



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: August 26, 2014
Comment Period Ends: September 24, 2014
File Number: NAE-2005-1142
In Reply Refer To: Ruth M. Ladd
Phone: (978) 318-8818
E-mail: ruth.m.ladd@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer is soliciting comments on the 12 projects which have applied for funding through New Hampshire's In Lieu Fee ("ILF") program, the Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund ("ARM Fund"). The sponsor for the program is the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services ("DES"). The program serves as an alternative form of compensation for impacts to aquatic resources authorized by the New England District Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and/or the DES. These projects were submitted in response to a Request for Pre-Proposals ("RFPP") issued in 2014 with pre-proposals due April 28, 2014.

The RFPP includes the criteria used to evaluate projects, the information required for a proposal, and other related information. DES and the Corps reviews the RFPPs and invites those meeting the criteria to submit a full application. The RFPP, ARM Fund application, current amount of funds available for release, and additional information can be found at the ARM Fund website:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/wmp/index.htm>

The proponent for any proposed project that needs a Department of the Army permit or authorization will apply for it independently of this project review process.

Attached are the service area funds available, resources impacted by permitted activities that have paid into the ARM Fund, and proposed project descriptions and locus maps for the 12 ARM Fund applications.

The decision whether to approve funding for projects will be based on an evaluation of each proposed activity and how and where it will compensate for aquatic resources lost through authorizations issued under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. The decision will reflect the national concern for no net loss of aquatic resources. The benefit that may reasonably accrue from each proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments and/or its appropriateness considering the ecological needs of the service area in which it is located.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to determine the most appropriate projects to receive funding from the ARM Fund. Any comments received will be provided to the Site Selection Committee which makes recommendations to the

Interagency Review Committee, including the Corps of Engineers, and will be considered in the evaluation of the projects and the determination of which will receive funding. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (“EFH”).

The District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

SECTION 106 COORDINATION

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that the proposed projects may affect properties in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Additional review and consultation to fulfil requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, will be ongoing as part of the proposal review process.

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The New England District, Army Corps of Engineers, has reviewed the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, that might occur at the project sites. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which funding is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect any federally listed endangered or threatened species or their designated critical habitat. By this Public Notice, we are requesting that the appropriate federal Agency concur with our determination.

The State of New Hampshire has an approved **Coastal Zone Management Program**. Coastal Zone Management consistency will be required for some of the individual proposals and by this public notice we are requesting the state provide any applicable comments at this time.

CENAE-R
FILE NO. NAE-2005-1142

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. **Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date.** If you have any questions, please contact Ruth M. Ladd at (978) 318-8818, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts, or at the email address noted above.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the projects. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record.

Robert J. DeSista
Acting Chief, Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

PEMIGEWASSET-WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER SERVICE AREA
(Available funding \$135,000)

PROJECT NAME/ APPLICANT	TOWN	FUNDS REQUESTED	IMPACTED WETLAND & STREAM RESOURCES
Lake Wicwas Conservation Project/Lakes Region Conservation Trust	Meredith	\$64,236	PFO/EM1, PEM1E, PSS1B, R2UB1H, BR2UB River bank impacts

Lake Wicwas Conservation Project, Meredith

The Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) and Lake Wicwas Association (LWA) propose to protect four separate parcels in the northeast part of the lake and will help protect the largest bordering marsh system on the lake. Lake Wicwas is the fourth largest lake in Meredith and provides critical inflow waters to Lake Winnepesaukee. The parcels contain a total of 27.44 acres of land and one mile of shoreline. Although the parcels are not entirely contiguous, they contain shoreline along a strip of critical marsh habitat with two of the parcels currently supporting the only nesting loon pair on Lake Wicwas which is adjacent to an existing LRCT preserve. The third parcel includes shoreline that surrounds the largest bordering marsh (12.5 acres) and the fourth parcel is an island. There are a potential of four vernal pools on the parcels. The conservation proposal involves a donation of three of the parcels to LRCT and the fourth property will entail a donated easement to the LRCT. ARM funds are requested for transaction costs associated with the conservation transaction and stewardship expenses. No restoration opportunities are needed on these four parcels.

SALMON FALLS - PISCATAQUA RIVER SERVICE AREA
(Available funding \$336,000)

PROJECT NAME/ APPLICANT	TOWN	FUNDS REQUESTED	IMPACTED WETLAND RESOURCES
Berry's Brook Wetland Conservation Project/Rye Conservation Commission	Rye	\$125,000	PEM1E, PFO1E, PSS1/EM1E, PUB, PFO Temporary impacts from conversion - PFO to PSS
Exeter Great Dam Removal Project/Town of Exeter	Exeter	\$100,000	
Spruce Swamp:Kelliher Forest Addition/South- East Land Trust of NH	Fremont and Brentwood	\$15,000	
Thompson Brook Fish Passage Project/Great Bay Trout Unlimited	Greenland	\$130,000	

Berry's Brook Wetland Conservation Project/Rand Parcel, Rye

The Rye Conservation Commission proposes to purchase and permanently protect 73+/- acres of the former Rand Lumber Yard (Tax Map 16, lots 66 & 71) property located on Wallis Road in Rye, NH. The ecological significance of this area within Berry's Brook Watershed has been well documented in local, regional, and statewide conservation documents. A previously developed portion of the parcel is now in the process of being redeveloped into a Retirement Community Development. In addition, the remaining portion of land (subject property) has been preliminarily reviewed for a 16-lot residential subdivision, adding to the importance of its permanent conservation. If protected, this parcel will contribute to existing protected lands, as it located within a large contiguous block of open lands. This significant

wildlife corridor extends easterly toward the Bellyhack Bog and tidal estuary that is within a mile. The wetlands found on site are comprised of approximately 50% of the total acreage, with additional upland buffers that protect Berry's Brook and designated prime wetlands in Portsmouth. Partner capacity is strong with coordination and cooperation from a variety of natural resource entities that is anticipated to include: the Natural Resources Conservation Service; Rockingham County Conservation District; NH State Conservation Committee; NAWCA; local Schools; and the Town of Rye Conservation Commission. Restoration practices will likely take place after permanent protection is completed with the assistance of the NRCS's designs and standards to include: Debris removal; culvert replacement; trail stabilization; invasive plant control; and vegetated upland buffer enhancements. NH Natural Heritage Bureau datacheck results indicated that the Needham's Skimmer and Swamp Darner and Spotted Turtle are all located in close proximity. Conserving these aquatic habitats and upland buffers will support all species located downstream, particularly those species and communities that rely on both fresh and salt water habitats.

Exeter Great Dam Removal Project, Exeter

The Exeter Great Dam removal project seeks to accomplish the following: benefit the diadromous fish populations in the Exeter River and the wider Great Bay Estuary, enhance the natural and human ecosystem by improving water quality, and reduce Exeter's vulnerability to the growing risk of flooding. The removal project would restore approximately 15 miles of the Exeter River and its tributaries to a free-flowing condition, eliminating a barrier to migrating anadromous fish and improving water quality. This dam is the lowest dam on a major tributary to the Great Bay, at the tidal/freshwater boundary, and would therefore greatly enhance anadromous fish habitat for a number of species, including alewife, blueback herring, rainbow smelt, and the American eel. By eliminating the Great Dam, diadromous fish can access approximately 13 miles of spawning and nursery habitat on the Exeter River, as well as over 2 miles on Little River. The proposed project would involve eliminating: the reinforced concrete run-of-river dam consisting of a spillway; a fish ladder, and a small lower dam (or weir) structure; a low-level outlet; and a penstock. It would also entail reshaping the river channel within the footprint of the existing dam and immediately upstream and downstream using a natural channel design approach based on sound fluvial geomorphic principles. The removal of the Great Dam was approved by the voters of the Town of Exeter in March, 2014 as a result of an extensive public discussion. The proposed project focuses on the active restoration of the Exeter River, rather than attempting to preserve river area. The land adjacent to the dam is under Town ownership and is managed as a public park, and other conservation lands are present in the watershed.

