# Open Space and Recreation Plan for the Town of Rockport 2009

## FINAL SUBMISSION


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Maps produced by Peter Van Demark using Maptitude® GIS software

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# SECTION 1: PLAN SUMMARY

The objective of Rockport's 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan is to increase the residents' connection with the Town's invaluable natural resources and history. The Committee hopes to achieve this through communicating with the community and by implementing the Plan's nine goals:

### GOAL 1: PROTECT AND ENHANCE DRINKING WATER SOURCES

### GOAL 2: PROTECT AND MANAGE CRITICAL NATURAL RESOURCES

### GOAL 3: PRESERVE SIGNIFICANT LAND FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

### GOAL 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT

### GOAL 5: ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES APPROPRIATE AND ACCESSIBLE TO ALL AGE GROUPS AND PERSONS OF DISABILITY

### GOAL 6: PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE EXISITNG TRAIL NETWORK

### GOAL 7: ESTABLISH A PERMANENT OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

### GOAL 8: ANALYZE ROCKPORT'S BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

### GOAL 9: PROMOTE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ABOUT OPEN SPACE

The Committee's proposed seven-year action plan has identified 39 actions. The Committee feels that the Town of Rockport should make the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee a permanent committee in order to monitor and implement the seven-year action plan and provide continuity so that when the next plan needs to be submitted there is a reservoir of institutional knowledge. The Committee discussed this recommendation with the Board of Selectmen in its November 18, 2008 interim report and made a formal request in December 2008 that it be implemented. The request was approved and the Committee is now called the Open Space and Recreation Committee (OSRC). That name will be used when referring to future actions by the Committee.

# SECTION 2: INTRODUCTION

## 2A. Statement of Purpose

Rockport has not had an approved Open Space and Recreation Plan since 1983. In 1997 the Town submitted a draft Plan to the Commonwealth but it was only provisionally approved, pending updates of definitions and ADA questions. Since updates were not completed, the 1997 Plan was never formally approved. The 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan grew from a strong commitment by residents to protect our watershed and trails and to enhance recreational opportunities in Rockport's open space.

As Rockport assumes more characteristics of a bedroom community, the Town faces the challenge of preserving its unique natural and community character while it provides adequate municipal services to residents, summer residents, and visitors.

In developing the 2009 Plan, the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) relied heavily on community input and drew on the recommendations made in the 1997 plan. In April 2008 community outreach began with a survey made available in hard copy, on line and on the Town of Rockport's web site, access to which was publicized through the Gloucester Daily Times. The Committee used Survey Monkey, an on-line web service to tabulate the results.

Since the Town adopted its first Open Space and Recreation Plan in 1983, Rockport has made some significant strides toward protecting its water supplies and open spaces. Implementation of a Watershed Protection Overlay District, first adopted in 1999, stands as an important accomplishment. Lengthy effort by the Watershed Protection Committee[1] produced a report for the Department of Public Works identifying 71 parcels which were considered of high priority for purchase in order to protect the municipal water supply. Today Rockport owns about 50% of the Carlson, Cape Pond and Mill Brook Watersheds and about 30% of the Saw Mill Brook Watershed. By comparison, the neighboring City of Gloucester owns 95% of the watershed that supplies its municipal water needs.

Pine Pit, an old quarry, with 19 acres including the abandoned railroad bed off Curtis Street, and the 23-acre Waring Preserve were added to the Town's conservation holdings in recent years as well as the 8-acre Rowe Parcel, purchased through the Community Preservation Fund. The Town has also purchased significant watershed lands, particularly in the Cape Pond, Carlson Quarry, South Brook, and Mill Brook watersheds, after the adoption in 1990 of a plan to upgrade the water supply system. Despite this progress, significant work remains to extend protection of watershed areas throughout the Town. A plan to manage town-owned land would help further these efforts.

The overriding goals of the 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan remain closely related to those developed in the adopted Plan of 1983 and the draft Plan of 1997. The people of Rockport, recognizing that the Town's quality-of-life and economic vigor are closely tied to the care of its natural resources, have expressed strong support for the care of their woodland trails and shoreline, their wildlife and historic resources, and for enabling residents to fully enjoy these assets.

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[1] *Securing Rockport's Water Supply prepared for the Rockport Watershed Protection Committee in 2008 by Community Investment Associates*

## 2B. Planning Process and Public Participation

### 1. The Committee

Rockport's Open Space and Recreation Plan was developed and written entirely by the Rockport Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee (OSRAC) between April 2008 and September 2009.

Eric Hutchins, Watershed Protection Committee
Christopher Lewis
Donna Marshall-Higgins, Recreation Committee
Lawrence Neal, Conservation Commission
Marcia B. Siegel, Rights of Way Committee
Mary Ruth Sole, Planning Board
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### 2. The Committee's Charge

The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee was given a charge by the Board of Selectmen to "formulate a draft Open Space Plan to provide the Board of Selectmen with recommendations for ways to protect present and future water supplies of the Town, to provide open space recreation opportunities for every segment of the community and in every region of the Town, to protect significant natural resource areas and to provide alternatives to land owners and Town agencies to protect open space. The plan is to be created using the former plans and drafts to build upon, and within the necessary framework for eventual submission to, and certification by, the Commonwealth."

### 3. Meetings

The Committee met bi-weekly beginning in April 2008. Meetings were open to the public and were held at the Rockport Public Library on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:30 pm. Each meeting was advertised on the Notice Board in Town Hall and scheduled for two hours, with the first ten minutes devoted to questions and comments from the public. At most meetings members of the public were present and were always offered the opportunity to speak.

A posted general meeting for public comment, attended by 29 people, was held on September 15, 2008, to report the committee's initial work and to gather further input for the Open Space Plan. The chairman outlined the charge to the committee, the Commonwealth requirements and the history of open space planning in Rockport, and defined the meaning of open space. The Committee discussed the results of the Open Space Survey (see below) completed on June 30, 2008 with a GIS (Geographic Information Systems) demonstration to show the effectiveness of layering information on a map.

Two members of the committee attended an "interim reporting" meeting with the Board of Selectmen on November 18, 2008 to summarize the progress to date.

A second informational meeting for the public was held on May 11, 2009 to provide an update. Approximately 25 people attended, and comments were offered and recorded.

In May 2009 the final draft plan was provided for review and comment to the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board, the Conservation Commission and MAPC. Members of the Department of Public Works, the Rights of Way Committee, the Board of Health, the Board of Appeals, the Recreation Committee, The Watershed

Protection Committee, and the Essex County Greenbelt were also invited to review and comment on the draft plan prior to final editing for submission to the Commonwealth.

## 4. Open Space and Recreation Survey

The new survey showed that the goals in 2008 remained closely related to those developed in the adopted 1983 Plan and the draft Plan of 1997. Respondents continued to feel that the Town's quality-of-life and economic vigor are strongly tied to the care of its natural resources.

The 2008 survey forms were initially made available at Town Meeting on April 5, 2008. They were also available at Town Hall, on line at the Committee's web site and on the Town of Rockport's web site. The Gloucester Daily Times and the Cape Ann Beacon published articles explaining locations where people could find the survey on line at (HTTP://GROUPS.GOOGLE.COM/GROUP/OSRAC/WEB/SURVEY). The Committee received 296 completed surveys, exceeding the 152 received for the 1997 draft plan and the 252 received in 1983.

## 5. Developing the Plan/Public Input Meetings

During initial meetings, OSRAC members volunteered to study sections of the 1997 report and make recommendations for updates and rewriting. Members assumed information gathering and writing responsibilities for various sections of the Plan and brought their work for review and comment by the group. Each section was also posted on the Committee's web site. One member took responsibility for writing the report in a consistent style and another member for editing the document.

Following the public input meeting on September 15, 2008, the committee began a synthesis of the community's needs by reviewing the 1997 Plan, the Public Survey and September's public input meeting. Drawing on the public's goals and objectives and the research used for the first five sections of the report, a draft was completed in February 2009 for submission to the Board of Selectmen. In September the final draft was made available for review and comment to the Board of Selectmen and other concerned boards.

# SECTION 3: COMMUNITY SETTING

## 3A. Regional Context

Rockport is a coastal suburb located at the eastern terminus of MA Route 128 circling Boston. The extension of Route 128 in 1954 had a strong impact on Town development, bringing significantly increased population with its consequent effect on open space lands. A residential community bordered by the city of Gloucester and the Atlantic Ocean, Rockport includes a relatively large amount of open space. Historically, granite quarrying was the Town's major industry. Now nearly devoid of manufacturing, many of Rockport businesses depend on tourism (short-term visitors and day-trippers year round) as well as a significant influx of summer residents. The Chamber of Commerce works regionally and locally to promote these efforts. Hotels, restaurants, shops, and service businesses join construction and landscaping as principal elements of Rockport's present economy. Many residents commute by train or car to neighboring communities and to Boston for jobs and services. A small but active fishing industry with its ancillary services still works out of the Town's harbors and piers.

### Map 3A Regional Context

Rockport is regionally connected in several ways. A member of the North Shore Task Force, one of eight sub-regions of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, it is also part of the North Coastal Watershed, an area that stretches from southeastern New Hampshire to Cape Ann and encompasses small streams and watershed land. A number of swamps and wetlands provide significant open space and feed into Rockport's water supply. Around 1930, a large piece of land on the west side of Rockport, adjacent to the Town's Millbrook and Squam Brook watersheds, was purchased by the City of Gloucester. Rockport's Watershed Overlay District now applies to the portion of this land within the Town's boundaries, with about thirteen and a half percent, equivalent to 48.7 acres, remaining under the control and protection of the City of Gloucester.

On the south side of Rockport the shoreline zigzags into several small coves and beaches. The seasonal community of Long Beach stretches along a sand-spit between the ocean and the tidal Saratoga Marsh. Long Beach itself belongs to Rockport. Its approximately 100 privately owned seasonal cottages occupy land leased from the town and use a combination of Rockport and Gloucester services.

A neighboring open space, the South Woods, is both publicly and privately owned and contains a network of trails and old roads, as well as important components of Rockport's water supply---pipelines, deep rock wells, and the large reservoir at Cape Pond. As a natural body of water of more than ten acres, Cape Pond is designated as a Great Pond of Massachusetts. The watershed lands in the South Woods adjoin an extensive stretch of undeveloped land, loosely referred to as Dogtown, that covers the interior of Cape Ann. Threaded with trails, old roads, and former quarrying routes, the area is now used for walking, biking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Dogtown's woods, wetlands, and swamps not only afford pleasant surroundings for recreational users but also provide habitat for many species of plants and wildlife.

Historically, Rockport has designated open space for recreation and for watershed protection, recently adding minimum lot zoning in much of the town's undeveloped woodlands. Open Space Residential Design and a Watershed Protection Overlay District are also designed to protect open space. The committee has reviewed the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's MetroFuture document (www.metrofuture.org/) and finds the Town is generally in conformance with MetroFuture's applicable recommendations.

## 3B. History of the Community

Rockport is part of the Essex National Heritage Area, one of only 40 areas in the United States so designated by Congress. This designation places it with the other North Shore towns whose historic features and contributions to the nation's commerce and industry have attracted visitors from this country and abroad.

From prehistoric times until the arrival of European settlers in the 1600s, the coastal area that would first be named Cape Tragabigzanda by Captain John Smith in 1614 (later renamed Cape Ann by the Puritans) was occupied by people of the Pequot tribe, primarily during the summer. The Pequots, a sub tribe of the Algonquians, were primarily hunter-gatherers but did some farming despite the hardscrabble terrain.

Around 1667 a few fishermen came to Cape Ann. They cut timber and hauled it to the small coves around Rockport for transport by boat to Boston. In 1690 Richard Tarr, the first permanent settler, arrived from Saco, Maine, at that time a part of Massachusetts. John Poole followed him in 1700. Both men became prosperous through cutting, milling and shipping wood to Boston.

Early settlers received land grants, cleared land and developed farms. From 1700 until around 1820 the population increased slowly in the settlements at Sandy Bay, later to become the center of Rockport, and spread north to Pigeon Cove. The major occupations at that time were farming, wood-coasting and shore fisheries. Rockport harbors, on the eastern side of Cape Ann, were too small and too exposed to the sea to allow extensive development of the offshore fishing and foreign trade which took place in Gloucester.

In the 1820's, the development of large scale granite quarrying in Pigeon Cove and neighboring areas attracted large numbers of immigrant quarry workers from Sweden, Finland, Italy, Ireland and French Canada. In 1840, the citizens in Pigeon Cove and Sandy Bay voted to incorporate under the name of Rockport, ending their years since 1754 as Gloucester's Fifth Parish. The quarrying industry flourished, providing virtually all the granite for government installations in the Charlestown and Portsmouth Navy Yards and in Boston Harbor, as well as building projects in many regions of the country By the 1920's, however, increasing labor and transportation costs, as well as the advent of concrete construction and the use of tar-macadam for paving streets, brought about the demise of the quarrying industry. Abandoned, the immense deep pits and smaller, privately owned excavations (motions) filled with rain and ground water, providing wildlife and bird habitat, recreation, and water conservation.

Among the permanent marks left by the quarrying industry, many elegant granite buildings still accommodate Rockport residences and businesses. A beautiful example of keystone bridge-building carries Route 127 over an old railroad cut from Flat Ledge Quarry to Granite Pier. The Town's harbors and piers, formerly used to ship granite to other parts of the world, now serve fishermen and recreational sailors.

Efforts were made from time to time to develop industries other than fishing and quarrying. From the 1830s to the 1920s the air bladders of hake were processed to make Isinglass, a gelatin-like product used to filter and settle beer. A cotton mill built in 1847 proved largely unsuccessful due to its reliance on expensive coal power.. It finally burned down in 1883. Geographical location and a lack of waterpower prevented the Town from developing into a mill town as did many other nineteenth century New England towns.

Beginning in 1885, Rockport attempted to attract more maritime business by creating a breakwater to provide a larger safe harbor in Sandy Bay, a "Harbor of Refuge." Rockporters hoped the harbor would become one "to which would come transatlantic ocean liners and there would be based the North Atlantic Fleet of the expanding U.S. Navy[2]." There were regular summer visits from minelayers, torpedo boats, cruisers and even battleships. Sporadic construction using huge granite blocks from the quarrying industry continued on the planned nine-thousand-foot breakwater until 1912, when Congress halted appropriations for the project, having by then spent $190,000. Only about six thousand feet were completed and Sandy Bay never became the large, busy harbor originally envisioned.

In 1954, and again in 1965, the Town attempted to secure federal funds to repair decades of weather erosion at the Breakwater. The Army Corps of Engineers rejected these requests, and the Breakwater continues as a hazard for boaters.

By the 1840's, stagecoaches were running regularly from Boston to Pigeon Cove but with the commencement of rail service between Boston and Rockport in 1861 the Town began to attract more summer visitors. Numerous private summer residences appeared in the outlying areas of the Town. Today tourism provides a major part of the economy. The opening of Route 128 in 1954 made the Town increasingly accessible and further accelerated residential development. Between 1980 and 2000, Rockport's population grew by almost 22%. It currently numbers 7800 people year round, with a nearly equal number of seasonal residents.

The last remaining sizable manufacturer in town, the Cape Ann Tool Company, began in the 1850s as Dyer Poole's blacksmith shop. By 1891, it had evolved it into a thriving business located on the active fishing harbor at Pigeon Cove. By 1918, it was manufacturing a range of forgings for World War I. Production continued to be brisk through World War II, but dwindling business finally closed the company in 1983. A developer's plan to revitalize the Pigeon Cove property with condominiums, retail space, and public access to the waterfront was approved by the Town in 2007.

[2] *Town on Sandy Bay, p. 137*

Over the past twenty years a number of initiatives have been developed to protect the precious natural resources of Rockport. With its remarkable assets of woods and shoreline, the Town places a high value on its open spaces. In 1989 Town Meeting established the Rights of Way Committee to oversee the many miles of public footpaths, trails, and ways, including the Atlantic Path, which runs for nearly two miles along one of the longest stretches of public shoreline on the East Coast. Halibut Point Reservation and State Park on the northeast point of Cape Ann offers more than 50 acres of rocky headlands and paths, tidal pools, the former Babson Quarry, and a small visitor center and museum.

In 2001 significant open space was added when the south end of Thacher Island and its twin lighthouses were deeded to the town by the United States Coast Guard. The island, just off Rockport's coast, is cared for by a seasonal lighthouse keeper and by Rockport's volunteer Thacher Island Association. The newly restored boat ramp allows access for kayakers, campers, bird watchers, and hikers.

Rockport continues its history as an active year-round art and music community. The Rockport Art Association, founded in 1921, serves as a gallery, museum and educational center for artists and photographers, and sponsors the annual community Christmas pageant. Since 1981 the Rockport Chamber Music Festival has presented a summer concert series of world-class musicians at the Art Association. In 2007 Rockport Music acquired the Haskins Building on Main Street for demolition and construction of the new Shalin Liu Performance Center, completed in 2010, which serves as the focus for an expanded program of musical activities.

In 2006 Rockport opened the Beyea Youth Center for programs administered jointly with the YMCA. Lights have also been installed on the adjacent Evans Field and at the school complex playing field, greatly expanding recreation opportunities for residents.

In recent years, Rockport has improved access for persons with disabilities by the installation of elevators and ramps at Town Hall and the Library. New ADA accessible toilet facilities were added at Front Beach, the main swimming area, and at T-wharf in the center of Town. Accessible ramps have also been installed at Front Beach and Cape Hedge Beach.

In 2008, after the Board of Selectmen appointed an Open Space and Advisory Committee, the Planning Board began the process of developing a complete master plan, which will include the 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan.

## 3C. Population Characteristics

### 1. Population Trends

The U.S. Census shows Rockport's population grew rapidly in the 1970s and 1980s:

- From 5,636 in 1970
- To 6,345 in 1980 (up 12.6%)
- To 7,482 in 1990 (up 17.9%), then leveling off
- To 7,767 in 2000 (up 3.8%)

A study by MAPC (Metropolitan Area Planning Council) projected 8,182 people for 2010 (up 5.3%) but based on the June 2008 Rockport Town Census which counted 7,206 residents, it seems more likely the fulltime population has declined since 2000 indicating the U.S. Census alone does not give an accurate understanding of the Town's population.

Historically Rockport has been a magnet for tourists, and the population varies tremendously with the seasons. Summer population may climb as high as 20,000 including significant numbers of part-time residents with second homes in Rockport. While no counts are comparable to those taken each decade by the Census Bureau, the seasonal change in taxable receipts reported to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue for the Meals Tax is a measure of the summer increase. In 2004 and 2005 the summer months from May to October accounted for 80% of the taxable receipts, while the period from November to April accounted for only 20%. The disparity is likely attributable to the summer's population influx.

The population in Rockport is older than that of the rest of Essex County, Massachusetts, and the nation as a whole. In 2000 the U.S. Census showed Rockport's median age was 44.9, while for Essex County it was 37.5, for Massachusetts 36.4 and for the U.S 35.3.

In the 2000 U.S. Census, only 850 (or 41.9%) of the 2,029 Rockport families had children under age 18. Enrollment in the Elementary and Middle Schools has decreased in the last five years, while the Rockport High School enrollment increased, partly due to significant numbers of entering School Choice students.

| School/Year | 02-03 | 03-04 | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | 08-09 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rockport Elementary | 476 | 446 | 438 | 449 | 438 | 447 | 414 |
| Rockport Middle | 295 | 277 | 284 | 253 | 246 | 243 | 253 |
| Rockport High | 298 | 301 | 312 | 328 | 354 | 358 | 341 |

The 2000 U.S. Census for Rockport showed a slightly lower percentage of residents within the age range of 0-19 and a slightly higher percentage at ages 35-54. Rockport has about half the national average of people aged 20-34 and about one and a half times the national average of people aged 55+.

| Age Range | 0-19 | 20-34 | 35-54 | 55+ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rockport | 23% | 11% | 34% | 32% |
| Essex | 28% | 18% | 32% | 23% |
| Mass | 26% | 21% | 30% | 22% |
| U.S. | 29% | 21% | 29% | 21% |

Since the 1990 U.S. Census, the percentage of Rockporters aged 20-34 has dropped significantly and the percentage aged 35-54 has increased:

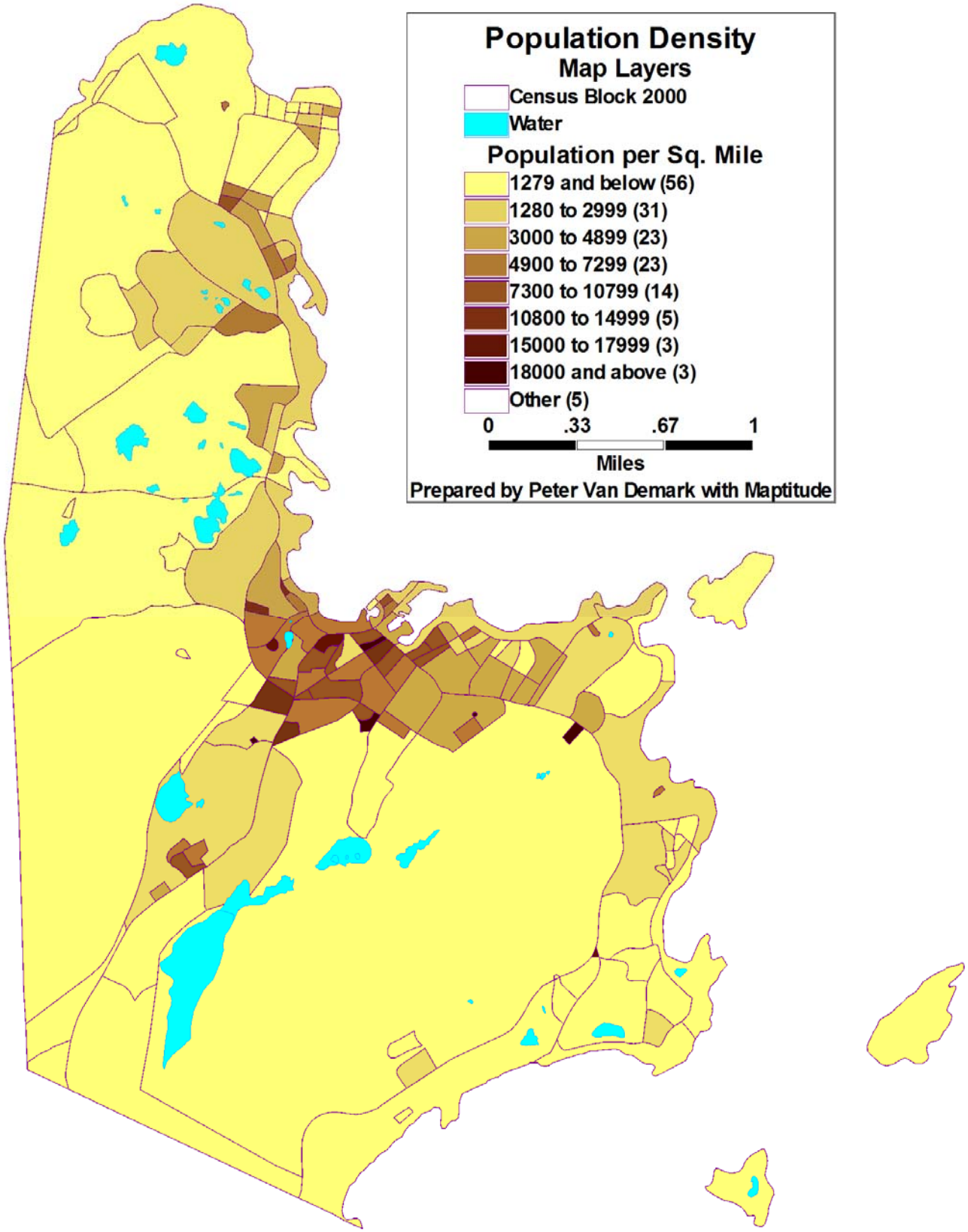
| Age Range | 0-19 | 20-34 | 35-54 | 55+ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1990 Census | 21% | 18% | 29% | 32% |
| 2000 Census | 23% | 11% | 34% | 32% |

Looking at the age ranges another way and using the June 2008 Town Census, 25% of residents are aged0-24, 10% are 25-39, and 65% are 40 and older. There are more males among those aged 0-24 and significantly more females among those who are aged 40 and older.

## 2. Population Density

The average population density in Rockport is 1088 people per square mile (about 1.7 people per acre) but there is high variability. Three-quarters of the people live on one-quarter of the land with about half on just 10% of the land (.76 square miles). Population is concentrated in the Town center and along the main roads, Route 127 from Gloucester (Main Street) toward Folly Cove (Granite Street) and Route 127A (Thatcher Road and South Street) along the southern shore. Much of the area away from the shore is open space with few roads and homes (see Map 3C). Lower density in the South End is related to a zoning requirement for larger minimum lot size. Downtown densities are larger primarily due to grandfathering and/or variances granted in the older town areas.

**Map 3C Population Density**



### 3. Employment Trends

Rockporters are well educated according to the 2000 U.S. Census. Among those aged 25 and older, 95.1% are at least high school graduates and 44.4% have at least a bachelor's degree. Almost half (49.8%) of those 16 and older who are employed have a management, professional, or related occupation while 23% are in sales or office occupations, 15.6% are in service occupations, and 11.7% are in other occupations. The likelihood of attracting new industry has been small due to the large cost of building on Rockport's granite ledge and the relatively long distances from major populated areas. The emergence of cyberspace continues to improve possibilities for home employment.

### 4. Family Income

Rockport does not meet the definition of an Environmental Justice Population, defined as "a neighborhood whose annual median household income is equal to or less than 65 percent of the statewide median or whose population is made up of 25 percent Minority, Foreign Born, or Lacking English Language Proficiency." The median household income in the 2000 U.S. Census for Rockport was $50,661, slightly below the $51,576 for Essex County and almost the same as the $50,502 statewide. This is up from $35,195 for Rockport, $37,913 for Essex County, and $36,952 statewide in the 1990 U.S. Census.

Rockport's socioeconomic status, coupled with the high cost of living for the area, may help explain the high value and high usage given by residents to the Town's open space areas. The age of the town's population also supports the importance of protecting our open space for passive recreation. The Committee's 2008 Survey results indicated that a large number of residents use the Town's open space areas and give it very high value.

In the 2000 U.S. Census Rockport had just 2% (123 of 7767) non-white residents, 6% (455) foreign-born residents, and 1% (96) lacking English language proficiency, all well under the 25% Environmental Justice threshold. Therefore, we have not included Required Map 2 showing EJ Populations.

## 3D. Growth and Development Patterns

### 1. Patterns and Trends

Rockport's demographics evolved from an early reliance on fishing, farming and logging, to a booming quarry industry and an increasingly important tourist trade. After Route 128 opened in 1954 a wealthier commuting middle class emerged, as people discovered a town with relatively inexpensive seaside property only one hour from Boston. Today most new construction takes place in the outlying areas of town away from the densely settled downtown area. Development has moved into open space areas that were previously forest, meadow or scenic hilltops with beautiful ocean views. As a result Rockport residents are increasingly concerned with identifying parcels for protection from development. The trend to an older population has brought an increased desire for sidewalks and an interest in preserving trails and open land for hiking.

## 2. Infrastructure

### 2a. Transportation Systems

Rockport is "at the end of the line" but has excellent connections to other locales with Route 128, the major loop around Boston, only 4 miles away and two major interstate highways I95 and I93 within 30 miles of Town. The Cape Ann Transit Authority provides bus service to Gloucester from Rockport and the MBTA provides rail service to Boston's North Station. Passenger and freight service is provided at Boston's Logan International Airport. In the summer there is a ferry from Gloucester to Provincetown on Cape Cod. Harbor facilities in Rockport are used exclusively for fishing and pleasure craft. A popular and heavily used bike route follows Rockport's coastline. Although dangerously narrow in some parts, the route is also used for 12K and 3K foot races.

### 2b. Water Supply Systems

Map 3D1 shows the Watershed Overlay Districts in Rockport and the water connections in Town. Cape Pond and Carlson's Quarry Reservoirs are Rockport's main water supplies. Cape Pond Reservoir, located in the south of Town, is a natural water body that was contained by a dam in 1971. Raw water from Cape Pond is treated at a conventional treatment plant located on Great Hill.

The Mill Brook Well field, consisting of three eight-inch wells, has historically been the town's primary backup source of water. It is also the town's only groundwater source and is used to fill Cape Pond during the summer months when the tourist industry requires a large supply increase. A more detailed discussion of the water supply will be found in section 4C.

### 2c. Sewer Service

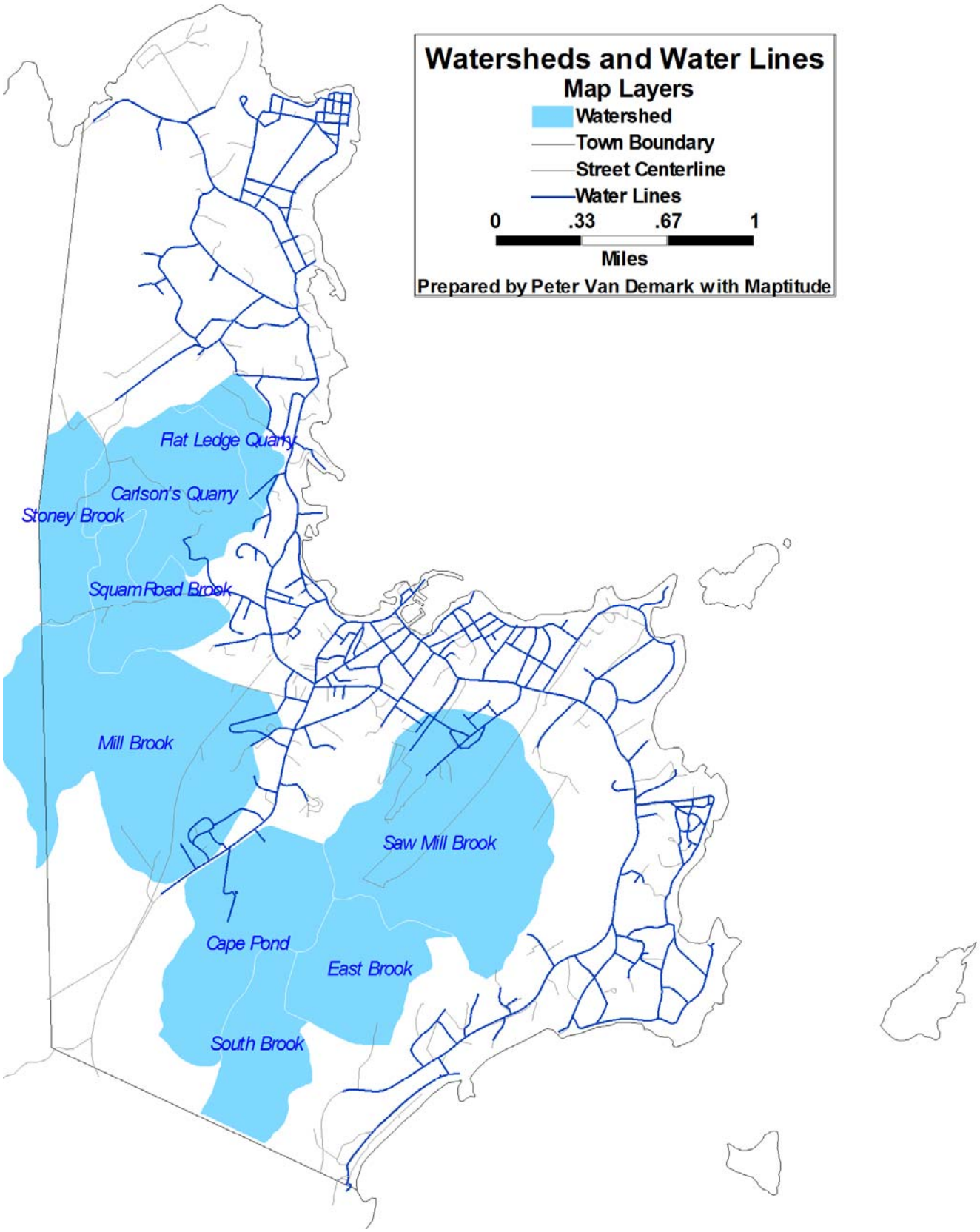
Map 3D2 shows Rockport's sewer infrastructure. Approximately 60 per cent of households have sewer connections including a recent expansion on Marmion Way in the south side of Town. Rockport is currently under an administrative consent order issued by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to remediate the inflow and infiltration of storm and ground water into its sewer system and has imposed a moratorium on all new connections until remediation is accomplished and the Town is in compliance with its NPDES permit for one year. This will affect growth in the short term since Rockport's topography and preponderance of granite make the alternative use of septic systems difficult.

## 3. Long-Term Development Patterns

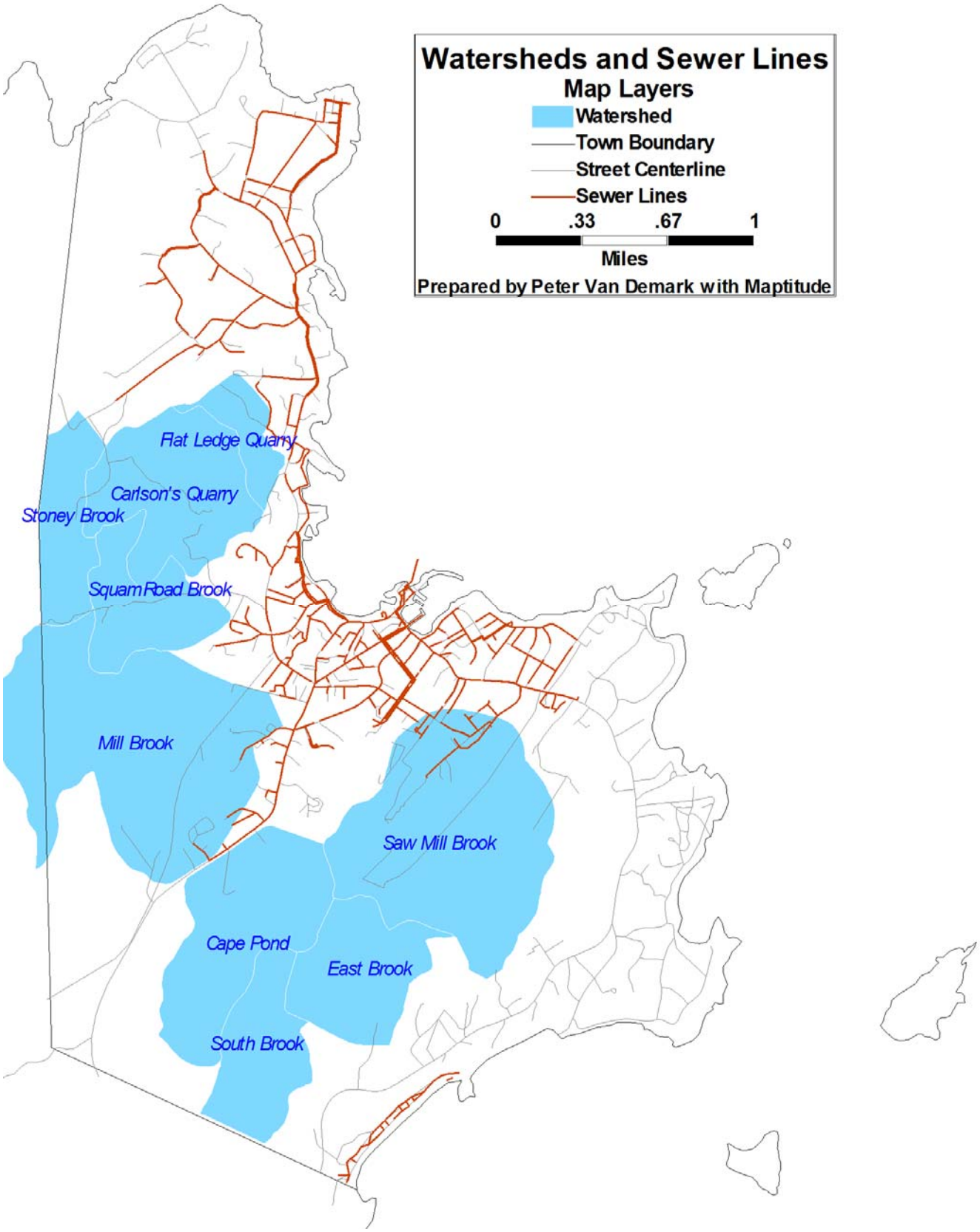
The Metropolitan Area Planning Council[3] predicts that Rockport will experience very small fulltime population growth, to 8515 persons in the year 2020 compared to 8182 in 2010 and 7767 in 2000. However, because so much open space remains outside the watersheds, there is significant potential for future development of both year-round and seasonal residences as shown on Map 3D3: Composite Development, Town of Rockport. This map of current zoning and developable areas highlights the potential clash between open space and development. Today there are large swaths of open space in the west and south of the Town. Development in these areas is currently limited because of the lack of water and wastewater infrastructure and the resulting difficulty of accessing water and of building septic systems. However, if demand pressures increase, developers might well find new ways to build private sewage disposal systems with "green" technology. Map 3D4 depicts a somewhat lessened development impact because of wetland laws requiring 100 foot buffers in the watershed overlay districts.

