

Bureau of Parks and Lands

**Central Penobscot Region Management Plan
Plan Amendment**

December 30, 2015

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AMENDMENT ADOPTION

In accordance with the procedure outlined in the 2014 Central Penobscot Region Management Plan for five-year reviews of the Plan and consideration of proposed Plan amendments, the amendment presented on page 2 of this report is hereby adopted.

APPROVED: Walter E. Whitcomb DATE: 1/15/16

Walter E. Whitcomb
Commissioner
Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

1. Background to the Central Penobscot Region Proposed Plan Amendment and Summary of the Review Process

Background: The Central Penobscot Region (CPR) Management Plan adopted in May of 2014 guides the management of public lands at Nahmakanta and several other large and smaller lots in Piscataquis and Penobscot Counties. In July of this year, the Bureau informed the CPR Advisory Committee (AC) of a proposed salvage/presalvage harvest of trees along the north shore of Wadleigh Pond within the Nahmakanta Unit, in an area extending east from the outlet to the northeast corner of the pond. The objective of the harvest was to remove fir experiencing substantial mortality and being blown down, along with some beech and white birch that are in decline as well. The proposed harvest would occur on a maximum of 18 acres inside the 330 foot zone currently allocated to Special Protection. The harvest would benefit the overall health of the forest, facilitate the movement of wildlife through the riparian zone, and improve aesthetic values. A limited number of hazard trees would also be removed adjacent to the camp lease in this vicinity to protect the camp structures from further damage.

Because the current Special Protection allocation in this area would prohibit timber harvests, the Bureau sought input on a proposed change in the allocation of the 330 foot Special Protection zone to retain a 75-foot Special Protection area adjacent to the designated ponds and allocate the remainder of the 330-foot Special Protection allocation to Wildlife. The proposed timber harvest would not include any area within the 75-foot Special Protection area. While comments from the AC were generally in support of the proposed harvest and the associated revision of resource allocations, there were several requests for additional discussion of the proposal. (See Appendix B for email comments from AC members.) A September 11, 2015 field visit at the proposed harvest site, attended by about a dozen Bureau Staff, AC members and others, provided the opportunity for that discussion.

The Plan designated a 330 foot Special Protection dominant use allocation as a buffer around Wadleigh Pond and the connected First and Second Musquash Ponds due to the presence of the Pygmy water lily, an endangered plant. (Absent this plant, the 330 foot riparian buffer area would be allocated to Wildlife, as are the riparian zones around the other great ponds and major flowing water bodies on the Unit.) In retrospect, we found no scientific justification for the 330-foot Special Protection Allocation. After additional consideration, the Bureau has concluded that designation of the 330 foot Special Protection buffer was not justified in this instance; the buffer should have been designated as 75 feet. MNAP and MDIF&W concur this is a more appropriate buffer width and will provide the desired protection for the Pygmy water lily.

Proposed Amendment and Impacts on Management: The proposed amendment reduces this Special Protection allocation to 75 feet. As previously stated, the riparian buffer area from 75 feet to 330 feet from the pond shorelines would then be designated Wildlife dominant. The proposed change in the allocation of the 330-foot area around Wadleigh Pond and the connected First and Second Musquash Ponds will allow the proposed harvest to proceed and will adjust the allocations to more appropriately reflect the resources. Due to the Wildlife dominant allocation, and the added consideration of Visual Protection and secondary Remote Recreation allocation, the Wildlife Dominant buffer area will only ever be lightly harvested, which will retain the character of the area.

The following page presents the Draft Plan Amendment revising the resource use allocations within the Nahmakanta Unit as described above, followed by maps depicting the current and proposed revision of the dominant resource use allocations surrounding the ponds.

Public Meeting: A public meeting was held in Milo on December 16, 2015 to allow the Bureau to hear public comments on the proposed Plan amendment. Advisory Committee members were informed of the time and place of the meeting in advance, via email. Two AC members and a member of the public attended. The three attendees gave verbal comments in support of the Plan amendment. Meeting notes are provided in Appendix C. The meeting was followed by a two-week period during which written comments could be submitted; no comments were received.

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Bureau of Parks and Lands

Central Penobscot Region Management Plan – Plan Amendment

The Bureau proposes the following amendment to the 2014 Central Penobscot Region Management Plan to revise the dominant and secondary resource use allocations surrounding Wadleigh Pond, First Musquash Pond and Second Musquash Pond within the Nahmakanta Unit.

Proposed Revised Resource Use Allocation within the Nahmakanta Unit (page 80 of Plan):

(changes are in **bold** and ~~strike through~~; the remaining portions of the allocations not shown are unchanged):

Special Protection Dominant

Amend the 5th bulleted paragraph as follows:

- A ~~330~~ **75** foot riparian buffer area around First and Second Musquash Ponds and Wadleigh Pond where populations of the Pygmy water lily, listed on Maine’s Endangered and Threatened Plant list, reside. ~~This area is also designated remote recreation as a secondary allocation.~~

Wildlife Dominant

Amend the 1st bulleted paragraph as follows:

