

SNOWSHOE HARE MANAGEMENT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES 2002 – 2017

*Adopted by MDIFW Commissioner and Advisory Council
February 26, 2004*

GOAL

Increase the quality and quantity of snowshoe hare habitat and increase the awareness and understanding of snowshoe hare, its habitat requirements, and its importance as a prey species in Maine.

Habitat Objective 1: If possible, through 2017, maintain the quantity and quality of snowshoe hare habitat in the industrial forest region of Maine at 2002 levels¹.

Habitat Objective 2: By 2017, increase and then maintain the quantity and quality of snowshoe hare habitat on suitable, state-owned wildlife management areas by 100% from 2002 levels.

Habitat Objective 3: By 2017, increase and then maintain the quantity and quality of snowshoe hare habitat in the forest/agriculture/residential region of Maine by 5% from 2002 levels².

Outreach Objective: By 2005, and in conjunction with partners, develop and implement a program to increase the awareness and understanding of snowshoe hare, silvicultural practices that promote or enhance its habitat, its importance as a prey species in Maine, and ways for the hunter to differentiate it from the New England cottontail.

¹ Wildlife Management Districts in the industrialized forest region include WMDs 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 18, and 19.

² Wildlife Management Districts in the forest/agriculture/residential region include WMDs 3, 6, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30.