

Bureau of Parks and Lands

**Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan
5-Year Review and Update #2
with
Plan Amendments**

May 24, 2018

AMENDMENT ADOPTION

In accordance with the procedure outlined in the 2007 Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan for five-year reviews of the Plan and consideration of proposed Plan amendments, the amendments presented on pages 3-4 of this report are hereby adopted.

RECOMMENDED: Douglas Denico DATE: 5-29-2018

Douglas Denico
Director
Maine Forest Service

APPROVED: Walter E. Whitcomb DATE: 7/6/18

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

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1. Summary of the Northern Aroostook Region Review Process and Background to the Proposed Plan Amendments

Summary of Review

The Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan adopted in June of 2007 guides the management of public lands at Deboullie, Eagle Lake, Salmon Brook Lake Bog, and public lots in Caswell, Cyr Plantation, Hamlin, New Canada, New Sweden, St. John Plantation, Westmanland, Winterville Plantation, and common undivided interest in T16 R9. The Bureau is required to report to the Advisory Committee (AC, Appendix A) at five-year intervals on accomplishments and changing conditions that may warrant amendments to the plan. The second Five-Year Review, covering the period of 2013-17, was initiated with an email message to AC members on March 15, 2018.

The message included as an attachment the Five-Year Review table summarizing actions taken to implement the Plan recommendations (Appendix B), and requested comments on the table. The Bureau also requested comments on two proposals that would be the primary focus of discussion: 1) development of one or more camper trailer campsites at Deboullie, to be created by expanding an existing site or sites, and 2) improvement of a half-mile management road to the Alec Brook water-access campsite (one of six water access sites on the lake) to provide vehicle access to the site.

One AC member and another interested party responded with comments on the proposal for vehicle access to the campsite at Eagle Lake. There were no comments on the Deboullie proposal. Appendix C provides a summary of the comments and the Bureau's responses.

Plan Amendments

The proposals at Deboullie and Eagle Lake would represent new development and uses of the existing campsite facilities not called for in the 2007 Plan nor addressed in the first Five-Year Review. Therefore, amendments to the Plan are required to permit the changes. The Bureau prepared Draft Plan amendments that would allow the camper trailer campsite or sites and the ATV access to the shoreline campsite to be developed, as staffing and resources allow, but with a modification to the proposed vehicle access to the Alec Brook campsite: the upgraded half-mile management road into the site would be barricaded near the point where it branches off the existing management road to exclude road vehicles, as well as prior to the campsite, beyond which all vehicles would be excluded. Only ATV's would be able to use the road to approach the campsite. The upgraded road could be opened to other vehicles at some time in the future, but most likely not until after the current Plan expires in 2022. By that time, the Bureau would have the benefit of several season of experience with ATV access into the site.

On April 12, 2018, the AC was sent the Draft Plan amendments and informed of a public meeting at which they would be presented for comment from the general public. Section 2 presents the Plan Amendments.

Public Meeting

A public meeting was held in Ashland on May 9, 2018 to allow the Bureau to hear public comments on the proposed Plan amendments. As noted above, AC members were informed of

the time and place of the meeting in advance. Several AC members and members of the public attended. The meeting agenda, Powerpoint presentation, and sign-in sheet are provided in Appendix D.

The attendees gave verbal comments in support of the Plan amendments; there were no comments in opposition to the campsite proposals or the Plan amendments. The meeting was followed by a two-week period during which written comments could be submitted; no comments were received.

2. Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan Five-Year Review #2 – Plan Amendments

The following amendments to the 2007 Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan are adopted to allow the recreation facility improvements at the Deboullie and Eagle Lake units that have been presented to the Advisory Committee and the public for comment during the Five-Year Review process.

Amendment A: Deboullie Camper Trailer Sites

Amendment proposed for addition to Deboullie Recreation and Visual Management Recommendations (pages 40-41 of Plan):

- Explore options for developing one or more sites to accommodate a camper-trailer at Deboullie, by expanding an existing site or sites. Possible locations include Togue West, Togue East, Crater Outlet, Denny Pond, Perch Pond, Perch Dam and Perch South, Pushineer Dam, Pushineer South and East, Deboullie East and Upper Pond.

Amendment B: Motorized Access to Alec Brook Campsite at Eagle Lake

Amendment proposed for addition to Eagle Lake Recreation and Visual Management Recommendations (page 53 of Plan):

- Make the existing Alec Brook water-access campsite on the north shore of Eagle Lake accessible to ATVs, and potentially -- in the future -- road vehicles. An additional half-mile of a recently improved management road would be upgraded to reach the site. This road segment would be barricaded approximately 500 feet from the management road from which it branches to block road vehicles; these barriers could be removed in the future if the Bureau decides to permit road vehicles to access the campsite. Barriers would also be installed at the other end, near the campsite, to prevent ATVs or other vehicles from accessing the campsite itself or the lakeshore.

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BPL Staff participating in the 5-year review

Vern Labbe -- Northern Region Manager
 Jim Vogel -- Management Plan Coordinator
 Jacob Guimond -- Forester, Northern Region
 Rex Turner -- Outdoor Recreation Planner
 Tom Charles -- Chief of Silviculture
 Nate Webb -- IF&W Wildlife Biologist assigned to the Bureau of Parks and Lands
 Brian Bronson -- ATV Coordinator, Off-Road Vehicle Program
 Joe Higgins -- Snowmobile Coordinator, Off-Road Vehicle Program
 James Caron -- Recreational Trail Coordinator

Other DACF staff: Don Cameron, Maine Natural Areas Program

2017 Northern Aroostook Region Advisory Committee Members

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Nick	Archer	Sportsman's Alliance of Maine
Jen	Brophy	Red River Camps
Richard	Clark	Landowner
Albro	Cowperthwaite	North Maine Woods, Inc.
Andy	Cutko	The Nature Conservancy
Real	Deschaine	ATV Maine
David	Fernald	Friends of Deboullie
Frank	Fournier	Fort Kent Powersports
Sandra	Fournier	Town of Eagle Lake
Donald	Guimond	Town of Fort Kent
Senator Troy D.	Jackson	Maine Senate District 1
Cathy	Johnson	Nat. Res. Council of Maine
Ed	Lugdon	Lugdon's Lodge/Dean's Den
Rep. Danny	Martin	Maine House District 150
Rep. John L.	Martin	Maine House District 151
Rep. David H.	McCrea	Maine House District 148
Rep. Carol A.	McElwee	Maine House District 149
Peter	Nelson	University of Maine-Fort Kent
Felicia D.	O'Clair	Maine Snowmobile Assn
Alain	Ouellette	N. ME Development Commission
Melford	Pelletier	Unaffiliated
Dave	Putnam	University of Maine-Presque Isle
Tenley	Skolfield	Fish River Lodge
Gary	Stevens	Fort Kent Elementary School
Peter	Tabor /	Irving Woodlands, LLC
Gloria B. & Alan D.	Therault	Eagle Lake Sporting Camps

Resource Allocations & Management Recommendations

DEBOULLIE UNIT (Plan pp 38-41)	
[2012 entries: standard font, 2017 entries: <i>bold/italic font</i>]	
Actions taken/Comments:	
SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS	
Special Protection as a Dominant Use.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The designated Ecological Reserve, which primarily includes the land around Deboullie, Whitman, and Gardner Mountains. An Exemplary Natural Community (Northern White Cedar Swamp) on the east end of Mud Pond 	
Special Protection Management Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolve the current Ecological Reserve boundary conflict where it includes developed recreation areas (allocated as General Recreation in the 1987 Management Plan) along the public access road between Togue and Deboullie Ponds. Work with MNAP towards the modification of this boundary. The use of the portage trail between Deboullie and Gardner Ponds by snowmobiles will be allowed to continue as this use pre-existed the designation of the Ecological Reserve, and has minimal impact on the values being protected in this area. Monitor public use and its impacts on the values in the Ecological Reserve, particularly where there is trail access to the talus slope on Deboullie Mountain. Monitor the water levels on Crater Lake for impacts to the surrounding shoreline within the Ecological Reserve resulting from the recently-repaired barrier dam. Timber management near the area identified as an exemplary natural community outside the Reserve area will be planned in consultation with the Maine Natural Areas Program. 	<p>The process of redefining the Reserve boundary with MNAP is underway.</p> <p>Reconfiguration of the Reserve boundary has been finalized with MNAP, reducing the Reserve area by 336 acres.</p> <p>Use continues to be light – no known issues. No recent activity during March 2012 site visit.</p> <p>Slight increase in use 2013-17.</p> <p>No evidence of any impact.</p> <p>Narrow band of mortality along edge adjacent to dam from the increase in water levels. No impact on Crater Pond shoreline.</p> <p>MNAP reviewed prescriptions and provided input to staff.</p>
FISHERIES & WILDLIFE AREAS	
Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The shorelines (riparian zones) of water bodies, primary and secondary streams, and wetlands that are not already allocated for Special Protection. Within Special Protection areas, wildlife riparian management on shorelines will be a secondary use. The softwood areas along or near Rocky and Fifth Pelletier Brooks that are not within the Ecological Reserve. 	
Wildlife Management Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement forest management practices that provide a greater 	

