TRAPPING IN HUNGARY
FANGJAGD IN UNGARN

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SYSTEM OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT IN HUNGARY

- **Area of Hungary**: 93033 km² (proportion of area suitable for wildlife management: 88%)

- **Holder of the hunting rights**: landowner (limit of landownership: 300ha per person)

Possible smallest extent of wildlife management units entitled to hunt: 3000ha (formation of landowners communities)

- **Organisations entitled to hunt**: hunters’ associations, landowners communities, agricultural and forestry holdings, conservation organisations covering 25% of area …

- **Average size of units**: 7000 ha; N = 1400

- **Management periods**: 10 years

- **3 level planning system** (regional and unit level for 10 years, yearly unit level)

- **Compulsory employment of professional hunters per 3000ha**
KEY ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

Ministry of Rural Development and its Local Authorities

Hungarian National Society for the Patronage of Hunting
- 800 members in 22 Territorial Organisations

Hungarian National Chamber of Hunters
- 19 county organisations of 56000 individual members
- 3600 professional hunters

Institute of Wildlife Management and Vertebrate Zoology
University of West Hungary

Szent István Egyetem

Wildlife Conservation Institute
University of St. István

National Game Management Database

Országos Vadgazdálkodási Adatgyűjtő*

*Godülő*
GAME SPECIES TARGETED BY TRAPPERS AND THEIR SEASONS

Red fox (*Vulpes vulpes* Linnaeus 1758)  
Golden Jackal (*Canis aureus* Linnaeus 1758)  
Badger (*Meles meles* Linnaeus, 1758)  
Polecat (*Mustela putorius* Linnaeus, 1758)  
Stone marten (*Martes foina* Erxleben, 1777)  
Raccoon dog (*Nyctereutes procyonides* Gray, 1834)  
Raccoon (*Procyon lotor* Linnaeus, 1766)  
Hooded crow (*Corvus corone cornix* Linnaeus, 1758)  
Magpie (*Pica pica* Linnaeus, 1758)  
Jay (*Garullus glandarius* Linnaeus 1758)  

Red fox  
Golden Jackal  
Badger  
Polecat  
Stone marten  
Raccoon dog  
Raccoon  
Hooded crow  
Magpie  
Jay
NON GAME OR PROTECTED SPECIES THAT MAY BE TARGETED BY TRAPPERS

NON GAME SPECIES

Domestic dog (*Canis familiaris* Linnaeus, 1758) Under certain conditions

Domestic cat (*Felis catus* Linnaeus, 1758) Under certain conditions

Weasel (*Mustela nivalis* Linnaeus, 1766) Not regulated

Rat (*Rattus norvegicus* Berkenhout 1769) Not regulated

PROTECTED SPECIES

(Only in case of conservation or public interest! Must be released at capture site or translocated unharmed)

Pine Marten (*Martes martes* Linnaeus, 1758)

Wild cat (*Felis sylvestris* Schreber, 1777)

Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis* Linnaeus, 1758)

Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo* Linnaeus, 1758)

Marsh harrier (*Circus aeruginosus* Linnaeus, 1758)
WHO IS ALLOWED TO USE TRAPS?

- Organisations entitled to hunt have the right to harvest game according to approved yearly management plans based on previous estimates.
- Generalist predators and waterfowl have no quotas.
- All persons holding a valid hunting licence may use traps that are not prohibited by law to capture game, where the organisation entitled to wildlife management permits their use.
- Currently no special training or licence is required for trapping.
- Usually trapping is carried out by professional hunters employed by the organisations entitled to wildlife management.
WHAT MAY NOT BE USED FOR CAPTURING OF GAME


• With regard to Annex VI of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) the following methods and means of capturing or killing are prohibited also:
  
  • Non-selective means; Blind or mutilated animals used as live decoys; Nets which are non-selective according to their principle or their conditions of use; Traps which are non-selective according to their principle or their conditions of use; Poisons and poisoned or anaesthetic bait

• In respect of the hunting, capture or killing of birds Article 8 of the Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC), prohibits methods used for the large-scale or nonselective capture or killing of birds or capable of causing the local disappearance of a species, in particular the use of those listed in Annex IV

