



Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission South Berwick Open Space Conservation Plan

"This is our vision – we can see down the road. Without this data, it's like we're driving on the highway blind with no vision."

Smilie Rogers, South Berwick
Conservation Commission
Member (2012)



PARTNERS

South Berwick Open Space Committee

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (completed June 2013)

Develop an Open Space Conservation Plan for South Berwick in the Piscataqua Region Watershed.

APPROACH

Conservation Commission monthly planning meetings.

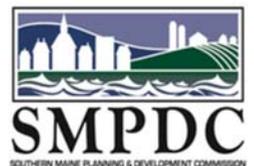
Review, compile and present existing information from the Comprehensive Plan showing natural resource data.

Integrate other natural resource data from state, regional and federal sources.

Develop a public outreach strategy to solicit stakeholder and public input.

Develop additional GIS data layers with the added input from this process.

Develop natural resource protection priorities and implementation strategies.



RESULTS

The Open Space Conservation Plan was adopted by the South Berwick Town Council.

NEXT STEPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Implement actions and strategies laid out in the plan.

NEEDS

Funding for conservation efforts.

GIS assistance to maintain and update GIS database.

LESSONS LEARNED

Local priorities for land conservation do not always closely match regional priorities laid out by other groups. Establishing conservation priorities can bring together various boards around a common purpose.

APPLICABILITY FOR OTHER MUNICIPALITIES

Other towns can use the GIS modeling which fits their own local needs.

The action steps are somewhat universal in possible applicability.

RECOMMENDATIONS

GIS assistance to maintain the database.

Continued support of mapping through the Beginning with Habitat (BWH) program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

A copy of the Town of South Berwick Open Space Conservation Plan (December 2012) is posted:

http://www.southberwickmaine.org/Public_Documents/SouthBerwickME_BComm/OpenSpacePlan_2012.pdf

The Land Conservation Plan for Maine's Piscataqua Region Watersheds (June 2010)

<http://scholars.unh.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1031&context=prep>

CONTACT

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