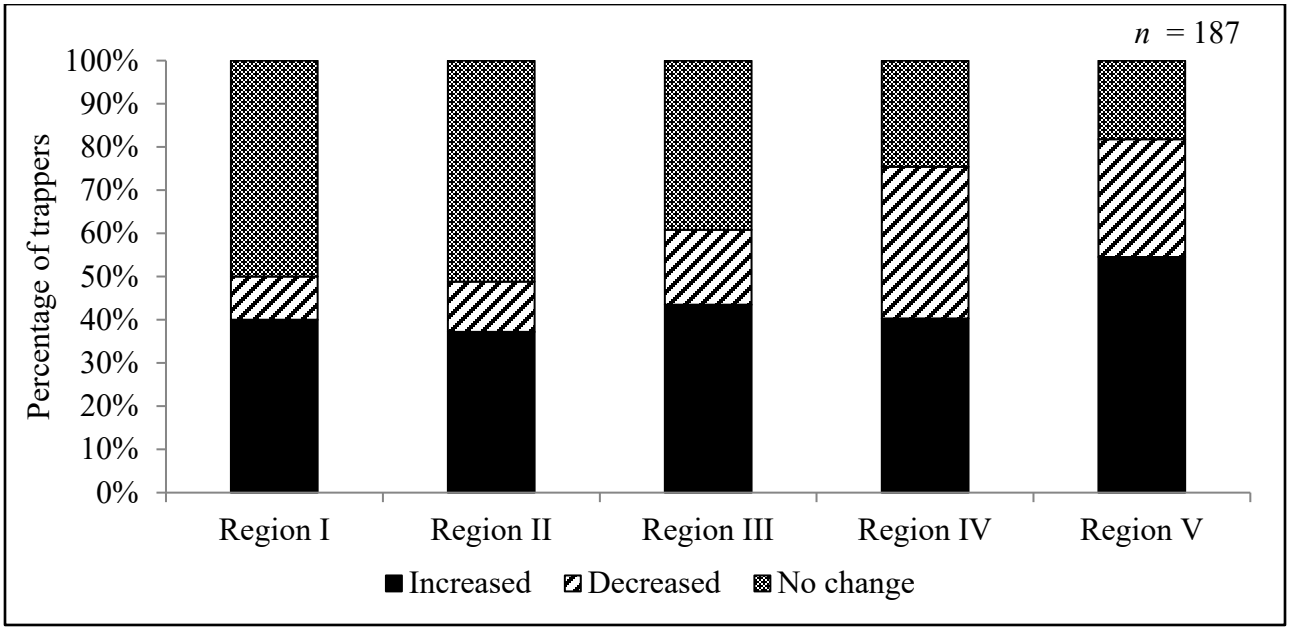


Figure 7. Change in trapping efforts by region, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Photo from ADF&G files

Trappers could select multiple responses on the questionnaire for how their efforts changed in the RY24 season (Fig. 8; n = 113 trappers). The 2 most common changes in effort across Alaska were an increase in the number of sets (n = 62) and an increase in trapline length (n = 52). Trappers in Region III (n = 27) and Region IV (n = 43) changed their effort the most, while those in Region III (n = 16) and Region IV (n = 21) increased the number of sets. Region V trappers showed the greatest change in their effort by trapping in a new area (n = 5) and by increasing the number of sets (n = 5), while those in Region II (n = 11) showed the greatest change in effort by increasing sets and those in Region I showed the greatest change in effort by increasing the number of sets (n = 9) and trapline length (n = 9).

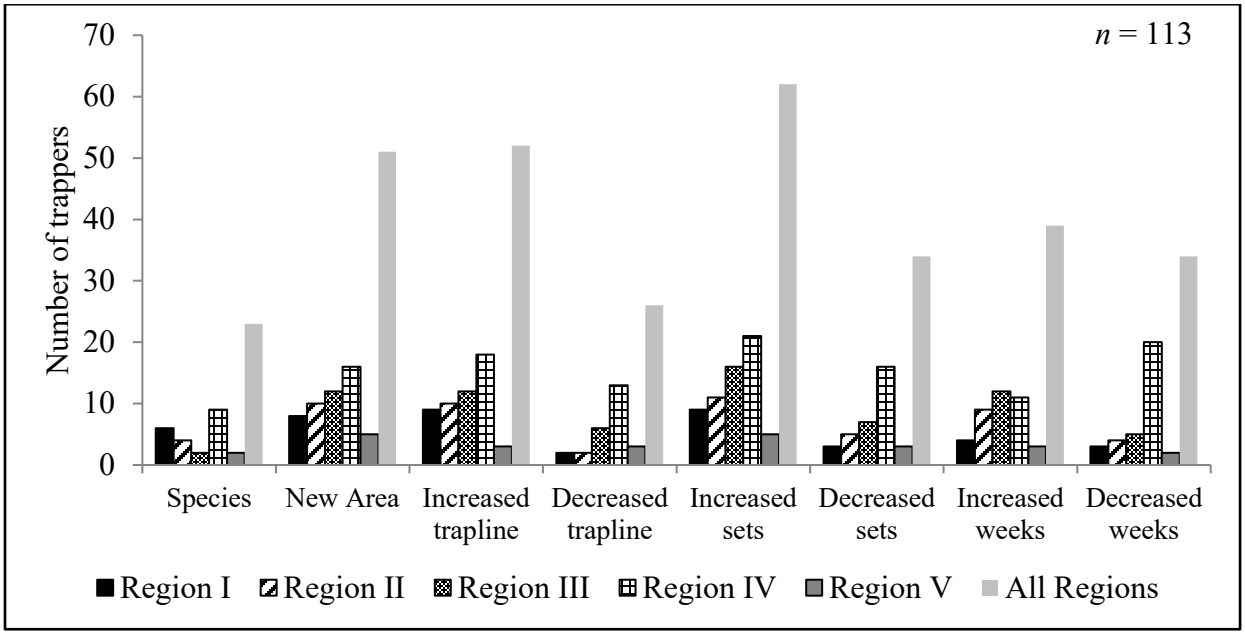
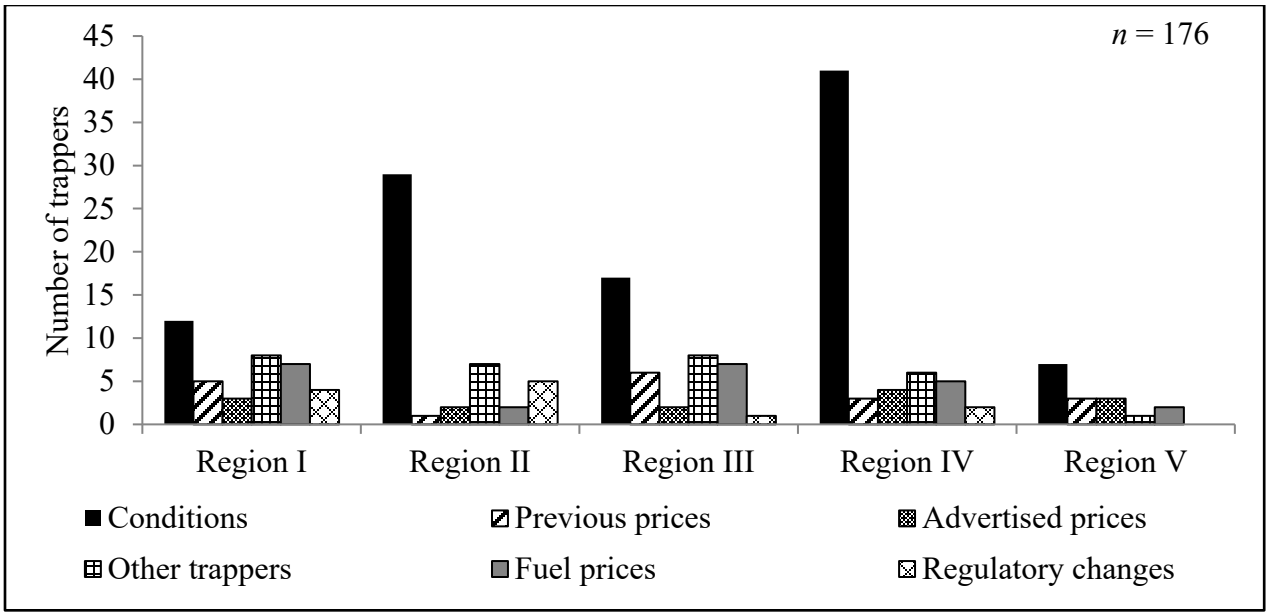


Figure 8. Types of change in trapping effort by region, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Statewide, trappers reporting factors that affected their efforts during the RY24 season (n = 176; Fig. 9) indicated that trapping conditions (weather, snow depth and cover, ice, etc.) were the leading factor influencing both an increase (n = 46) and decrease (n = 60) in trapping effort. Fuel prices (n = 14) caused a decrease in trapper effort, while other trappers (n = 19) and previous season prices (n = 10) reportedly caused trappers to increase effort.



Note: Conditions include weather, snow depth, snow cover, ice, etc.

Figure 9. Factors affecting trapping effort by region, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

TARGET SPECIES AND FUR DISPOSITION

Target Species

Table 4 shows how each species ranked in order of importance by region, with 1 being most important and 14 being least important. Rank was calculated by totaling the number of trappers who ranked that species as 1 of the 3 most important species they were trying to catch. Similarly, Figure 10 shows the species ranked by number of respondents.

Marten was the most important species across Alaska. Marten ranked as the most important species in Regions I, III, and IV. Lynx was ranked as the most important in Region II and beaver in Region V. Statewide, lynx ranked as the second most important species, followed by wolf.

Photo by Arin Underwood

Table 4. Species ranked by importance at both statewide and regionwide levels, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Species	Statewide	Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Region V
Marten	1	1	2	1	1	2
Lynx	2	7	1	3	3	4
Wolf	3	2	4	2	4	6
Wolverine	4	6	4	6	2	2
Beaver	5	3	7	4	8	1
Red fox	6	–	9	4	5	4
Coyote	7	–	3	7	6	–
River otter	8	4	7	9	7	8
Ermine	9	7	4	8	9	–
Mink	10	5	10	9	10	–
Muskrat	11	–	10	9	10	6
Red squirrel	12	–	10	9	–	–
Fisher	13	–	10	–	12	–
Arctic fox	14	–	–	13	–	–

Note: Ranking is 1–14 with 1 being most important and 14 least important. Repeats of rank indicate that one or more species is tied for that rank. En dashes (–) indicate no trapper ranked the species as one of the most important.

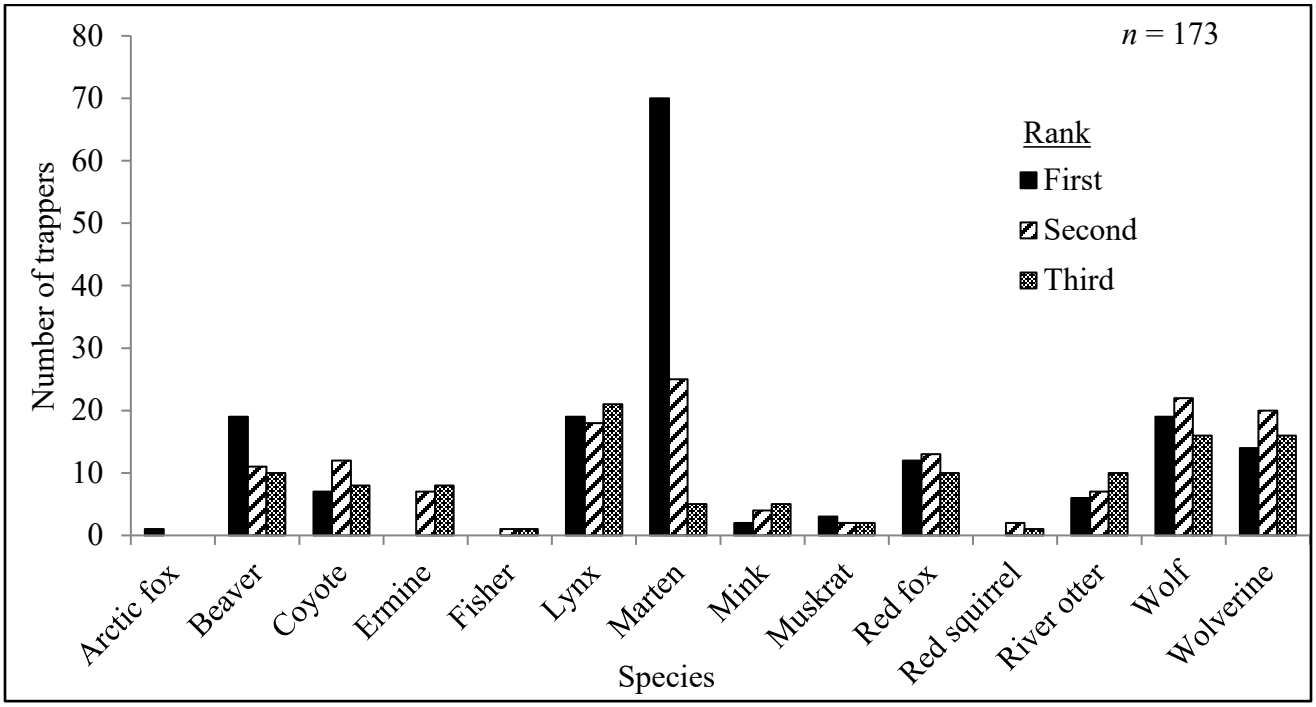


Figure 10. Number of trappers statewide ranking each species as the first, second, or third most important species they targeted, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Presence of Ectoparasites

Respondents who trapped during the RY24 season indicated that ectoparasites (including fleas, lice, ticks, and other species) were either not present or scarce across all furs harvested, with the exceptions of fleas on lynx and lice on wolves in Region II as well as lice on ermine in Region V (Table 5). Other ectoparasites noted on furbearers included beaver beetles and commensal red beaver beetles on beaver in Region III, unidentified beetle larvae on beaver in Region II, follicle dysplasia on a wolf in Region I, and mange on a fox that was trapped in Region III, as well as one in Region IV. Regionwide ectoparasite abundance was determined by assigning a numerical value to each category (not present = 0; scarce = 1; common = 2; abundant = 3) and averaging the sum for each region. An arbitrary range of values was created to classify the average opinions of trappers regarding ectoparasite abundance in an area: values of 0 indicated ectoparasites were not present, values >0 and <1.67 indicated scarce ectoparasite abundance, values of 1.67–2.33 indicated common ectoparasite abundance, and values >2.33 indicated abundant ectoparasite abundance. Fields with an en dash (–) indicate that no responses were received.