[3] Metropolitan Area Planning Council January 31, 2006 www.mapc.org

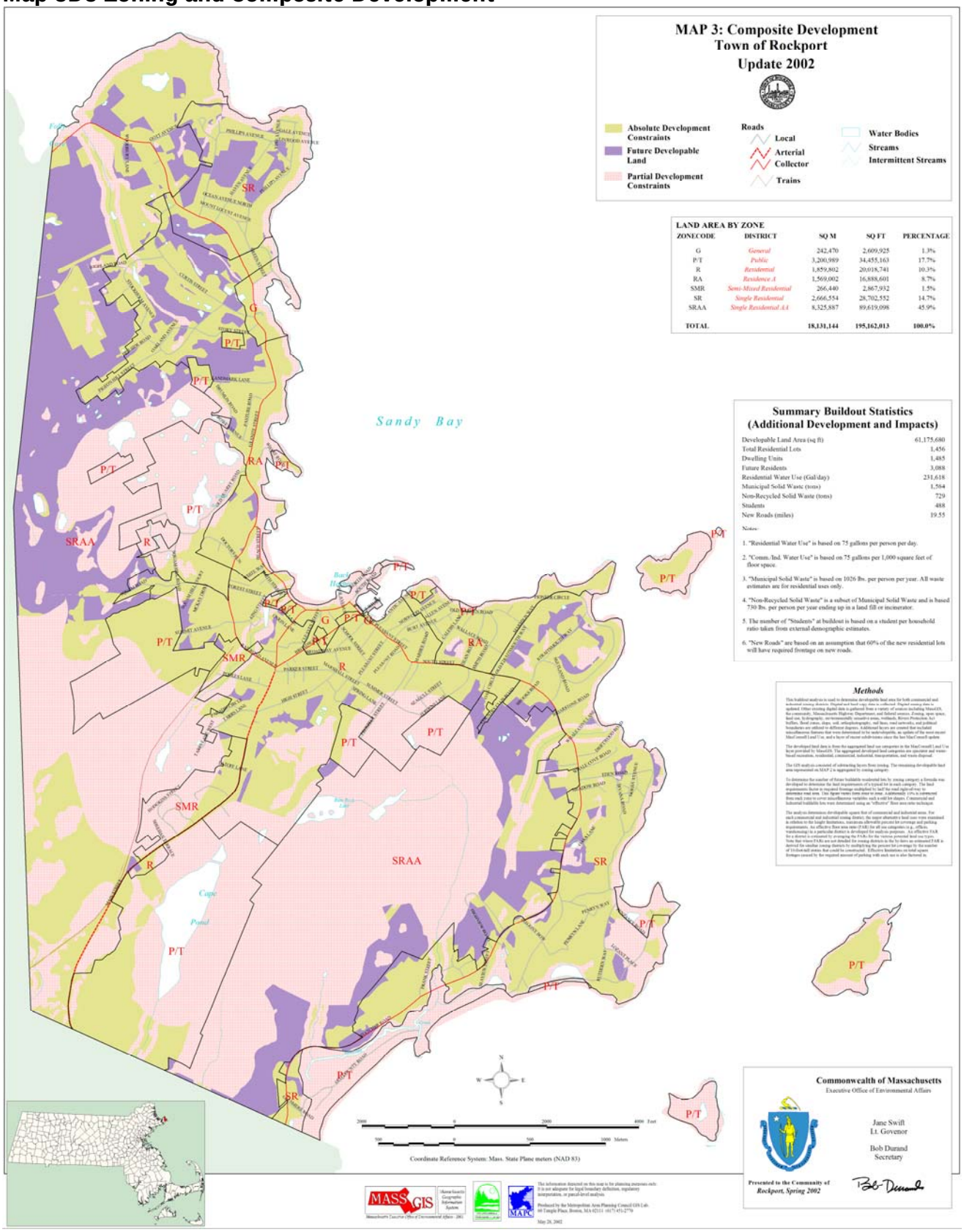
**Map 3D1 Watersheds and Water Lines**



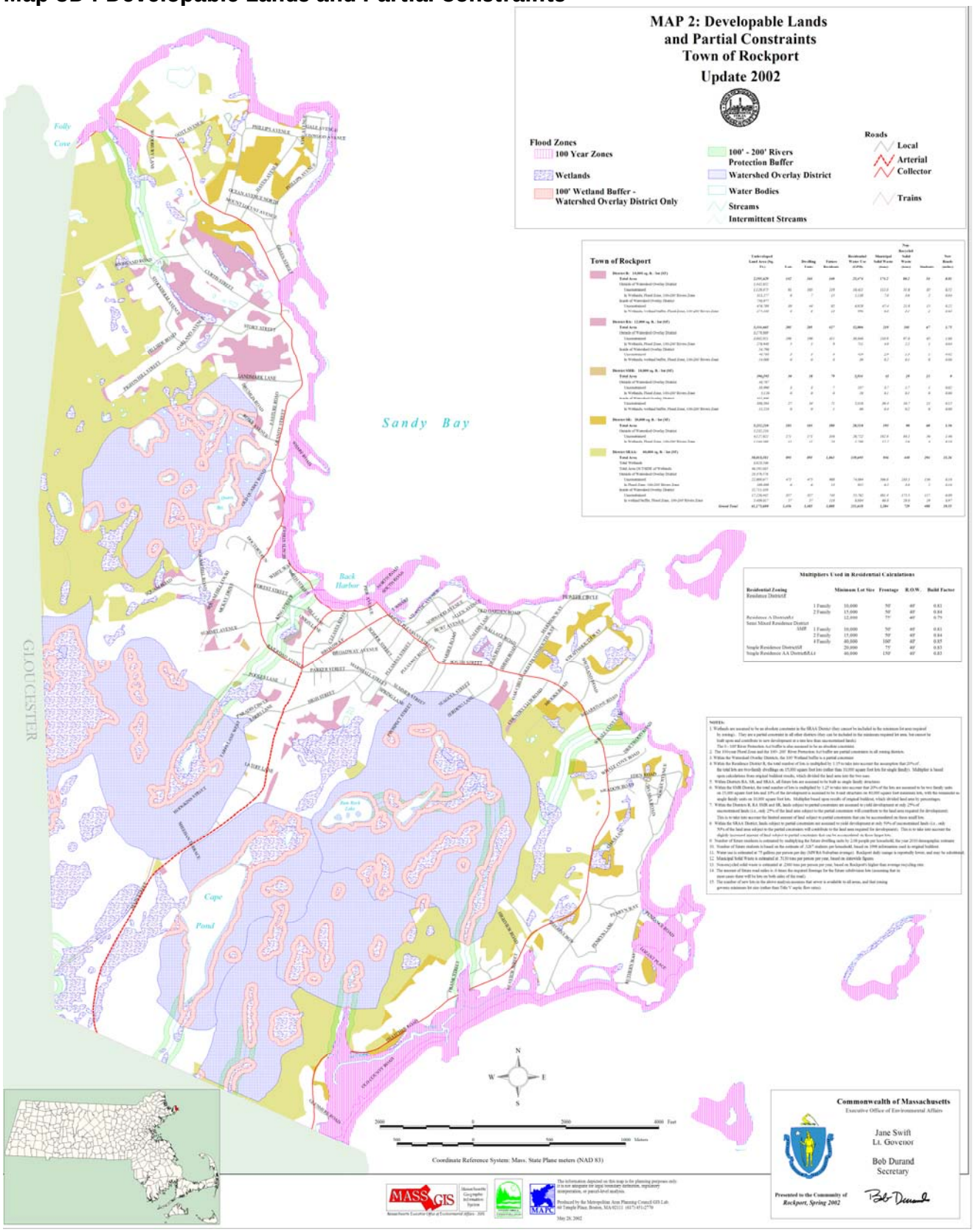
**Map 3D2 Watersheds and Sewer Lines**



## Map 3D3 Zoning and Composite Development



## Map 3D4 Developable Lands and Partial Constraints



Chapter 40B presents another challenge to towns like Rockport where a shortage of affordable housing exists. A recent court case in neighboring Gloucester allowed a Chapter 40B development to be built on a filled wetland. The Commonwealth's Chapter 40B legislation is intended to encourage towns to provide affordable housing. It allows developers to apply for permitting through a single local gateway, rather than multiple agencies. This process can essentially relieve developers from compliance with local zoning bylaws and regulations that protect open space and wetlands. Rockport's shallow depth to bedrock may contribute to the shortage of affordable housing in Town by increasing construction costs.

Rockport incomes average about 12% lower than those for the Boston Metropolitan Statistical Area, which does not include Rockport. Rockport housing prices are somewhat above metropolitan averages. Relatively-affluent second home buyers are part of the reason for the cost gap. As the housing market continues to squeeze out all but the relatively affluent, it threatens to change the nature of the community and to influence traditional uses of open space such as public rights-of-way to the sea and forests.

## 4. Current Projects

A number of recent projects will impact Rockport's present open space and recreation. The Lattof Lane subdivision, completed in 2007, added 13 housing lots. The Hobbs subdivision on Jerdens Lane Extension was approved for two additional lots. Six new housing units were approved for the Homestead property on South Street. Three recently approved projects, all in the Pigeon Cove area, are not yet under construction. These include three additional housing units at Foxberry Court, seven at Quarryside, and Old Colony Maritime's project for 22 residential townhouse units plus three units in a rehabilitated old machine shop building at the Cape Ann Tool Company property. A plan for 72 homes at Woodland Acres (originally submitted in 1988) has not been implemented, while the Planning Board's denial of 13 lots at the Pines subdivision, originally appealed in 2000, was recently upheld by the courts.

As Rockport's Planning Board begins an update of the Town's Master Plan, it supports the Historic District's consideration of additions to existing Historic Districts and is engaged in the MBTA's planning process for major restructuring of the Town's railroad station. Each of these large projects will significantly impact current open space.

## 5. Maximum Buildout

In 2002, as a step towards preserving its open space and small-town character, Rockport used an MAPC grant for a build-out analysis to show potential growth impacts under existing zoning.

Using fully built-out conditions, the study showed Rockport would look much different from what it does today. Although some areas of Town have long been considered unbuildable due to poor soil conditions for septic systems, alternatives allowed under revised Title Five regulations could allow development of prime tracts of open land.

