

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

President's Report

Several things have happened in our struggle to get wolves managed in the UP. Here is the latest from the DNR:

Before a potential wolf hunt is considered, the DNR believes three things should happen:

- The legal status of wolves should be more permanently settled, especially given the long history of legal challenges to delisting decisions and the resulting shifting status of wolves. The most recent delisting decision, which became effective January 4, 2021, is facing two lawsuits in U.S. District Court. With the federal delisting of wolves, two state laws, Public Act 290 of 2008 and Public Act 318 of 2008, became effective that help address wolf-human conflicts. These laws allow residents to use lethal control on wolves that are in the act of killing or wounding livestock or a dog. The shifts in federal wolf delisting status have likewise changed depending on whether these two laws remain in effect.
- The Michigan's Wolf Management Plan should be updated including completion of a public attitude survey. A survey was previously conducted in 2005, and survey results were used to develop the 2008 Michigan Wolf Management Plan. Since the last survey, Michigan has had a hunting season, public referendums, citizen-initiated legislation and changing status of wolves, which may have influenced public attitudes towards wolf management.
- The DNR should have meaningful consultation with the federally recognized tribal governments of Michigan, as was done during drafting of the 2015 wolf management plan.
- The Wolf Management Advisory Council (WMAC) appointments include Dan Kennedy of the DNR's Wildlife Division, who is the DNR Director's Designee; Miles Falk, representing tribal governments; Beatrice Friedlander, representing animal advocacy organizations; Richard Pershinske, representing agricultural interests; Mike Thorman, representing wildlife and fish organizations; and Amy Trotter, representing conservation organizations.

There are two other committees formed due to the unrest of the UP sportsman one is headed by JR Richardson (NRC Member) the other is by Amy Trotter. We have representation on both of these committees that will provide input to the WMAC. One of the things that the DNR is saying that wolf interactions have gone unreported so in you see a wolf in the woods, have one tear your set up report it. The more reports we give to the DNR the better our stand is that the wolves are becoming a big problem in the UP.

The last thing I would like to bring up is probably a broken record for some but WE NEED VOLUNTEERS. This includes conventions, show, and fur sales (yes, we will have them again), so please contact one of the board members to help out. We are also looking for personnel to fill positions on the board most of our board members have been there awhile so some fresh insight would be appreciated.

Thank you
Mark Spencer

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

President

Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers

Remember "KIDS WHO HUNT, FISH OR TRAP DON'T MUG LITTLE OLD LADIES"

Letter from the Editor:

Hello Trappers and Callers!

I thought I'd be done trapping by now but some friends have some problem beavers I'm chasing. With a few weeks left in the season hopefully I can take care of them before we need a damage control permit. I'm back to work for a few months and trapping around work isn't helping. It's a lot more fun being retired!

This season sure didn't turn out like I'd planned! I ended up with a bust on the coyote line and so I decided to pick up a dozen or so beavers to bait my boneyard for 'cats and coyotes. Well, it seemed like every time I turned around someone I knew needed some work on the beavers. Fifty-three beavers later I'm still after some. There sure is a bunch of fat coyotes and bobcats around my camp. I've had as many as 3 bobcats at once on the trail cam feeding (and fighting). Unfortunately, most of the time I was too busy feeding them to hunt them! And if nothing else it took some pressure off the small game. I'm seeing more grouse and turkeys this spring than I have in years!

Damage control when the market is down is a great way to set yourself up for good hunting and trapping ground when the market turns around. Folks remember you helped them out when no one was in the woods. Then when the prices go up and everyone and their brother is setting steel, those places will be still be yours. Trappers and Callers have skills that aren't very common these days- and people appreciate the service we can give them.

Hope to see you at Convention! I'm ready for some Apple Pie and Trappers' Tales!

