

**Management Plan
For
Great Pond Mountain Wildlands**
Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust

Orland, Maine
May 28, 2009
Revised July 8, 2013

Prepared by: Cheri Domina
Reviewed by Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust Stewardship Committee
Adopted by the Board of Directors on June 8, 2009
****REVISIONS adopted by Board of Directors on July 8, 2013**

Preserve Background

Purpose of Preserve

The 4,300-acre Great Pond Mountain Wildlands (GPMW) property in East Orland fulfills our founders' vision of conserving existing wild land on and around Orland's Great Pond Mountain. It occupies 14% of the Town of Orland, and is likely one of the largest remaining undeveloped properties along rapidly-developing coastal Route 1. The property includes a wide diversity of wildlife habitats – from bald summits to mountain streams and beaver meadows – as well as 15 miles of gravel roads.

Purchased in 2005, GPMW became a natural area established to (1) Protect diverse fish and wildlife habitats and provide a sanctuary for species requiring large tracts to roam; (2) Protect water quality in the Hothole Pond/Alamoosook/Narramissic watershed; (3) Conserve a place where people of all ages can enjoy low-impact recreational activities in a scenic outdoor setting close to home; (4) Conserve a place for scientific research and environmental and outdoor education for students of all ages; and (5) Grow trees to be harvested for commercial use, demonstrate best practices for forest resource management and rebuild a working, sustainable forest.

With a large contribution to the project from the Land for Maine's Future program, the State Dept. of Conservation has an interest in the Wildlands, detailed in the terms of the LMF Project Agreement (see appendices).

Description

The Great Pond Mountain Wildlands in Orland, Hancock County, Maine, totals 4,300 acres and consists of two large, separate parcels, one being Hothole Valley (3,420 acres) and the other on the east side of the Dead River (875 acres). See Table 3, Appendices for additions.

The Wildlands consist of forests, hilltops, valleys, nearly two miles of frontage on the Dead River (a northern arm of Alamoosook Lake), and 700 feet on pristine Hothole Pond, with numerous wetlands, streams (including the entirety of Hothole Brook) and shrub openings. Much of the property has been recently (1995-2002) and extensively harvested for timber. Few areas and habitats were not directly affected by harvest activities. A 15-mile network of logging roads built with local gravel and sand deposits from the property offers extensive access for recreation, forestry, and other management activities. The roads vary in their condition; some are washed out but remain passable on foot.

Access

The Great Pond Mountain Wildlands can be accessed at three main gates. On the Hothole Valley parcel, the South Gate is located on US Route 1, just south (west) of the Route 176 intersection. The North Gate is located on Bald Mountain Road in North Orland, just 0.2 mile from the Winkumpaugh Road intersection. On the Dead River side, the property can be accessed at the Dead River Gate, about 0.5 mile up Don Fish Trail from Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery on Alamoosook Lake. A public boat launch at the Hatchery also allows access to the Dead River via a paddle of about one mile. In wintertime, snowmobilers can access the property via an ITS trail that enters the property from the north onto Hothole Pond Road, travels south down Valley Road, then exits the property near Craig Pond via Mead Mountain Road.

Natural Resource Information

A 2006 Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) by Alison Dibble and Catherine Rees found a large diversity of habitats, wildlife features, natural vegetation communities, vascular plants, and other noteworthy natural resource features. The diversity is due in part to the varied topography, especially in the Hothole Valley parcel, where mountains and hills near 1,000 feet high sweep down to a glacially-carved valley bisected by Hothole Brook. The topography, including exposed bedrock at the mountain summits, south- and north-facing exposures, drainages, and deeper soils on the upper side slopes, creates a variety of habitats. Wildlife habitats in the Wildlands are of exceptional quality, especially due to diverse wetland communities, and because of an abundance of huge boulders (granite talus and erratics) with overhangs and crevices that might serve as dens. The extent of such habitat is unusual in coastal Maine, except at Acadia National Park.

Dibble, Rees, Michael Good and volunteers located 79 species of birds, some featured in the federal Gulf of Maine Watershed Habitat Study. More birds continue to be identified in the Wildlands. Of the 14 vegetation communities found on the property and recognized by the Maine Natural Areas Program, the three-toothed cinquefoil–blueberry low summit bald (State rank S2) is especially at risk due to trampling. Dibble and Rees found more than 286 species of vascular plants, including two listed rare plants – smooth sandwort and swarthy sedge. Other sensitive features and species include bald eagle, woodcock and whippoorwill; legacy trees; vernal pools; and beaver flowages. A 2007 survey in Hothole

Brook and tributaries by DIFW biologist Greg Burr and crew found a healthy population of native brook trout. Mammals common to the Wildlands include most species common to Maine, such as moose, white-tailed deer, black bear, bobcat, coyote, raccoon, beaver, snowshoe hare, etc.

