

2019-20 BOBCAT PELT TAGGING REPORT

PERFORMANCE REPORT
STATEWIDE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND SURVEYS

A Contribution of Pittman-Robertson Funds
Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration

Grant W-39-R-26

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism

Brad Loveless
Secretary

Prepared by

Matt Peek
Furbearer Biologist

Jake George
Wildlife Division Director

Rich Schultheis
Wildlife Research Supervisor



June 2020



2019-20 BOBCAT PELT TAGGING REPORT

Prepared by Matt Peek, Furbearer Biologist



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 2019, Kansas used yellow “KS BCAT” tags below number 76670. A total of 137 KDWPT employees and offices were issued tags for the 2019-20 furharvesting season.

CITES tags were affixed to the pelts of 2933 bobcats taken in Kansas during the furharvesting season. This included 2 bobcats confiscated by KDWPT. This was a 4% decrease in harvest from last season (3065) and 2% 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 102 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. **Table 1** provides a breakdown of the methods furharvesters used to take bobcats. **Table 2** indicates the primary species being pursued at the time the bobcat was taken. A total of 1086 furharvesters took bobcats during the season. 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.

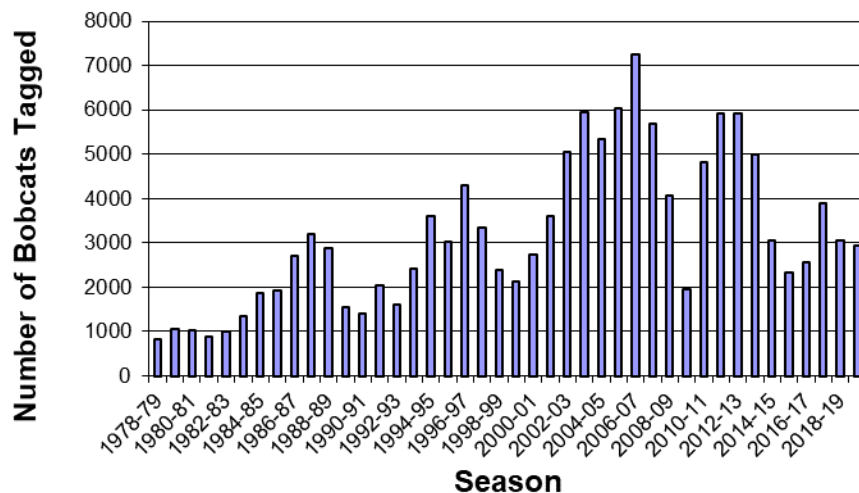


Figure 1. Number of bobcats pelt tagged annually since tagging began in 1978.

Table 1. Methods used to take bobcats during the 2019-20 furharvesting season in Kansas.

METHOD	Number of Furharvesters*	Number of Bobcats taken	Percent of Bobcats taken
TRAPPING			
(1) Foothold Trap	442	1280	43.6%
(2) Body Gripping Trap	50	76	2.6%
(3) Cage Trap	160	410	14.0%
(4) Snare	123	289	9.9%
SUB-TOTAL	775	2055	70.1%
HUNTING			
(5) Rifle	404	649	22.1%
(6) Shotgun	64	98	3.3%
(7) Archery	40	41	1.4%
(8) Hounds	5	5	0.2%
SUB-TOTAL	513	793	27.0%
OTHER			
(9) Salvage	72	80	2.7%
(10) Unspecified or other	5	5	0.2%
SUB-TOTAL	77	85	2.9%
TOTAL	1365	2933	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 2019-20 furharvesting season in Kansas.

SPECIES	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
FURBEARERS		
Bobcat	1911	65.2%
Coyote	835	28.5%
Raccoon	34	1.2%
Fox	2	0.1%
Opossum	1	0.0%
Unspecified "furbearers"	1	0.0%
SUB-TOTAL	2784	94.9%
BIG GAME		
Deer	57	1.9%
SMALL GAME		
Upland birds	5	0.2%
Crows	1	0.0%
Waterfowl	1	0.0%
SUB-TOTAL	7	0.2%
OTHER		
Unspecified	5	0.2%
Salvage	80	2.7%
SUB-TOTAL	85	2.9%
TOTAL	2933	100.0%

Table 3. Total season bag of bobcats per furharvester during the 2019-20 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	525	48.3%	48.3%	525	17.9%	17.9%
2	210	19.3%	67.7%	420	14.3%	32.2%
3	114	10.5%	78.2%	342	11.7%	43.9%
4	71	6.5%	84.7%	284	9.7%	53.6%
5	50	4.6%	89.3%	250	8.5%	62.1%
6	39	3.6%	92.9%	234	8.0%	70.1%
7	18	1.7%	94.6%	126	4.3%	74.4%
8	12	1.1%	95.7%	96	3.3%	77.6%
9	9	0.8%	96.5%	81	2.8%	80.4%
10	6	0.6%	97.1%	60	2.0%	82.4%
11	6	0.6%	97.6%	66	2.2%	84.7%
12	5	0.5%	98.1%	60	2.0%	86.7%
13	5	0.5%	98.5%	65	2.2%	89.0%
14	3	0.3%	98.8%	42	1.4%	90.4%
15	1	0.1%	98.9%	15	0.5%	90.9%
16	2	0.2%	99.1%	32	1.1%	92.0%
17	1	0.1%	99.2%	17	0.6%	92.6%
18	1	0.1%	99.3%	18	0.6%	93.2%
19	1	0.1%	99.4%	19	0.6%	93.8%
22	1	0.1%	99.4%	22	0.7%	94.6%
23	1	0.1%	99.5%	23	0.8%	95.4%
24	1	0.1%	99.6%	24	0.8%	96.2%
25	1	0.1%	99.7%	25	0.9%	97.0%
28	2	0.2%	99.9%	56	1.9%	98.9%
31	1	0.1%	100.0%	31	1.1%	100.0%
Total	1086			2933		

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT

This program receives Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex (in educational programs). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, or if you desire further information, please write to:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Office of Diversity and Civil Rights Programs- External Programs
 4040 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 130
 Arlington, VA 22203