

Furbearer Management Report and Plan, Game Management Unit 5:

Report Period 1 July 2017–30 June 2022, and
Plan Period 1 July 2022–30 June 2027

Roy Churchwell



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Species management reports and plans provide information about species that are hunted or trapped and management actions, goals, recommendations for those species, and plans for data collection. Detailed information is prepared for each species every 5 years by the area management biologist for game management units in their areas, who also develops a plan for data collection and species management for the next 5 years. This type of report is not produced for species that are not managed for hunting or trapping or for areas where there is no current or anticipated activity. Unit reports are reviewed and approved for publication by regional management coordinators and are available to the public via the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's public website.

This species management report and plan was reviewed and approved for publication by Tom Schumacher, Regional Supervisor for Region I for the Division of Wildlife Conservation.

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Purpose of this Report

This report provides a record of survey and inventory management activities for furbearers in Game Management Unit 5 for the 5 regulatory years 2017–2021 and plans for survey and inventory management activities in the next 5 regulatory years, 2022–2026. A regulatory year (RY) begins 1 July and ends 30 June (e.g., RY15 = 1 July 2015–30 June 2016). This report is produced primarily to provide agency staff with data and analysis to help guide and record agency efforts but is also provided to the public to inform it of wildlife management activities. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game’s (ADF&G, the department) Division of Wildlife Conservation (DWC, the division) publishes these reports on a 5-year cycle to document trends and describe potential changes in data collection activities for furbearers.

I. RY17–RY21 Management Report

Management Area

The Unit 5 management area is 5,800 mi², including the mainland Gulf of Alaska coast from Cape Fairweather to Icy Bay and inland to the Canadian border (Fig. 1). The unit is divided into Unit 5A, which covers Cape Fairweather to Yakutat Bay, and Unit 5B, which covers Yakutat Bay to Icy Bay and is mostly accessible by aircraft or boat. Yakutat is the only municipality in Unit 5 (population 579; U.S. Census Bureau 2020), and its major economic drivers are fishing, logging, and jobs within the tribal, municipal, state, and federal governments. Nearly all of Unit 5A is within the Tongass National Forest, Glacier Bay National Park (est. 1925), or the Glacier Bay National Preserve. Nearly all of Unit 5B is within the Wrangell–St. Elias National Park and Preserve, which was designated as a provision of the ANILCA legislation in 1980.

Much of the Unit 5 mainland is comprised of glaciers, but between the icefields and the coast are rocky cliffs, upland alpine areas, and steep coniferous forest slopes that drop down to the Yakutat Forelands. Unit 5 has a subarctic climate with temperate rainforests. The average daily high temperature in January is 36°F and in August is 57°F (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 2018). Yakutat is considered one of the wettest towns in the state, recording average annual precipitation of 130", including 150" of snow that falls from November through April.

Summary of Status, Trend, Management Activities, and History of Furbearers in Unit 5

Small mammals including furbearers may have weathered the Wisconsin glaciation in refugia along the Gulf of Alaska because glaciation in the lowlands of the Katalla, Yakutat, and Dry Bay areas was only slightly more extensive than what is found there presently (Klein 1965). Those species which did not survive the ice age likely recolonized the area through access from interior Canada down major river valleys like the Alsek River. This recolonization is still occurring; for example, fisher (*Martes pennanti*) have recently recolonized areas around Juneau by way of the Taku River valley (Churchwell 2019).