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<p>diversity of age classes and species for wildlife habitat purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage the softwood component near Fifth Pelletier and Rocky Brooks that are not within the Ecological Reserve to enhance their potential as deer wintering areas. Include this area in the Division's Cooperative Deeryard Agreement with Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Where the softwood cover extends into the Reserve on Rocky Brook, the area will continue to be monitored for any wintering activity. Work with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to enhance habitat for the blueback and wild brook trout populations. Work with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Maine Natural Areas Program on the management and maintenance of dams at Pushineer, Crater, and Perch Ponds. Monitor the water levels on Crater Lake for impacts to the surrounding shoreline within the Ecological Reserve resulting from the recently-repaired barrier dam. 	<p>Timber management near 5th Pelletier Lake Brook is ongoing, No activity near Rocky Brook. No wintering deer activity in the last 5 years (actually last 31 years as documented by staff), but some activity last fall near 5th Pelletier Lake Brook.</p> <p>Timber management this cycle near Rocky Brook; no deer activity noted.</p> <p>IF&W provided input on the bridge over Red River (outlet of Pushineer Pond), boat launch improvements and Black Pond barrier.</p> <p>With IF&W replaced Perch dam in 2007, Crater Outlet dam (built in 2006) improvements to stop leakage in 2011. New road and bridge built on Pushineer dam and over outlet in 2008.</p> <p>Some edge mortality around Crater Outlet but no changes to Crater Pond shoreline.</p>
<p>RECREATION & VISUAL AREAS</p> <p>Recreation Management Allocations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The land around Deboullie, Whitman, and Gardner Mountains will be allocated as a Non-mechanized Backcountry Recreation Area, which will be managed as a secondary use with respect to the Ecological Reserve. The Deboullie public access road will be allocated as Developed Class I Recreation Areas. Drive-to public use areas along the Deboullie public access road from the west side of Togue Pond to Deboullie Pond will be allocated as Developed Class I Recreation Areas. Adjoining areas needed to provide site improvements to these drive-to areas will also be allocated as Develop Class I Recreation Areas. The Maine Natural Areas Program will assist in locating these areas where they abut the Ecological Reserve. The shorelines of ponds not within Special Protection and Backcountry areas will be allocated as Remote Recreation. This will be a secondary allocation where Wildlife Management is the dominant allocation. Public use road corridors, including the road into Fifth Pelletier Brook Lake and all public use areas will be allocated as Visual Class I areas (foreground views). The lower elevation areas north of Black Mountain and south of Togue Pond will be managed as Visual Class II areas. <p>Recreation and Visual Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The existing use of the portage trail by snowmobiles within the Backcountry 	
	<p>As noted above under Special Protection Management Recommendations, different boundary options are being discussed with MNAP.</p> <p>As noted above, reconfiguration of the Reserve boundary has been finalized with MNAP; the 336 acres removed from the Reserve were reallocated to Developed Recreation Class I.</p>
	<p>No known issues.</p>

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<p>area between Deboullie and Gardner Ponds will be allowed to continue (see page 19 of the <i>Integrated Resource Policy</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a three-mile section of new hiking trail that connects Deboullie and Black Mountains, providing a loop alternative to the Deboullie Mountain trail. 	<p>The Black Mountain trail loop was completed in 2008 by MCC and staff.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make repairs to correct erosion and runoff problems on the Deboullie Mountain trail. Remove the old fire warden's camp and improve the tower on Deboullie Mountain to make it safe and usable for hikers. Provide a picnic shelter at the site of the old camp. 	<p>Constructed Deboullie/Black Mtn. Trailhead parking in 2011. A Black Pond loop trail is planned for the next 5 years. Completed by MCC and staff 2007-2009; projects consisted of reroutes, water bars, stone steps, stone spillways, scenic vistas. Staff constructed picnic table. No action on camp – local group requested permission to rehab camp for historical reasons and for use as a shelter. Need to review this request.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct ongoing/future environmental problems within public use areas. Reconfigure the Togue Pond West campsite area to better delineate the camping and boat access areas on the site. 	<p>Camp was rehabbed in 2015-16 by staff, assisted by MFS helicopter. Repairs to the tower are planned for the next 5 years. Ongoing – work completed at Deboullie, Pushineer and Upper Ponds. Completed – reduced from 2 campsites to 1 at the west end with boat access on the east end. Also used by camper trailers.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace the little-used tent platforms on the walk-to sites at Togue and Denny Ponds with Adirondack shelters. Explore the feasibility of using these structures in other areas. 	<p>Togue Pt. Adirondack built in 2009, Denny S. Adirondack built in 2007 and Gardner Adirondack built in 2010. Gardner Pt. Adirondack built in 2012.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace some or all of the remaining 12 "wet willie" backcountry toilets with pit privies. Consider replacing pit privies at the heavier used campsites with vault-type toilets. 	<p>Constructed Denny Pond Trailhead parking in 2013. All but 5 wet willies replaced – soil tests completed. Vault toilet installed at Deboullie E. and vault toilet installed at Perch group site in 2011.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make parking improvements to the Togue Pond boat launch site. Formally designate the group use campsite on Perch Pond. 	<p>Replaced 4 privies in 2013; vault toilets installed at Pushineer dam and Crater Pond outlet trailhead in 2016. Parking area completed in 2007. Completed – table shelter built in 2007.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formally designate the public access road system as a connector snowmobile route to the ITS system. Reevaluate the fire authorized sites in remote locations to determine if they should be designated as "permit only" sites. 	<p>Adirondack shelter built at Perch Pond in 2014. An ADA campsite is planned for Perch Pond in the next 5 years. Served as main trail route in 2012 – varies from year to year depending on which roads are plowed on abutter. This is a year-to-year decision based on fire danger.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barricade the road to Black Pond from the east at a location that would result in the least disturbance to the Ecological Reserve, in consultation with the Maine Natural Areas Program, LURC, and users of the pond. Discontinue 	<p>Barricade, water bars and parking/tumaround completed in 2007. Roadbed from barricade to shoreline seeded and signage completed. Barricade was breached the 1st year, but users now complying. More</p>

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<p>and remove the roadbed from the barricade to the shoreline. Develop a turnaround, parking, and campsite with appropriate signage in conjunction with this use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change the campsite at the foot of Deboullie Mountain next to the hiking trail to a day-use picnic site. • Look for potential scenic vistas along the public access roads at the west end of Togue Pond, near Perch Pond, and around Pushineer Dam where there are views to the ponds and mountains within the Backcountry Recreation Area. 	<p>clean-up of the old dump completed. Work remains to be done on improving or reconfiguring campsites.</p> <p>Completed. Two new campsites built at Perch Dam in 2007 to replace this site and one at Togue W.</p> <p>Ongoing – road near Perch Pond widened to provide view of Whitman Mountain and brushing along road to provide view of ponds.</p>
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TIMBER MANAGEMENT AREAS

