

## 1987-88 TRAPPING INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS

### The Gardner Division of Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge

Trapping Operation - The trapping program will be operated under a bid system. The qualified applicants who submit the highest bids will receive the permit. A minimum bid of \$100.00 per unit is required.

Methods of Take - Methods of taking furbearers will be in accordance with applicable Illinois State regulations as well as those Service trapping conditions outlined on Form 3-1726, "Trapping Permit." Every effort must be made to guard against capture of non-target species.

Special Permit Conditions - Trappers on the refuge are required to adhere to applicable Illinois State regulations, all applicable refuge regulations governing public use, and the Service trapping conditions outlined on Form 3-1726, "Trapping Permit", and the following special refuge trapping conditions:

- 1) Trapping hours will be from sunrise to sunset daily.
- 2) Permittee is required to report all animals taken to the Refuge Manager at the close of the season.
- 3) Trapping activities will cease immediately at the discretion of the Refuge Manager.
- 4) Permittee will access and inspect traps in a minimal period of time with minimum disruption of other wildlife species, particularly waterfowl.
- 5) In order to protect raptors from accidental trapping, sets shall be placed under cover of existing or constructed natural materials not higher than 36 inches above the set. Cover constructed from natural materials shall consist of a tripod of three wood poles at least one-half inch in diameter placed over the trap.
- 6) The use of boats is permitted.
- 7) Permittee must have in his/her possession the Refuge Trapping Permit (Form 3-1726) and applicable State licenses/permits while on the refuge.
- 8) Permittee will keep the Refuge Manager informed of the location of all trap sets and will provide a list of trap sizes and types he/she uses.
- 9) Permittee will park vehicles so as not to block roadways on the refuge.

Additional restrictions that apply to all but the Bear Creek are:

- 10) This area is closed to public use from October 1 through January 31, except for authorized trapping. Therefore, activities must be limited to those associated with a trapping operation. Activities are further restricted to a land area not to exceed five feet beyond the normal pool waterline. Refer to trapping permit map.
- 11) Trapping is prohibited within and along interior waterways (i.e. Long Island Lake, Mossy Lake, White Chute, etc.). Refer to trapping permit map. *Change noted 12/8/87*
- 12) Trappers are prohibited from carrying firearms.

Trapping seasons for the Gardner Division are:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Dates (Inclusive)</u>
Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel, Mink, Muskrat	Nov. 15 - Dec. 29
Fox, Coyote	Nov. 25 - Dec. 29
Beaver	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28

Methods of Control and Enforcement - Traps and sets will be inspected on an irregular basis for conformance with State and refuge regulations. Refuge staff may make periodic tours of trap lines with the permittee. Permittees will be required to submit a report to the Refuge Manager no later than ten days after the close of the season documenting 1) the number of days traps were set and the number of traps set each of those days and 2) the number and species trapped each of those days.