Known threats to the property's natural resources include serious erosion where gravel roads cross streams, which could impact brook trout spawning habitat, and ten species of non-native invasive plants that require immediate control. (See Table 2, Potential Threats).

Human Context

Traditional Use and Land Use History

Richard A. Carlson, Bucksport, prepared some history notes for GPMCT based on archives at the Orland Historical Society and other sources.

Records found thus far indicate that the Wildlands was not settled or farmed except at the southern end of Hothole Valley at what is now Route 1, where Mrs. Armor had a residence (Colby 1881, map of Orland Figure 2). The cellar hole for that home can be found east of the South Gate, where lilac bushes and an apple tree persist. Both the Dead River and Hothole Valley parcels appear to have been managed for timber, and perhaps charcoal. During the 19th century, lumber mills existed nearby at Hothole Stream and Toddy Pond; and charcoal kilns operated on neighboring properties on Oak and Sabrina Hills.

Many small logging camps have come and gone on the property over the last two centuries or more. As recently as the 1980s, 2,500 acres of what is now the Wildlands was owned by Diamond Occidental Forest Inc., known locally as "Diamond Match". Diamond sold the property to James River Timber, which sold it within a year or two in 1995 to Dale Henderson Logging. Henderson conducted a major timber harvest, replanted approx. 50 acres in red and white pine, and then offered the property for sale in 2000. Commercial logging ended on the Hothole Valley property by 1998, and on Dead River by 2002.

Hiking, hunting, fishing and trapping have been practiced in the Wildlands since time immemorial. Many small hunting camps existed in the Hothole Valley parcel over the past century, the ruins of which can still be located in some cases. Many hunters still remember the Great Meadow along Hothole Brook being set afire in autumn by deer hunters intent on driving out their quarry. One seasonal hunting camp on the Dead River remains, abutting but not legally accessed over the property, at Map 13 Lot 4.

Appendix III to the NRI offers information on the archaeological significance of the area, especially the Dead River. There is a rich heritage of nearby archaeological sites at Alamoosook Lake and Toddy Pond (Moorehead 1922).

GPMCT now owns portions of the Great Pond Mountain Trail, which has a very long history of access by the public over private land, both on foot and in 4WD vehicles.

Between 1995 and 2005, public access to the Wildlands was cut off by Dale Henderson Logging, which posted the land due to safety concerns.

Abutters and Stakeholders

See Table 1.

Management Plan

Management Objectives

To fulfill the stated purposes of the Great Pond Mountain Wildlands, the following broad management objectives are proposed:

1. Management of the Wildlands shall be in accordance with the LMF Project Agreement and a Management Plan developed by GPMCT and submitted for review to the Dept. of Conservation. The plan must be revised and submitted for such review at least every ten years.
2. Consider natural resource management as the Wildlands' primary management goal. Low-impact recreation is the second most important management goal.
3. Practice sustainable and exemplary forest management. Any commercial forestry harvesting activities shall be conducted in accordance with a plan prepared by a licensed professional forester and consistent with sound silvicultural methods as well as then-present best management practices as set forth by the Maine Forest Service. Any pre-commercial thinning and management for forest products must be designed and implemented to assure a continuing, renewable and long-term source of forest products, to maintain a healthy and biologically diverse forest that supports a full range of native flora and fauna, and to limit adverse aesthetic and ecological impacts, particularly in riparian areas, high elevation areas, and scenic vistas. All forestry activities planned must be approved by the Stewardship Committee before work commences. Establish areas to demonstrate sustainable and sensitive forestry practices.
4. Retain certain areas (log landings, etc.) as early-successional habitat for woodcock, bluebirds, etc. Ideally, these areas should serve as both scenic viewsheds and habitat; some will of necessity be one or the other.
5. Protect water quality by mediating or preventing erosion problems caused by roads and trails, timber harvesting or gravel pits.
6. Minimize negative human and pet impacts to sensitive areas, such as shorelines, stream buffers, wetlands, bald summits, steep slopes and wildlife nesting or denning areas.
7. Work with the State and other agencies to evaluate opportunities for managing for woodcock, whippoorwill, turkey and other native species.
8. Continue to monitor and inventory native plant and wildlife populations and build on our knowledge base, as well as monitor changes over time, including those

