

Appendix 3

Recommended Procedures for trapping, handling, and use of nest boxes for Glaucomys sabrinus (source: Service 2001)

BEFORE CONDUCTING ANY FIELD WORK WITH G. SABRINUS CONTACT APPROPRIATE STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES CONCERNING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

1. Conduct trapping from spring through mid-autumn. Do not trap during extremely cold, wet or windy weather. Trapping success may be decreased on clear moonlit nights.
2. Use wire mesh live-traps of size appropriate for chipmunks. Metal box traps have proven ineffective for flying squirrel capture and could cause fatality.)
3. To increase capture success, put up feeding platforms where the traps will be placed, and "pre-bait" them for several nights before trapping (time permitting).
4. Set 20 to 40 traps at a minimum spacing of 50 m. in 1 or 2 transects through areas to be trapped. The number and spacing of the traps should be tailored to the area being trapped.
5. Secure traps to the ground or attach horizontally to large, mature trees at a height of about 6 feet. Be sure to flag or otherwise visibly mark trees with traps.
6. Place moss, leaves, etc. over traps, to break the outline and to provide some cover.
7. Insert a suitable bedding material (e.g. leaves and/or cotton batting) into the traps.
8. Bait traps with a peanut butter-oat and bacon grease-fruit (apple, prune) mixture.
9. Run traps 1 week to 10 days per area. If possible, each area should be trapped during more than one season.

10. Check traps twice per day, early in the morning and just before dusk. The later checking will free traps of diurnal squirrels.

11. Nest boxes: We recommend using 15 nest boxes per 50 acres of habitat, plus 1 box for each additional 5 acres. Attach boxes 6 to 15ft. above ground on trees with straight, branchless trunks above and below box. Secure boxes to trees with nails through nail holes shown in the accompanying figure. Boxes may be further secured to the trunk with wire wrapped around the trunk and the bottom of the box.

12. Handle any flying squirrel captured (either sabrinus or volans) as follows:

- a. Allow the animal to run into a soft "work bag."
- b. Weigh the animal, using a small hanging spring-scale.
- c. Using leather work gloves, grasp the animal through the bag and maneuver it to the open end.
- d. Sex the animal, age it if possible, and ear tag it or, using tiny manicure scissors, put a small ear notch for future recognition.
- e. Release the animal at the point of capture.

Note: These recommendations are subject to further restrictions and/or change, as specified by state or federal wildlife officials.