John Caretti, Editor

PR Director's Report

Now that the warm weather is here and the seasons have finished, we can all stop thinking about trapping for a few months. We can sit back in the fishing boat or the turkey woods without a second thought about fur harvesting. Well, I said we can but that doesn't mean we should. You see the people who want to take the right to trap away from you don't take a few months off. Right now, they have lawyers figuring out how to make new laws and filing law suits to take away your rights. Many other states have had legislative battles this year and Michigan is sure to be on the list again soon. Every month the Natural Resources Commission meets and there is a public comments section where anyone can address them on issues. Someone from this Association is always there or attending virtually. The down side with the new safer virtual format is that the Anti-Trapping groups no longer

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

have to even be in Michigan to address our Commission. They are plugging up all of the time slots with their representatives and Lawyers which makes it difficult for sportsmen and sportswomen to have their voices heard. If you want to help you can register to speak and address the Commission along with other trappers and predator callers so our voices are heard as loud as the anti-voices.

If you would like to speak during the public appearances portion of the meeting please email NRC@michigan.gov.

Go to the NRC webpage for details. Here is a list of the upcoming NRC meeting dates:

April 15, 2021

May 13, 2021

June 10, 2021

July 15, 2021

August 12, 2021

September 16, 2021

October 14, 2021

November 10, 2021

December 9, 2021

Mark Earl

MTPCA PR Director

NTA Director's Report

Hello Everyone,

By the time you get this trapline trapping season will be all but over, I hope you had an enjoyable one. As we go into 2021, 2022 season we hope for an improvement in fur prices.

The NTA is very involved in fighting for your trapping rights, and our way of life. There have been many attacks on our rights in several states, Colorado, New Mexico, California to name a few. So please remember to keep your memberships to NTA and MTPCA current, also please buy raffle tickets, and cash calendar's all this helps support your trapping trapping rights. NTA can not keep fighting for you if they don't have the funds.

On a more pleasant note, convention season is just around the corner the dates are:

South East Regional. May 5-7

Western. Regional. June. 11-12

NATIONAL. July 22-24

So plan on attending one of these great conventions- or all of them.

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

Ed Lundborg
NTA Director
231 342 4553

FTA/Raffle Report--FTA-Rep Craig Schafer

MTPCA Raffle:

Drawing: August 21, 2021, 3 PM

MTPCA Convention

Osceola County Fairgrounds

Evart, MI. 49631

Tickets 6 for \$20

1. \$2000 Shopping Spree-Jay's Sporting Goods
2. 4 Man Walleye Charter
3. Ruger 450 Bushmaster
4. RRKW Redi Ax
5. Eskimo 8" Power Auger
6. Primos Trigger Stick
7. 1 DZ, FB-DP's
8. ICOTec Predator Caller
9. 1 DZ WC #2's
10. Shootergirl Ladies Pkg
11. Stealth Cam
12. J3 Outdoorz PKG
13. Escort Semi Auto 12 ga.
14. Buddy Heater
15. 1 DZ WC #1's
16. Digital Metal Detector
17. Ladies Fur Mittens/Beaver Tail Wallet
18. RRKW Knife
19. Caldwell Field Pod
20. Savage 6.5 Creedmoor
21. 1 DZ 4.5 RBG's
22. Fox Pro Hammer Jack
23. 1 DZ FB-DP's
24. Savage 22-250
25. RRKW Knife
26. Freedom Brand Coat Rack
27. MinnKota Trolling Motor
28. 1 DZ WC 552's
29. 1 DZ MB 450's

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

30. Ruger DXL 10/22

31. River Rat Predator PKG

Prizes Sponsored By

Bob's Gun & Tackle

F n T Fur Harvesters

Gold Star Out Doors

Jay's sporting Goods

J3 Outdoorz

PCS Outdoors

Reel Live Action Charters

River Rats Trapping Supplies

Rapid River Knife Works

Shootergirl Ammunition Jewelry

All previously purchased tickets are still valid.

Tickets are available form board members. At the FTA Convention, UP Trappers Convention and the MTPCA Convention.