Spruce Swamp: Kelliher Forest Addition, Fremont and Brentwood

The Southeast Land Trust of NH (SELTNH) is currently in negotiations with the owner of the 32.18 acre "Garrison" property to permanently protect approximately 8 acres of wetland and 24.18 acres of upland buffer in the regionally significant Spruce Swamp; enhance the wetlands and approximately 15 acres of the associated upland buffer to provide habitat for rare, endangered, and threatened species; and manage the property in perpetuity for wildlife habitat and public education and passive recreation. SELTNH proposes to place a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Wetland Reserve Easement (WRE) on the entire property. In addition to the easement restrictions, the WRE program provides assistance for restoration plans to be developed in conjunction with the NRCS and the WRE program. The NRCS has awarded funds for the purchase of a conservation easement and for enhancement of threatened & endangered species habitat (Blanding's Turtle). The owner does not wish to remain the owner of the restricted property therefore the proposal is to purchase the fee simple ownership of the property in conjunction with the purchase of the conservation easement. Proposed enhancements are primarily focused on managing for turtle habitat and tentatively include addition of basking logs in open water and emergent wetland habitats, nesting habitat creation in adjacent upland areas, and early successional habitat development. The Garrison property is located entirely within the Spruce Swamp Core Focus Area as designated by the Land Conservation Plan for NH's Coastal Watersheds. Spruce Swamp and its

surrounding forest are one of the few wilderness areas remaining in southern New Hampshire. The Swamp is an 824 acre fen nestled in a 1,700+ acre unfragmented forest. This forest and wetland combination (including the target property) is ranked as the highest quality wildlife habitat in the state and is home to thirteen species of plants and animals of greatest conservation concern in NH. As part of a five-state conservation planning effort, NHFG has monitored and trapped Blanding’s turtles in the Spruce Swamp area. The Garrison property is part of a “top 10 site” in NH that has also been ranked as “highest priority” in the Northeast region.

Thompson Brook Fish Passage Project, Greenland

The prime focus of the Thompson Brook Fish Passage Project is for the construction of a culvert replacement consisting of a precast concrete bridge structure with open bottom design that will restore full stream connectivity, allow stream bed restoration and restore fish passage on 1.17 miles of Thompson Brook, a lower tributary of the of the Winnicut River, the only free flowing major tributary of the Great Bay estuary. The existing state owned road crossing culvert is undersized and perched, blocking fish passage on Thompson Brook. The tributary has been shown to harbor young of the year brook trout, a species of concern in the NH Wildlife Action Plan. Successful completion of the project will provide spawning and rearing habitat, not only for brook trout but for diadromous species of concern including river herring (both blueback and alewife), American eel and sea lamprey identified in the NH Wildlife Action Plan. The Thompson Brook culvert at Winnicut Road was identified in that Nature Conservancy study “Assessment of Road Crossings for Improving Migratory Fish Passage in the Winnicut River Watershed” as the top priority culvert to correct based on proximity to tidal water and available upstream habitat. Additionally, this project directly addresses several high priority action plans in the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership’s (a National Estuary Program for the Great Bay and Hampton-Seabrook estuaries) Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) of 2010. It should be noted that this project successfully applied for and received ARM funding in 2012. Unfortunately, the loss of federal funding opportunities of the past several years delayed full funding of this project and required resubmission of the project application.

MERRIMACK RIVER SERVICE AREA
(Available funding \$1,027,000)

PROJECT NAME/ APPLICANT	TOWN	FUNDS REQUESTED	IMPACTED WETLAND & STREAM RESOURCES
Hinman Pond II/Bear Paw Regional Green-ways	Hooksett	\$50,000	PFO4E, PSS1Ex, PFO1C, PFO1E, PEM1E/F, PSS, PFO4E, SB3/4, R4SB, R2UB River bank and channel impacts Temporary impacts from conversion – PFO to PSS
PNC Mortgage Co.,	Gilmanton	\$211,472	
Hills Pond Conservation Property/Lakes Region Conservation Trust	Alton	\$182,487	
Shost Conservation Project/Society for the Protection of NH Forests	Goffstown	\$150,000	

Hinman Pond II, Hooksett

Bear-Paw Regional Greenways and the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department (NHFG) are working in partnership to conserve 218 acres of high value wildlife habitat near Hinman Pond in Hooksett. This proposal includes the acquisition of six (6) parcels owned by Manchester Sand and Gravel to be protected by combining Bear-Paw ownership with a conservation easement held by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. More than 12,000 acres of this unfragmented area have already been protected by Bear Brook State Park (10,000+ acres), Manchester Water Works (1,100+ acres), the Town of Hooksett Clay Pond Properties (703 acres), Bear-Paw Regional Greenways (the Hinman Pond Preserve 471 acres, the Buxton parcels 105 acres, and the Pinkney Hill Preserve 175 acres), and other smaller conservation properties. The entire 218-acre property lies within a conservation focus area identified in the 2010 NH Wildlife Action Plan (WAP) map that is more than 18,000 acres in size. This will assure permanent protection of an area which is recognized as a priority in the 2010 NH Wildlife Action Plan (WAP), Bear-Paw's Conservation Plan, and Hooksett's Master Plan. It is also part of a conservation area identified in the Blanding's Turtle Regional Conservation Plan. The property contains 21 wetland complexes totaling 25 acres. They range in size from 0.02 acre vernal pools to a ten acre beaver flowage. The majority of the wetland complexes are associated with depression systems and forested drainage ways. Nine vernal pools were identified throughout the site; however, NHFG has identified other potential vernal pools that may be productive in wetter years. The project does not include the restoration of wetlands on the property as no opportunities exist.

PNC Mortgage Co., Gilmanton

This project proposes to permanently protect approximately 86 acres of land on one parcel of land located on Guinea Ridge Road in Gilmanton. A private landowner is in the final stages of negotiation with PNC Mortgage Co. (PNC) to purchase the parcel located within the focus area of the Belknap Range Conservation Coalition (BRCC). Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) proposes to use the requested fees to purchase this parcel from the private landowner for the parcel to be held by LRCT in fee ownership. This project would protect at least 21 acres of wetlands and 65 acres of upland along a significant wetland and perennial stream resource located in the BRCC Focus Area. The perennial stream and associated wetland habitats are identified in the 2010 WAP as having the Highest Ranked Habitat in NH. Approximately 3,600' of perennial stream buffers would be protected as well as upland buffers along the stream and complex of wetlands. The 2004 Gilmanton Natural Resource Inventory calls out the wetland complex as "significant" and important to protect for water quality, flood control and wildlife habitat. The property has abundant road frontage across five separately held parcels with good views of the Belknap Mountain Range, making it an attractive piece for potential development and thus a potential threat to the conservation values of these properties and the overall goals of the BRCC. LRCT holds the conservation easement on the parcel to the north. Protecting the PNC parcel contributes to connections between lands that are not protected and protects over-land connections between a wetland that is part of a large system that covers 91.6 acres and includes a perennial stream that is one of the headwater tributaries to the Suncook River and one 10-acre upland island. Forest management has occurred on the parcel so possible opportunities exist along intermittent drainages where slash may be removed and areas restored by seeding with native forbs and shrubs.