Photo by Arin Underwood

Table 5. Presence of ectoparasites found on furbearers by species and region, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

		Species													
Region	Ectoparasite[a]	Arctic fox	Beaver	Coyote	Ermine	Fisher	Lynx	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Red fox	Red squirrel	River otter	Wolf	Wolverine
I *n* = 13	F	NP	S	NP	S	NP	NP	S	S	NP	NP	S	S	S	NP
	L	NP	S	NP	NP	NP	NP	S	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
	T	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	S	NP	NP	NP	S	NP	S	NP
	O	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
II *n* = 11	F	NP	NP	NP	S	–	C	S	–	NP	NP	S	NP	NP	S
	L	NP	NP	NP	NP	–	NP	NP	–	NP	NP	NP	NP	C	NP
	T	NP	NP	NP	NP	–	NP	NP	–	NP	NP	S	NP	NP	NP
	O	NP	S	NP	NP	–	NP	NP	–	NP	–	NP	NP	–	NP
III *n* = 25	F	NP	NP	S	S	NP	S	S	S	NP	S	S	NP	S	NP
	L	NP	S	NP	S	NP	S	S	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	S	NP
	T	NP	NP	NP	S	NP	NP	S	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	S	NP
	O	NP	S	NP	S	NP	NP	S	NP	S	S	NP	NP	S	NP
IV *n* = 13	F	NP	NP	S	S	NP	S	S	NP	NP	S	NP	NP	NP	NP
	L	NP	S	NP	NP	NP	NP	S	S	NP	S	NP	NP	S	NP
	T	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
	O	NP	S	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	S	NP	NP	NP	NP
V *n* = 5	F	–	NP	NP	S	–	S	S	NP	–	S	–	–	–	S
	L	–	S	NP	C	–	NP	S	NP	–	S	–	–	–	S
	T	–	NP	NP	NP	–	S	NP	NP	–	NP	–	–	–	NP
	O	–	S	NP	NP	–	–	NP	NP	–	NP	–	–	–	NP

Note: Trapper responses in this table are abbreviated as follows: NP = Not present; S = Scarce; and C = Common. One other option that was offered but not used: A = Abundant. Fields with an en dash (–) indicate that no responses were received.

[a] Ectoparasites are abbreviated as follows: F = fleas; L = lice; T = ticks; O = other.

Harvest Methods

Use of Predator Calls

Statewide, only 10 trappers reported using any type of predator call; of those trappers, 60% (n = 6) used only electronic predator calls, 40% (n = 4) used only manual (mouth) predator calls, and 1% (n = 2) used both electronic and manual predator calls (Fig. 11).

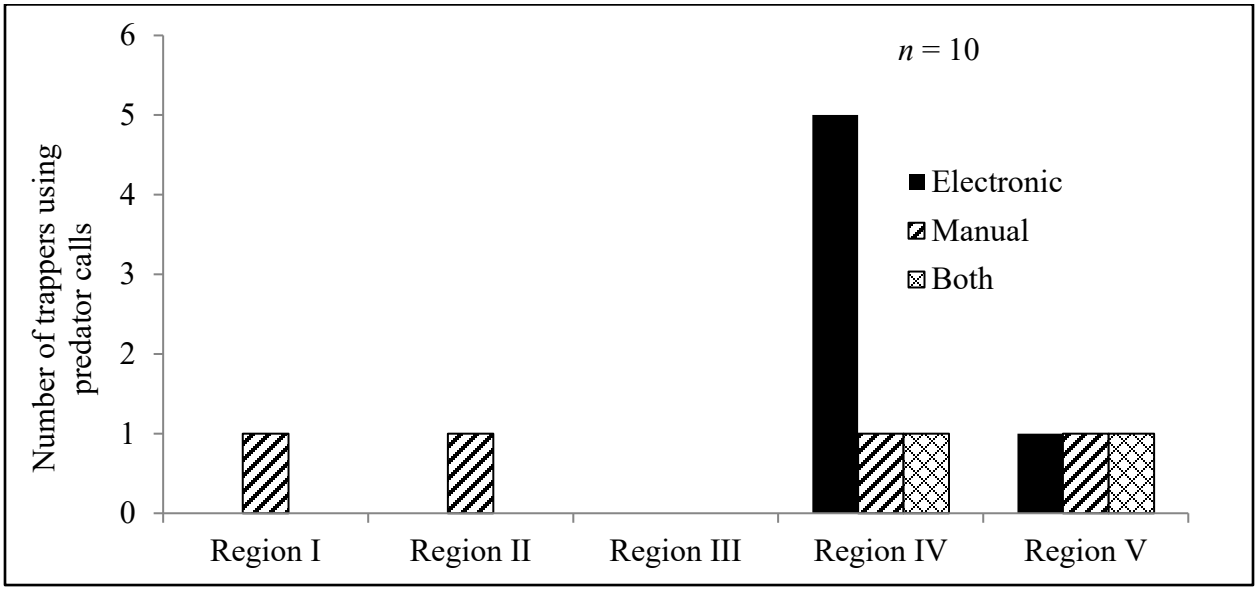


Figure 11. Use of predator calls by region, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Photo from ADF&G files

TRAPPING TECHNIQUES AND SUCCESS

Trappers responding to the 2024 questionnaire were asked to provide the number of pelts they took using each trapping technique (i.e., shot, snared, foot hold, Conibear, or other). Summaries of the number of pelts taken using each technique for each species harvested are provided in Figures 12–25.

