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On Target

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Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

July/August 2017



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PFSC is one of Pennsylvania's oldest and largest conservation organizations, formed in 1932.

PFSC welcomes stories, art, and photographic contributions. We will consider, but assume no responsibility for unsolicited proposals, manuscripts, art, or photographs.

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The mission of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Inc. is to provide a statewide, united voice for the concerns of all sportsmen and conservationists; to insure that their rights and interests are protected; and to protect and enhance the environment and our natural resources.

Cover Photo:

2½-year-old Eric Piper fishing on Bonnie Brook Creek in Butler County with his dad Clay. He limited out by 8:45am. Robb Piper, Cambria County, is his proud grandpa.





WHY ARE WE ALLOWED TO TRAP?

We Presently Have Conditional Public Acceptance

By Barry Warner, Publics Relations Director

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies acquired Responsive Management to conduct a public survey to determine "Awareness of and Attitudes Toward Trapping Issues in Connecticut, Indiana, and Wisconsin." Although this survey took place in Connecticut, Indiana, and Wisconsin, the responses should convey a message to trappers in Pennsylvania.

The first part of the survey asked about credibility. Responders were supportive of the credibility of the wildlife agencies. However, opinions of trapper credibility

ranged from 9 to 15%. Responders were supportive of trapping when it involved ecological, damage control, and food/substance reasons. They were less supportive of trapping for money, recreation or fur clothing reasons.

Responders agreed that regulated trapping is OK if animals that are accidentally caught can be released and they agree (to a lesser extent) that trapping is OK if the animals die quickly and without undue pain. Responders are generally not aware about efforts to improve traps to make them more humane, but when

About one third of responders from each state believe that endangered species are frequently used to make fur clothing.

Of the just over 200 responders from each state, 43 (collectively) indicated they lived in a large city or urban area, 60 indicated they lived in a suburban area, 102 indicated they lived in a small city or town, while 27 lived in a rural area on a farm and 53 lived in a rural area not on a farm.

With the conditional supportive response to trapping, we should be pleased to know we have this support, but fully understand the responsibility we have to promote ethics, responsibility, and education among our fellow trappers, other sportsmen and women, and the public.

The Pennsylvania Trappers Association maintains a wealth of information for your use through numerous publications and other items to assist you in meeting our responsibilities. These educational materials are available to you through the association's web site (patrappers.com) or through your district director. PTA contact information may also be obtained through our web site.

PTA

OUR IMAGE OUR FUTURE

PENNSYLVANIA TRAPPERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.		
DONNA SPITTLE P.O. Box 708 Hummelstown, PA 17036 (717) 239-9267	CHECK ONE <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	
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I am enclosing _____ to pay for one year's membership in P.T.A. and I will work with your organization to bring about trapping laws that are fair to all and better conditions for all trappers in Pennsylvania.		
Name _____	Age _____	
Street _____	City _____	
State _____	Zip _____	County _____ District _____
Phone _____	Effective 1/1/2014	Please Print Legibly

informed of some efforts to do so, responders are more supportive of trapping.

Unfortunately, a large percentage of responders from all three states still believe regulated trapping can cause wildlife species to become endangered or extinct.

United BowHunters of PA

<http://www.ubofpa.org/>

The United Bowhunters of Pennsylvania is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and protection of bowhunting opportunities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The UBP supports game management based on sound biological principles and a "resource first" philosophy.