

Resource Allocations & Management Recommendations

Donnell Pond (Plan pp 39-44)

Actions taken/Comments:
 [2012 entries: standard font, 2017 entries: ***bold italics red font***]

SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designate the 274-acre Tilden Block north of Spring River Lake as an Ecological Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accomplished by plan adoption.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include the 550-acre area between the east shore of Donnell Pond and the Black-Caribou Mountain Ecological Reserve on a statewide list of potential areas to be considered for addition to the Ecological Reserve inventory. Once this list is completed, a decision on its inclusion will be made at that time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Done. Current Division policy is that there will be no changes to the Ecological Reserve system on Public Lands, other than deeded ERs approved by the ER Scientific Advisory Committee, until management plans for all Public Reserved Lands have been updated under the 2000 IRP. Current ER acreage is nearing the limits set in statute, and potential changes to the reserve system should be evaluated for their relative contributions to the system before modifying the present acreage. Under the current schedule for management plans, the earliest this evaluation would occur would be late 2018 or early 2019.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor recreational uses within the Ecological Reserves and other special protection areas for potential conflicts with and impacts to the values and resources being protected. A Special Use Permit will be issued for access to campplots within the Ecological Reserve on Anderson Pond and east of Tilden Pond, and for no other purpose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff monitors use in the course of routine land and recreation management duties and in response to reported incidents. See endnote about monitoring public use. Issued 4 Special Use Permits, renewable annually, to owners of campplots within the ER on these ponds.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efforts will be made to prevent ATV use on the summit of Schoodic and Round Mountains to protect the rare plant communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted signs and commissioned extra warden patrols for unauthorized ATV use. Use still occurs, but the level seems a bit lower. It seems like the proximity of the Down East Sunrise Trail has given riders another place to ride.

BACKCOUNTRY RECREATION AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the original 1,940-acre Non-mechanized Backcountry Recreation Area in Black and Caribou Mountains to include the north slope of Caribou Mountain to the 600' contour, adding an additional 257 acres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accomplished by plan adoption.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the Non-mechanized Backcountry Recreation Area north of Spring River Lake to include the 274-acre Tilden Block. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accomplished by plan adoption.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow the continuance of the existing campplots on Anderson Pond and the Tilden Block. Allow the continuance of ATV access to the camps on a permit basis only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual permits issued to 4 campowners.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporates the Backcountry Recreation Area with other adjacent areas for the purpose of developing a multi-day backpacking opportunity. This network would include Tunk, Black, and Caribou Mountains, and Schoodic and Fiery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial focus has been on developing and improving trails north of the Blackwoods Byway and connecting these to existing trails south of the byway. With completion of trails to Tunk summit and

<p>Mountains. Work with abutting landowners regarding hiking use of Catherine Mountain, Schoodic Nubble, and portions of Tunk Mountain as part of that network. Develop and utilize partnerships in managing and maintaining this system.</p>	<p>Hidden Ponds (see note below), there is now a continuous route from Schoodic Mountain to Tunk Mountain/ Hidden Ponds, incorporating a segment of the Dynamite Brook Road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This work was accomplished with input from the Blackwoods Byway Committee, including abutting land and easement holders The Nature Conservancy and the Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. • Next steps will include planning for one or more multi-day backpacking routes and associated campsites.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt the existing Spring River Lake/Tunk Mountain trail system; implement environmental improvements and aesthetic enhancements where necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trails and trailhead to Tunk summit, Hidden Ponds and Caribou Mountain are complete.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities to provide additional campsites along the ponds, lakes, and trails within the Backcountry Recreation Areas as the need arises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trying to evaluate need through surveys, ranger logs, trail cameras, etc. See endnote about monitoring public use.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the Downing Bog wetland complex for waterfowl, wading birds, and bald eagles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change. Scheduled for the 2013 field season. Eagle nest tree blew down, and eagles may have moved to Spring River Lake. • <i>IF&W conducted comprehensive eagle surveys in 2013, and believes eagle nesting has likely been absent from Downing Bog for 10+ years. This site was not included in waterfowl brood surveys due to the difficult access.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the Tunk Mountain area for nesting raptors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change. Scheduled for the 2013 field season. • <i>IF&W believes the rock faces on Tunk are not suitable for most nesting raptors, so surveys were not done.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage eagle nesting areas as essential habitat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Division observes this standard and consults with IF&W regional biologist when planning timber harvests.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with the IF&W Regional Biologist regarding recent bald eagle nesting activity on the southern shore of Spring River Lake, near the inlet from Tunk Lake. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change. Scheduled for the 2013 field season. • <i>The 2013 survey did not record a nest on the southern shore of Spring River Lake.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage riparian areas to maintain or establish multi-aged forest stands as habitat, and to protect the shoreline and travel corridors for the wide variety of wildlife species dependant on these areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done in all harvests completed to date.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the Redman Brook Valley area east of Donnell Pond does not become included in the Ecological Reserve, encourage its potential as a deer wintering area by enhancing the softwood component along the brook and upland areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No harvesting done in this area.