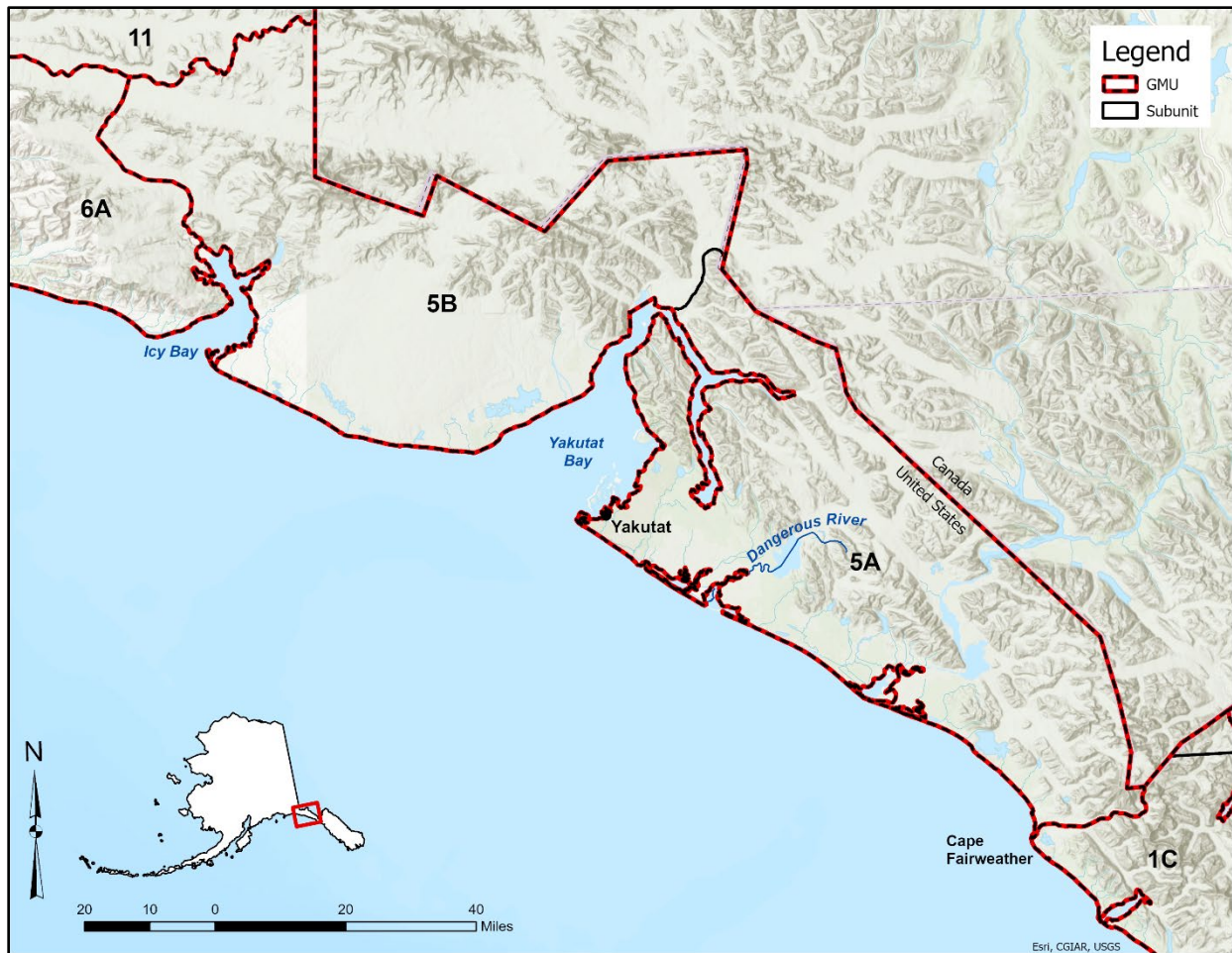


Figure 1. Map of Unit 5 during regulatory years 2017–2021, Southeast Alaska.

The majority of Unit 5 furbearer harvest is made up of marten (*Martes americana*), river otter (*Lontra canadensis*), and beaver (*Castor canadensis*). These species, along with wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) and lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), have a sealing requirement, which provides the department with information on annual harvest. Other species which are harvested but do not require sealing include mink (*Mustela vison*), weasel or ermine (*Mustela erminea*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), and red squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*). Mink, weasels, and coyotes are trapped regularly, foxes are rare, and red squirrels are typically trapped only incidentally while trappers are trying to capture other species like marten. Historically, muskrats were present in Unit 5 and documented in Yakutat Bay (MacDonald and Cook 2009), with the last recorded harvest in 1972 (Quimbey 1976). However, to department understanding, the species is no longer present in the unit, for unknown reason. Currently, the closest population is in the Cordova area (Westing 2018). Wolves (*Canis lupus*) are classified as both big game and furbearers, and may be harvested under hunting or trapping regulations. Wolves are discussed in a separate management report.

