The illustrations and data provided in these documents were inspired from the results of the trap testing completed through the work of the Trap Research and Development Committee of the Fur Institute of Canada. They are intended as general guidelines for trap users.

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July 2018
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**Best Trapping Practices**

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**KILLING TRAPS**

- **Principles**
  - Trap dimensions (adapted to the size of the animal);
  - Set (angle of approach by the animal, trap position, trigger position and configuration, trigger adjustment);
  - Trap Model Mechanical properties (velocity, momentum and clamping forces);
  - Strike locations (targeted vital strike zones).

- **Illustrations show rotating jaw traps but can be applied to other killing type traps.**

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

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principles</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pole will control the approach</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td><strong>Trap position</strong></td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorso-ventral (ideal)</td>
<td>Illustrations show rotating jaw traps but can be applied to other killing type traps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side hit (avoid)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Trigger Adjustment**
  - Slow (double strike) | B |
  - Quick (single strike)

- **Strike type**
  - Single | J. Goodman © |
  - Double | J. Goodman © |

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*Update: July 1st, 2018*

For a list of certified traps for each species, see:

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

MUSKRAT | KILLING TRAPS

To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations

- **Single**
  - ✓ On land and submerged
  - ✓ Burrow or house entrance
  - ✓ Semi-submerged

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

- **Atlantic occipital (neck base)**
- **Neck**
- **Thorax**

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

fur.ca/certified-traps/
mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp

Update: July 1st, 2018
# Best Trapping Practices

<table>
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<tr>
<th>OTTER</th>
<th>KILLING TRAPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## OTTER KILLING TRAPS

- **Trail set (on land)**
  - Bait or lure set
  - 220 and 330 frame
  - 8.5 to 10.5 cm

- **Channel set “submerged”**
  - Trail set
  - 330 frame
  - 13 cm
  - 11.2 cm

- **Channel set “submerged”**
  - 220 frame
  - 3 cm

### To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strike Types</th>
<th>Recommended Strike Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double*</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- **Approach by the animal**

---

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

**Fur Institute of Canada ©**

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

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

Update: July 1st, 2018
### Best Trapping Practices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BEAVER</th>
<th>KILLING TRAPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### BEAVER KILLING TRAPS

To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strike Types</th>
<th>Recommended Strike Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double*</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

---

**Lure Set**

- "semi-submerged"
  - 330 frame
  - Bank hole
  - 2.5 cm
  - 6.9 cm
  - 10.8 cm

- "On land"
  - "On land" also
  - 280 frame
  - "On land" also
  - 280 and 330 frame

- "Submerged"
  - 280 frame
  - 5 cm

- 330 frame

---

**Lure Set**

- "semi-submerged"
  - Bank hole
  - 2.5 cm
  - 6.9 cm
  - 10.8 cm

- "On land"
  - "On land" also
  - 280 frame
  - "On land" also
  - 280 and 330 frame

- "Submerged"
  - 280 frame
  - 5 cm

---

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

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*Update: July 1st, 2018*

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For a list of certified traps, see:

- fur.ca/certified-traps/
- mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp
To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations

**“Closed” Box trap**

- Double rotating jaws / baited trigger
- Reduced opening for better selectivity and approach by the animal
- 120 frame
- Screws

**Modified Rat Trap**

- Plastic cone to ensure correct approach
- 2 cm
- 3 cm
- 4 cm
- 120 frame

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strike Type</th>
<th>Recommended Strike Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

fur.ca/certified-traps/

mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp

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- Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area
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MARTEN | KILLING TRAPS

To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations

Box set

120 frame

Approach by the animal

Bait

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

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

fur.ca/certified-traps/

mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp

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Best Trapping Practices

FISHER | KILLING TRAPS

**FISHER KILLING TRAPS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strike Type</th>
<th>Recommended Strike Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

---

**To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations**

- **Pole set**
  - Frame: 160
  - Diameter: 10 cm
  - Length: 1.5 or 1.8 m
  - Angle: 45° to 60°

- **Box set**
  - Frame: 120
  - Diameter: 6 cm
  - Length: 10 cm to 12.7 cm

- **With baited trigger**
  - Frame: 220
  - Diameter: 2.5 cm
  - Length: 0.6 cm

- **Approach by the animal**
  - Distance: 28 cm

- **Bait**
  - Distance: 11 cm max.

- **Approach by the animal**
  - Distance: 8 cm

---

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

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

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Best Trapping Practices

RACCOON KILLING TRAPS

To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strike Type</th>
<th>Recommended Strike Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Pole set***
  - 220 frame
  - 8.9 cm
  - 7.6 cm
  - 6.4 cm
  - 6.4 cm
  - 3.8 cm
  - 28 cm
  - 28 cm

- **Box set***
  - 11.7 cm
  - 1.7 cm
  - 11 cm max.

- **Trail set**
  - 280 frame
  - 14 cm
  - 15 cm

*Trap size and distance between the bait and the center of the trap is a major factor in obtaining atlanto-occipital strikes.*

Sets above the ground (vertical or horizontal) is to avoid captures by a front leg.

Center trap on pole for best approach.

= Approach by the animal

= Bait

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

Update: July 1st, 2018

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

fur.ca/certified-traps/

mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp
**Best Trapping Practices**

**CANADA LYNX | KILLING TRAPS**

---

**To Get Optimal Lethal Strike Locations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strike Type</th>
<th>Recommended Strike Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 ✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Set details**
  - 280 and 330 frame
  - String
  - Trigger wire

- **Pull trigger**
  - 38 cm

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

- **Head**
  - 1

- **Atlanto occipital (neck base)**
  - 2

- **Neck**
  - 3

- **Thorax**
  - 4

- **= Approach by the animal**

- **= Bait**

---

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

**Update: July 1st, 2018**

- fur.ca/certified-traps/
- mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp
Best Trapping Practices

GENERAL INFORMATION KILLING NECK SNARES

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

**Efficient lock** (equipped with a compression spring)

**Types of cable (galvanized steel)**

<table>
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<th>Target species</th>
<th>Diameter (inches)</th>
<th>Construction</th>
<th>Breaking point (lb)</th>
<th>S-Hooks (lb)</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Lynx/ Bobcat</td>
<td>1/16</td>
<td>1 x 19</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>350 and less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1/16</td>
<td>7 x 7</td>
<td>480</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyote/Fox</td>
<td>5/64</td>
<td>1 x 19</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>350 and less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5/64</td>
<td>7 x 7</td>
<td>650</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolf</td>
<td>3/32</td>
<td>1 x 19</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3/32</td>
<td>7 x 7</td>
<td>920</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommended attachment points**

- Always tie off the snare for the largest possible animal you may catch
- To enable the neck snare to close behind the ears and a proper positioning of the lock on the dorsal part of the neck (see [image])
- Use of a collar support to provide a sufficient "temporary" resistance

**Improving construction**

- S-Hook (To avoid cervidae captures + provide better lock sliding movement)
- Trigger (mechanical action increases clamping force)
- Ferrule
- Flat washer
- Swivel (to avoid cable torsion and breaking)
- Camlock with teeth
- Stinger spring with trigger (compressed)
- Loop
- S-Hook

**Stinger spring with trigger (compressed)**

**A high attachment point**

- Flat loop or swivel
- Lock
- Support wire
- Neck snare holder
- Stake
Best Trapping Practices

**SETTING PRINCIPLES**

**KILLING NECK SNARES**

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

---

**Best Trapping Practices**

**N.B.:** On top of these considerations, in order to ensure a rapid loss of unconsciousness and death, killing neck snares must be properly constructed: efficient locks equipped with compression spring, smallest possible cable wire diameter for the target species. The assembly must produce the best possible mobility (S-Hook) and efficiency of the sliding lock (Senneker trigger, Power snare).

