

# Trappers

## Helping To Keep Nature in Balance

**Jim Binder, Fisher 2006**

This male Fisher, was caught in Waupaca Co. using a live trap. The bait was venison meat/fat/fur trimmings. Fresh red meat usually works best but fish will work also. This one was live trapped because I wanted a large male for mounting. I planned on releasing any smaller males or females. This was the first one I caught this year. Although most fishers are caught using conibiter traps and bait cubbies they can be enticed into live traps if the traps are placed correctly in wooded river bottoms or thick forested swamps. Bait must not be sight exposed so the traps are covered with surrounding materials. Fishers are one of the three regulated fur bearers that may be trapped in Wisconsin if the trapper applies for and receives a tag. The other two are otter and bobcat.

**Lucky No. 7 By Mike Faskell, Bobcat 2006**

My cat trapping adventure actually started in the fall of 2004, while checking bear baits with outfitter Keith Holly. We were driving through some remote country in Northern Bayfield County, when out of the blue Keith said, "Here is one of the best cat crossings in the whole state of Wisconsin"! I instantly turned to him and said, "REALLY"! From that point on the conversation went from bear hunting to cat trapping! In September of 2006 I drew a Wisconsin bobcat tag. I immediately called Keith and set up the hunt for the last week in October. The following day my cousin Chris Rhoden called and told me that he had drawn a bobcat tag. I called Keith and asked if he had room for one more, he said, "yes, no problem"! The first day we made 17 sets. On the second day, we put out another 17 sets, which were spread out over approximately 30 square miles. The sets were mainly natural cubbies and dirtholes, baited with fresh beaver or muskrat meat. As every trapper knows, each day greeted us with new excitement! The miles on the trapline with Chris and Keith were filled with many laughs and stories. On the fourth day, Chris caught a smaller cat, which he elected to let go. On the seventh and final day, while pulling traps, I finally caught my first Wisconsin bobcat, a beautiful 24 pound adult female! Anyone looking to book a bear, deer or bobcat adventure with Keith Holly, he can be contacted at 1(715)372-4101. I would highly recommend him!

**Bill Arneson, Snared Red Fox 2006**

My wife and I, along with Jim Binder (my personal trapping instructor), found fox activity on our farm. I set four dirt sets and after three days had no success. While checking traps on the fourth day, I noticed a small trail coming through some high grass and briars. Even though I had no experience with cable restraints, I wanted to try them and own several of them. For the first time ever I put a cable restraint in place. Can you imagine my surprise and excitement as I came from a distance to see the catch circle and as I got closer, this fox waiting in it.

**John Klinger, Bobcat 2006**

I trapped this bobcat in Sawyer Co. after waiting 8 years to get a tag. I learned how to trap from my dad, Roger Klinger. I had a number of sets out and caught it on the 2nd day, using beaver and muskrat meat. I am now anxiously awaiting my mount and next bobcat