Hills Pond Conservation Property, Alton

The long-term protection of an ecologically significant 97-acre parcel of land along the shores of Hills Pond and within the Belknap Mountain Range in Alton is proposed through this project with the Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) holding fee ownership of the parcel. The project will permanently protect more than 11 acres of wetlands and more than 85 acres of uplands that support and feed these wetlands as well as Hills Pond. The New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan classifies most of the parcel as "Highest Ranked Habitat in New Hampshire." The property has been identified as a high priority for conservation by LRCT and the Belknap Range Conservation Coalition, and is in furtherance of the Town of Alton's goals of conserving land in the Belknap Range. The property abuts the Hidden Valley Scout

Camp, which is conserved through a conservation easement held by the State of NH and is in turn contiguous to numerous other conserved lands and would add a key parcel to an already significant block of conserved lands in the Belknap Mountains. The property contains more than 2,300 feet of shoreline on Hills Pond and also contains a private road that was constructed roughly 15 years ago for the potential development of the property. The proposed project will conserve 97 acres in Alton, including a significant unfragmented wetland block, a potential vernal pool, small upland filter streams, significant ecological areas, extensive wildlife habitat, and a large area of land that currently is free of invasive plant species. Some erosion was noted along the road/driveway access which will be repaired by the installation of a few waterbars using soil materials found onsite and seeding with an upland wildlife conservation seed mix using species that occur naturally on the parcel.

Shost Conservation Project, Goffstown

The goal of the Shost Project is to permanently protect an undeveloped 177-acre property through the bargain purchase of a conservation easement. The Forest Society is working in partnership with the Goffstown Conservation Commission to protect important wetland and stream buffers, vernal pools, and approximately 16.9 acres of active open fields for hay production and wildlife habitat, and about 147 acres of managed, working forests. The property is a conservation priority for the Town as it contains several wetlands and is 97% Tier 1 highest quality wildlife habitat according to NH Fish and Game’s *Wildlife Action Plan*. The property includes one large, 22-acre open wetland complex that was designated as prime in 2005, several smaller forested wetlands, at least three vernal pools, and an unnamed perennial stream which drains south to the Piscataquog River and then to the Merrimack River. The land also ranks highly on the new *Merrimack Valley Regional Conservation Plan (2013)*. In addition, the land is located near a number of existing conservation lands and several new parcels are under active discussions at this time. Significant new development has been occurring in Goffstown in the past several years including a small subdivision abutting the Shost land. The Shost property has 1,275 feet of frontage along Snook Road and could easily be subdivided. No restoration opportunities are proposed at this time.

LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER SERVICE AREA

(Available funding \$425,000)

PROJECT NAME/ APPLICANT	TOWN	FUNDS REQUESTED	IMPACTED WETLAND & STREAM RESOURCES
Andorra Pond Restoration/Trout Unlimited	Stoddard	\$40,000	PEM, PFO1E, PEM1E, R4SB1, R4SB2, R3UB1, R2UB2H, R4SB3, R3UB1
Falls Brook Restoration/Cheshire County Conservation District	Swanzy	\$115,000	River bank and channel impacts
West Hill – California Brook/Mondadnock Conservancy	Keene, Swanzy, Chesterfield	\$140,000	

Andorra Pond Restoration, Stoddard

Trout Unlimited (TU), along with state and federal partners, is seeking to re-establish full aquatic connectivity on Robinson Brook, a tributary of the Otter River, the Ashuelot River and eventually the Connecticut River system in southwest New Hampshire. This restoration project site is located on the 12,000 acre Andorra Forest in Stoddard, NH. The upper section of Robinson Brook contains a healthy wild brook trout population and funding is sought to restore both up and downstream connectivity for aquatic organisms by installing a by-pass channel and at the same time retaining an excellent wildlife and

recreation pond; open over twenty miles of interconnected high quality aquatic spawning and rearing habitat resulting in an increase of brook trout throughout this highly protected cold water tributary; and create a safe and hydraulically compatible road crossing structure reducing the risk of stream channel erosion and hazardous geomorphic degradation during extreme storm events. This improved hydrology will further protect the viability of local wetlands and contribute to the stream networks overall ecosystem services by reintroducing genetic diversity back into an isolated population of brook trout in the headwater reaches of Robinson Brook. Restoring this diversity will improve the overall functionality of the aquatic community enhancing the long-term sustainability of brook trout throughout Robinson Brook. The existing outlet for this pond includes a 24 inch vertical drain pipe as well as a 40 foot long horizontal pipe to handle the pond overflow. It does not take much of a rain event to overcome the drainage capacity of this pipe system, given the piping systems' current state of disrepair. Traditionally, the lower section of the dam and natural spillway receives all overflow waters. However, there is no channel in this location, simply a field that is mowed occasionally. Depending on flow conditions, this spillway, and the proposed restoration site, will receive flows exceeding two feet above the current road surface. The proposed channel restoration will address this flow pattern by building a stream channel designed to handle the outflow from the 100 year event. The goal is to reduce a significant amount of in-stream channel erosion by allowing the water to pass over a channel design designed to eliminate unnecessary erosion to downstream banks. The goal will be to build a channel to convey the correct amount of water and sediment and deliver it to the downstream reach.

Falls Brook Restoration, Swanzey

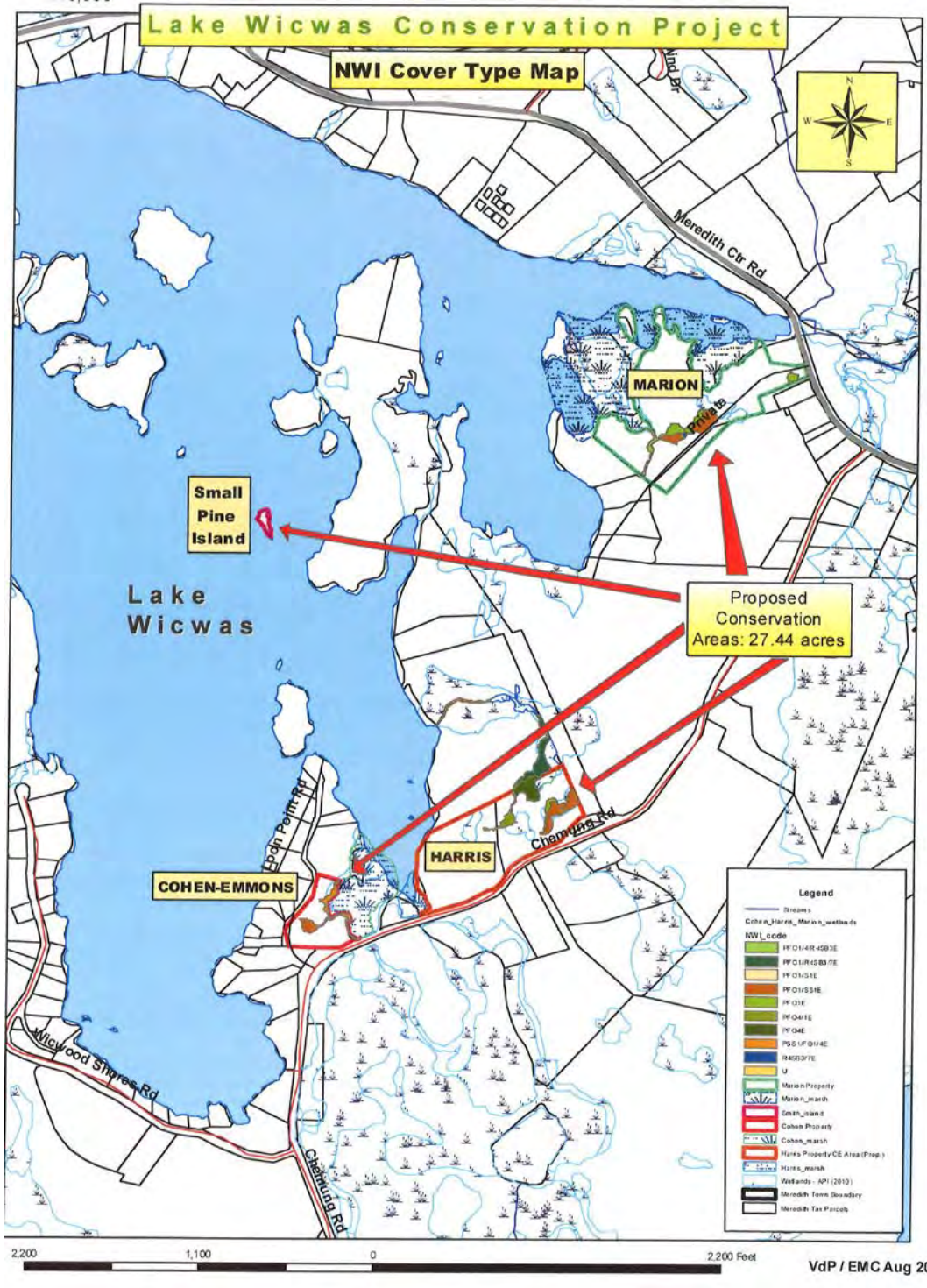
Cheshire County Conservation District with assistance from Trout Unlimited seeks to improve aquatic organism passage, particularly for brook trout, in the Falls Brook culvert located on Hale Hill Road which is two and one quarter mile upstream of the confluence with the Ashuelot River. Brook trout are listed as a "species of concern" in NH's Wildlife Management Plan. In 2011, the Ashuelot River Stream Crossing Improvement Project (ARSCIP) prioritized stream restoration locations in the Ashuelot River Watershed of Southwestern NH with an overarching goal of reconnecting 15 miles of upstream habitat and spawning grounds for brook trout and other aquatic organisms. Falls Brook sub-watershed was identified as the second highest priority sub-watershed due to the amount of high quality cold water headwaters habitat throughout this stream network. The project proposes to restore aquatic connectivity within the drainage area whereby reducing ongoing erosional impacts driven by above average stream flows from more frequent and intense precipitation events. The majority of Falls Brook consists of excellent brook trout thermal refugia and spawning habitat. The keystone culvert on Hale Hill Road in Swanzey was classed as a severe barrier and, if restored, would open over ten miles of upstream habitat and greater than 20 miles of interconnected habitat within the downstream river network. The anticipated restoration will replace an undersized culvert, potentially hazardous to community infrastructure and stream geomorphology during extreme storm events, will be removed whereby protecting the long term viability of local wetlands. The new structure will be a steel stringer bridge design allowing for full passage of all organisms as well as the stream flows related to the one hundred year storm event. This restoration will restore full hydraulic functionality within the stream channel enhancing a broad range of eco-system services throughout Falls Brook.

West Hill – California Brook, Keene/Swanzey/Chesterfield

The Monadnock Conservancy seeks the acquisition of two conservation easements on the 552-acre West Hill Property in Keene, Swanzey & Chesterfield. These easements will protect: 25.8 acres of wetland; 526.2 acres of upland; approximately 16,850 feet of streams; 13 potential vernal pools; and 3 known vernal pools. The protection of the West Hill property is part of a much larger effort by the Monadnock Conservancy to protect the entire *California Brook Natural Area* (CBNA). The CBNA is within the largest remaining unfragmented forest block of land (28,223 acres) and has been identified as a priority for conservation by the City of Keene and the Towns of Chesterfield & Swanzey. Tier I wildlife habitat, as defined by the N.H. Fish and Game Department's 2005 *Wildlife Action Plan* is present on 98% of this

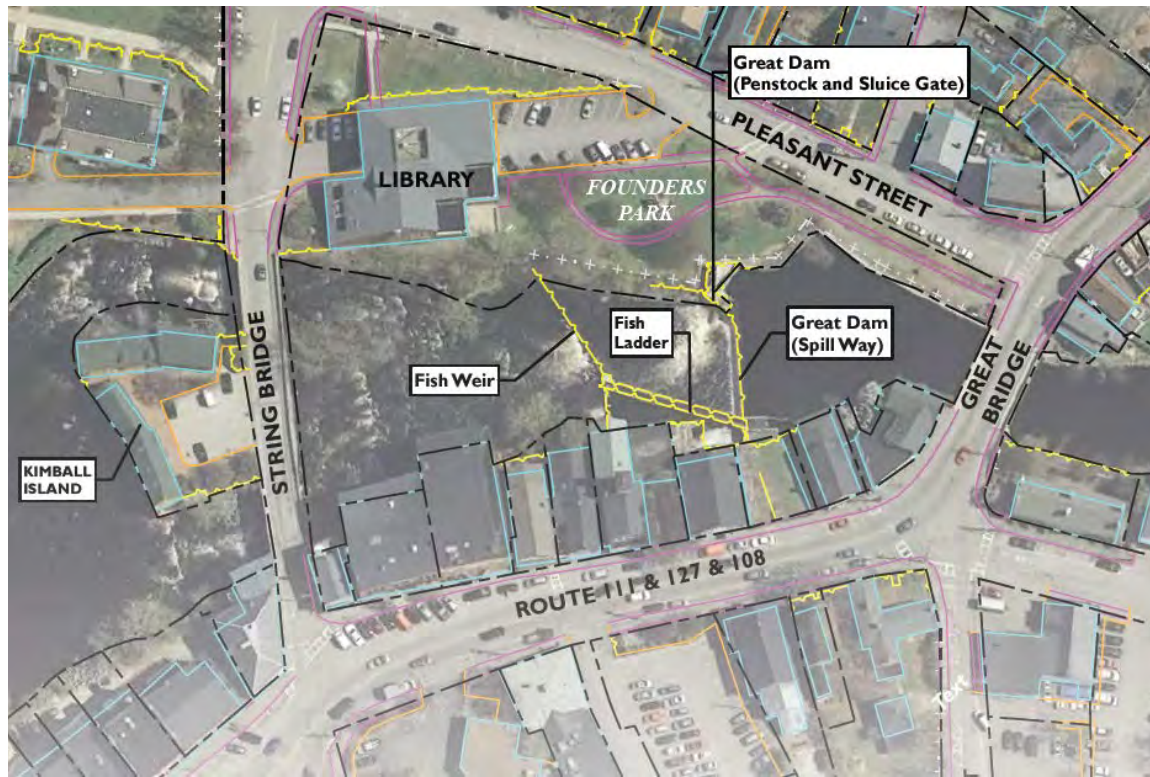
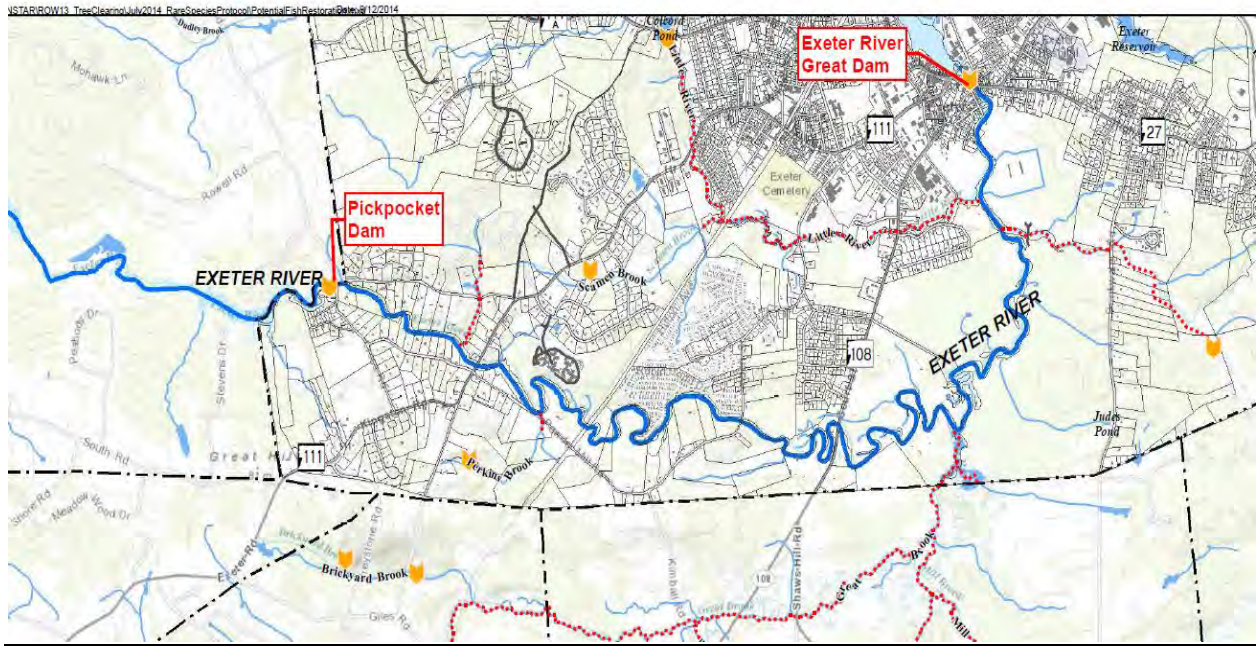
552-acre property. There are also 0.9 acres of Tier 2 wildlife habitat and 3.1 acres of Supporting Landscape. The NH Natural Heritage Bureau has indicated American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*) to be present on the parcel and a red maple-black ash swamp (S2) has been identified on the property. The owners are proponents of wilderness preservation and as such, would like this project to have some of the acreage subject to forever wild restrictions (i.e., no timber harvesting). The conservation easement on the larger tract will allow for forest management and include a 100 foot riparian buffer in order to protect the aquatic resources. The conservation easement on the smaller tract will contain “forever wild” provisions and not allow for timber management. No restoration opportunities exist on the property. The West Hill property consists of six wetlands that provide shoreline stabilization for streams and ponds, four perennial streams associated with the wetlands (including a beaver pond) that provide fish and aquatic habitat, with all of these streams flowing into the Ashuelot River.

