

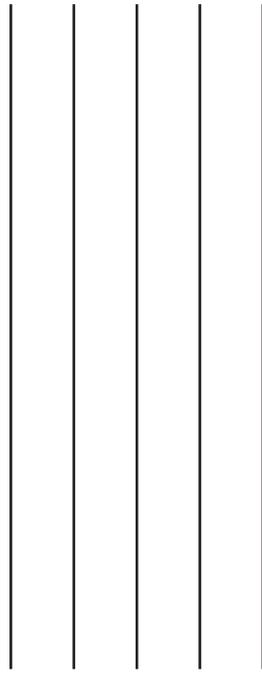
Learn more about trapping in Vermont at: [protectourwildlifevt.org/trapping](http://protectourwildlifevt.org/trapping) and why we are seeking to ban this activity that has no relevance in civilized society.



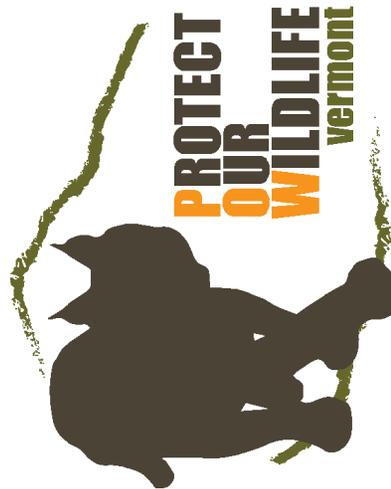
*This Vermont bobcat is painfully restrained by the back leg in what is supposed to be a "kill" trap.*



*This Vermont coyote is painfully restrained in a leghold trap while trapper takes photo.*



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## DANGERS & CRUELTIES OF TRAPPING IN VERMONT



*Ira's leg had to be amputated after getting caught in a leghold trap.*

Leghold and Body Gripping Traps Injure and Kill Dogs and Cats, and Endangered and Protected Species Every Year

75% of Vermont residents polled in 2017 want to ban the use of leghold, body gripping and drowning traps.

Learn more at: [www.ProtectOurWildlifeVT.org](http://www.ProtectOurWildlifeVT.org)

## The Grim Realities of Trapping in Vermont

Each year in Vermont, countless furbearing animals, including bobcats, foxes, otters and others are trapped and killed under the unregulated practice of “nuisance wildlife control.” Others are senselessly killed during trapping season for recreation, tradition, and for their fur.

- Trapping is barbaric and antiquated
- Non-targeted animals die, including dogs and cats
- Laws are often ignored and regulations are difficult to enforce
- Trapping serves no benefit to the general public and places pets at risk
- Traps are placed on public lands, including National Wildlife Refuges, with no required signage or set backs from trails

During the official trapping season, regulations require trappers to check their land traps every 24 hours, but this is very difficult to monitor and enforce. During these 24 (or more) hours, trapped animals are subjected to harsh elements and suffer from: blood loss, predation, severed tendons, torn ligaments, dislocated joints, broken bones and teeth and bloodied mouths (from desperately chewing at the trap to free themselves). Many die trying in vain to escape the jaws of the trap. With no other hope of escape, trapped animals may resort to amputating their own limbs. Trappers call this grim act of despair “wring-off.”

The suffering doesn’t end when the trapper returns to check the traps since **there are no regulations in Vermont as to how a trapped animal must be killed. Trappers bludgeon, drown, strangle, stomp on (to crush the trapped animal’s heart and lungs) and if the animal is “lucky”, it’s shot in the head.**



Raccoons are known to chew off their own limbs to free themselves from leghold traps.



*Animals like this Vermont red fox who was trapped, are often bludgeoned and stomped on to crush the animal’s heart and lungs. This is done to not ruin the pelt with a bullet hole.*

**If these acts were inflicted upon a domestic animal, the person would be in violation of Vermont’s cruelty to animals statute.**



*Vermont protected species, like this raven who was caught in a leghold trap, are trapped every year.*