

## DIVISION 050

## FURBEARING AND UNPROTECTED MAMMAL REGULATIONS

1 **635-050-0015**2 **Purpose**

3 The purpose of these rules is to establish season dates, bag limits and manner of harvest of  
4 furbearing and unprotected mammals pursuant to ORS Chapter 496.

5 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496

6 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496

7

8 **635-050-0045**9 **General Furbearer Regulations**

10 The following general regulations apply to furbearer seasons:

11 (1) The appropriate furtaker's license or hunting license for furbearers must be in possession to  
12 hunt and/or trap furbearers.

13 (2) Any person possessing a valid furtaker's license or hunting license for furbearers is required  
14 to fill out and return a completed harvest report form to the Department at 3406 Cherry Avenue NE,  
15 Salem, Oregon 97303. The form shall be postmarked by April 15, 20~~[11]~~13 for the 20~~[10]~~12–  
16 20~~[11]~~13 seasons and April 15, 20~~[12]~~14 for the 20~~[11]~~13–20~~[12]~~14 seasons. Failure to do so shall  
17 deny the license holder the opportunity to purchase a hunting license for furbearers or furtaker's  
18 license for the following furbearer season, unless the non-compliant licensee pays a fee of \$50.00  
19 and completes and returns the harvest report form prior to the requested license being issued.

20 (3) Any person may sell or exchange the hide, carcass, or any part thereof, of any legally taken  
21 furbearing or unprotected mammal.

22 (4) All traps and snares, whether set for furbearing or other unprotected mammals, shall be  
23 legibly marked or branded with the owner's license (brand) number that has been assigned by the  
24 Department; except that unmarked traps or snares may be set for nongame mammals unprotected by  
25 law or Department regulations by any person or member of his immediate family upon land of which  
26 he is the lawful owner. A landowner is required to register the location of such land with the  
27 Department and shall possess each year a free landowner's license before hunting or trapping  
28 furbearing mammals.

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1 (5) No branded trap or snare may be sold unless accompanied by a uniform bill of sale.

2 (6) Bobcat, raccoon and opossum may be hunted with the aid of an artificial light provided the  
3 light is not cast from or attached to a motor vehicle or boat.

4 (7) An artificial light may be used to provide light to aid in the dispatch of animals legally  
5 restrained in a trap or snare.

6 (8) Use of dogs is permitted to hunt or pursue bobcat, raccoon, fox, and unprotected mammals.

7 (9) It is unlawful for any person to trap for furbearers, predatory animals or unprotected  
8 mammals using:

9 (a) A steel foothold trap with a jaw spread greater than 9 inches.

10 (b) A No. 3 or larger foothold trap or any foothold trap with an inside jaw spread at dog greater  
11 than 6" not having a jaw spacing of at least 3/16 of one inch when the trap is sprung (measurement  
12 excludes pads on padded jaw traps) and when the trap is placed in a manner that is not capable of  
13 drowning a trapped animal.

14 (c) The flesh of any game bird, game fish, game mammal for trap bait.

15 (d) Any [~~instant-kill~~] **killing** trap having a jaw spread of 9 inches or more in any land set.

16 (e) **Any killing trap having a jaw spread of 7.5 inches or more but less than 9 inches, in a**  
17 **land set on public lands, at a distance greater than 50 feet from a permanent water source or a**  
18 **seasonal water source when water is present except when authorized by the Oregon**  
19 **Department of Fish and Wildlife.**

20 (f) Any toothed trap, or trap with a protuberance on the facing edge of the jaws that is  
21 intended to hold the animal (except pads on padded jaw traps).

22 (g) Or possessing the branded traps or snares of another unless in possession of written  
23 permission from the person to whom the brand is registered.

24 (h) Sight bait within 15 feet of any foothold trap set for carnivores.

25 (10) Except for persons authorized to enforce the wildlife laws, it is unlawful to disturb or  
26 remove the traps or snares of any licensed trapper while he is trapping on public lands or on land  
27 where he has permission to trap.

28 (11) All traps or snares set or used for the taking of furbearing or unprotected mammals shall be  
29 inspected at least every 48 hours and all trapped animals removed. This regulation does not apply to  
30 the taking of predatory animals.

1 (12) Any person setting a trap for predatory animals, as defined in ORS 610.002, must check the  
2 trap as follows:

3 (a) For killing traps and snares, at least once every 30 days and remove all animals;

4 (b) For restraining traps and snares, at least once every 76 hours and remove all animals.