Lake Wicwas Conservation Project, Meredith

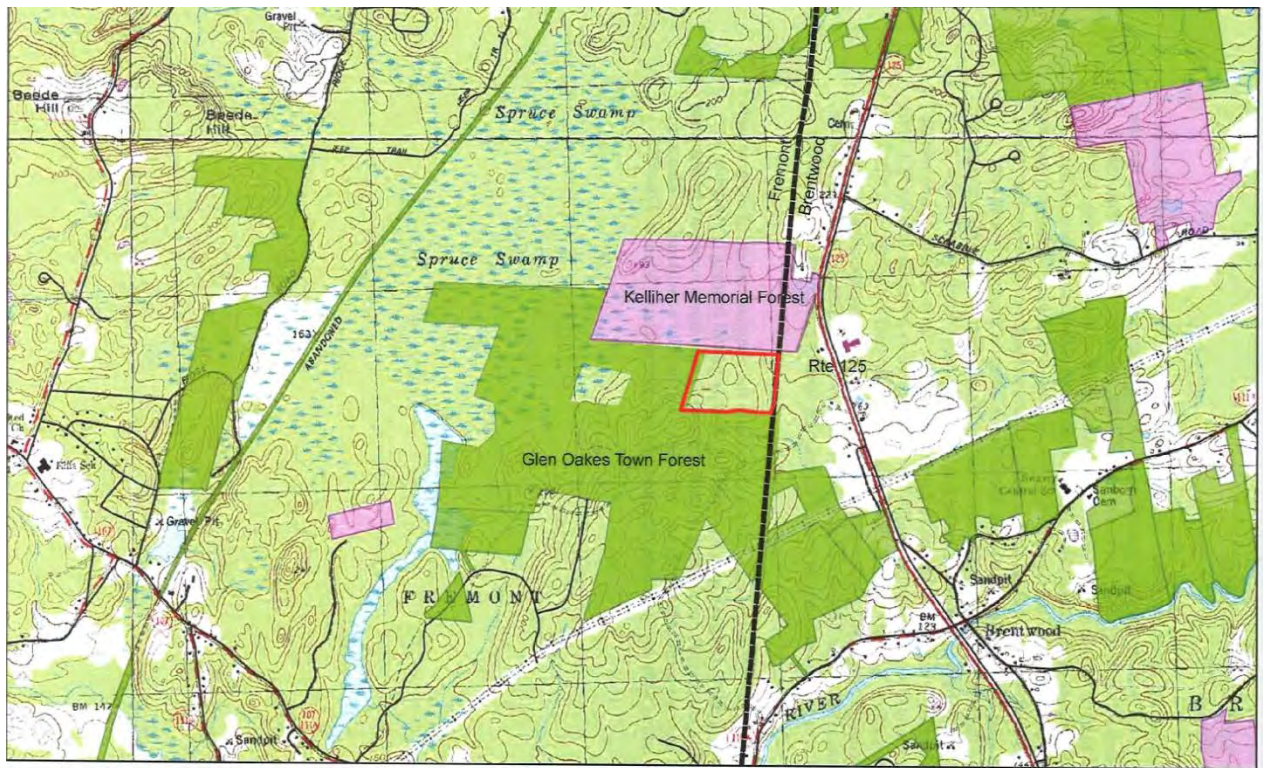


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Exeter Great Dam Removal Project, Exeter



