

Trapping Rules Goose Pond Fish and Wildlife Area



1. Drawing will be held at 11:00 AM on the first Saturday in October at the office
2. The property is divided into 27 trapping units. Each trapping unit is further divided into time periods. Most time periods are for one month. Others are divided into 2 week time periods (see special conditions for Muskrat Priority Units below).
3. All applicants must possess a valid Indiana Trapping License.
4. Each trapper at the drawing will be allowed to choose 1 unit based on their draw choice.
5. A successfully drawn trapper can designate a “helper” to assist with trapping. The “helper” will need to possess a valid Indiana Trapping License, but does not need to be present for the drawing. A second helper will be allowed in the Muskrat Priority Units.
6. Each successfully drawn trapper will be given a property access permit good for the chosen time period and an activity sheet. The activity sheet must be filled out and returned to the Property Manager at the conclusion of the time period. Failure to return the activity sheet by the deadline will result in loss of trapping privileges.
7. Trappers unable to attend the drawing on the first Saturday in October may sign up for any unfilled units on a first come first served basis through 10/15. After 10/15, previously drawn trappers may sign up for unfilled units on a first come first served basis.
8. No trapper may sign up for more than 3 units on any given time period.
9. Upland sets are allowed throughout the trapping season at Goose Pond FWA. There is no upland trapping allowed at Hillenbrand FWA.
10. Questions? Call 812-512-9185

Muskrat Priority Units

We have identified and designated 4 units (GP7, GP16, MPW1 & MPW2) as Muskrat Priority Units (MPU). As such, there are special conditions that must be fulfilled in order to trap an MPU. We will closely monitor trapping activity in the MPU and strictly enforce the following special conditions.

1. Time periods for these units are shortened to two (2) week time periods.
2. A second helper is allowed in these units. All helpers must be licensed.
3. By signing up to trap one of these units you agree to do the following:
 - A) Start trapping within 2 days of the start of your chosen time period. If it is the Property Manager’s determination that trapping has not started within the 2 day deadline then the trapper and helpers will forfeit all trapping privileges for the remainder of the season and for the next year’s season. **If there is another trapper signed up for the next time period we will contact that trapper and give him/her the option of trapping the remainder of the forfeited time period. If the next trapper in line is unable to start within 2 days we will contact the next trapper in line. If no trapper in subsequent time periods is able to start within 2 days, the Property Manager will designate a trapper his own choosing to fulfill the remainder of the forfeited time period.**
 - B) Your trapping effort will equal a minimum effort of 500 trap nights over the course of your two (2) week time period. *This could be 500 traps over 1 night or 250 traps over 2 nights or 36 traps over 14 nights and so on.* If it is the Property Manager’s determination that this condition is not being met, trapping privileges for the trapper and helpers will be forfeited for the rest of this season and for the next year’s season. The reassignment of forfeited units will follow the procedure detailed in red in section 3A
 - C) Your trapping log is due in the office within two (2) business days after the last day of your time period. Failure to return the log by the deadline will result in forfeiture of next year’s trapping privileges.
4. The Property Manager’s best discretion will be utilized when enforcing these rules. In other words allowances may be made in the event of ice or other weather related occurrences that may prevent a trapper from meeting his/her obligations.