

Hi Robert,

Martens on Cape Breton Island were listed as endangered under the Nova Scotia Endangered Species Act in 2001. It is illegal to trap or kill martens in Nova Scotia or to damage their dens.

In 2005, surveys conducted by the department suggested fewer than 50 martens and no evidence of breeding in the Cape Breton Highlands. A reintroduction program in 2007-2009 saw the release of an additional 128 martens. Trail camera surveys conducted this year showed that martens were present at nearly 50 percent of the 81 camera sites, and images of pairs suggests evidence of breeding.

Any harvest is required to take into account species at risk and habitat in the area. For Marten, special management practices have been required for several years. For more information on the Marten Special Management Practices (Marten SMP), go to https://novascotia.ca/natr/wildlife/habitats/terrestrial/pdf/SMP_American_Marten.pdf.

The Endangered American Marten SMP, based on the recommendations of the 2006 Marten Recovery Plan (https://novascotia.ca/natr/wildlife/biodiversity/pdf/recoveryplans/martens_strategy07.pdf), are in place on provincial crown lands in Cape Breton.

Current forest harvest planning on Crown lands within the Cape Breton Highlands is managed within the framework set out within the Endangered American Marten Special Management Practices.

Thanks for your patience!

Deborah.

Deborah Bayer

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