



## NEWSLETTER Spring 2022

Yukon Trappers Association  
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### President's message

Good day Fellow Trappers and Bush folk:

Another season has come and gone. With it a mess of ups and downs. Talking with trappers across our home land here in the Yukon: it was another season not short of excitement, Covid delays and deep snow.

Many trappers had said the deep snow and overflow was everywhere. With lower sales at auction houses with the problems they have with the Covid restrictions, the Foreign buyers were not able to get to North Bay or Ohio for the sales. Some furs sold, and with most of Yukon's trappers now reducing their harvest and finding their own private sales. We're not shipping the surplus harvest. Which is good as it seems the auction house is full of pelts. Hearing from a lot of trappers that with all the snow that personal harvest volumes were down. Which is ok, quality over quantity.

We had decided to not hold a Spring Fur Sale; this was in part due to capacity. We are working to get our Fall Sale ready and are exploring making the event a little more exciting. Any feedback from trappers who want to participate in an October sale, contact us, it would be appreciated.

I am hearing of many traplines now taking on assistants and also taking young people out and exposing them to our Heritage Industry. I want to thank those good people for doing this. It's important for young people to understand there's more to life than devices and urban culture. Personally if it wasn't for hunting, fishing and trapping, I'm not sure where I would be. Time on the land heals everyone and an unsuccessful harvesting trip can be as rewarding as a successful harvest. It's about the time with family, friends and often, just that extra time alone we need to reflect.

I want to thank everyone for their support. We will continue to support you in any way possible.

Respectfully, Brian Melanson, President of the Yukon Trappers Association

Trappers:

This is for Trapline Concession Holders who are in the **Bison hunting zone**. I had talked with Tom Jung and we discussed a possible temporary closure of the harvest from Mid December to end of January. To give the bison a rest and to allow trappers to harvest the fur during the prime part of winter. This past season the closure was not put in place. The closure was not needed mainly due to the low low temperatures we had. That kept many hunters from heading out.

If your trapline is having issues like molestation of traps and sets, property damage, cabin items thefts, firewood stolen, many other unpleasant incidents, then you need to document this, take

pictures and keep a record. Conservation Officers are friendly and work for us. We as fur harvesters used to work closely with the COs and had great relations with them. I have a great relationship with the COs in both areas that I trap. I encourage you to stop in and visit yours. Say hi and invite them to come do a trap check. This gives them an opportunity to get out of the office, but also on the off chance gets them to see first hand what we deal with.

With no complaints about this previous season of Bison hunting interference with trapping I don't see a need to push for a hunting closure this upcoming season of 2022/23.

Respectfully, President Brian Melanson

### **Fur Depot**

by Jackie Yaklin

### **Tanning Services**

The Association provides an excellent tanning service for our members. We negotiated a bulk tanning rate, an exceptional shipping rate; we ship regularly; we're organized; we provide the seals, get the export permit, and pay expenses to our suppliers.

When your tanning order returns, you are notified. Yes, sometimes the notification is not received, but we do leave messages.

The Association does not earn a large income from the tanning fees.

### **Fur in the Round**

The Association is looking for fur in the round of species foxes, coyotes, wolves, marten, beaver. We intend to use them for our workshops. At the end, we'll send the fur for tanning and sell it at a Fur Sale or at Our Store.

These particular furs are difficult to keep in stock, in part because of the limited quantity. And in part, because they are Yukon furs. There is high demand for Yukon furs. When we sell these furs, we can provide information about the furs – where they came from, when they were harvested.

### **Fur Depot**

Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday from 2pm to 5pm; Saturdays from 11am to 4pm. Closed Sundays and holidays. Phone 1-867-668-5648 for additional hours.

Fur depot services include: shipping to the auction house; export permits; sealing for lynx, wolverine and wolves.

### **Memberships**

All memberships expire on June 30th. Members receive the following benefits: 10% discount on purchases from Our Store; tanning services; fur depot services. The Association advocates on behalf of its members for specific issues as they arise and for general issues that apply to all trappers.

The Association relies on memberships as the number of members makes us a more representative Association. Please join us. Thank you.

### **Wildland Fire Season ahead with a new feature, the DOWNBURST!**

Summer is wildfire season in the Yukon! We strongly recommend that all trappers Fire Smart their cabins, and if they are not float plane accessible then cut a helicopter landing pad nearby. That way Wildland Fire can access your camp to install a sprinkler system in the event that it is threatened by fire. They can do that only if they know where your cabins are. If you haven't done so, go to your nearest Environment Yukon office to fill out a "Release of Contact Information".