**Table 3D. Buildout Study Summary (see Map 3D4 Composite Development Map of Rockport)**

| Development Impact | 2008 | Full Buildout Addition | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Developed land area | n/a | 61,175680 sq. ft | |
| Total residential lots | n/a | 1456 | |
| Dwelling lots | 4202 | 1485 | 35.34 |
| Future residents | 7700 | 3088 | 40.10 |
| Residential water use | 606000 gal/day | 231618 gal/day | 38.22 |
| Municipal solid waste | 3724 tons | 1584 tons | 42.53 |
| Non-recycled solid waste | 2734 tons | 729 tons | 26.66 |
| Students | 1048 | 488 | 46.56 |
| New roads | | 19.55 miles | |

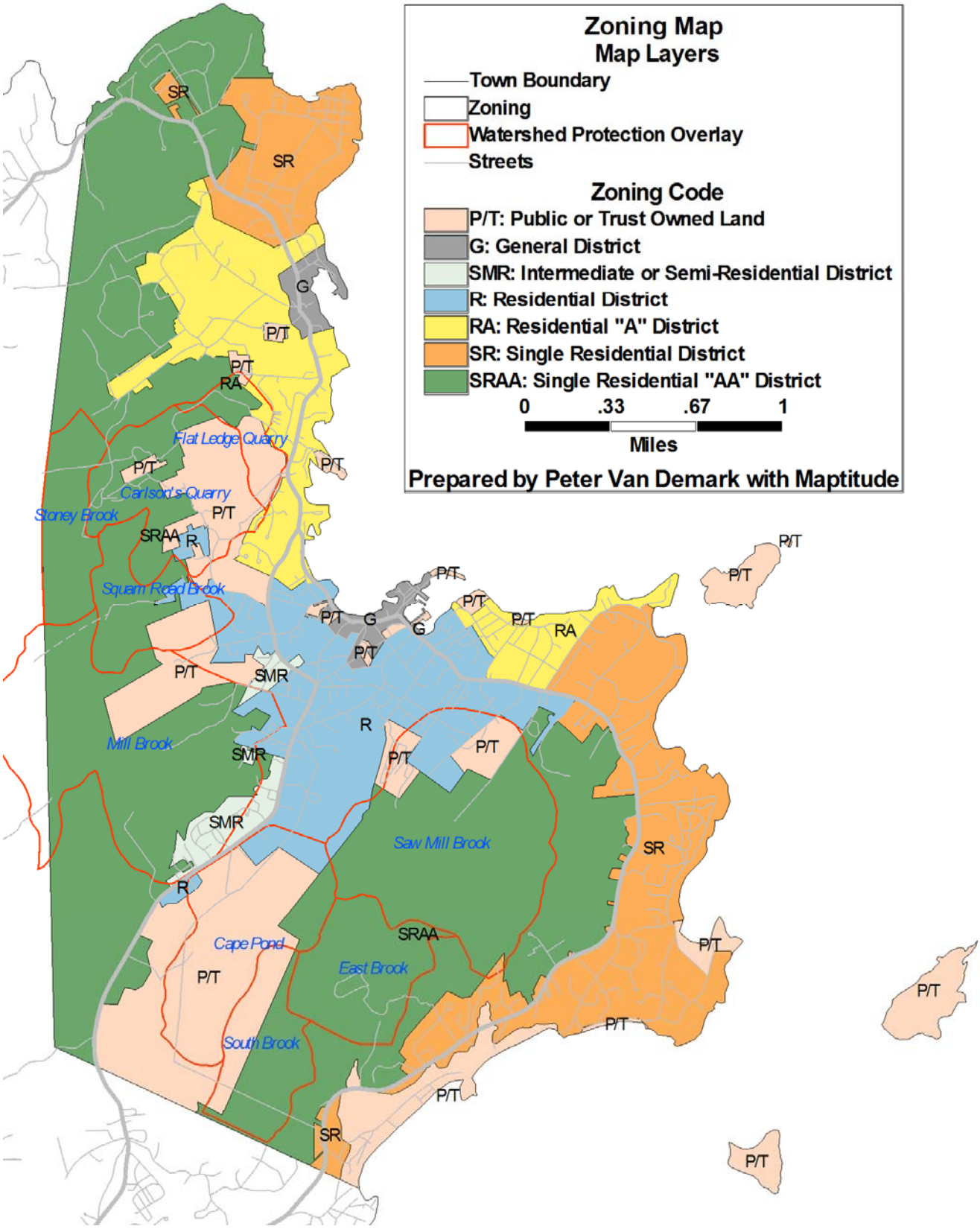
Sources: DPW, *2007 Town of Rockport Annual Report*

## 6. Implications of Potential Development

In 2000, responding to the MAPC study, the Planning Board added a new Zone SRAA, increasing the minimum lot size to a uniform one acre across much of the undeveloped area of Town. The Planning Board also introduced a new open space cluster option, Open Space Residential Design (OSRD) Zoning for parcels of more than 5 acres.

Zoning Map 3D5 shows that the SRAA area covers the majority of open space in Rockport, a large portion of which is also watershed land. If the Town is to be successful in protecting its open space, it may need to consider further zoning changes in these vulnerable areas. Recommendations for possible changes are included in the 5-year action plan, Section 9, Goal 8.

**Map 3D5 Zoning Map**



# SECTION 4: ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

## 4A. Geology, Topography and Soils

### 1. Geology

Rockport, as the name suggests, is primarily characterized by prominent granite outcroppings and very shallow soils. Rockport is underlain by a type of granite known as Cape Ann Granite and small amounts of surface deposits of Squam granite. The granite crystallized at high temperatures, probably in excess of 800 degrees centigrade.[4] The rocks of the Cape Ann peninsula are characterized by the occurrence of the same minerals but in different proportions. The granite is very close to the surface because retreating glaciers scraped away many millions of years of sedimentary rock. All this granite contributes to the external features of the landscape, outcropping regularly throughout the topography. Cape Ann is considered the third most active geological area in the United States. The largest earthquake known to have taken place in New England happened on Cape Ann in 1755.

Rockport granite was first used commercially in Boston about 1830, initially put into cellars of brick buildings, then used for posts on North and Market Streets. Actively quarried in Rockport between 1840 and 1929,[5] the rock was easily worked into a durable commercial stone suitable for building and bridge work. The first building of hammered Rockport granite was built for Terie, How and Co. about 1846. The Beacon Hill reservoir, built a little later, was one of the more extensive undertakings. The granite's ability to be polished also made it desirable for interior construction and cemetery work.

### 2. Topography

The topography of Rockport owes its characteristic features to the work of the last glaciation period, which retreated approximately 14,000 years ago. Nearly the entire surface covering the bedrock is boulder-till capped with gravel of varying thickness. The latter was probably deposited from material incorporated in the base of the glacial ice that left tons of gravel when it melted.

A glacial moraine consisting of large, uniform, angular granite boulders occupies the higher elevations of Rockport.[6] A moraine of an irregular wall of large boulders, some fifty feet in width, near the Beech Grove Cemetery, runs for nearly three hundred yards and is a striking feature of the landscape. This moraine marks a halting place of the great ice sheet as it retreated northward at the close of the glacial period.

The deposit of sand and gravel near the Rockport Railroad station (a serpent kame) marks the course of a subglacial stream that once flowed under the glacial ice cap on the surface of boulder till. Pigeon Hill, southwest of Pigeon Cove, is a typical drumlin of boulder till. Coastal lowland areas of Rockport such as Pebble Beach, Cape Hedge and Long Beach with their associated landforms were caused by Quaternary Period glacial processes. The retreat of the ice sheet left behind rounded hills that were formed by an irregular sheet of till between 50 -100 feet thick. Rockport's small surface size, relatively low elevations and the presence of so much boulder filled moraine/till on bedrock slowed the erosive action of streams. The deposition of marine clays, the barrier and pocket beaches, and the effects of sea driven forces on variously jointed rock still attest to the processes of glacial and marine erosion.

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[4] Bedrock Geological Map of Gloucester and Rockport Quadrangles, Essex County, Massachusetts by William H. Dennen, 1992
[6] History of the Granite Industry of New England by Arthur Wellington Brayley, 1913
[6] Draft of Rockport's Open Space Plan, 1997

On Thacher Island, and at Whale Cove and Folly Point, gravel deposits may represent a partial end moraine, a brief pause during the retreat of the glacier. When marine clay and ground rock dust became compacted they formed layered deposits that can be found fifty feet or more above today's sea level, a result of isostatic rebound, the process of rising landmasses previously compressed by the huge weight of the glacier. Whale Cove exhibits clearly stratified marine clay deposits overlaid by later glaciofluvial deposits.

Evidence that sea level was higher than today can be found by examining the wave-cut benches at Loblolly Cove. These escarpments were probably cut 11,000 to 14,000 years ago after the ice sheet had retreated and isostatic rebound had been completed. Most of the sand for the pocket beaches of Front Beach, Back Beach, Old Garden Beach and Pebble Beach resulted from minor glaciofluvial deposits and bedrock headlands broken down by freeze-thaw action and marine erosion.

Most streams and valleys in Rockport are preglacial in origin. Without clay soils to hold it, most precipitation either runs off immediately from bedrock or penetrates deep into bedrock faults, from where it emerges very slowly. The Town has taken advantage of this by successfully drilling two bedrock wells, which if brought on line are intended to provide emergency drinking water resources[7]; see "Other Water Supply Areas" in section 4C.

### 3. Soils[8]

The last glacial episodes produced the base for the mineral soils that are now found in Rockport. These are known as Inceptisols and occur throughout New England. In well-drained, undisturbed sites this topsoil averages between two and a half and eight inches deep. Due to their glacial origin, these soils also contain high densities of boulders and rocks.

The greater part of the Rockport land surface consists of low irregular hills and ridges. Commonly, there are bedrock exposures with small depressions of very poorly drained organic soils. The predominant soil is composed of Chatfield-Hollis rock outcrop association, representing 35% of the total (see Map 4A1). Characterized by stones and boulders on the surface, it is found on undulating ridges and hills. This soil made farming in Rockport an arduous enterprise and turned the economy to fishing, granite quarrying and tourism. The poor agricultural conditions, however, provide rich soil for species such as Northern Red Oak, Sugar Maple and White Ash, which dominate our woodlands.

### 4. Development

Undeveloped land comprises nearly two thirds of Rockport's land area, which is a very high percentage for a long established area near a major metropolitan area. Because the exposed bedrock of the Chatfield-Hollis soil limits suitability for dwellings, commercial buildings, septic tank absorption fields or shallow excavations, development has progressed somewhat slowly. Developers have generally relied on Town water and sewer to avoid the difficulty of finding adequate percolation for septic systems and the high cost of blasting sewer lines through ledge. In response to a 1995 consent order with the Massachusetts Department of the Environment (MADEP), Rockport has recently instituted a limited sewer moratorium as it undertakes a storm water and groundwater inflow and infiltration minimization program to mitigate excess flows to the sewage plant[9] and overflows of raw sewage to the ocean. This will limit development in the short term outside of the built up areas, but with the increasing desirability of Rockport, the economics and technology of development in bedrock areas could change.