5 However, restraining traps and snares set by a person owning, leasing, occupying, possessing or  
6 having charge of or dominion over any land, place, building, structure, wharf, pier or dock or their  
7 agent, and set for predatory animals damaging land, livestock or agricultural or forest crops, shall be  
8 checked at least once every 7 days. Any person(s) acting as an agent for a landowner shall have in  
9 their possession written authority from the landowner or lawful occupant of the land. Such written  
10 authority shall contain at least all of the following:

11 (A) The date of issuance of the authorization;

12 (B) The name, address, telephone number and signature of the person granting the authorization;

13 (C) The name, address and telephone number of the person to whom the authorization is granted;

14 and

15 (D) The expiration date of the authorization, which shall be not later than one year from the date  
16 of issuance of the authorization.

17 (13) A "killing trap" means a device used to kill a mammal as part of a killing trap system. A  
18 killing trap system is a system set with the intent to kill a mammal comprising a combination of:  
19 equipment (the trap and trigger configuration), and set (including site modifications, lures, baits,  
20 location and other relevant requirements).

21 (14) A "restraining trap" means a device used to capture and restrain (but not kill) a mammal as  
22 part of a restraining trap system. A restraining trap system is a system set with the intent to capture  
23 and restrain (but not kill) a mammal comprising a combination of: equipment (the trap and the  
24 trigger configuration), and set (including site modifications, lures, baits, location and other relevant  
25 requirements).

26 (15) These general furbearer regulations do not apply to the trapping of gophers, moles, ground  
27 squirrels and mountain beaver.

28 (16) When any furbearer or raw furbearer pelt is transferred to the possession of another person, a  
29 written record indicating the name and address of the person from whom the raw pelt was obtained  
30 shall accompany such transfer and remain with same so long as preserved in raw pelt form.

1 (17) It is unlawful for any person to damage or destroy any muskrat house at any time except  
2 where such muskrat house is an obstruction to a private or public ditch or watercourse.

3 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

4 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

5 **635-050-0047**

6 **On public lands, except when authorized by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, no**  
7 **traps may be set:**

8 (a) **Within 50 feet of any public trail;**

9 (b) **Within 300 feet of any trailhead that is designated and maintained as such by the public**  
10 **land management agency and is accessible to vehicular traffic; or**

11 (c) **Within 300 feet of any public campground or picnic area designated and maintained as**  
12 **such by the public land management agency.**

13  
14 **635-050-0050**

15 **Definitions**

16 (1) "Western Oregon" means all counties west of the summit of the Cascade range except  
17 Klamath and Hood River Counties.

18 (2) "Eastern Oregon" means all counties east of the summit of the Cascade range, including  
19 all of Klamath and Hood River Counties.

20 (3) "Raw pelt" means any pelt that has not been processed or converted to any usable form  
21 beyond initial cleaning, stretching, and drying.

22 (4) "Resident" means any person who has resided in Oregon for a period of at least six  
23 months immediately prior to the date of making application for a license or tag. Members of the  
24 armed forces assigned to permanent duty status in Oregon, including spouses and dependent  
25 children, and alien students attending school in Oregon under a foreign student exchange program  
26 may purchase a resident license and tags. All other persons are nonresidents.

27 (5) "River" means that portion of a natural water body lying below the level of bankfull stage.  
28 Bankfull stage means the stage or elevation at which overflow of the natural banks of a stream or  
29 body of water begins to inundate the upland.

30 (6) "Sight bait" means exposed flesh bait, including whole animal carcasses, within 15 feet of  
31 any foothold trap set for carnivores.

1 (7) "Furbearers or furbearing mammals" means beaver, bobcat, fisher, marten, mink, muskrat,  
2 otter, raccoon, red fox, and gray fox.

3 (8) "Predatory animals" means coyotes, rabbits and rodents which are or may be destructive  
4 to agricultural crops, products and activities.

5 (9) "Unprotected mammals" means, for the purposes of OAR 635-050-0015 through 635-  
6 050-0210, badger, coyote, gophers (*Thomomys bottae*, *T. bulbivorus*, *T. mazama*, *T. talpoides* and *T.*  
7 *townsendii*), moles (*Scapanus townsendii*, *S. orarius* and *S. latimanus*), mountain beaver  
8 (*Apolodontia rufa*), yellowbellied marmots (*Marmonta flaviventris*), nutria, opossum, porcupine,  
9 spotted skunk, striped skunk, and weasel.