REMOTE RECREATION AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage the 550-acre area east of Donnell Pond to the boundary of the Ecological Reserve as a Remote Recreation area. Because of its importance to the hiking trail network, and to its possible inclusion in the Black-Caribou 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations being followed. • <i>No timber management is occurring.</i>
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<p>Mountain Ecological reserve, this area will be managed for nonmotorized uses only. Snowmobile and ATV use will not be allowed. Timber management in this area will be deferred until a decision on its Reserve status is made.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for ways to incorporate the Remote Recreation areas into a multi-day backpacking network on the Unit. Develop a hiking trail to the summits of Round and Fiery Mountains as a part of that system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next steps will include planning for one or more multi-day backpacking routes and associated campsites.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for ways to better accommodate large group use that reduces monopolization of the Redmans Beach area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated two large group campsites on Redmans beach to free up smaller sites for small groups and individuals. Still have two large day use areas on the beach.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent unauthorized motorized use of the road system in the Fiery Mountain/Little Pond area; correct environmental issues where they exist on these roads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of such use is very difficult because access is uncontrollable, there is a long-established history of vehicle use, and most use occurs at night. • The Division discourages use through signage, hidden trail cameras and public contact with visitors and violators. • <i>We have made progress in this regard these past five years. ATV usage has dropped off. We are exploring an ATV/sled trail in the Fiery Mountain area that would tie in to the DEST.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide primitive, walk-to facilities for camping and day use on Little Pond, and a walk to trail along the summit of Fiery Mountain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No activity this period. Focus to date has been on trails with connectivity potential within the Schoodic-to-Tunk/Hidden Ponds network.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a primitive, walk-to camping and day use area on the Tunk Stream outlet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore providing biking and horseback riding trails on the Unit as demand warrants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Division has had very few inquiries regarding horseback use.</i>

DEVELOPED RECREATION AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to manage the public use areas on Schoodic Beach for walk-to access only. Maintain the existing barrier in its current location at the Schoodic Beach parking area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas are signed, promoted and enforced for non-vehicle use, but occasional ATV law violations occur, e.g., driving on the beach, transporting beach gear, or simple recklessness. • <i>Extra Warden patrols have helped control this.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide supervision of the popular public use areas as needed to deter the negative uses that have occurred. Appropriate operational considerations will be applied to the Schoodic and Redmans Beach areas to manage the current level of use. This will be undertaken with respect to the more dispersed and primitive forms of recreation that takes place in other areas of the Unit. This allocation does not imply further development of facilities on Schoodic Beach, or improvements to access to this area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited supervision provided as budgets allow. • Operational changes have been applied at Schoodic and Redmans beaches, e.g., designation of separate use areas. • Contracted with Maine Warden Service for increased patrols of both water and land resources, particularly on the traditional heavy use weekends. These efforts have resulted in a reduction, but not elimination of undesirable uses, which continue to occur sporadically.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further delineate the public use areas on Schoodic Beach to eliminate camping on the beach itself, and to accommodate day use of the beach in a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two group campsites and one additional small site were established at rear of beach to free up individual campsites.

