

THE DELEGATED AUTHORITY ORDER (DAO)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Does a need really exist for a DAO?

Absolutely.

The dramatic increase in development and exploration for energy resources will continue. New technology and the price of fuel have made any deposit of gas or oil a profitable venture. The intensity of development will increase probably for another fifty years. I was told "You ain't seen nothing yet". Believe it.

If trappers cannot unite and support a common set of standards and goals now, the future for trapping, in the face of all this activity, will be bleak. It has been suggested that trapping should go to a non – tenured system (no registered trap lines) in the heavy oil and gas areas of the Province (east half , central and foothills).

2. What will happen the Cabin Policy?

Currently a policy exists that defines how big and how many cabins a trapper may have. Some choose to ignore the policy and build outside the standard. Trapper cabins are for the business of trapping not recreating. There has been little

or no enforcement/education of this policy is. A recent review of the policy suggested minor changes but the size of the main cabin remains 24' X 24'. Line cabins and sheds are still allowed but at spacing that supports trapping activity not recreation. Trappers that chose to ignore the policy make it difficult for all trappers. Cabins will be brought into compliance (at the RFMA holders cost) upon transferral. New cabins must follow the policy. The crown has the right to deal with violations and they will.

3. How does a DAO affect Compensation?

A sore point for trappers and industry, compensation under the DAO will be reformed and standardized. Firstly, a trapper must be active to be considered for compensation. To be considered an active trapper, a management plan must be completed and submitted annually to the DAO. The DAO will review the plan and enter the information into the trapper database. This plan will include fur harvest records and receipts, biological information, a detailed map indicating trails, bait sites, cabins, mineral licks, and historical sites (if

any). This plan is your bargaining position with industry.

Assets of traplines will be given a set value i.e. so much for bait sites, trails, etc. These values will be developed by trappers and industry. A standardized list of asset values will allow industry to know what their costs will be as well as the active trapper will know what to claim.

By streamlining the compensation process it will be expedient, equitable and transparent for both trappers and industry.

It is a challenging time to be in the trapping industry. All trappers need to know what resources may be on their line. Speak with the forestry and energy folks and ask what their plans are. For trappers to exist in 21st century Alberta we have to get along with all the people on the land.

Mark Spafford

Zone 4 director

DAO Steering committee