<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the area not allocated as an Ecological Reserve will be allocated for Timber Management as a dominant or secondary use 	<p>Harvesting in 2007-2011 yielded 16,000 cords and gradually improving markets allowed 55% of this to be hardwood pulp. This will result in meeting the goal, as all species can be more fully treated.</p>
<p>Timber Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the primary goal of managing the forest for a wider diversity of age classes and species. • Identify and favor disease resistant beech as a means to address the increasing mortality within these stands. • Provide additional view sheds from the public access roads near Togue, Perch, and Pelletier Ponds. • Work in consultation with the Maine Natural Areas Program where harvesting may occur near the White Cedar Swamp Natural Community on the east end of Mud Pond. 	<p>Harvesting in 2012-2016 yielded 42,000 cords and despite this being more than twice the volume of the previous five years, markets allowed 56% of this to be hardwood pulp, a very slight increase from the 2007-2011 percentage. This will result in meeting the goal, as all species can be more fully treated.</p> <p>Beech mortality continues, some of it unfortunately on trees resistant to beech bark disease.</p> <p>Living smooth barked specimens still are being retained.</p> <p>Road widened near Perch Pond to provide view of Whitman Mountain.</p> <p>Northern Region is in the process of identifying potential view sheds with room for parking.</p> <p>No harvesting occurred in this area during 2007-2011.</p> <p>No harvesting occurred in this area during 2012-2016.</p>

TRANSPORTATION & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

<p>Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the Deboullie Road (Red River Road) to the St. Francis Road as the primary access road system on the Unit. 	<p>The 10 miles from the St. Francis Rd. to the east town line is maintained annually. The Red River Rd. from the east town line to the Hewes Brook Rd. on the abutter was graded once. A new contract for continued maintenance has been signed.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a travel surface over the Pushineer Pond dam and discontinue the fording of the Red River. Maintain water levels at the dam site in a manner acceptable to Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Planning and construction will be done in consultation with DIF&W, the Maine Natural Areas Program, and the Land Use Regulation Commission. Should this option prove not be feasible, other options to fording the river will be explored. • Upon completion of the dam upgrade, repair the road between Pushineer Pond and Deboullie Pond to correct environmental issues. • Summer management roads constructed for timber harvesting activities may be left open for summer use; winter roads developed for that purpose will be discontinued once harvesting is completed. • Improvements to the Fifth Pelletier Brook Lake Road, for both timber and recreation management purposes, will be made as funds become available. 	<p>Red River Road is graded periodically; a 5 year maintenance contract was signed in 2017.</p> <p>The ford was discontinued in 2008 when a new access road was constructed to Pushineer dam, across the dam and a bridge constructed over the outlet/sluiceway of the dam. Per consultation, no changes to water levels made. The campsite at Pushineer Dam was reconfigured and the boat launch discontinued. The boat launch at Pushineer E. was improved and separated from campsite.</p> <p>Completed in 2009.</p> <p>Ongoing as planned.</p> <p>To date, 4 miles of new summer road constructed, including a new crossing on 5th Pelletier Lake Brook.</p> <p>A new summer road was constructed on the west side in 2017.</p>
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EAGLE LAKE UNIT (Plan pp 52-54)

Actions taken/Comments:
 [2012 entries: standard font, 2017 entries: bold italic font]

SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS

<p>Special Protection as a Dominant Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 83-acre Parker Bog parcel, part of the Cross Lake Fen • The peat bog between Eagle and Square Lakes • The 15-acre old growth stand northeast of Blake Lake <p>Special Protection Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvests near areas identified as having unique or important natural community types will be planned in consultation with the Maine Natural Areas Program. • Further exploration of cedar seepage areas will be conducted to determine if they have rare plant species and pockets of mature hardwoods. 	<p>MNAP reviewed prescriptions and provided input to staff.</p> <p>No rare plants identified to date.</p>
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FISHERIES & WILDLIFE AREAS

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The shorelines (riparian zones) of water bodies, primary and secondary streams, and wetlands. • Softwood stands with potential for use as a deer wintering area, including the area along the lower end of the Thorofare, and the Bear, Halfway, Alec, Miller, and the Three Brooks areas. 	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The open fields on the Clover Hill Lodge property and on T16 R6. 	<p>Timber management in stands dominated by aspen and harvest in mixed wood stand aimed at converting back to softwood.</p>
<p>Wildlife Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to manage forest stands for a diversity of age classes and species that also supports greater habitat diversity and populations of wildlife. Continue active management of the softwood stands near the Thorofare and at Bear, Halfway, Alec, Miller, and Three Brooks to enhance their suitability as potential deer wintering areas. Include these areas in the Division's Cooperative Deeryard Agreement with Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Monitor the beaver dam activity on the Unit and its impacts on wildlife habitat in general. Work with Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to better determine the impact of this activity on smelt spawning habitat. Manage the former agricultural lands on the Clover Hill Lodge parcel as open fields. Continue maintenance of the open field on the T16 R6 parcel. 	<p>Only activity was near Alec Brook where harvest in mixed wood stand aimed at converting back to softwood.</p> <p>Harvest activity near Halfway Brook in 2015-17, and planned for near Miller Brook in 2018.</p> <p>Beaver activity has increased in this 5-year period. Except where main roads were flooded, no action taken.</p> <p>The fields are mowed by the Division. In some spots the native grasses are disappearing, may require more aggressive approach.</p>

RECREATION & VISUAL AREAS

<p>Recreation and Visual Management Areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The shorelines of Eagle, Blake, and Square Lakes, and the Thorofare will be allocated for Remote Recreation as a secondary use. The background views as seen from Eagle, Blake, and Square Lakes and the Thorofare will be allocated as Visual Class II areas. The 25 miles of "shared use road" will be allocated as Visual Class I areas. 	
<p>Recreation & Visual Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to manage Blake Lake for its remote character by keeping road access and the campsite informal (no active maintenance). Explore the feasibility of developing a drive-to campsite on the east end of Eagle Lake off the Square Lake Road including its use as a primitive boat launch site and access point for snowmobiles. Explore the feasibility of developing a trailered boat access site on Square Lake at Rocky Point. If demand warrants, develop a water access campsite on Rocky Point on the Square Lake parcel. Manage the 25 miles of Shared Use Roads for general snowmobile and ATV trail use, in recognition of its importance in providing connections to regional trail systems. Explore the feasibility of providing cross country ski and dog sled trails throughout the Unit. Work with the Boating Facilities program in providing adequate space for overnight parking for those camping on the Unit. 	<p>The access road to Blake lake continues to deteriorate. As a result boat storage has increased.</p> <p>A site was identified but investment not warranted at this time. The trail continues to be used by ice fishermen and snowmobilers.</p> <p>Not feasible due to poorly drained soils and high road costs.</p> <p>On list for future development.</p> <p>Ongoing – the Clover Hill Rd. has seen increased use by "walkers" and mountain bikers.</p> <p>Discussions have occurred with local interests but no development.</p> <p>Limited use by 2 mushers.</p> <p>To date overnight parking at the public boat launch parking area in the Town of Eagle Lake has occurred without known issues.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to manage the visual resources as seen from the lakes in conjunction with timber management activities and improvements to recreational use areas. Other recreation improvements: 	<p>Harvest activity has not impacted visual resources. Campsite activity has consisted of routine maintenance. Most campsite use continues to be day use, except during spring fishing.</p> <p>Constructed new table shelter at Mad Rock in 2014; rebuilt table shelter at Camp Cozy in 2015; replaced 3 outhouses (Oak Pt., Camp Cozy, Mad Rock) in 2015-16.</p>
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TIMBER MANAGEMENT AREAS

<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use. Most of the Unit will be allocated as Timber Dominant.</p> <p>Timber Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the primary goal of managing the forest for a wider diversity of age classes and species. Identify and favor resistant beech stands as a means to address the increasing mortality of beech throughout the Unit. Implement timber stand improvements (TSI) when time and budgets allow. Focus on harvesting low quality hardwoods when markets are favorable. 	<p>Harvests during 2007-2011 produced 18,800 cords of all species, as management continues to diversify age/species of the forest.</p> <p>Harvests during 2012-2016 produced 23,000 cords of all species, as management continues to diversify age/species of the forest. This unit has the highest proportion of fir of any on BPL, with that species being targeted.</p> <p>Beech mortality continues, some of it unfortunately on trees resistant to beech bark disease.</p> <p>No TSI was performed during 2007-2011.</p> <p>350+/- acres were precommercially thinned in 2016.</p> <p>43% of the harvest volume was hardwood pulp, which helped improve hardwood quality while increasing the softwood component.</p> <p>51% of the harvest volume was hardwood pulp, which helped improve hardwood quality while increasing the softwood component.</p> <p>Harvesting in cedar stands is done only in winter.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With respect to the ecological sensitivity within cedar stands, these areas will be managed in winter only, and in consultation with the Maine Natural Areas Program. Where harvesting is planned near areas identified as having important natural communities, MNAP will be consulted. 	

TRANSPORTATION & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

<p>Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interior roads will be improved and maintained as needed for management access, and may remain unmaintained at other times. The Square Lake Road, where it crosses the southeast corner of the Unit, will be managed as a public use road. The Clover Hill Lodge Road will be managed under a road maintenance contract. Other roads may be managed under similar contracts. 	<p>Ongoing as planned.</p> <p>Road improvements completed and road graded annually.</p> <p>Road maintained under 5-year road maintenance contract. New contract bid in 2012. New contract in 2017.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to work with the owner of Eagle Lake Camps regarding the current and future need for the gate and roaded access to the sporting camp facility. 	<p>A single gate, located +/- 3 miles from the sporting camp lease provides access to the area. The gate can be closed only with Division approval to protect the road and natural resources (usually during mud season and for fire protection).</p>
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SALMON BROOK LAKE BOG (Plan pp 61-62)

Actions taken/Comments:

2012 entries, standard font, 2017 entries: *bold/italic font*

SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS

<p><i>Special Protection as a Dominant Use</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The designated Ecological Reserve <p><i>Special Protection Management Recommendations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor beaver activity in the Unit for its impact (positive or negative) on the values being protected within the Ecological Reserve. Make adjustments to the Ecological Reserve boundaries, where necessary, to include important ecological areas that may have not been included in the 2000 designation. Work with local residents, TNC, and MNAP towards developing trail access to a viewing area within the interior of the Unit. 	<p>Beaver activity on the outlet dam has maintained water levels in Salmon Brook Lake.</p> <p>Discussions have occurred on possible changes but no decisions made. The wildlife management area on the east should be expanded where it drains away from the ER.</p> <p>In 2008 a 0.25 mile multi-use trail was constructed by staff and local volunteers, including a 400' boardwalk, a 100' boardwalk, a picnic table and table shelter, and a hand-carry boat launch. In 2009 MCC and staff built 1.0 mile hiking trail. In 2011 MCC and staff constructed a boardwalk and observation platform on the west shore of the lake. Trailhead parking area on Tangle Ridge Rd completed in 2012.</p>
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FISHERIES & WILDLIFE AREAS

<p><i>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The shorelines (riparian zones) of water bodies, primary and secondary streams, and wetlands outside the Ecological Reserve will be allocated as Wildlife Riparian Areas. The upland acres outside the Ecological Reserve will be allocated as a Wildlife Dominant Area. <p><i>Wildlife Management Recommendations</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the beaver activity on the Unit for its impact (positive or negative) to wildlife habitat in general. Actively manage the areas outside the Ecological Reserve to improve wildlife habitat, utilizing timber management as appropriate to accomplish this goal. Work with local residents, The Nature Conservancy, and the Maine Natural Areas Program in providing a hand carry boat site on the outlet or inlet streams for fishing purposes. 	<p>Beaver activity on the increase.</p> <p>No timber management activity – road upgrade started late fall 2011 off the Tupper Rd. Completed in 2008.</p>
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RECREATION & VISUAL AREAS

APPENDIX B.

<p>Recreation and Visual Management Areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas along public use roads and the Bangor and Aroostook Trail corridor will be allocated as Visual Class I areas. 	
<p>Recreation & Visual Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with local residents, The Nature Conservancy, and the Maine Natural Areas Program towards providing recreational trail access to the interior portions of the Unit. 	<p>Multi-use trail completed in 2008; hiking trail completed in 2009; and observation platform completed in 2011. Hiking trail from new trailhead to existing trail completed in 2012. Outhouse installed in 2013.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a trail-side picnic shelter along the Bangor and Aroostook Trail in partnership with the Off-road Vehicle Program and local trail clubs, should a trail to interior portions of the Unit be developed. 	<p>The picnic table shelter was constructed on a small knoll overlooking the lake at the end of the multi-use trail.</p>

TIMBER MANAGEMENT AREAS

<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <p>No Timber Dominant acres will be allocated on the Unit. Timber management on the acres outside the Ecological Reserve will be allocated as secondary use with respect to its Wildlife Dominant designation.</p>	
<p>Timber Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage the forest stands near the margins of the Unit with a focus on enhancing wildlife habitat and restoring the natural forest environment. • Determine the feasibility of developing a “demonstration forest” for educational purposes. 	<p>No timber harvests have yet been prescribed. Will be prescribed in next 5 year period.</p> <p>Two areas have been identified.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with The Nature Conservancy and the Maine Natural Areas Program in any harvest planning on the Unit. Provide local residents with an opportunity to comment on these plans once they are available. 	<p>No timber harvests have yet been prescribed.</p>

TRANSPORTATION & ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

<p>Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public access roads will be developed on any portion of the Unit. 	<p>None developed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolve any ownership discrepancies in the northwest corner of the Unit. 	<p>A section of the property line in the NW corner was surveyed, an old shed was removed and the site reclaimed. The house trailer issue has not been resolved. Now that most of the property lines have been maintained, other minor encroachment issues have surfaced.</p>

SMALLER PUBLIC LOTS (Plan pp 63-72)

Actions taken/Comments:
[2012 entries: standard font, 2017 entries: bold italic font]

CASWELL PUBLIC LOT

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The shoreline of Mud Pond and the stream sides of Boney Brook will be allocated as Wildlife Riparian Areas. 	
<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p>	

APPENDIX B.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The remainder of the Caswell Public Lot will be allocated as Timber Dominant, with the exception of the southwest corner of the lot in the area near the exemplary Patterned Fen. 	
<p>Timber Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in consultation with the Maine Natural Areas Program where harvesting may occur near exemplary natural communities identified by the Maine Natural Areas Program. 	<p>No timber harvests occurred in 2007-2011 and none are expected during 2012-2017.</p> <p>No timber harvests occurred in 2012-2016.</p>

CYR PUBLIC LOT

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The stream sides of Violette and Picard Brooks will be allocated as Wildlife Riparian Areas. 	
<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The remainder of the Cyr Public Lot will be allocated as Timber Dominant, with the exception of the 5-acre stand of old growth spruce that is no longer being managed for timber. 	
<p>Timber Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage the timber to minimize conflicts with motorized trail uses and to enhance the aesthetic values along these trails. 	<p>No timber harvests occurred in 2007-2011 other than individual firewood permits, and none other than firewood are expected during 2012-2017.</p> <p>87 cords were harvested in 2015. This lot will be due for examination during the period 2017-2021. Road construction/upgrades planned for next 5 year period.</p> <p>MNAP reviewed prescriptions and provided input to staff.</p>
<p>Mgt Summary Recommendation, p 97</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with the Maine Natural Areas Program in harvest planning in the area around the Northern White Cedar Swamp. 	

HAMLIN PUBLIC LOT

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The stream sides of Martin Brook and associated branches will be allocated as Wildlife Riparian Areas. 	
<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The remainder of the Hamlin Public Lot will be allocated as Timber Dominant, with the exception of the open wetland areas. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Management Recommendations 	<p>Timber harvest planned 2012-2017.</p> <p>No timber harvest occurred in 2012-2016.</p>

NEW CANADA PUBLIC LOT

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The stream sides of Dimock Brook (and tributary) will be allocated as a Wildlife Riparian Area. 	
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APPENDIX B.

