

LICENSED FUR TRAPPER REPORT

(1957-58 Season, Nov. 16, 1957 to February 28, 1958)
(Compiled by Game Management Branch, Sacramento)

Data for this report is compiled from reports of licensed fur trappers. Each trapper is required by law to fill out and return to the Department at the end of each trapping season a record of activities including the following data: Number and kind of animals caught, county where caught, company buying furs, and prices received for furs.

823 licenses were sold for the 1957-58 season, of which 819 were citizens and 4 were aliens. This is a decrease of (6%) six percent under the 1956-57 season when 858 licenses were sold. Of the 823 licensees, 615 (75%) submitted reports, 208 (25%) failed to report, and 236 (29%) reported they did not trap.

The increase in the number of licensees failing to report may be attributed to the inception of a new method of reporting. In prior years at the close of the trapping season each trapper was mailed a form and a transmittal letter reminding him that the report was mandatory and due, prior to June 30 following the close of the season. This season the report form was attached to the 1957-58 license. Many trappers complained that it became lost or was forgotten even though a postal card of warning was mailed on May 15, 1958.

Trapping laws remained the same as last year except for further reduction in the restrictions on Beaver trapping in certain parts of the State.

The total reported catch for the 1957-58 season was 82,172 against the total reported catch of 85,252 for the 1956-57 season, a decrease of 3.61 percent. Muskrats, which accounted for 82 percent of the total reported catch, are still in poor demand by both foreign and domestic markets. Raccoon and Skunk were purchased in limited quantities but for the most part fur buyers' interests were for the dark, short-haired furs like mink, muskrat and otter, and beaver in the large and blanket sized pelts only.

The estimated value of the 1957-58 catch was \$86,837.00, a decrease of 9.60% under the 1956-57 season. The main reason for this decrease is the proportionate decrease in the number of trappers and the continued low prices being paid for muskrat, the species in most abundance.

The following table shows the number of animals taken and the average price received for the main fur species:

Species	Number Taken		Prices Reported	
	1956-57	1957-58	1956-57	1957-58
Beaver	2,247	1,755	\$ 5.42	\$ 5.75
Bobcat	276	202	1.29	1.90
Coyote	170	74	.53	.99
Grey Fox	449	259	.27	.29
Mink	2,906	1,947	8.26	6.94
Muskrat	73,795	74,291	.69	.66
Raccoon	2,220	1,679	1.10	1.15
Ringtail	171	66	1.18	1.04
River Otter	142	126	16.38	14.58
Striped Skunk	729	1,010	.90	.95

NUMBER OF ANIMALS REPORTED TAKEN BY
LICENSED FUR TRAPPERS 1957-58 TRAPPING SEASON

COUNTY OF CATCH	NO. OF TRAPPERS	BADGER	BEAVER	COB-CAT	COYOTE	GREY FOX	RED FOX	MINK	MUSKRAT	SANDRAT	OPOSSUM	RACCOON	RINGTAIL	RIVER OTTER	SPOTTED SKUNK	STRIPED SKUNK	WEASEL	TOTAL
ALAMEDA	2	-	-	12	2	-	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	20
ALPINE	1	-	-	12	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	21
AMADOR	1	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	18
BUTTE	20	-	30	9	18	23	-	3,150	-	17	178	178	9	2	132	2	2	3,598
COLUSA	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	3,542	-	-	16	16	-	-	51	-	-	3,617
CONTRA COSTA	11	-	17	-	-	2	-	1,446	-	34	110	-	-	2	-	-	3	1,729
DEL NORTE	4	-	-	40	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	46
ELDORADO	3	-	-	1	-	12	-	8	-	-	32	32	1	2	51	-	-	106
FRESNO	3	-	4	-	-	-	-	167	-	3	13	13	1	5	13	-	-	205
GLENN	18	-	31	2	1	-	2	4,766	-	9	83	83	1	25	68	-	-	4,977
HUMBOLDT	18	-	87	36	-	13	-	23	-	-	108	108	7	-	10	-	-	316
IMPERIAL	6	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	287	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	313
LAKE	6	-	-	8	-	28	-	24	-	-	52	52	2	-	1	-	-	117
LASSEN	10	-	20	2	1	-	-	15	2,210	4	3	3	-	-	18	-	-	2,278
LOS ANGELES	3	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	5
MADERA	2	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	366	-	-	9	-	-	1	-	-	398
MARIPOSA	3	-	38	5	6	12	-	40	-	-	18	18	11	-	2	-	-	132
MENDOCINO	9	-	-	5	-	16	-	45	1	-	27	27	10	23	10	-	-	137
MERCED	29	1	428	5	4	15	-	365	6,646	111	213	213	-	-	19	232	-	6,039
MODOC	9	-	34	8	-	6	-	34	2,428	-	18	18	-	-	4	1	4	2,531
MONO	1	-	26	17	3	6	-	71	-	-	12	12	-	-	1	1	1	137
YUBA	4	-	-	1	-	8	-	14	-	-	35	35	-	-	21	-	-	79
NEVADA	2	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
PLACER	7	-	19	2	5	8	-	1	94	-	7	7	1	-	5	-	-	144
PLUMAS	31	-	234	8	12	3	-	31	82	-	17	17	1	-	6	-	3	397
RIVERSIDE	1	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	71	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	121
SACRAMENTO	24	-	80	-	-	2	-	149	6,015	-	124	124	-	2	35	-	-	6,407
SAN BERNARDINO	2	-	25	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	12	6	-	-	35
SAN JOAQUIN	26	-	150	-	-	16	-	547	6,627	1	80	80	-	-	48	-	2	7,483
SAN LUIS OBISPO	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
SAN MATEO	2	-	-	7	21	-	-	-	-	3	25	25	-	-	-	-	-	66
SHASTA	31	-	51	6	5	8	-	23	7,288	-	48	48	6	7	12	-	1	7,456
SIERRA	9	-	54	3	-	2	-	32	141	-	19	19	-	-	3	-	2	257
SISKIYOU	29	-	2	7	5	3	-	84	13,171	-	123	123	3	10	12	-	-	13,423
SOLANO	13	-	10	-	-	3	-	187	6,750	-	55	55	-	24	6	-	-	7,164

COUNTY	NUMBER OF ANIMALS REPORTED - 1957-58																TOTAL	
	NO. OF TRAPPERS	BADGER	BEAVER	BOBCAT	COYOTE	GREY FOX	RED FOX	MINK	MUSKRAT	SANDRAT	OPOSSUM	RACCOON	RINGTAIL	RIVER OTTER	SPOTTED SKUNK	STRIPED SKUNK		WEASEL
SONOMA	2	-	-	11	2	22	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	17	16	4	91
STANISLAUS	17	-	214	1	-	21	188	3,161	-	-	32	46	-	-	1	15	-	3,674
SUTTER	6	9	15	-	2	-	-	1,112	-	-	-	40	-	-	-	30	-	1,208
TEHAMA	6	-	26	3	-	-	-	31	-	-	-	50	3	14	2	20	-	149
TRINITY	-	-	3	-	4	7	39	1	-	-	-	30	7	-	2	12	-	109
YOLO	15	-	21	-	-	3	16	3,439	-	-	-	16	-	-	20	37	-	3,552
YUBA	3	-	30	1	-	1	-	1,529	-	-	-	14	3	-	-	14	-	1,592
No. of Animals	397	10	1,755	202	74	259	6	1,947	74,291	358	214	1,679	66	126	153	1,010	22	82,172

% OF TOTAL CATCH - 2.13 .24 TRACE 31 - 2.36 90 .43 .26 2 TRACE .15 .19 1.22 - 100

No. of Pelts Sold 1 1,658 110 27 114 2 1,770 67,699 334 96 1,331 60 118 68 616 15 74,019

NO TRAPPING REPORTED FROM THE FOLLOWING SIXTEEN COUNTIES: CALAVERAS, INYO, KERN, KINGS, MARIN, MONTEREY, ORANGE, SAN BENITO, SAN DIEGO, SAN FRANCISCO, SANTA BARBARA, SANTA CLARA, SANTA CRUZ, TULARE, TUOLUMNE AND VENTURA COUNTIES.

NUMBER OF LICENSES SOLD 823
 NUMBER OF TRAPPERS REPORTING 615
 NUMBER OF TRAPPERS NOT REPORTING 208
 NUMBER OF TRAPPERS NOT TRAPPING 236

AVERAGE OF REPORTED PRICES - 1957-58

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COUNTY	CATCH	BADGER	BEAVER	BOBCAT	COYOTE	GREY FOX	RED FOX	MINK	MUSKRAT	SANDRAT	POSSUM	RACCOON	RINGTAIL	RIVER OTTER	SPOTTED SKUNK	STRIPED SKUNK	WEASEL
STANISLAUS		\$5.34	\$1.50					\$7.34	.62		.22	.98			.75	\$1.12	
SUTTER		5.40							.67			.83					
TEHAMA		6.88	2.00						.64			1.28	\$1.00	\$13.68	.75	1.00	
TRINITY		2.50			\$1.50			10.27	.25			.81	1.25			.40	
YOLO		4.69						5.27	.64			.94					
YUBA		8.00	1.00			.30			.65			1.03	.92			.68	
STATEWIDE AVERAGE		\$5.75	\$1.90		\$.99	\$.29	\$.75	\$ 6.94	.66	.27	.23	1.15	\$1.04	\$14.58	.67	.95	.61

NO FUR REPORTED FROM THE FOLLOWING SIXTEEN COUNTIES: CALAVERAS, INYO, KERN, KINGS, MARIN, MONTEREY, ORANGE, SAN BENITO, SAN DIEGO, SAN FRANCISCO, SANTA BARBARA, SANTA CLARA, SANTA CRUZ, TULARE, TUOLUMNE, AND VENTURA COUNTIES