<p>more efficient manner.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two large day-use areas were designated on the beach, along with a prohibition on camping between the tree line and the water.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities to provide enhancements along the Route 182 Scenic Byway consistent with the goals of the Blackwoods Scenic Byway Plan and with the management goals for the Donnell Pond Unit. This includes looking for ways to provide sanitation, access to trail systems and water bodies, picnic areas, scenic overlooks, and interpretive materials. Utilize Scenic Byway partners (landowners, local and county governments, trail groups, etc.) to assist in accomplishing this goal. 	<p>Regional Manager is a regular member of the Byway Committee, which endorsed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • two scenic vistas cleared on the Dynamite Brook Road; • three vault toilets erected between Fox Pond and Spring River Lake; • a new trailhead and parking area for Tunk Mtn and trailhead on Dynamite Brook Road for Caribou Mountain; and • signage for recreation areas accessible from the Byway.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop or improve boat launching opportunities on Long Pond and Spring River Lake that provide a level of access consistent with historic use. This includes the relocation of the existing launch site on Long Pond to eliminate the ongoing traffic safety hazards, and the establishment of a trailered launching area along the south shoreline of Spring River Lake that eliminates past conflicts and environmental issues at the rental campsite. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new trailered boat launch was developed at Long Pond. • The Spring River Lake Day-use parking area was expanded. • The existing boat launch site on the south shore of Spring River Lake was determined unsuitable due to poor access onto Rt. 182. A portion of the day use area may be considered as an alternative boat access site. This access remains a priority for the Bureau's Boating program and for DIFW's fish stocking program. • <i>A new trailered launching area along the south shoreline of Spring River Lake has been completed.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and make improvements as needed to the Card Mill boat launching site to address safety and environmental concerns. Improvements to this area will not include expansion of the current facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed several more rocks that inhibited boat launching.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor access issues and impacts resulting from the development and use of the Down East Sunrise Trail. Work with the Division's Off-Road Vehicle program and trail interests in the ongoing management of the trail corridor with regard to those impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Down East Sunrise Trail use has been heavy in the Donnell Pond area, and generally very positive. We have definitely seen an increase in ATV use of the Shared Use Roads on the Unit. There is also evidence of multi-use activities such as driving the ATV to a trailhead and going for a hike. It <u>MAY</u> also contribute to increased ATV use on Schoodic Beach, but no direct connection can be determined. The Regional Lands Manager and the Down East Sunrise Trail Manager maintain close contact and have made joint presentations to public user groups.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at the feasibility of developing a multi-use trail along the west boundary of the Fiery Mountain/Little Pond parcel from the Down East Sunrise Trail to a parking area near the summit of Fiery Mountain and shoreline of Little Pond. Utilize trail groups and trail clubs to assist in the development and management of this opportunity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made several trips with ORV to look at possible routes. Little Pond is Remote Recreation with ¼ mile setback for motorized access • Improved the road from Downeast Sunrise Trail through blueberry barren towards Little Pond. This has provided better access for the public to pick blueberries on the private lease within public picking areas and has improved foot access to Little Pond. It also unfortunately provides easier access for motorized and particularly ATV traffic to Schoodic Nubble and Mountain. The improvements stopped at a ledge area, which was blocked with large boulders to impede vehicle traffic. The boulders were moved within days of

