

Missoulian
June 10, 2008

I continue to be confused by Mr. Schutz's particular brand of logic. Let me see if I understand him correctly. To begin with, Mr. Schutz sets various devices upon our public lands which are intended to capture, maim, crush, suffocate, and/or strangulate any animal caught within them. In regards to one of his devices, the snare trap, Schutz suggests that I periodically strangle my dog to "teach" it to sit still when caught in his snare trap. Do I have that right, sir?

Let me bring you up to speed on a few things, Mr. Schutz. First of all, I never abuse my pets. This includes your "educational strangling" proposal. Secondly, your suggestion that animals who are being strangled to death via your new, "sophisticated" devices die quickly is absurd. I can assure you that death by asphyxiation, for any animal, is neither quick nor humane. Finally, your assurances that the Montana Trappers Association is working hard to cooperate with pet owners and intends to "help all we can" is laughable. If you'd like to help, you can start by ceasing to place these devices on our public lands. I would, however, encourage you to continue writing letters. With each one, you further highlight your callous indifference to the suffering you so casually inflict. I can only hope Governor Schweitzer reads the Missoulian.

Dog owner and Footloose Montana member