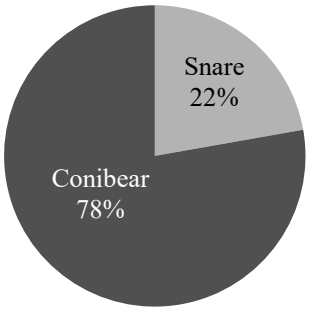
Photo by Sikulik Johnson

ARCTIC FOX

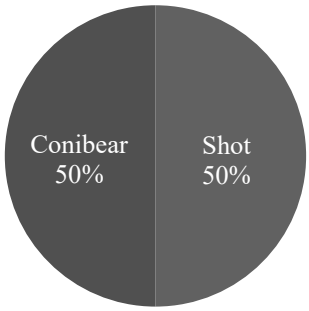
Region I
No harvest reported

Region II
No harvest reported

Region III
n = 9



Region IV
n = 2



Region V
No harvest reported

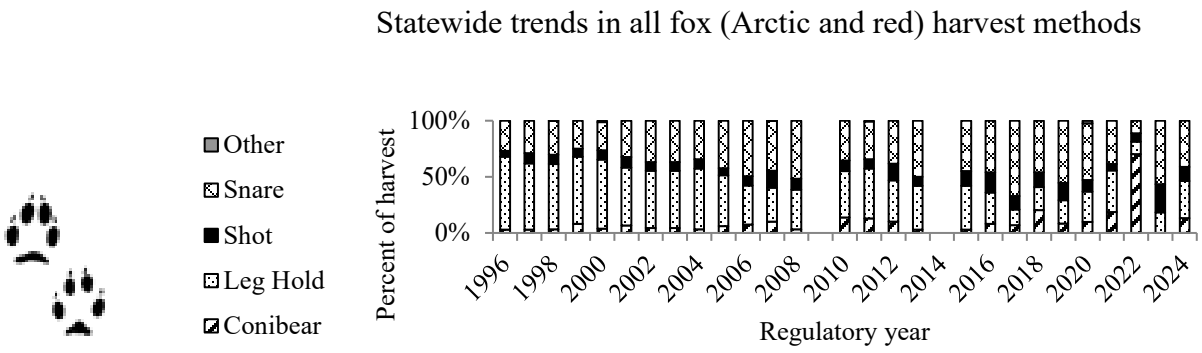


Figure 12. Arctic fox harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

BEAVER

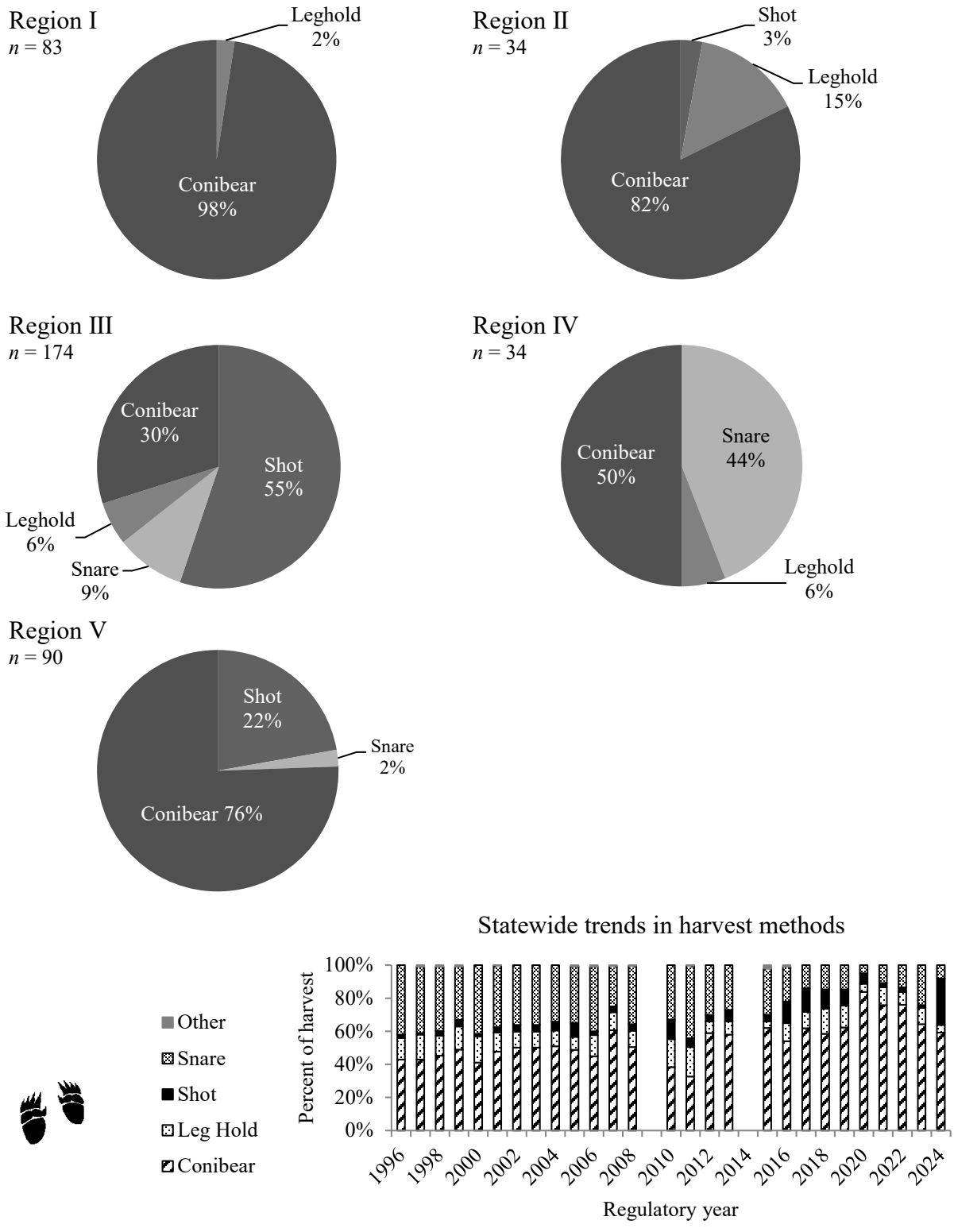


Figure 13. Beaver harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

COYOTE

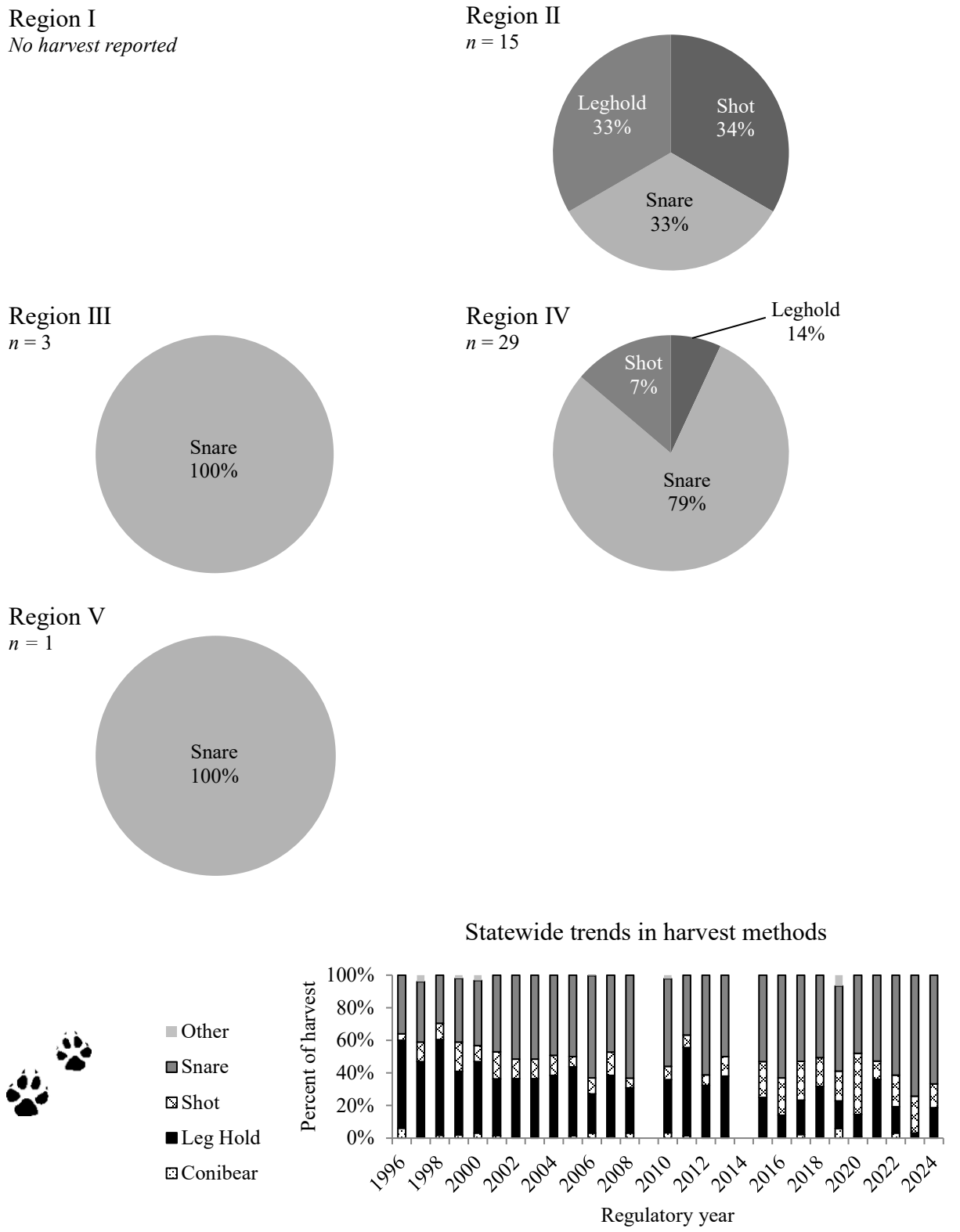


Figure 14. Coyote harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

ERMINE

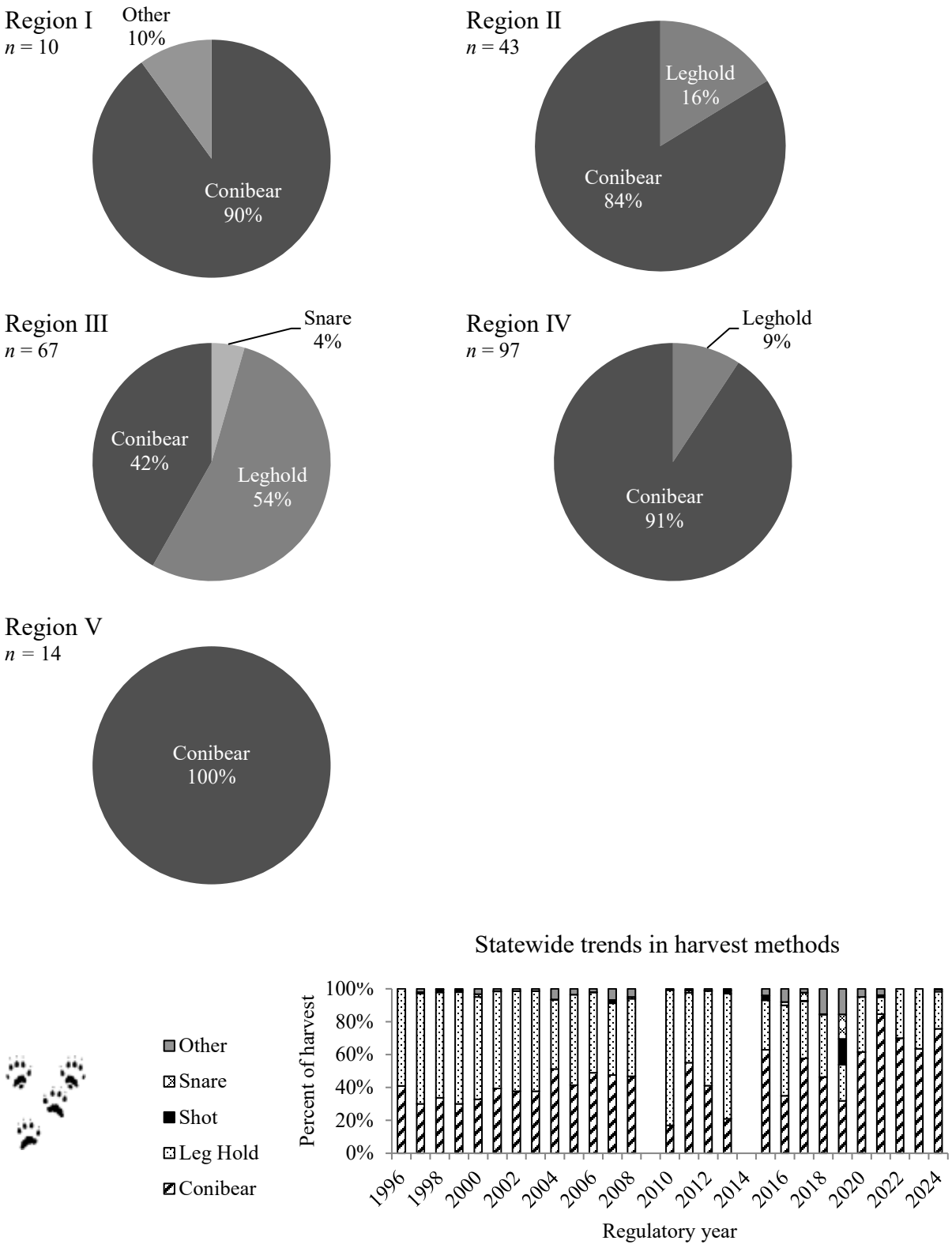


Figure 15. Ermine harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

FISHER

Region I–V
No harvest reported

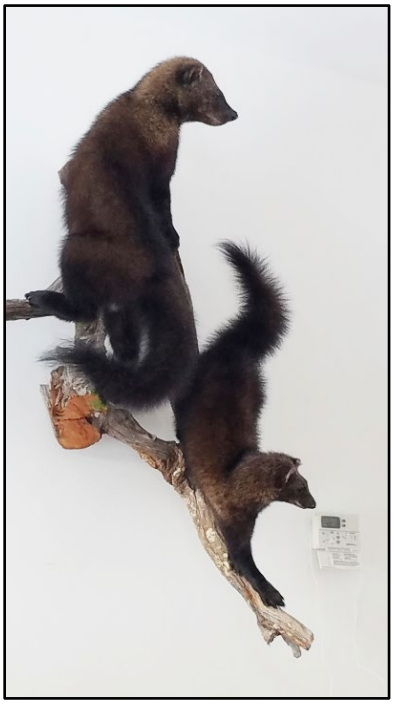


Photo from ADF&G files

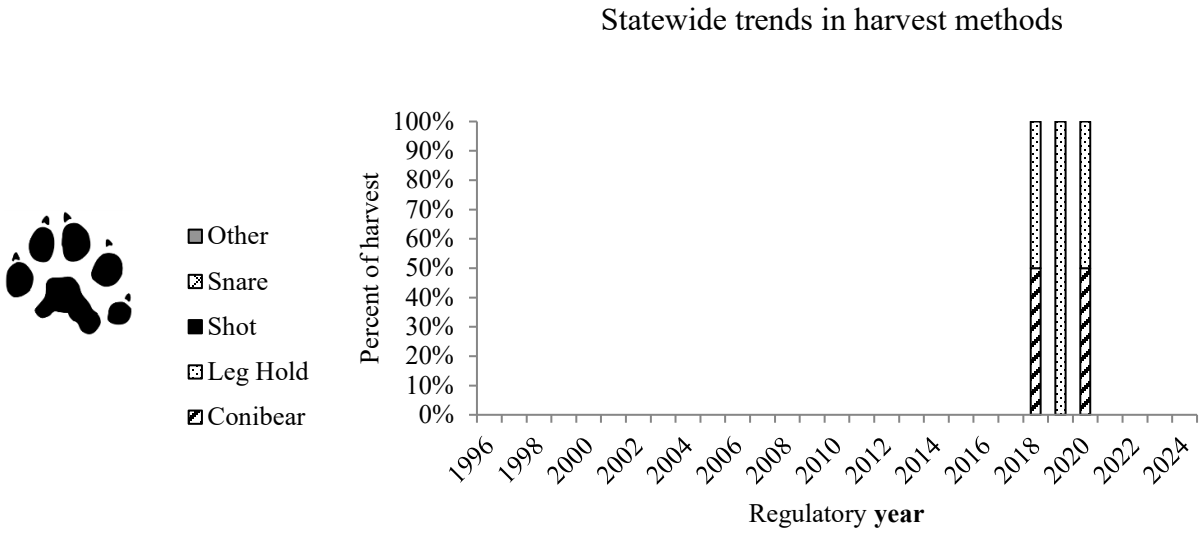


Figure 16. Fisher harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

LYNX

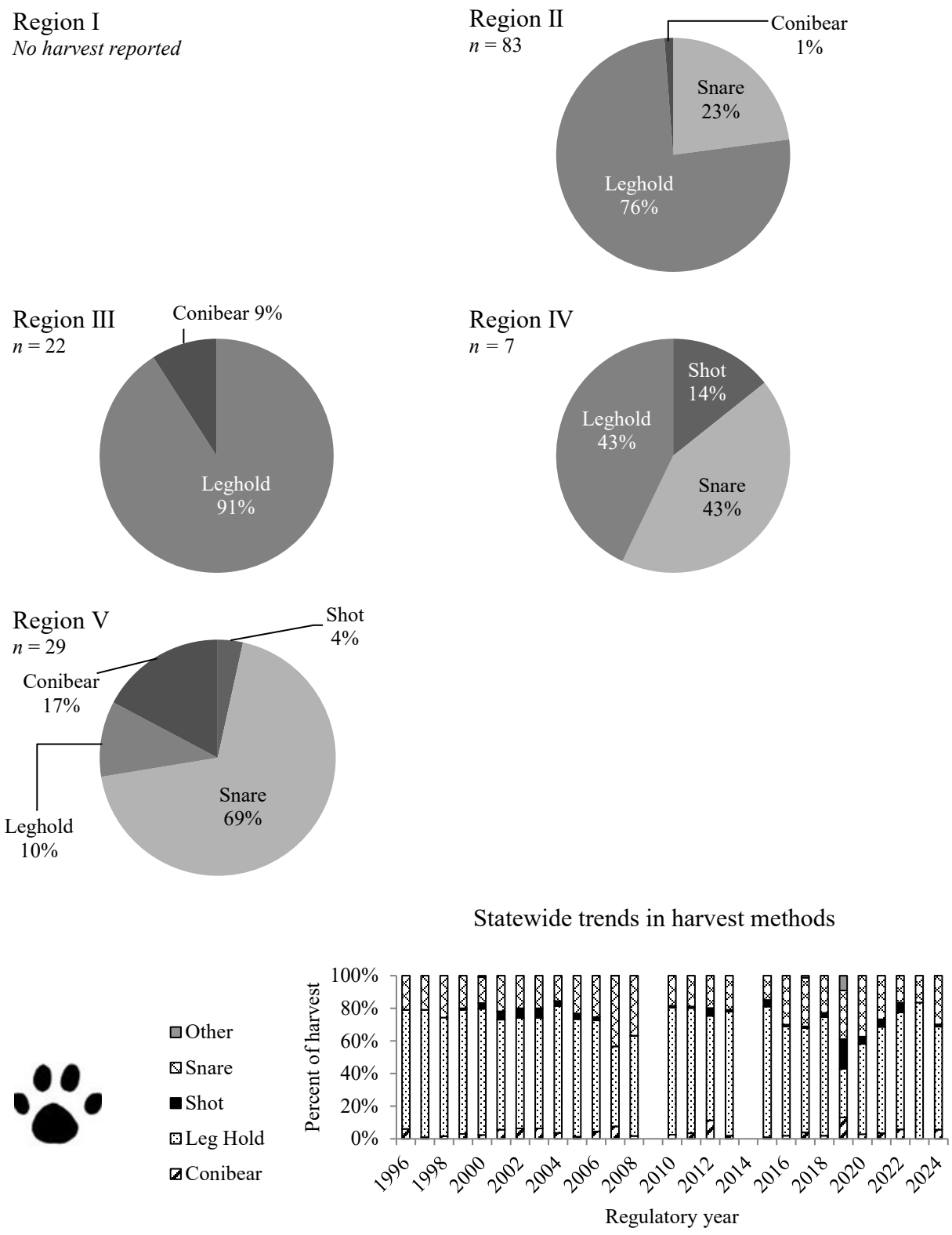
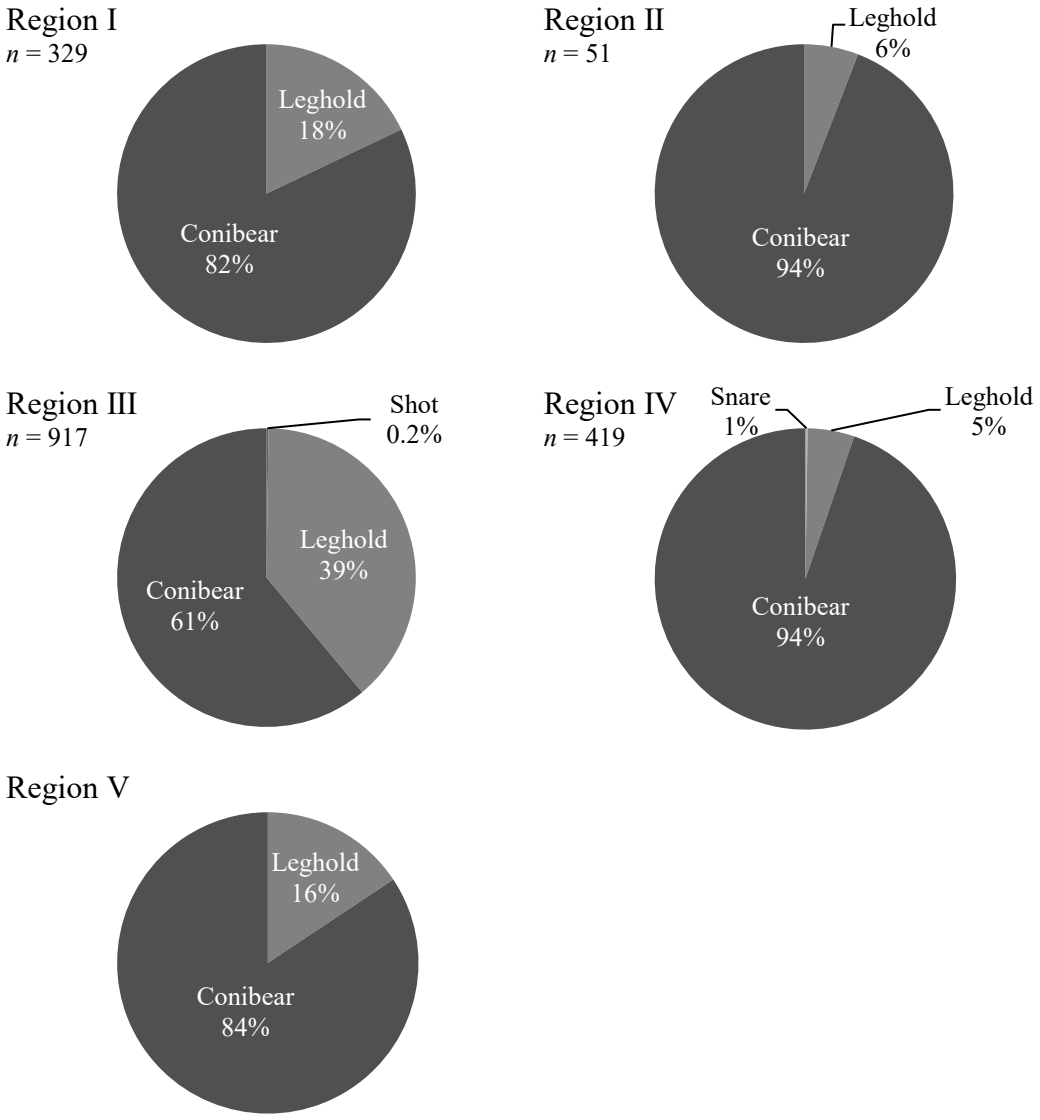