• Possible derogations (Article 9): public health & safety, air safety, prevention of serious damage to crops, livestock, forests, fisheries & water, for the protection of flora & fauna; for the purposes of research & teaching, of re-population, of re-introduction & for the breeding necessary for these purposes;

• Strictly supervised conditions, selective basis, small numbers!
AGREEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANE TRAPPING STANDARDS

• Soon to be implemented in the EU
• Game species trapped in Hungary are outside its scope with the exception of the Badger (Meles meles)
• However both restraining traps and killing traps used by trappers can be better „defended” in public in case they fulfil the requirements set in AIHTS
• The reintroduction of kill traps resulted in field testing of selectivity, effectiveness and user safety of the Belisle Super X 330, the 70cm (500N) and the 56cm (300N) Schwanenenhals traps in BSc and PhD studies
• Cage traps have not been tested – many would probably fail welfare requirements – kill traps listed above are very likely to pass welfare requirements
AIHTS REQUIREMENTS FOR RESTRAINING AND KILLING TRAPS

- **Behavioural indicators of poor welfare:** self-directed biting leading to severe injury (self-mutilation); excessive immobility and unresponsiveness.

- **Injuries indicating poor welfare:** fracture; joint luxation proximal to the carpus or tarsus; severance of a tendon or ligament; major periosteal abraison; severe external haemorrhage or haemorrhage into an internal cavity; major skeletal muscle degeneration; limb ischaemia; fracture of a permanent tooth exposing pulp cavity; ocular damage including corneal laceration; spinal cord injury; severe internal organ damage; myocardial degeneration; amputation; death.

- **Thresholds:** Target species n=20; >80% none of the indicators listed

- **Time limits of occurrence of unconsciousness and insensibility:**
  - Stoat – 45 seconds
  - Pine marten – 120 seconds
  - Other animals – 300 (180) seconds

- **Thresholds:** A killing trapping method would meet the Standards if: the number of specimens of the same target species from which the data are derived is at least 12; and at least 80% of these animals are unconscious and insensible within the time limit, and remain in this state until death.
RANKING OF REASONS FOR TRAPPING

1. Reduction of predation pressure on game species and protected ground nesting birds (support of recovery or reintroduction projects)
2. Disease control (Veterinary and Human health aspects. e.g., Echinococcus multilocularis)
3. Scientific research
4. Campaign against illegal poisoning of wildlife

- Concentrated predation control effort in spring
- No repopulation of territorial generalist predators
- Reduction in losses during nesting and incubating
THE „CUBIC METER CAGE TRAP”

- 15052 Trap Nights (TN)
- Balatonfenyves (4683 TN)
- Farmos (1825 TN)
- Hódmezővásárhely (1282 TN)
- Kozárd (7680 TN)
- Szeghalom (151 TN)
- Veszprémvarsány (1825 TN)

- 472 captured animals

- Effectiveness: 2.88 captures / 100 TN (1.62 – 7.28 captures / 100 TN)
**SELECTIVITY AND EFFECTIVITY OF THE „CUBIC METER CAGE TRAP”**

1. számú táblázat: A köbméteres ládacsapdák fogási eredményei (15053 CSÉ)

Table 1.: Catch results of the „large” cage trap (15053 trap nights)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Név</th>
<th>Latin név</th>
<th>db</th>
<th>Fogások megoszlása (%)</th>
<th>Fogás / 100 CSÉ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Róka</td>
<td><em>Vulpes vulpes</em></td>
<td>275</td>
<td>58,26</td>
<td>1,83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borz</td>
<td><em>Meles meles</em></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2,33</td>
<td>0,07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nyest</td>
<td><em>Martes foina</em></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>5,08</td>
<td>0,16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kóbor kutya</td>
<td><em>Canis familiaris</em></td>
<td>36</td>
<td>7,63</td>
<td>0,24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kóbor macska</td>
<td><em>Felis catus</em></td>
<td>88</td>
<td>18,64</td>
<td>0,58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Héja</td>
<td><em>Accipiter gentilis</em></td>
<td>32</td>
<td>6,78</td>
<td>0,21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egerész ölyv</td>
<td><em>Buteo buteo</em></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,06</td>
<td>0,03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Szarka</td>
<td><em>Pica pica</em></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0,21</td>
<td>0,01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emlős ragadozók összesen</td>
<td></td>
<td>434</td>
<td>91,95</td>
<td>2,88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Összesen</td>
<td></td>
<td>472</td>
<td>100,00</td>
<td>3,14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE 70 cm SCHWANENHALS