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with trail groups and abutting landowners in developing or locating a motorized connector trail from the Down East Sunrise Trail to points north of the Unit. Look at the feasibility of locating a portion of this trail along the west boundary of the Fiery Mountain/Little Pond parcel to accomplish this goal. 	<p>being placed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently ORV evaluating options, most of which involve crossing private lands in blueberry cultivation and travel on public roads.
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Timber Management Resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber management in the 550-acre area between the east shore of Donnell Pond and the Black-Caribou Mountain Ecological Reserve will be deferred until a decision is made regarding its future addition to the abutting Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This awaits completion of the current cycle of management plans, at which time any ecoreserve decisions can be made in a landbase-wide context.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber management where allowed should favor high value trees and longer lived species such as pine, spruce and oak. Where soils are more fertile, maple, ash, hemlock, and beech will be given consideration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber harvests produced over 6,500 cords in 2012-2017, with lower value/quality products like pulpwood and biomass making up the majority of the harvests.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber management objectives will include maintaining the visual integrity of the Unit in general and enhancing the diversity of wildlife habitat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These practices are continuing, as noted by the auditors during the Bureau's October, 2017 recertification audit.

TRANSPORTATION AND ADMINSTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the road use and maintenance agreements with the Flanders Pond and Donnell Pond campowners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donnell Pond Campowners Association road maintenance agreement is renewed annually. Contact with Flanders Pond campowners is direct but sporadic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the old camp at Schoodic Beach; determine the use and status of the Little Pond camp. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both camps have been removed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct environmental issues with the road from the Route 182 Byway to the campsite rental area on Spring River Lake. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further delineate the tent platform rental area on Long Pond; work with renters in upgrading the privies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done. There are six tent platform rental areas and two privies. The privies were upgraded several years ago.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a lease with an organic blueberry grower for management of the barrens adjacent to the Down East Sunrise Trail near Little Pond, to include restoration of the thin soils in the upper portion of the barren. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blueberry lease done. Road and drainage improvements completed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reestablish the property/township boundary line along the east side of the Ecological Reserve on the Spring River Lake parcel to help prevent encroachment by abutting landowners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done.

Rocky Lake (Plan pp 52-54)

Actions taken/Comments:

[2012 entries: standard font, 2017 entries: **bold italic red font**]

SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor recreational uses within the Ecological Reserve area along the East Machias River for compatibility with the values and resources being protected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing with seasonal ranger and forester for the Unit.
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WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue efforts to establish or encourage softwood growth on suitable softwood sites throughout the Unit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore and implement ways to enhance the habitat conditions within the Rocky Lake deer wintering area, and monitor for future use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wintering area was flown in 2011 to observe use. There was no evidence of current usage.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to look for ways to protect and enhance Atlantic salmon habitat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Division routinely consults with the Bureau of Sea Run Fish and Habitat (BSRFH) when planning timber harvests. Harvests adjacent to salmon streams apply no-cut riparian buffers based on slope and soils - generally 100 feet as recommended by BSRFH.

RECREATION AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Diamond Match Road beyond Second Lake will remain a management road, but will be maintained to permit vehicle access to a public parking area near the former “Doc Henry” camp on Second Lake. This site will also be used to relocate a hand carry boat launch area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed in the fall of 2012.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue working with local trail clubs towards managing and improving the motorized trail network in the Unit. Trail relocations will be considered to minimize safety issues, enhance connectivity, and minimize conflicts with other users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have close cooperation with local clubs on trail work. We provided gravel for construction of a connector trail from the Down East Sunrise Trail to the Diamond Match Road on the Unit. • Continued contact with local clubs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destinations within the Unit for motorized trail users will be explored, including the use of an existing campsite along the west shore of Rocky Lake and a campsite near Mud Landing on the Southern Inlet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a lean-to shelter on the west shore available for ATV use, as well as a campsite at Mud Landing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements to the South Bay boat landing will be explored to enhance its capacity to launch trailered boats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action taken to date. This site appears to be too shallow for trailered launching, and the boat access needs are adequately met with the Mud Landing site • No action planned.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A means to deter vandalism and other negative impacts from use of the South Bay and Mud Landing recreational areas will need to be implemented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contracted with Maine Warden Service and Washington County Sheriff for extra patrols. These patrols have made some improvement in public use of the facilities. • Maine Warden Service patrol continue.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements to the Mud Landing public use area will be made to better accommodate day use, camping, boat launching, and parking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not needed. The site is currently adequate for its use level.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional opportunities for remote camping on the lakes and the river within the Unit will be explored. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action taken to date based on observed use and lack of need expressed by the public.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Division’s Off-Road Vehicle program on the development and management of the Down East Sunrise Trail where it passes through the southwest corner of the Unit; including developing a multi-use connector trail from this corridor to the Unit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done, including construction of a connecting trail.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage for high value softwoods (spruce, pine, and hemlock on the more fertile sites) and for deer winter cover. True Northern Hardwood type (birch/beech/maple) should be retained wherever the soils are fertile enough to support its growth. Oak should be retained and encouraged wherever possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management activities including harvesting were started in 2016 off the Eastern Ridge Road.
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Cutler Coast (Plan pp 64-66)