---

**Strike zone (Canid + Feline)**

- Ideal
- To avoid

**Loop diameters and heights**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Fox</td>
<td>18 cm (7&quot;)</td>
<td>18 cm (7&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobcat</td>
<td>20.5 cm (8&quot;)</td>
<td>20.5 cm (8&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynx</td>
<td>20.5 cm (8&quot;)</td>
<td>30.5 cm (12&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coyote</td>
<td>25 cm (10&quot;)</td>
<td>25 cm (10&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolf</td>
<td>35 cm (14&quot;)</td>
<td>35 cm (14&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolf (Northern)</td>
<td>40.5 cm (16&quot;)</td>
<td>45.5 cm (18&quot;)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Snare set sites and attachment points**

- Densely wooden area
- Flat knot or swivel
- Attachment wire fixed high
- Short neck snare
- Open ground
  - Collar support
  - Long neck snare
- Collar support
- Support wire
- Freed support wire
- Lock positioned on back of the neck after closing

Area where the carotids and the trachea are most exposed

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Best Trapping Practices

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<th>ACCIDENTAL CATCHES (cervidae, cattle, sheep)</th>
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<tr>
<td>KILLING NECK SNARES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

S-Hook

Accidental catches of moose in neck snares intended for wolves (nose catch)

In a conventional set

54% of the catches involve the nose

Camlock with breakaway rivet

Rivet breaking point at ± 270 lb (deer)

Flexible neck snare

Heavy sliding parts

Using a diverter wire

54% of the catches involved the hooves (rear hoof in 2/3 of cases)

Stopper ring 10” from sliding lock (wolf neck snare)

Leg catch = rupture produced by S-Hook

Species Resistance (lb)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Resistance (lb)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moose</td>
<td>350-750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>350 and less</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Update: July 1st, 2018

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

**ACCIDENTAL CATCHES** (eagles + birds of prey)

**KILLING NECK SNARES**

### Problems

- **Trapping period** = critical period for migration
- **Solution:**
  - Use of trail sets (no bait)
  - Use of snare sets with scent lure and very small size hidden baits (1 lb/0.5 kg) hidden inside a bait container (plastic tube with holes and lid). Ensure that the bait can't be released from container.

AND / OR

- **Position of neck snares**
- **Buried bait container**
- **Hand made trail**
- **Existing trail or dense vegetation edge**

**Ex.: Trail crossing**

**Natural dense vegetation edge**

**Made-up trail in dense vegetation or woodland**

**N.B.: the open surface must allow the birds of prey to easily land and take off close to the bait (if exposed to their sight)**

**Legend:**
- ★ Attractant: (lure) + (small size bait hidden close to the ground in a bait container)
- ● Position of neck snares
- ✗ Buried bait container
- --- Hand made trail
- ——— Existing trail or dense vegetation edge

### Canid enclosure set: High risk trapping technique

- **Solution:**
  - Use of a adapted bait container (eg. Steel bucket with lid)
  - Construction of open or inverse enclosure set

**N.B.:** the open surface must allow the birds of prey to easily land and take off close to the bait (if exposed to their sight)

**Access road**

**No snare set in this area**

**Scent emanations pipe**

**Ground level**

**Buried bait container**

For more information on proper birds of prey handling and rehabilitation techniques, consult: uqrop.qc.ca/en/

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**Best Trapping Practices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GENERAL INFORMATION</th>
<th>LIVE CAPTURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**LIVE CAPTURE**

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

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

**Jaw type traps and certain foot snares**

Proper adjustment of the pan trigger...

...Produces an appropriate strike location

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

- **Use of swivels avoids injuries by twisting**
- **Shock absorber springs**
  - Strong (coyote, wolf)
  - Regular (fox)

**Stake or drag trap anchoring:**

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

**Canids, lynx, raccoon:**

- With a stake, use short chain or cable
- Canids jaw trap only:
  - With a drag anchoring system, use a long chain (see Canids sheet)

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

- Swivel
- Shock absorber spring

### Update: July 1st, 2018

- These specifications only apply to the species-specific live capture traps. For a list of certified traps for each species, see:
  - fur.ca/certified-traps/
  - mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp

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Jean-François Houle
©
Best Trapping Practices

CANIDS (fox, coyote, wolf) | LIVE CAPTURE

**FOOTSNARE / JAW TYPE TRAP**

**Optimal Strike Locations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓✓✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Toes  
2 Pad  
3 Wrist

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

fur.ca/certified-traps/  
mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp

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

For more details, check the PIGEC manual (ftgq.qc.ca/fr/publications/index.htm)  
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Best Trapping Practices