- attributable to recreational uses. Establish indicators based on the idea of “limits of acceptable change” to determine if unacceptable conditions develop that would require future management actions. *Example: Establish indicators to ensure that the dog policy is not detrimental to wildlife, water quality, or visitor interactions.*
9. Monitor and eradicate invasive species. Native species should be used whenever feasible for seeding or stabilization. Herbicides may be used as a method of last resort.
 10. Provide public access via multi-use trails and footpaths for low-impact recreation compatible with conservation values. When various uses are allowed on a single path or trail, they should be compatible from a public safety perspective. Keep up multi-use trails and paths determined to be important to recreation, and retire those too expensive or underused to retain. Consider future forestry needs.
 11. Footpaths will be unobtrusive, narrow and fit with the character of the Wildlands; fill a need for Wildlands visitors; and result in little to no impact on uncommon plant and wildlife habitats. Paths should be carefully planned, sited and marked to minimize disturbance to sensitive communities. Signs should be placed in sensitive areas to educate people on the importance of remaining on the trail. New recommended path routes will be reviewed by the Natural Resource & Forestry Committee.
 12. Use the existing road network as the main system of multi-use trails, keeping gates mostly locked, and limit new multi-use trails or footpaths to a few well-chosen routes. Do not plan or build any permanent trails in the Trail-Free Zone (see NRI) from 2007 to 2011, then re-evaluate.
 13. Promote the use of the Wildlands for environmental education and as an outdoor classroom, by offering public programs and seeking ways to get students and teachers involved.
 14. Promote the Wildlands to local and regional audiences for low-impact uses; not as a tourist attraction.
 15. Develop cooperative relationships with abutting landowners.
 16. Acquire adjacent lands when possible to protect key resources, connect the two pieces of the Wildlands, and extend recreational opportunities.

Potential Threats

See Table 2.

Short-term Management Actions/Current Issues (1-2 years)

- I. Stewardship Committee work plan
 - a. Conduct road maintenance and erosion control projects:
 - i. New Hothole Brook Bridge
 - ii. Stabilize Valley, Flag, Mountain View Roads
 - iii. Rock ford, Hothole Pond Rd.
 - b. Expand or create parking lots at all gates.
 - c. Maintain Wildlands property boundaries, 2 miles per year.
 - d. Develop system for tracking tasks, expenses and volunteer time
(*Organizational Assessment Priority #7*).

- e. Develop/update policy, procedure and forms for monitoring our properties (OA #8).
- f. Develop policy for calculating stewardship costs of fee lands.
- g. Remove Wildlands junk – old camps, ice shack, dumps.
- h. Maintain relationships and programs for hunting and snowmobiling.

II. Natural Resources/Forestry work plan

- a. Implement pre-commercial thinning plan; hire assistance for forest thinning.
- b. Boost Community Firewood program.
- c. Research and carry out viewshed & woodcock habitat management. Select and maintain some of the log landings as openings for woodcock and other wildlife by mowing, fire or brushcutting.
- d. Conduct invasive plant ID & eradication.
- e. Develop a plan for long-term monitoring of natural resources.
- f. Discuss Dead River water levels with Verso Paper and encourage Verso to establish a policy to manage water levels as needed by nesting loons.
- g. Continue improving fish passage at culverts.
- h. Plan and conduct educational programs & workshops – vernal pools, invasives.
- i. Nominate Linscott vernal pools as State Significant.
- j. Place some wood duck boxes in Hothole Pond Road beaver swamp.
- k. Wildlife monitoring
 - i. Woodcock Survey – April 17
 - ii. Whippoorwill Survey
 - iii. Winter Wildlife Tracking survey
 - iv. Vernal pools – get volunteers to monitor known ones and locate new ones.

III. Paths work plan

- a. Complete Esker Path.
- b. Work with MCC Crew on paths – July 7-11.
- c. Upgrade Oak Hill Path.
- d. Upgrade East Ridge Path.

Long-term Management Actions (2-5 years)

- 1. Finish Wildlands Roads/Trails Plan and stabilize or retire all Wildlands multi-use trails (gravel roads).
- 2. Use Pete Colman's recommendations for stabilizing Wildlands paths as guidance.
- 3. Map all culverts and bridges using GPS. Train volunteers to take data and create maps.
- 4. Record seasonal stream locations and name them.
- 5. Stabilize the Dead River gravel pit.
- 6. Study using the Limits of Acceptable Change model for monitoring trails.

