

## Eligibility, Ranking and Specifications for Priority WoodsWISE Plans in the Presumpscot River Watershed—March 2011 Update

Applications for New and 10-year Updates of Forest Management Plans will now be accepted from eligible woodland owners on a rolling basis until funds are no longer available. All standard WoodsWISE program eligibility requirements apply.

(See WW Manual Section 1, page 4:

[http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/wwi/DOCS/pdf\\_v/wwi\\_manual/wwi\\_manual\\_section1.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/wwi/DOCS/pdf_v/wwi_manual/wwi_manual_section1.pdf))

In addition, the parcel's woodland must be within one of the towns in the greater Presumpscot River Watershed. See map located at

[http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/projects/presumpscot/downloads/presumpscot\\_watershed\\_map.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/projects/presumpscot/downloads/presumpscot_watershed_map.pdf)

Applications will no longer be ranked according to watershed location or proximity to water bodies. One landowner may submit multiple applications for non-contiguous parcels.

Approved applicants will have 12 months to complete their Plan, with one opportunity for a three month extension. **All Plans must be completed no later than April 30, 2013, or the funds will be de-obligated.** Landowners and foresters are strongly encouraged to enter into written contracts that emphasize deadlines for completion.

A Priority WoodsWISE Application can be found posted at

[http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/projects/presumpscot/downloads/presumpscot\\_ws\\_fmp\\_application.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/projects/presumpscot/downloads/presumpscot_ws_fmp_application.pdf).

*The Priority WoodsWISE Application will require tax map and lot number(s) in order to be considered complete.*

*Completed applications should be sent to the Maine Forest Service office, 22 State House Station, Augusta ME, 04333-0022.*

## Specifications for Priority WoodsWISE Plans:

To be approved for reimbursement, completed forest management plans will conform to the current WoodsWISE standards and specifications (see WoodsWISE Manual, Section III;

[http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/wwi/DOCS/pdf\\_v/wwi\\_manual/wwi\\_manual\\_section3.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/wwi/DOCS/pdf_v/wwi_manual/wwi_manual_section3.pdf) )

**In addition, the woodlands covered in Priority WoodsWISE Plans need to be mapped in a Geographic Information System (GIS) that is compatible with ARC View or ARC Map.**

There are two primary options for meeting this requirement:

- a) Provide a polygon shapefile of the woodland boundaries, with the following coordinate system: Datum NAD83, Projection UTM Zone 19N. The shapefiles must be attributed with sufficient information to uniquely identify the landowner with the woodlands in the plan.
- b) Provide a Google Earth .kml or .kmz file of the woodland. Make sure to use an appropriate scale that clearly depicts the woodland on current aerial photography. Mark enough vertices in the polygon so the woodland is depicted accurately. Include sufficient information in the label so the land owner is uniquely identified with the woodland.

In order for the management plan to be considered complete, the polygon shapefile, the .kml or the .kmz file must be e-mailed to

[greg.t.miller@maine.gov](mailto:greg.t.miller@maine.gov)

Priority WoodsWISE Plans with blank or poorly identified shapefiles or Google Earth files will not be considered complete, and will not be approved for reimbursement.

*Other methods of meeting the GIS requirement may be considered on a case by case basis. Contact Andy Shultz or Greg Miller.*

### Reimbursement rates:

The reimbursement rate for Presumpscot Priority WoodsWISE Plans will be 50 % of actual cost, not to exceed \$500 for parcels with 10-62 wooded acres or \$8/acre for parcels with 63 or more wooded acres. Maximum cost-share reimbursement for any single plan will be \$5000.

Priority WoodsWISE Plans are funded by a grant from the USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry. This project is not part of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program or any other USDA program funded by the Commodity Credit Corporation. Complete and approved Priority WoodsWISE Plans are considered to be Stewardship Plans approved by the State Forester, and can be accepted as such by other agencies that require them.