Figure 17. Lynx harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

MARTEN



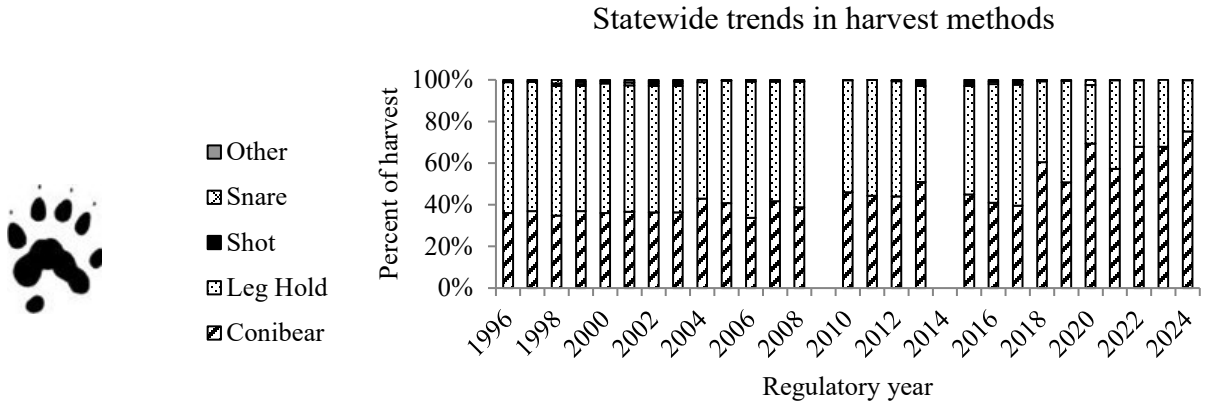


Figure 18. Marten harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

MINK

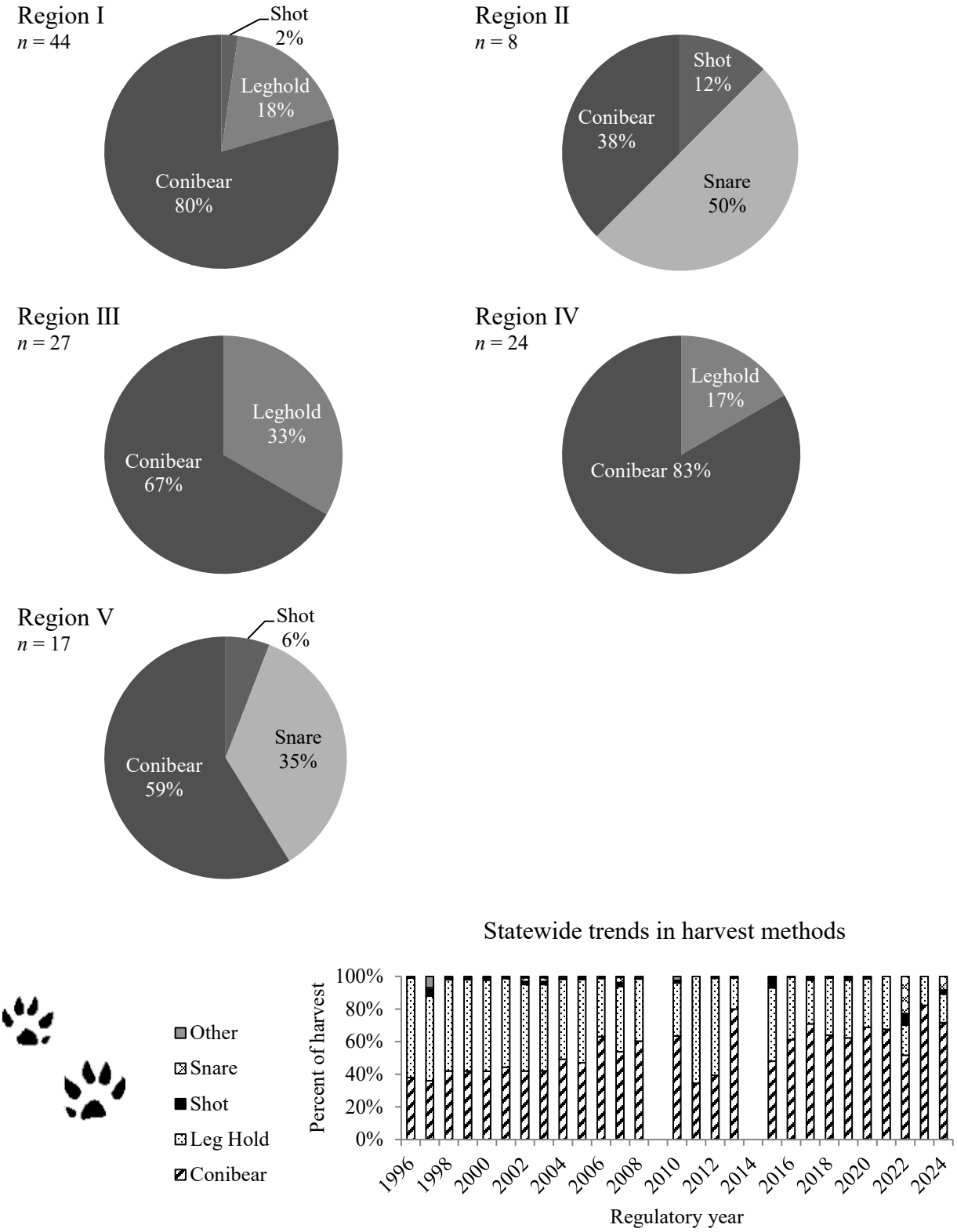


Figure 19. Mink harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

MUSKRAT

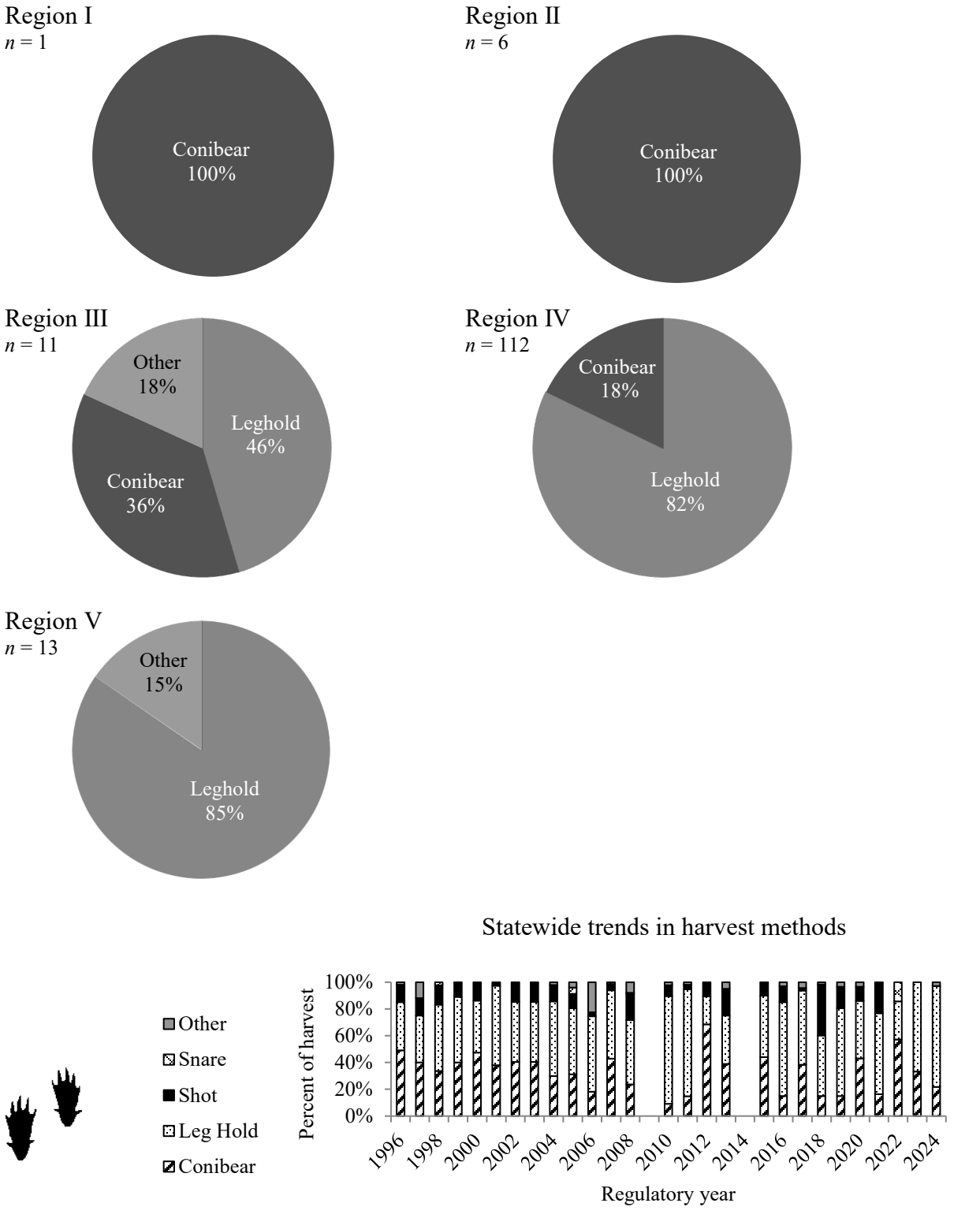
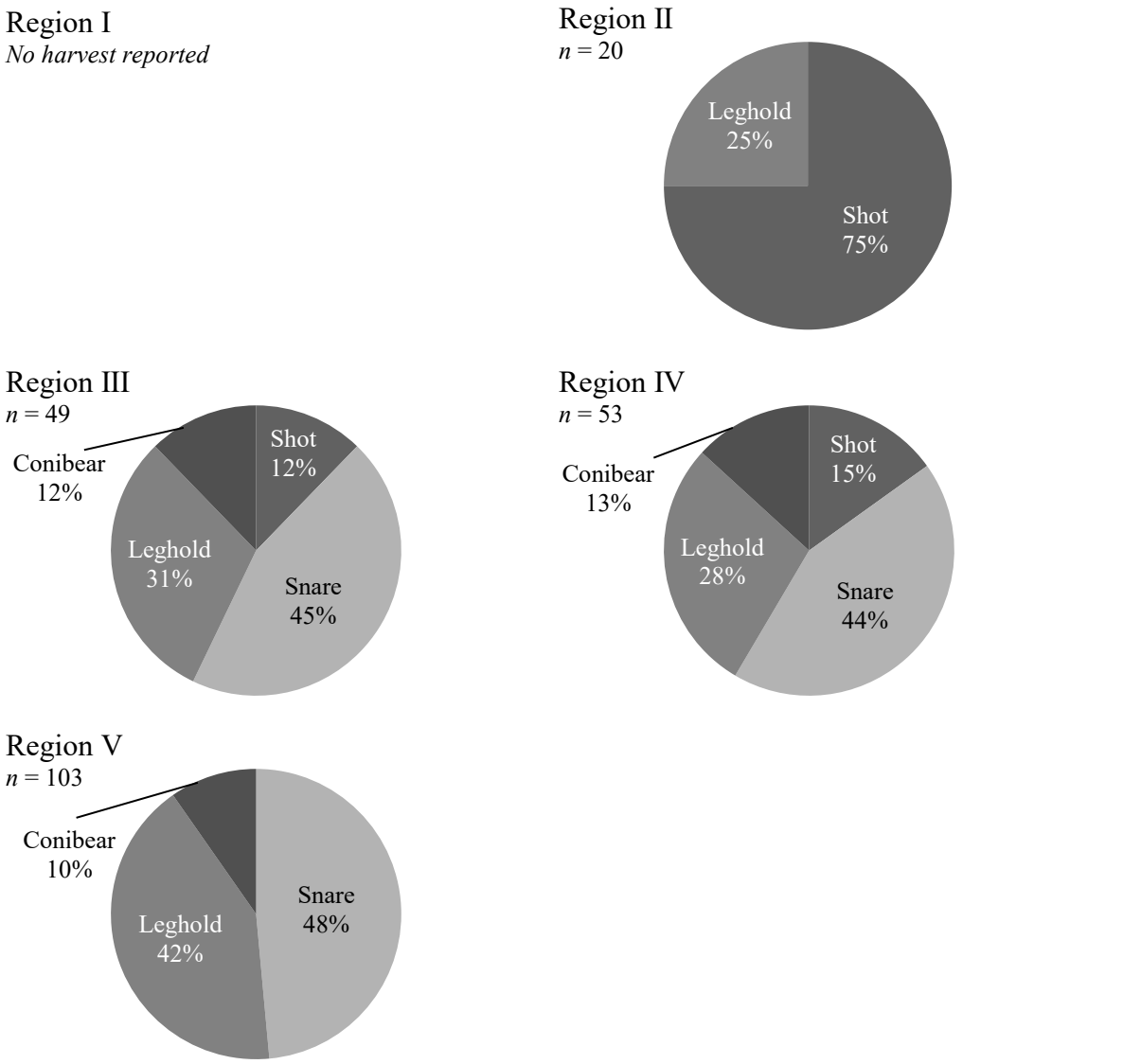