Actions taken/Comments:

[2012 entries: standard font, 2017 entries: **bold italic red font**]

SPECIAL PROTECTION/HISTORIC AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify the Ecological Reserve boundary to include all of the coastal parcel, except for the parking lot and trailhead adjacent to Route 191; add additional acres in the northern parcel adjacent to the Cocoa Mountain Road to include the maritime spruce-fir community type in this area; remove a 512-acre area adjacent to the East Stream Road on the northern parcel for inclusion in the timber management program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to refine boundaries on the northern parcel to increase administrative flexibility and include all of the large contiguous wetland complex that is the focus of the ecological reserve.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor existing uses near or within the Ecological Reserves and special sites for potential impacts to the values and resources being protected. This includes activities relating to hiking, camping, ATV riding, the camp lease on the Cocoa Mountain Road, and management of the commercial blueberry barren. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing with trail steward, seasonal ranger and forestry staff. Use on the coastal parcel is considered to be increasing substantially. Demand for hike-to campsites far exceeds supply. This may be causing unauthorized camping which could threaten values through overuse and fire hazard. Bureau is considering how to improve information for potential campers on campsite availability, and whether additional hike-to campsites are needed. • Two new campsites on the coastal property. • Use on the inland parcel seems to be increasing slightly. Improvements to the Cocoa Mountain and East Stream roads will likely increase use a little. • Road improvements have increased use considerably.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct further studies and research on the effectiveness and importance of prescribed burns in the grassland areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None conducted in this period.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work closely with the Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP) in monitoring the grassland communities on the Unit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None conducted in this period.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work closely with MNAP and the Forest Protection Division of the Maine Forest Service in conducting/continuing prescribed burns to meet both grassland management goals and to prevent arson-related fires. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None conducted in this period.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage softwood growth on suitable sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the rocky headlands for seabird nesting activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled for the 2013 field season. • Not completed