<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The remainder of the New Canada Public Lot will be allocated as Timber Dominant. 	<p>No timber harvests occurred in 2007-2011 other than individual firewood permits, and none other than firewood are expected during 2012-2017.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Management Recommendations 	<p>Harvesting in 2015 produced 1,400 cords, about two-thirds hardwoods, nearly all pulpwood.</p>

NEW SWEDEN PUBLIC LOTS

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The shoreline of the Little Madawaska River and Bearsley Brook (both on the River lot) will be allocated as Wildlife Riparian Areas. The two-acre area around the apple orchard on the West lot will be allocated as a Wildlife Management Area. 	
<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The remainder of the River and West lots will be allocated as Timber Dominant. 	
<p>Timber Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage the timber to minimize conflicts with uses along the Bangor Aroostook Trail and to enhance the aesthetic values along this trail. 	<p>No timber harvests occurred in 2007-2011. Timber harvest planned 2012-2017.</p> <p>A 2012 harvest on the west lot yielded 274 cords, mainly spruce-fir and cedar.</p>

ST. JOHN PLANTATION PUBLIC LOTS

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The stream shore of Black Brook will be managed as a Wildlife Riparian Area. 	<p>The lease with the Black Lake Snowmobile Club has been transferred to Can-Am Sled Dog Organization.</p>
<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The remainder of the North and South lots will be allocated Timber Dominant. 	<p>No timber harvests occurred in 2007-2011, other than individual firewood permits. An existing prescription may be implemented on the north lot in the 2012-2017 period.</p>
<p>Timber Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage the timber on the South lot to minimize conflicts with motorized trail uses and to enhance the aesthetic values along these trails. 	<p>A small harvest on the south lot in 2015 produced 200 cords, nearly all hardwood pulpwood (right-of-way wood). Harvesting on the southern half of the south lot got under way in autumn of 2017, with plans to treat about 40% of the lot.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with the Maine Natural Areas Program in planning harvests near the area that may provide habitat for the giant rattlesnake-plantain orchid. 	

T17 R14 (SINCLAIR) PUBLIC LOT

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The shoreline of Mud Lake will be allocated as a Wildlife Riparian Area. <p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p>	
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APPENDIX B.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The remainder of the T17 R4 lot will be allocated as Timber Dominant. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Management Recommendations 	<p>Harvest in 2008 produced 1,360 cords, about evenly split between hardwoods and softwoods.</p>
	<p><i>Winter-only harvesting in 2016 produced 885 cords, 85% aspen pulpwood. Frozen ground harvesting in early 2017 yielded another 1,115 cords, nearly half cedar logs/shingle stock, the rest split between spruce-fir logs and hardwood pulpwood.</i></p>

WESTMANLAND PUBLIC LOT

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A small section of McClusky Brook, where it crosses the parcel, will be managed as a Wildlife Riparian Area. 	
<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The remainder of the Westmanland lot will be allocated as Timber Dominant. 	
<p>Timber Management Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should a nature trail be developed, manage the timber to minimize conflicts with this use and to enhance the aesthetic value along this trail. 	<p>Harvest in 2007-08 produced 1,200 cords, about evenly split between hardwoods and softwoods. Another 190 cords of firewood was cut by individual permittees. A small area remains to be harvested 2012-2017.</p> <p><i>A small harvest in 2015 produced 460 cords, split 40/60 between hardwoods and softwoods.</i></p>

WINTERVILLE PUBLIC LOT

<p>Wildlife Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The shorelines of St. Froid Lake and the Birch River will be allocated as Wildlife Riparian Areas. 	
<p>Timber Management as a Dominant Use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The remainder of the Winterville lot will be allocated as Timber Dominant. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Management Recommendations 	<p>Harvest in 2011 produced 800 cords, about evenly split between hardwoods and softwoods. Another 93 cords of firewood was cut by individual permittees.</p> <p><i>Harvest in 2016 produced 2,260 cords, 63% hardwoods, of which 90% was pulpwood as most of the quality hardwoods were retained.</i></p>

Monitoring and Evaluation (Plan pages 73-75)

<p>Actions taken/Comments: [2012 entries: standard font, 2017 entries: <i>bold italic font</i>]</p>	
<p>Implementation of Plan Recommendations Within 2 years of plan adoption, develop a process for implementing, accomplishing, and tracking the management recommendations in the Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a framework of recommendations with priority levels assigned and targeted timeframes established by priority level. This framework will be utilized to determine work priorities and budgets on an annual basis. • Document annually progress in implementing the recommendations, plans for the coming year, and adjustments to the target timeframes as needed. 	<p>The Division implements plan recommendations through the process of calendar year planning, during which it schedules and budgets for projects for the coming year. Priorities are established within each Public Lands administrative region based on urgency of need (e.g., public safety, environmental impact); availability of resources (e.g., funds, staff, equipment, contractors); and opportunities available at the time (e.g., combining projects for efficiency and cost-saving, favorable weather). Yearly accomplishments are reported by administrative region in an annual report to the Legislature, which is posted on the Division's website.</p>
<p>Recreation – Public Use Public use data for the Deboullie Unit will continue to be collected at the North Maine Woods gates.</p>	<p>North Maine Woods gate receipts continue to be a primary source of public use data.</p>
<p>Recreation – Use Impacts In addition to gathering data on use, the Division will monitor use to determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether improvements to existing facilities or additional facilities might be needed and compatible with the vision for the Unit; • whether additional measures are needed to ensure that recreational users have a high quality experience (which could be affected by the numbers of users, and interactions among users with conflicting interests); • whether use is adversely affecting sensitive natural resources or the ecology of the area; • whether measures are needed to address unforeseen safety issues; • whether changing recreational uses and demands present the need or opportunity for adjustments to existing facilities and management; and • whether any changes are needed in the management of recreation in relation to other management objectives, including protection or enhancement of wildlife habitat and forest management. 	<p>As a practical matter, most monitoring of public use occurs as observations made by seasonal recreation staff in the course of their routine duties; or as a result of conditions reported or requests made by visitors and others to field staff or to Division regional and central offices. The Division is experimenting with a number of monitoring tools to supplement these observations and reports, including trail counters and visitor surveys.</p>
<p>Wildlife (1) Blueback and wild brook trout: The Division will cooperate with MDIFW towards the preservation and enhancement of the blueback and wild brook</p>	<p>The Division and DIFW constructed two barrier dams at Deboullie to keep undesirable fish from reaching managed ponds: on the outlets</p>

APPENDIX B.

<p>trout populations.</p> <p>(2) Bicknell's thrush: The Division will establish and run a Bicknell's thrush monitoring survey route annually on the Deboullie Unit, in cooperation with the Vermont Institute of Natural Science.</p>	<p>of Crater Pond and Perch Pond, as recommended by the DIFW regional fisheries biologist. The Division also removed the vehicle ford on the Red River, eliminating a constant source of sediment input to this trout stream.</p> <p>The Division will work with the Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) to determine the feasibility of a survey route at Deboullie.</p>
<p>Game Species: The Division cooperates with MDIFW monitoring of game species on the unit, including deer, moose, grouse, and black bear.</p>	<p>DIFW tracks deer, moose and bear harvests through harvest registrations, which are compiled and reported annually from registration station across the state. DIFW does not survey ruffed grouse populations. BP&L runs drumming surveys where they have conducted grouse patch management.</p> <p><i>In 2017, a carnivore research project set up baited cameras at Deboullie and Eagle Lake (as well as at sites on commercial forestland). The study was conducted by a U. Maine graduate student working in collaboration with DIFW and the Cooperative Forest Research Unit.</i></p>
<p>Significant Wildlife Habitat: The Division will identify and map significant wildlife habitat such as vernal pools and den trees in the process of developing its detailed forest management prescriptions. The boundaries of any sensitive natural communities will also be delineated on the ground at this time. Any significant natural areas or wildlife habitat will then be subject to appropriate protections.</p>	<p>Ongoing. Process continues as described.</p>
<p>Ecological Reserves* The Maine Natural Areas Program conducted natural resource inventories on the Deboullie and Salmon Brook Lake Bog ERs in 2005 as part of the management planning process. MNAP is also undertaking long term monitoring of Ecological Reserves to track changes within the Reserves and to compare these areas to other areas under different management regimes. Baseline data for this purpose has been collected. These areas will be re-inventoried periodically to update this information.</p>	<p>MNAP's re-inventory of Salmon Brook Lake Bog ER is tentatively scheduled for 2013.</p> <p><i>The Deboullie and Salmon Brook Lake Bog ERs were both resampled by MNAP in 2014. In addition, U. Maine Fort Kent conducted a forest monitoring study at the Deboullie ER in 2017.</i></p>
<p>*An inventory interval, 10 to 15 years, will be recommended by the Ecological Reserve Scientific Advisory Committee.</p>	

APPENDIX B.

<p>Timber Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescriptions are prepared by professional foresters according to Division policies, with input from staff specialists, and peer-reviewed prior to approval. • Timber sales are prepared and laid out with field staff looking at most acres prior to harvest and with individual tree marking done on the majority of harvest acres. • Field staff are on-site to check on harvest practice and progress frequently; senior staff visit sites less frequently to obtain overall picture of what is taking place in the forest. • After harvest is completed, roads, trails, and water crossings are put to bed as appropriate, and any changes in stand type are recorded to update the Division's GIS system can be updated. 	<p>Process continues as described.</p>
<p>The Division is currently developing a post-harvest monitoring plan to assist forest managers in assessing harvest outcomes on all managed lands. The monitoring plan will also address water quality and Best Management Practices (BMPs) utilized during harvest activities.</p>	<p>Development of a current post-harvest monitoring plan is dependent on an update of sustainable harvest levels based on a full timber inventory completed in 2011. Preliminary results of that inventory show a significant increase in the volume of merchantable timber, which along with recent harvests at or near the annual allowable cut, require that yield curves be recalculated using the greater stocking levels. This recalculation is under way.</p> <p>Modeling currently under contract will produce an updated growth estimate based on inventory measurements taken in autumn of 2016. Results of that inventory show a slight increase in the volume of merchantable timber, which along with recent harvests at or near the annual allowable cut, require that yield curves be recalculated using the greater stocking levels.</p>
<p>Third party monitoring is done mainly through the forest certification programs of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). A full FSC audit was completed for all Division lands in 2006, including the Seboomook Unit.</p>	<p>In 2011, the Division had a full recertification audit under the FSC program and an annual surveillance audit under SFI. Auditors looked at harvest areas on four or five separate tracts in each of the three Lands administrative regions. A total of eight corrective action requests are now being addressed. Auditors were especially complimentary toward the condition of recently harvested stands, the High Conservation Value Forests, and recreation management.</p> <p>In Oct. 2016, the Bureau had annual surveillance audit under both the FSC and SFI programs. The auditors visited 16 separate sites on six different townships in the Northern Region, viewing timber harvests, roadbuilding in challenging terrain, wildlife management practices, and recreation management. They particularly note the thinning of immature</p>

stands and diversity of wildlife habitat.

New Issues or Circumstances Not Addressed in the Plan that May Warrant Committee Discussion or Action:

Deboullie Unit – Camper Trailer Campsite(s)

The Bureau has received requests to add or enlarge drive-to campsites to provide sites of sufficient size for camper trailers (this desire has been voiced for a number of years and is addressed on page 34 of the Plan). The Bureau would now like to explore options for developing one or more sites for a camper-trailer by expanding an existing campsite or sites. Potential locations include Togue West, Togue East, Crater Outlet, Denny Pond, Perch Pond, Perch Dam and Perch South, Pushineer Dam, Pushineer South and East, Deboullie East and Upper Pond.

Eagle Lake Unit – Drive-to Access and Campsite on the North Shore of the Lake

There is interest from various user groups in adding drive-to day use and campsites, accessible by vehicle and ATV, on the north shore of Eagle Lake. There are currently five water access campsites on the north shore, one on the south shore, and one on the Thorofare, but none accessible to motorized vehicles. The Bureau would now like to explore making the existing Alec Brook water-access campsite accessible to on-road vehicles and ATVs, by improving an old road to the site. An additional half mile of road would need to be improved at the south end of a recently improved management road. Barriers would be installed to prevent ATV's from accessing the lakeshore.

APPENDIX C

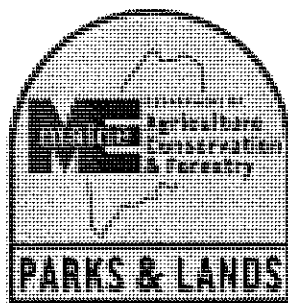
Summary of Advisory Committee and Other Comments and Parks and Lands Responses on the Northern Aroostook Management Plan 5-Year Review for 2017 Comment Period March 16 - 30, 2018 (Does not include typographical, grammatical, or formatting comments)	
Comment	Response
From: Cathy Johnson, Natural Resource Council of Maine	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NRCM has strong concerns about the proposed drive-to campsite on Eagle Lake. The area is currently designated and managed for remote recreation and the plan notes that it is "semi-remote" (p.47). The water access sites in this part of Eagle Lake are "regularly used throughout the summer season" (p. 47). "Regular use of most water-access campsites suggests demand for this type of experience" (p. 48). That demand is likely to grow with the proposed major residential development on Square and Cross Lakes currently being reviewed by LUPC. If that proposed development is approved, remote areas of Square and Cross Lakes will lose their remote character and there will likely be additional demand for and use of Eagle Lake. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campsites accessible by management and/public road are within the guidelines provided in the IRP for remote recreation allocated areas, and are present at several Public Lands units. Further, the Bureau does not consider providing vehicle access to one of the six existing boat-in sites to be inconsistent with the overall remote character of the shoreline or the Eagle Lake unit as a whole. It should also be noted that the Eagle Lake campsites receive high levels of use by boaters during the summer months, generally for day use rather than camping. Bureau staff have documented a dozen or more motorized boats congregated at or near some campsites, placing perhaps several dozen visitors in the area at one time. It is not uncommon for these boaters to have radios, etc. with them at these "party spots." Thus, it is not our expectation that the proposed new road access would substantially impact the type of experience available at the Alec Brook campsite. The Bureau cannot predict the long-term effect of the concept plan currently under review for the area east of Eagle Lake (in which the Bureau has been taking part), but acknowledges that there may be some impact on use of Eagle Lake. However, neither the concept plan nor the Bureau's plans include any additional road or boat access to the Eagle Lake Unit other than the upgraded road to the Alec Brook campsite, which is reachable only by driving several additional miles of management roads. The primary access point to the lake will remain the boat ramp at the west end. Therefore, it is not our expectation that use of the lake would substantially increase.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turning this site into a vehicle accessible site will likely result in degradation of the semi-remote character of the area as vehicle accessible sites tend to have a higher impact because people who drive in tend to bring radios, electric lights, and other devices that are generally not brought in by campers in semi-remote areas accessible only by water. • In addition, making this a vehicle accessible site would essentially turn what is now a shared use land management road maintained principally for timber harvesting (p. 48) into a "public access road" further altering the semi-remote character of the area. It is also likely that a vehicle accessible campsite would become an informal new (hand carry) boat launch further diminishing the remote character of this arm of the lake. • Finally, the plan notes that "Several areas show potential for deer winter cover, including areas along Bear, Halfway, Alec, and Miller Brooks" (p. 46). Encouraging use of the road and site by establishing a vehicle accessible campsite would appear inconsistent with the goal of enhancing the suitability of the area as potential deer wintering habitat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See first bullet above. • See first bullet above. Also, the upgraded road would be a shared use management road and would not be maintained to public use road standards. All or most of the upgraded road would be within the portion of the Unit allocated to Timber Management (i.e., outside the shoreline zone, where a remote recreation secondary allocation is applied). • The proposed road extension to the campsite would be a narrow road following an existing old road bed. It is not within a zoned deer yard or within an area with documented use by wintering deer. (There is one small zoned deer yard on the Unit, at the east end of the lake; the proposed new drive-to campsite location referred to in the Plan recommendations <u>is</u> within that deer yard, thus the existing Alec Brook site is preferable in that regard). In addition, in the opinion of the IF&W wildlife biologist assigned to the Bureau, the road would have negligible effect on deer wintering habitat (or any wintering deer that may be present, given that the campsite is used primarily in the summer, and the road into the site would not be plowed).
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From: Paul Lozier, Sly Brook Trail Blazers ATV Club (non-AC member)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was just brought to my attention that there is a proposed plan to have public access to Alec Brook Camp Site located on Eagle Lake. I have been an advocate of this for the last 2-3 years and have spoken with Maine Public Lands forester, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau notes the comments in support of the proposal. At present, the Bureau does not intend to expand the existing campsite at Alec Brook or add shelters or outhouses. Those potential facility improvements can be taken into
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<p>Mark Deschaines; I hope this plan increases the number of campsites, installs more outhouses, and possibly some Adirondack shelters. I believe that this campsite has great potential for year-round use, even in the winter with ice fisherman...this proposed campsite will be enjoyed by many as ATV riding is becoming more popular in the area as the years go by.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On another note, another project that is in dire need is a boat launch on the east side of Eagle Lake located on Sly Brook Road. Right now, the only public boat launch is on the west side and is very over-crowded. This would also help accommodate camp owners on the east side of the lake as it is 20 miles from the east side to the west side boat launch. 	<p>consideration when the Plan is renewed at the end of its 15-year life (in 2022).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau is not proposing to add boat access on the east side of Eagle Lake at this time. The Plan recommendations (p. 53) include: "Explore the feasibility of developing a drive-to campsite on the east end of the lake off Square Lake Road, including its use as a primitive boat launch site...". As reported in 2012 (see p. 6 of the review table), a site was identified but the Bureau deemed the investment to not be warranted at this time.
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2007 Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan – 2nd Five Year Review
Public Meeting: Proposed Plan Amendments

