

MIGRATORY SHOREBIRDS MANAGEMENT ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Raised by Working Group August 14, 2000

Population

- The Department's shorebird database lacks statewide population estimates. Need a good measure of population status – statewide surveys, including inland areas.
- Winter surveys are more difficult, costly, and require greater staff time.

Habitat

- Shorebirds seem to exhibit extreme fidelity to traditional nesting and staging areas, and if habitats are degraded from development, pollution, oil spills, or disturbance, birds do not readily relocate to new areas.
- Need more information on how migratory shorebirds are utilizing Maine's coastline.