7. Purchase the DePaolo, Jr. property abutting Dead River property.
8. Pilot an “adopt-a-trail” program.
9. Have all boundaries marked and blazed, and a plan for continued maintenance.
10. Follow NRI recommendations for building an invasive species removal team. (See Table 7 for list of plants.) Provide GPS training for all GPMCT volunteers as part of team training.
11. Do not plan or build any permanent trails in the Trail-Free Zone for five years (until 2011). This will give us time to assess the trails that we have already built, our ability to maintain them, and the impact of the trails, and will give us time to reconsider the costs and benefits of a trail-free area.
12. Work with another group such as Scouts to develop low-impact, primitive camping.
13. Create a brochure or letterbox stations to identify interesting species, features, or ecological concerns as a way of educating visitors.
14. Limit any trails or paths to Wildlands peaks to those existing on Great Pond Mountain and Flag and Oak Hills for the next five years (until 2011). The use and impact of these trails should then be evaluated before planning any additional peak trails.
15. Bird and bat boxes should be set up, monitored and maintained; a good project for community groups. Bird and bat house plans and sites should be approved by the Natural Resources/Forestry Committee; plans can be posted on our website.
16. Plan for regular disturbance activities that would retain early successional habitat for the State endangered swarthy sedge as well as for woodcock and other species. The Orland fire department should be contacted about conducting controlled burns on selected sites.
17. Work with the State and other agencies to evaluate opportunities for managing for woodcock, whippoorwills, turkeys and other species.
18. Identify whippoorwill nesting areas.
19. Send a list of research needs (as identified by A. Dibble and C. Rees) to the University of Maine, Unity College and College of the Atlantic encouraging the use of the property as a research site. The Natural Resource/Forestry Committee should coordinate volunteer research on the property.
20. Research eco-cemeteries and/or memorial plantings for their potential to support reforestation and fundraising efforts.
21. Continue to pursue harvest and marketing of additional forest products that can be harvested sustainably. Example: wreath tipping, maple syrup, wood crafts.
22. Improve the viability of our buffers through thinning of overcrowded stands. We should remove some trees damaged by the previous two harvests, speed up the progression to old-growth forest, and create legacy trees.
23. Evaluate and update policies and plans as needed, such as the Hunting Policy and Emergency Action Plan.

Really Long-term Management Actions – 10-20 years

1. Harvest some of the red pine plantation trees at 12” dbh: possibly starting in 20 years.
2. Potential development of such amenities as a visitor center, caretaker’s cabin, bunkhouse and maintenance garage, as detailed in terms of LMF Project Agreement.
3. Recognize that although some income can be earned from forest products in the first forty years, it will be awhile after that before the Wildlands can produce a significant forest income.
4. Recognize that there is a possibility of a catastrophic disaster that will of necessity change our management strategy, and that GPMCT will need to respond accordingly. For example, forest fires, disease or insect outbreaks may require salvage cutting.

Public Use Rules. The following are in place as of the date of this plan, subject to revision. These appear in our Wildlands brochure, in kiosks and on the website:

1. Use of the Wildlands is free, but donations are welcome.
2. Day use only. Camping and fires only by special permission.
3. No overnight parking in lots.
4. Carry out all trash
5. No unauthorized vehicles beyond cedar barricades.
6. Do not block gates or barricades.
7. No ATVs or off-road vehicles allowed.
8. Leave plants and animals undisturbed.
9. An outhouse is available at the main inner parking lot located at Valley Road and Hothole Brook Trail junction. Please help keep it clean!
10. Dogs are welcome **on leash at all times**, for the safety of wildlife, people and pets. Please remove feces from paths.
11. Horses and bicycles are welcome on multi-use gravel trails. Foot traffic only on hiking paths. Please stay on marked trails.
12. Snowmobiles are welcome on designated trails. Go to www.familysnowmobileclub.com for a Bucksport Family Snowmobile Club trail map.
13. Hunting, Fishing and Trapping is permitted – please register with GPMCT and fill out survey when season is over.

Access Information

Hothole Valley South Gate, located on Route 1 near the Route 176 intersection, will be open weekends mid-June through September, and Sundays in October from 8 am to SUNSET. Weekend visitors may park in the inner lot at the Valley Road and Hothole Brook Trail junction. Allow ample time to return to your car and leave before sunset; South Gate will be locked at sundown! Please do not park on Valley Road. Weekday visitors use outer parking lot.

Hothole Valley North Gate on Bald Mountain Road will remain locked. Please park outside of gate without blocking access.

Dead River Gate will remain locked (private road). Public access to Dead River land is via gate on Don Fish Road, 0.5 mile from Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery. Land is also accessible via public boat launch at Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery on Alamoosook Lake.

