

2010-11 BOBCAT PELT TAGGING REPORT

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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 2010, Kansas used yellow “KS BCAT” tags below number. A total of 143 KDWP employees and offices were issued tags for the 2010-11 furharvesting season.

CITES tags were affixed to the pelts of 4809 bobcats that were taken in Kansas during the furharvesting season. This included 11 bobcats salvaged or confiscated by KDWP. This was a 147% increase in harvest from last season, and was the seventh highest harvest on record. The number of bobcats pelt tagged annually since 1978 can be found in **Figure 1**.

Bobcats were taken in 103 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 1366 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 number of furharvesters having various total season bags is given in **Table 3**.

After the initial tag allocation, tag accountability was maintained via reports from KDWP 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 ($n = 25$) were not included in this analysis.

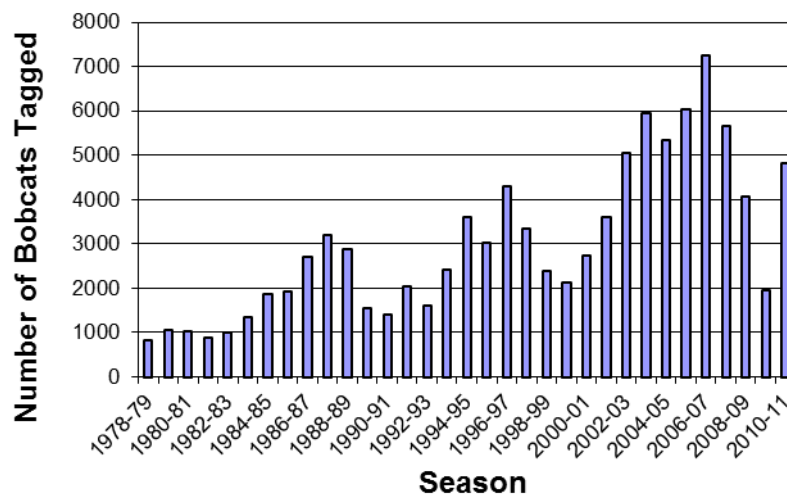


Figure 1. Number of bobcats pelt tagged annually since tagging began in 1978.

Figure 3. Number of bobcats taken per county during the 2010-11 furharvesting season in Kansas (n = 4772).

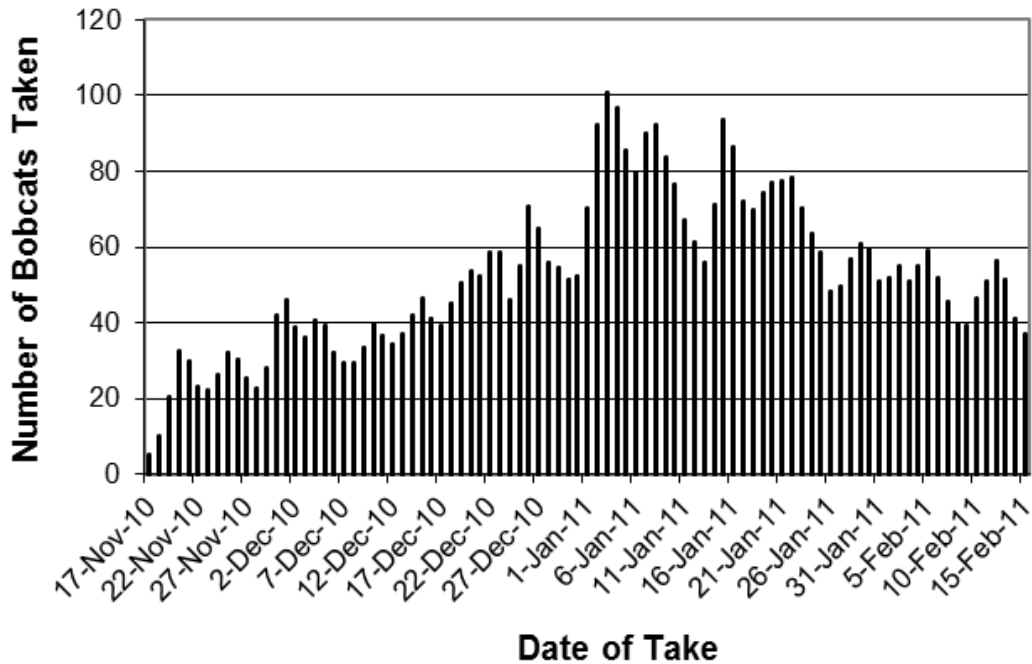


Figure 3. Estimated number of bobcats taken per day during the 2010-11 furharvesting season. (Data smoothed: $y_{(i)} = .5y_{(i)} + .25y_{(i+1)} + .25y_{(i-1)}$.)