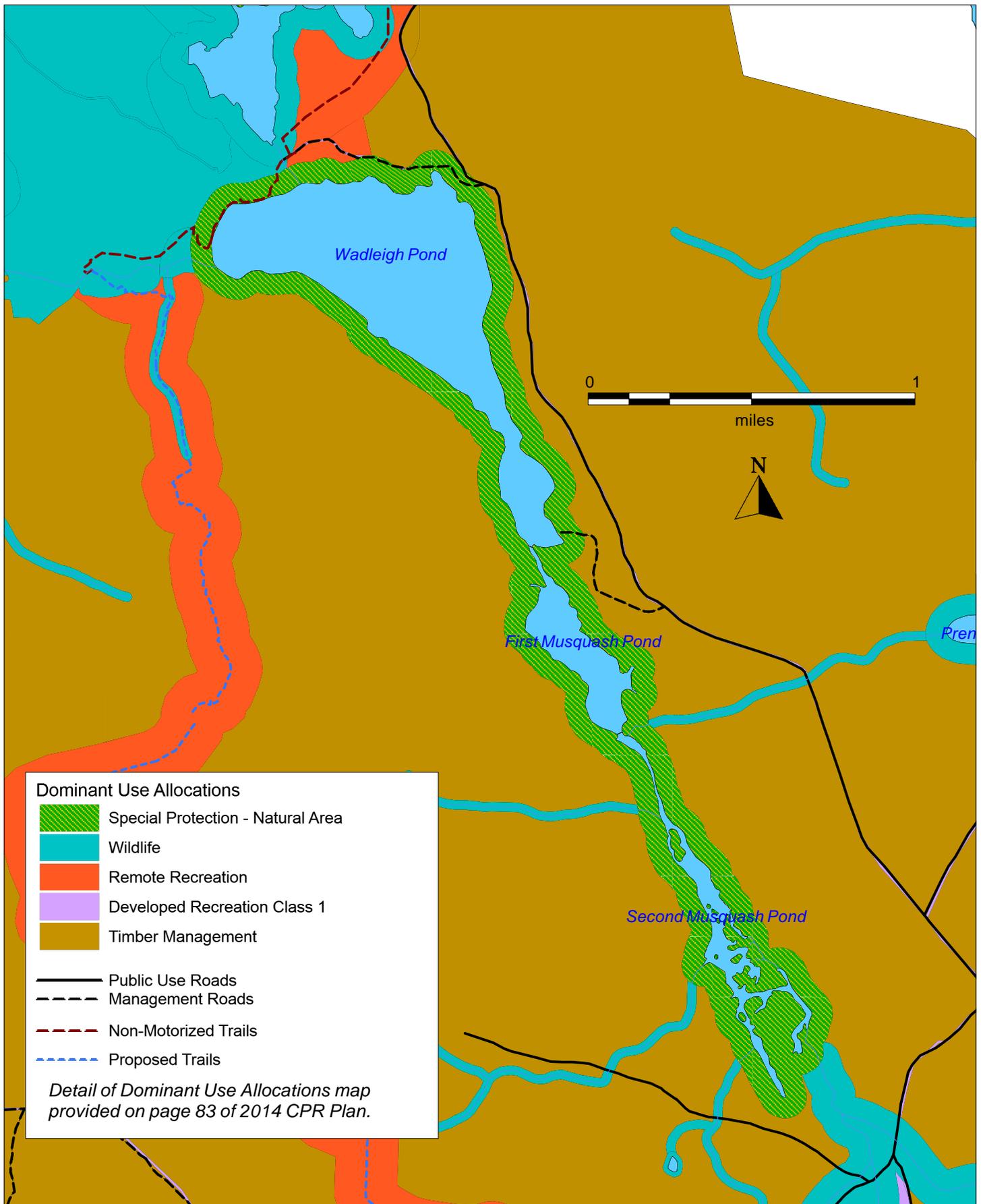
- Riparian buffers of 330 feet around all great ponds and along major flowing waterbodies, and around the Deadwater Brook Deadwater, Farrar Brook, and Musquash Stream, **excepting the area within 75 feet of shore around First and Second Musquash Ponds and Wadleigh Pond, where a Special Protection allocation has been applied.**

Amend the last paragraph as follows:

Remote Recreation is applied as a secondary allocation to the 330 foot riparian buffers.

A secondary Timber Management allocation is also designated for the deer wintering areas and riparian buffers subject to wildlife, recreation, and visual concerns.

Current Dominant Use Allocations - Nahmakanta Unit Wadleigh, First and Second Musquash Ponds



