

State Laws and Regulations on coyote trapping and snaring in the Western US. Generally, if a state has multiple definitions of coyotes and one of them is “predatory animal”, it is likely the primary supervising/administrative/regulatory agency is that state’s Dept of Agriculture or Livestock (MT). State wildlife agencies may or may not have additional regulatory or licensing capabilities but where they do occur, they are typically limited. Navigating the state statutes to understand the “firewall” between Ag/Livestock departments regulations and state wildlife agencies is difficult and confusing. The implications of the lack of full and clear public disclosure of unregulated and unlicensed coyote trapping/snaring for unaware public land users, as well as understanding impacts to sensitive or protected species on federal lands to meet NEPA and ESA requirements, is **very concerning**.

State	% Fed Land	Supervising/Regulating Agency	Definitions/Wildlife Class	Trapping Regulations	Trapping License Required	Trapping Education
Montana	29	Dept of Livestock (DOL) (81-7-102)	DOL: predatory animal (81-7-101) FWP: predatory animal (87-6-601)	MDOL: unregulated, unprotected MFWP enforces 87-6-601 : name tag required, cannot endanger livestock	Residents-No; Nonres-Yes	No
Wyoming	48	Dept of Livestock (DOL), Predatory Animal District Boards (11-6-304)	DOL: predatory animal (11-6-302); F&G: predatory animal (23-1-101)	F&G regulates snare loop size and anchors; requires name tags and a breakaway device (23-2-303d)	No	No
Idaho	62	Dept of Ag (22-103); Animal Damage Control Board (25-2612A)	County Commissioners predatory animal (25-2601); F&G predatory animal (36-201)	F&G rules indicate - Predatory animals may be taken all year in any amounts and at any time; trapping regs for method of take and trap check time	Yes	Yes
Oregon	53	Dept Agriculture (610.005)	Dept Ag (610.002)- predatory animal; ODFW trapping regs define coyote as unprotected mammals on public land	None (496.162)	No	No
Nevada	85	Dept of Wildlife (501.181)	Unprotected mammal (NAC 503.035 ; 501.110)	No closed season (501.015), general regs regarding spacers and bait for legholds, road setbacks and trap check min times (503.570-580), state agencies required to sign areas entry/trail areas where trapping/snaring can occur	Yes, if selling pelt (503.454)	No
Utah	65	Dept of Ag (4-23-105)	Predatory animal - State sponsored bounty currently in effect	DOW authorized to set trapping rules to protect sensitive species (Admin Rule:657-11)	Trap registration license required	Yes

From Montana 2021-2022 Furbearer regulations-

Starting in license year 2022, trapper education is required for any trapper who has not trapped for three years in their lifetime (does not need to be consecutive). This does not apply to those trapping for the **purposes of livestock** or property protection.

License Requirement Exemptions – No license is required for resident trappers/hunters or nonresident hunters to take predatory animals and nongame wildlife. Non-resident trappers of predatory animals or non-game wildlife must purchase a non-resident trapping license.

Laws and Rules

These laws and rules apply to trapping of furbearers, predatory animals, and nongame wildlife. **They do not apply to trapping that is regulated by Title 81 (Livestock), Montana Code Annotated.**

Utah – only state in this list to clearly disclose the firewall. From Division of Wildlife 2021-2022 trapping regs:

Trapping coyotes and raccoons

Utah Code § 4-23-101 and Utah Admin. Rules R657-11 and R58-14

The Department of Agriculture and Food has regulatory authority over the state's coyotes and raccoons.

Although the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources does not manage these species, it does have responsibility and authority over trapping and the use of trapping devices capable of catching or killing protected wildlife.

Trapping devices—even those set for coyotes and raccoons—sometimes capture and kill non-target animals. The Division regulates trapping and the use of trapping devices to reduce the capture of nontargeted protected species.

This guidebook references both coyotes

and raccoons in regulations about the use of trapping devices. Those regulations are in place to:

- Reduce the capture and killing of nontargeted protected wildlife
- Improve the likelihood of successfully releasing nontargeted protected wildlife
- Detect illegal trap sets that target protected wildlife
- Protect law-abiding trappers from criminal liability if they accidentally capture nontargeted protected wildlife

For detailed information on the use of trapping devices in Utah, see pages 14–19 of this guidebook. For more information about the trap registration license requirement, see page 9 or visit wildlife.utah.gov/trapping-faq.html.

Nevada – coyotes seem to be entirely under the purview of Dept of Wildlife. [Chapter 567](#) - NOXIOUS AND PREDATORY ANIMALS; PROPERTY-DESTROYING BIRDS authorizes a committee to control predatory animals, though the term appears to be undefined. The chapter is vague on the duties of the committee but may just exist to setup agreements with USDA Aphis-Wildlife Services?