

AMERICAN WOODCOCK ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Raised by Working Group February 6, 2002

The Working Group identified a number of issues and concerns it considered important when developing goals and objectives for management of Woodcock.

Habitat

- Habitat loss due to development, industrialization, natural succession. Affects of TSI and herbicides.
- Are we providing the best habitat or the best available habitat? We probably get “more bang from our buck” in central and southern Maine.
- Need to maintain a gradient of all age classes of trees.

Management

- Management opportunity on state-owned wildlife management areas.
- Management opportunities on private lands – think “out of the box” regarding potential partners.

Outreach

- Need public outreach to increase the understanding and awareness of woodcock and its habitat and management requirements.

Hunting

- Hunting opportunity – associated with deer season, 30 hunting days as opposed to straight days (which includes Sundays).