I will also have them with me at the NTA in Spencer Iowa.

U.P. Trappers Rendezvous

July 9-10

Escanaba, MI. 49829

U.P. State Fair Grounds

NTA National Convention

Spencer, IA 51301

July 22-24

<https://www.nationaltrappers.com/convention.html>

MTPCA Convention

August 20-21

Evart, MI. 49631

Osceola County Fair Grounds

<http://www.mtpca.com/>

NGLFH Rendezvous

Kinross, MI. 49715

September 24-25

Chippewa County Fair Grounds

2021-2022 MTPCA Fur Sale Dates and Locations.

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

December 18-2021

Jay's, Clare MI

February 5-2022

Calhoun County Fairgrounds

Marshall, MI

March 26-2022

Northland Sportsman Club

Gaylord, MI

FTA Report

FTA 2021 Rendezvous

June 17-19

Clark County 4H Fair Grounds

Charlestown, IN 47111

<http://www.furtakersofamerica.com/index.html>

The FTA is fighting side by side with the NTA for trappers rights. As always TRAPPING is under attack in many states. With the appointment of the new Secretary of Interior of the United States, Deb Haaland . This brings a not so good feeling for any type of trapping anywhere. Time will tell on this issue.

For more information on trapping alerts and the FTA. go to the FTA Web site and join them on FaceBook.

As always the MTPCA is looking for volunteers and new board members. To help at the Convention in August, future shows when the State of Michigan opens up and to help defend trapping in general.

Sincerely

Craig Schafer

MTPCA Raffle Coordinator

FTA-Representative

MTPCA Region 1 Vice President's Report

Hello Trappers

Snow and ice are finally on its way out and spring beaver season is here. I will miss it because I am in Florida until May. Looking forward to summer convention. Hope to see all of you there.

Ed Kramer

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

MTPCA Region 1 Vice President

MTPCA Region 2 Vice President's Report

Hello Trappers and Callers!

Our seasons are winding down with only beaver trapping and coyote calling still available. I got out squirrel hunting twice this week with my dog Sandy. I really love hunting with a good dog. It adds a whole new level of excitement. That season ends today, March 31.

If your beaver trapping for a land owner I encourage you to do your best for that person even though the financial rewards may not be there right now. Doing so keeps that permission alive and ensures that area will be available to you when things turn around. Some of us have had these relationships for years. Protect them.

I encourage predator hunters to participate in the Luzerne area predator hunt normally run the last weekend in February. This is a very well-run hunt with lots of prizes for all. This year 95 hunters took 31 coyotes, 3 bobcat and 9 fox. Any legal hunting method can be used and you can hunt anywhere in the state. If you would like additional information about this hunt give me a call.

Plan for our annual rendezvous at Evert in August. See you there.

Tom Oakey
Region 2 Vice President

MTPCA Region 3 Vice President's Report

Hello Trappers,

I hope this letter finds everyone good and in good health.

The season is winding down. Now is a good time to follow through with your trapline. Cleaning traps, cleaning the fur shed, and finish putting up fur if not already done to get ready for next season. Now is time to take inventory and make a list of supplies needed for next year. The best place for supplies are at the conventions. Also take time to touch base with the land owners who gave you permission to hunt and trap, and to thank them.

With that being said, this year on my line, I hit a milestone in my trapping years. The first time ever in all my years trapping, I did not catch or capture one opossum. Well, huh! If you would like to know how I did that, come to the convention and look me up. I will tell you how I did it.

Volunteers, convention time is coming! So, parents or adult guardians who would like to exercise your teenagers' rights to volunteer, send them our way! We can always use help for an hour or two with something. Remember the youth are our future.

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

Take care out there!

Ken (Bernie) Burzynski
Regional 3 VP

(Ed. Note: Most of the young folks that end up volunteering actually have fun! You'd be surprised if you can get them to do it once, they end up coming back for more the following years. And on a side note- they usually aren't spending money when they're helping out!)