Figure 20. Muskrat harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

RED FOX



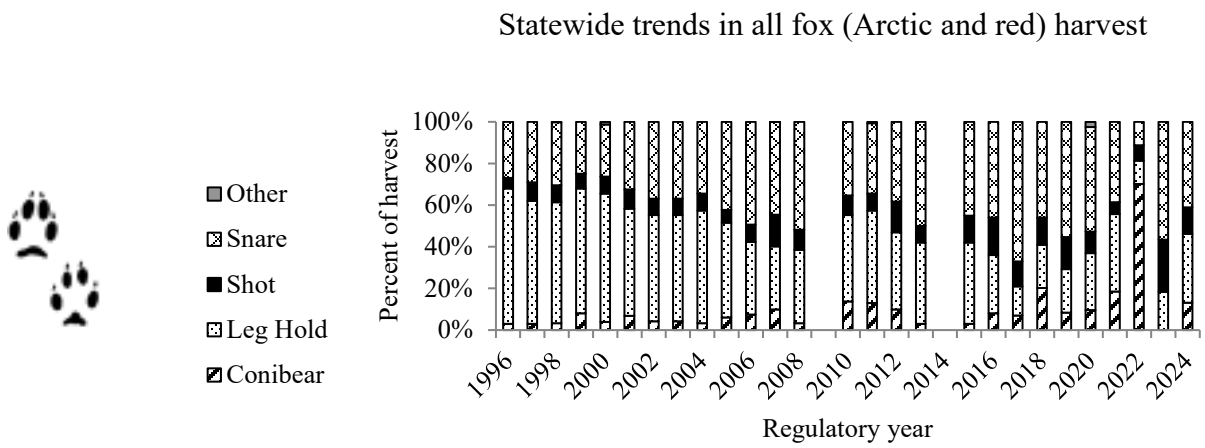
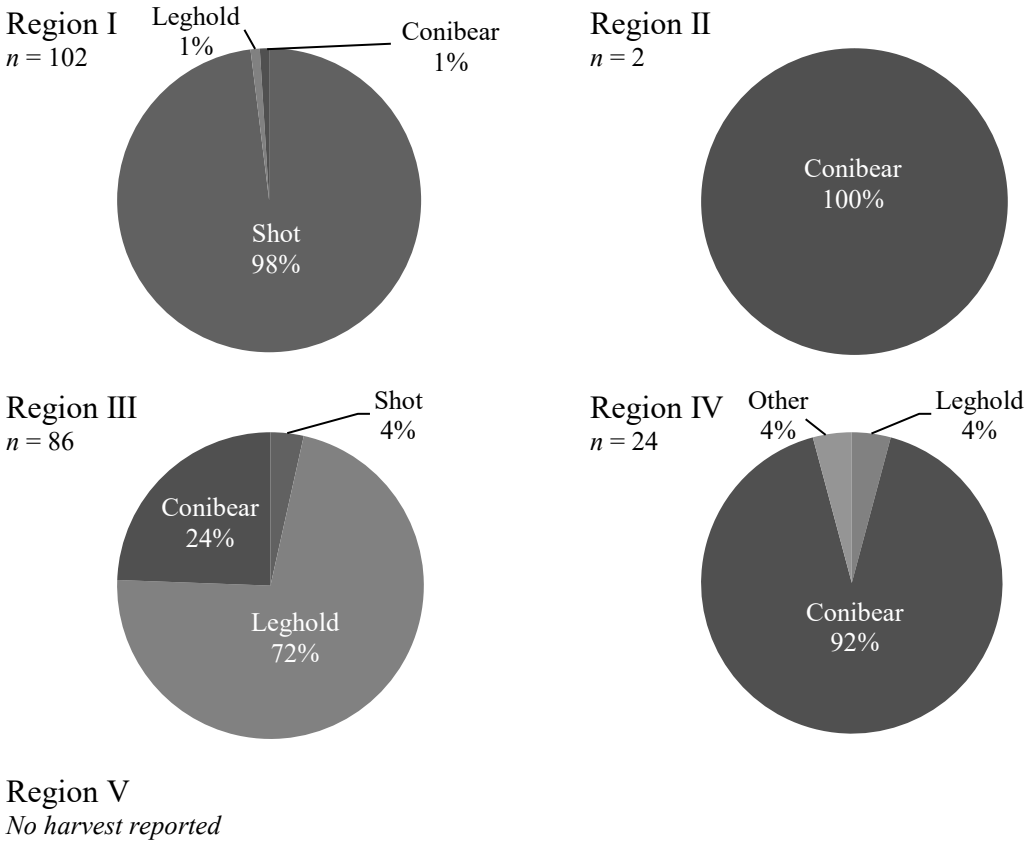


Figure 21. Red fox harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

RED SQUIRREL



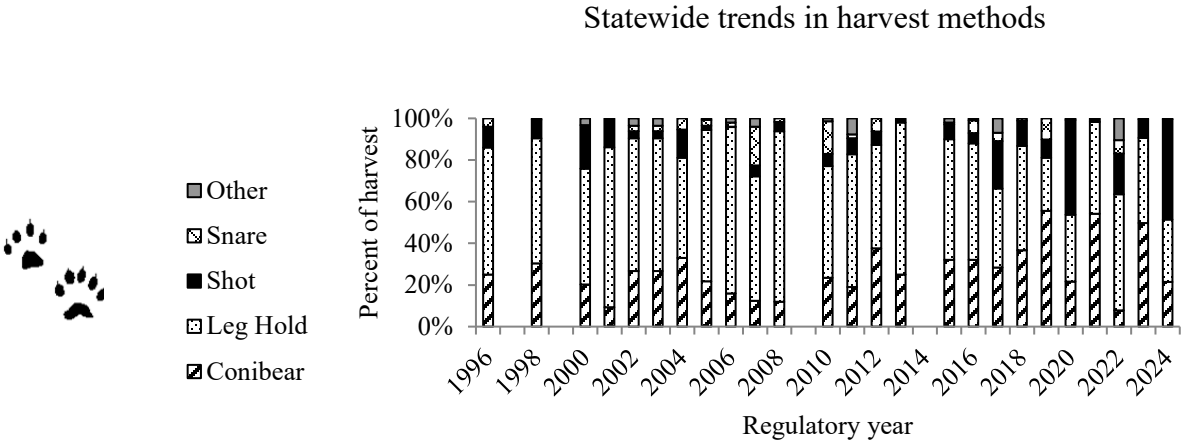


Figure 22. Red squirrel harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

RIVER OTTER

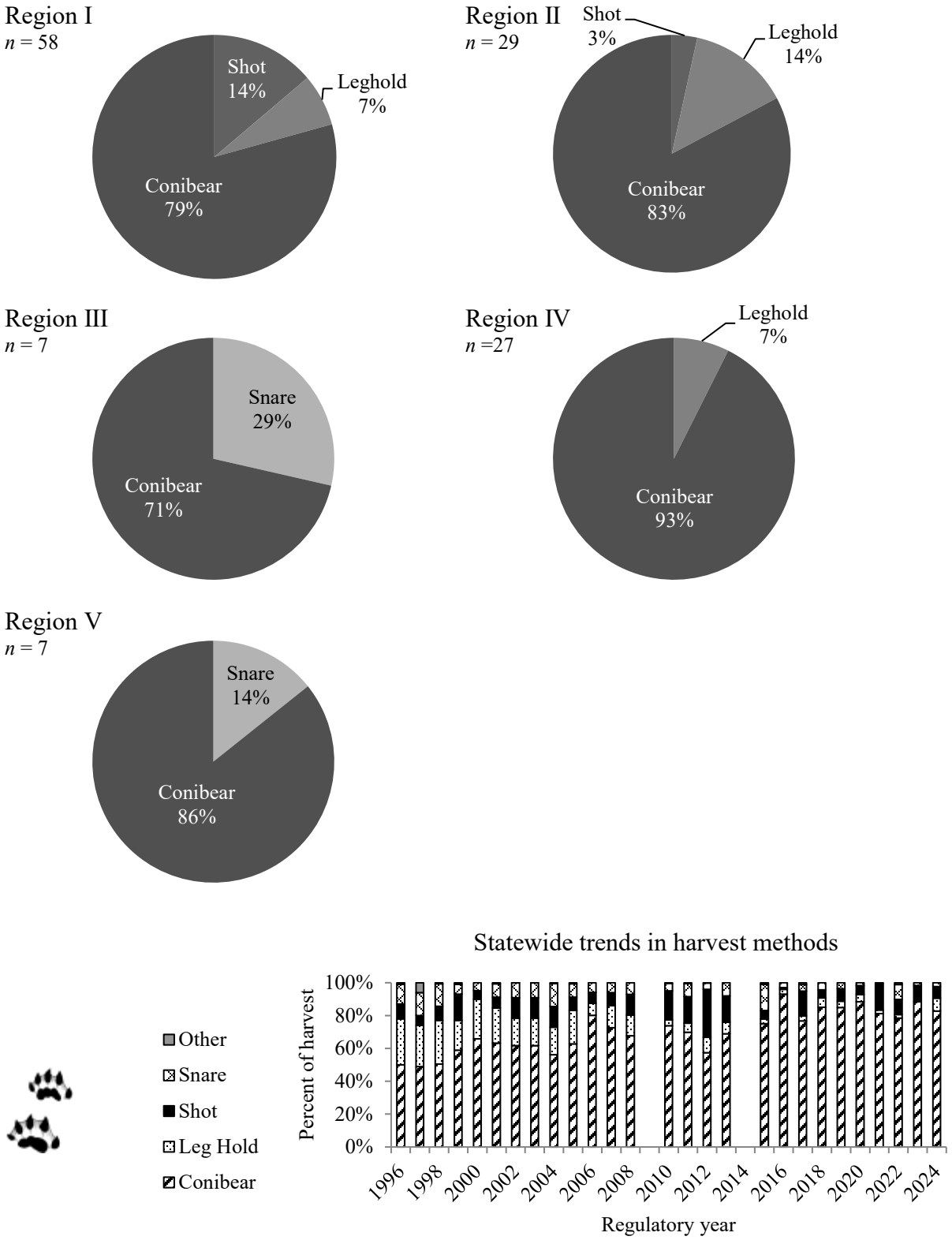


Figure 23. River otter harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

WOLF

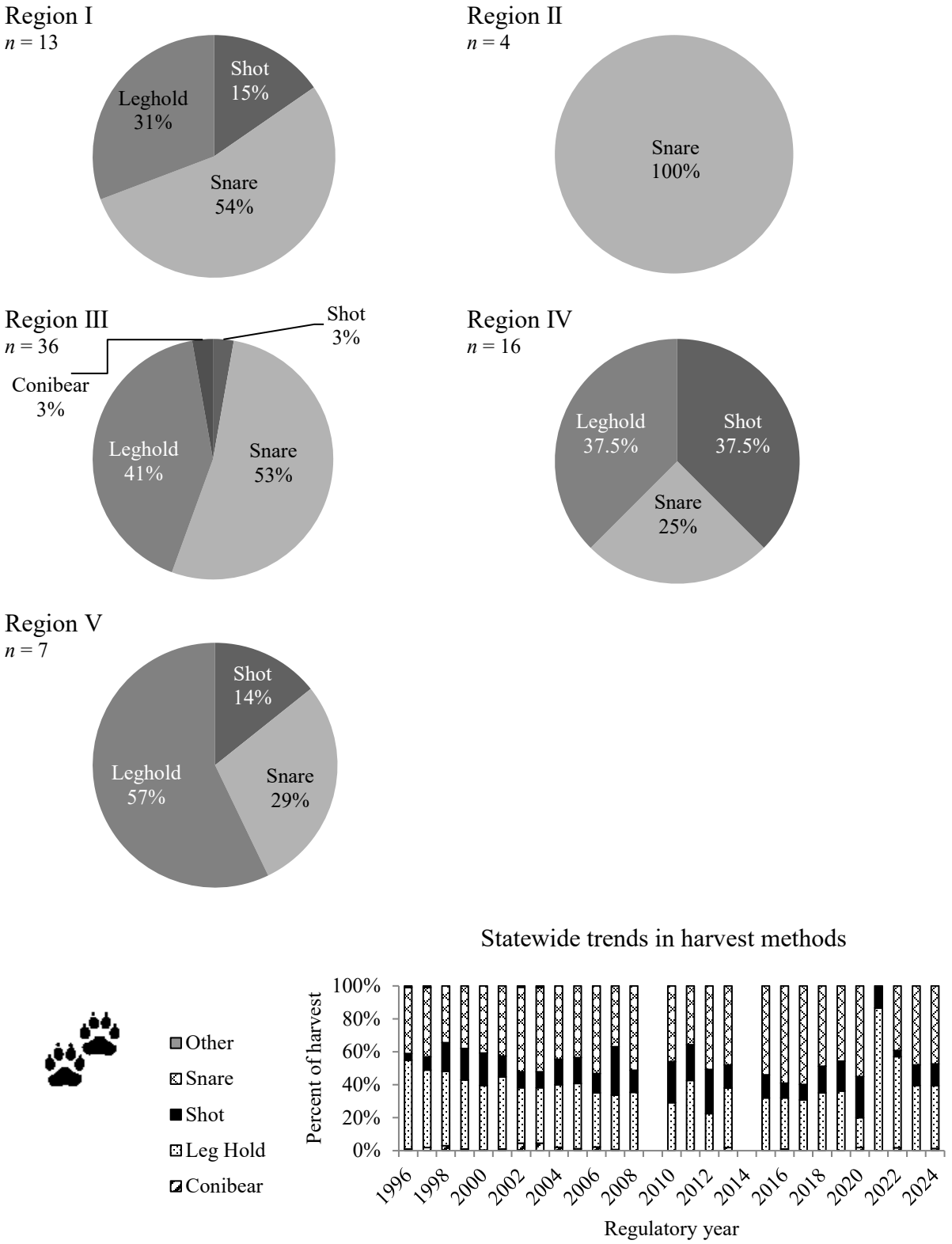


Figure 24. Wolf harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

WOLVERINE

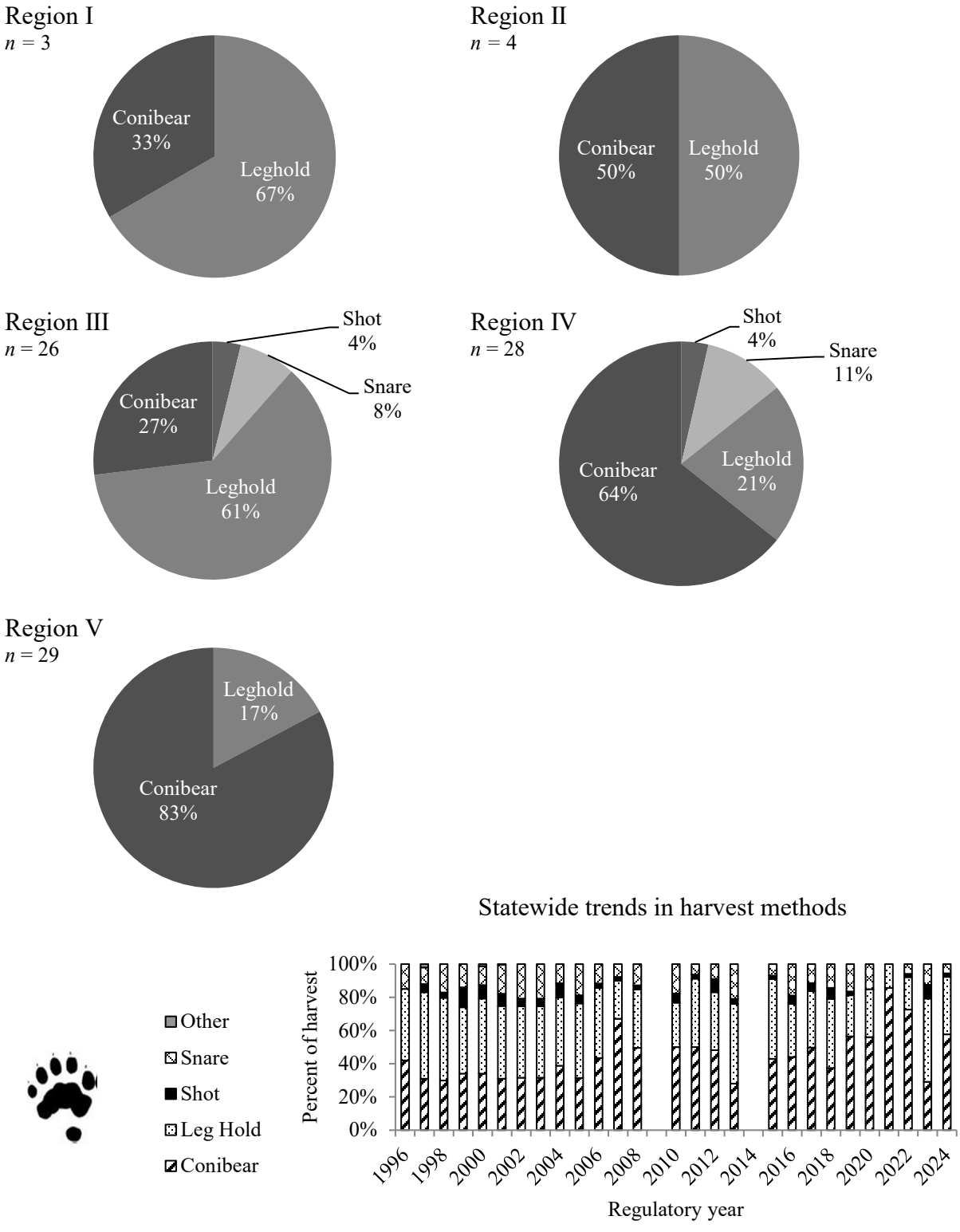


Figure 25. Wolverine harvest methods used by trappers, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Species Relative Abundance and Population Trends