Appendices:

Table 1: Abutters and Stakeholders
Table 2: Potential threats
Table 3: Wildlands lots and additions
Emergency Action Plan, rev. 2012
Hunting Policy, rev. 2012
Special Use Policy, 2008

References:

LMF Project Agreement, 2008
Natural Resource Inventory, 2006, Dibble & Rees
Forestry Plan, 2007, Jake Maier
Wildlands Survey, 2007, Plisga & Day
Focus Group Recommendations, 2007
Pete Colman's Road & Trail recommendations, 2007
Wildlands Safety Checklist for Work Parties, 2008

Table 1: Wildlands Abutter List, rev. 2012

Map 4

Lot 21-1 Jean Conary
1588 Acadia Highway
Orland, Me 04472

Lot 22 c/o Jean Conary

Map 7

Lot 31 Keene, Heirs of Vicki L. Keene
P.O. Box 504
Bucksport, ME 04416
48 acres
B2860P374

Lot 32-A Harold and Jane Seekins
P.O. Box 156
East Orland, ME 04431
51 acres
B2896P567

Lot 34 Bob Mercer
P.O. Box 483
Bucksport, ME 04416
55 acres
B2907P430

Lot 39-A Bernard Ginn Jr.
54 Perkins Road
Winterport, ME 04496
128 acres
B1187P604

Lot 41 Diane Gray R.D.
1496 Acadia Highway
Orland, ME 04472
21.75 acres
B1536P379

Lot 4lls1-1 Diamond Star Properties, LLC
343 Christian Ridge Road
Ellsworth, ME 04605
2.04 acres

B4232P302

Map 8

- Lot 5 Edward, Daniel and Wells Tower
262 Edgewood Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
240 acres
B2275P264
- Lot 6 Annandale Equities
657 East Main St.
Mount Kisco, NY 10549
246 acres
B2687P621
- Lot 7 Eliza Bowman
47 Gott Brook Heights
Orland, Me 04472
52 acres
B2531P248
- Lot 37 Daniel T. Tower
627 West Lane St.
Raleigh, NC 27605
42.50 acres
B2057P265
- Lot 38 David Merrill
234 Bolt Hill Rd.
Eliot, ME 03903 (WRONG ADDRESS?)
40.30 acres
B2719P159

Map 10

- Lot 35 Ordway T. Clifford
P.O. Box 167
East Orland, ME 04431
38 acres
B788P50
- Lot 35-1 Mollie Heron
2929 Four Pines Dr.
Lexington, KY 40502
- Sum. 145 Randall Lane

Orland, ME 04472
50 acres
B1371P14

Lot 36 Ordway T. Clifford
 P.O. Box 167
 East Orland, ME 04431
 58 acres
 B1271P656

Map 11

Lot 1 Chris Price (not quite abutting but very close)
 15 Waldron Rd.
 Bar Harbor, ME 04609
 B2144P60

Lot 6-A Colin Jones
 P.O. Box 163
 97 Owl Trail
 East Orland, ME 04431
 9 acres
 B2533P252

Lot 7 Harland (Jerry) Leach
 P.O. Box 204
 Bucksport, ME 04416
And Beth Roderick, PO Box 139, Bucksport, ME 04416
 47 acres
 B1320P34

Lot 8 Wendy & Don Briggs
 554 Dow Rd.
 Orrington, ME 04474
 80 acres
 B2055P341

Lot 8-A(?) Bernard Ginn
 54 Perkins Road
 Winterport, ME 04496
 113 acres
 B947/1057P416/323

Lot 9 Gordon and Linda Goodwin
 5 Hiller Street
 Marion, MA 02738

335 acres
B2828P317

Lot 12 Wade Wescott
858 North Penobscot Rd.
Penobscot, ME 04476
16 acres

Lot 13 Timothy H. Gott, Gott, Inc.
PO Box 747
Southwest Harbor, ME 04679
65 acres
B2607P14

Map 12

Lot 1-A Paul and Karen Volkhausen
1138 Happy Town Road
Orland, ME 04472
50 acres
B1509P274

Lot 2 Susan Dunlap
P.O. Box 36
Orland, ME 04472
61 acres
B1841P258

Lot 3 Deborah M. Krichels
P.O. Box 33
Orland, ME 04472
120 acres
B1371P633

Lot 6 Kristina Ryberg
1072 Bucksmills Road
Bucksport, ME 04416
60 acres
B3149P70

Lot 8-1 Alfred R. Sidelinger
50 Oak St.
Plympton, MA 02367
25 acres
B1549P432

Lot 9 Efreem Kann & Kristi Cunnane
1364 Happytown Rd.
Orland, ME 04472
37 acres
B2375P214

