

Appendix C

Pelt Preparation



| Furbearer | Pelt Preparation | Stretcher Size - Inches | | | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------------|--------|------|----------|------|
| | | Size | Length | Base | Shoulder | Neck |
| Coyote | Skin cased, split tail. May be little fat or flesh. Pelt immediately. Turn pelt fur side out when skin is dry to the touch | Large | 75 | 13 | 9.5 | 14 |
| | | Average | 70 | 12 | 9 | 13 |
| | | Small | 65 | 11 | 8 | 12 |
| Red Fox | Skin cased, split tail. May be little fat or flesh. Pelt immediately. Turn pelt side out when skin in dry to the touch | Large | 56 | 8 | 6 | 11.5 |
| | | Average | 54 | 7 | 5 | 11 |
| | | Small | 50 | 6.5 | 4.5 | 10 |
| Gray Fox | Skin cased, split tail. Gray fox have more to flesh than red fox. Pelt immediately. Turn pelt side out when skin is dry to the touch. | Large | 56 | 9 | 6 | 11.5 |
| | | Average | 54 | 7 | 5 | 11 |
| | | Small | 50 | 6.5 | 4.5 | 10 |
| Gray Wolf | Skin cased, split tail. Pelt immediately. Leave claws on pelt. Turn pelt side out when skin is dry to the touch. | Large | 96 | 11.5 | 8 | 12 |
| | | Small | 75 | 10 | 7.75 | 12 |
| Swift/Kit Fox | Same as Red Fox | | | | | |
| Arctic Fox | Same as Red Fox | | | | | |
| Beaver | Skinned open, dried in oval shape by nailing on pattern board, or sewn to hoop. If nailed, lift pelt on nails a short time after boarding. This allows air to circulate between pelt and board. | | | | | |
| Muskrat | Skin cased with tail removed, don't overflesh, market fur in | Large | 22 | 20 | 6.5 | 6 |
| | | Average | 21 | 7.5 | 6 | 5.5 |
| | | Small | 20 | 7 | 5.5 | 5 |
| Nutria | Skin cased, tail off, fur side in; flesh carefully to avoid tears. Pelts less than 23 inches have no value. Special wire stretchers are used for nutria, 7 to 7.5 inches at base, straight sides. The base of the pelt is tacked to a sliding wooden block to give it a squared off shape as it dries. | | | | | |
| Bobcat | Skin cased, remove claws, remove all flesh and fat, market fur out | Large | 70 | 10 | 7 | 12 |
| | | Average | 60 | 9 | 6.5 | 11 |
| | | Small | 48 | 7 | 5 | 10 |
| Canada Lynx | Skin cased, remove claws, remove all flesh and fat, market fur out | Large | 70 | 10 | 7 | 12 |
| | | Average | 60 | 9 | 6.5 | 11 |
| | | Small | 48 | 7 | 5 | 10 |
| Mink | Skin cased, split tail, market fur side in, fleshed lightly | Large male | 40 | 5 | 3.25 | 8.5 |
| | | Large female | 36 | 4 | 3 | 8 |
| River Otter | Skin cased, cut front legs short and sew closed, pin tail in V shape, market fur in | Large | 65 | 8 | 6.75 | 15 |
| | | Average | 58 | 7.5 | 6 | 13.5 |
| | | Small | 32 | 7 | 5 | 9 |
| Fisher | Skin cased, flesh well, market fur out | Large male | 50 | 8 | 6 | 10 |
| | | Large female | 48 | 7 | 5 | 9.5 |
| Marten | Cased, split tail, market fur side out, little or no fleshing needed | Large male | 40 | 5 | 3.25 | 8.5 |
| | | Large female | 36 | 4.5 | 3 | 7 |
| Weasels | Skin cased, market fur in, remove tail bone but do not split the tail | Large | 22 | 3 | 2.5 | 5.5 |
| | | Average | 16 | 2.5 | 1.75 | 4 |
| | | Small | 12 | 1.75 | 1.25 | 3 |

Trapper Education Manual



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|--------------------|---|--|----|-----|-----|------|
| Striped Skunk | Skin cased, flesh well, market fur in | Large | 40 | 8 | 6 | 10.5 |
| | | Average | 38 | 7.5 | 5.5 | 10 |
| | | Small | 34 | 7 | 5 | 9 |
| Opossum | Skin cased, tail off, fur side in; flesh carefully to avoid tears | Large | 38 | 8 | 6 | 10.5 |
| | | Average | 36 | 7.5 | 5.5 | 10 |
| | | Small | 32 | 7 | 5 | 9 |
| Raccoon | Skin cased, tail split. Remove all flesh & fat; market fur in | Large | 48 | 10 | 7.5 | 12.5 |
| | | Average | 42 | 9 | 6.5 | 12 |
| | | Small | 34 | 8 | 5.5 | 11.5 |
| Bassarisk Ringtail | Check with your fur buyer for current recommendations. Taxidermists may want this species, and be willing to pay a higher price than a fur buyer. | | | | | |
| Wolverine | Cased and fur out, leave lower lip on, keep claws attached | Few trappers will ever encounter a wolverine. If you live in an area where it is legal to trap wolverine, obtain current information on pelt preparation from a fur buyer. | | | | |
| Badger | Check with your fur buyer for current recommendations. | | | | | |