

Maine Wildlife Action Plan

From Vision to On-the-Ground Action

Maine's wildlife action plan addresses the full array of fish and wildlife and their habitats across the state, targeting species in greatest need of conservation while keeping common species common. It builds on a species planning effort that has been ongoing for nearly 40 years, a landscape approach to habitat conservation – Beginning with Habitat – that was initiated in 2000, and a long history of public involvement and collaboration among conservation partners.

Working with Partners to Bring Back Wildlife and Natural Areas **Restoring Seabirds to Eastern Brothers Island**

Increasing the number and distribution of tern, puffin, and razorbill seabird colonies along the Maine coast is an important goal in Maine's wildlife action plan. The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife worked with the Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge to restore Eastern Brothers Island in 2007. Efforts included setting up 128 tern, Atlantic puffin, and razorbill decoys to attract birds, conducting a

prescribed burn, and setting up a system to continuously play tern colony sounds. Regular sightings of razorbills and a breeding pair of common terns in 2007 indicate Eastern Brothers Island will soon become a productive colony, conserving these birds before they become more rare and costly to protect.

Gathering Information to Take Action **Conserving the Endangered Black Racer**

The northern black racer is state endangered and a species of greatest conservation need in Maine's wildlife

Regular sightings of razorbills and a breeding pair of common terns indicate Eastern Brothers Island will soon become a productive seabird colony, conserving these birds before they become more rare and costly to protect.



Razorbill decoys/US Fish and Wildlife Service

action plan. Large but rarely encountered snakes, black racers require large habitat blocks of pine-oak forests, pine barrens,

100 years from now. The intent of this program is not to stop growth so vital to Maine's economy, but to do growth better. Most towns now use *Beginning with Habitat* as the starting point for developing local conservation priorities and to strategically evaluate local land use opportunities. As Maine's communities grow, this program will help conserve wildlife and vital natural places for future generations.

*Most towns now use **Beginning with Habitat** as the starting point for developing local conservation priorities and to strategically evaluate local land use.*



Black racer/Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

heath-lands, or reverted farmland. In Maine, racers are limited to the southern third of the state and could be lost entirely due to their low numbers and habitat loss and fragmentation. A radio tracking study by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will provide better information on black racer habitat use, space requirements, and behavior in dens. This research will help efficiently and effectively conserve the black racer and the habitat it relies upon.

Protecting Imperiled Land, Water, and Wildlife

Beginning with Habitat

Maine's wildlife action plan was built upon *Beginning with Habitat*, a cooperative effort of agencies and organizations to help towns address local habitat needs and concerns by providing wildlife and habitat information and technical assistance. On their own, few towns have the capacity or expertise to know how their decisions today will affect plants and animals available

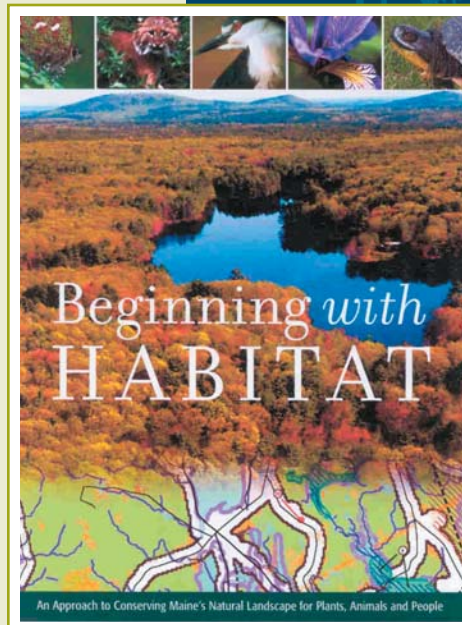
Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

444 North Capitol St, NW
Suite 725
Washington, DC 20001

202.624.7890
www.teaming.com
www.wildlifeactionplans.org

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

41 State House Station, 284 State Street
Augusta, ME 04333-0041
http://www.maine.gov/ifw/wildlife/groups_programs/comprehensive_strategy/index.htm



Beginning with Habitat/
Maine Department of Inland
Fisheries and Wildlife