

RACCOON MANAGEMENT ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Raised by Working Group in 1986

Habitat

- Development in southern Maine results in high populations which are not available to be harvested. Nuisance problems are great.

Population

- Distemper in S.W. Maine has caused a significant population decrease.

Harvest/Use Opportunity

- Most management of trapping is done in concern for fisher.
- Harvest pressures not distributed evenly throughout the State.
- Cannot harvest in populated areas where populations high.
- Do not put too much emphasis on inaccuracies of data.
- Non-resident coon hunters are not tagging Maine raccoons before leaving the State.
- Raccoons are not being tagged to accurate location.
- Need a fur harvesters license for both hunters and trappers pursuing furbearers.
- Control of nuisance raccoons should emphasize live capture and moving over killing.
- Harvest has decreased significantly in WMU 8 as well as 4 and 6.