See the DOWNBURST article in the Yukon News by Sarah Sibley <https://www.yukon-news.com/news/what-obiterated-this-northwest-territories-forest-a-downburst/>. Have you seen something similar on your line? Lesley Elliott [lesley.elliott@uwo.ca](mailto:lesley.elliott@uwo.ca) at The Northern Tornadoes Project, [www.uwo.ca](http://www.uwo.ca) is welcoming your input. She might also be able to send you satellite images of the affected area.

### **Fur Harvesters' Last Receiving & Auction Dates**

#### **2022 Auction Schedule**

YTA last rec. date	FHA rec. date	Auction date
April 8, 2022	April 17, 2022	June 23-27, 2022

All sales are being held in North Bay, Ontario.

#### **Fur Harvesters April Auction Report**

**Go to:** <https://www.furharvesters.com/results/2022/March/march22us.pdf>

If you have Facebook, Fur Harvesters Auction is on it too and they also post videos.

**FURMARK® IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE.** Furmark® is the comprehensive global certification and traceability system for natural fur that guarantees animal welfare and environmental standards. In the implementation of Furmark®, FHA has the obligation to ensure that its wild fur shippers have access to certain information. For Canadian shippers: The use of traps that have been certified under the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS) is required in all Canadian jurisdictions for the species listed in the AIHTS. FHA promotes the use of certified traps. To keep Canadian trappers informed, the Fur Institute of Canada (FIC) regularly updates a certified trap list. The most recent update can be found by accessing the following link: [https://fur.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/CertifiedTrapsList\\_FIC\\_October-1-2021\\_ENG\\_FINAL.pdf](https://fur.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/CertifiedTrapsList_FIC_October-1-2021_ENG_FINAL.pdf) In addition to the use of certified traps, trappers are required to abide by trapping regulations that are relevant to the jurisdiction in which they operate. FHA expects that all pelts supplied by our shippers are harvested

in accordance with the relevant regulations. FIC maintains links to these regulations, which can be accessed via the following: <https://fur.ca/fur-trapping/trapping-regulations>

### **Wolf Incentive Program at YOA**

The YOA is pleased to announce that it will continue to support Yukon Trappers with this program. The YOA will offer Yukon Trappers \$200 per wolf pelt. Note that there may be limited funds available this 21/22 trapping season. You need to supply to the YOA a valid Yukon Trappers license and the wolf sealing certificate. Deadline for applications is April 30, 2022.

#### **Contact:**

Yukon Outfitters Association  
Suite 302 #110, 303 Alexander St  
Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 2L5  
867.668.4118 office, 867.668.4120 fax, [info@yukonoutfitters.net](mailto:info@yukonoutfitters.net)

### **News from Environment Yukon**

by Ryan Sealy

Old Crow has still spots. Whitehorse course is full, but call anyway, Ryan might add another workshop if there's enough interest.

## **Trapper training workshops**



Take the 4 ½ day training required to get a Yukon trapping licence.

Starting **November 30** register at any Department of Environment office, or call **1-800-661-0408, ext. 5652** to reserve your seat by credit card. The fee is **\$300 + GST**.

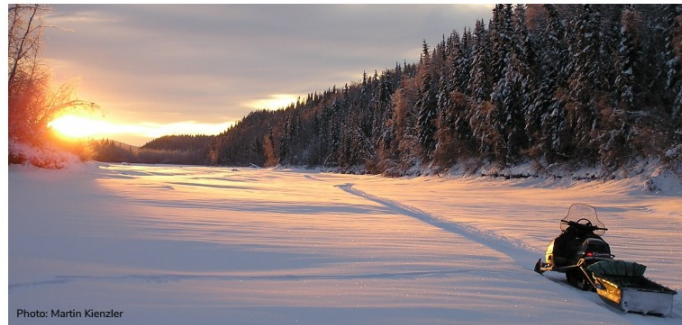


Photo: Martin Kienzler

Community	2022 dates	Times	Location
<b>Carmacks</b>	March 3 March 4-7	6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	TBC
<b>Dawson City</b>	March 24 March 25-28	6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	TBC
<b>Whitehorse</b>	April 7 April 8-11	6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	TBC
<b>Old Crow</b>	April 21 April 22-25	6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Vuntut Gwitchin Community Hall

For more information contact the trapper education coordinator at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 6273 or [ryan.sealy@yukon.ca](mailto:ryan.sealy@yukon.ca).

