



Help Protect the American Marten



Marten tracks

Front



Hind





You Can Help Protect the American Marten

How Can You Help:

As a trapper we need your help, as there are things you can do to avoid incidental take of the State Endangered American marten (*Martes americana*). Such as:

- **Know before you go**- See the map on the back of this brochure. These areas are where marten are known to live. If possible either avoid these areas, or try to reduce incidental take any way possible.
- **Know what they look like**- American marten are the size of a mink and have weasel-like features. They usually have light pale buff or yellow to reddish-brown or dark brown fur. Its smaller size, larger ears, light colored head, and reddish-yellow throat patch distinguish it from the fisher.
- **Know how to identify marten habitat and tracks**- they prefer upland areas of mature hardwoods, white pine, and hemlock hardwoods, as well as over-mature aspen. See DNR web-site for track description.
- **Use "release" traps if possible**- If trapping in upland areas frequented by marten, please consider using cage or box type traps, or cable restraints, depending on the species. Avoid use of body grip traps when in marten areas.
- **Checking traps daily is the law**
- **Support the cause**- consider becoming a member of the Wisconsin Trappers Association, www.wistrap.org

What to do about the incidental take of marten:

- If a marten is trapped in a foothold trap and has no injuries release it immediately.
- After release or if a marten is injured call

1-800 TIP WDNR. (1-800-847-9367)



What Are We Doing to Help?

The American marten once thrived in Wisconsin (WI) but was extirpated by 1925 due to loss of habitat and unregulated take. Efforts to re-establish the American marten in WI occurred from 1953-1991.

Through these re-introduction efforts there are now two populations on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNE). The population on the Chequamegon (west-side) has not recovered as well as the Nicolet (east-side) of the Forest.

Because of this decline the WI Department of Natural Resources (WI DNR) with the assistance of the CNNE, and Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) will begin a three year supplemental stocking of the Chequamegon population. The objective of the supplemental stocking is to create a self-sustaining marten population. The partners will continue to research and monitor the marten population.

The marten plays a valuable role in the north woods ecosystem and is the only mammal protected on the State of Wisconsin Endangered Species list. Thank you for your concern about this rare and beautiful furbearer. Your help will assure their survival in WI for generations to come. For more information about the American marten please see the WI DNR web-site at,

www.dnr.wi.gov

