

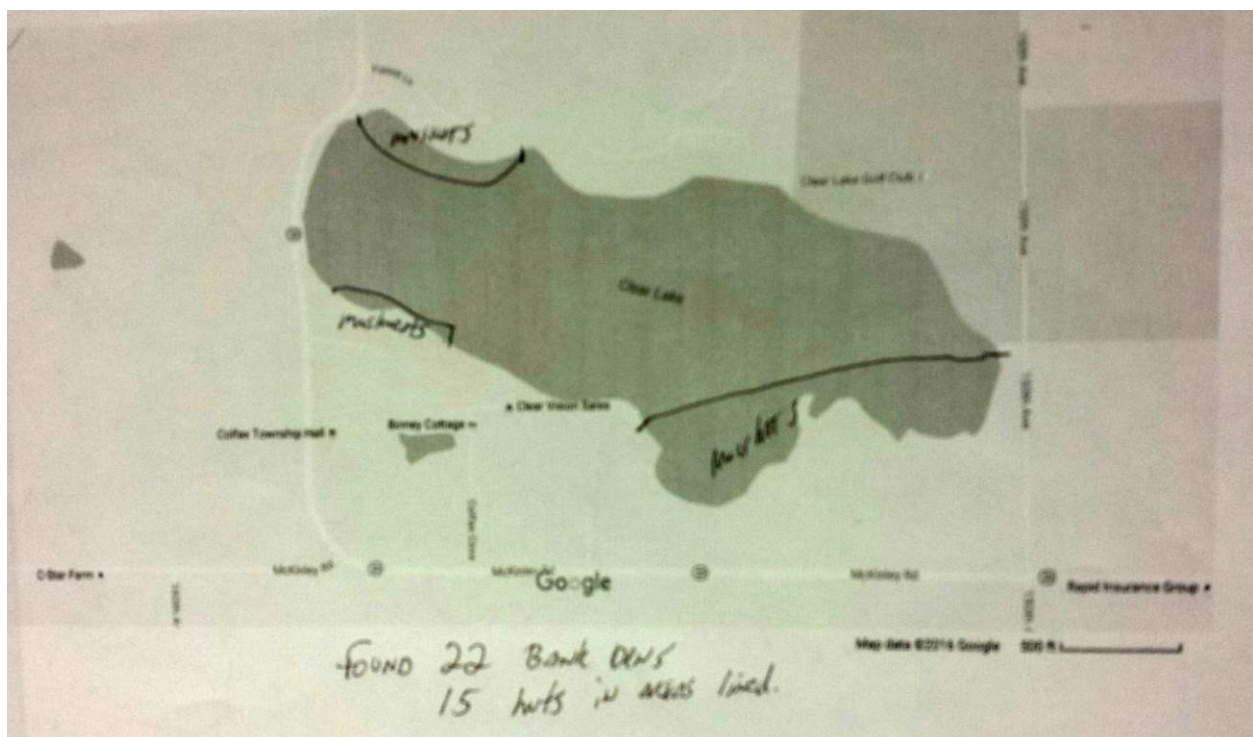
From: Carl Meissner <cmeissner@envisionelec.com >
Date: October 17, 2016
Subject: Clear Lake Muskrats

Hello Chris,

What my trapping partner and I would be doing is setting under water traps for muskrats near the shoreline where the muskrats build their bank dens and near their huts that they build. We will be coming in by boat or canoe. Our traps would have a flag stick with either orange and green or orange and blue tape.

We would start setting traps the Morning of the 3rd check them on the 4th and pull them on the 5th. We probably won't get them all but will take out enough to help control the damage they do. If there are any questions they can contact me at my home 989-382-7493 or email cmeissner@envisionelec.com.

We will be riding along the shoreline on October 29th or 30th to determine how many traps and where. When we are there to set traps we will be wearing blue/green and orange armbands.



There is no charge for this. The fur gets processed and sold. Last year's average was around \$2.00 per rat fully processed, hopefully to make enough to cover the gas and time and the rest of the animal goes to feed injured eagles at a rehabilitation facility in Oil City (keeps Barb from having to pay for food or time to solicit donations).

If your members see anyone touching the traps without wearing the armbands please notify the RAP line 800-292-7800. By law the only people authorized to touch the traps are the trappers that own

them and the DNR. I stay in constant contact with the DNR in the County. Seems like there are a lot of people who do not wish to follow the law.

We will not be on the shoreline. All the traps will be under water but have stakes to mark their location. The water rights for trapping are as follows. The shoreline of the landowner extends from each end of their shoreline to the center of the lake like a pie chart. Anyone can float along the shoreline as long as they do not touch bottom. The public launch can be trapped by anyone but once they leave that space they must have permission to trap. I respect the rights of anyone who wishes to not have their shoreline trapped. It's a personal choice but what most people don't realize is what happens to the population of muskrats when they exceed the carrying capacity of the water they live in.

I take time off work for this week and cover a lot of water so I will set aside whatever time is needed for Clear Lake be it one property owner or all but one.

Best Regards
Carl Meissner
Hobby Trapper