Trapping in Unit 5 is concentrated around Yakutat and the road system, including the Forest Highway 10 from Yakutat to the Dangerous River, and adjoining logging roads. Trapping pressure has been light with fewer than 10 trappers using the area and some years recording little to no trapping activity at all, especially those years with heavy snow and rain. Such low furbearer

harvest could result from factors unrelated to furbearer abundance including diminished interest in trapping, low fur prices, high fuel prices, unfavorable trapping conditions.

Foxes were farmed on at least 3 islands near Yakutat in the 1920s and 1930s, but they were blue phase (coat color) animals (Dinneford 1986). Dinneford suggests in *Furbearers: Survey-Inventory Progress Report Game Management Unit 5* that these animals were no longer observed at the time the report was written. He suggests that foxes were common in the 1950s and 1960s but infrequently observed after the early 1970s. This may have been in part due to coyotes expanding their range in the 1920s or 1930s (Quimbey 1976), and while foxes were abundant prior to coyote expansion, their populations declined afterwards. After the early 1970s, foxes were mostly found in the Dry Bay area and coyotes were more abundant throughout the Yakutat Forelands.

Prior to 1982, beaver were only found east of the Dangerous River (Hundertmark and Ball 1983). In the 1980s, the species began expanding west of the Dangerous River portion of Unit 5A (Dinneford 1986) and continued further westward (Dinneford 1990) toward the community of Yakutat. By the 2000s, they were plugging culverts and damaging roads, and as a result several were taken under nuisance permits around the Yakutat airport (Barten 2004).

Marten are the most heavily harvested furbearer in Southeast Alaska; however, annual harvest can fluctuate considerably in the Yakutat area (Table 1) depending on trapper participation. Access to marten habitat has increased as logging operations have opened access to more areas via Forest Highway 10, and logging activity around Yakutat in the 1980s led department biologists to concern that marten populations could be impacted (Hundertmark and Ball 1983). Harvest has not exceeded 200 martens annually since 1997, with the next highest harvest at 173 in 2005. Since there is no effort data associated with our harvest information, it is impossible to know whether this decrease in harvest is due to a decline in the marten population or due to differences in harvest effort. It is notable that within the last 10 years, trappers rarely harvested over 100 martens in this unit.

Other species sealed over the last few decades have exhibited low harvest throughout 1979–2016 (Table 1). Other than harvest statistics, no other studies were conducted on these species in Unit 5. The department has no population indices or estimates for these species or any other furbearers. Otter, lynx, and wolverine harvest is usually fewer than 10 individuals annually except for a few years during that period when harvest approached 20 animals. Otters are more plentiful than harvest indicates for this unit (Dinneford 1990).

Timing of lynx captures in Unit 5 typically appears to be between peaks in the 10-year hare and lynx cycle in adjacent Canada populations, indicating that the unit may support a resident population (Table 1). However, spikes in Unit 5 lynx harvest coincide with crashes in Interior Alaska snowshoe hare populations, suggesting that harvest in those years includes resident lynx and other animals dispersing after a decline in food resources in Canada (Robus 1995).

Wolverines are observed and reported throughout the unit in low numbers and the annual harvest supports this (Dinneford 1990; Table 1).

Table 1. Harvest of beaver, marten, otter, lynx, and wolverine from Unit 5, regulatory years 1979–2016, Southeast Alaska.

