

## Center Swivels for 2019 Season

This rule applies to furbearers, wolves, coyote, weasel, skunk, fox, badger, and raccoon. Persons trapping species that do not require a license (predators or non-game\*) for purposes of livestock or property protection are exempt.

### **Minimum of two (2) Swivels in Ground-set Foothold Traps**

Beginning with the 2019 trapping season, all ground-set foothold traps set for furbearers or wolves, and traps set by recreational trappers for coyote, weasel, skunk, fox, badger or raccoon will be required to have a near-center swivel and an additional chain swivel.

*\*Classification of Species by Montana Statute:*

- *Furbearers – beaver, muskrat, bobcat, lynx, wolverine, fisher, marten, otter, mink, and swift fox.*
- *Predators – coyote, weasel, skunks.*
- *Non-game – Any wild animal not otherwise legally classified by statute or regulation in Montana. Examples are red fox, badger, raccoon, squirrels, porcupines, marmots, hares, and rabbits.*

### **Swivels for Ground-set Foothold Traps**

#### **Minimum of Two Swivels**

Swivels allow rotation and greatly enhance freedom of movement thereby reducing injury and increasing comfort of trapped animals. Swivels also reduce damage to fur and equipment. At minimum, a trap must be equipped with at least two swivels: 1) a center or base-plate swivel located on the underside of the trap as close to the center as the trap design reasonably allows, and 2) another swivel located near the opposite end of the chain. Quality swivels capable of holding the largest species that might be captured are critical.