- Tested for 4163 Trap Nights (TN)
- Búj 107 TN
- Hajdúszovát 132 TN
- Kozárd 1270 TN
- Ráckeve 199 TN
- Solt 435 TN
- Szabadszállás 1606 TN
- Szeghalom 228 TN
- Szigetszentmiklós 318 TN
- 233 captured specimen

- Used without bunker, buried deep, in autumn and spring
- Effectiveness: 5.6 captures / 100 TN
  (2.36 – 10.57 captures / 100 TN)
SELECTIVITY AND EFFECTIVITY OF THE 70 cm SCHWANENHALS

3. számú táblázat: A 70 cm-es hattyúnyak csapda fogási eredményei (4163 CSÉ)
Table 3.: Catch results of the 70 cm German body grip steel trap (4163 trap nights)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Név</th>
<th>Latin név</th>
<th>db</th>
<th>Fogások megoszlása (%)</th>
<th>Fogás / 100 CSÉ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Róka</td>
<td><em>Vulpes vulpes</em></td>
<td>204</td>
<td>87,55</td>
<td>4,90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borz</td>
<td><em>Meles meles</em></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,72</td>
<td>0,10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nyest</td>
<td><em>Martes foina</em></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3,00</td>
<td>0,17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Házi görény</td>
<td><em>Mustela putorius</em></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0,86</td>
<td>0,05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kóbor kutya</td>
<td><em>Canis familiaris</em></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5,15</td>
<td>0,29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kóbor macska</td>
<td><em>Felis catus</em></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,72</td>
<td>0,10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Összesen</td>
<td></td>
<td>233</td>
<td>100,00</td>
<td>5,60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE BELISLE SUPER X 330

- 587 TN
- Apaj (118 TN)
- Búj (76 TN)
- Hajdúszovát (132 TN)
- Kozárd (90 TN)
- Szeghalom (108 TN)
- Derekegyház (63TN)
- 63 captures
- Used on badger set entrances without cover
- Effectiveness: 10,9 captures / 100 TN
  (5,55 – 22,22 captures / 100 TN)
### 4. számú táblázat: A forgókeretes testszorító csapda fogási eredményei (492 CSÉ)

Table 4.: Catch results of the rotating jaw body grip trap (492 trap nights)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Név</th>
<th>Latin név</th>
<th>db</th>
<th>Fogások megoszlása (%)</th>
<th>Fogás/100CSÉ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Róka</td>
<td>Vuleps vulpes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,69</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borz</td>
<td>Meles meles</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>95,31</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Összesen</td>
<td></td>
<td>64</td>
<td>100,00</td>
<td>10,90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FALSE EARTH TRAP
KOZARDER ROHR-KUNSTBAU-KOMBIFALLE
TRAPS CURRENTLY UNDER TESTING
„CABLE RESTRAINT DEVICES”
TRAPS TO BE TESTED – IMPROVED SNARE

- Snare loop
- Running eye
- Weak link (breakaway)
- Crimps
- Tealer attachment
- Fixed stop
- Terminal swivel
- D-shackles
- Mid-point swivel
TRAPS TO BE TESTED – TUNNEL TRAPS
TRAINING OF TRAPPERS

• As part of compulsory yearly training of professional hunters organised by the county organisations of the Hungarian National Chamber of Hunters
• Organised visits to „Trap Parks” and demonstrations sites
• Voluntary territorial training programmes
• Case by case advisory and training
• NO OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION
TRAINED TRAP USERS
(2012 SPRING)
FUTURE PLANS AND TASKS

- Trapping has become a part of wildlife management practice in the past 7 years.
- Balance is slowly shifting in favour of trapping in predator control.
- Research on predator management and predation.
- Development of effective and humane trapping methods.
- Creation of National Trappers Association.
- Participation in public debate on detailed regulation (change in the National legislation expected by 2013 Spring).
- Official training of trappers.
- Participation in the work of a European Trappers Platform.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION!