

Tumbledown Public Land / Mt. Blue State Park Management Plan



Public Scoping Meeting
January 28, 2020
UM Farmington

Purpose of this Meeting

- Share information on new Plan effort
- Obtain input regarding interests and ideas for future management of
 - **Tumbledown Public Reserved Land**
 - **Mount Blue State Park**
- This is not the only opportunity!
 - Input via letter/email/phone is welcome
 - There will be additional opportunities to comment once a Draft Plan has been written
 - Follow process on the Plan webpage:
<http://www.maine.gov/dacf/tumbledown-mtblue>

Agenda

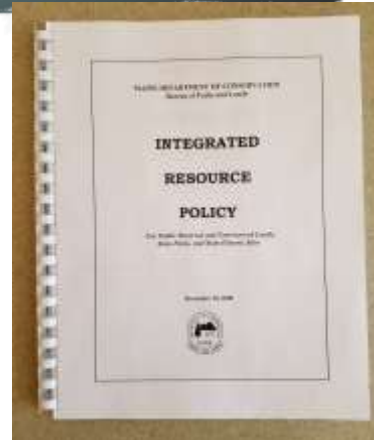
- Overview of BPL management planning
- Overview of Tumbledown Public Land
 - *public comment*
- Overview of Mount Blue State Park
 - *public comment*

Legislative Direction

- Management plans legislatively required for Public Reserved Lands (12 MRSA 1833 & 1847)
- Legislative direction includes:
 - “multiple use”
 - “sustained yield of products and services”
 - “sound planning”
 - “exemplary land management practices”
- Management to enhance “timber, wildlife, recreation, economic and other values of lands”
- State Parks are to be managed “primarily for public recreation or conservation purposes” (12 MRSA 1801)

Integrated Resource Policy (IRP)

- Management Plans are guided by the IRP, adopted in 2000 and amended in 2007
- IRP established the Resource Allocation System (more on this later)
- IRP provides specific guidance for management of
 - Natural resources
 - Historical/cultural resources
 - Wildlife and fisheries resources
 - Recreation resources
 - Timber resources



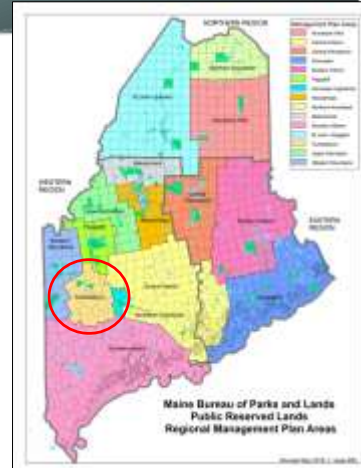
Management Plan Process

- Public Process begins with this **Scoping Meeting**
- Assisted by an Advisory Committee (AC) representing a diverse range of organizations and interests
 - **AC meetings** will be posted in advance on Plan webpage and BPL will send email notices
 - Public is welcome to attend
- A second **Public Meeting** will be scheduled when Draft Plan is ready
- Entire process expected to last 12—18 months.



Management Plans

- Plans are for 15 years with 5 year reviews
- Plans are regional—one plan includes several public lands in a region
- We look at planning context of the larger region



Management Plan Content

- Regional Context
- Summary of the resources present on the public land, and management issues to address
- Three items that will guide management
 - **Vision Statement**
 - **Management Recommendations**
 - **Resource Allocations**



A Vision for each Public Land

- Vision is broad — our overarching goals for the types of recreation experiences, ecological protection and timber management we strive to manage for.



Management Recommendations (more specific than Vision)

May address:

- wildlife/habitats, recreation, timber management, public access, and administrative issues
- a specific issue, such as a conflict between recreation user groups or resource damage at a particular site
- a new idea, such as rehabilitating a fire tower or designing a new trail

