

Consolidation of facilities where appropriate

Concept

Explore possibilities to co-locate agencies with facilities in the same geographical area to better utilize existing resources and provide more efficient services to the citizens of Maine.

Background

The Bureau of General Services provided a listing of property either owned or leased by the Natural Resources Departments. The list contained 1,156 entries that were then summarized to only towns where two or more departments have facilities. It should be noted that this is just a snapshot of facilities and there may be good justification of why they have not been co-located to this point. It also may be a reasonable place to start the discussion about whether appropriate opportunities exist for future cost-effective co-location of natural resource agencies, in either a short, medium or long-term time frame.

The Bureau of General Services advises that any review of future co-location opportunities that is intended to produce results which are detailed and substantiated enough actually to be implemented will require resources beyond those currently available to the Bureau. The Bureau would welcome a recommendation charging it to help facilitate or lead such an effort, and providing the resources necessary for it to do so.

Examples

The Department of Conservation owns property at 45 Radar Road in Ashland identified as "Office" and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife owns property at Station Hill in Ashland identified as regional headquarters. The combined value is \$1,742,160. It should be noted that IF&W is in the process of building a new building valued in the \$700,000 range.

In Greenville the Department of Conservation has property at 43 Lakeview St. valued at \$475,000 and IF&W has property at 19 Village St. valued at \$1,433,678. Both are labeled as either Office or Headquarters.

In Presque Isle the Department of Agriculture has a lease at 744 Main St. valued at \$100,000. The Department of Conservation has multiple properties located at 87 State Park Road, one labeled headquarters. The Department of Environmental Protection has offices at 1235 Central Drive valued at \$1,000,000.