

**FEASIBILITY STATEMENTS FOR BOBCAT MANAGEMENT GOAL
AND OBJECTIVES
1985 – 1990**

*Prepared by Karen I. Morris
1985*

Goal: Maintain bobcat populations at no lower than current levels and maintain user opportunity.

Abundance Objective: Maintain fall bobcat population at no lower than current levels (estimated at approximately 1,850) through 1990.

Use Objective: Maintain current hunting and trapping opportunity (season length and timing) through 1990 as long as abundance objective is met.

Desirability: These objectives will have both desirable and undesirable aspects for hunters and trappers. While it is expected to maintain opportunity to pursue bobcats in most years, it could result in hunting season closures if the kill increases by a large amount and/or the population appears to decline. Most people are expected to support maintaining the number of bobcat at at least their present numbers.

Feasibility: It may not be possible to meet the abundance objective annually because of the impact of severe winters on bobcat. Several severe winters in a row are likely to reduce bobcat population.

Capability of Habitat: The habitat is capable of supporting bobcat densities at 1985 levels.

Possible Consequences: Because some people regard the bobcat as rare (or even threatened) lack of a strong effort to reduce the kill could result in adverse public opinion. Season closures (if required) are likely to be unpopular.