

**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: