

ZIP TIE METHOD OF REMOVING A BODY GRIP TRAP

Minnesota Trappers Association

www.mntrappers.org

An educational tool provided to pet owners.

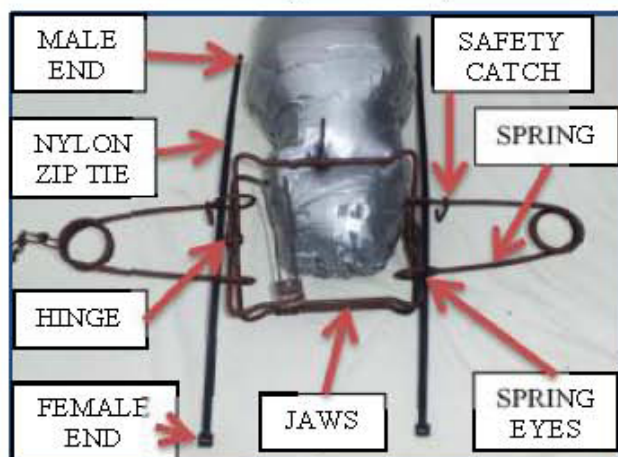


Figure (1)

Although an uncommon occurrence, domestic animals have at times been accidentally caught in body gripping traps. Sadly in most cases, the reason that animals were ultimately lost was due primarily to a lack of familiarity with these devices by the person attempting to free the animal. This handout is an attempt to educate the outdoor enthusiast in the proper method of releasing an accidentally caught animal.

Do not attempt to pry the jaws apart as the springs will prevent the trap from being forcefully opened in this manner in most cases.



REMAIN CALM – Speak soothingly to the animal. This will help reassure the animal and make your job easier.

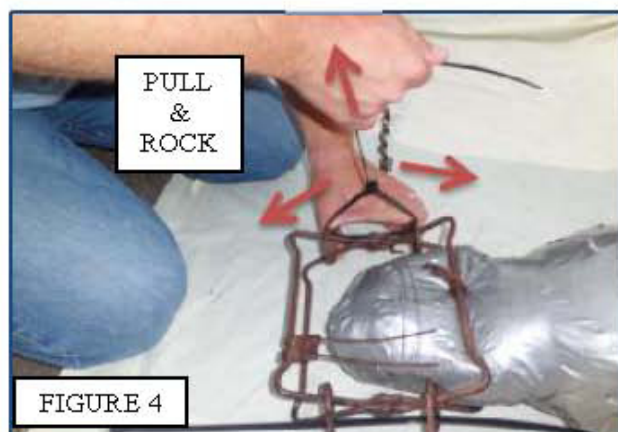
If available seek assistance to help restrain the animal to make the following steps quicker and easier.

THREAD 1 ZIP TIE THROUGH THE SPRING EYES OF A SPRING AS SHOWN. VERIFY THAT YOU ARE THROUGH THE SPRING EYES ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE JAW AND HINGE.



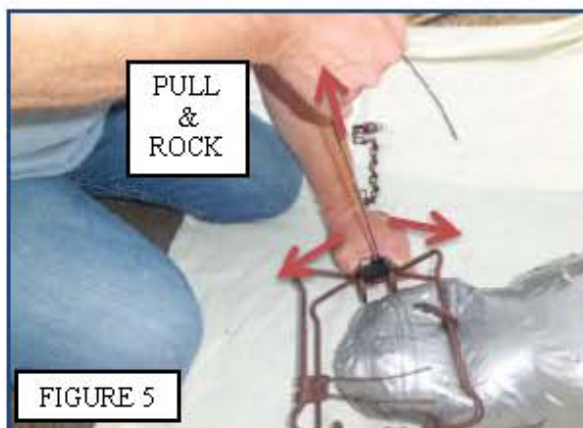
THREAD THE MALE END OF THE ZIP TIE THROUGH THE FEMALE END OF THE ZIP TIE AS SHOWN. SNUG UP TO THE SPRING EYES WITH YOUR FINGERS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.

