Written by Janet Rohde
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MARQUETTE— DNR Wildlife Division staff will hold furbearer registration hours at the Wakefield and Stephenson field offices on specific dates and times. __PUBLIC__

Furbearer registration will take place at the Wakefield Field Office, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the following dates: Jan. 9, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, Feb. 20, March 6, March 20 and April 17.

Questions about furbearer registration at the Wakefield Field Office may be directed to the DNR's Baraga Operations Service Center: 906-353-6651.

Furbearer registration will take place at the Stephenson Field Office, on the following dates: Jan. 4, by appointment; Feb. 7, 4-6 p.m.; March 7, 4-6 p.m.; May 4, 4-6 p.m.

Questions about furbearer registration at the Stephenson Field Office may be directed to the DNR's Escanaba Field Office: 906-786-2351.

In addition to the special furbearer registration hours, DNR Operations Service Centers are open during normal business hours for registration and sealing. Field offices may also be able to register and seal pelts during normal business hours, but trappers and hunters must call ahead to ensure staff availability.

Anyone taking a bobcat, river otter, fisher, marten or incidental catches must bring the animal to a designated furbearer check station for examination. DNR staff members collect biological data from the harvested animals, including sex, age and physical condition of the specimen. The skull of each specimen will also be retained for tooth and DNA samples.

Registration of these furbearers is mandatory; an official seal is attached to each pelt to show it has been inspected.

Trappers and furbearer hunters are reminded that they must register their own take and cannot register for others.

For more information about furbearer registration, contact wildlife biologist Brian Roell at 906-228-6561 or call one of the DNR offices.