Spruce Swamp: Kelliher Forest Addition, Fremont and Brentwood

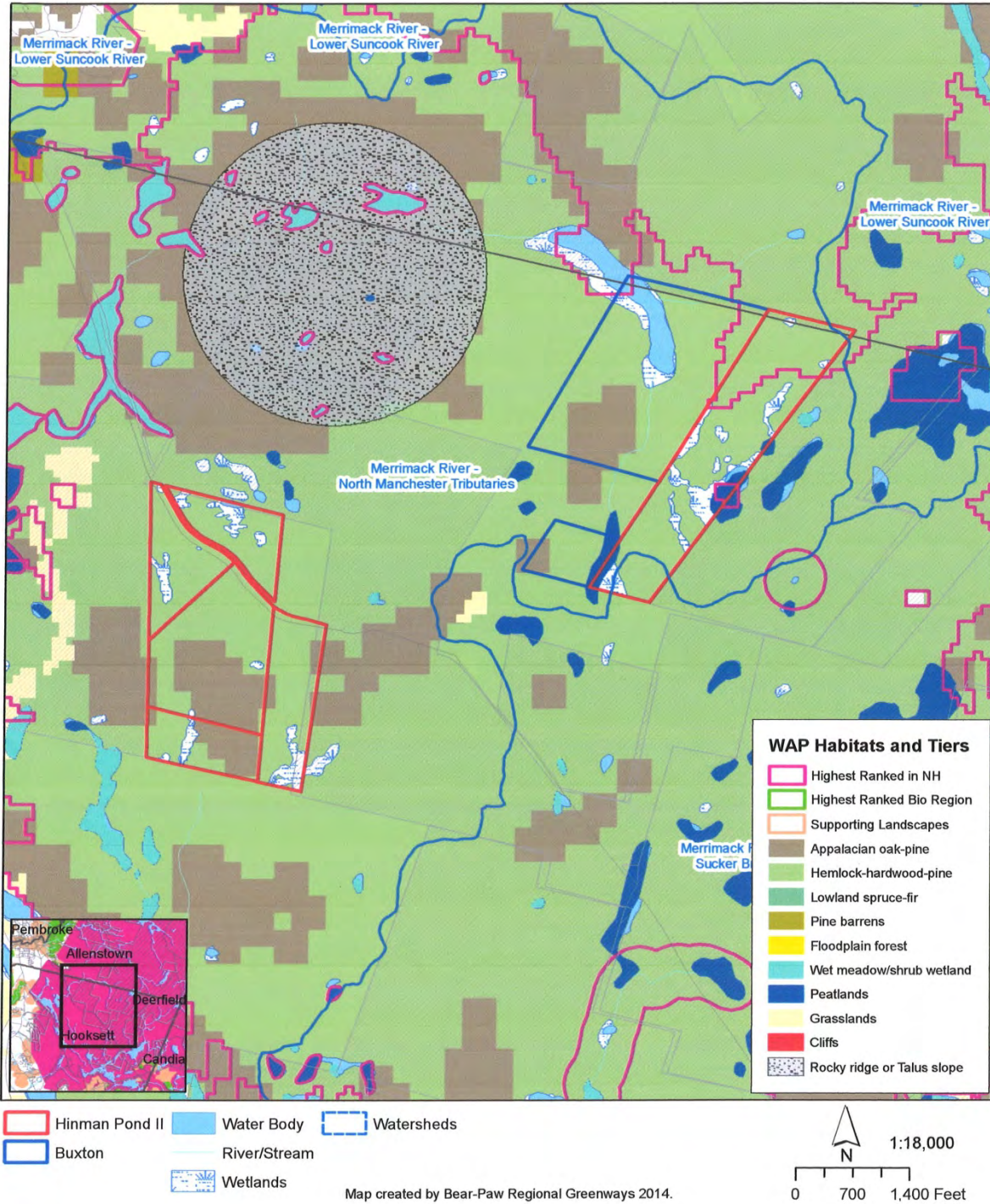


- ▭ Target Parcel
- ▭ SELTNH Conservation Land
- ▭ Other Conservation Land

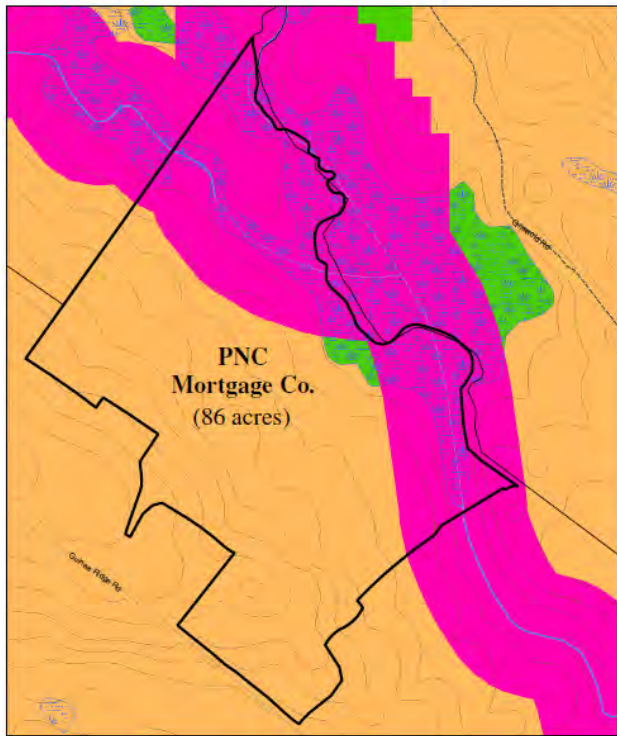
**Appendix 1: USGS Topographic Map
Spruce Swamp: Kelliher Forest Addition
Fremont, Brentwood, NH**

Hinman Pond II, Hooksett

Hinman Pond II, Hooksett - WAP Habitats (2010) and Wetlands



PNC Mortgage Co., Gilmanton



**PNC Mortgage Co.
Gilmanton
ARM Fund Application
2010 Wildlife Action Plan**

Legend

- PNC Mortgage Co. Parcel
 - WAP Tiers**
 - Highest Ranked Habitat in NH
 - Highest Ranked Habitat in Biological Region
 - Supporting Landscapes
 - Lakes and Ponds
 - River/Stream
 - Wetlands
 - Town Boundary
 - Contour Interval - 20 ft.
- 800 400 0 800 Feet

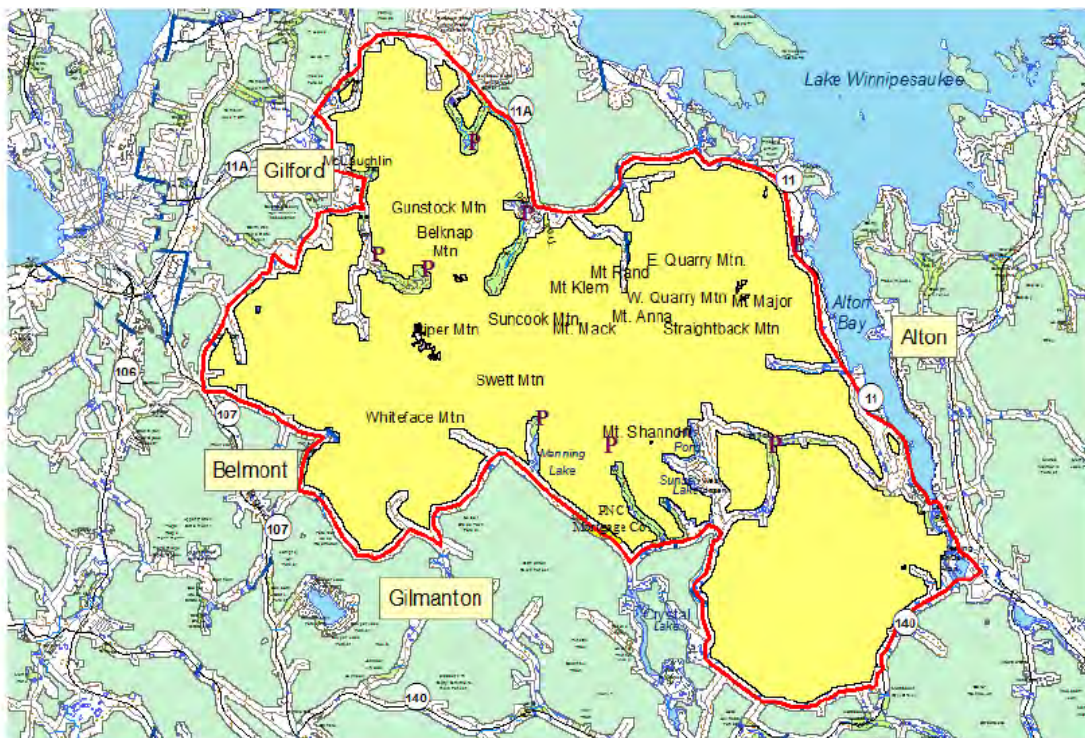
This map was prepared for the Lakes Region Conservation Trust for an application for the ARM Fund for the Merrimack River Watershed, August, 2014.