Lot 12 Walter A.G ray
569 Upper Dedham Road
Dedham, ME 04429
120.92 acres
B2927P552

Lot 13 Stephen N. Krichels
53 Winkumpaugh Road
Orland, ME 04472
59.08 acres
B2745P440

Lot 15 Heirs of Elmer Boyle
c/o Paula Thomas
593 South Rd.
Holden, ME 04429
26 acres
B2962P306

Map 13

Lot 2 Connie Bella
439 Mast Hill Rd.
Orland, ME 04472

916 W. Flora St.
Ontario, CA 91762

Lot 4 Scott Phillips
Greystone Trailer Park, Lot 42
Veazie, ME 04401

Lot 5 Gordon and Linda Goodwin
5 Hiller Street
Marion MA 02738
800 acres
B2828P317

Map 14

- Lot 18 Mercer Living Trust
P.O. Box 483
Bucksport, ME 04416
115 acres
B1129P432
- Lot 21-A Winslow Coombs
1473 Bald Mountain Road
Orland, ME 04472
45.02 acres
B3008P154
- Lot 31-A Joseph Veilleux (owns land at 39 Winkumpaugh Rd.)
26 Davis Road
Eddington, ME 04428
24.42 acres
B3404P300

Map 44

- Lot 3 Mark and Kelle Gray
146 Pond Shore Way
Orland, ME 04472
4.25 acres
B5176P0240
- Lot 4 Bernard Ginn
54 Perkins Road
Winterport, ME 04496

Table 2. List of potential threats, significance, and possible management strategies to counter.

Potential Threat	Significance	Management Strategy
(1) Overuse by human visitors. Includes excessive vehicle use, biking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing and/or trapping.	Could disrupt wildlife and impact on breeding success of birds, mammals and fish; impact vegetation; and cause soil erosion. Horse droppings bring invasives. Safety issues from conflicting uses may arise.	Educational signage at kiosks and sensitive trails; continue hunting/trapping surveys; keep in touch with game wardens; sensitivity in trail building; keep gates mainly closed; moderate promotion for recreational use. Keep a ranger presence there.
(2) Dogs	Dogs on the loose can injure or kill wildlife; impact breeding success, especially of ground nesting birds; terrorize other visitors and their pets; get injured in porcupine or other wildlife encounters; or get lost, necessitating a search. Dog droppings can contaminate water and be a nuisance.	Enforce leash laws and use educational signage. Users must remove dog droppings. Doggy doo-doo bags, a compost pit or a poop scoop at gate may be an option, as droppings are often at the gate. Close sensitive areas to dogs if necessary or eliminate dog use altogether if problems continue or increase.
(3) Introduction or proliferation of invasive exotic plants and animals, e.g. purple loosestrife, Japanese barberry, oriental bittersweet; bull thistle; <i>Phragmites</i> , Hemlock woolly adelgid.	Invasives spread rapidly, compete with or kill native vegetation or animals, and degrade habitat. They are extremely difficult to control and cannot usually be eradicated.	Establish monitoring programs and volunteer teams and have annual workdays. Train volunteers to recognize plants or insects and early stages of infestation.
(4) Erosion and sedimentation of streams and damage to trout habitat	Roads and gravel pits are a source of sedimentation for streams, which degrades fish habitat.	Continue to seek funds to repair problem areas; map and monitor all bridges and culverts; plan for future fish passage improvements; conduct annual gravel road maintenance; carefully site new paths.
(5) Wildfires	Campfires increase the likelihood of an unintended forest fire; slash from former logging would contribute to it. Could impact abutting properties, jeopardizing relations with neighbors.	Allow fires only by special permission and in proper locations and weather conditions. Inform visitors by signs and information in kiosks. Maintain relationships with Maine Forest Service and Orland Fire Dept.

(6) ATV or off-road vehicle use

ATVs and off-road vehicles use the property illegally, and tend to create erosion problems and ruts on soft roads or damage habitat in sensitive areas.

Educate the community on why we don't allow ATVs, maintain signs at all entries and block entries where we can.

(7) Development of surrounding properties encroaching on vistas

Abutting properties are already being developed to take advantage of Wildlands vistas. Creates an unattractive and jarring view for Wildlands visitors and could negatively affect habitat and trails.