10 **(10) Public trail is any trail 50 inches or less in width designated and maintained by any**  
11 **city, county, state, or federal transportation or land management agency on the most current**  
12 **official map of the agency; roads and waterways are not considered a "public trail".**

13 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, ORS 496.138, ORS 496.146 & ORS 496.162

14 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, ORS 496.138, ORS 496.146 & ORS 496.162

15  
16 **635-050-0060**

17 **Times, Places, Bag Limits, Species, Sex, and Manner of Taking**

18 Each species of furbearing or unprotected mammal may be hunted or trapped only during the  
19 times and in the places, quantities, and manner specifically provided for in OAR 635-050-0015  
20 through 635-050-0210.

21 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146& 496.162

22 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146& 496.162

23  
24 **Furbearer Harvest Seasons**

25 **635-050-0070**

26 **Beaver**

27 Open Season: November 15, 20[10]12 through March 15, 20[11]13 and November 15,  
28 20[11]13 through March 15, 20[12]14 in the following described areas:

29 (1) Clackamas County. All open except waters within the exterior boundaries of Mt.Hood  
30 National Forest.

1 (2) Crook County. All open except Prineville Reservoir below high water line and the  
2 Ochoco National Forest.

3 (3) Curry County. All open except the Rogue River from the east county line to the mouth.

4 (4) Grant County. All open except within the exterior boundaries of the Ochoco National  
5 Forest; Murderers Creek and Deer Creek, tributaries of the South Fork John Day River, within the  
6 exterior boundaries of the Malheur National Forest.

7 (5) Jefferson County. All open except that portion of Willow Creek and its tributaries on the  
8 National Grasslands.

9 (6) Josephine County. All open except Rogue River from the confluence of Grave Creek  
10 downstream to the county line.

11 (7) Union County. All open except:

12 (a) Waters inside exterior boundaries of National Forests. However, private inholdings within  
13 the National Forest remain open.

14 (b) Grande Ronde River above Beaver Creek.

15 (c) All tributaries of the Grande Ronde River above the confluence of Five Points Creek.  
16 (Five Points Creek open to the National Forest boundary.)

17 (8) Wallowa County. All open except:

18 (a) Wallowa River and tributaries above Wallowa Lake.

19 (b) Lostine River, Hurricane Creek, Bear Creek and their tributaries above the Wallowa-  
20 Whitman National Forest boundary.

21 (c) Minam River and tributaries.

22 (d) Peavine Creek, a tributary of Chesnimnus Creek.

23 (9) Wheeler County. All open except within the exterior boundaries of the Ochoco National  
24 Forest and Bridge Creek at its tributaries within the exterior boundaries of Bureau of Land  
25 Management lands.

26 (10) Other counties: All of the following counties in their entirety: Baker, Benton, Clatsop,  
27 Columbia, Coos, Deschutes, Douglas, Gilliam, Hood River, Harney, Jackson, Klamath, Lake, Lane,  
28 Lincoln, Linn, Malheur, Marion, Morrow, Multnomah, Polk, Sherman, Tillamook, Umatilla, Wasco,  
29 Washington and Yamhill.

30 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

31 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

1 **635-050-0080**

2 **Bobcat**

3 (1) The open harvest season for bobcat is December 1, 20[40]12 through February 28,  
4 20[44]13 and December 1, 20[44]13 through February [29]28, 20[42]14.

5 (2) The bag limit for bobcat in those counties east of the summit of the Cascade Range  
6 (including Hood River and Klamath counties) is five per season per licensed hunter or trapper.

7 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

8 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

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10 **635-050-0090**

11 **Gray Fox**

12 (1) Open Season: November 15, 20[40]12 through February 28, 20[44]13 and November 15,  
13 20[44]13 through February [29]28, 20[42]14.

14 (2) Open area: Entire state.

15 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

16 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

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18 **635-050-0100**

19 **Red Fox**

20 Open Seasons and areas are as follows:

21 (1) Open season entire year in Baker, Gilliam, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union,  
22 Wallowa and Wheeler counties (Furtaker license is required).

23 (2) October 15, 20[40]12 through January 15, 20[44]13 and October 15, 20[44]13 through  
24 January 15, 20[42]14 in remainder of state.

25 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

26 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.

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28 **635-050-0110**

29 **Marten**

30 (1) Open season: November 1, 20[40]12 through January 31, 20[44]13 and November 1,  
31 20[44]13 through January 31, 20[42]14.

1 (2) Open area: Entire state.

2 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

3 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

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5 **635-050-0120**

6 **Mink**

7 (1) Open season: November 15, 20[10]12 through March 31, 20[11]13 and November 15,  
8 20[11]13 through March 31, 20[12]14.