The species relative abundance index is based on work done with snowshoe hares in Alberta, Canada, by Christopher Brand and Lloyd Keith (1979).[1] They took responses they received from a trapper questionnaire and compared them to estimates of hare densities based on their fieldwork and found there was a good relationship between these 2 measures. They developed an index for the responses they received from trappers on the questionnaire. A numerical value was assigned to each of 3 responses, where 1 = scarce, 2 = common, and 3 = abundant. The value of the abundance index was derived from a mathematical equation that expressed the cumulative response value of trappers in a given region as a percentage of the range of possible values:

$$\mathrm{I} = \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n}(\mathrm{R}_i) - n\right) / 2n\right] \times 100$$

Where I = abundance index

R = numerical value (1 = scarce, 2 = common, 3 = abundant)

n = number of trappers reporting

The abundance index (I) ranged from 0% to 100%. Index values of 0–19% indicated animals were scarce, 20–50% indicated animals were common, and values greater than 50% indicated animals were abundant. In the following tables, the index values were converted to the appropriate category: scarce, common, or abundant.

It is unknown if the same ranges of percentages are appropriate for animals in Alaska, as they were established for snowshoe hares in Alberta. However, this index does provide a way to compare trappers' interpretations of species abundance in a given area over time in general. That comparison is helpful when it is used in conjunction with other abundance indicators and sources of information.

The numerical trend index indicates if trappers felt animals were fewer, the same, or more numerous than they were the previous year. This index is slightly different than the relative abundance index. The trend index was calculated by assigning a 1 if the "fewer" box was checked, 2 for the "same," and 3 for "more" animals. The average was then calculated for all trappers in an area. Since we do not have an independent measure of trend to compare the index values to, as we did for relative abundance, it is necessary to select arbitrary ranges of values to classify the average opinion of trappers in an area. For purposes of this report, an average trend value of <1.67 represents fewer (−), a value >2.33 represents more (+), and intermediate values represent no change (n/c) in trend.

[1] Brand, C. J., and L. B. Keith. 1979. Lynx demography during a snowshoe hare decline in Alberta. The Journal of Wildlife Management 43(4):827–849.

Due to the relatively small sample size in RY24, we presented species relative abundance and trend at a regionwide level rather than the unit wide level. Sample sizes were too small to provide useful data on a smaller geographic scale. Table 6 displays the results.

Photo by Kyle Ferguson

Table 6. Regionwide relative abundance and trend of furbearer populations, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

		Region I		Region II		Region III		Region IV		Region V	
Category	Species	Relative abundance $n = 23$	Trend $n = 18$	Relative abundance $n = 27$	Trend $n = 21$	Relative abundance $n = 44$	Trend $n = 35$	Relative abundance $n = 40$	Trend $n = 31$	Relative abundance $n = 11$	Trend $n = 9$
Furbearer	Arctic fox	not present	n/c	not present	n/c	scarce	n/c	not present	n/c	scarce	n/c
	Beaver	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	abundant	+
	Coyote	scarce	n/c	common	+	scarce	n/c	common	n/c	scarce	n/c
	Ermine	scarce	n/c	common	n/c	common	n/c	common	n/c	common	n/c
	Fisher	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	not present	+
	Lynx	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c
	Marten	common	n/c	scarce	n/c	common	+	common	n/c	common	n/c
	Mink	common	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	common	n/c	common	n/c
	Muskrat	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c
	Red fox	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	common	n/c	common	n/c	abundant	+
	Red squirrel	common	n/c	common	n/c	abundant	n/c	abundant	n/c	scarce	n/c
	River otter	common	n/c	common	n/c	scarce	n/c	common	n/c	common	n/c
	Wolf	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	common	n/c	scarce	n/c	common	n/c
	Wolverine	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	common	n/c
Prey	Grouse	scarce	n/c	scarce	-	common	n/c	common	n/c	common	n/c
	Hare	scarce	n/c	common	-	common	n/c	common	n/c	common	n/c
	Mice and rodents	common	n/c	common	n/c	common	n/c	abundant	n/c	common	n/c
	Ptarmigan	scarce	n/c	scarce	n/c	common	+	scarce	n/c	abundant	n/c

Note: *n* is the total number of trappers who provided information on abundance or trend. Not all trappers provided information on every species. Abbreviations and symbols in this table represent the following: n/c indicates no change in trend, + indicates an increase in trend, and - indicates a decrease in trend.

Furbearer Harvest Report

Only 4 of the 14 species defined as furbearers are required to be sealed throughout Alaska: lynx, river otter, wolf, and wolverine. Marten, beaver, and fisher are required to be sealed in some units but not statewide. Table 7 shows the number of each species trappers reported harvesting in each subunit during the RY24 season. The letter Z indicates that while the unit was clearly reported, the subunit was not specified. There were no reported results for fisher for RY24; therefore, fisher was not included in Table 7.

It would be helpful for ADF&G biologists to know the proportion of the actual total harvest that the questionnaire response numbers represent. For species that require sealing, the number sealed represents our best information about the statewide harvest. Table 7 provides the harvest totals reported on the questionnaire as a percentage of the total number sealed.

Photo by Brian McCorison

Table 7. Furbearer harvest as reported on the 2024 trapper questionnaire, Alaska.

Region	Subunit[a]	*n*	Arctic fox	Beaver	Coyote	Ermine	Lynx	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Red fox	Red squirrel	River otter	Wolf	Wolverine
	1A	5	0	8	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	2	0	0
	1B	2	0	0	0	1	0	4	2	0	0	0	4	2	0
	1C	5	0	30	0	9	0	30	10	0	0	2	12	6	3
I	1D	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
	1Z	1	0	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2Z	12	0	40	0	0	0	111	4	0	0	0	8	2	0
	4Z	10	0	0	0	0	0	135	25	0	0	100	30	0	0
	5A	2	0	5	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
I	Totals	39	0	83	0	10	0	319	44	1	0	102	58	13	3
	6B	1	0	0	0	11	0	13	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	6C	6	0	15	2	0	1	1	0	4	0	0	2	0	1
	6D	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	26	0	0
	6Z	2	0	15	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	7Z	13	0	0	1	12	1	22	3	0	0	2	0	0	2
II	8Z	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	12	0	0
	14C	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	15A	2	0	0	1	4	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	15B	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	15C	5	0	0	5	5	72	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	0
	15Z	7	0	4	6	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
II	Totals	49	0	34	15	44	83	50	8	6	20	3	41	4	4
	12Z	4	0	0	0	2	8	43	0	0	15	0	0	9	11
	19A	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
	19B	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
III	19C	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	1	0
	19D	1	0	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	20A	5	0	94	6	19	3	70	10	0	16	8	2	11	2
	20B	26	1	54	3	28	9	494	17	6	14	42	1	4	7

-continued-

Table 7 continued.

Region	Subunit[a]	*n*	Arctic fox	Beaver	Coyote	Ermine	Lynx	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Red fox	Red squirrel	River otter	Wolf	Wolverine
	20C	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
	20D	8	36	0	2	8	0	51	1	5	1	31	0	6	2
	20E	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
	20F	1	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
III	20Z	7	0	5	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
	24D	2	0	13	0	13	0	45	1	1	13	13	3	3	2
	24Z	2	0	0	0	0	0	66	0	0	0	2	0	8	1
	25C	2	0	0	0	0	0	50	1	0	2	0	0	5	0
	25Z	1	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	26Z	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
III	Totals	65	45	184	11	72	22	853	30	18	67	98	8	51	25
	9B	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	4	0	2	5	0
	9C	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
	9D	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	12	0	11	0	3	1	1
	13A	7	0	12	0	14	0	38	0	92	2	0	0	0	1
	13B	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	13C	3	0	0	0	9	0	131	0	0	0	0	2	2	6
	13D	5	1	1	0	2	2	10	1	0	1	0	0	0	4
	13E	5	0	0	0	11	1	10	3	0	7	0	0	0	5
IV	13Z	5	0	6	7	0	0	7	0	0	2	0	0	5	3
	14A	13	1	1	2	7	0	15	0	19	3	0	0	0	1
	14B	8	0	0	4	28	1	27	1	1	3	1	3	1	1
	14Z	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	16A	3	0	0	2	8	0	66	1	0	1	9	4	0	2
	16B	4	0	2	15	9	0	107	3	0	2	11	8	2	0
	16Z	3	0	0	0	1	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	17B	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	17C	4	0	1	0	2	0	3	3	0	13	2	2	0	2

-continued-

Table 7 continued.

Region	Subunit[a]	*n*	Arctic fox	Beaver	Coyote	Ermine	Lynx	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Red fox	Red squirrel	River otter	Wolf	Wolverine
IV	Totals	68	3	25	30	94	7	425	24	112	49	23	27	16	26
	18Z	4	0	23	1	0	0	33	1	4	37	0	1	0	10
	22A	3	0	50	0	11	3	152	2	0	15	0	0	0	4
V	22B	2	0	5	0	1	20	1	0	1	18	0	2	3	15
	22C	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1
	23Z	5	0	39	0	2	6	13	14	8	39	0	5	4	0
V	Totals	16	0	122	1	14	29	199	17	13	112	0	8	7	30
	Unknown	0	0	0	0	8	5	98	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Statewide	237	48	448	57	242	146	1954	124	150	248	226	142	91	92

[a] The letter Z indicates that while the unit was indicated on the survey, the administrative subunit was not specified.

Furbearer Sealing Records Summary

Sealing refers to the placement of an official marker or locking tag (seal) by an authorized ADF&G representative on an animal hide or skull. The sealing process may also involve recording biological information about the animal and the conditions under which it was taken, collecting measurements, and taking biological samples. Lynx, river otter, wolf, and wolverine are required to be sealed statewide. Marten, beaver, and fisher are required to be sealed only in certain units. The harvest totals reported in Tables 8 and 9 are based on fur sealing records.

Photo from ADF&G files

Table 8. Reported harvest from sealing records, regulatory years 2019–2024, Alaska.

Species	Region	RY19	RY20	RY21	RY22	RY23	RY24
Beaver[a]	I	226	110	99	197	255	316
	II	157	115	125	170	173	309
	III	8	6	44	4	17	12
	IV	391	341	229	220	194	253
	V	0	3	0	0	0	11
	Total	782	575	497	591	639	901
Fisher[b]	I	1	3	2	1	2	2
	II	0	0	0	0	0	0
	III	0	0	0	0	0	0
	IV	0	0	0	0	0	0
	V	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	1	3	2	1	2	2
Lynx	I	25	30	9	6	1	0
	II	15	49	141	233	250	281
	III	1,783	1,496	423	272	249	474
	IV	993	966	411	234	62	82
	V	179	215	187	66	96	95
	Total	2,995	2,756	1,171	811	658	932
Marten[c]	I	1,381	1,761	927	1,361	1,573	2,299
	II	84	215	141	185	198	225
	III	0	0	2	7	0	1
	IV	275	555	259	253	382	341
	V	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	1,740	2,531	1,329	1,788	2,153	2,866
River otter	I	237	202	149	237	229	225
	II	146	102	154	185	247	180
	III	64	27	29	35	53	44
	IV	104	171	118	122	146	106
	V	78	68	24	51	73	66
	Total	629	570	474	630	748	621
Wolf	I	311	175	154	189	173	184
	II	34	17	39	29	61	21
	III	507	544	365	513	581	587
	IV	232	254	125	237	467	208
	V	84	93	33	96	71	66
	Total	1,168	1,083	716	1,064	1,353	1,066
Wolverine	I	12	26	22	25	29	14
	II	28	26	23	20	37	28
	III	219	264	214	249	270	285
	IV	99	173	130	169	162	171
	V	106	65	79	78	80	81
	Total	464	554	468	541	578	579

[a] Beaver are required to be sealed in Units 1–11, 13–15, and 17.
[b] Fisher are required to be sealed in Units 1–5.
[c] Marten are required to be sealed in Units 1–7 and 14–1.

Table 9. Trapper questionnaire reported harvest as a percentage of total number sealed by species and region where sealing was required, regulatory year 2024, Alaska.

Region	Beaver	Fisher	Lynx	Marten	River otter	Wolf	Wolverine
Region I	27	0[a]	0[a]	14	26	7	21
Region II	11	–[a]	30	22	23	19	14
Region III	100	–[a]	5	100	18	9	9
Region IV	10	–[a]	9	100	25	8	15
Region V	100	–[a]	31	–	12	11	37
Statewide	50	–[a]	16	43	23	9	16

Note: Gaps in data are present for species which are not required to be sealed in certain areas, but Alaska Trapper Questionnaire respondents still reported harvest. Similarly, some sealed harvest was not reported on the Alaska Trapper Questionnaire. En dashes (–) indicate there was no sealed harvest, whereas 0 indicates that there was harvest reported in the survey, but none were sealed.

[a] No harvest reported in Alaska Trapper Questionnaire.

Photo by Brian Powell

Commercial Transactions Involving Furs

Average Prices Paid for Raw Furs

Prices published by Fur Harvesters Auction, Inc.[2] during July–June in each of the previous 5 regulatory years were averaged to produce the prices in Table 10.

Table 10. Average fur prices (U.S. dollars) applicable to Alaska published by Fur Harvesters Auction, Inc., regulatory years 2020–2024.

