



GLOBAL WILDLIFE RESOURCES INC.

MARK R. JOHNSON DVM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DOG NON-CHEMICAL CAPTURE AND HANDLING - MAXIMIZING SUCCESS AND MINIMIZING THE FIGHT -

General Course Outline

INTRODUCTION

A. Instructor:

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Training Resources:

Website: www.WildlifeResources.org
Feral Dog Blog in WordPress
YouTube: GWRFeralDogs Channel

B. Course Participants:

For shelter staff, animal control officers, disaster responders, spay/neuter programs

C. Class schedule and logistics:

D. Course objectives:

1. Understand the qualities and language of Dog to help achieve our goals.
2. Explore the qualities, skills, and habits of a compassionate dog handler.
3. Evaluate your organization's policies and responsibilities to support dog handlers.
4. Discuss ethical issues relating to dog capture & handling within a professional context.
5. List a variety of tools and techniques for catching dogs by hand in a safe, humane, and efficient manner.
6. Learn compassionate physical restraint including: scruff, lateral restraint, muzzle, and hobbles without adding energy to any struggle.
7. Explore how to create a calm conscious manner to minimize the energy of conflict even with very uncooperative dogs.
8. Understand the construction and methods for catching dogs with boxtraps.
9. Become familiar with the Y pole: what it is, how it works, & how to properly use it.
10. Present challenges and scenarios in an open format so all participants can discuss solutions.
12. Have fun in the labs with a net, Y pole, a box trap, and a synthetic dog!

SAFETY FIRST!

DO NOT ENTER INTO ANY SITUATION UNLESS YOU FEEL IT IS SAFE TO DO SO.

PHILOSOPHIES AND PERSPECTIVES

A. Why is compassion important?

B. The Organization

C. The Dog

1. What's in a name: feral? fearful? street dog?

2. Communication Signals: What is the dog telling us?
Threatening signals

Calming signals

3. The Nature of Dog (Qualities helping us work with dogs)

a. Resolving conflict is a big part of their lives : Turid Rugaas

b. Dogs are domesticated and deeply connected to us.

c. They are aware of a hierarchy and respond to it.

d. The dog can be physically restrained.

4. What is an alpha dog?

D. The Animal Handler – qualities, skills, & habits of a compassionate handler

1. Human safety is highest priority
2. Self awareness - observe your self and choose to stay calm & relaxed
3. Learn the language of Dog and try the softer techniques when safe and practical.
4. Work with very small moves. Work at the dogs pace, not yours.
5. Time is a tool.
6. Work as a team.

E. Connecting With The Animal

1. Keep your attention on the animal at all times
2. Feel what kind of personality the dog has and work with it
3. Practice “Give and Take”
4. Understand that our energy affects the animal
5. Create more calmness over time, not less

F. Minimizing The Energy Of Conflict

Who is actually creating the fight?

HAND CATCHING Always use the least aggressive when you can. Evaluate the dog, then choose the equipment and technique – safe and humane and compassionate

A. Coated Cable

B. Leashes

C. Other tools: snappy snare, etc.

PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

Emphasizing calm and compassionate physical control rather than forceful action.

A. Scruffing

Three steps: 1. Ear in notch of thumb, 2. fingers to corner of mouth, 3. Curl fingers
Thumbs stay parallel between ears

B. Leash Muzzle Wrap

Two person muzzle

C. Lateral restraint

D. Hobbling

E. Headcover

1. Wolf Quickmuzzle

(Wolf Quickmuzzle: Four Flags Over Aspen, St. Clair MN, 800.222.9263)

2. Towel when carrying dog

3. Cover nets, traps, and crates as well.

LAB: Practice leash muzzle wrap with Ladakh

The Y Pole

The most essential and fundamental tool for humanely handling fearful dogs.

Read article in the "101" Department of Animal Sheltering Magazine, Sept/Oct 2010

A. What is a Y pole?

B. What is its purpose?

C. Contrast with catch pole

D. How does it work?

E. Setting up the situation

F. Y Pole Steps

1. Greet the dog
2. Y Pole on neck
3. Second Y pole on hip
4. Towel over head
5. Lifting of the legs

G. Animal Handling Options – what we can do with the dog

H. What *not* to do

Don't use the Y pole in a negative way.

Don't look away when the Y pole is on the animal and people are working

I. Dogs it may not work with

Alpha dogs and free-ranging dogs

Dogs beaten with sticks will not trust the Y pole

Flighty dogs with closeness issues – at a certain distance they will spook and jump

Dogs once pets who don't really care

J. Where do I get a Y pole or how do I make it?

Heart of the Earth Animal Equipment- www.animal-traps.com

GWR Products – www.WildlifeResources.org

CATCH POLE

A. Proper construction –

B. Proper techniques

The crazier the animal gets the calmer we should be.

C. Things *not* to do –

NETTING

A. Construction

Sources: Salmon nets – Beckman and Frabill

B. Techniques

C. Accessories

1. Y Pole

2. Towel

LAB: Practicing netting a ball.

BOXTRAPPING

Training video available: "Humane Box Trapping of Dogs" at GWR Products

A. How they are built and how to assemble

B. Setting the Trap

C. Baiting

D. Note taking

E. Concerns/Precautions

ADVANCE TRAPPING

F. Catching specific or difficult dogs

G. Other ways to use the traps.

1. Double traps
2. Active boxtrapping

H. Checking the traps

1. If the trap is empty
2. If trap has dog

I. Trap Covers and Accessories

1. Trap Cover
2. Tru Catch Wheel Kit
3. T-D 1 Trap Divider

VARI-KENNELS

Crating a Dog with long line

CAPTURE PENS

WORKING FEARFUL DOGS IN A LARGE AREA

A. Walking a line

1. Nets and Y pole on ends
2. Toward Y poling corner
3. Toward open crates

B. Rolled burlap

CHEMICAL CAPTURE

What to know even when you are not drugging dogs.

ZOONOTIC DISEASES

A. Rabies – vaccination, handling, signage

B. Mange

Group Discussion – Covering specific scenarios

COURSE HANDOUTS

1. The “Y” Pole: One Cool Tool
2. Making a Y Pole
3. How to Use a Control Pole by HSUS
4. How to Box Trap Dogs
5. Capture Pens for Capturing Feral Dog Packs
6. Wolf Quick Muzzle Handout