Work with neighboring landowners to purchase or place conservation easements on most important scenic views. Keep a dialogue going with others to educate them on importance of protecting the viewshed.

Great Pond Mountain Wildlands Management Plan
Table 3: Wildlands lots and additions, Orland, Maine
Revised 2013

Original purchase from Dale Henderson Logging & Oak Leaf Realty, June 30, 2005

Map 7, Lot 30	97 acres
Map 7, Lot 42	218 acres
Map 10, Lot 35A	569 acres
Map 11, Lot 10	160 acres
Map 12, Lot 7	270 acres
Map 12, Lot 8	47 acres
Map 12, Lot 14	62 acres
Map 12, Lot 16	80 acres
Map 12, Lot 18	90 acres
Map 12, Lot 19	2,507 acres
Map 13, Lot 1	280 acres
Map 14, Lot 23	1.7 acres
Map 14, Lot 25	56 acres

Total 4,437.7 acres
P&D Survey Total 4,295 acres

Inholdings added:

Giles inholding, donated Sept. 27, 2007 by Jeanne Giles
Map 12, Lot 17 2 acres Returned to Map 12, Lot 18

Hopkins Meadow inholding, donated January 19, 2012 by Town of Orland
Map 7 Lot 33 12 acres Returned to Map 12, Lot 19

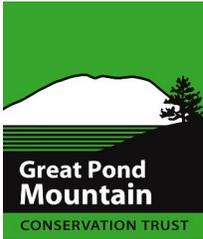
Properties added – see Management Summaries

DePaolo property, purchased 12/16/2011
Map 11, Lot 14 62 acres

Ginn property, purchased 6/28/2012
Map 11, Lot 8A 113 acres (portion of whole lot)

McAllian property, purchased 9/26/2012
Map 11, Lot 11 23 acres (portion of whole lot)

Total 2013 acreage: 4,507 acres



Emergency Action Plan 2012/13 Great Pond Mountain Wildlands East Orland, Maine

Hazard

Fire

Actions to be taken

Notify Orland Fire Dept. via telephone 911. Give location as accurately as possible and type of fire and best access. **Notify GPMCT representative for liaison during incident.**

Medical Emergency

Notify Orland Fire Dept. and Ambulance via telephone 911. Orland Fire and Bucksport Ambulance to respond to all calls on trust land. Lifeflight helicopter to be used only in extreme or life-threatening condition (call 911, then 1-888-421-4228). Give specific location and specific problem. Give best access if known. **Notify GPMCT representative for liaison.**

Police

Call 911 in an emergency. Call State Police at 1-800-432-7381 in a non-emergency. **Notify GPMCT representative for liaison during incident.**

Lost person

Notify State Police at 1-800-432-7381 (they will notify Warden Service) if person is suspected lost, or is unable to be located within an hour after sundown. **Notify GPMCT representative for liaison during incident.** GPMCT may activate members to assist in the search if available/needed.

Vehicle locked inside gate

Notify GPMCT representative to unlock gate.

GATE COMBO TO WARDEN LOCK: 2170

Contact Numbers (K)=has a gate key available

Orland Fire Department (K)	911, Direct to Dispatch 469-3245
Bucksport Ambulance	911 or Direct to Dispatch 469-3245
State Police (or Warden Service)	1-800-432-7381
Game Warden Cliff Littlefield	941-4470 or 1-800-432-7381
Warden Sgt. Ralph Hosford	469-7005 (h), 557-1006 (c), 1-800-432-7381
Lifeflight Helicopter	1-800-421-4228
Orland Fire Station non-emergency	469-3079
Craig Brook Nat'l Fish Hatchery	469-7300 or 6701
GPMCT office, Craig Brook NFH (K)	469-7190
GPMCT Brian Keegstra, Wildlands Steward, 326-4345 or 479-2673 cell (K)	
GPMCT Tom Fox, Wildlands Ranger (K)	667-6703; 479-7908 (cell)
GPMCT Cheri Domina, Executive Director (K)	469-2008