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for ways to maintain or enhance early successional habitat that favor hares, bobcat, and other species dependent on this habitat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is addressed in the prescription review process.
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RECREATION AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the current trailhead parking area on Route 191 (currently designed for 12 vehicles) to better accommodate the increasing use of the trail system and primitive campsites, and to minimize overflow parking on the highway. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done. Parking area expanded to accommodate approximately 24 cars.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor hiking and camping use on the coastal portion to address compaction and the proliferation of “social trails.” Look for ways to mitigate this impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing. See endnote about monitoring public use.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the feasibility of expanding the hiking trail network to include areas on the north parcel. Explore the feasibility of this becoming an overnight backpacking opportunity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No actions taken this period. • Topic of a 2017 meeting of several groups with trail interests
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the current arrangement with the Cobscook Trails Coalition in providing stewardship for the trail system and campsites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done. Now working with the Downeast Coastal Conservancy, which incorporated the Cobscook Trails Coalition.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the hiking trail system on the south parcel in regards to maintenance issues resulting from blowdowns that could interrupt trail use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing. • Area has been hard-hit by numerous storms over the past five years, several with confirmed wind gusts of 70+ mph.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for opportunities to provide additional campsites on the coastal portion of the Unit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing. • Two additional inland campsites added.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for opportunities to provide trails for horseback riding and mountain biking on the north parcel, should there be sufficient interest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed new parking areas at East Stream and Cocoa Mountain roads to accommodate these uses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor recreational use of the ATV trail system on the northern parcel; continue to work with the local ATV club in providing stewardship and protection for the Ecological Reserve and other areas within the Unit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT AREAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber management will consist mainly of light removals of low-quality hardwoods and commercial thinning. Should markets allow, some removal of low quality hardwoods to benefit spruce and fir would be recommended, and some careful thinning of dense softwoods would be desirable. This latter should favor spruce wherever possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division harvesting began here in 2010, and has targeted overmature fir and low quality hardwoods for removal. Spruce is usually bypassed, except when it would not be wind firm. • The poor condition of many of the stands has resulted in large areas of wind-throw that are continually being salvaged. Fir has been the primary target due to its high risk and poor condition. Spruce and selected hardwoods are the focus on the future of this area from a management perspective. Spruce budworm, windthrow and fire are potential threats.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tipping will be allowed by Special Use Permit, where the activity does not conflict with other resources or values being managed or protected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Eastern Region maintains a modest program for issuing tipping permits. (In 2011, tipping permits were issued to 10 individuals.) • Current management will favor the production of much more tipping. It will be developed further if local markets and interests increase. The recently developed road system will

	provide good access for tipping, plus increased fire protection.
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Great Heath (Plan pp 72-73)	Actions taken/Comments: [2012 entries: standard font, 2017 entries: <i>bold italic red font</i>]
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<i>Special Protection Management Recommendations</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor recreational use within the Ecological Reserve for potential conflicts with the values and resources being protected. • Remove the Ecological Reserve designation from the 40+/- acre blueberry barren on the northwest corner of the property (Crebo Flat), where commercial blueberry management is permitted by deed. Encourage the use of organic management practices to minimize impacts to the abutting Ecological Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing. See endnote about monitoring public use. • Accomplished by plan adoption.

<i>Fisheries and Wildlife Management Recommendations</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor beaver activity on the Pleasant River and its impact on Atlantic salmon habitat. • Monitor the commercial blueberry activity in Crebo Flat for potential impacts to water quality on the Pleasant River. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beaver monitoring on the Pleasant River is done by the Bureau of Sea Run Fish and Habitat. BSRFH routinely travels the area removing dams that inundate salmon habitat. • No action in this period. • <i>Work should be done by other state or federal agencies if it is necessary, rather than by BPL foresters.</i>

<i>Recreation Management Recommendations</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor camping activity on the Pleasant River, and evaluate upgrade needs to the existing sites at Clay Banks, along with the need for an additional site closer to the canoe put-in area near Crebo Flat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporadic monitoring: extremely low usage. See endnote about monitoring public use.

<i>Transportation and Administrative Management Recommendations</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The maintenance and re-establishment of boundary lines throughout the Unit will need to be scheduled as time and resources allow. • An agreement for the continued use of the camplot on the south end of the Pleasant River needs to be completed. • Access to the Great Heath is entirely upon private lands; the Division will continue to work cooperatively with the landowners regarding the continuation of this access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Done as master schedule allows. • <i>80 miles of boundary line work under contract</i> • Done. • Ongoing. • <i>No action taken</i>

OSBORN, NORTH AND SOUTH LOTS (Plan p 74)

