

# MEMORANDUM

## Maine Natural Areas Program

Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry  
State House Station #177, Augusta, Maine 04333

**Date:** June 26, 2020

**To:** Naomi Kirk-Lawler

**From:** Kristen Puryear, Ecologist

**Re:** Addendum to MNAP Comments, Zoning Petition to Terminate the Moosehead Region Concept Plan (MRCP).

Our comments to LUPC dated April 13, 2020 noted that there are two locations where the areas proposed for rezoning intersect with mapped rare plant populations. Slender Rush on the shoreline of Long Lake and Lesser Wintergreen on a stream course near Big Moose Mountain. Slender Rush will be captured in a P-GP: Great Pond zone, and Lesser Wintergreen will be captured within a P-SL2: Shoreland – 75' zone. The Lesser Wintergreen population may be vulnerable if land outside of the Shoreland - 75' zoned subdistrict is cleared.

In further discussion with LUPC, MNAP believes the P-SL2: Shoreland – 75' subdistrict should adequately protect the Lesser Wintergreen in Big Moose Twp, and that there is not a need to put this area in P-UA: Unusual Area zoning.

Feature	State Status	State Rank	Global Rank	Occurrence Rank	Notes
Slender Rush <i>Juncus subtilis</i>	E	S1	G5?	A Excellent	Long Pond
Lesser Wintergreen <i>Pyrola minor</i>	SC	S2	G5	C Fair	Big Moose Mountain

This finding is available and appropriate for preparation and review of environmental assessments, but it is not a substitute for on-site surveys. Comprehensive field surveys do not exist for all natural areas in Maine, and in the absence of a specific field investigation, the Maine Natural Areas Program cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of unusual natural features at this site. You may want to have the site inventoried by a qualified field biologist to ensure that no undocumented rare features are inadvertently harmed.

The Maine Natural Areas Program is continuously working to achieve a more comprehensive database of exemplary natural features in Maine. We welcome the contribution of any information collected if a site survey is performed.

Thank you for using the Maine Natural Areas Program in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have further questions about the Natural Areas Program or about rare or unique botanical features at this site.