BPL Northern Region Office, Ashland ME
May 9, 2018
6:00 PM

AGENDA

6:00 PM

Welcome ~ *Introductions, Purpose of Meeting*

6:10 PM

Proposed Amendments ~ *BPL presentation of proposed new camper trailer site or sites at Deboullie and ATV access to Alec Brook campsite at Eagle Lake and proposed Plan amendments to allow these developments*

6:30 PM

Public questions and comments

6:45 PM

Public Comment Period and Steps to Finalize Plan Amendments

Adjourn

The Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan, Plan maps, and the proposed Plan amendments can be found online at:

http://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/n_aroostook

Written comments on the proposed Plan amendments can be sent to:

Jim Vogel

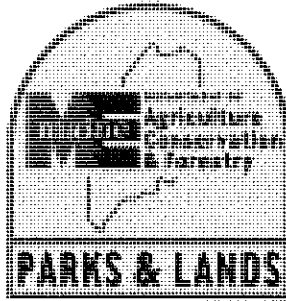
Bureau of Parks and Lands

22 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

-or-

Jim.Vogel@maine.gov



2007 Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan – 2nd Five Year Review
Public Meeting: Proposed Plan Amendments

BPL Northern Region Office, Ashland ME

May 9, 2018

6:00 PM

AGENDA

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http://www.maine.gov/dacf/parks/n_aroostook

Written comments on the proposed Plan amendments can be sent to:

Jim Vogel
Bureau of Parks and Lands
22 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

-or-

Jim.Vogel@maine.gov

Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan
5 Year Plan Review and Update #2 – Public Meeting
Draft Plan Amendments



*Aerial view of
Deboullie Unit*

BUREAU OF PARKS AND LANDS
MAY 9, 2018

Agenda

2

- Present campsite proposals and take comments on Draft Plan amendments
 - Development of trailer camper site or sites at Deboullie
 - Development of ATV access to Alec Brook campsite at Eagle Lake
 - Plan Amendments would allow the Bureau to implement these changes
- BPL policy requires than any proposed Plan amendments be presented to the public for comment

#1 - Trailer Camper Sites or Sites at Deboullie

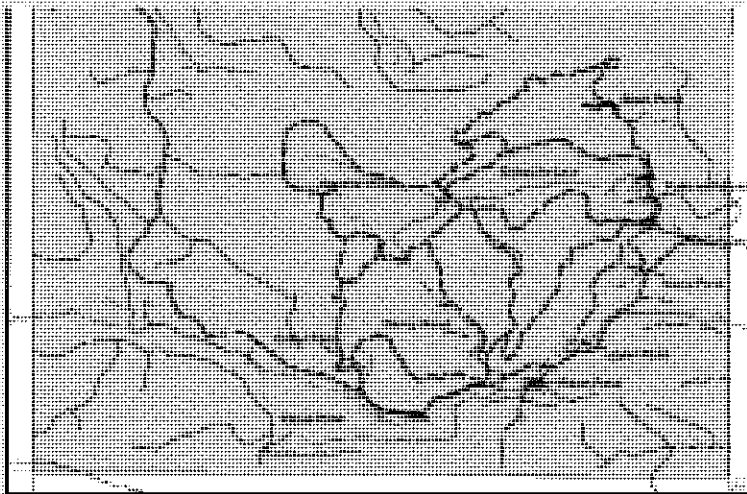
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• Proposal

- BPL to explore options for developing one or more sites to accommodate a camper trailer, by expanding existing site or sites
- Purpose: meet demand for a campsite or sites along the public access road that would accommodate a camper trailer
- Potential sites include:
 - ✦ Togue West, Togue East
 - ✦ Crater Outlet
 - ✦ Denny Pond
 - ✦ Perch Pond, Perch Dam and Perch South
 - ✦ Pushineer Dam, Pushineer South and East
 - ✦ Deboullie East
 - ✦ Upper Pond

Deboullie Unit Roads and Recreation Facilities

4



Deboullie Unit Resource Allocations

①



Example of Existing Deboullie Campsite

②



Deboullie Pond East Campsite

Trailer Camper Sites or Sites at Deboullie

7

- **Favorable factors/Opportunities**
 - Opportunity exists to expand one or more existing campsites at the locations under consideration with little increase in developed area
 - All potential sites are accessible by the public access road
 - All potential sites are allocated in Plan to Developed Recreation Class I, or Wildlife (where primitive campsites area an allowed secondary use)
- **Concerns/Constraints**
 - None have arisen to date
 - Any site expansion would follow standard best practices and permitting requirements

Trailer Camper Sites or Sites at Deboullie

8

- **Proposed Plan Amendment**
 - No resource allocation changes required
 - Bureau will explore development of one or more camper trailer sites at the listed ponds
 - Development will move forward when the most suitable site or sites is identified, considering:
 - × Ease of ingress and egress for camper trailers
 - × Camper's preference/level of interest in particular sites
 - × Suitable space available in or adjacent to existing site
 - × No or minimal impact on shoreline or other riparian zones
 - Bureau will monitor use for compliance

Questions and Comments?

9

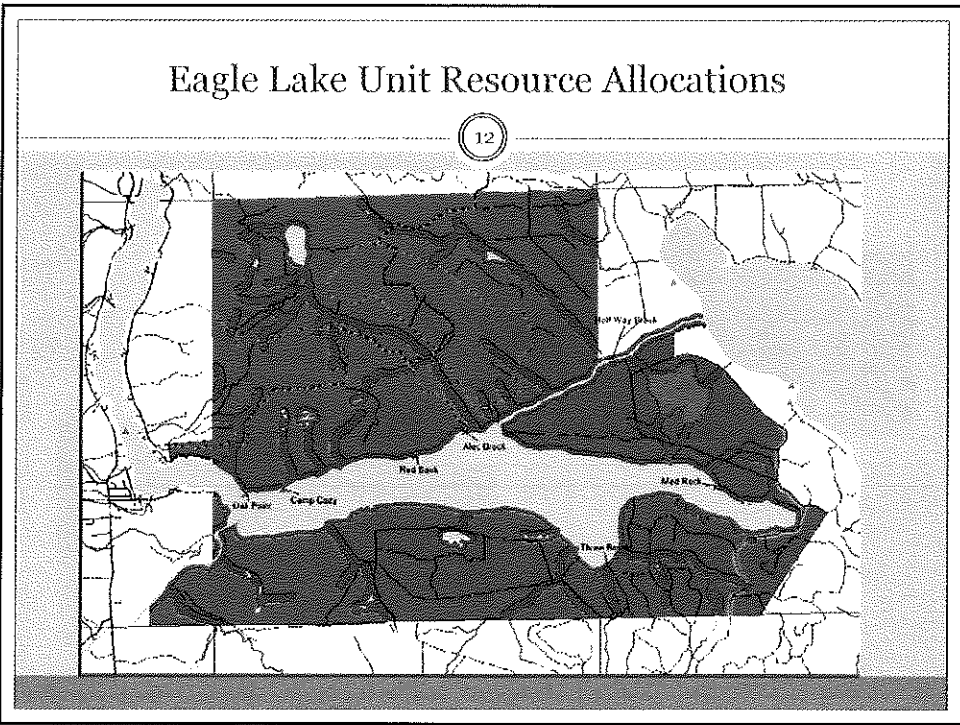
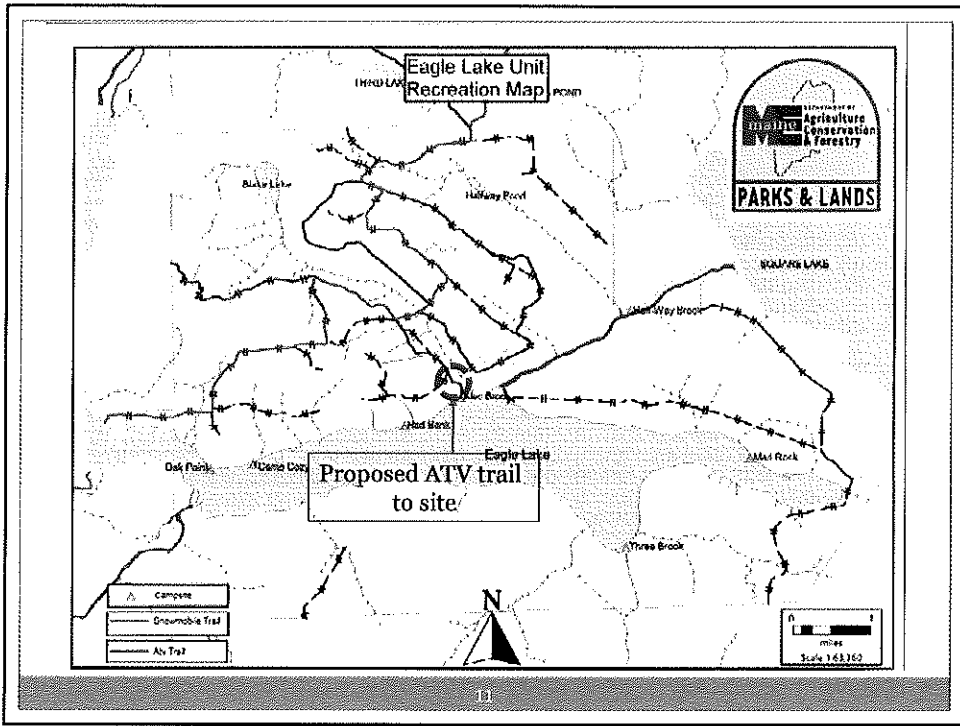


Red River below Pashpanan Forest

2 - ATV Access to Alec Brook Campsite

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- **Proposal**
 - Improve an additional half-mile of management road to allow motorized access to the site (one of 6 water access primitive campsites on Eagle Lake)
 - Road would be barricaded at each end to prevent road vehicles from accessing site and to keep all vehicles off lake shore
 - Access to road vehicles could be provided in the future
 - Purpose: Provide a camping opportunity for motorized users
- **Resource Allocations**
 - Shoreline buffer zone is allocated to Wildlife, with Remote Recreation as secondary allocation
 - Timber Management is dominant allocation outside the buffer zone



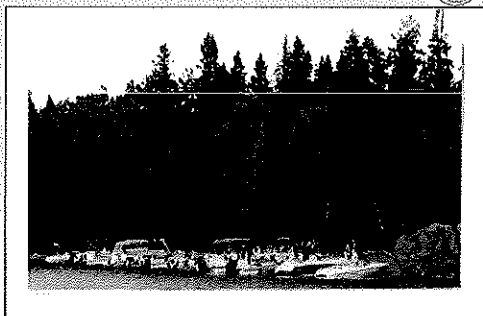
ATV Access to Alec Brook Campsite

13

- **Favorable factors/Opportunities**
 - No changes in resource allocations required (drive-to primitive campsites are allowed in shoreline zone)
 - Recently improved management road currently allows access within 1/2 mile of the site
 - Better option than site at east end of Lake mentioned in Plan, which is in a zone deer wintering area
- **Concerns/Constraints:**
 - Potential change in remote recreation experience at the site
 - BPL response: Campsites are heavily used during the summer (primarily day use) by motorboating groups, with numerous boats present at times
 - Potential impact on deer wintering habitat
 - BPL response: Road to be improved is not within a zoned deer wintering area nor within an area known to be used by wintering deer
 - Site would be used primarily in the summer rather than winter

Current Use of Water Access Campsites

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Boats on shoreline at Mad Brook Campsite, typical summer weekend

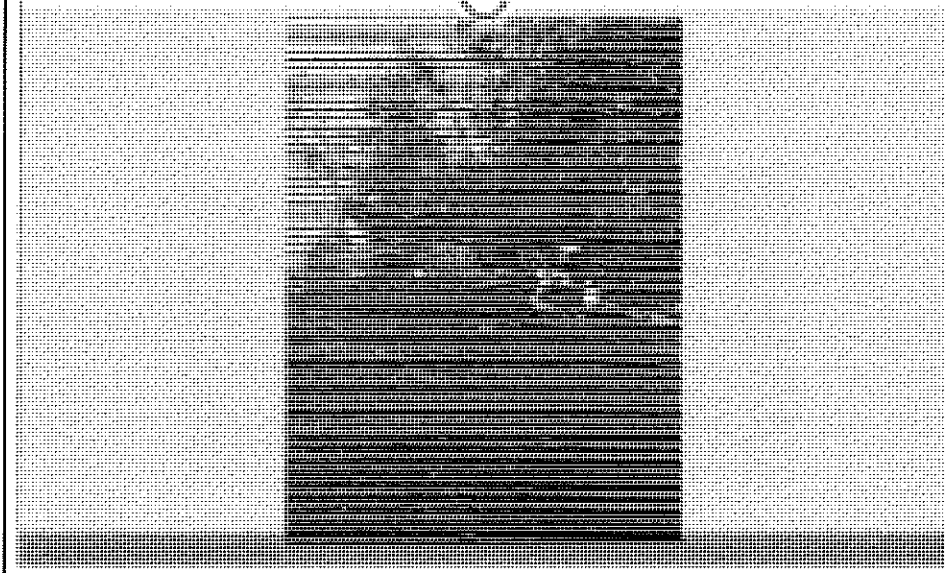
Alec Brook Mgmt. Road – Current Condition

15



Alec Brook Campsite

16



ATV Access to Alec Brook Campsite

17

- **Summary of Proposed Plan Amendments**

- No resource allocation changes required
- BPL will improve half-mile segment of management road to provide motorized access to site
- BPL will barricade the road at each end to exclude motorized vehicles other than ATVs
 - ✦ Expect motorized access would increase camping use substantially; BPL would increase maintenance accordingly

Questions and Comments?

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View across Eagle Lake

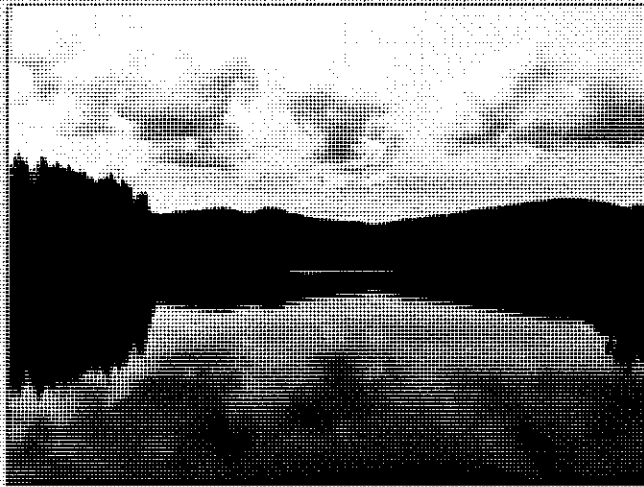
Next Steps

19

- **Comment Period - May**
 - Comments on the campsite proposals are welcome over the next two weeks (ending May 24)
 - Contact information is at bottom of Agenda
- **Finalization of Plan Review and Adoption of Plan Amendments – June**
 - Final review packet sent to BPL Director, who can then recommend that the DACF Commissioner adopt the Plan Amendments

Thank You for your Attendance!

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Northern Aroostook Region Management Plan – Five Year Review #2
 Public Meeting
 May 9, 2018 ~ 6:00 PM
 BPL Northern Region Office – Ashland ME

PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY

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