[Yukon.ca/trapper-education](https://Yukon.ca/trapper-education)



## **WANTED: WOLVERINE SKULLS**

Trappers - Bring your wolverine skulls to the nearest Environment Yukon office and receive \$50 per skull. Each skull must be tagged securely with the information seen on the poster. Put the frozen skull in a ziploc bag and if you'd like it returned, let the staff at Environment know.

As of November 2019 we have switched to skulls only. Trappers play a key role in effective furbearer management in Yukon. By bringing in your wolverine skulls, your help increase our understanding of the biology of wolverine. This information then helps inform long-term management decisions for this important furbearing species.

For more information contact: [Heather.Milligan@yukon.ca](mailto:Heather.Milligan@yukon.ca)



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Trappers - Bring your wolverine skulls to the nearest Environment Yukon office and receive **\$50 per skull**.

Each skull must be tagged securely with the information below.  
As of November 2019 we have switched to skulls only.

**Required Information:**

- Trapper name
- Trapper license number
- Concession number
- Date of harvest

Trappers play a key role in effective furbearer management in Yukon. By bringing in your wolverine skulls, your help increase our understanding of the biology of wolverine. This information then helps inform long-term management decisions for this important furbearing species.

For more information contact: [Heather.Milligan@yukon.ca](mailto:Heather.Milligan@yukon.ca)



## **Upcoming Events**

**AGM 2022, sometime in June, date and venue to be announced. Will keep you posted.**

**Fur and Craft Sale, October 2022, date and venue to be announced. Will keep you posted.**

## **Past events**

### **Fur and Craft Sale, October 16th, 2021**

We have held another successful Fur and Craft Sale last October. A big thank-you to the following volunteers: Jackie Yaklin, Shannon Pearson, Tracy Bowers, Vic Sokalski, Saul Parviainen and Brian Melanson. Thanks for the Melanson family, having donated a home-made trapper hat which got a new owner now, due to having had the lucky ticket!

### **Dawson Fur Show, March 19th, 2022**

by Jackie Yaklin

March 19<sup>th</sup> was a really GREAT day for Yukon Trappers Association. We set up our display unit, dressed the tables with tanned furs to sell, and enjoyed the show. Robert Stitt was once again holding a marten handling workshop, which was a big hit.

The 2022 Dawson Fur Show was quite small compared to previous years. The Dawson District Renewable Resource Council didn't want to take the risk of planning for a large event and then have to cancel due to Covid. They are planning another 2-day fur show for 2023, likely around the same time as the 2023 Thaw di Gras.

For me, I really enjoyed talking to trappers I hadn't seen for a while. There were a couple of trappers who wanted to come to our mobile fur depot in January (which was cancelled due to capacity reasons and the cold, cold



temperatures); those trappers were happy to bring their furs to us to send on to auction. Most of the furs, as in previous years, were to send on to the tannery. The most often heard comment is that we need to see more activity at the auction house before people feel comfortable about sending their furs there again.



### **Pelt handling workshops**



Mackenzie Mertz has put on 4 workshops between November and December 2021 and another 4 in March 2022. They're well attended.

### **Climate Change Impacts on Yukon Trappers** (for the Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust)

by Shannon Powell Consultants. Please find attached Shannon's final report on her trapper questionnaire work.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **Searching for trapper info**

Hello, I'm Steve from Snowline Gold. We are an exploration company in the middle of the permitting process for our Einarson Project in east central Yukon and are hoping to talk with the concession holders whose ground overlaps with our project. We are looking for the contact information for concession holders in areas 50, 104, 105.

Steve Rennalls, Operations Manager, Snowline Gold, t:+1 867 689 2238,  
e: [srennalls@snowlinegold.com](mailto:srennalls@snowlinegold.com)

**Moose hunting regulations**

To all trappers affected by this news: Get in contact with us, by email please (yukonfur@yknet.ca), state your trapline concession number and what you think about this. <https://www.yukon-news.com/.../yukon-party-wonders-why.../>

**Tanning all animals, cased or open, with or without hair.**

Haines Tannery. Linda Huber, phone 907 767 5669; or 907 796 9077 (cell); 30 days turnaround.

**Sponsors/Discounts**

BRP Bombardier Recreational Products Inc. has their trapping program still active for new Ski-Doos. This entitles you to a 10% discount off the retail of the machine.

Contact Yukon Honda, #1 Chilkoot Way, Whitehorse, Y.T., Y1A 6T6, t 1 867 668 4451 or [sales@yukonhonda.com](mailto:sales@yukonhonda.com).

Honda will need your trapping license copy. Please note that once again supply is limited, and probably no stock available if not pre-ordered.

Enjoy the down time back in civilization, and be safe,

the Board of Directors