RACCOON  LIVE CAPTURE

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

**Foot Encapsulating Traps**

**Lil' Grizz Get'rz**
- Bait set under pull trigger
- Positioned this way, the restraining arm (steel rod) strikes on the pad side

**Egg trap**
- Optimal Strike Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For all trap models:
- Short chaining system
- 2 swivels
- Stake anchoring system

**Duffer and Egg trap:**
- Partly buried underground (compacted soil)
- Bait set on the trigger

**For all trap models:**
- Compacted soil
- Compacted obstacle behind the trap

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

fur.ca/certified-traps/
mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp

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| CANADA LYNX | LIVE CAPTURE |

**FOOTSNARE / JAW TYPE TRAP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Optimal Strike Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Toes
2. Pad
3. Wrist

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

fur.ca/certified-traps/

mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp

Update: July 1st, 2018
Installation Details

- Cage set in the shade and protected from bad weather to prevent exposure to sun and hypothermia;
- Daily check, early morning;
- If set close to water edge, anticipate water level fluctuations to avoid drowning;
- Choose quiet trap sites to avoid stress.

For a list of raccoon certified traps, see:

fur.ca/certified-traps/
mffp.gouv.qc.ca/english/publications/online/wildlife/trapping-regulations/devices/aihts.asp

Update: July 1st, 2018
Specifications:

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

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

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**Fixed Anchor Systems (recommended)**

- Bucket Set
  - 1.2 m (46”) or less
  - Solid tree, min. 6” Ø
  - The cable or the chain must turn freely around the tree

- Trail Set
  - 60 cm (24”) or less

**Mobile Anchor Systems (optional)**

- Chain with 1/4” (grade 30) links
  - 2.4 m (8’)

- Steel cable 7 x 19, 3/16” Ø

**Shock absorbing spring (250 lb)**
THE SWIVEL MUST ALWAYS BE FUNCTIONAL

**BUCKET SET**
- Sweet bait
- 1.2 m (4.5')
- Wood screw 1 ½"
- The bucket must easily fall to the ground once the bear is captured
- Bait and moveable branches guiding the bear to ensure an approach by the front
- Bucket: minimum depth of 38 cm (15"

**TRAIL (GROUND) SET**
- 1 m (buffer zone)
- Diameter = anchoring cable (A) + footsnare length when closed (B) + 1 m (C)
- The anchoring system must turn freely around the solid tree (minimum 15 cm (6") Ø)
- Catch Circle
- The bucket lid MUST be secured (screws)
- No hole in the bucket
- Swivel
- Tie wrap 50 lb

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

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

**FOOTSNARE / FIXED ANCHOR SYSTEMS**

**BLACK BEAR**

**LIVE CAPTURE**

Update: July 1st, 2018
**THE SWIVEL MUST ALWAYS BE FUNCTIONAL**

**BUCKET SET**

- Tie wrap 50 lb
- Swivel
- Anchoring mobile log (drag) = 18 cm Ø (7’), 1.8 m (6’) length
- Sweet baits
- 1.2 m (4.5’)

**TRAIL (GROUND) SET**

- Tie wrap 50 lb
- Swivel
- Shock absorbing spring (250 lb)
- Solid tree, min. 10 cm (4”) Ø
- Bear trail
- Shock absorbing spring (250 lb)

**IMPORTANT:** always guide the bear to approach from the front of the trap.

**IMPORTANT:** the tie wrap ensures a complete and fast closure of the footsnare cable around the bear’s front foot.

Update: July 1st, 2018
Relaxing cable restraint is a cable used to capture and hold an animal by the neck with the objective of maintaining it alive while minimizing injuries during the contention time period.

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

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

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

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

- **CABLE (AVIATION CABLE)**
  - Strand Construction: single 1 x 19 or 1 x 7, multi 7 x 7 or 7 x 19;
  - Diameter: 1/8" or 3/32". If too small, it will increase possibility of injuries and chewing by coyote (escape).