(NOTE: You will hear the teeth of the zip tie clicking as it tightens and it will hold the spring compressed. If it is not doing this make sure you threaded the zip tie correctly. See figure #3.)



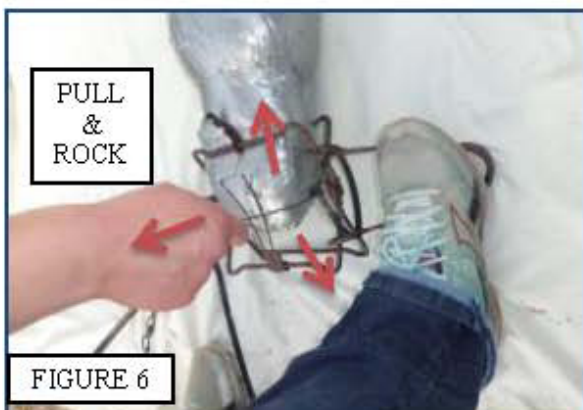
COMPRESS SPRING (HAND METHOD)

WITH ONE HAND GRIP THE SPRING ENDS AS FAR IN TOWARDS THE JAW AS POSSIBLE. WITH THE OTHER HAND SOLIDLY GRIP THE MALE END OF THE ZIP TIE. SQUEEZE THE SPRING AND PULL UP HARD ON THE ZIP TIE AT THE SAME TIME. IT MAY HELP TO WIGGLE THE ZIP TIE BACK AND FORTH WHILE PULLING TO HELP THE ZIP TIE CLOSE EASIER.



KEEP PULLING AND SQUEEZING UNTIL THE SPRING EYES ARE ABOUT 1.5" APART. (SEE PICTURE)

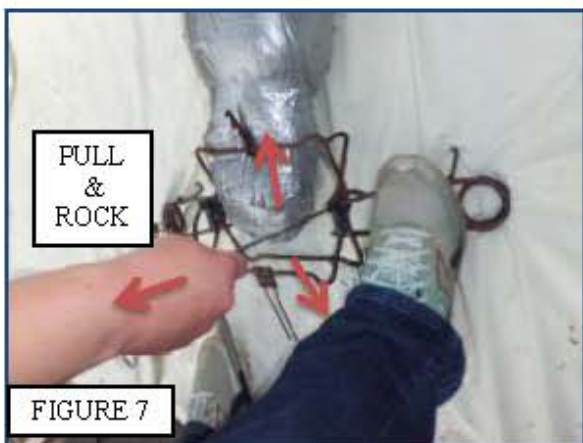
REPEAT THE PREVIOUS STEPS FOR THE SECOND SPRING.



COMPRESS SPRING (FOOT METHOD)

(This method may be easier if you have smaller or weaker hands.)

PLACE YOUR FOOT ON THE SPRING AS SHOWN. WITH ONE OR TWO HANDS GRIP THE MALE END OF THE ZIP TIE AND PULL HARD WHILE WIGGLING THE ZIP TIE BACK AND FORTH. THIS WILL COMPRESS THE SPRING.



KEEP PULLING UNTIL THE SPRING EYES ARE ABOUT 1.5" APART. (SEE PICTURE)

REPEAT THE PREVIOUS STEPS FOR THE SECOND SPRING.



ONCE BOTH SPRINGS HAVE BEEN COMPRESSED AS SHOWN ABOVE, THE PRESSURE WILL BE OFF OF THE JAWS OF THE TRAP. YOU CAN NOW REMOVE THE TRAP. IT IS NECESSARY THAT THE COMPRESSED SPRINGS BE CENTERED OVER THE HINGE OF THE JAWS. THIS ALLOWS THE JAWS TO ROTATE AWAY FROM THE ANIMAL. WIGGLE THE TRAP BACK AND FORTH AND PULL AWAY UNTIL FREE.

**Zip ties used to remove a Body Grip Trap must be made of nylon, preferably nylon 6/6 adhering to ASTM-D4066 PA181, and have a rated strength of 175lbs or more.*

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