2021 MTPCA Convention

Hello Trappers!

Convention season will be upon us before we know it. With state health restrictions being opened up little by little, we are in high hopes our annual summer convention should be right on track. Vendor reservation forms have all been mailed and some vendors have already reserved their booth spaces. Things are coming together!

We try to have something for everyone at convention and I believe our association does a good job of this. Here is a list of events and new stuff for August 2021;

Trap setting contest for all ages

Kids Hay Scramble

The Adult Hay Scramble

Friday Night Dinner

Friday Night Live Auction (immediately following the dinner)

Possum Toss (no real possum will be used)

Cast Iron Cooking Demonstration and Sampling

Wild Mushroom Identification and Information

Major Raffle

Demos

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

We may even have one or two more events depending on what our members want. Please remember, this is YOUR convention. Mark Earl has already been working on the demo line up. As usual, Mark will have some top-notch trappers and predator callers lined up for you all to watch, ask questions and gain a tip or two to help you on the line or in the field. The work Mark and the crew put into the demo area make it a very realistic setting. Make some time to watch a demo or two this year, they are worth seeing.

One thing for sure when it comes to convention, and you've heard me say this many times, We need help. If you, or you and your family can spare a little time we sure would be grateful. Help from set up, cook out, auction, kids games, adult games and much more. For those that are always there year after year, THANK YOU! For those that have been wanting to help, we need you.

Convention is a very special time of year. We gather as friends and family. By the time convention is over, we are one huge trapping family. If there is something you would like to see at convention or see something different, please contact me and I will do all I can to make it happen.

Convention date this year is August 20th & 21st. at the Osceola County Fairgrounds in Ewart Mi.

For more information, please feel free to contact me.

Joe Velchansky Sr.
MTPCA Convention Coordinator

Trapline Tips (courtesy of Craig Shafer)

Beaver Tail Oil-BTO

Take several beaver tails, cut them up in a large jar. Don't add anything else. Let them rot down over the summer. A thick dark oil will form on the top. Skim this oil and put in a jar or lure bottles. This oil is the lure. Let the jar set and in time it will produce more oil. Just keep skimming the oil until it stops producing it. It does not need any preservatives. Make the jar so flies cannot get in when rotting down. You will still need to vent the jar.

MTPCA 2021 Raffle

Prizes

1. \$2000 shopping Spree at Jay's Sporting Goods

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

2. 4-Man Walleye Charter
3. Ruger 450 Bushmaster
4. RRRKW Redi Ax
5. Eskimo 8" Power Auger
6. Primos Trigger Stick
7. 1 DZ FB-DP's
8. ICOTec Predator Caller
9. 1 DZ WC #2's
10. Shooter Girl Ladies PKG
11. Stealth Cam
12. J3 Outdoors PKG
13. Escort Semi Auto 12 ga.
14. Buddy Heater
15. 1 Dozen Wolf Creek #1's
16. Digital Metal Detector
17. Ladies Fur Mittens & Beaver Tail Wallet
18. RRRKW Knife
19. Caldwell Field Pod
20. Savage 6.5 Creedmore
21. 1 DZ 4.5 RBG's
22. Fox Pro Hammer Jack
23. 1 DZ FB-DP's
24. Savage 22-250
25. RRRKW Knife
26. Freedom Brand Coat Rack
27. MinnKota Trolling motor
28. 1 DZ WC 552's
29. 1 DZ MB 450's
30. Ruger DXL 10/22
31. River Rat Predator Package

Prizes Sponsored by: Bob's Gun & Tackle, FnT Fur Harvesters, Gold Star Outdoors, Jay's sporting goods, J# Outdoors, PCS Outdoors, Real Live Action Charters, River Rat Trapping Supplies, Rapid River Knife Works, Shootergirl Ammunition Jewelry.

The MTPCA says, "THANK YOU!" to all our sponsors.

