

LICENSED FUR TRAPPERS REPORT
1975-76

A total of 931 trapping licenses were sold in the 1975-76 fur trapping season. This is a decrease of 21% from the 1,172 licenses sold in 1974-75 and an increase of 6% from the 878 sold in the 1973-74 trapping season.

Legislation enacted in 1974 requires every person who now takes furbearing or nongame mammals for profit to purchase a trapping license. The fees are \$10 adult, \$5 juvenile and \$25 nonresident.

	<u>1974-75</u>	<u>1975-76</u>
Licensees Who Reported Trapping Effort	411	724
Licensees Who Reported But Did Not Trap or Were Unsuccessful	124	126
Licensees Not Reporting	637	207
Total Licenses Sold	1,172	931

Revenue received by trappers from the sale of furs in 1975-76 based on average prices paid was \$719,431.40. This represents an increase of 155% from the \$282,104.00 reported for the 1974-75 season. The average income for successful trappers in 1975-76 was \$1,221.45. This is an increase of 78% from the \$687.00 per trapper in 1974-75.

Each year a portion of the fur catch is unsold. During the 1975-76 season 4.7% was unsold compared with 4% for the 1974-75 season. For the purpose of this report unsold pelts have the same monetary value as sold pelts. Therefore, the estimated value of the 1975-76 fur catch was \$767,436.75, an increase of 155% from the \$301,400.00 for 1974-75.

Bobcat was the most economically important pelt. This is the first time since the 1937-38 season that muskrat did not bring in the most revenue. The 2,203 bobcat taken is 58% more than last season's 1,393 and represents 2.5% of the 1975-76 catch. The average price paid for bobcat pelts was \$113.50, an increase of over 100% from the \$50.50 paid in 1974-75.

The 72,787 muskrats taken in 1975-76 represents 83.6% of the total catch and is 13% more than were taken in 1974-75. The average price paid for muskrat pelts was \$3.20, an increase of 30.6% from the 1974-75 price.

Other species of furbearers represented 14% of the total reported catch. The number of beaver, opossum and weasel were the same as in 1974-75. The numbers of the other furbearers were up from the 1974-75 season: badger 23%, coyote 35%, gray fox 102%, mink 29%, raccoon 70%, striped skunk 32% and spotted skunk 174%.

No furbearers were reported taken in Kings, Orange, San Francisco, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties.

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF FURREARERS TAKEN, RANGE OF PRICED PAID, AVERAGE PRICES PAID^{1/}, AND REVENUE RECEIVED, BY SPECIES
1974-75 AND 1975-76

SPECIES	HARVEST			FUR VALUE						HARVEST			FUR VALUE					
	SOLD	UNSOLD	TOTAL	MAX.	MIN.	AVG.	REVENUE	SOLD	UNSOLD	TOTAL	MAX.	MIN.	AVG.	REVENUE				
Badger	50	37	87	\$ 20.00	\$1.00	\$10.00	\$ 500.00	88	19	107	\$ 30.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 18.75	\$ 1,650.00				
Beaver	666	189	855	23.40	1.00	7.00	4,662.00	742	114	856	25.00	3.00	15.00	11,130.00				
Bobcat	1,284	109	1,393	110.00	3.00	50.50	64,862.00	2,096	107	2,203	300.00	10.00	133.50	279,816.00				
Coyote	2,009	287	2,296	36.00	1.00	12.65	25,414.00	2,717	340	3,057	50.00	2.00	29.20	79,336.40				
Gray Fox	820	110	930	18.00	2.00	12.12	9,938.40	1,717	163	1,880	25.00	5.00	24.80	42,581.60				
Mink	344	98	442	15.00	.15	6.65	2,287.00	430	140	570	15.00	2.00	10.40	4,472.00				
Muskrat	62,960	1,484	64,444	4.00	.60	2.45	154,252.00	70,962	1,825	72,787	4.50	.50	3.20	227,078.40				
Opossum	356	125	481	2.00	.20	1.30	462.80	367	128	495	2.50	.25	1.70	623.90				
Raccoon	1,935	112	2,047	17.00	1.00	9.75	18,866.25	3,132	357	3,489	26.00	4.00	22.80	71,409.60				
Striped Skunk	385	623	1,008	3.00	.25	1.90	731.50	524	806	1,330	3.50	.50	2.00	1,048.00				
Spotted Skunk	48	54	102	3.50	.50	2.60	124.80	113	167	280	5.00	.50	2.50	282.50				
Weasel	6	2	8	1.00	.25	.50	3.00	4	2	6	1.00	.25	.75	3.00				
Total	70,863	3,230	74,093				\$282,104.55	82,889	4,168	87,056				\$719,431.40				

^{1/}fur values determined from average prices paid as reported by fur buyers.

