

2018-19 BOBCAT PELT TAGGING REPORT

PERFORMANCE REPORT
STATEWIDE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND SURVEYS

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An enumeration of bobcats taken in Kansas has been conducted annually since 1978. This project is accomplished with tags provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, under the CITES Export Tag Program. In 2018, Kansas used yellow “KS BCAT” tags below number 73380. A total of 137 KDWPT employees and offices were issued tags for the 2018-19 furharvesting season.

CITES tags were affixed to the pelts of 3065 bobcats taken in Kansas during the furharvesting season. This included 4 bobcats confiscated by KDWPT. This was a 21% decrease in harvest from last season (3900) and 9% below the average of the previous 5 years. The number of bobcats pelt tagged annually since 1978 can be found in **Figure 1**.

Bobcats were taken in 98 of 105 counties. The number of bobcats taken in each county is presented in **Figure 2**. The estimated number of bobcats taken each day of the season is presented in **Figure 3**.

Bobcats may be taken using equipment authorized in K.A.R. 115-5-1 or salvaged during the harvest season. A total of 1106 furharvesters took bobcats during the season. **Table 1** provides a break down of the methods furharvesters used to take bobcats. **Table 2** indicates the primary species being pursued at the time the bobcat was taken. The total season bag of each furharvester is given in **Table 3**.

After the initial tag allocation, tag accountability was maintained via reports from KDWPT employees or offices issued tags. After the season, each was responsible for inventorying unused tags and accounting for all tags they were issued. Unused tags were then destroyed or retained by each tagger, or returned to the Emporia office. Bobcats taken outside this furharvesting season were not included in this analysis.

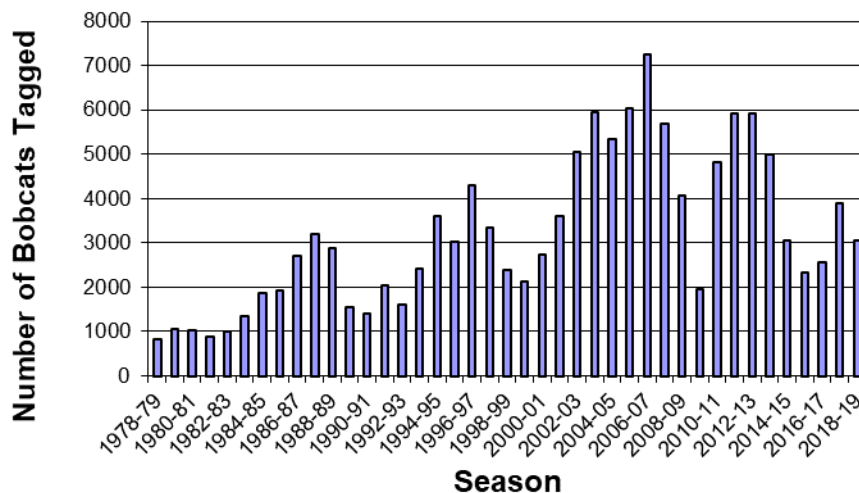


Figure 1. Number of bobcats pelt tagged annually since tagging began in 1978.

Table 1. Methods used to take bobcats during the 2018-19 furharvesting season in Kansas.

METHOD	Number of Furharvesters*	Number of Bobcats taken	Percent of Bobcats taken
TRAPPING			
(1) Foothold Trap	373	1182	38.6%
(2) Body Gripping Trap	51	125	4.1%
(3) Cage Trap	137	367	12.0%
(4) Snare	114	291	9.5%
SUB-TOTAL	675	1965	64.1%
HUNTING			
(5) Rifle	472	775	25.3%
(6) Shotgun	83	110	3.6%
(7) Archery	48	53	1.7%
(8) Hounds	11	22	0.7%
SUB-TOTAL	614	960	31.3%
OTHER			
(9) Salvage	110	122	4.0%
(10) Unspecified or other	11	18	0.6%
SUB-TOTAL	121	140	4.6%
TOTAL	1410	3065	100.0%

* Furharvesters who took bobcats by more than one method are represented multiple times.

Table 2. Primary species being pursued when bobcats were taken during the 2018-19 furharvesting season in Kansas.

SPECIES	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
FURBEARERS		
Bobcat	1933	63.1%
Coyote	845	27.6%
Raccoon	29	0.9%
Fox	4	0.1%
Beaver	1	
Muskrat	1	
Skunk	1	0.0%
Unspecified "furbearer"	8	0.3%
Unspecified "predator"	6	0.2%
SUB-TOTAL	2828	92.3%
BIG GAME		
Deer	83	2.7%
SMALL GAME		
Upland birds	20	0.7%
Small game	3	0.1%
Waterfowl	3	0.1%
SUB-TOTAL	26	0.8%
OTHER		
Unspecified	6	0.2%
Salvage	122	4.0%
SUB-TOTAL	128	4.2%
TOTAL	3065	100.0%

Table 3. Total season bag of bobcats per furharvester during the 2018-19 season.

Total Season Bag	Number of Furharvesters	Percent of Furharvesters	Cumulative Percent of Furharvesters	Total number of Bobcats Taken	Percent of Bobcats Taken	Cumulative Percent of Bobcats Taken
1	520	47.0%	47.0%	520	17.0%	17.0%
2	219	19.8%	66.8%	438	14.3%	31.3%
3	123	11.1%	77.9%	369	12.0%	43.3%
4	69	6.2%	84.2%	276	9.0%	52.3%
5	56	5.1%	89.2%	280	9.1%	61.4%
6	27	2.4%	91.7%	162	5.3%	66.7%
7	24	2.2%	93.9%	168	5.5%	72.2%
8	15	1.4%	95.2%	120	3.9%	76.1%
9	13	1.2%	96.4%	117	3.8%	79.9%
10	3	0.3%	96.7%	30	1.0%	80.9%
11	7	0.6%	97.3%	77	2.5%	83.4%
12	7	0.6%	97.9%	84	2.7%	86.2%
13	5	0.5%	98.4%	65	2.1%	88.3%
14	1	0.1%	98.5%	14	0.5%	88.7%
15	4	0.4%	98.8%	60	2.0%	90.7%
16	1	0.1%	98.9%	16	0.5%	91.2%
17	1	0.1%	99.0%	17	0.6%	91.8%
18	3	0.3%	99.3%	54	1.8%	93.5%
20	3	0.3%	99.5%	60	2.0%	95.5%
23	2	0.2%	99.7%	46	1.5%	97.0%
26	1	0.1%	99.8%	26	0.8%	97.8%
31	1	0.1%	99.9%	31	1.0%	98.9%
35	1	0.1%	100.0%	35	1.1%	100.0%
Total	1106			3065		

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