Species	RY20	RY21	RY22	RY23	RY24	Top price RY24
Arctic fox	–	51.10	59.50	58.48	56.59	122.00
Beaver	13.21	10.17	29.59	24.30	17.14	85.00
Coyote	50.4	47.70	30.78	24.08	21.30	73.00
Ermine	1.70	2.05	4.57	5.78	8.01	21.50
Fisher	–	24.87	39.48	56.93	52.12	75.00
Lynx	43.21	69.04	170.52	306.18	153.55	275.00
Marten	20.69	30.54	41.21	56.19	68.60	118.00
Mink (wild)	–	5.69	6.20	13.40	14.29	16.50
Muskrat	2.54	5.07	–	2.35	2.50	6.80
Red fox	–	7.87	13.57	10.18	16.92	111.00
Squirrel	0.32	1.72	1.17	0.67	1.19	3.95
River otter	15.85	–	28.59	32.49	28.64	78.00
Wolf	111.73	264.50	238.43	232.56	344.72	895.00
Wolverine	239.05	346.56	424.53	422.31	433.18	687.50

Note: En dashes (–) indicate that data were not available.
Source: Prices are averages from data published by Fur Harvesters Auction, Inc. (2014) during July–June in each regulatory year.

Minimum Estimated Fur Value

Table 11 summarizes the minimum total estimated value of furs trapped during the 2024–2025 season (RY24). Average prices for RY24 were obtained from Fur Harvesters Auction, Inc. (2014). The minimum total value was $1,027,354.10, with wolf, lynx, and wolverine accounting for more than 80% of that total. This table is intended to provide an estimate of fur values in Alaska and does not represent fur revenue. Average fur auction prices were used to calculate fur value. For beaver, fisher, lynx, marten, river otter, wolf, and wolverine, we used number of furs sealed. That means beaver, fisher, and marten values are certainly underestimated because the table includes only animals harvested from the areas in the state where sealing is required. For species that were not sealed, the number of furs is the harvest reported by trappers on the questionnaire.

[2] Fur Harvesters Auction, Inc. 2014. 2025 Auction Results. https://www.furharvesters.com/auctionresults.html

Table 11. Minimum value of furs harvested in Alaska by species, regulatory year 2024.

Species	Total number sealed or reported[a]	Average price (U.S. dollars)	Minimum value (U.S. dollars)[b]
Arctic fox	464	56.59	26,257.76
Beaver	901	17.14	15,443.14
Coyote	57	21.30	1,214.10
Ermine	242	8.01	1,938.42
Fisher	2	52.12	104.24
Lynx	932	153.55	143,108.60
Marten	2,866	68.60	196,607.60
Mink	124	14.29	1,771.96
Muskrat	150	2.50	375.00
Red fox	248	16.92	4,196.16
Red squirrel	226	1.19	268.94
River otter	621	28.64	17,785.44
Wolf	1,066	344.72	367,471.52
Wolverine	579	433.18	250,811.22
Total minimum value	–	–	1,027,354.10

Note: This table is intended to provide an estimate of fur values in Alaska and does not represent fur revenue nor does it accurately portray actual total values. En dashes (–) indicate not applicable.

[a] For beaver, fisher, lynx, marten, river otter, wolf, and wolverine, only the number of furs sealed was used. For species that were not sealed, the number of furs in this column represents the harvest reported by trappers on the questionnaire.

[b] Average fur auction prices were used to calculate fur value.

Fur Sealing Requirements

An authorized ADF&G representative must seal lynx, river otter, wolf, or wolverine taken anywhere in the state; marten in Units 1–7 and 14–16; fisher in Units 1–5; and beaver taken in Units 1–11, 13–15, and 17. If you ship furs of these animals to a buyer or auction house out of state, the furs must be sealed before you ship them.

If there is no authorized sealer near you, contact the nearest ADF&G office. A list of area biologists is provided in the next several pages. We can help you make arrangements to seal your furs. If you or someone you know would like to become a fur sealer, please contact one of the regional fur sealing officers listed in the next several pages.

- There are federal licenses and permits needed to ship within or outside the country. Please check with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if you intend to ship fur out of Alaska to another country, such as Canada. If you intend to ship a wolf, lynx, or river otter skin (raw or tanned) out of the country (for example, from Alaska to a fur dealer in Canada), you must get a federal wildlife export permit (also called a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, or CITES permit), a federal import or export license, and arrange for inspection of all furs by a federal agent.

Photo by Jason Hass

Regional ADF&G Fur Sealing Officers

Region I (GMUs 1–5)	Paul Converse Alaska Department of Fish and Game P.O. Box 110024 Juneau, AK 99811-0024 (907) 465-4354
Region II (GMUs 6, 7, 8, 14C, and 15)	Danner Shreve Alaska Department of Fish and Game 333 Raspberry Road Anchorage, AK 99518 (907) 267-2179
Region III (GMUs 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, and 26B, C)	Sara Longson Alaska Department of Fish and Game 1300 College Road Fairbanks, AK 99701 (907) 459-7205
Region IV (GMUs 9, 10, 11, 13, 14A, B, 16, and 7)	Keeley Wall Alaska Department of Fish and Game 1801 S Margaret Dr Suite 2 Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-6396
Region V (GMUs 18, 22, 23, and 26A)	Christopher Ta Alaska Department of Fish and Game P.O. Box 1148 Nome, AK 99762 (907) 443-2271

Area Biologists and Game Management Units

GMU 1(A), 2 Vacant (AAB: Mark Williamson) 2030 Sealevel Drive Suite 205 KETCHIKAN, AK 99901 Phone: (907) 225-2475 Fax: (907) 225-2771	GMU 1(B), 3 Frank Robbins (AAB: none) P.O. Box 667 PETERSBURG, AK 99833 Phone: (907) 772-5235 Fax: (907) 772-9336	GMU 4 Steve Bethune (AAB: none) 304 Lake Street Room 103 SITKA, AK 99835-7563 Phone: (907) 747-5449 Fax: (907) 747-6239
GMU 1(C), 1(D), 5 Carl Koch (AAB: Hannah Manninen) P.O. Box 110024 JUNEAU, AK 99811-0024 Phone: (907) 465-4266 Fax: (907) 465-4272	GMU 6 Charlotte Westing (AAB: none) P.O. Box 669 CORDOVA, AK 99574 Phone: (907) 424-3215 Fax: (907) 424-3235	GMU 7, 15 Chris Bottom (AAB: Jason Herreman) 34828 Kalifornsky Beach Rd Ste B SOLDOTNA, AK 99669-8367 Phone: (907) 262-9368 Fax: (907) 262-4709
GMU 8 Nate Svoboda (AAB: Bill Dunker) 211 Mission Road KODIAK, AK 99615 Phone: (907) 486-1880 Fax: (907) 486-1869	GMU 9, 10 Amy Vande Voort (AAB: Evelyn Lichwa) P.O. Box 37 KING SALMON, AK 99613 Phone: (907) 842-1559 Fax: (907) 246-3309	GMU 11, 13 Heidi Hatcher (AAB: Jack Cornish) P.O. Box 47 GLENNALLEN, AK 99588 Phone: (907) 822-3461 Fax: (907) 822-3811
GMU 12, 20(E) Jeff Gross (AAB: Aidan Hunter) P.O. Box 355 TOK, AK 99780-0355 Phone: (907) 883-2971 Fax: (907) 883-2970	GMU 14(A), (B), 16(A), (B) Ross Dorendorf (AAB: Gerrit Van Diest) 1801 S Margaret Dr Suite 2 PALMER, AK 99645-6736 Phone: (907) 746-6325 Fax: (907) 746-6305	GMU 14(C) Cory Stantorf (AAB: Nick Docken) 333 Raspberry Road ANCHORAGE, AK 99518-1565 Phone: (907) 267-2185 Fax: (907) 267-2433
GMU 17 Vacant (AAB: Evelyn Lichwa) P.O. Box 1030 DILLINGHAM, AK 99576 Phone: (907) 842-1599 Fax: (907) 842-5937	GMU 18 Patrick Jones (AAB: Keith Oster) P.O. Box 1467 BETHEL, AK 99559 Phone: (907) 543-2979 Fax: (907) 543-2024	GMU 19, 21(A), (E) Josh Peirce (AAB: Mike Ebinger) P.O. Box 230 MCGRATH, AK 99627 Phone: (907) 524-3323 Fax: (907) 524-3324
GMU 20(A), (B), (C), (F), 25(C) Jeff Wells (AAB: Lindsey Dreese) 1300 College Road FAIRBANKS, AK 99701 Phone: (907) 459-7233 Fax: (907) 459-7332	GMU 20(D) Ellie Mason (AAB: None) P.O. Box 605 DELTA JUNCTION, AK 99737 Phone: (907) 895-7490 Fax: (907) 895-4833	GMU 21(B), (C), (D), 24 Glenn Stout (AAB: Vacant) 1300 College Road FAIRBANKS, AK 99701 Phone: (907) 459-7218 Fax: (907) 459-7332
GMU 22 Sara Henslee (AAB: Alicia Carson) P.O. Box 1148 NOME, AK 99762 Phone: (907) 443-2271 Fax: (907) 443-5893	GMU 23 Christie Osburn (AAB: none) P.O. Box 689 KOTZEBUE, AK 99752 Phone: (907) 442-1712 Fax: (907) 442-2420	GMU 25(A), (B), (D), 26(B), (C) Mark Nelson (AAB: Jordan Pruszenski) 1300 College Road FAIRBANKS, AK 99701 Phone: (907) 459-7242 Fax: (907) 459-7332
GMU 26(A) Carmen Daggett (AAB: none) P.O. Box 1284 BARROW, AK 99723-1284 Phone: (907) 852-3464 Fax: (907) 852-3465	RI Regional Supervisor – Anthony Crupi (907) 465-4348 RI Management Coordinator – Vacant (907) 465-4267	RII Regional Supervisor – Cyndi Wardlow (907) 267-2529 RII Management Coordinator – Jeff Selinger (907) 260-2905

Trapper Comments

We are looking for ways to improve the trapper questionnaire; please feel free to provide your suggestions. We are also interested in your ideas for trapping in Alaska. Below are responses trappers provided on the 2024 questionnaire to the following question: "Do you have any other comments or suggestions for ADF&G or the Board of Game on how trapping can be improved in Alaska?" Please note that any information that may have identified someone has been removed.

NO REGION INDICATED

- In areas where there are leash ordinances. The ordinance should be enforced.
- Region
- Buying traps
- Enforce leash laws
- I recommend having the season be the same for all animals.
- It would be nice if we could have a couple Sea Otters. Also it would not hurt if otter season was a couple weeks later and remain open a couple weeks longer.
- New trapper, lots of learning.
- Thanks for your service.
- The flyer about break-away snares needs to be updated. The pictures are not adequate. I would like to make my own but I struggle finding information.

REGION I

- Assert improved trapline field site notification among trappers, enforce violations. Otherwise, all appreciated with ADF&G furbearer management and regulation.
- Beaver numbers in Unit 2 have increased in recent years.
- Being able to use snow machines and the ability to cut trail
- Do not overregulate trapping in Alaska, it is the last stronghold for trapping and we should work to keep it that way. Base regulations on population biology and sustained yield principles, not politics.
- Education for the public about how trapping IS legal.
- Good work ADFG!
- I always buy a trapper license so I can hunt fur bearers that can only be hunted with a trapping license.
- If I were doing a Wolf count in SE Alaska I'd be doing it from the water. Checking beaches for tracks and focusing efforts where the tracks are. That's how I monitor wolf on my traplines and the surrounding area, Behm Canal, Clarence Straits, Ernest Sound on up to Whale Pass. A few years ago your teams said Wolf populations were down on POW based on road surveys. That same year I counted over a dozen individuals in the Whale Pass/Barnes Lake area. The wolves were running the small islands. Just a thought.
- Increase fisher bag limit and season. It may be anecdotal but when fisher moved through the area marten sign greatly decreased and the abundance of marten has seemed to

diminish in the area with the presence of fisher… Also would it be possible to find data on fisher moving into southeast and what the effects of them are on marten. Thank you guys for all you do!

- Instead of paper reports send out digital copies via email.
- Keep Alaska wild and free from liberals.
- No
- No suggestions. Looking to get into it and the time wasn't available this year was all.
- No. Keep it like it is. Except I would like to see less logging of old growth forests. They are cutting huge areas of old growth which I believe are important to keeping all species in abundance. I'm not against logging but taking so much from pow island is not ok in my opinion.
- None.
- Perhaps consider a system for trappers to file trapline claims for certain areas/drainages similar to prospecting claims.
- Recently the river otter season was lengthened in my unit. I am very happy with this changeable would like to see the martens season lengthened as well. In unit four our coldest months are typically jan-mar. The lengthening of the otter season has been much more productive for me now that I've been able to trap this entire period. I believe lengthening the marten season later into the spring would show similar results and be more conducive for trappers; i.e. more snow and colder temps. In the past two years - since the changes to the otter season- i have caught an occasional otter at the end of march beginning to show signs of singe. As a result i have begun ending my harvests around the middle of March. So far this has been an ideal stopping date for me. In conclusion, lengthening the martens season to march 15 would be effective and helpful to trappers such as myself.
- Registered lines.
- Regulations are sufficient in my areas no changes recommended at this time.
- Thank you ADFG!
- The main reason I still get the trapping endorsement on my annual license is so I can be compliant to harvest a wolf from a boat. I could possible dabble in wolf trapping to help manage there population so our deer, elk, and moose have a chance but probably not until the munchkins leave the nest.... so at least 4 years :)
- You need to allow more time and definitively catch counts for wolves...they are increasing 5x each year.

REGION II

- Allow more access to trapping closer to Anchorage. It is difficulty set, check, and maintain a trap line with the limited hours of daylight in winter when you have to drive an hour or more to get to an area that allows trapping. Set more signs on shared use trails that allow trapping that educate the public it is a shared use trail for trapping.

- Better maps to see where people can trap. Board of game does a great job. Hard to make everyone happy but they do a good job of standing up for their constituents.
- Continue to value the opportunity and heritage of trapping in Alaska. The only reason I didn't trap last year was the mild winter and lack of snow…
- Due to lack of snow coverage and thin ice on lakes, I didn't trap.
- Earlier season for Lynx on the Kenai.
- Even though I don't trap anymore I like to purchase a trapping license to support trapping.
- First year up here, not much snow to see tracks i got nothing so not much info.
- For GMU6 checking traps with artificial light would be very helpful for those working 9-5 jobs.
- I bought the combo license with the trapper because it was not much more expensive and I have friends who trap and who I have talked about joining them given the opportunity. Plans did not work out. I am unlikely to start trapping on my own if I continue to live in a big city, Anchorage.
- I did not have time as intened to trap last year.
- I didnt set any traps this year but went out predator calling for coyotes with an electric call between the Little and Big Sue and hunted for rabbits and ptarmigan near sheep mountain.
- I feel you are all doing a great job managing our fish and wildlife, so we can all enjoy future hunting, fishing, trapping, and viewing opportunities. Thank you!
- I get my trapping license every year and anticipate going out if there are lynx near my house. The last few years there haven't been too many so I just set up game cameras and have not set a trap.
- I have bought a trapper license several times in case the opportunity presented itself but have never trapped.
- I only trapped one season years ago get my kids introduced to it by an old trapper friend of mine. I get the license for it every year to show support for it and to keep my option open. Don't think there is any money in it anymore but can see the benefit for natives art and craft as well as clothing.
- I purchase a trapping license because of the possibility of harvesting furbearers incidentally while hunting, but cannot actually claim to be a trapper. I hope this helps!
- I purchase a trapping license to harvest fur bearing animals in AK that require a trappers permit to harvest (wolverine) if given the opportunity while hunting game animals.
- I remove all my Marten boxes each so not to advertise there is trapline. There is risk that a new trapper could trap not knowing anyone is trapping the same area, but it has worked so far. there is a five mile stretch I need to maintain every year to use the trail making it available to all winter enthusiast to use. this is common amongst most trappers without their efforts it would be unusable.