Most data presented on this map represent stock data set obtained from NH GRANIT. Digital data in NH GRANIT represent the efforts of the contributing agencies to record information from the cited source materials. Complex Systems Research Center, under contract to the NH Office of Energy and Planning, and in consultation with cooperating agencies, maintains a continuing program to identify and correct errors in these data. OEP, CSRC and the cooperating agencies make no claim as to the validity or reliability or to any implied uses of these data.

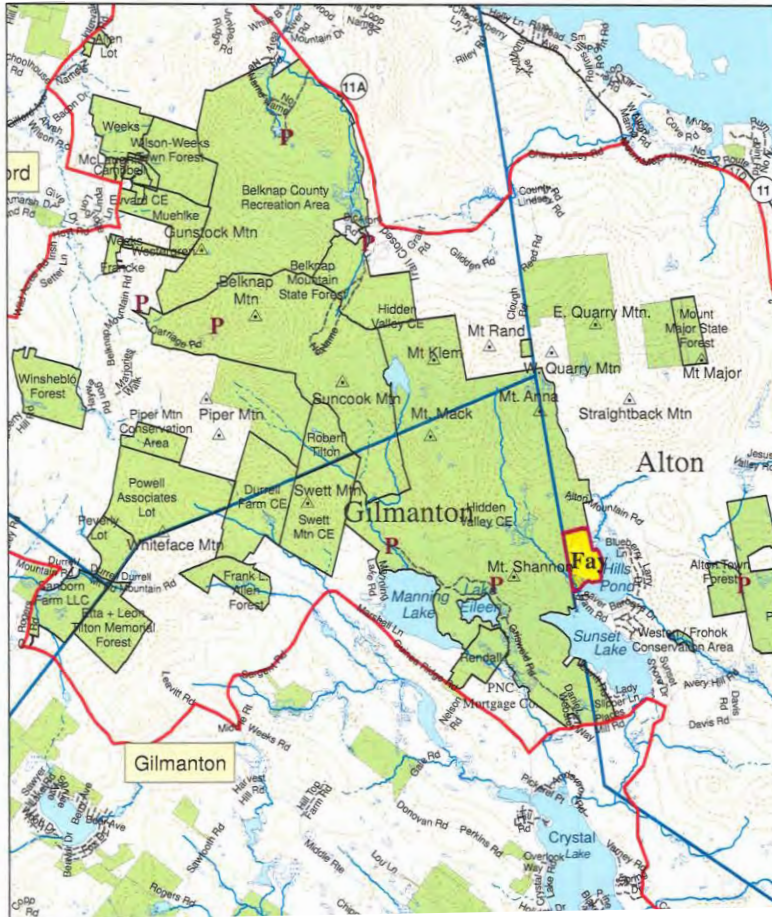
Conservation lands include stock GRANIT data with some additions and corrections made by the Belknap Range Conservation Coalition based on the knowledge of its members.

Representations of property lines on this map are approximate and should not be construed as binding or conclusive evidence of ownership.

August 15, 2014



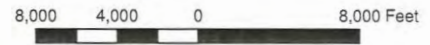
Hills Pond Conservation Property, Alton



**John W. Fay, Alton
ARM Fund Application
Conservation Lands**

Legend

- John W. Fay parcel
- Belknap Range Conservation Coalition Focus Area
- Conservation Lands
- Lakes and Ponds
- River/Stream
- Wetlands
- Town Boundary
- Mountains
- Parking
- Contour Interval - 40 ft.



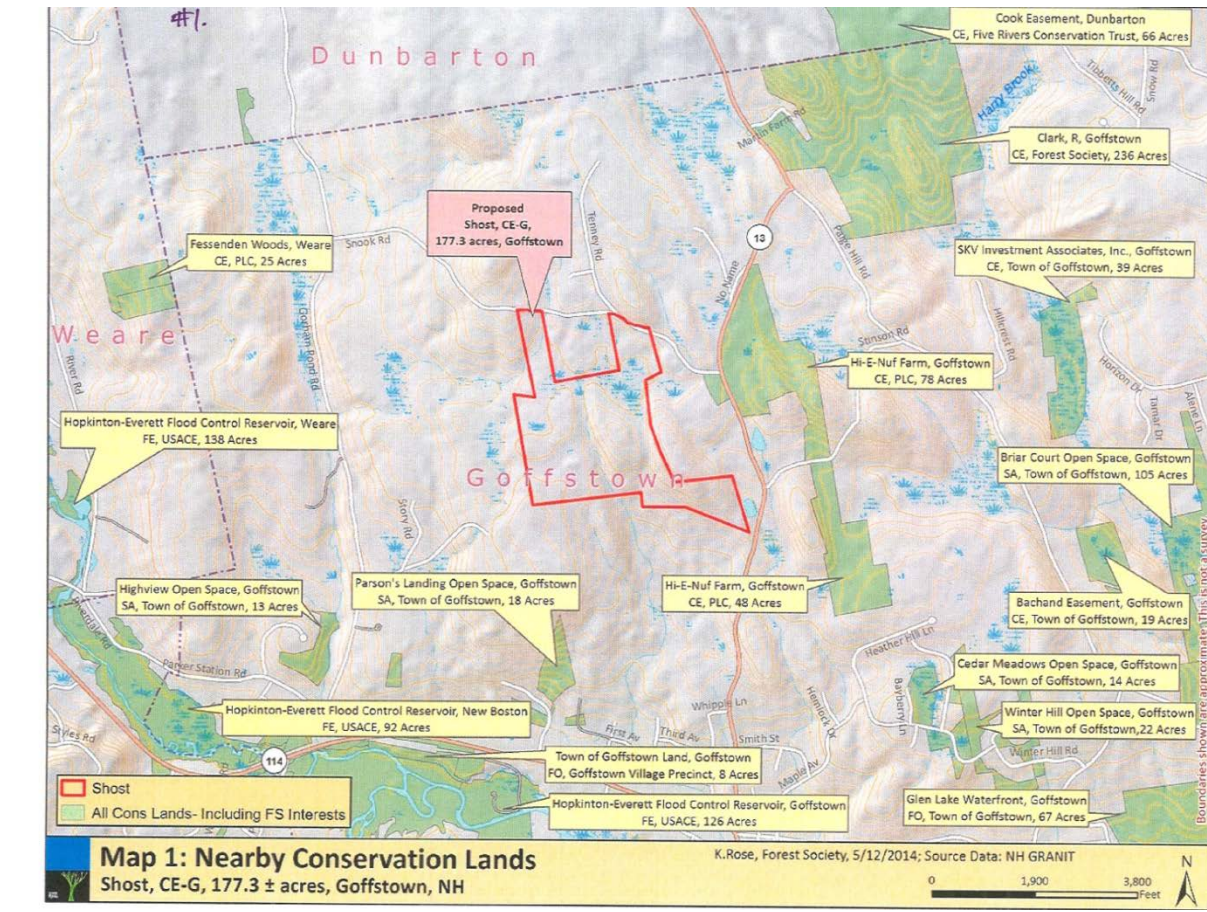
This map was prepared for the Lakes Region Conservation Trust for an application for the ARM Fund for the Merrimack River Watershed, August, 2014.