General Emergency Guidelines

1. Visitor traffic (vehicular or on foot) should be limited during all emergency incident responses. Incoming traffic should be limited to emergency responders. Outgoing traffic should be provided for egress as conditions warrant, at the direction of the incident commander.
2. GPMCT liaison will be issued a radio for communication with Incident command if the situation warrants.
3. GPMCT emergency volunteers may be alerted via a telephone tree, and if so, should check in with their liaison at the incident command post for a briefing and tasking to minimize efforts and confusion.
4. Due to the nature of the large area of the trust, visitor evacuation signals may normally be either verbal orders via a mobile PA system, or a sustained siren. GPMCT members may be requested to assemble at common locations to assist emergency personnel with locating and providing further direction to visitors.
5. Emergency responders will make every reasonable effort not to cut locks or damage gates. Keys are available from Orland Fire Dept., GPMCT representatives and the GPMCT office at Craig Brook Fish Hatchery.
6. Emergency ATV traffic will make every effort to minimize damage to trails, roadways and natural landscape, however not at the risk of the wellbeing of responders or victims.
7. Emergency vehicular traffic (including emergency responders in POV with four-way flashers or red lights) shall have the right of way on all trails or roads when responding to an emergency situation. Due to the size, restricted vision and maneuverability of fire and ambulance apparatus, personnel on foot should be aware of vehicular traffic at all times and stand clear.
8. Every effort should be made to keep the incident commander informed with pertinent information. GPMCT personnel should route information through their liaison to minimize message traffic and redundant information.
9. There are two staging areas/helicopter landing locations for LifeFlight helicopters. Primary landing and command post is field approx. 200 yards north of gravel pit on Valley Road. Secondary area is the junction of Valley Road and Great Meadow Trail.

Special use policy

Great Pond Mountain Wildlands

Adopted 2007

GPMCT welcomes groups to use the recreational trails in the Wildlands, according to the trust's guidelines and regulations. We appreciate knowing when your group will use the property, but don't require prior permission unless

- A. Your group size will be over 25 people; or
- B. You'll be bringing more than 5 vehicles and/or trailers into the property
- C. You are requesting special access

The following rules pertain when a group requests special access to the Wildlands (i.e. borrowing a key, being let into the gate or taking vehicles past a barricade) or assistance with an event from GPMCT (ie staff or volunteer assistance).

1. GPMCT will use discretion when loaning keys or opening the gate for a group during times it is normally closed. GPMCT reserves the right to deny any request for special access. Access will only be granted for activities that fall under the Trust's guidelines and do not negatively impact the property's conservation or recreation values.
2. Property Steward/Ranger will be notified when any group is accessing the property by vehicle during times when the gate is closed.
3. Groups requesting special access will be asked to make a donation to GPMCT, either (as GPMCT deems appropriate):
 - a. Stewardship fund donation (minimum \$50);
 - b. Volunteer work (to be approved by the Stewardship Committee); or
 - c. Shared results of their event when appropriate (i.e. lists of birds, mushrooms, insects seen).

Hunting/Trapping Policy 2012

Great Pond Mountain Wildlands

Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust recognizes the long tradition of hunting, fishing and trapping in the Great Pond Mountain Wildlands, and without taking a formal position for or against these activities, maintains the following policy, to be reviewed annually:

Hunting

1. Hunting will be allowed, subject to State laws. Hunters are required to register with GPMCT before the season starts and familiarize themselves with our hunting policy. Call Brian, 479-2673 or e-mail info@greatpondtrust.org to register.
2. No baiting of any animal (except for trapping purposes, as allowable by State laws), for wildlife health reasons.
3. No permanent tree stands or duck blinds.
4. No hunting within 100 feet of gravel roads or parking lots.
5. No ATV or 4WD access – walk in only. A game hauler is available at the GPMCT office – call 469-2008 to borrow. Assistance will also be available from Wildlands Ranger Tom Fox in removing deer only from the Wildlands. Call 667-6703 or 479-7908.
6. Hunters are requested to report their harvest to GPMCT via annual survey.
7. Hunters are strongly encouraged to please pick up litter, report any trash dumps, and report any game violations they witness to GPMCT or local game wardens.

Fishing

Fishing will be allowed in the Great Pond Mountain Wildlands, subject to State laws.

Trapping

1. Trapping will be allowed, subject to State laws. By State law, all trappers must get written permission from GPMCT before trapping. Trappers must carry permission with them. Call Brian at 479-2673 or e-mail info@greatpondtrust.org to register.
2. No trapping within 100 ft. of any roads, woods roads, hiking trails or parking lots.
3. Trappers must submit a brief annual trapping report to GPMCT, outlining their harvest and their observations.
4. No ATV or 4WD access – walk-in only.
5. No live trapping of any animal without prior consultation with GPMCT.

KEEP SAFETY IN MIND!

Remember you are likely to encounter hikers, bikers, equestrians, pets and others using this land.

GPMCT welcomes observations of wildlife and comments on land management issues.

Contact info@greatpondtrust.org or Brian at 479-2673 for more info.

Wildlands MAPS at gates or www.greatpondtrust.org