

**PROPOSAL 158**

**5 AAC 84.270. Furbearer trapping.**

Shorten the coyote trapping season in Units 7 and 15 as follows:

Coyote trapping season Units 7 and 15: **Nov 10** [Oct 15]- March 31

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Coyote trapping season in Units 7 and 15 opens October 15 with 3/32" or greater diameter snare cable. Most other trapping seasons in Units 7 and 15 open November 10.

Confusing regulations, bycatch and conflict with other users are all problems. Bears are more active and more likely to encounter snares prior to November 10. 3/32" snares cannot exclude wolverine and lynx. At least one dog has been trapped during the early coyote season because the owner thought the trapping season opened November 10 and so allowed the dog to run off leash. Additionally, the dog was caught in a trap, not a snare, suggesting that whoever set the trap was possibly unaware of the snare-only requirement. Finally, according to the dog owner, ADF&G stated the trapping season for coyotes was open, again apparently unaware of the snare-only requirement. While ignorance is said to not be an excuse, clearly the early coyote season has been problematic. Aligning the coyote trapping season with most other trapping seasons will help address these issues.

**PROPOSED BY:** Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EG-F22-080)

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