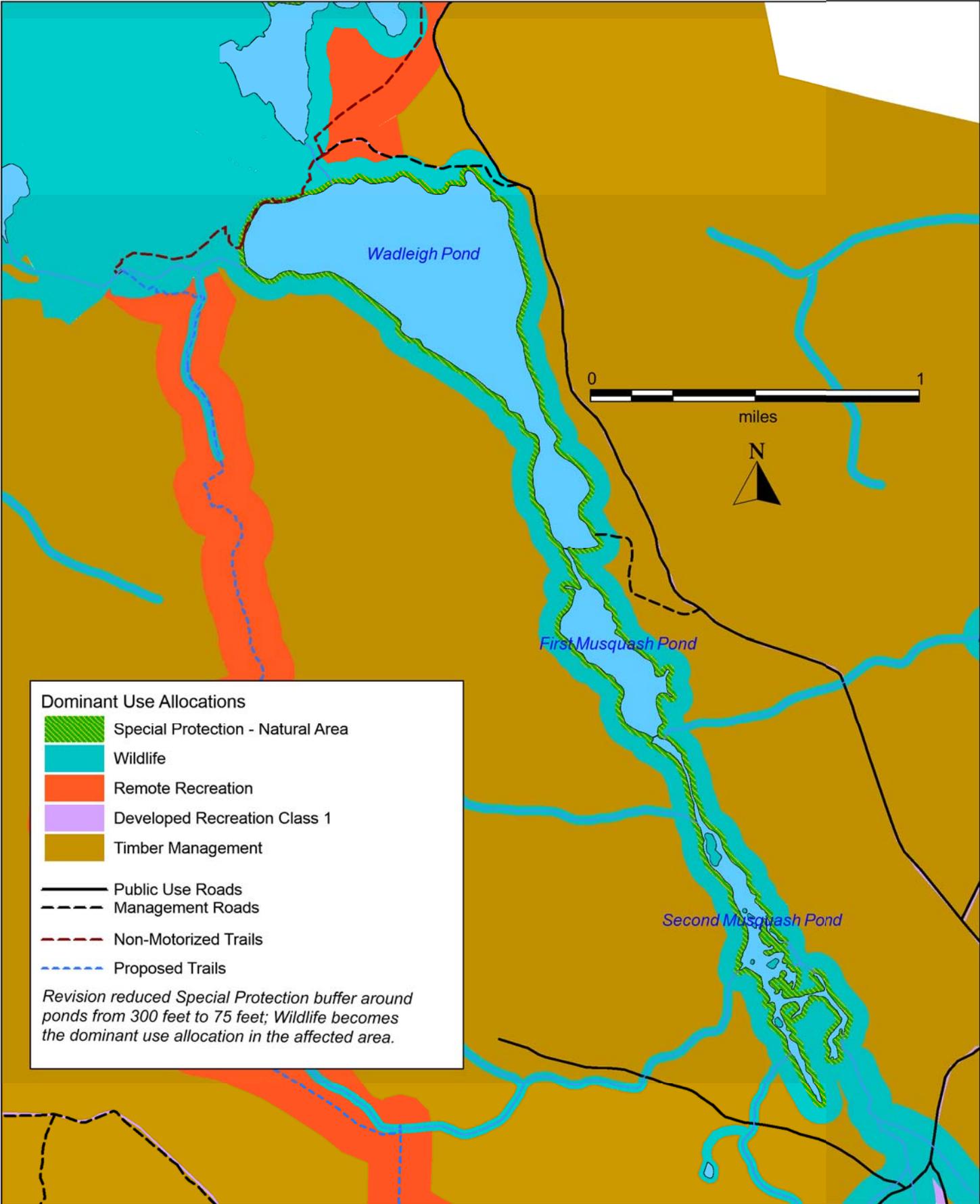
Dominant Use Allocations

-  Special Protection - Natural Area
-  Wildlife
-  Remote Recreation
-  Developed Recreation Class 1
-  Timber Management

-  Public Use Roads
-  Management Roads
-  Non-Motorized Trails
-  Proposed Trails

Detail of Dominant Use Allocations map provided on page 83 of 2014 CPR Plan.

Revised Dominant Use Allocations - Nahmakanta Unit Wadleigh, First and Second Musquash Ponds



APPENDIX A

CENTRAL PENOBSCOT REGION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

First Name	Last Name	Organization
NAHMAKANTA ADVISORY COMMITTEE		
Don and Angel	Hibbs	Nahmakanta Lake Wilderness Camps
Bill	Geller	Private Citizen
Greg	Shute	Chewonki Foundation
Bill	Patterson	The Nature Conservancy
Al	Cowperthwaite	North Maine Woods
Fred	Candeloro	Kokadjo Roach Riders
Ken	Snowdon	Moosehead ATV Riders
Darryl	Day	NMW Jo Mary Checkpoint and Guide
Cathy	Johnson	Natural Resources Council of Maine
Eliza	Donoghue	Natural Resources Council of Maine
Lester	Kenway	MATC
Wendy	Janssen	National Park Service--Appalachian Trail
Tim	Obrey	MDIFW
Brian	Wentzell	AMC
Steve	Tatko	AMC
Rich	Smith	Pleasant River Lumber
Brett	Gerrish	Prentiss and Carlisle
Janet	Sawyer	Piscataquis Co. Econ. Dev. Council
Dirk	Dewley	TNC alternate
Christy	Hofbaeur-Meyers	Black Pond Campowners
Jack	Hofbaeur	Black Pond Campowners
Claire	Polfus	Appalachian Trail Conservancy
Bruce	Grant	MATC
Ron	Dobra	MATC
SEBOEIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE		
Michael	Washburn	KI Riders
Gordon (Nills)	Kramer	MDIFW
Mark	Leathers	Elliotsville Plantation C/O Sewell
Jensen	Bissell	Baxter State Park
Wayne	Dillon	Maine Guide
Marcia	McKeague	Katahdin Forest Management
Eugene	Conlogue	Town of Millinocket
Paul	Sannicandro	Northern Timber Cruisers
David	Moore	Northern Timber Cruisers
Don	Hudson	IAT and Maine Woods Forever
David	Dow	Prentiss and Carlisle
Fred	Michaud	Maine DOT
Gene	Shields	Cole's Moosehorn Cabins

APPENDIX B

**Advisory Committee Comments on Proposed Harvest and
Proposed Resource Allocation Changes**

Vogel, Jim

From: Don Hudson <don@backriver.me>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 10:17 AM
To: Vogel, Jim
Subject: Re: Proposed Wadleigh Pond Salvage Harvest and

In light of the fact that the MNAP concurs with the finding that a 75' buffer is adequate to protect the plant in question, I concur with the Bureau's proposed action.

Thanks for the opportunity to weigh in!

Cheers,

Don

On Wed, Jul 15, 2015 at 9:57 AM, Vogel, Jim <Jim.Vogel@maine.gov> wrote:

Dear Central Penobscot Region Advisory Committee Member:

An issue has arisen related to forest management in the vicinity of Wadleigh Pond on the Nahmakanta Unit which the Bureau would like to put before the Advisory Committee. This note will describe the action which the Bureau would like to take and a clarification of the resource allocations, which as currently stated in the CPR Plan constrain the Bureau's ability to take the desired action.

Proposed Action

The Bureau would like to conduct a limited salvage/presalvage harvest of trees along the north shore of Wadleigh Pond, in an area extending east from the outlet to the northeast corner of the pond, where a narrow band of softwood (S type) begins and extends down the east shore. Two forest stand types are involved: TH3B and M3C, with 12 and 9 acres respectively within the current 330 ft. wide, no-cut Special Protection zone. If the no-cut zone is reduced to 75 feet from the shore of the pond, about 2 acres in each stand type would remain no-cut. This proposed harvesting would be done with a processor and forwarder, thereby avoiding ground skidding of the cut trees. Three tree species are in decline within the proposed harvest area: fir is experiencing substantial mortality and being blown down (especially around the camp lease); most beech and some white birch are in decline as well. The proposed harvest, which would occur on a maximum of 18 acres inside the 330 foot zone but outside a 75-foot no-cut zone around the pond, would yield less than 50 cords of salvaged wood and more importantly would protect the camp lease structures from further damage, benefit the overall health of the forest, facilitate the movement of wildlife through the riparian zone, and improve aesthetic values. No other harvesting is anticipated within the current 330 foot buffer around Wadleigh Pond, as there is a hiking trail along the shore west of the outlet, and the extensive softwood-dominated buffers down the east and west shores are primarily healthy and windfirm spruce/hemlock/cedar or are inoperable due to steep terrain and high visibility. (Map 1, attached, depicts the current 330 foot Special Protection buffer and the forest stands that would be affected.)

Resource Allocation Clarification

The CPR Plan (page 80) designates a 330 foot "Special Protection Dominant" riparian buffer around Wadleigh Pond (and First and Second Musquash Ponds) to provide protection to Pygmy water lily, a plant species on the state Threatened and Endangered list. Under the IRP, timber harvesting is not allowed in Special Protection zones. The Bureau now believes the appropriate buffer is 75 feet, not 330 feet, which MNAP confirms is sufficient to provide the desired protection. Further, a Remote Recreation secondary allocation corresponding with the Special Protection buffer was designated that is in conflict with the dominant allocation, in that timber harvesting is allowed within Remote Recreation zones; the secondary allocation should not be less restrictive than the dominant allocation.

It is the Bureau's position that the 330 foot Special Protection resource allocation around these ponds should be revised to 75 feet, which would allow the proposed salvage harvest. The 330 foot "Wildlife Dominant" buffer that was also applied to the riparian zone around all great ponds on the Unit and that also provides protection to Wadleigh Pond and the Pygmy water lily would remain, with Remote Recreation as a secondary allocation outside the adjusted 75 foot Special Protection buffer around the ponds. The Bureau believes that these corrections and clarifications are consistent with the spirit the CPR Plan in relation to the resource protections intended. (Map 2, attached, depicts the adjusted 75 foot Special Protection buffer, the remaining 330 foot Wildlife buffer, and the forest stands affected.)

Do you, as an Advisory Committee member, support the Bureau's proposed action and correction/clarification of resource allocations, without further public process or review (i.e., a public meeting)?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please reply at your earliest convenience.

James Vogel

Senior Planner, Bureau of Parks and Lands

18 Elkins Lane, Harlow Building

22 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

Direct Telephone: Office 207.287.2163

www.state.me.us/doc/parks/index.html

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W. Donald Hudson, Jr. Ph.D.
President Emeritus, Chewonki
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Arrowsic, Maine 04530-7421
(207) 443-9795 - land line
(207) 751-6426 - wandering line

Vogel, Jim

From: Al Cowperthwaite <al@northmainewoods.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 11:32 AM
To: Vogel, Jim
Subject: RE: Proposed Wadleigh Pond Salvage Harvest and

James,
Your proposal sounds logical to me.
I approve moving ahead without further public review or meetings.
Al

Al Cowperthwaite
Executive Director
North Maine Woods, Inc.

PO Box 425, 92 Main St.
Ashland, ME 04732
phone: (207) 435-6213
cell: (207) 227-2851
fax: (207) 435-8479

From: Vogel, Jim [mailto:Jim.Vogel@maine.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 9:58 AM
To: Al Cowperthwaite (al@northmainewoods.org); Bill Geller (geller@maine.edu); Bill Patterson (wpatterson@tnc.org); Bissell, Jensen; Brett Gerrish (bhgerrish@prentissandcarlisle.com); Brian Wentzell (bwentzell@outdoors.org); Brian Wiley (Brian.Wiley@brookfieldrenewable.com); Bruce Grant (brucegme@gmail.com); Christy Hofbaeur-Meyer (themeyersclan@comcast.net); cjohnson@nrcm.org; Claire Polfus; Darryl Day (lindar12@localnet.com); David Moore (mooredj52@yahoo.com); Dirk Dewley (ddewley@tnc.org); Don and Angel Hibbs (info@nahmakanta.com); Don Hudson (wdonhudson@gmail.com); Eugene Conlogue (manager@millinocket.org); Fred Candeloro (fredcandeloro@yahoo.com); Greg Shute (gshute@chewonki.org); Hawk Metheny (hmetheny@appalachiantrail.org); jacksairservice@gmail.com; Janet Sawyer (jsawyer@pcedc.org); Kate Vargas (Vargaskate@hotmail.com); Ken Snowdon (kensnow@myfairpoint.net); Kramer, Gordon; Lester Kenway (trailser@myfairpoint.net); Marcia McKeague (mmckeague@acadiantimber.com); Mark Leathers (mark.leathers@jws.com); Michael Washburn (mcmwashburn@yahoo.com); Michaud, Fred; Obrey, Tim; Paul Sannicandro (sannicandro.paul@gmail.com); Ray Campbell (raysaussie@Beeline-online.net); Rich Smith (rsmith@pleasantriverlumber.com); Ron Dobra (ghsron@gmail.com); statko@outdoors.org; Wayne Dillon (shootme@gunsmokelodge.com); 'wendy_janssen@nps.gov' (wendy_janssen@nps.gov)
Cc: Eickenberg, Katherine; Simpson, Chuck; Hall, Jay; Denico, Doug; Cutko, Andrew; Wiley, Joe
Subject: Proposed Wadleigh Pond Salvage Harvest and

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James Vogel

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Direct Telephone: Office 207.287.2163

www.state.me.us/doc/parks/index.html



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com

Vogel, Jim

From: Cathy Johnson <cjohnson@nrcm.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 2:37 PM
To: Vogel, Jim; Al Cowperthwaite (al@northmainewoods.org); Bill Geller (geller@maine.edu); Bill Patterson (wpatterson@tnc.org); Bissell, Jensen; Brett Gerrish (bhgerrish@prentissandcarlisle.com); Brian Wentzell (bwentzell@outdoors.org); Brian Wiley (Brian.Wiley@brookfieldrenewable.com); Bruce Grant (brucegme@gmail.com); Christy Hofbaeur-Meyer (themeyersclan@comcast.net); Claire Polfus; Darryl Day (lindar12@localnet.com); David Moore (mooredj52@yahoo.com); Dirk Dewley (ddewley@tnc.org); Don and Angel Hibbs (info@nahmakanta.com); Don Hudson (wdonhudson@gmail.com); Eugene Conlogue (manager@millinocket.org); Fred Candeloro (fredcandeloro@yahoo.com); Greg Shute (gshute@chewonki.org); Hawk Metheny (hmetheny@appalachiantrail.org); jacksairservice@gmail.com; Janet Sawyer (jsawyer@pcedc.org); Kate Vargas (Vargaskate@hotmail.com); Ken Snowdon (kensnow@myfairpoint.net); Kramer, Gordon; Lester Kenway (trailser@myfairpoint.net); Marcia McKeague (mmckeague@acadiantimber.com); Mark Leathers (mark.leathers@jws.com); Michael Washburn (mcmwashburn@yahoo.com); Michaud, Fred; Obrey, Tim; Paul Sannicandro (sannicandro.paul@gmail.com); Ray Campbell (raysaussie@Beeline-online.net); Rich Smith (rsmith@pleasanriverlumber.com); Ron Dobra (ghsron@gmail.com); statko@outdoors.org; Wayne Dillon (shootme@gunsmokelodge.com); 'wendy_janssen@nps.gov' (wendy_janssen@nps.gov)
Cc: Eickenberg, Katherine; Simpson, Chuck; Hall, Jay; Denico, Doug; Cutko, Andrew; Wiley, Joe
Subject: RE: Proposed Wadleigh Pond Salvage Harvest and

Jim – I have a lot of questions about this and would not support this proposed change without further information and discussion. I hope that you will schedule a meeting.

Cathy

Catherine B. Johnson, Esq.
Senior Staff Attorney & North Woods Project Director
(207) 430-0109 office (207) 462-2164 cell

From: Vogel, Jim [mailto:Jim.Vogel@maine.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 9:58 AM
To: Al Cowperthwaite (al@northmainewoods.org); Bill Geller (geller@maine.edu); Bill Patterson (wpatterson@tnc.org); Bissell, Jensen; Brett Gerrish (bhgerrish@prentissandcarlisle.com); Brian Wentzell (bwentzell@outdoors.org); Brian Wiley (Brian.Wiley@brookfieldrenewable.com); Bruce Grant (brucegme@gmail.com); Christy Hofbaeur-Meyer (themeyersclan@comcast.net); Cathy Johnson; Claire Polfus; Darryl Day (lindar12@localnet.com); David Moore (mooredj52@yahoo.com); Dirk Dewley (ddewley@tnc.org); Don and Angel Hibbs (info@nahmakanta.com); Don Hudson (wdonhudson@gmail.com); Eugene Conlogue (manager@millinocket.org); Fred Candeloro (fredcandeloro@yahoo.com); Greg Shute (gshute@chewonki.org); Hawk Metheny (hmetheny@appalachiantrail.org); jacksairservice@gmail.com; Janet Sawyer (jsawyer@pcedc.org); Kate Vargas (Vargaskate@hotmail.com); Ken Snowdon (kensnow@myfairpoint.net); Kramer, Gordon; Lester Kenway (trailser@myfairpoint.net); Marcia McKeague (mmckeague@acadiantimber.com); Mark Leathers (mark.leathers@jws.com); Michael Washburn (mcmwashburn@yahoo.com); Michaud, Fred; Obrey, Tim; Paul Sannicandro (sannicandro.paul@gmail.com); Ray Campbell (raysaussie@Beeline-online.net); Rich Smith (rsmith@pleasanriverlumber.com); Ron Dobra (ghsron@gmail.com); statko@outdoors.org; Wayne Dillon (shootme@gunsmokelodge.com); 'wendy_janssen@nps.gov' (wendy_janssen@nps.gov)
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Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please reply at your earliest convenience.

James Vogel

Senior Planner, Bureau of Parks and Lands
18 Elkins Lane, Harlow Building
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

Direct Telephone: Office 207.287.2163
www.state.me.us/doc/parks/index.html

Vogel, Jim

From: William Geller <geller@maine.edu>
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 10:06 AM
To: Vogel, Jim
Cc: Al Cowperthwaite (al@northmainewoods.org); Bill Patterson (wpatterson@tnc.org); Bissell, Jensen; Brett Gerrish (bhgerrish@prentissandcarlisle.com); Brian Wentzell (bwentzell@outdoors.org); Brian Wiley (Brian.Wiley@brookfieldrenewable.com); Bruce Grant (brucegme@gmail.com); Christy Hofbaeur-Meyer (themeyersclan@comcast.net); cjohnson@nrcm.org; Claire Polfus; Darryl Day (lindar12@localnet.com); David Moore (mooredj52@yahoo.com); Dirk Dewley (ddewley@tnc.org); Don and Angel Hibbs (info@nahmakanta.com); Don Hudson (wdonhudson@gmail.com); Eugene Conlogue (manager@millinocket.org); Fred Candeloro (fredcandeloro@yahoo.com); Greg Shute (gshute@chewonki.org); Hawk Metheny (hmetheny@appalachiantrail.org); jacksairservice@gmail.com; Janet Sawyer (jsawyer@pcedc.org); Kate Vargas (Vargaskate@hotmail.com); Ken Snowdon (kensnow@myfairpoint.net); Kramer, Gordon; Lester Kenway (trailser@myfairpoint.net); Marcia McKeague (mmckeague@acadiantimber.com); Mark Leathers (mark.leathers@jws.com); Michael Washburn (mcmwashburn@yahoo.com); Michaud, Fred; Obrey, Tim; Paul Sannicandro (sannicandro.paul@gmail.com); Ray Campbell (raysaussie@Beeline-online.net); Rich Smith (rsmith@pleasantriverlumber.com); Ron Dobra (ghsron@gmail.com); statko@outdoors.org; Wayne Dillon (shootme@gunsmokelodge.com); 'wendy_janssen@nps.gov' (wendy_janssen@nps.gov)
Subject: Re: {Disarmed} FW: Proposed Wadleigh Pond Salvage Harvest and Resource Allocation Revisions

Jim - I've been away hiking and so maybe decisions have been made.

What little is shared is unconvincing to me. Any no cut area is going to have blow downs and trees that have lived their lives - that's just the life of a forest - let it be.

Thank you for asking. - Bill

On Wed, Jul 15, 2015 at 1:41 PM, Vogel, Jim <Jim.Vogel@maine.gov> wrote:

My apologies, I sent the original message with an incomplete Subject line; the complete message Subject is above.

Jim Vogel

Senior Planner, Bureau of Parks and Lands

Direct Telephone: Office [207.287.2163](tel:207.287.2163)

From: Vogel, Jim

Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 9:58 AM

To: 'Al Cowperthwaite (al@northmainewoods.org)'; 'Bill Geller (geller@maine.edu)'; 'Bill Patterson (wpatterson@tnc.org)'; 'Bissell, Jensen'; 'Brett Gerrish (bhgerrish@prentissandcarlisle.com)'; 'Brian Wentzell (bwentzell@outdoors.org)'; 'Brian Wiley (Brian.Wiley@brookfieldrenewable.com)'; 'Bruce Grant (brucegme@gmail.com)'; 'Christy Hofbauer-Meyer (themeyersclan@comcast.net)'; 'cjohnson@nrcm.org'; 'Claire Polfus'; 'Darryl Day (lindar12@localnet.com)'; 'David Moore (mooredj52@yahoo.com)'; 'Dirk Dewley (ddewley@tnc.org)'; 'Don and Angel Hibbs (info@nahmakanta.com)'; 'Don Hudson (wdonhudson@gmail.com)'; 'Eugene Conlogue (manager@millinocket.org)'; 'Fred Candeloro (fredcandeloro@yahoo.com)'; 'Greg Shute (gshute@chewonki.org)'; 'Hawk Metheny (hmetheny@appalachiantrail.org)'; 'jacksairservice@gmail.com'; 'Janet Sawyer (jsawyer@pcedc.org)'; 'Kate Vargas (Vargaskate@hotmail.com)'; 'Ken Snowdon (kensnow@myfairpoint.net)'; 'Kramer, Gordon'; 'Lester Kenway (trailser@myfairpoint.net)'; 'Marcia McKeague (mmckeague@acadiantimber.com)'; 'Mark Leathers (mark.leathers@jws.com)'; 'Michael Washburn (mcmwashburn@yahoo.com)'; 'Michaud, Fred'; 'Obrey, Tim'; 'Paul Sannicandro (sannicandro.paul@gmail.com)'; 'Ray Campbell (raysaussie@Beeline-online.net)'; 'Rich Smith (rsmith@pleasantriverlumber.com)'; 'Ron Dobra (ghsron@gmail.com)'; 'statko@outdoors.org'; 'Wayne Dillon (shootme@gunsmokelodge.com)'; 'wendy_janssen@nps.gov' (wendy_janssen@nps.gov)'

Cc: Eickenberg, Katherine; Simpson, Chuck; Hall, Jay; Denico, Doug; Cutko, Andrew; Wiley, Joe

Subject: Proposed Wadleigh Pond Salvage Harvest and

Dear Central Penobscot Region Advisory Committee Member:

An issue has arisen related to forest management in the vicinity of Wadleigh Pond on the Nahmakanta Unit which the Bureau would like to put before the Advisory Committee. This note will describe the action which the Bureau would like to take and a clarification of the resource allocations, which as currently stated in the CPR Plan constrain the Bureau's ability to take the desired action.

Proposed Action

The Bureau would like to conduct a limited salvage/presalvage harvest of trees along the north shore of Wadleigh Pond, in an area extending east from the outlet to the northeast corner of the pond, where a narrow band of softwood (S type) begins and extends down the east shore. Two forest stand types are involved: TH3B and M3C, with 12 and 9 acres respectively within the current 330 ft. wide, no-cut Special Protection zone. If the no-cut zone is reduced to 75 feet from the shore of the pond, about 2 acres in each stand type would remain no-cut. This proposed harvesting would be done with a processor and forwarder, thereby avoiding ground skidding of the cut trees. Three tree species are in decline within the proposed harvest area: fir is experiencing substantial mortality and being blown down (especially around the camp lease); most beech and some white birch are in decline as well. The proposed harvest, which would occur on a maximum of 18 acres inside the 330 foot zone but outside a 75-foot no-cut zone around the pond, would yield less than 50 cords of salvaged wood and more importantly would protect the camp lease structures from further damage, benefit the overall health of the forest, facilitate the movement of wildlife through the riparian zone, and improve aesthetic values. No other harvesting is anticipated within the current 330 foot buffer around Wadleigh Pond, as there is a hiking trail along the shore west of the outlet, and the extensive softwood-dominated buffers down the east and west shores are primarily healthy and windfirm spruce/hemlock/cedar or are inoperable due to steep terrain and high visibility. (Map 1, attached, depicts the current 330 foot Special Protection buffer and the forest stands that would be affected.)

Resource Allocation Clarification

The CPR Plan (page 80) designates a 330 foot "Special Protection Dominant" riparian buffer around Wadleigh Pond (and First and Second Musquash Ponds) to provide protection to Pygmy water lily, a plant species on the state Threatened and Endangered list. Under the IRP, timber harvesting is not allowed in Special Protection zones. The Bureau now believes the appropriate buffer is 75 feet, not 330 feet, which MNAP confirms is sufficient to provide the desired protection. Further, a Remote Recreation secondary allocation corresponding with the Special Protection buffer was designated that is in conflict with the dominant allocation, in that timber harvesting is allowed within Remote Recreation zones; the secondary allocation should not be less restrictive than the dominant allocation.

It is the Bureau's position that the 330 foot Special Protection resource allocation around these ponds should be revised to 75 feet, which would allow the proposed salvage harvest. The 330 foot "Wildlife Dominant" buffer that was also applied to the riparian zone around all great ponds on the Unit and that also provides protection to Wadleigh Pond and the Pygmy water lily would remain, with Remote Recreation as a secondary allocation outside the adjusted 75 foot Special Protection buffer around the ponds. The Bureau believes that these corrections and clarifications are consistent with the spirit the CPR Plan in relation to the resource protections intended. (Map 2, attached, depicts the adjusted 75 foot Special Protection buffer, the remaining 330 foot Wildlife buffer, and the forest stands affected.)

Do you, as an Advisory Committee member, support the Bureau's proposed action and correction/clarification of resource allocations, without further public process or review (i.e., a public meeting)?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please reply at your earliest convenience.

James Vogel

Senior Planner, Bureau of Parks and Lands

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22 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

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MailScanner has detected a possible fraud attempt from "www.maine.gov" claiming to be www.state.me.us/doc/parks/index.html

Vogel, Jim

From: William Patterson <wpatterson@TNC.ORG>
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 4:38 PM
To: Vogel, Jim; Al Cowperthwaite (al@northmainewoods.org); Bill Geller (geller@maine.edu); Bissell, Jensen; Brett Gerrish (bhgerrish@prentissandcarlisle.com); Brian Wentzell (bwentzell@outdoors.org); Brian Wiley (Brian.Wiley@brookfieldrenewable.com); Bruce Grant (brucegme@gmail.com); Christy Hofbaeur-Meyer (themeyersclan@comcast.net); cjohnson@nrcm.org; Claire Polfus; Darryl Day (lindar12@localnet.com); David Moore (mooredj52@yahoo.com); Don and Angel Hibbs (info@nahmakanta.com); Don Hudson (wdonhudson@gmail.com); Eugene Conlogue (manager@millinocket.org); Fred Candeloro (fredcandeloro@yahoo.com); Greg Shute (gshute@chewonki.org); Hawk Metheny (hmetheny@appalachiantrail.org); jacksairservice@gmail.com; Janet Sawyer (jsawyer@pcedc.org); Kate Vargas (Vargaskate@hotmail.com); Ken Snowdon (kensnow@myfairpoint.net); Kramer, Gordon; Lester Kenway (trailer@myfairpoint.net); Marcia McKeague (mmckeague@acadiantimber.com); Mark Leathers (mark.leathers@jws.com); Michael Washburn (mcmwashburn@yahoo.com); Michaud, Fred; Obrey, Tim; Paul Sannicandro (sannicandro.paul@gmail.com); Ray Campbell (raysaussie@Beeline-online.net); Rich Smith (rsmith@pleasantriverlumber.com); Ron Dobra (ghsron@gmail.com); statko@outdoors.org; Wayne Dillon (shootme@gunsmokelodge.com); 'wendy_janssen@nps.gov' (wendy_janssen@nps.gov)
Cc: Eickenberg, Katherine; Simpson, Chuck; Hail, Jay; Denico, Doug; Cutko, Andrew; Wiley, Joe
Subject: RE: Proposed Wadleigh Pond Salvage Harvest and

Hi Jim,

Thanks for reaching out to the committee. I understand that there can be ecological and silvicultural merits to adjusting plans and that flexibility is an important consideration. Is this simply a site specific correction or might we expect similar adjustments to be forthcoming as regular salvage or pre-salvage opportunities? I ask out of curiosity to know if this classification was just an oversight in a prior planning process or if there will be regular adjustments proposed to no harvest zones related to the new allowable harvest target?

Sorry for the delayed response... When would you like to harvest and what is the timeline on which you need to make a decision?

Thanks, Bill

Bill Patterson
Northern Maine Program Manager

Please note new phone number: 607-4819

The Nature Conservancy	wpatterson@tnc.org
Maine Field Office	Phone: 207-607-4819
14 Maine Street, Suite 401	Cell: 207-272-5141
Brunswick, ME 04011	Fax: 207-729-4118

nature.org

From: Vogel, Jim [mailto:Jim.Vogel@maine.gov]

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www.state.me.us/doc/parks/index.html

APPENDIX C

Bureau of Parks and Lands
**Central Penobscot Region Management Plan
Proposed Plan Amendment – Public Meeting**
December 16, 2015 6:00 – 7:00 PM
Milo Town Hall

MEETING MINUTES

The Public Meeting was attended by 3 people. (Two of the attendees were Advisory Committee members who had participated in the Amendment Review and so had received previous correspondence from BPL regarding the proposed Plan amendment that was the focus of the meeting.)

Additionally, the following DACF/BPL staff members were present: Chuck Simpson, Eastern Region Lands Manager; Jim Vogel, Senior Planner; Doug Denico, Maine Forest Service Director.

Welcome/Introduction

Jim Vogel welcomed the attendees (no introductions were necessary), provided a brief review of the issue and review process for the proposed plan amendment (the AC attendees had also attended the prior field visit in September), and outlined the purpose of the public meeting. A copy of the proposed Plan amendment, and current and revised resource allocation maps for the affected area were provided.

Discussion

The discussion mainly focused on potential harvesting in other parts of the shoreline buffer area affected by the revised allocation proposed in the Plan amendment, outside of the limited area targeted at the present time. Chuck described potential harvests in other areas and highlighted remaining physical, policy and allocation constraints on additional harvests in the pond buffer areas. Jim reiterated the BPL justifications for the revised resource allocation and the lack of justification for the 330 foot Special Protection allocation as contained in the 2014 Plan. After the discussion, attendees were encouraged to comment on the proposed Plan Amendment.

Public Comments/Questions

- All of the attendees voiced support for the Plan amendment.

Next Steps/Concluding Comments

- Jim reminded attendees of the opportunity to provide written comments over the next two weeks, and that an email and mailing address to submit comments are provided on the bottom of the meeting agenda. The meeting was concluded with a thank you to all who attended.