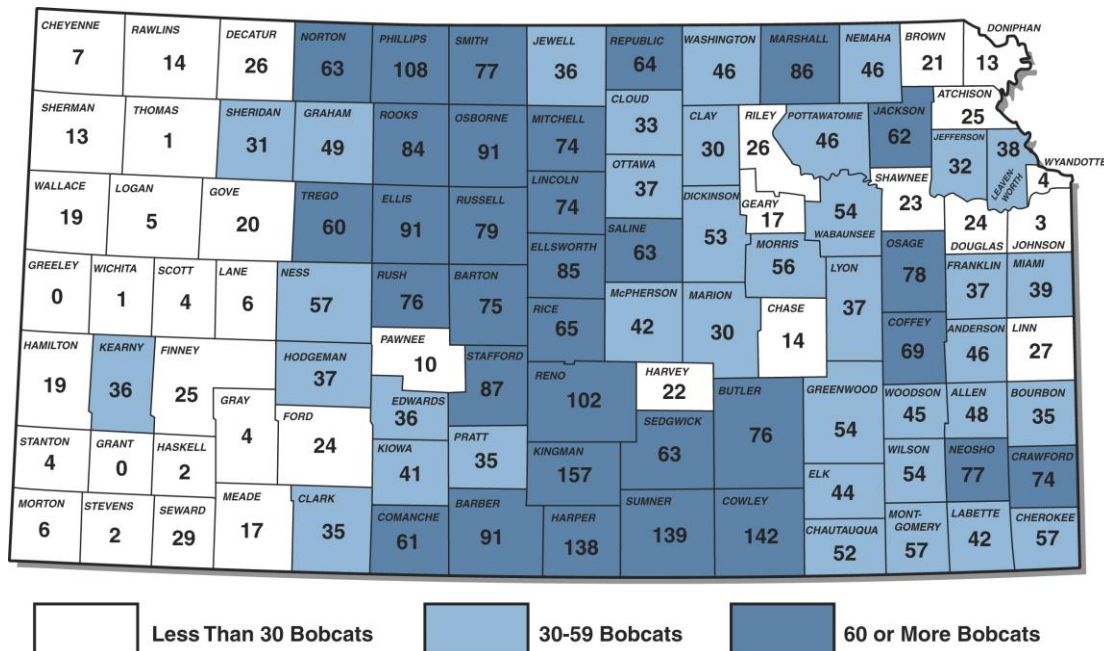


Table 1. Methods used to take bobcats during the 2010-11 furharvesting season in Kansas.

METHOD		Number of Furharvesters*	Number of Bobcats taken	Percent of Bobcats taken
TRAPPING				
	(1) Foothold Trap	469	1799	37.4%
	(2) Body Gripping Trap	142	336	7.0%
	(3) Cage Trap	288	862	17.9%
	(4) Snare	192	665	13.8%
	SUB-TOTAL	1091	3662	76.1%
HUNTING				
	(5) Rifle	465	725	15.1%
	(6) Shotgun	86	116	2.4%
	(7) Archery	66	70	1.5%
	(8) Hounds	18	36	0.7%
	SUB-TOTAL	635	947	19.7%
OTHER				
	(9) Salvage	152	171	3.6%
	(10) Unspecified	5	29	0.6%
	SUB-TOTAL	157	200	4.2%
TOTAL		1883	4809	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 2010-11 furharvesting season in Kansas.

SPECIES		FREQUENCY	PERCENT
FURBEARERS	Bobcat	3967	82.5%
	Coyote	296	6.2%
	Raccoon	139	2.9%
	Other	10	0.2%
	SUB-TOTAL	4412	91.7%
BIG GAME	Deer	110	2.3%
SMALL GAME	Quail	4	0.1%
	Pheasant	36	0.7%
	Other	3	0.1%
	SUB-TOTAL	43	0.9%
OTHER	Unspecified or other	72	1.5%
	Salvage	172	3.6%
	SUB-TOTAL	244	5.1%
TOTAL		4809	100.0%

Table 3. Total season bag of bobcats per furharvester during the 2010-11 season.
Data includes 11 bobcats taken by KDWP.

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	620	45.39%	45.39%	620	12.89%	12.89%
2	222	16.25%	61.64%	444	9.23%	22.13%
3	141	10.32%	71.96%	423	8.80%	30.92%
4	97	7.10%	79.06%	388	8.07%	38.99%
5	67	4.90%	83.97%	335	6.97%	45.96%
6	43	3.15%	87.12%	258	5.36%	51.32%
7	31	2.27%	89.39%	217	4.51%	55.83%
8	22	1.61%	91.00%	176	3.66%	59.49%
9	16	1.17%	92.17%	144	2.99%	62.49%
10	11	0.81%	92.97%	110	2.29%	64.77%
11	20	1.46%	94.44%	220	4.57%	69.35%
12	11	0.81%	95.24%	132	2.74%	72.09%
13	5	0.37%	95.61%	65	1.35%	73.45%
14	7	0.51%	96.12%	98	2.04%	75.48%
15	10	0.73%	96.85%	150	3.12%	78.60%
16	3	0.22%	97.07%	48	1.00%	79.60%
17	2	0.15%	97.22%	34	0.71%	80.31%
18	6	0.44%	97.66%	108	2.25%	82.55%
19	5	0.37%	98.02%	95	1.98%	84.53%
20	3	0.22%	98.24%	60	1.25%	85.78%
21	1	0.07%	98.32%	21	0.44%	86.21%
22	1	0.07%	98.39%	22	0.46%	86.67%
23	1	0.07%	98.46%	23	0.48%	87.15%
25	2	0.15%	98.61%	50	1.04%	88.19%
26	4	0.29%	98.90%	104	2.16%	90.35%
27	5	0.37%	99.27%	135	2.81%	93.16%
28	1	0.07%	99.34%	28	0.58%	93.74%
29	1	0.07%	99.41%	29	0.60%	94.34%
31	2	0.15%	99.56%	62	1.29%	95.63%
32	1	0.07%	99.63%	32	0.67%	96.30%
33	1	0.07%	99.71%	33	0.69%	96.98%
34	2	0.15%	99.85%	68	1.41%	98.40%
35	1	0.07%	99.93%	35	0.73%	99.13%
42	1	0.07%	100.00%	42	0.87%	100.00%

Total 1366

4809