9 (2) Open area: Entire state.

10 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

11 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

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13 **635-050-0130**

14 **Muskrat**

15 (1) Open season: November 15, 20[10]12 through March 31, 20[11]13 and November 15,  
16 20[11]13 through March 31, 20[12]14.

17 (2) Open area: Entire state.

18 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

19 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

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21 **635-050-0140**

22 **Raccoon**

23 (1) Open season: November 15, 20[10]12 through March [31]15, 20[11]13 and November  
24 15, 20[11]13 through March [31] 15, 20[12]14.

25 (2) Open area: Entire state.

26 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

27 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

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29 **635-050-0150**

30 **River Otter**



1 (1) Open season: November 15, 20[10]12 through March 15, 20[11]13 and November 15,  
2 20[11]13 through March 15, 20[12]14.

3 (2) Open area: Entire state except for all areas closed to beaver trapping in OAR 635-050-  
4 0070.

5 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

6 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

7  
8 **635-050-0160**

9 **Wolverine, Fisher, Ringtail Cat, Sea Otter and Kit Fox**

10 There is no open season.

11 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496

12 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496

13  
14 **635-050-0165**

15 **Badger, Coyote, Nutria, Opossum, Porcupine, Spotted Skunk, Striped Skunk and Weasel**

16 There is no closed season.

17 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496

18 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496

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20 **635-050-0170**

21 **Pursuit Seasons**

22 (1) The following pursuit seasons are authorized:

23 (a) Bobcat: September 1, 20[10]12 through February 28, 20[11]13 and September 1,  
24 20[11]13 through February [29]28, 20[12]14.

25 (b) Fox: September 1, 20[10]12 through February 28, 20[11]13 and September 1, 20[11]13  
26 through February [29]28, 20[12]14.

27 (c) Raccoon: September 1, 20[10]12 through March 15, 20[11]13 and September 1, 20[11]13  
28 through March 15, 20[12]14.

29 (2) License Requirements: Furtaker's license or hunting license for furbearers shall be on  
30 one's person during pursuit.

31 (3) No animals shall be killed except during authorized open harvest season.

1 (4) A bobcat record card shall be on one's person while taking or attempting to take bobcat.  
2 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162  
3 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162  
4

5 **635-050-0180**

6 **Bobcat and River Otter Record Cards**

7 (1) Each person desiring to hunt or trap bobcat or river otter shall purchase a bobcat or river  
8 otter record card prior to hunting or trapping bobcat or river otter.

9 (2) Bobcat record cards will be available for a fee of \$20.00 (plus a \$2.00 license agent fee) per  
10 card.

11 (3) River otter record cards will be available for a fee of \$15.00 (plus a \$2.00 license agent fee)  
12 per card.

13 (4) Record cards will be available at the Salem headquarters and regional offices of the  
14 Department.

15 (5) River otter cards will have spaces for recording 15 river otters. There is no limit on the  
16 purchase of river otter record cards.

17 (6) Each western Oregon bobcat record card will have spaces for recording 15 bobcats. There is  
18 no limit on purchase of western Oregon bobcat record cards.

19 (7) No more than one record card for eastern Oregon bobcats will be issued to any furtaker or  
20 hunter. A duplicate card may be issued, but no more than the bag limit described for eastern Oregon  
21 bobcats in OAR 635-050-0080 may be taken in a season.

22 (8) No person may obtain or possess both eastern and western Oregon bobcat record cards.

23 (9) Bobcat and river otter record cards shall not be sold after the end of their respective seasons.

24 (10) Each furtaker shall have the appropriate record card on his person while trapping or  
25 hunting bobcat or river otter.

26 (11) Furtakers shall not have record cards other than their own on their person while in the  
27 field.

28 (12) Upon coming into possession of any bobcat or river otter, the furtaker shall immediately  
29 write on the record card, species, sex, date of possession and county of harvest.

30 (13) Each furtaker shall retain the record card until he disposes of the raw pelts.

31 (14) Fees paid for unused record cards shall not be refunded.

1 (15) It is unlawful to alter or be in possession of an altered bobcat or river otter record card.

2 (16) Each licensee shall register a brand number to obtain a bobcat or river otter record card.

3 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

4 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

5  
6 **635-050-0183**

7 **Bobcat and River Otter Ownership Tags**

8 (1) The ownership tag shall be affixed by Department personnel at district and regional  
9 offices and shall remain so affixed while the pelt is in raw form.

