

# CAPE BRETON PRIVATELAND PARTNERSHIP

*Nova Scotia At-Risk Mammals*

## Canada Lynx (*Lynx Canadensis*)

### Status

- Endangered (NS)

### Species Description

- Medium-sized cat
- Ears have long, black hairs on the tips
- Short tail
- Large paws

### Threats

- Rely on snowshoe hare populations for food
- Competition with the bobcat (non-native species)
- Small population of lynx
- Geographically isolated



### Habitat Characteristics

- Softwood and mixed wood forests
- Western highlands
- Travel in open, mature softwood, early and advanced successional and open Black Spruce bog habitat types
- Hunt in advanced mixed regeneration stands (22-28 years) dominated by Balsam Fir and White Birch, with average height of 2-6 meters and crown closure of 75-80%

### Best Management Practices

- While lynx primarily hunt snowshoe hares, red squirrels are an alternate prey species. In order to ensure red squirrel habitat, a 100m buffer should be implemented around highland bogs with surrounding mature/over-mature soft and mixed-wood stands.
- Retain coarse woody debris for denning
- Retain softwood stands within the ages of 15-35 years old as these supply habitats for snowshoe hare and thus the lynx

### Resources

- General Info: [Species at risk - Government of Nova Scotia, Canada](#)
- Recovery Plan: [Microsoft Word - lynx recovery plan 2007.doc \(novascotia.ca\)](#)
- Status Report: [sr\\_lynx.pdf \(novascotia.ca\)](#)

## **American Martin (*Martes Americana*)**

### Status

- Endangered (NS)

### Species Description

- Small to medium sized (55-70cm in length)
- Dark brown fur
- Short limbs
- Long, bushy tail (15cm long)
- Males are approximately 900g while females are approximately 600g
- Average longevity of 5-6 years however some have lived as long as 14 years



### Threats

- Loss of habitat quality and quantity
- Incidental loss to fur harvesters
- Loss of genetic variation
- Stochastic events (disease, extreme weather events)
- Lack of public awareness and knowledge gaps

### Habitat Characteristics

- Prefer mature old-growth coniferous forests however, they have been observed in mixed-wood forests

### Best Management Practices

- 12-14 per hectare standing or down whole green trees (not processed) left evenly spaced throughout harvest sites
- Large yellow birch trees should be left standing
- Avoid forestry activity during breeding season (June-August) in Marten habitat

### Resources

- General Info: [Species at risk - Government of Nova Scotia, Canada](#)
- Recovery Plan: [untitled \(novascotia.ca\)](#)
- Status Report: [NEW MARTEN REPORT revised \(novascotia.ca\)](#)