

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF WILD FURBEARER HARVEST
IN NORTH DAKOTA

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ABSTRACT

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Furbearers played a major part in the settlement and early trade of North Dakota and continue to impact economic activity today. Data from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department were used to estimate the statewide economic impact of wild furbearer harvest. Expenditures of \$22 million per year from trapping and hunting furbearers were used in an input-output analysis to estimate economic activity in various sectors of the state. Three scenarios representing economic activity in North Dakota were developed, showing that annual furbearer harvest generated from \$1 million to \$75 million in gross business volume and supported from 15 to 1,100 jobs in the state. A best estimate of the contribution to the state's economy is \$18 to \$30 million in gross business volume and 250 to 446 jobs.