Tickets can be purchased from participating Board Members and at any of the shows where MTPCA has a booth.

Fur Sale Director's Report

John filling in for Missi:

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

Fur prices seemed to inch up from what I've heard- \$4+ averages on muskrats, beaver breaking past the \$10 average, bobcats and otter around \$30 which is what they brought most of the seasons I can remember. Coyotes seem to have slipped a bit but still not far from historical averages. No one's going to get rich trapping until the market goes back up but it's at least possible to cover expenses. We're hoping (and planning) to hold our fur auctions again next season. Stay tuned for more information!

MTPCA Contact Info

MTPCA Contact Info

GOVERNING BOARD

President: Mark Spencer----- E-mail mspencer@mtpca.com
Executive Vice President: Chris Kettler-----E-mail ckettler@mtpca.com
Region 1 Vice President: Ed Kramer----- -E-mail ekramer@mtpca.com
Region 2 Vice President: Dale Hendershot-----E-mail dhendershot@mtpca.com
Region 3 Vice President: Tamara Masterson-----E-mail tmasterson@mtpca.com
Treasurer: Vickie Wright----- E-mail vwright@mtpca.com
Membership Secretary: Bruce Barlow----- E-mail bbarlow@mtpca.com
Recording Secretary: Missi Martineau----- E-mail mmartineau@mtpca.com
Convention Coordinator: Joe Velchansky----- E-mail jvelchansky@mtpca.com
Public Relations: Mark Earl-----E-mail mearl@mtpca.com
Fur Sale Director: Missi Martineau-----E-mail mmartineau@mtpca.com
NTA Director: Ed Lungborg----- E-mail elundborg@mtpca.com
Trapline Editor: John Caretti-----E-mail jcaretti@mtpca.com
M.U.C.C. Director: Chris Kettler-----E-mail ckettler@mtpca.com
Director at Large Inventory: Lisa Bagalay-----E-mail lbagalay@mtpca.com
Director at Large-FTA-Rep-Raffle Coordinator:Craig Schafer:--E-mail cschafer@mtpca.com
Director at Large-Land owner Assistance, Mike Shippa-----E-mail mschippa@mtpca.com

REGION 1 Upper Peninsula DNR Zone 1

Regional Vice President: Ed Kramer-----E-mail ekramer@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Dan Johnson-----E-mail djohnson@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Vacant

REGION 2 DNR Zone 2

Regional Vice President: Tom Oakey -----Email toakey@mtpcl.com
Regional Director: Mark Dorman
Regional Director: Elbert Rush-----E-mail erush@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Allen Ballard-----E-mail aballard@mtpca.com

REGION 3 DNR Zone 3

Regional Vice President: Ken "Bernie" Burzynski-----E-mail kburzynski@mtpca.com

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

Regional Director: Jason Ray-----E-mail jray@mtpca.com

Regional Director: Sam Berkheimer-----E-mail sberkheimer@mtpca.com

The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2021 Edition

MTPCA Membership Application

_____ \$25/yr Regular

_____ \$250 Senior Life Membership

_____ \$850 Reg. Life Membership [\$850 or \$200 down & 13 payments of \$50]

_____ \$10/yr Junior, age 15 or younger [Trapline, MOoD, Fur Sale]

* All adult memberships get: Trap Line, MOoD (online ONLY), Fur Sale, Vote

OPTIONAL MAGAZINES OFFERED AT A DISCOUNT:

_____ \$12/yr Trapper and Predator Caller (10 issues)

_____ \$11/yr. Trappers World (6 issues)

_____ \$13/yr. Trappers Post (6 issues)

_____ Donation

_____ Total: Make checks out to: MTPCA

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Region: _____ County: _____ Birthday: Mon _____ Yr _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone (opt.): _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: Membership Secretary Bruce Barlow, 4520 N. Shaw Rd. Gladwin, MI 48624

Yearly memberships run from January 1 through December 31