Most data presented on this map represent stock data set obtained from NH GRANIT. Digital data in NH GRANIT represent the efforts of the contributing agencies to record information from the cited source materials. Complex Systems Research Center, under contract to the NH Office of Energy and Planning, and in consultation with cooperating agencies, maintains a continuing program to identify and correct errors in these data. OEP, CSRC and the cooperating agencies make no claim as to the validity or reliability or to any implied uses of these data.

Conservation lands include stock GRANIT data with some additions and corrections made by the Belknap Range Conservation Coalition based on the knowledge of its members.

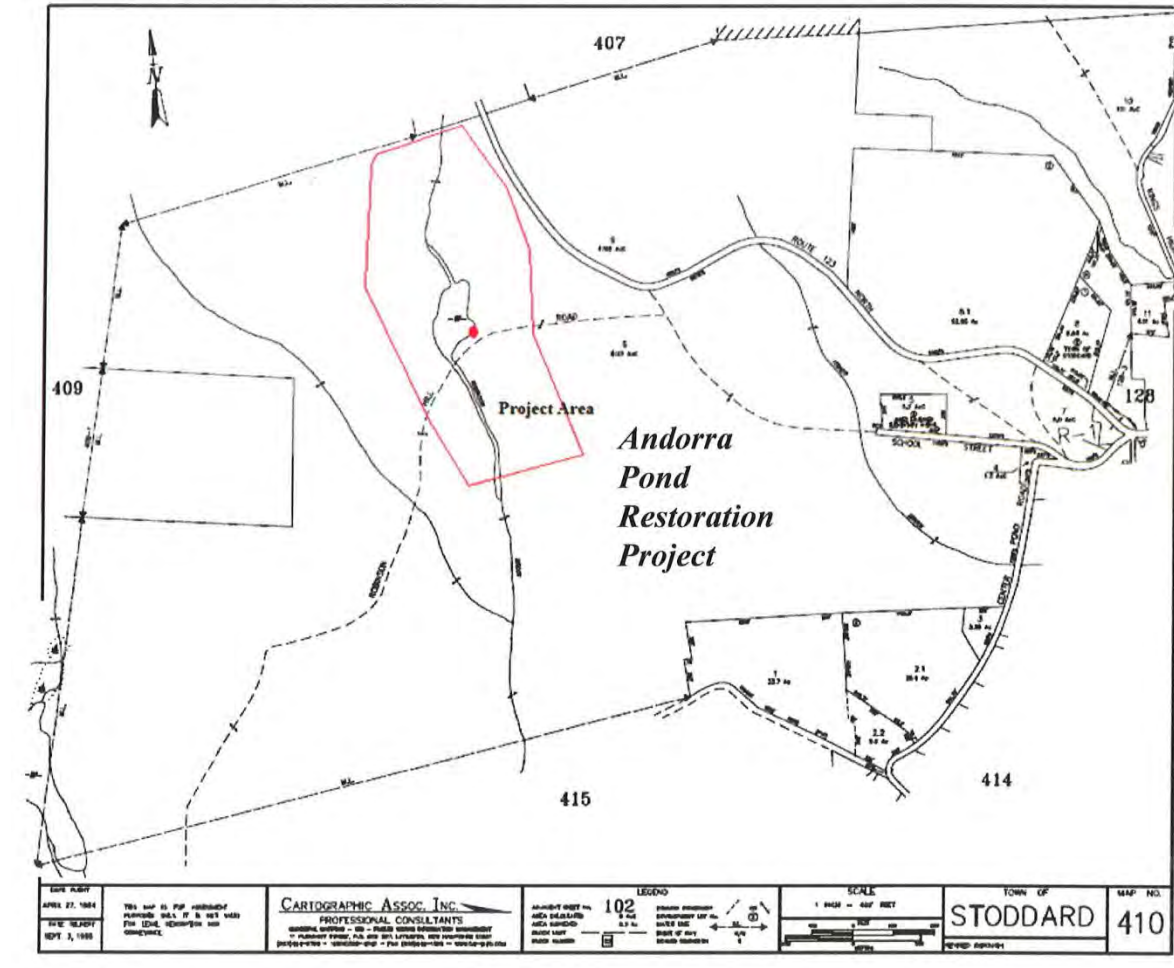
Representations of property lines on this map are approximate and should not be construed as binding or conclusive evidence of ownership.

Shost Conservation Project, Goffstown

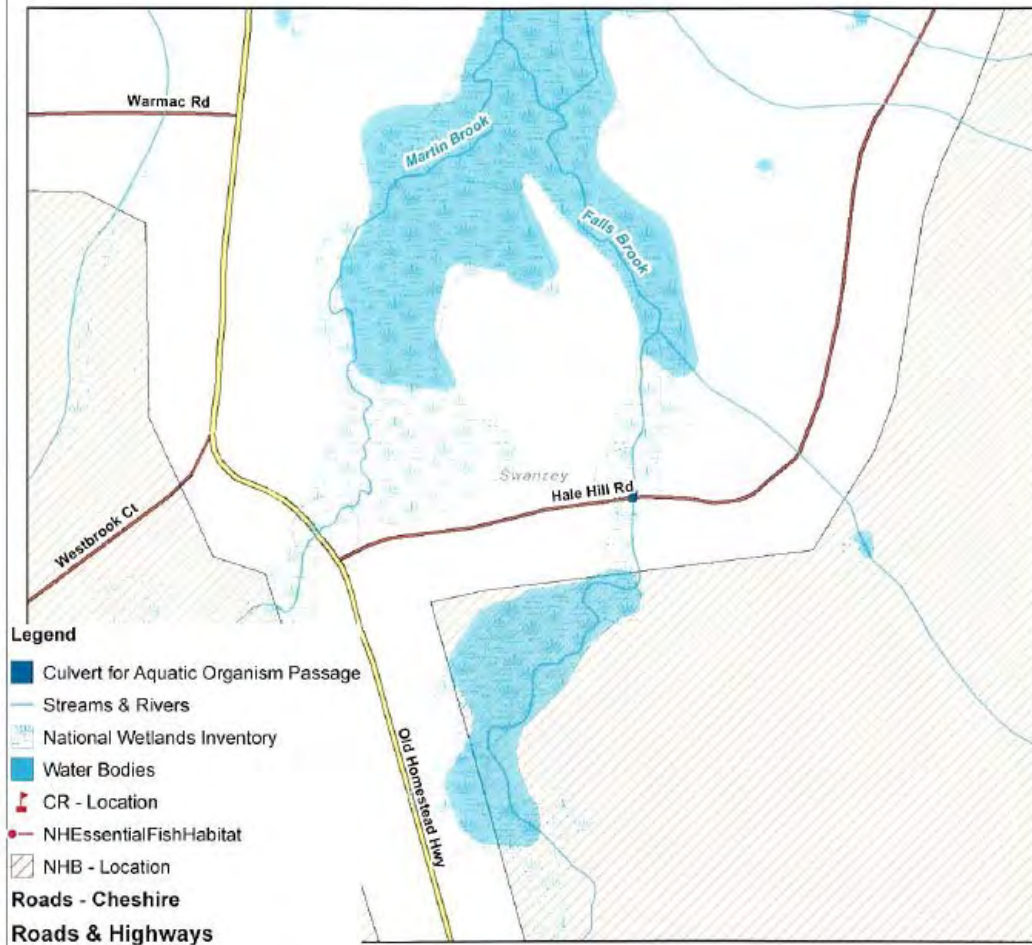


Andorra Pond Restoration, Stoddard

Tax Parcel Map; Entire property is owned by Andorra Forest.



Falls Brook Restoration, Swanzey



West Hill – California Brook, Keene/Swanzey/Chesterfield