- If Lynx is open in Units 15/7 it would be nice to be able to trap lynx during the regular November Trapping Opener, by opening Lynx in January it prevents me from targeting coyotes and wolf with snares in fear of catching lynx out of season.
- In order for the trapping tradition to continue, the old school mentality of owning or having rights to an area must end. Trapping is not a sustainable or primary income source for 99% of trappers. Young people that are interested in trapping cannot find a place to trap without fear of stepping on the toes of the "veterans". It's no longer a job, it's a hobby that all have an equal right to on public lands. That part of the ATA code of ethics is ironically killing the future.
- Increase public awareness of trapping season to inform dog owners. Pressure federal land agencies to do the same - zero public/social media was posted by feds in my area. Uphold trapper rights.
- Low snow couldn't get to my trapping location on snowmachine this year.
- Low snow made it hard to get out!
- Marking trap lines to help reduce pet issues. Stricter enforcement on people messing with traps.
- N/A. I buy the trappers license to increase my small game & fur bearers opportunities when I'm afield.
- Never have trapped but was planning to learn last season just never made it out.
- New to trapping have not made it out yet.
- No
- No
- No suggestions.
- No. I had a trapping license for the SDA program, although I will probably do some limited trapping in the future.
- None at this time.
- None at this time.
- None so far.
- Nope
- Not at this time.
- Only got a trappers license in case we were in moose camp when the season opened for the taking of beavers with a firearm as long as you held a trapping license. The season opened after we left moose camp. Would be nice if the season started September 1st when moose season starts in unit 13.
- Please keep lynx open a few more years. I just started trapping and saw lots of sign/tracks ect in 15c. I plan to run a longer line next year and target additional species. Rabbits are still abundant in the area so I'm guessing they are peaking or peaked and haven't started to decline yet.

- Rifle only, Traping is sad and cruel.
- Some sort of trapper education class should be required before trapping anything bigger than a muskrat. If trappers don't get more responsible and ethical the general population is going eventually vote away our ability to trap.
- Thank you for all you do!
- Thank you for the work you do, both working towards sustainable catch but also keeping regulations managable and not over bearing. Appreciated.
- The ptarmigan had lice. I think traplines on Kodiak should have a 24 or 48 hr time limit between checks on public/state land we had multiple sets get birds in them. Most people trapping kodiak are not running miles and miles of trap lines so they could ceck them more frequently.
- There are certain animals you can harvest with a gun you cannot harvest with a general hunting license and also allows for sale like lynx and wolves.
- Time does not allow it at the moment.
- Trapping questionnaire should be for trappers that actually seal fur. Taking comments from folks that just by a liscence and don’t get out and put in the work is detrimental to those do.
- Why is lynx open in unit 7 and 15. The numbers simply are not there and hare numbers are dropping. I realize that no snow caused less trapping effort. Trappers who paid attention all noted less hates in their area and less lynx. Would be nice to see more research done about the hare cycle on the kenai as I wonder if it’s really a 20 year cycle with a small bump at 10 years.
- Ya tell all the old trappers to actually help out new trappers if they want to keep the sport alive never meet such rude guys just trying to get started also stop charging money for a trapping license to snare squirrel when you don’t make it it mandatory for rabbits and they both have no closed season but yet I have to buy a trapping license just to snare a squirrel.

REGION III

- Recommend "smarter" survey design. If I indicate I did not catch a species, I should not be asked if I identified ectoparasites on that species. -We need a bear trapping season. It is safely done in Canada and Maine. Population density of Maine is 43.1 people per square mile; population density of Alaska is 1.3 people per square mile. -Interesting year for ptarmigan. Much more abundant in lowlands/close to Fairbanks. -Most trappers reported a boon year for marten. My catch was about 50% higher in the same area last year compared to this year for marten.
- All good.
- Allow people to shoot wolves from airplanes again without making people jump through hoops to get a permit!

- Allow shooting of wolves same day flying in airplane just like if they were encountered on a snow machine.
- Allow the use of drones to help locate animals trapped with the use of drags.
- Approximate for years trapped - not sure exactly.
- Better access, there are very few public use trails that allow access to wilderness areas so trappers crowd each other over the few trails/ roads etc. which creates conflict and causes some areas to be over trapped. Native land also blocks access to state/ federal land blocking off access to some areas. Federal land regulations make it difficult to establish trails through federal land as well as establish trapping cabins.
- Bleep trapping a tradition. Keep promoting it, keep encouraging ethical trapping.
- Gather more data from trappers- catch per effort. Gather and provide data at the GMU level. The large area or region wide data in the reports doesn't really provide information on the local level.
- I marked and cleared an old trail and had a few snowmochine ignore and blow by and run over all my traps. Had a cross country skier go down our entire trapline during the work week as well. Placed hunter Harassment sign up came back out and turned around. Fish and game also plows with a snow cat all along the flood control tree line by the river, I think that pushed a lot of game away from our traps as well. The day I pulled our traps out, that next week went back out to just see if anyone else went down the trail. And a tracked side by side had blown a highway down where we trapped all winter and chopped down a ton of trees. I don’t know if I’ll be able to trap there at all next year now. Never had this problem last year. It all started this year. Thanks you.
- I trapped this small line with my children. Please keep trapping part if Alaska! It’s better than any video game!
- Make lynx and wolverine season match each other.
- Make new residents take a trapping class teach them how to properly skin and preserve the pelts.
- Mandatory trapping class for trappers born after 20010 trapping on/just off road system. New trappers/no-residents need to pay $500/year or for a reduced amount apprentice under a established trapper for 3 years. this might reduce the conflict of newly arrived trappers not learning ethics and trapping on established traplines.
- Never allow trap tags. I have a grad student or someone study follicular dysplasia. It is a real issue in some areas.
- No comment. But I know how to find you when I have one.
- No comments. I only predator call using both mouth calls and electronic callers. I saw very little sign this season, so I put little effort into going out. I saw a few coyotes, but due to warmer temps and open rivers, was not able to get them.
- No!
- No, not really, Things seem to be OK. Just make sure Trapper Harassment laws are not repealed.

- No. I appreciate their hard work.
- Nope!
- Not at this moment.
- Nothing really, this past winter was bum for trapping due to the long warm spells, then freezing and no snow for long periods of time for traveling to trap lines.
- Open unit 20 wolf trapping to October like other units have.
- Shorten the beaver season in the fall when hides are not prime. September is too early to be trapping beaver.
- We had 1 Marten that have fleas.
- While I am not a trapper, my high school students are. I went with a few of my students on their trap lines for a school projects. As a result, I buy a trap license in the event I want to set my own traps. I do not currently own traps.
- Your cooperation with and support of Alaska Trapper's Association is working very well. Thank you all for your support and cooperation, it is greatly appreciated!

REGION IV

- Add two weeks to wolverine season.
- ADFG does a good job supporting trappers, especially since it has become a rather misunderstood management tool. I would like to see more pro trapper outreach with younger kids. It is becoming a dying skill and sport.
- Alaska has a very unwelcoming trapping community. This is not due to any adfg regulation, but has everything to do with the trapping community culture and ATA. I am a supporter of the ATA, i just dont agree with some of their stances on trapping. As a newcomer to trapping in alaska, the general sentiment is you cant trap anywhere, someone is already trapping that area. I disagree with this most of the time, usually there is plenty of room for recreational trappers to set a few sets without stepping on any toes, but most trappers are aggressively defensive of huge areas they claim to be trapping.
- Align Marten and Wolverine season to end with the end of Lynx in unit 16A.
- Awesome job keep up the good work.
- Better access to resources for beginner trappers. I'm looking to get into trapping with my kids, but this year was a bad year for me to make that happen. However, I was actively looking for opportunities to learn more about trapping and didn't find many resources.
- BOG should be prudent to make sure hunting and trapping regulations are consistent across season dates at the very minimum. It is also requested that season dates across multiple species remain in-line with one another. For instance, recent regulation changes have reduced wolverine season dates to last day in February, but lynx remains open until Mar 31, and wolf through April. Now all wolverines caught in lynx/wolf sets are out of season take. Furthermore, the wolverine hunting season ends Mar 31, but hunters cannot pursue via snowmachine under hunting regulations and have a bag limit of 1. Keep the

regulations simple or you inadvertently penalize otherwise ethical law-abiding sportsmen and women.

- Can you provide a better freeze up on the rivers and a little more snow cover?
- Did not trap in 2024. Thank you!
- Do not start Lynx Season until December 15th in GMU 13C.
- Havnt had time to trap.
- Hold a trappers license to afford take of game under trapping regulations. I may trap in the future. Conditions were poor this season.
- I always buy a trapping license each year. I've put a few traps out before, but it's not something I've ever really dedicated much time to. I have caught a rabbit in a snare and a fox before, and that's it. I really have the trapping license for hunting; it permits the taking of game, thats not in general hunting regulations with a firearm. That's why I always get it. I like to have the ability to put out a trap if I want to each year. It's just that life doesn't always give you the time for such a chore.
- I barely trapped this year so I don't have much data. Did not harvest anything through actual trapping this year. effort was minimal.
- I believe maintaining the freedom and accessibility of trapping is important to our state and way of life.
- I bought a trapping license just to support ADF&G and as support to trappers in general. I still have a few years to go until I can retire from my career and I plan on running a small trap line once I am retired and have the time to do it properly.
- I don't think beavers should require a seal. They are too abundant and not enough trapping pressure in 9b to require.
- I don't.
- I like to have the license incase I want to do it.
- It feels like there are more trappers out there. I have had several put traps in areas I have been for awhile.
- It just gets harder and harder to get to a place where there are not humans running all over your traplines.
- It would be really helpful to either extend the marten/wolverine season in unit 16 (and probably other units. Even if the season could just be slid back but remain the same amount of time it would be great. Very tough trapping with airplane in the current time line to make progress in available daylight. By the time you have enough light to be able to check all the traps easily in one day the season is coming to an end.
- Keeping public awareness is appreciated. We didn't have wolves close to our home in Palmer for over 20 years. A couple years ago a couple wolves killed a moose calf in our backyard. That event has sparked the need to keep the predators further away. The wildlife management has been exemplary in my opinion.

- Make sure the road trappers are checking their sets often enough so that they don't waste the resource and insure they pull their sets at the end of the season.
- Make the marten and wolverine seasons close on the same day to avoid incidental catches and reduce catching breeding female marten. I have witnessed marten breeding activity in unit 13 during the last two weeks of February. Stop the arial wolf hunting in unit 13. The trappers in the lake Louise area have never seen such low wolf numbers and that's unacceptable for healthy wildlife populations. The bears in the area need to be thinned down and a good way to do that would be to allow licensed trappers to trap the bears under a predator management laws.
- Marten season should be lengthened in unit 16.
- No
- No
- No Weather conditions kept me from trapping Martin this year. Thank you.
- No comments as of yet!
- NO I have no other comments.
- None
- Not at this time.
- Not at this time.
- Nothing at the moment. Plan on getting out next year.
- Order more snow for Wasilla for guys on straight skiis. ??. Unfortunately couldn't trap much because our airstrip had little to no snow January on.
- Please consider opening wolverine season November 10th and running through January 31.
- Please help promote education that teaches about utilizing wildlife more. Many residents seem to only care about wildlife species that are utilized for meat and others are seen as pests or competition that must be eliminated and not be managed in an overall perspective. Please continue to promote wildlife management based on sound science.
- Thank you.
- There has been a steady increase in anti trapping movements in alaska. Please keep legal trapping alive in alaska and work to protect and preserve trapping rights.
- To not close march wolverine season in unit 17c.
- Trapper competition has increased with random sets put up in the middle of my lines with sporadic checks. Very frustrating.
- We do notice in previous years. We are starting to see more and more lynx in the perryville alaska area. Which is 9E. And the snowshoe hair rabbits are definitely decining all were getting now in that area is small bunnies.

REGION V

- ADF&G is doing a great job thank you for all you do for our State.
- I don’t know enough to make any suggestions.
- I would like to see a push towards the canadian model of own or registering trap lines and being allowed to build cabins on them. THere are times when it becomes unsafe or I have gotten stuck late at night. I do not want the canadian system of quotas though.
- I'm a recreational trapper. Trapping suffers from negative perceptions among the general public, especially where there is overlap with other forms of outdoor activities, namely where dogs may be off leash. This has been highlighted by several proposals to the Alaska Board of Game asking for trap identification, etc. In public meetings some trappers have not helped the situation by making inflammatory comments about dogs caught in traps. I fear the broader public perception is in the favor of pet owners and other recreators. The ADF&G can help by continuing and increasing educational events on trapping and highlighting important partnerships with NGO's who promote trapping. Highlight the vast amount of outdoor knowledge it takes to run a successful trapline and the care and attention it takes to create a quality fur, as well as the quality products that have been traditionally made, and continue to be made and worn by many Alaskans. Kind of a "Field-to-Table" type focus but rather a "Trap-to-Hat" event that shows the entire process and highlights the self-sufficiency.
- Increase outreach for kids
- No. The regulations up here are pretty fair.
- None
- None
- Only if ADF&G could control the weather.
- Thank you!
- Trapping online classes of showing how to set and make traps and snares. Talk about the different species etc.

Author's Note

Thank you to ADF&G Information Services and our Division of Wildlife Conservation lead webmaster for their efforts and assistance in perfecting the online version of the questionnaire, compiling data, and running some of the analyses for this 2024 report.

Photo by Arin Underwood

I would also like to extend my thanks to everyone who responded to the questionnaire. I hope we can continue to improve the questionnaire in a way that will lead to an increased response rate and more valuable information for those using this report. For many of the species involved in this report, you are our primary source of knowledge. Your responses are used to determine what is happening with the furbearers to better manage those populations for future generations to enjoy. Please continue to respond to the questionnaire in the future and encourage others to do the same. If you know of anyone who wants to receive future questionnaires, please have them contact me by phone or email (see below).

Lastly, I want to extend a special thanks to the trappers who provided pictures. It's important to document your efforts, especially to help pass along proper techniques to the next generation of trappers in Alaska. I greatly appreciate your willingness to share those experiences with me and with other trappers.

Thank you and good luck this season!

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