

PROBLEMS AND STRATEGIES FOR BOBCAT MANAGEMENT IN MAINE

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1985*

Problem 1: Lack of information on the size and dynamics of bobcat populations.

Strategy 1.1: Develop and implement a system to monitor bobcat populations on a WMU basis.

Problem 2: Lack of information on the major factors affecting net productivity.

Strategy 2.1: Determine the relationship between winter conditions and bobcat survival and recruitment.

Strategy 2.2: Develop and implement a method to monitor winter conditions and predict when (if) bobcat numbers can be expected to decline.

Strategy 2.3: Determine impact of coyote numbers on bobcat populations.

Problem 3: Lack of information on the quantity and quality of bobcat habitat on a WMU basis.

Strategy 3.1: Evaluate the existing model for measuring habitat and estimating carrying capacity.

Problem 4: Opposition to consumptive use of bobcats by non-consumptive users..

Strategy 4.1: Develop programs to minimize the conflicts and concerns of non-consumptive users and maintain use opportunity.