- **LOCKS (RELAXING)**
  - Relaxing models, e.g. Micro Lock, Penny (90-Degree Bend Washer Lock), Kaatz Relax-a-Lock, Berkshire Washer Lock, Reichart™ Washer Lock, No. 4 Gregerson™ Lock, BMI™ Slide Free Lock;
  - Passively non-powered activated (by the animal itself);
  - No Powered assisted locks (e.g. Ram Power Snare, Stinger Spring, Amberg Spring).

- **CABLE LOOP (FIGURES 1, 3)**
  - Size (diameter) minimum 10” (25 cm), maximum 12” (30 cm);
  - Height from the ground to the bottom part of the loop: 10” (25 cm);
  - Deer Stop (to prevent capture by a leg): single ferrule cramped on cable to allow a closed loop at 2 ½” (6 cm) diameter.

- **SWIVEL**
  - Install swivel number 1 on the cable as close as possible to the end of the 10 to 12” (25 to 30 cm) diameter snare loop; (FIGURES 1, 4)
  - Install swivel number 2 at the end of the cable extension on the fixed anchoring point. Cable extension must be as short as possible; (FIGURES 1, 4)
  - Captured animal must be able to circle (360°) freely around the fixed anchoring point. (FIGURES 4, 5, 6)

- **EXTENSION TO THE CABLE (FIGURE 2)**
  Must be as short as possible to prevent a whipping action when the coyote in movement hits the full extension of the cable. This reduces the risk of injury and possible cable entanglement resulting in death. (FIGURE 4)

- **ANCHORING POINT**
  Snare cable or extension cable has to be attached to a solid (fixed) anchoring point directly by a swivel. The cable MUST be able to freely turn around the anchoring point. (FIGURES 4, 5, 6)
  For ground stake, it should be a metal rod of 30” (75 cm). In loose substrate, use a double one. Ground cable anchor (e.g. Berkshire, Finned) and solid tree can also be used as anchors.

- **ENTANGLEMENT OF THE CABLE**
  There MUST BE NO entanglement of the snare or extension cable. The swivel(s) MUST be able to function freely during the captive time period. (FIGURE 4)

- **BREAKAWAY DEVICE (BIG GAME AND LIVESTOCK) (FIGURES 2, 3)**
  An appropriate breakaway component is added to allow self releasing of non-target species. Check appropriate resistance per species.
Check with the authorities in charge of wildlife to confirm regulations related to trap use in your trapping area.

**FIGURE 1**

- Swivel 1
- Swivel 2
- No. 9 gauge support wire
- 10 to 12” (25 to 30 cm)
- 10” (25 cm)

No. 9 gauge support: Bending the wire twice before inserting into the ground gives additional strength and stability to the support. It must fall on the ground once the animal captured.

**FIGURE 2**

- Snare supports options:
  - Whammy
  - Short piece of vinyl tubing
  - Twist On
- Relaxing lock
- Breakaway
- No. 9 gauge support wire

**FIGURE 3**

- Loop Stops: It is fixed at 8” (20.5 cm) from the lock hole and keeps the loop from closing less than 2 ½ Ø. This allows a deer captured by the leg to escape.
- Breakaway
- 8” (20.5 cm)
- Maximum Loop Stop:
  - 38” (96.5 cm) - (12” (30 cm) Ø loop)
  - 36” (91 cm) - (10” (25 cm) Ø loop)
- 2 ½” (6.4 cm)

**FIGURE 2**

- ferrule (Deer foot stop)
Best Trapping Practices

COYOTE | LIVE CAPTURE

RELAXING CABLE RESTRAINT

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

NO ENTANGLEMENT OF CABLE SWIVELS MUST ALWAYS BE FUNCTIONAL

FIGURE 4

Catch Circle

- Swivel 1
- Swivel 2
- Fixed anchoring point
- Extension cable as short as possible

No obstacle in catch circle to avoid any entanglement of cable and maintain swivelling action.

Cable must move freely (360°) around anchoring point.

FIGURE 5

Ground Stake

Update: July 1st, 2018
COYOTE RELAXING CABLE RESTRAINT MEETING AIHTS* REQUIREMENTS

DESCRIPTION OF COMPONENTS

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

SNARE + SET CHARACTERISTICS

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

*Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards

Source: Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, USA

Update: July 1st, 2018