

## Tips for Preventing the Spread of ANS

Beaver float



RICK TISCHAEFER

Muskrat float



MARK MONTI

- When making sets or using camouflage, only use vegetation or mud from that location and do not transport it.
- Learn to recognize ANS during the trapping season. Plants can be difficult to identify without flowers or foliage.
- Report any plant or animal that looks out of place to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.
- Call (701) 328-6300
- Email [ndgf@nd.gov](mailto:ndgf@nd.gov)
- Use the online form at [gf.nd.gov/ans](http://gf.nd.gov/ans)

## For More Information on ANS and Trapping

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR TRAPPING OR FUR HARVESTER EDUCATION COURSES AND EVENTS:**

**NORTH DAKOTA FUR HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION  
WWW.NDFHTA.COM**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANS, FUR HARVESTER EDUCATION COURSES, OR FURBEARER REGULATIONS:**

**NORTH DAKOTA  
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
100 N. BISMARCK EXPRESSWAY  
BISMARCK, ND 58501-5095  
701-328-6300  
EMAIL: [NDGF@ND.GOV](mailto:NDGF@ND.GOV)  
WWW.GF.ND.GOV**

**NORTH Dakota** | Game and Fish  
Be Legendary.™



**FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ON ANS IN NORTH DAKOTA, VISIT [GF.ND.GOV/ANS](http://GF.ND.GOV/ANS)**

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# TRAPPER'S GUIDE

## TO PROTECTING WETLAND HABITATS

How to prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species during trapping activities

**Produced by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department and the North Dakota Fur Hunters and Trappers Association**

## Protecting Wetland Habitats for our Future

*Geese sometimes use muskrat huts for nesting in spring and rest during fall migration.*



*Wetland habitat trap sets explained during a fur harvester education course.*

Natural and native wetland habitats provide many benefits to wildlife and fish. Healthy wetland habitats sustain a variety of vegetation that provides both food and shelter. Aquatic nuisance species are non-native plants and animals that cause harm to the environment, economy or social activities. ANS such as purple loosestrife and zebra mussels compete with native plants and animals, degrading habitat and forage and harming wildlife populations. Trappers can help prevent the spread of ANS during trapping activities.



*Purple loosestrife may appear to be useful vegetation in a wetland. Instead, it competes with native species like cattails, which are an important source of food and shelter for muskrats.*

## Three Simple Steps to Prevent ANS Spread

### CLEAN

Inspect all equipment and remove any plants or animals. Also remove as much excessive mud as possible.

### DRAIN

Remove all water, especially from buckets, before leaving a water body. Water can hold microscopic organisms and seeds.

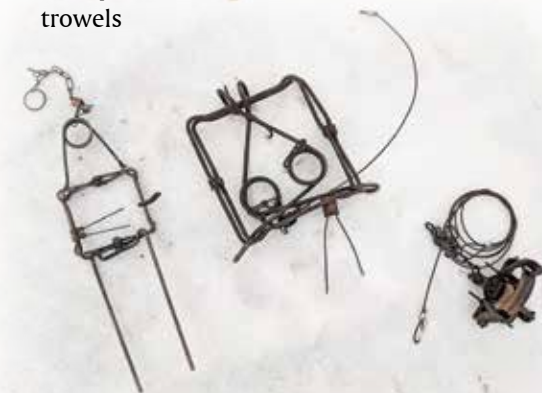
### DRY

Allow equipment to dry completely or disinfect before using again. To disinfect, allow to freeze for at least 48 hours or wash with hot tap water (120° F for 5 minutes of contact).

## Other Relevant Information

### EXAMPLES OF EQUIPMENT TO CHECK:

- Waders/boots
- Traps
- Stakes
- Buckets
- Tile spades and trowels
- Anchors
- Oars, paddles and boat motors
- Kayaks, canoes or boats



*Common traps and equipment.*



### NORTH DAKOTA LAWS REQUIRE:

- All vegetation must be removed from all equipment prior to leaving the water access site.
- All water from equipment must be drained prior to leaving the water access site.
- Drain plugs must be out and draining devices open on all equipment during transport.