

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
To: [Tamara Smith](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: lynx necropsy update
Date: 02/10/2012 12:00 PM

Tam,

Sorry to be so slow on this.

I spoke with the CO this morning. Your timeline is correct. Not sure on the elapsed time that the lynx was left alone in the trap and the CO did not know, either - perhaps Shannon could estimate that better.

Apparently, when the trappers first approached the trap, the lynx was simply sitting there, looking at them - not excited or anything. I told the CO about the necropsy results. He said that when they use a catch pole and get the loop tightened around an animal's neck, it's common for the end of the pole to actually be banging against the animal's chest/body - depending on the amount of thrashing around the animal is doing. That seems like it could have been the cause of the internal injuries.

The CO said he saw no indication that the trapper or his friend had "beat up" the lynx or anything like that and had no reason to suspect it. I really can't think of a reason why they would have done so, anyway.

He also confirmed that it was a fox set and was legal, set properly, etc.

Let me know what else you need.

rk

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), Special Agent
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement
515 West First Street, Room 228
Duluth, MN 55802
Office: 218/720-5357
Fax: 218/720-5358
Cell: 651/583-1382
▼ [Tamara Smith/R3/FWS/DOI](#)

**Tamara
Smith/R3/FWS/DOI**

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
cc

02/06/2012 08:13 AM

Subject Fw: lynx necropsy update

Hi (b) (6),
(b) (7),

Thanks for the Cass Lake lynx report & pictures. Did you see my email from the other day regarding the necropsy (below)? Not sure if you missed this with the flurry of lynx emails...

Let me know what you think. If you like, I can also contact Shannon Barber-Meyer to help fill in details of this incident, but thought I would ask you first. Thanks!

Happy Monday,
Tam

----- Forwarded by Tamara Smith/R3/FWS/DOI on 02/06/2012 07:50 AM -----

**Tamara
Smith/R3/FWS/DOI**

To (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) /R3/FWS/DOI
cc

01/31/2012 02:05 PM

Subject lynx necropsy update

(b) (6),
(b) (7),

I just spoke with Jennifer Bradsby about the lynx necropsy. She believes the trauma was self inflicted, however, she had a few additional questions that may help clear things up.

According to my records, the trap was a small leg hold trap set for fox. Is that correct? She did not find any broken leg bones, and she thought if it were thrashing around in a leg trap, it seemed odd that there was no evidence of leg injury.

Do you know how long the lynx was alive in the trap? -e.g. time that elapsed between when the trap was set and when it was found, or more specific info., if we have it.

You may want to speak to Jennifer Bradsby to fill in some of the gaps. Her number is 608-270-2443.

Also, I am trying to get the time line of events straight for my own records. This is (briefly) the time line that I have: lynx trapped, trapper calls USGS, USGS arrives to release the lynx, lynx dies, USGS advises trapper to take the lynx home due to the number of people who were aware of the location/lynx, the CO arrived at the trapper's house to retrieve the lynx, trapper returns the lynx toe to CO and USFWS LE retrieve the animal from the CO. Is that right? I am particularly interested in when the lynx was left unattended, if it was alive or dead during those times, and when exactly the toe came off.

Thanks,
Tam

Tamara A. Smith
Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Twin Cities Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
4101 American Blvd. E.
Bloomington, MN 55425
ph: 612-725-3548 ext.2219
fax: 612-725-3609
tamara_smith@fws.gov