Regulatory year	Beaver	Marten	Otter	Lynx	Wolverine
1979	0	13	2	0	3
1980	0	200	4	1	2
1981	0	200	4	0	3
1982	3	30	1	5	1
1983 ^a	4	75	4	3	2
1984	1	63	1	0	2
1985	6	0	2	2	0
1986	8	38	2	0	2
1987	7	111	1	0	1
1988	3	17	0	10	0
1989	4	22	0	6	0
1990	3	83	1	0	3
1991	8	47	1	0	0
1992	1	20	6	0	2
1993	9	76	7	14	0
1994	0	289	4	5	8
1995	4	116	2	2	4
1996	1	103	0	2	12
1997	11	229	10	0	4
1998	3	134	4	0	3
1999	8	0	0	0	1
2000	7	48	5	0	0
2001	0	7	2	1	4
2002	17	21	3	3	4
2003	7	82	0	0	0
2004	9	118	5	3	2
2005	8	173	9	1	1
2006	0	156	1	1	1
2007	0	28	0	0	0
2008	4	86	2	6	2
2009	7	95	1	5	5
2010	3	54	7	1	0
2011	3	152	1	3	5
2012	8	73	7	0	2
2013	5	89	18	0	3
2014	9	98	11	1	0
2015	16	117	4	0	2
2016	0	69	0	0	0
Average	4.9	87.7	3.0	2.0	2.2

^a Values prior to 1983 may be estimates.

Management Direction

EXISTING WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PLANS

Current management is based on “Greater Alaska furbearer management plan” in *Alaska wildlife management plans: A public proposal for the management of Alaska’s wildlife: Southeastern Alaska* (ADF&G 1976).

GOALS

1. To provide for an optimum harvest of furbearers.
2. To provide the greatest opportunity to participate in hunting and trapping furbearers.

CODIFIED OBJECTIVES

Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Uses

The Alaska Board of Game has made a positive subsistence finding for furbearers in all units, including Unit 5, with a harvestable surplus to be 90% of the harvestable portion (5 AAC 99.025(13)).

Intensive Management

Not applicable.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

1. Regulate seasons and bag limits to maintain viewable and harvestable populations of furbearers.
2. Seal harvested beaver, marten, otter, lynx, and wolverine pelts.
3. Contact reliable observers for general information about the status and trends of furbearer populations, including the use of the Alaska Trapper Questionnaire and the *Alaska Trapper Report* series.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

1. Population Status and Trend

ACTIVITY 1.1. Actively search for furbearers during surveys of other species (e.g., moose). Record observations and anecdotal reports from the public.

Data Needs

Incidental observations are insufficient for estimating population or detecting changes which would trigger management action; however, they do provide some information about the distribution of species in survey areas. Statistical estimates of furbearers derived from a sample-

based estimator, including a measure of the precision, would be necessary to detect change in the population.

Methods

GPS coordinates and animal characteristics are recorded for any furbearers observed during field work with other species. Anecdotal reports are recorded to the maximum level of detail available.

Results and Discussion

None.

Recommendations for Activity 1.1

Continue to seek information from biologists, trappers, and others who observe furbearers, as this has allowed department management to learn important information such as furbearer distributions in the unit.

2. Mortality-Harvest Monitoring and Regulations

ACTIVITY 2.1. Monitor harvest through sealing records.

Data Needs

Harvest must be assessed to understand the potential impact of furbearer harvest on populations.

Methods

The department collects harvest data by sealing hides of beaver, marten, otter, lynx, and wolverine taken by trappers. Sealing must occur by a department- or state-appointed sealer within 30 days of the close of the season. We record the location and date of harvest, method of take, transportation mode, sex, and in the case of otters and beavers, hide measurements. These data are entered into WinfoNet (ADF&G's Wildlife Information Network) and summarized by regulatory year.

Season and Bag Limit

Below are the season and bag limits for Unit 5 furbearers during RY17–RY21.

