

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS
HUNTING SEASON / QUOTA CHANGE SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Species: Marten
Region: 1
Year: 2019

1. Describe the proposed season / quotas changes and provide a summary of prior history (i.e., prior history of permits, season types, etc.).

Create a personal quota of 10 marten per trapper in Region 1.

The current season for marten is open from December 1 - February 15 and there is no personal quota or overall quota. This season has been in place since at least the early 1980's and there has never been a harvest quota for marten in Region 1.

2. Why is the proposed change necessary?

Since 1989, marten harvest has been steadily declining. In addition, numerous trappers have observed a potential decline in the regional marten population over the past 30 years.

Placing a personal quota of 10 on marten would maintain current trapper opportunity but help reduce high levels of take by individual trappers. Since trappers typically focus on 1 or 2 drainages, this quota will help ensure that overharvest does not occur in one area. In addition, the majority of trappers only harvest a few marten, but the personal quota should help to stabilize harvest numbers to hopefully a more sustainable level.

3. What is the current population's status in relation to the management objectives? (i.e., state management objectives from management plan if applicable; provide current and prior years of population survey, harvest, or other pertinent information).

| YEAR | MALE | FEMALE | UNKNOWN | TOTAL |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| 1989 | 259 (.60) | 130 (.30) | 41 (.10) | 430 |
| 1990 | 229 (.60) | 138 (.36) | 17 (.04) | 384 |
| 1991 | 344 (.60) | 225 (.40) | 0 (.00) | 569 |
| 1992 | 175 (.49) | 113 (.31) | 72 (.20) | 360 |
| 1993 | 209 (.53) | 120 (.31) | 63 (.16) | 392 |
| 1994 | 476 (.57) | 233 (.28) | 129 (.15) | 838 |
| 1995 | 214 (.52) | 166 (.40) | 34 (.08) | 414 |
| 1996 | 265 (.51) | 161 (.31) | 91 (.18) | 517 |
| 1997 | 219 (.55) | 160 (.40) | 19 (.05) | 398 |

| | | | | |
|------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----|
| 1998 | 254 (.55) | 173 (.38) | 31 (.07) | 458 |
| 1999 | 185 (.60) | 125 (.40) | 0 (.00) | 310 |
| 2000 | 332 (.60) | 225 (.40) | 0 (.00) | 557 |
| 2001 | 220 (.66) | 105(.32) | 8(.02) | 332 |
| 2002 | 256 (.61) | 165 (.39) | 0 (.00) | 421 |
| 2003 | 280 (.59) | 177 (.31) | 4 (.01) | 471 |
| 2004 | 174 (.59) | 121 (.41) | 0 (.00) | 295 |
| 2005 | 164 (.58) | 106 (.38) | 11 (.04) | 281 |
| 2006 | 350 (.60) | 229 (.40) | 0 (.00) | 579 |
| 2007 | 135 (.55) | 110 (.45) | 0 (.00) | 245 |
| 2008 | 110 (.65) | 58 (.34) | 2 (.01) | 170 |
| 2009 | 62 (.60) | 42 (.40) | 0 (.00) | 104 |
| 2010 | 119 (.66) | 62 (.34) | 0 (.00) | 181 |
| 2011 | 234 (.66) | 118 (.34) | 0 (.00) | 352 |
| 2012 | 185 (.64) | 105 (.36) | 0 (.00) | 290 |
| 2013 | 260 (.65) | 139 (.35) | 0 (.00) | 399 |
| 2014 | 195 (.61) | 125 (.39) | 1 (.00) | 321 |
| 2015 | 136 (.61) | 71 (.32) | 15 (.07) | 222 |
| 2016 | 75 (.59) | 53 (.41) | 0 (.00) | 128 |
| 2017 | 169 (.63) | 98 (.37) | 0 (.00) | 267 |
| 2018 | 109 (.59) | 76 (.41) | 0 (.00) | 185 |

4. Provide information related to any weather/habitat factors that have relevance to this change (i.e., habitat security, hunter access, vegetation surveys, weather index, snow conditions, temperature / precipitation information).

Fires and logging activity may have altered and/or destroyed marten habitat throughout the region. Unfortunately, we do not have good data on harvest locations prior to 2002, so it is not possible to look at changes in harvest distribution over time.

5. Briefly describe the contacts you have made with individual sportsmen or landowners, public groups or organizations regarding this proposal and indicate their comments (both pro and con).

This proposal to place a personal quota on marten for Region 1 is a result of a joint meeting of Montana FWP, The Montana Trapper’s Association (MTA), Montana Fur Harvester’s (MFH), and trappers unaffiliated with either organization. This proposal was supported by both associations.

Submitted by: Jessy Coltrane
Date: 5/13/2019

Approved: _____
Regional Supervisor / Date

Disapproved / Modified by: _____
Name / Date

Reason for Modification: