

Hampden Conservation Commission
Site Conservation Plan

General Information

- Name: Canaan/Meadow Road
- Location:
 - General description – wetland complexes in areas around junction of Canaan Road, Meadow Road, and Kennebec Road
 - Legal boundaries
 - Map(s)
- Size (acres):
- Owner(s): Multiple private landowners, town lands (significant around transfer station and gravel pit), DOT
- Property Value:
- Public Access: via town lands, end of Ichabod Lane, pipelines
- Who is responsible for management decisions? Various

Current Status for Conservation:

- Existing surveys/maps/documentation: NRPA waterfowl habitats
- Conservation values site currently provides:
 - Wetlands, hydrological connectivity
 - Undeveloped open space around wetlands
 - Bog adjacent to east branch of Souadabscook (off Rt. 69 at end of Babcock Rd.)
 - “Hub” of town (recreation?)
 - Lots of waterfowl, moose
 - Aquifer – potential fallback water supply?
- Condition: relatively good, water flow generally good but potentially some issues with some culverts that seem to need regular maintenance. Encroaching development from many sides. Gravel pit development is a potential threat. Old pits south of intersection (some were inadvertently mapped as wetlands).
- History of use as applicable to conservation: lots of development, gravel pits, transfer station. Rifle club. Some deer hunting, trapping.
- Existing protection(s): shoreland zoning
- Constraints:
 - Accessibility: pretty limited because of private land and area is quite wet.
Pipelines/snowmobile trails.
 - Site potential: preserve hydrology
 - Regulatory: shoreland zoning, NRPA significant wildlife habitats
 - Archaeological sites: none known
 - Easements: Wetland off Ichabod Ln (MEDOT mitigation)

- Known hazards: development, gravel pits, transfer station

Proposed Management:

- Goal(s) of site relative to conservation in Hampden: maintain wetlands and hydrology, connect big blocks of open space, protect aquifer
- Strategy to achieve conservation goal(s):
 - support shoreland zoning.
 - Limit any additional development, especially close to existing wetlands/streams (may not be that developable anyway, but it would be good to formally recognize the area).
 - Move transfer station (it is sitting right on top of the aquifer)?
 - Reclaim old gravel pits. Currently grandfathered (not under any requirement to reclaim them) and viewed as “prime” sites for new development (are they really? Erosion problems, hydrology?). Potentially could approach it as a conservation subdivision – develop the front part and either leave the back part to be reclaimed “naturally” or actively reclaimed. Might be worth doing a little research to find out what would be the best approach for conservation.
 - Key easements – identify specific parcels?
 - Work with local landowners.
 - Encourage waterfowl hunting in appropriate areas.
- Input to conservation plan:
 - Public
 - Landowner
 - Town officials
- Potential partnerships and programs: Snow (easement)? Waterfowl hunters/trappers. Rifle club.
- Beneficiaries of goal(s):
- Economic costs/benefits of proposed management: