

Hi, my name is Margaret Kidner; I am one of your Zone 2 directors.

I would like to take this time in our busy lives to help you understand how we will benefit from a DAO. Yes, I am scared just like all of you but we cannot just sit and let our trap lines be wiped off the Alberta map.

I grew up on my Mom and Dad's (Edna and Cliff Winter) trap line as my dad came here in 1914 from Ontario to the Lambert Creek area just south west of Edson, AB and started trapping and taking hunters out. They had 7 children and out of 7 children, 4 of us have owned registered trap lines and my brother in BC also trapped, so 5 trappers out of 7 - not bad odds I'd say.

What I see and know is that trapping the way it is cannot survive;

#1. There are about ½ the lines in Alberta not being trapped for one reason or another.

#2. Some of the RFMA holders are trapping oil and gas companies along with lumber companies, not fur.

#3. The Government could take our lines away with a stroke of a pen in a heartbeat.

#4. If one of us on the landscape must go you can bet your bottom dollar it won't be lumber or oil and gas, it will be us, the little person, even though we are the ones that look out for the environment more than the rest do.

#5. Our trap line cabins are under a policy right now and that means squat when it comes right down to it. There are trap line cabins being built that are not conforming to the specifications in the policy.

I see the DAO as our only hope at trying to fix some of the problems we have now.

#1. The trap line cabin policy will become law so a trap line cabin will be a trap line cabin not some big fancy house and we will have the law to back that up.

#2. We will have the money backing to be able to hire a Fur Biologist so we will be able to do some field studies on some of our furbearers.

#3. As stewards of the land the management plan that each of us fill out year after year will also show the impact on wildlife and on the environment as well as tell us what trap lines are not being trapped and they can then go to someone that wants to trap.

#4. We will become an occupant of the land just like lumber and oil and gas companies. We will have rights the same as they have now.

This is only my vision that I have written about but I do hope it becomes yours as well. This is going to be the way of trapping in the 21st century and beyond.