APPLICATION OF A PROBABILITY SAMPLING TECHNIQUE TO ESTIMATE LYNX DENSITY

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Application of a simple probability sampling technique to estimate the density of a wild population of lynx (Felis lynx) is discussed. The 259-km² study area was within a mixed boreal forest with numerous lakes and bogs. The census was completed in one day with a twelve-man crew and aircraft support. Two additional days were required to determine the movements of radio-collared lynx within the study area. The population estimate derived from the census (5.07 ± 4.32 lynx/100 km²) was accurate when related back to a known population of lynx whose numbers were based on concurrent radiotelemetry studies. Logistical considerations, weather patterns, and other criteria relative to a successful census are discussed.

ABSTRACTS
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