Species	Season	Bag limit
Beaver	10 Nov–30 Apr	No limit
Coyote ^a	1 Nov–30 Apr	No limit
Red Fox	10 Nov–15 Feb	No limit
Lynx	1 Dec–15 Feb	No limit
Marten	10 Nov–15 Feb	No limit
Mink	10 Nov–15 Feb	No limit
Weasel	10 Nov–15 Feb	No limit
River otter	10 Nov–15 Feb	No limit
Squirrel	No closed season	No limit
Wolverine ^b	10 Nov–28 Feb	No limit

^a Season extended in RY13.

^b Season initiated in RY15.

Results and Discussion

The department's annual *Alaska Trapper Report* (Spivey 2019, 2020; Bogle 2021a, 2021b, 2022) summarized crude measures of abundance and trend based on trapper observations between 2017 and 2021 across Region I. Minks were abundant for most years but became common and then scarce during the last years of RY17–RY21. Commonly observed species included marten, red squirrel, river otter, and wolf during most years, but red squirrel and river otter were abundant one year, and wolves were scarce the last year. Species scarce during most years included beaver, coyote, ermine, fisher, lynx, red fox, and wolverine. Some furbearer prey, including grouse, hare, and ptarmigan, were scarce, but mice and voles were common or abundant.

Unit 5 participation in the Alaska Trapper Questionnaire is typically low, with 0 to 3 respondents per year. The *Alaska Trapper Report* also reports some catch of nonsealed species for 2017, 2019, and 2020 including 0 coyotes, 0–4 weasels, 1–2 minks, 0 red foxes, and 0 squirrels annually (Bogle 2021a, Bogle 2021b, Spivey 2019). Fur prices for commonly trapped species during this report period are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Average fur prices for beaver, marten, otter, and wolverine during regulatory years 2017–2021.

Year	Prices (U.S. dollar)			
	Beaver	Marten	Otter	Wolverine
2017	10.83	69.47	28.68	255.75
2018	12.91	44.09	22.15	291.95
2019	13.52	–	–	195.66
2020	13.21	20.69	15.85	239.05
2021	10.17	30.54	–	346.56

Note: En dashes indicate no data. Prices sourced from the North American Fur Auction and the Fur Harvesters Auction, Inc. (Bogle 2022).

Harvest by Hunters-Trappers

AMERICAN MARTEN

The number of martens harvested during RY17–RY21 ranged from 2 to 151 (Table 3). There were no martens harvested from Unit 5B even though this unit represented 8% of marten harvest during RY12–RY16. During RY17–RY21, annual harvest was greater than the 1979–2016 average of 87.7 marten, and this report period's 5-year average was 71 marten. This report period's high was 2018 with 6 successful trappers, as compared to 2021 with only 1. Male marten represented 71% of the harvest, and all the animals were trapped except for 1 snared.

OTTER

The number of otters harvested per year ranged from 0 to 13 (Table 4) with a 5-year average of 3 otters during RY17–RY21. The 1979–2016 average was 3.5 otters per year. There was no harvest in 2019, 2020, or 2021. In 2017, 2 otters were incidentally captured in a beaver set after otter trapping season had closed and they were surrendered to the department. The percentage of males was 56–100% and the percentage of juveniles was 62–100%. Most otters were trapped,

Table 3. Harvest and method of take for marten sealed in Unit 5, regulatory years 2017–2021, Southeast Alaska.

Regulatory year	Total harvest	Successful participants	% Males	Method of take (%)			
				Shot	Trapped	Snared	Unknown
2017	47	3	66	0	100	0	0
2018	151	6	59	0	93	7	0
2019	101	4	59	0	100	0	0
2020	54	3	72	0	100	0	0
2021	2	1	100	0	100	0	0

Table 4. Harvest and method of take for river otter sealed in Unit 5, regulatory years 2017–2021, Southeast Alaska.

Regulatory year	Total harvest	Successful participants	% Males	% Juvenile ^a	Method of take (%)			
					Shot	Trapped	Snared	Unknown
2017	13	2	56	62	0	92	0	8
2018	1	1	100	100	0	100	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

^a Juvenile otter measure <42" in length.

although some methods of take were not recorded. Similar to other species, all harvest was from Unit 5A.

BEAVER

The number of beavers harvested ranged from 0 to 25 (Table 5) with a 5-year average of 7 beavers during RY17–RY21. The 1979–2016 average was 4.9. There was no harvest in 2021, except 4 beavers which were taken under a nuisance permit at the airport (not recorded as harvest in the table below). No beavers were taken from Unit 5B. The percentage of juveniles ranged from 17% to 52%, and most were trapped, except 1 which was snared.

Table 5. Harvest and method of take for beaver sealed in Unit 5, regulatory year 2017–2021, Southeast Alaska.

Regulatory year	Total harvest	Successful participants	% Juvenile ^a	Method of take (%)			
				Shot	Trapped	Snared	Unknown
2017	25	1	52	0	100	0	0
2018	3	1	33	0	67	33	0
2019	6	3	17	0	100	0	0
2020	1	1	0	0	100	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

^a Juvenile beavers measure ≤52" in length and width.

WOLVERINE

The number of wolverines harvested in Unit 5 ranged from 0 to 5 (Table 6) with a 5-year average of 1 wolverine during RY17–RY21. The 1979–2016 average was 2.2. The species were only harvested during the 2020 season and there was no harvest from Unit 5B. The male percentage in the harvest was 80% and all wolverine harvest was completed via traps.

Harvest rates for wolverine vary considerably depending on effort, winter weather conditions, and fur prices. It is unclear why harvest was higher in RY20; it is difficult to make assumptions about trapping effort due to the low response rate to the Alaska Trapper Questionnaire for this unit.

Table 6. Harvest and method of take for wolverine sealed in Unit 5, regulatory years 2017–2021, Southeast Alaska.

Regulatory year	Total harvest	Successful participants	% Male	Method of take (%)			
				Shot	Trapped	Snared	Unknown
2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	5	3	80	0	100	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

LYNX

There were 2 male lynxes trapped in 2018, and 1 female trapped in 2020 in Unit 5A (Table 7). This produced an annual 5-year average of less than 1 lynx, which is less than the 1979–2016 average of 2.

Table 7. Harvest and method of take for lynx sealed in Unit 5, regulatory year 2017–2021, Southeast Alaska.

Regulatory year	Total harvest	Successful participants	% Male	Method of take (%)			
				Shot	Trapped	Snared	Unknown
2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018	2	2	100	0	50	50	0
2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	1	1	0	0	100	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Harvest Chronology

Furbearer harvest occurs from November through February with the exception of beavers, which are also harvested in March and April (Table 8). During November–February, the bulk of the harvest can vary among years for all species, typically occurring within favorable weather.

Table 8. Unit 5 marten, river otter, beaver, wolverine and lynx percent harvest chronology, regulatory years 2017–2021, Southeast Alaska.

Species	Regulatory										<i>n</i>
	year	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	
Marten	2017	0	0	11	40	49	0	0	0	0	47
	2018	0	0	7	48	37	8	0	0	0	151
	2019	0	0	29	52	14	5	0	0	0	101
	2020	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	54
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
River otter	2017	0	0	15	32	38	0	0	15	0	13
	2018	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	1
	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beaver	2017	0	0	12	12	0	0	0	76	0	25
	2018	0	0	67	33	0	0	0	0	0	3
	2019	0	0	33	67	0	0	0	0	0	6
	2020	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	1
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wolverine	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	40	60	0	0	0	0	5
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lynx	2017	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	2
	2018	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	1
	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Transport Methods

The primary transportation method used to harvest furbearers in Unit 5 is highway vehicle (Table 9). In descending order, 4-wheelers, boats, foot or snowshoes, and snowmachines are also used.

Other Mortality

As discussed above, 2 otters were captured in 2017 as incidental take during beaver trapping and 4 beavers were trapped under a nuisance permit in 2020 by the Yakutat airport.

Alaska Board of Game Actions and Emergency Orders

The January 2019 Board of Game meeting completed 1 action, extending the beaver season from 10 November–30 April to 10 November–15 May.

Table 9. Unit 5 marten, river otter, beaver, wolverine, and lynx harvest by percent transport method, regulatory years 2017–2021, Southeast Alaska.

Species	Regulatory year	Percent of harvest						Unk	n
		Airplane	Foot	Boat	3- or 4-wheeler	Snow-machine	Highway vehicle		
Marten	2017	0	68	0	0	0	32	0	47
	2018	0	25	0	0	0	75	0	151
	2019	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	101
	2020	0	0	19	62	19	0	0	54
	2021	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	2
River otter	2017	0	14	0	0	0	78	8	13
	2018	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	1
	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beaver	2017	0	0	48	0	0	52	0	25
	2018	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	3
	2019	0	33	0	0	0	67	0	6
	2020	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	1
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wolverine	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	5
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lynx	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	2
	2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	1
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Recommendations for Activity 2.1

The department recommends continuing harvest monitoring for furbearers.

3. Habitat Assessment-Enhancement

No activities for furbearer habitat assessment or enhancement were included in Unit 5 management for RY17–RY21.

NONREGULATORY MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS OR NEEDS

There were no nonregulatory management problems for furbearer management in Unit 5 during RY17–RY21.

Data Recording and Archiving

Sealing data are archived on WinfoNet, including scans of the original data sheets dating back to 1994 for most species. Hard copies from earlier dates are on file in the Douglas office.

Agreements

None.

Permitting

None.

Conclusions and Management Recommendations

It is impractical to set harvest and population objectives for furbearers without data on abundance. Quantifiable management objectives could be established for beavers, river otters, and marten. Harvest information is available for all these species from sealing records, and application of existing and emerging methods may provide opportunities to monitor population trends. However, given the diminished interest in fur trapping, this is a low priority for the department.

The general approach for furbearer management is to expect population levels to self-regulate trapper effort and harvest. This approach has been successful and, though populations are cyclical at times, harvests of furbearers appear to be within sustainable limits. No changes in seasons or bag limits are recommended.

II. Project Review and RY22–RY26 Plan

Review of Management Direction

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

The existing management direction and goals appropriately direct management of furbearers in Unit 5 (ADF&G 1976).

GOALS

Management goals should remain as:

1. To provide for an optimum harvest of furbearers.
2. To provide the greatest opportunity to participate in hunting and trapping furbearers.

CODIFIED OBJECTIVES

Amounts Reasonably Necessary for Subsistence Uses

No change from RY17–RY21.

Intensive Management

Not applicable.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Management objectives will remain as:

1. Regulate seasons and bag limits to maintain viewable and harvestable populations of furbearers.
2. Seal harvested beaver, marten, otter, lynx, and wolverine pelts.
3. Contact reliable observers for general information about the status and trends of furbearer populations, including the use of the Alaska Trapper Questionnaire and *Alaska Trapper Report* series.

REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

1. Population Status and Trend

ACTIVITY 1.1 Biologists will record observations of furbearers seen incidentally during other survey work and anecdotal reports from the public.

Data Needs

No change from RY17–RY21.

Methods

No change from RY17–RY21.

2. Mortality-Harvest Monitoring

ACTIVITY 2.1 Monitor harvest through sealing records.

Data Needs

No change from RY17–RY21.

Methods

No change from RY17–RY21.

3. Habitat Assessment-Enhancement

There are no habitat assessment or enhancement activities planned for Unit 5 furbearers for RY22–RY26.

NONREGULATORY MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS OR NEEDS

Data Recording and Archiving

Species wildlife management reports and plans and the management operational plan for Unit 5 furbearers will be stored online.¹ Memos, data forms, and additional hard copies will be stored in the Juneau and area biologist files in Douglas.

Agreements

None.

Permitting

None.

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¹ Reports and plans can be viewed online at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=librarypublications.wildlifemanagement>.

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