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

Management Recommendations – All Resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future timber agreements with the Town will need to include requirements that Forest Certification guidelines be met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town has chosen not to renew the timber lease that had been in effect for the previous harvest 20-plus years. The major harvests in 2011 on both Public Lots targeted low quality and high risk trees of all species.
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Management Issues and Recommendations – All Resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The abutting landowner may have interest in the future leasing of the barrens for blueberry production. The Division, however, will continue to allow for the barrens to revert to woodland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>This property was swapped off with Cherryfield Foods for another property with extensive frontage on Mopang Stream. This lot will be looked over by BPL staff and prescriptions developed for management.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the uniqueness and diversity represented by this property, it will remain in a relatively unmanaged state. Of particular importance will be the retention of any red pine stands, and their habitat importance to a rare species of moth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No longer owned by BPL.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing recreational uses of the property for hunting and blueberry picking will continue; the use of the access roads for motorized trail use will continue, with no expansion of the trail system necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No longer owned by BPL</i>

NUMBER 14 TOWNSHIP, NORTH & SOUTH LOTS (Plan p 77)

Actions taken/Comments:

Management Issues and Recommendations – All Resources

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management activities will need to address protection of water quality for Atlantic salmon purposes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing. The Division routinely consults with the Bureau of Sea Run Fish and Habitat (BSRFH) when planning timber harvests. Harvests adjacent to salmon streams apply no-cut riparian buffers based on slope and soils - generally 100 feet as recommended by BSRFH. The 2009 harvest on the smaller Public Lot was done in accordance with BSRFH guidelines. • <i>The larger lot is currently being harvested.</i>
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NUMBER 21 TOWNSHIP, NORTH & SOUTH LOTS (Plan p 78)

Management Issues and Recommendations – All Resources:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
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Endnote: Monitoring Public Use

Several plan recommendations call for monitoring public or recreational use and gauging the need or demand for particular recreation opportunities or facilities. Monitoring the dispersed recreation that occurs on Public Reserved Lands is a difficult undertaking. As a practical matter, most monitoring occurs as observations made by foresters and seasonal recreation staff in the course of their routine field work; or as a result of conditions reported or requests made by visitors and others to field staff or to the regional office.

The Division is experimenting with a number of monitoring tools to supplement these observations and reports, including visitor surveys at key access points and trail counters for more remote areas. In 2010, Division staff conducted a pilot survey at Donnell Pond to capture visitors accessing hiking trails and Schoodic Beach. Survey forms were available at the Schoodic Beach trailhead/parking lot. Staff spent one half-day at the site to observe the degree to which visitors participated in the survey. Based on that limited observation, it appears that less than 10% completed a survey. This was corroborated by an 8% response rate based on collected surveys as compared to trail counts from an infrared trail counter. In 2011, visitors accessing Donnell Pond at the Card Mill boat launch were also surveyed. Similar surveys were done in 2010 and 2011 at the Cutler Coast trailhead/parking lot. Surveys were collected periodically and entered into an online site for analysis (Survey Monkey).

The pilot surveys were conducted to gauge the effectiveness of the surveys to provide useful information to the Division. The preliminary conclusion is that the tool is useful for the following types of information: visitor origin; nights stayed; access points used; opportunities that prompted the visit; how visitors learned about the site; if visitors enjoyed their experience; and recommended improvements, e.g., improved trail information (blazing, signage and maps). The surveys will be tested at other Public Reserved Lands and further refinements made.

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

The blueberry lease holder for barrens at Cutler and at Donnell Pond is having a hard time maintaining the barrens using organic practices. The larger barren at Cutler is being encroached upon by trees, and the barrens at Donnell are facing strong competition from sweet fern. The Lessee wants to break from organic practices for a couple of years to regain control of the barrens. He then would have to go three years without any chemicals to qualify for organic status. The barrens should not be lost. BPL proposes to allow a change in the leases to temporarily drop the organic requirement. This would likely call for bidding the rights off again after September 2018 when the current lease at Donnell ends. The Cutler lease has expired but would be renewed with similar terms as at Donnell. These leases will be reviewed by a blueberry specialist from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to provide recommendations as to how to implement a temporary non-organic approach to controlling competition.

Update on Ongoing Management Challenges at Donnell Pond Unit Beach Areas:

The Bureau continues to work to address the many challenges provided by the heavy use of facilities at Donnell Pond. Improvements have been made, but they are difficult to maintain.