

# *Interior Alaska Trappers General Trapping School*

Interior ATA hosted a trapping school for 35 students on Saturday, October 18th and Sunday, October 19th at the Lost Lake Scout Camp off the Richardson Highway in Interior Alaska. The school covered a myriad of topics that both new and experienced trappers can gain knowledge from. A handful there were even second year students, coming back to pick up the pieces of information that were just too much to take in from the first class. Wayne Crowson and Dan Tempel organized the school this year and really did a fine job. From the excellent food to the excellent teachers, this was the real deal. Instructors included Jim Masek, Wayne Crowson, Randy Smith, Dave Schmitz, Kyle Davison, Mike Osborne, Mike Johnson, Tyler Freel on behalf of Arctic Raw Fur Company and two instructors from the Eielson AFB Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape course. Trooper David Bump made a presentation about trapline laws on behalf of the Alaska State Troopers and Shawn Osborne gave a presentation on trapping use of military lands in the Interior. A special thank you to Mark Schmitt who travelled from Wisconsin to give a presentation on NAFA fur grading, handling and buying. Many behind the scenes volunteers work hard to make this weekend course come together. Terri Crowson worked along side food service business The Chocolate Gypsy to keep the food coming all weekend and Kevin and Martin Davison kept the two woodstoves stocked and burning all the time amongst many other tasks that went unseen.

This weekend class was the most informative bundle of information presented in a clear and easy to understand format. If you are interested in learning more about trapping in general or just want to put more fur in the shed, this class can really give you some great information.



*Instructors from left: Randy Smith, Dave Schmitz, Mike Osborn, Jim Masek, Mike Johnson, Kyle Davison, Wayne Crowson*