10 (2) Ownership tags may be used as foreign export tags.

11 (3) Each ownership tag authorizes the holder to sell one bobcat or river otter.

12 (4) Each person shall have an ownership tag affixed to his or her bobcat or river otter pelt at a  
13 Department district or regional office within five business days after the season ends.

14 (5) It shall be *unlawful* to possess a 20[~~10~~]**12**– 20[~~11~~]**13** or 20[~~11~~]**13** – 20[~~12~~]**14** harvested  
15 bobcat or river otter after five business days following the season closure without an ownership tag.

16 (6) It shall be *unlawful* to sell or remove from the state a 20[~~10~~]**12** – 20[~~11~~]**13** or 20[~~11~~]**13** –  
17 20[~~12~~]**14** harvested bobcat or river otter pelt without the respective year's ownership tag.

18 (7) A furtaker shall be responsible for surrendering to the Oregon Department of Fish and  
19 Wildlife the lower jawbone and information on sex, date of catch and county of harvest with each  
20 individual Oregon bobcat and river otter to qualify for ownership tags. A district office may, on a  
21 case-by-case basis, waive the lower jawbone requirement where the furtaker provides evidence that  
22 failure to provide the jawbone is due to unexpected circumstances beyond his or her control.

23 (8) The record card with the required information including species, sex, date of possession  
24 and county shall be presented to obtain an ownership tag.

25 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

26 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.

27  
28 **635-050-0189**

29 **Special Bobcat and River Otter Regulations**

30 (1) Raw pelts taken prior to September 1, 1982 may not be sold unless they were metal-  
31 sealed by the Oregon State Police or the Department prior to that date.

1 (2) Those persons failing to comply with 20[10]12 – 20[11]13 or 20[11]13– 20[12]14  
2 Special Bobcat and River Otter Regulations shall not be issued a license for the following furbearer  
3 season and shall be subject to the penalties provided in ORS 496.992.

4 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

5 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

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7 **635-050-0200**

8 **Refuges Open to Hunting or Trapping**

9 All state wildlife refuges, except those specified as closed to all hunting or trapping, are open to  
10 hunting or trapping of furbearing mammals and mammals unprotected by law or Department  
11 regulations during the respective open seasons within the period November 1 through March 31.

12 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, ORS 496.138, ORS 496.146 & ORS 496.162

13 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, ORS 496.138, ORS 496.146 & ORS 496.162

14  
15 **635-050-0210**

16 **Areas Closed to Hunting or Trapping**

17 It is *unlawful* to hunt or trap furbearing mammals or unprotected mammals on the following  
18 areas except as authorized by permit or as provided in section (24) of this section:

19 (1) Cemeteries;

20 (2) City and municipal watersheds declared to be refuges;

21 (3) Enterprise Wildlife Area, south of U.P. Railroad, and Marr tract;

22 (4) Federal refuges;

23 (5) Denman Wildlife Area;

24 (6) Fern Ridge Wildlife Area;

25 (7) Irrigon Wildlife Area;

26 (8) Jewell Meadows Wildlife Area;

27 (9) Klamath Wildlife Area;

28 (10) Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area;

29 (11) McDonald Forest (Benton County);

30 (12) Metolius Wildlife Refuge;

31 (13) North Bank Habitat Management Area (BLM);

- 1 (14) Public campgrounds;
- 2 (15) National, state and public parks;
- 3 (16) Rimrock Springs Wildlife Area;
- 4 (17) Sauvie Island Wildlife Area;
- 5 (18) School lands;
- 6 (19) Summer Lake Wildlife Area;
- 7 (20) E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area;

8 **(21) St. Louis Ponds**

9 **(22)** Within city boundaries (note, however, that ORS 498.012 allows landowners and their agents  
10 to trap for the purpose of dealing with certain types of damage, public nuisance and public health  
11 risk. This authority overrides the restriction on trapping within cities);

12 **(23)** Tillicum Natural Area.

13 **(24)** Notwithstanding section **(22)** of this rule, trapping furbearing and unprotected mammals is  
14 permitted within incorporated city limits as follows:

15 (a) Warrenton, except within 100 yards of any residential building or within the boundaries of  
16 Fort Stevens State Park;

17 (b) Klamath Falls, on a person's own property for muskrat and beaver;

18 (c) Bend, as approved and permitted by the Department;

19 (d) Cottage Grove; applicants must submit written request to the City of Cottage Grove for a  
20 trapping permit.

21 Stat. Auth.: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

22 Stats. Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146 & 496.162

23

24 Amended June 2011