

MANITOBA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION PROBLEM PREDATOR REMOVAL SERVICES



Background:

Manitoba livestock producers lose a number of animals annually to predators such as coyotes and wolves. To assist producers in dealing with their losses, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship has enlisted the co-operation of the Manitoba Trappers Association (MTA) to provide services to remove problem predators. MTA members have the experience to deliver an efficient and effective service that will benefit livestock producers.

Program Operation:

Livestock producers who have experienced loss of livestock to predators may register a claim with the nearest Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) insurance office. Producers can request the services of MTA at no cost, and MASC will provide the claimant with a claim number. The claimant may then contact MTA in Lac du Bonnet (1-204-345-9107) for assistance in dealing with the predator problem. Following a report of a predator occurrence, MTA will assign a trapper to deal with the problem. Since funding is limited, trappers are limited to 24 hours to deal with a specific claim. The trapper will investigate the problem and utilize humane methods to remove the problem animal(s). In some cases, the period of time may be extended to effectively deal with a particular situation. Producers will also be provided with information that will minimize the potential for future predator problems.

Producer Responsibility:

Producers participating in the project will be required to sign a “*Waiver of Liability*” releasing the trapper and MTA from damage to property or livestock that may occur during the time the problem is being addressed, and be required to keep livestock and pets controlled at all times when sets are placed on their property. Producers will be expected to implement suggested prevention measures and follow good livestock husbandry practices to minimize predation. Failure to accept these responsibilities may result in the producer being denied additional control services.

Where to Apply:

Producers experiencing losses to predators can contact their nearest MASC insurance office to register a compensation claim and to acquire a claim number to deal with the problem predator(s). The insurance office will advise the producer about the program and have the producer contact MTA if problem predator removal assistance is required.

