

From: [Mark McCollough](#)
To: [Tamara Smith](#); [Tony Sullins](#)
Subject: MN trapped lynx mortality info
Date: 03/22/2012 12:02 PM

Tamara -

Thank you for sending me the necropsy report concerning the trapped lynx that died during handling last fall in MN. I would also appreciate any further information on continuing investigation into this case.

We concluded the public comment period for the Maine trapping HCP in February (received ~6400 comments), reviewed comments and compiled substantive issues. We will shortly meet with Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to discuss what will be needed to revise their application and HCP to meet ESA issuance criteria. MDIFW needs to revisit their incidental take analysis to further evaluate all forms of ESA take that may occur, including possible mortality or reduced fitness that may occur after animals are released from traps. The MN incident raises questions about potential life-threatening injury that could occur while animals are in traps or being handled that were not considered in the Maine HCP. Lynx in Maine are generally described as "passive, calm" in traps and nearly all lynx released are described as having "no visible injury, or minor injury." The MN incidents suggest that animals could have major, undetectable trauma.

Any further information that you may learn would be helpful. MDIFW provides us with a reports for each lynx trapped. I would greatly appreciate any final reports or conclusions concerning the source of injury and death of the Ely, MN lynx developed by the Service or MN DNR.

We plan to have a multi-day meeting with MDIFW in mid-April to discuss minimization and mitigation measures for their ITP. We would be glad to share our experiences with you to help with the MN trapping HCP process.

Thanks, Mark

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