TABLE 2

NUMBER OF ANIMALS REPORTED TAKEN BY LICENSED FUR TRAPPERS BY SPECIES AND COUNTY
1975-76 TRAPPING SEASON

County of Catch	Badger	Beaver	Bobcat	Coyote	Gray Fox	Mink	Muskrat	Opossum	Raccoon	Striped Skunk	Spotted Skunk	Weasel	Total
Alameda	1	-	18	11	31	-	31	15	35	10	2	-	154
Alpine	1	-	13	9	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	30
Amador	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	7
Butte	1	64	39	43	82	1	9,304	64	210	59	102	-	9,969
Calaveras	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	31	4	-	-	39
Colusa	-	3	7	11	22	-	5,521	-	66	-	-	-	5,630
Contra Costa	-	20	-	-	-	2	450	-	4	-	-	-	476
Del Norte	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
El Dorado	-	1	15	46	17	-	6	2	28	1	-	-	116
Fresno	8	14	71	58	53	10	1,216	7	26	21	2	1	1,487
Glenn	-	30	28	41	48	-	3,544	23	178	30	1	-	3,923
Humboldt	2	2	224	32	157	4	-	-	290	86	24	1	822
Imperial	1	1	8	22	18	-	729	-	6	-	-	-	785
Inyo	7	24	118	158	19	-	-	-	32	3	-	-	361
Kern	4	3	71	40	75	-	73	2	4	-	-	-	272
Kings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lake	2	-	75	49	147	43	27	-	141	12	2	-	498
Lassen	11	47	52	364	1	-	1,077	1	40	42	14	1	1,650
Los Angeles	3	-	39	66	18	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	132
Madera	-	-	9	3	1	8	806	9	9	15	2	-	862
Marin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	8
Mariposa	-	-	20	20	19	-	-	4	8	5	-	-	76
Mendocino	-	-	66	17	81	1	-	-	94	27	3	-	289
Merced	1	10	8	27	22	52	5,137	46	110	25	-	-	5,438
Modoc	30	9	125	241	-	68	2,519	-	91	70	7	3	3,163
Mono	4	4	54	193	27	2	13	-	6	-	1	-	304
Monterey	-	-	-	2	25	-	-	-	27	-	-	-	54
Napa	-	-	17	22	29	-	65	1	48	57	-	-	239
Nevada	-	9	1	3	5	-	3	-	7	-	-	-	28
Orange	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Placer	-	14	8	12	31	1	545	17	187	24	4	-	843
Plumas	1	68	20	90	5	7	296	-	23	6	-	-	516
Riverside	5	-	97	174	46	-	1	2	21	11	-	-	357
Sacramento	2	118	-	35	8	57	3,432	56	295	73	-	-	4,076
San Benito	-	-	39	22	3	-	-	36	14	53	3	-	170
San Bernardino	11	-	94	213	66	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	394
San Diego	1	-	190	304	125	-	24	9	40	20	8	-	721
San Francisco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
San Joaquin	-	136	18	2	72	104	5,322	23	185	70	50	-	5,982
San Luis Obispo	2	-	40	30	40	-	-	15	6	48	2	-	183
San Mateo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	11
Santa Barbara	1	-	21	39	24	-	-	32	10	80	14	-	221
Santa Clara	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Santa Cruz	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shasta	3	64	122	168	72	12	8,533	9	218	68	2	-	9,271
Sierra	-	22	3	22	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	50
Siskiyou	2	39	107	108	14	177	5,122	-	128	8	2	-	5,707
Solano	-	47	94	34	87	3	3,867	15	146	191	26	-	4,510
Sonoma	-	-	34	-	24	-	-	-	90	19	4	-	171
Stanislaus	1	32	7	12	42	7	3,091	24	152	43	-	-	3,411
Sutter	-	8	-	1	6	-	3,997	8	22	6	-	-	4,048
Tehama	-	24	73	173	122	2	251	48	245	124	4	-	1,066
Trinity	1	-	28	30	39	9	-	-	52	2	-	-	161
Tulare	-	-	30	11	10	-	-	16	20	-	-	-	87
Tuolumne	-	-	16	7	11	-	-	-	14	3	-	-	51
Ventura	1	-	41	59	28	-	-	2	5	1	1	-	138
Yolo	-	20	7	15	60	-	5,756	6	56	9	-	-	5,929
Yuba	-	23	33	11	41	-	2,029	3	30	-	-	-	2,170
Total Animals Trapped	107	856	2,203	3,057	1,880	570	72,787	495	3,489	1,330	280	6	87,060
Percent of Total Catch	0.13	1.0	2.5	3.5	2.2	0.65	83.6	0.57	4.0	1.5	0.32	.006	