

RUFFED GROUSE MANAGEMENT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES 2002 – 2007

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

GOAL

Increase the quality and quantity of Ruffed Grouse habitat; increase the Ruffed Grouse population; and increase the quality of Ruffed Grouse hunting opportunity in Maine.

Population Objective: By 2017, increase the statewide Ruffed Grouse population to a level that will sustain an annual harvest of 800,000 birds.

Habitat Objective 1: By 2017, increase and then maintain the quantity and quality of Ruffed Grouse habitat in the industrial forest region of Maine by 100% from 2002 levels¹.

Habitat Objective 2: By 2017, increase and then maintain the quantity and quality of Ruffed Grouse 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 Ruffed Grouse habitat in the forest/agriculture/residential region of Maine by 50% from 2002 levels².

Outreach Objective: By 2005, and in conjunction with partners, develop and implement a program to increase the awareness and understanding of Ruffed Grouse, its habitat requirements, and its importance as a game species in Maine.

Hunting Objective 1: By 2003, establish a baseline of hunter satisfaction and by 2007, ensure that at least 75% of hunters surveyed who hunt in the industrial forest region of Maine rate their hunting experience as good or better.

Hunting Objective 2: By 2003, establish a baseline of hunter satisfaction and by 2007, ensure that at least 75% of hunters surveyed who hunt in the forest agricultural/residential region of Maine rate their hunting experience as good or better.

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.