Resource Allocations

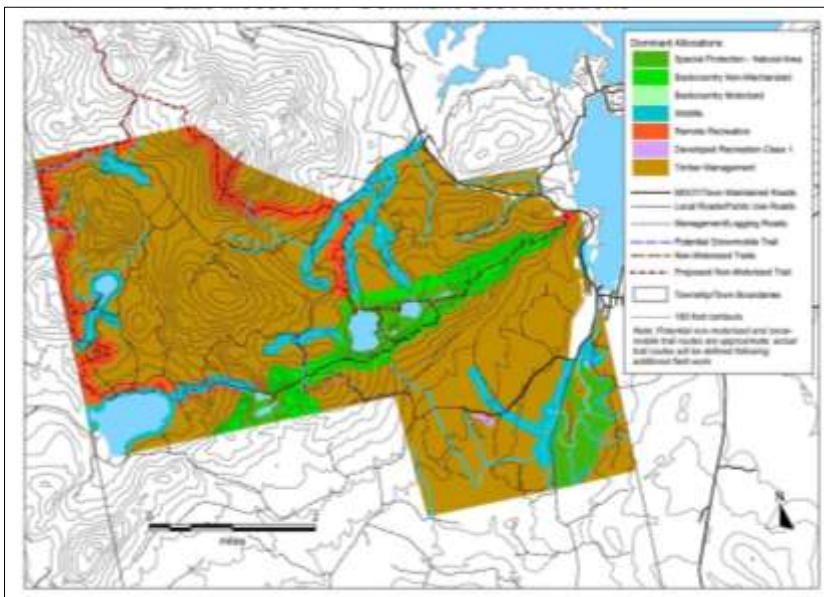
A system of designating and mapping all of the acres on Public Lands into categories (allocations).

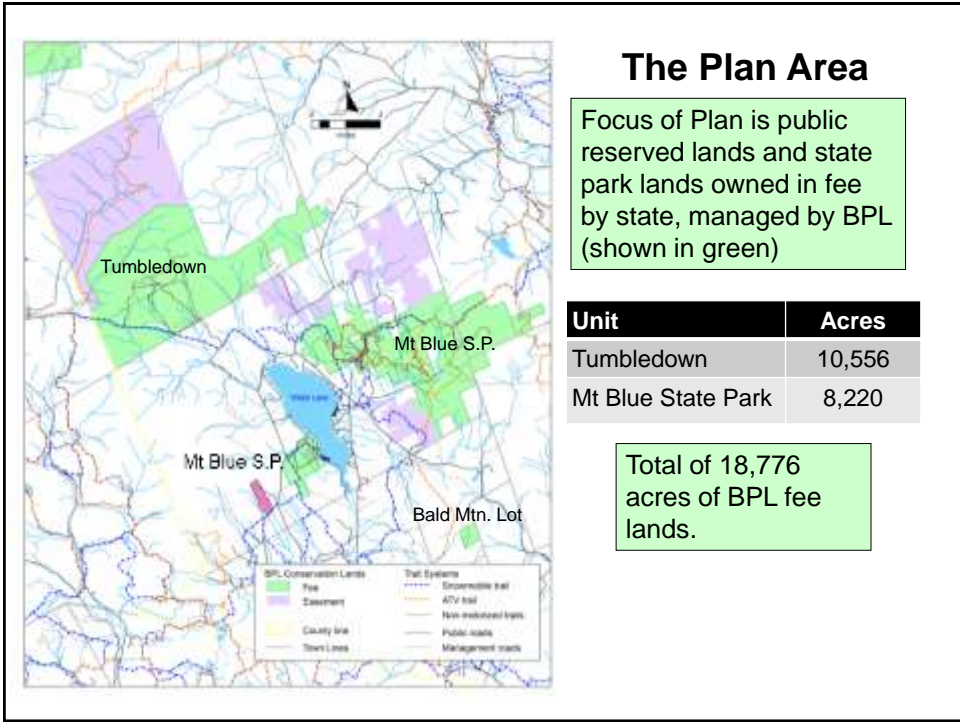
Designation defines allowable management and recreation activities.

See IRP, Chapter VI for details

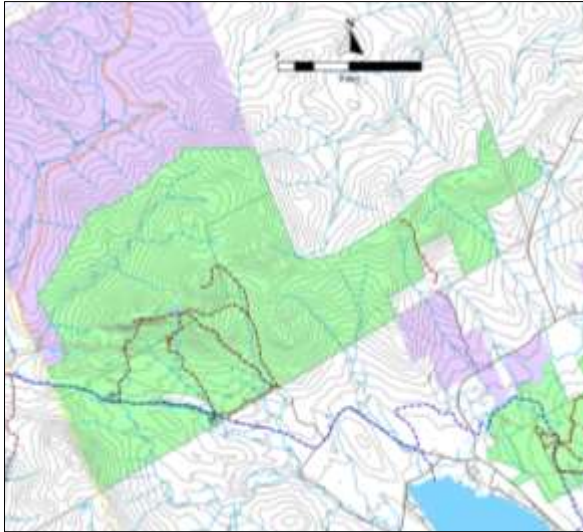
- *Special Protection*
- *Backcountry Recreation*
- *Wildlife*
- *Remote Recreation*
- *Visual Consideration*
- *Developed Recreation*
- *Timber Management*

Example Allocations – Little Moose Unit





Tumbledown Public Land – Infrastructure and Recreation Facilities



KEY FACTS

- 10,390 acres
- 12.5 miles of hiking trails
- Stocked brook trout fishery at 10-acre Tumbledown Pond
- Several user created campsites near pond
- Crossed by Byron Road (winter sled route)
- No management roads open to public



Lower portion of Brook Trail (on old road) in late fall





Waterfall along Brook Trail approaching Tumbledown Pond



Hikers at Tumbledown Pond

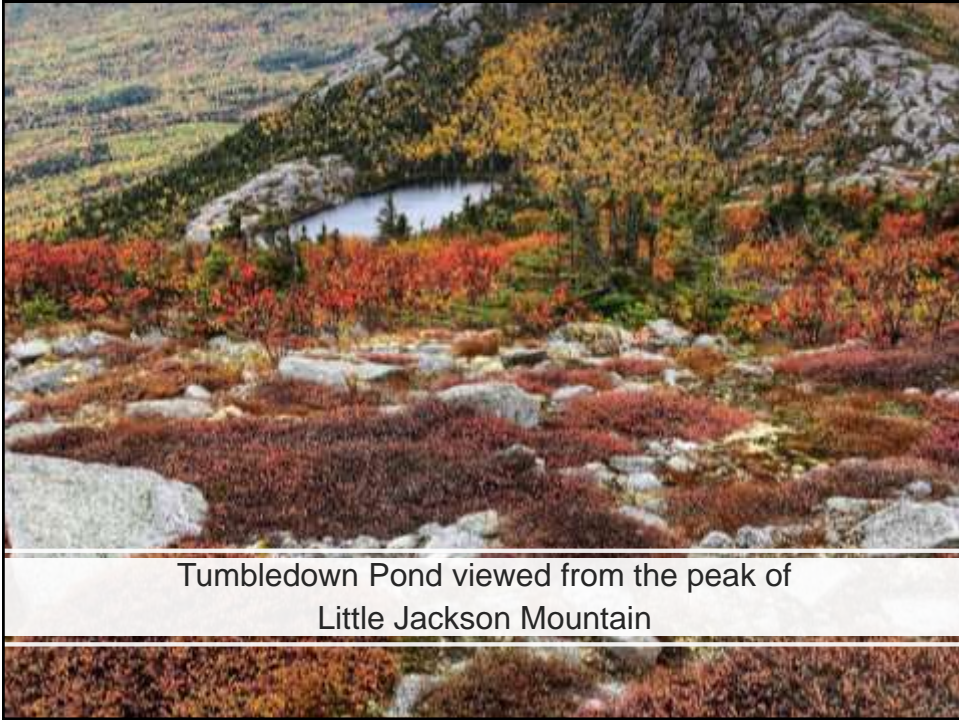




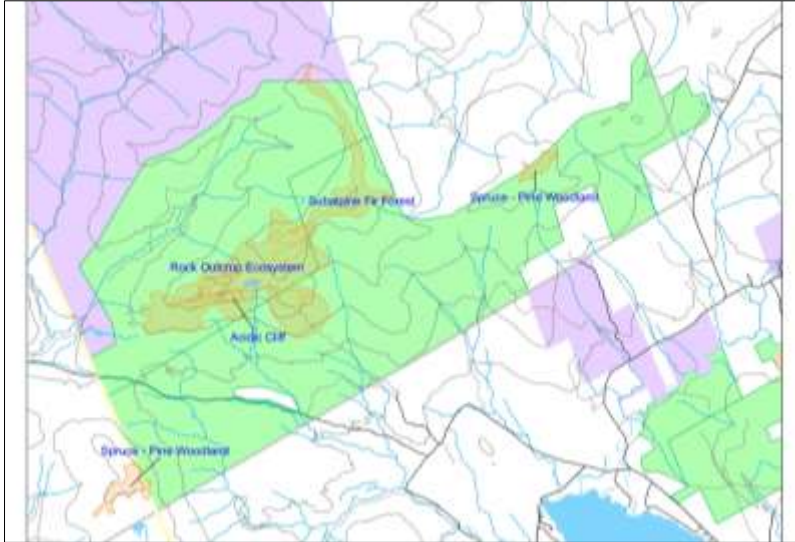
User-created fire pit and vegetation impacts near
Tumbledown Pond



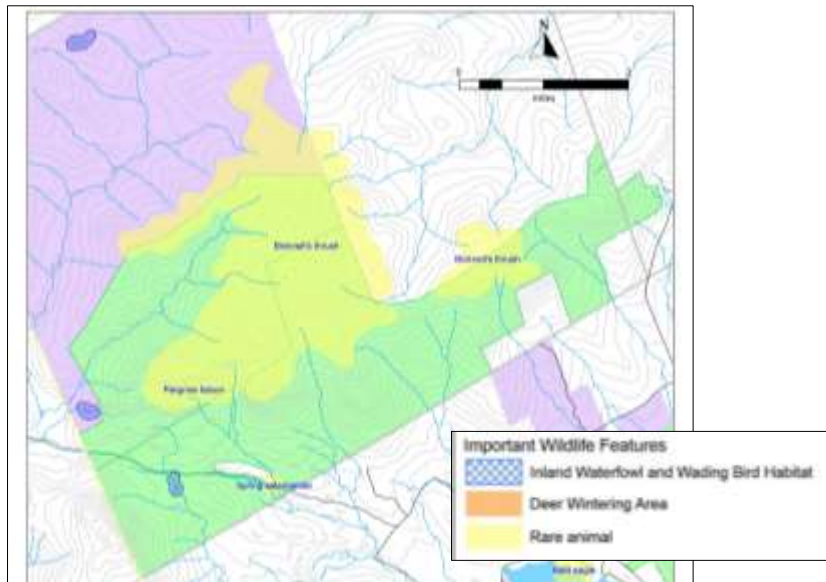
User-created campsites and soil/vegetation impacts near
Tumbledown Pond



Tumbledown – “Rare and Exemplary” Features mapped by Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP)



Tumbledown – Important Wildlife Features

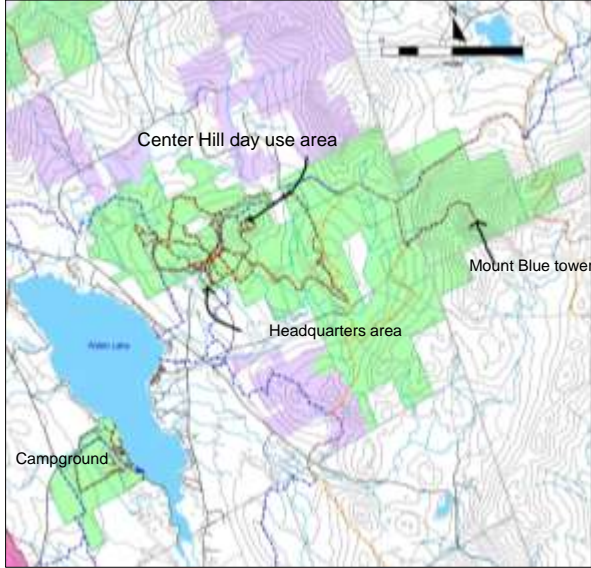


QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- What do you need to know more about?
- What current attributes do you value – and why?
- What opportunities do you see in the next 15 years?
- What are some current or potential threats/issues to address? How can we handle them?
- What should be our 'vision' for these lands?



Mount Blue State Park – Infrastructure and Recreation Facilities



- 780 acres on Webb Lake
- 7,440 acres at Center Hill, Mount Blue vicinity
- Family campground, beach, nature center, boat ramp, other facilities on Webb Lake
- Day use facilities at Headquarters and Center Hill
- ~3.5 miles of walking/nature trails
- 18 miles of multiuse trail
- 15 miles of groomed ski trails, ~2 miles of snowshoe trails
- Snowmobile and ATV routes (part of larger regional system)
- Viewing tower on Mount Blue



Beach on Webb Lake



Overlook picnic area at Park Headquarters



Ice rink at Park Headquarters



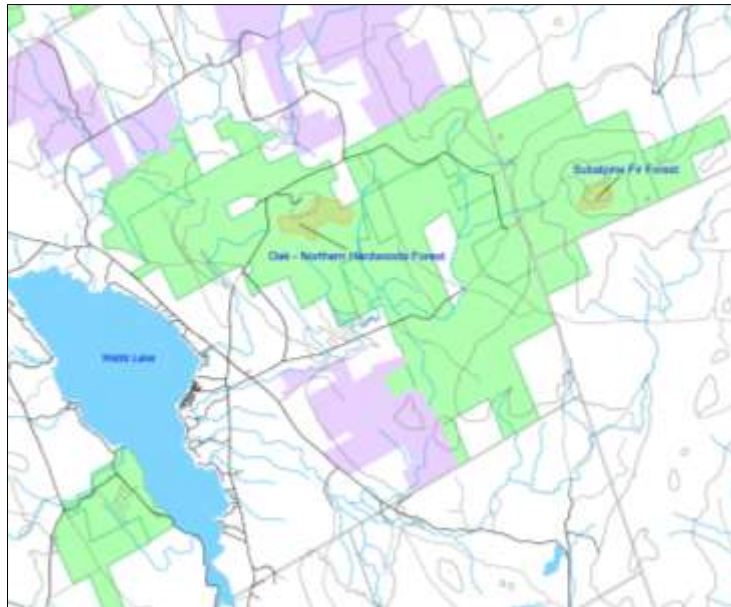
Mount Blue tower with viewing platform and radio facilities



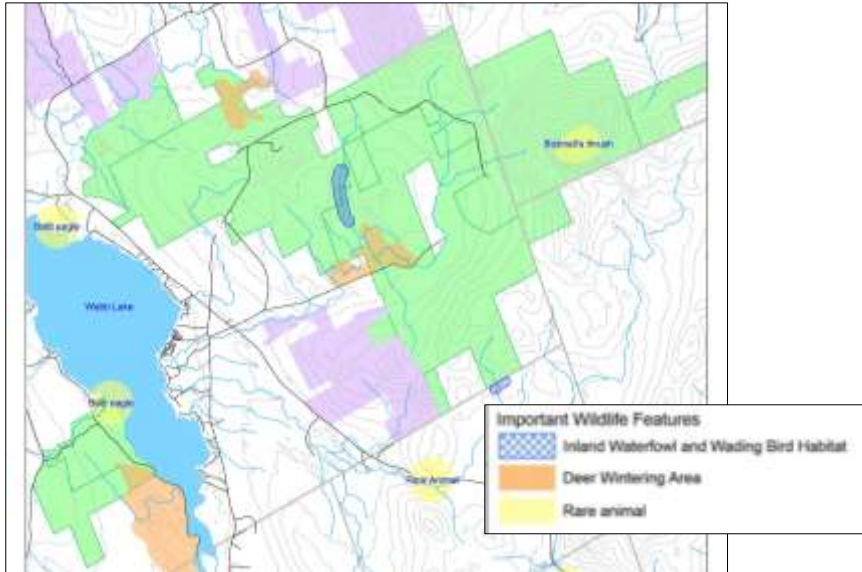
View from Mount Blue tower



Mount Blue S.P. – MNAP “Rare and Exemplary” Features



Mount Blue State Park – Important Wildlife Features



Moose browsing in wetland

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- What do you need to know more about?
- What current attributes do you value – and why?
- What opportunities do you see in the next 15 years?
- What are some current or potential threats/issues to address? How can we handle them?
- What should be our 'vision' for these lands?



Any additional questions
or comments?

Thank You for attending!