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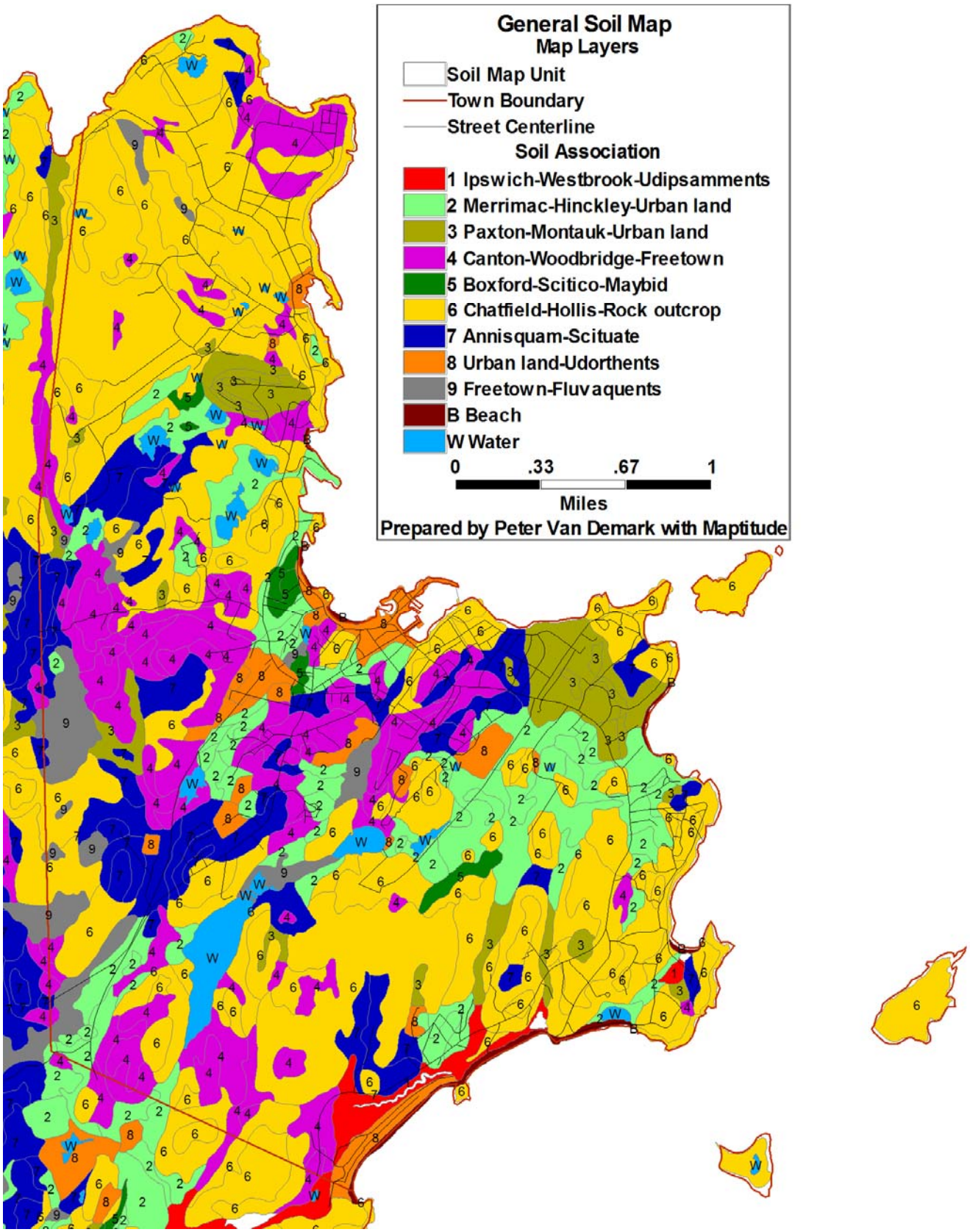
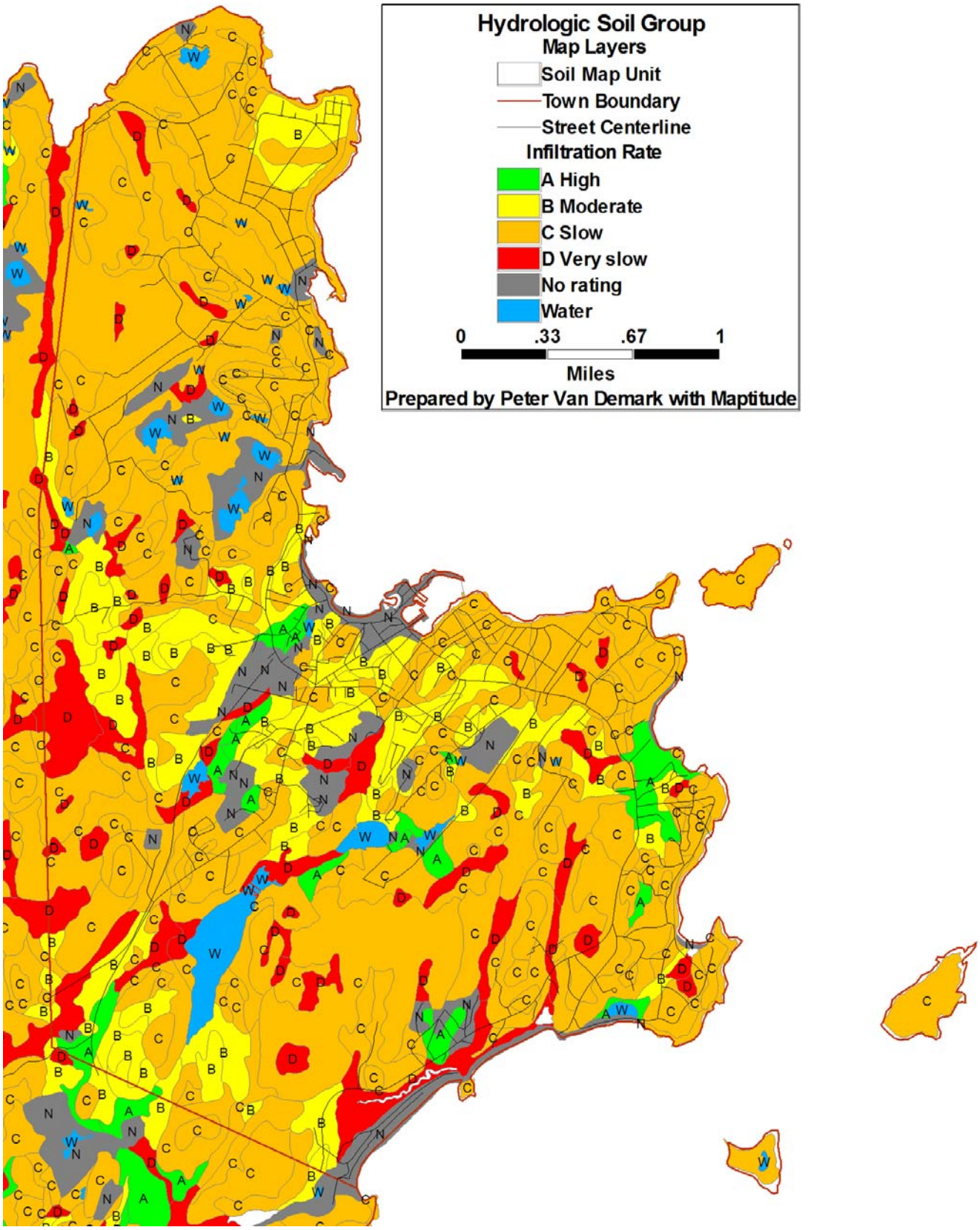
[8] *US Department of Agriculture: Soil Survey of Essex County, Massachusetts, Southern Part*
[9] *DEP Administrative Consent Order*
[10]*Securing Rockport's Water Supply prepared for the Rockport Watershed Protection Committee 2008 by Community Investment Associates*

**Map 4A1 General Soil Map**



**Map 4A2 Hydrologic Soil Group**



### 5. Drinking Water and Wastewater Issues

Rockport has ten watershed areas defined by the Rockport Zoning Bylaw, of which two are key for the current water supply. Rockport's granite quarrying heritage created the Carlson Quarry, one of the two important sources of water for Rockport; the second source is the Cape Pond Reservoir. Lack of development in the watersheds has helped retain high water quality for Rockport. Section 9, the Seven-Year Action Plan, includes recommendations for protecting the water supply strongly based on the 2008 report of the Watershed Protection Committee[10].

The Mill Brook well field, consisting of three shallow tubular wells, is the only permitted groundwater source of Rockport's water supply. The Mill Brook well field is closely linked to Loop Pond that is fed by Mill Brook and located immediately upstream of wells. These wells are permitted for approximately 25% of the total permitted capacity in Rockport, but on an annual basis provides around 20% or less of the water consumed.

The delineation of the Mill Brook watershed and very closely associated identified aquifer are located in the central west portion of the Town of Rockport, north of Route 127 and split by the commuter rail line. For all practical purposes, the Mill Brook watershed boundary as shown on the Town Zoning Map is that same delineation as the delineation for the Mill Brook aquifer. Mill Brook and its watershed and associated aquifer drain with water moving from the northwest to the southeast, moving from Briar Swamp through Loop Pond and over and through the well field. The size of the watershed and aquifer is approximately .6 square miles and the headwaters start in Gloucester.

The well field is located at the bottom of Applecart Road. The wells are located in shallow, unconsolidated glacial deposits between Poole's Hill to the north and Great Hill to the south. These deposits are typical of the Rockport region. Test drilling at the well field showed that there is 3-4 feet of fine sand and peat in the Mill Brook valley and likely over the length of the well field. This is underlain by sand and gravel for 6-7 feet, silt and clay deposits for a depth of 10-12 feet, followed by additional sand and gravel deposits. Bedrock is assumed to be at depths of 36 feet or more.

The majority of the Mill Brook watershed is undeveloped. According to records from the Rockport Assessors' office, there are a total of 224 parcels within the watershed boundary. The predominant land use in the watershed is forest cover, primarily on vacant parcels, but also in part on some of the residential parcels. The watershed contains numerous walking trails. There are also extensive wetlands, primarily associated with Briar Swamp and Loop Pond. Approximately 56% of the watershed is in protected open space in public or non-profit ownership. Having so much undeveloped and protected land within the watershed is beneficial to the protection of the water supply.

## 4B. Landscape Character

### 1. Heritage Landscape

Rockport possesses a heritage landscape as a result of its people's interactions with the natural environment (see Map 4B1). The dense local granite led to the creation of large numbers of commercial quarries and small backyard quarries locally known as motions. Throughout the Town are reminders of the era when Rockport exported granite all over the United States. Rockport's curbing and many of the home foundations are made of local granite blocks. The Keystone Bridge, under which trains, filled with granite, passed on their way to Granite Pier to be loaded onto ships, now carries traffic on its way around Cape Ann. Adjacent to the old railroad bed is Flat Ledge Quarry, which is both a water resource for Rockport and provides wonderful scenic vistas from nearby public trails. The most well known of Rockport's quarries is at Halibut Point, which is now a state park and one of the few protected quarries in Rockport.

## Major Trail Networks

- **Halibut Point Reservation** is a state park adjacent to a large area owned by the Trustees of Reservations. The park area includes a visitor center and a large quarry from the former Babson Farm. The park is surrounded by trails over the rocks to the ocean, a wooded area, acres of rough blueberry fields, and a splendid lookout built on a massive pile of discarded quarry stone. Halibut Point is a notable bird watching site.

- With several footpaths leading to it from the street, the 1.25-mile **Atlantic Path** allows walkers to follow the rocky shore from Pigeon Cove to the northern end of Hoop Pole Cove. Like Halibut Point, the Atlantic Path is an ideal vantage point for spotting sea birds, especially in the winter.

- The wooded area between Phillips and Haven Avenues in Pigeon Cove is called **Andrews Woods**. Although situated in a residential neighborhood, these woods are crisscrossed with paths and are well-used by walkers.

- A railroad track that ran between Folly Cove in Gloucester and Pigeon Cove harbor once brought stone from the quarries to be exported by sea. A section of the railroad bed leading west off Curtis Street was acquired by the Town, with some adjoining woods, as a conservation area. Trails lead through the woods around a small quarry, **Pine Pit**, and the old railroad bed runs over wetlands that attract flocks of migratory birds.

- **Pigeon Hill** is the site of one of the Town's three water towers. Fields below the tower afford excellent views of the ocean and the Town. The surrounding woods contain trails leading to the former Pingree School in Pigeon Cove and to Steel Derrick and Big Parker's quarries.

- Two large adjoining quarries, **Flat Ledge** and **Carlson's**, now form a major component of Rockport's water supply. The surrounding woods are threaded with trails that pass by smaller pits and remnants of the once-thriving quarry industry. These woods are notable for their many vernal pools and patches of lady slipper orchids.

- Entering the quarry system from the Granite Pier, a former quarry road passes under a keystone arch. This fine example of granite bridge construction, built in 1872, carries Route 127, the main road from Rockport center to Lanesville.

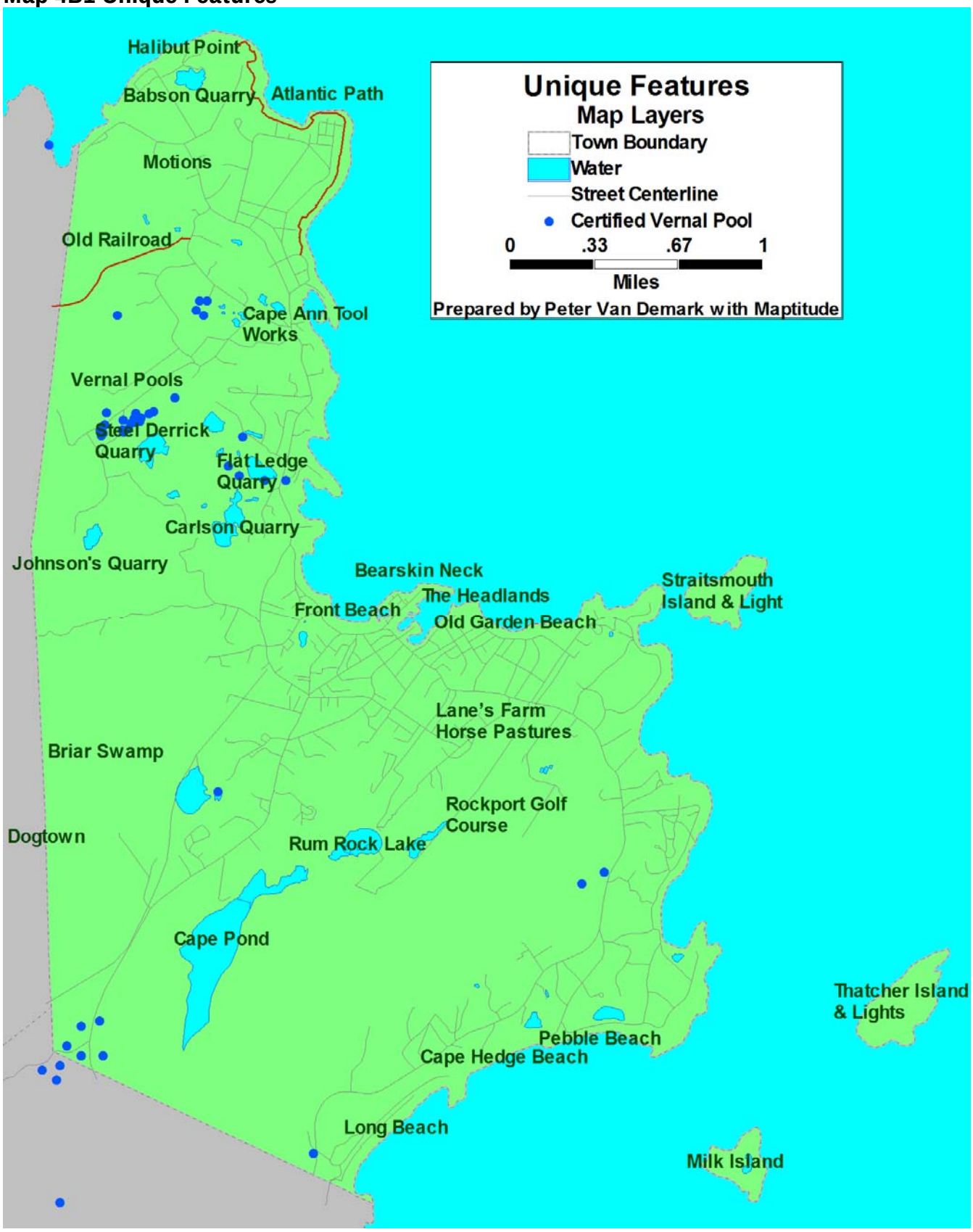
- West of the quarries, Rockport woods extend both north and south to provide an almost unbroken wilderness area laced with trails and disused roads, blending along the western Town line with the Gloucester woods known as **Dogtown**.

- Rockport's **Town Forest** can be accessed from Summit Avenue and Squam Hill Road. Trails lead around a water tower into the Steel Derrick and Johnson's Quarry watershed, along a footbridge that spans the cranberry bogs and pitcher plants of **Briar Swamp**, and into the many wooded acres of Dogtown. Paths lead eastward to the recreation area of Evans Field.

- Beavers have flooded large areas of the woods near the commuter rail tracks and Route 127, the main road into Rockport. They maintain a lodge in the middle of **Loop Pond**, where a circumferential trail accommodates wildlife observers.

- Trails leading out of **Beech Grove Cemetery** take walkers into the Southern Woods. This very large undeveloped watershed area contains **Cape Pond**, Rockport's other main reservoir, and the brooks, streams, and deep-rock aquifers that feed into the Pond. Generous tracts of mountain laurel line the trails of the **South Woods**, and there are fine vistas from the high outcroppings and boulders. Walkers and horseback riders frequent these dense woods.

**Map 4B1 Unique Features**



- On the eastern side of the South Woods, bordering the Rockport Golf Club and the protected meadows of **Waring Fields**, the Town maintains the **Delamater Preserve** conservation area, which can be accessed from South Street.

- Access to the ocean south of the center of Rockport is available along a chain of beaches, coves, and rocky ledges. Public footpaths lead in from the road to **Emerson Point, Flat Rock Point, Steep Bank Landing,** and **Cogswell Farm Landing**. There is limited parking at **Long Beach, Cape Hedge Beach, Pebble Beach,** and **Loblolly Cove**, but all these areas attract walkers as well as large numbers of swimmers, divers, surfers, fishermen, bird watchers, and picnickers year-round.

- The ocean road looks out on **Thacher Island**, site of the twin lighthouses that have become a Town trademark and center the official Town seal. The island is approximately 52 acres. The southern 30 acres are owned by the Town of Rockport. The northern 22 acres are owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and are a National Wildlife Refuge. The island is accessible by boat for walkers, bird watchers, and fishermen.

- Closer to the center of town is the **Kieran Preserve**, named for the distinguished naturalist John Kieran, who summered in Rockport. The Preserve is a town-owned nature sanctuary with a circular path that features songbirds, mosses and ferns, and a spectacular display of trout lilies in spring.

- The **Old Garden Path** is a relatively flat and smooth walkway along the ocean skirting Old Garden Beach and Davis Park, with superb views of birds, boats and sea.

- Just outside the center of Town, **The Headlands** is a large rocky area with pathways and benches where visitors can picnic and enjoy views of the ocean and harbor.

A series of public footpaths, lookouts, beaches, and pocket parks encircles the business center of Rockport, facilitating intimate and accessible contact with the sea that has played such a profound role in the history of the Town.

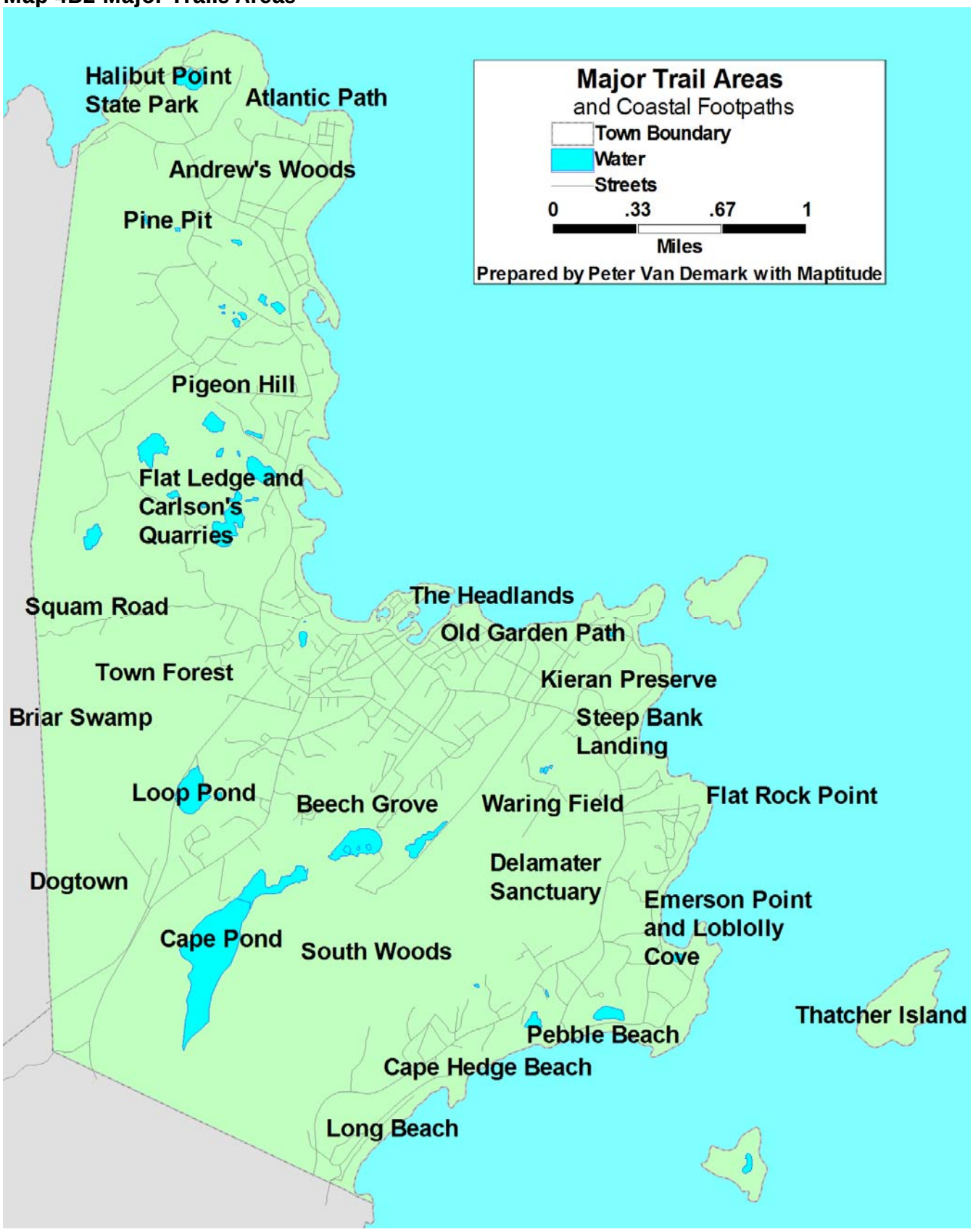
### 2. Beaches

There are seven beaches in Rockport and all are accessible to the public (see Table 4B2). Two of these beaches are in Town, Front Beach and Back Beach. Old Garden Beach is within walking distance while Cape Hedge Beach, Pebble Beach, Loblolly Beach and Long Beach are at the South End.

### Table 4B2. Rockport Beaches

| Beach | Parking |
|---|---|
| Back Beach | Metered |
| Front Beach | Metered |
| Old Garden Beach | Resident only |
| Pebble Beach | Partially open |
| Cape Hedge Beach | Resident only |
| Long Beach | Resident only |
| Loblolly Beach | Resident only |

**Map 4B2 Major Trails Areas**



### 3. Issues

There are a number of issues, which the Committee has addressed in the Seven-Year Action Plan recommendations in Section 9:

- Marking of trails
- Need for parking at certain trails and rights of way
- Preservation of public rights of way
- Paths and rights of way
- Permitted uses
- Maintenance of trails and rights of ways
- ADA access
- Improving the level of protection of public trails
- Identification of priority parcels for protection

## 4C. Water Resources

There are extensive fresh and saltwater resources in Rockport, which play an important role in the social, economic and environmental fabric of the Town. For a variety of reasons, water resources are more important to Rockport than most municipalities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Due to the importance of Rockport's water resources, they need to be carefully considered as part of any open space planning and implementation process.

### 1. Drinking Water

The Town of Rockport depends on both surface and groundwater supplies for its domestic water supply. Rockport does not have access to the water resources of the Metropolitan Water Resources Authority and only limited ability exists to draw on Gloucester's water supply in the event of an emergency. The municipal water delivery system provides 3400 connections serving approximately 96% of the Town's population. In 2004, the average daily demand on the system was .606 million gallons per day (MGD), with a maximum consumption of 1.165 MGD on July 4th of that year. Rockport's water system is registered under the Water Management Act to provide a maximum average daily withdrawal of 0.72 MGD from all sources over the course of the year. A summary of the current supply areas is outlined in Table 4C below and locations of the water supply areas can be found in Map 4C1.

### Table 4C: Existing Water Supply Watersheds in Rockport

| Water Source | Status | Permitted Withdrawal |
|---|---|---|
| Cape Pond Reservoir | Registered | .72 MGD includes Carlson's, Flat Ledge and Mill Brook Wellfield |
| Carlson's Quarry Reservoir | Registered | |
| Flat Ledge Quarry | Permitted as additional source - 2002 | |
| Mill Brook Well field | Registered | |
| Saw Mill Brook | Emergency use only | |
| Steel Derrick Quarry Reservoir | Emergency use only | |

Source: Water Supply Operations Plan for Rockport, Massachusetts. SEA Consultants. 2005

### Cape Pond Reservoir Watershed

Cape Pond is Rockport's oldest source of public water and was first used as a reservoir in 1895. It is the largest area of surface water as can be seen on Map 4C1. The reservoir currently supplied an average of .38 MGD over a recent typical year. Water from other sources is sometimes diverted into Cape Pond for storage prior to being run through the water treatment system located next to Cape Pond. The Cape Pond watershed is approximately 216 acres; of this total about 86% of the land is in municipal control making this the most protected water supply in Rockport. Only a minor level of residential development exists on the western edge of the Cape Pond watershed.

### Carlson's Quarry and Flat Ledge Quarry Watersheds

The Carlson's and Flat Ledge quarry complex has been used for municipal water supply purposes since 1953. This watershed also includes Steel Derrick, Johnson's and many other smaller water bodies. Permits were issued to include additional water withdrawals from Flat Ledge Quarry only in 2002. Both quarries reach depths of approximately 100 feet. The Carlson's/Flat Ledge watershed is approximately 196 acres in size. Within this area Steel Derrick Quarry has often been used for emergency water supply. Water is transferred from Steel Derrick Quarry to Carlson's Quarry by gravity overland or through a pipe. This watershed is relatively undeveloped with approximately 24 residential properties contained within its boundaries. A number of these houses are serviced by on-site subsurface sewage disposal. However, only about 40% of this watershed is municipally owned with the remainder being primarily large privately owned and undeveloped lots.

The Town has been actively investigating the opportunity to expand the storage capacity of Flat Ledge Quarry with the construction of a large concrete dam at the eastern side of the quarry. A decision has not yet been made by the Town to construct this dam.

### Saw Mill Brook Watershed

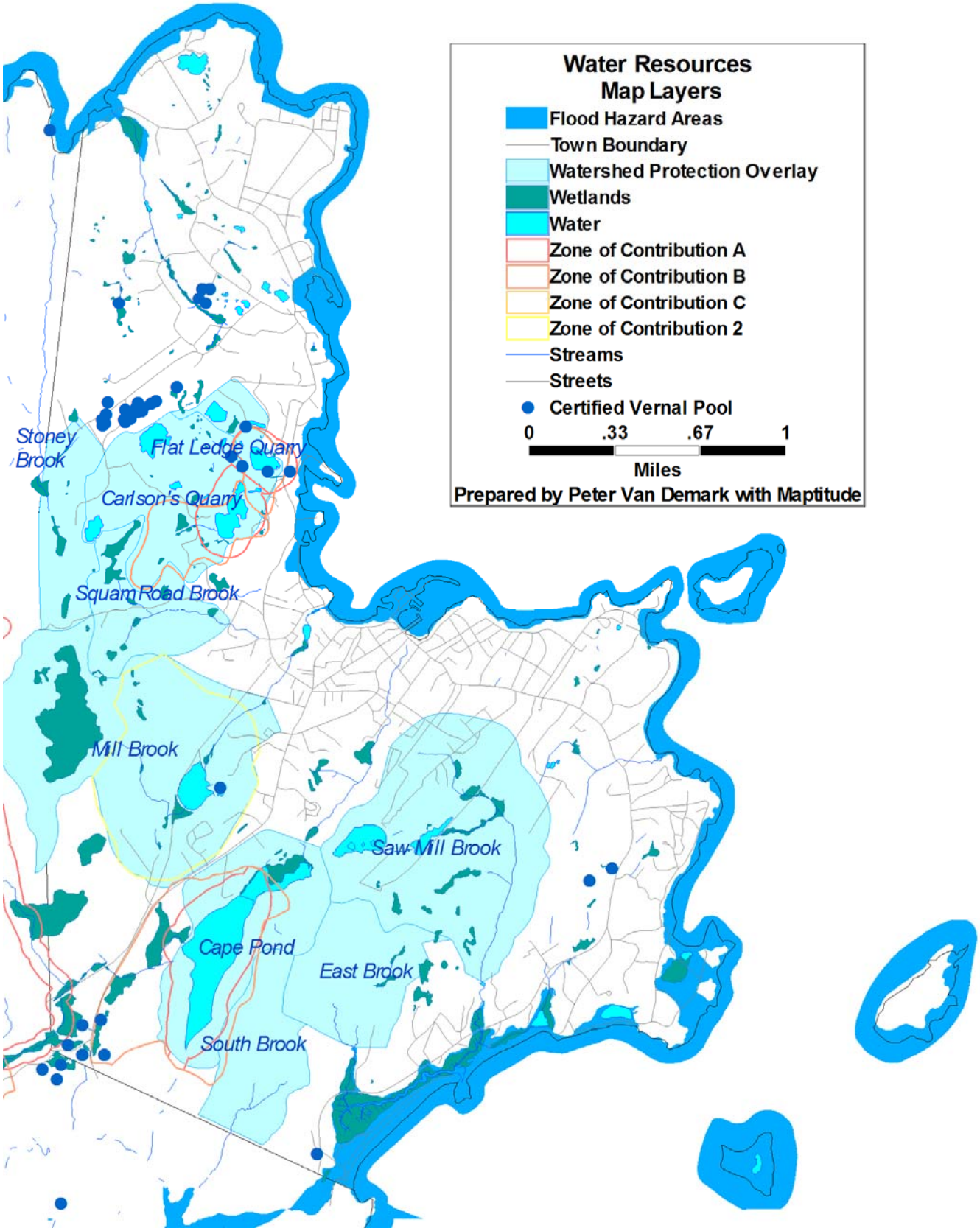
The Saw Mill Brook is located in the southeastern side of Rockport and drains a relatively large watershed of 378 acres. A long pipeline runs through the woods from the pumping station off Frank Street to Cape Pond. This water supply is used only for emergency purposes. Between 1990 and 2007, pumping took place only twice, in 2000 and 2002. The Saw Mill Brook watershed is the most developed and potentially most developable in the future. Only about 70 acres of this watershed is municipally owned and much of this is school property. There are many houses in this watershed that are still on privately owned septic systems. A number of on-going subdivision and smaller development projects are being proposed within this watershed.

### Mill Brook Watershed

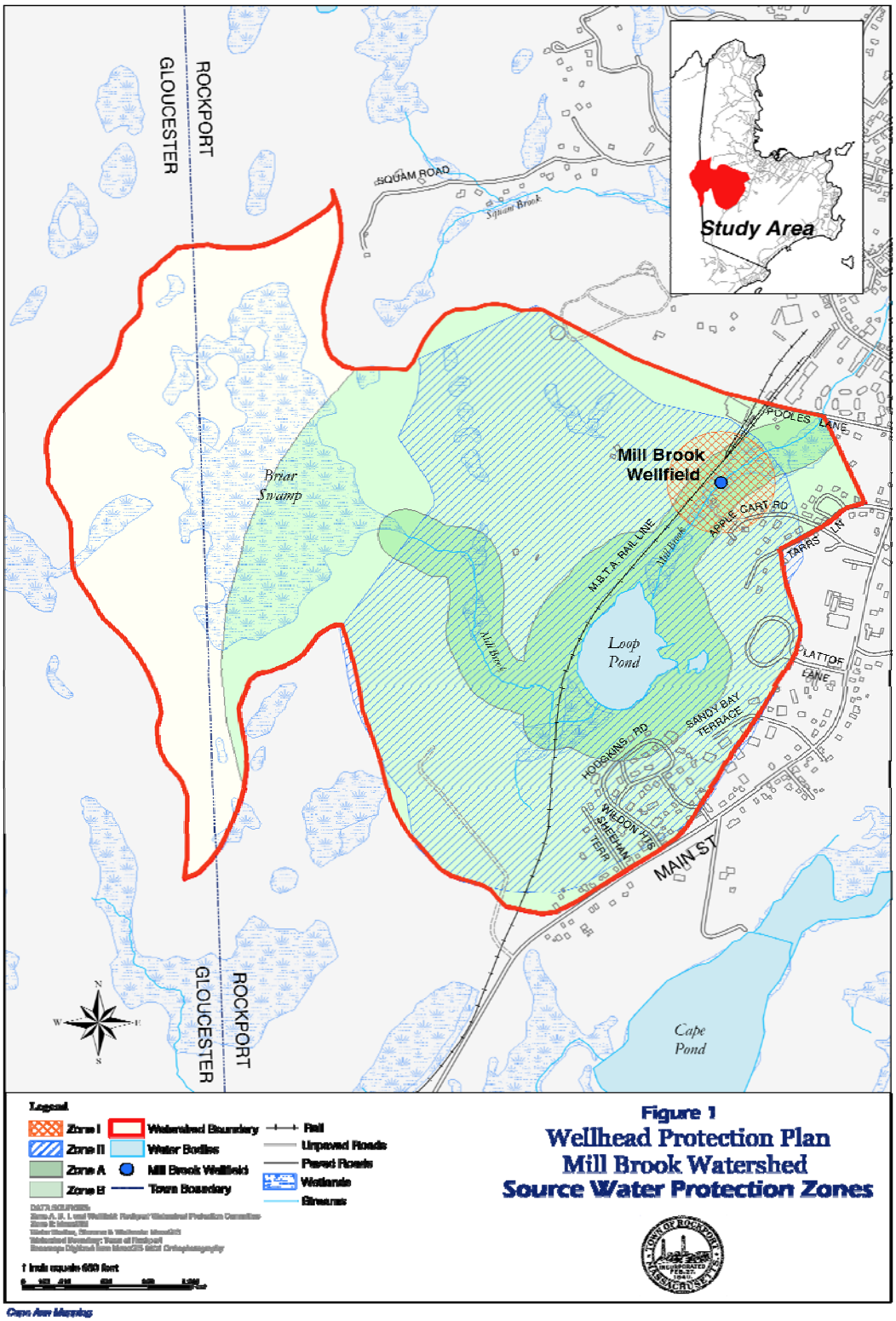
The Mill Brook watershed is located predominantly north of Route 127 and the brook. This brook begins in the middle of Cape Ann at Briar Swamp, traveling through both the manmade Loop Pond and Mill Pond before reaching the ocean to discharge on the western end of Front Beach. The well field is located at the base of Applecart Road and is comprised of three eight-inch wells that extend to just above bedrock (only 20-23 feet below the ground surface). These wells are permitted to supply up to .2 MGD or about 25% of the water demand in Rockport. Water is pumped from the wells to either Cape Pond or directly to the water treatment facility. (see Map 4C2 Millbrook Well field)

The Mill Brook watershed, above the well field, is approximately 450 acres. The Town of Rockport owns over 60%, 276 acres. This watershed has two clusters of medium density residential development, one in the Tarr's Lane area and the other in the Hodgkins Road area. In addition, a 13-unit subdivision was built on Lattof Lane in 2002. The greatest threat to this water resource is the presence of the MBTA commuter rail line, which runs for close to a mile through the watershed less than 100 feet from the actual wellhead locations.

**Map 4C1 Water Resources**



**Map 4C2 Millbrook Well Field**



### Other Water Supply Areas

Based on current water consumption and approved withdrawals of the existing water supplies, the Town can meet present average day demands as well as short-term periods of maximum day demands under normal conditions. However, the Town has occasionally experienced supply problems, particularly when high demand periods have occurred concurrently with an extended drought.

Stoney Brook, Squam Brook, East Brook and South Brook watersheds are not currently used for water supply purposes. They were added to the Rockport Watershed Protection Zoning Overlay District their potential support for the municipal water system in the future. The Town is presently investigating expansion of the storage capability of the Flat Ledge Quarry and developing two deep rock wells just southeast of Cape Pond reservoir for use as a permanent water source.

## 2. Other Freshwater Resources

Rockport has numerous freshwater resources both within and outside the Watershed Overlay Zoning District, affording high recreational, flood attenuation, aesthetic and wildlife value. The wetlands can be seen in Map 4C1.

- Briar Swamp is located at the headwater of Mill Brook at the boundary between Rockport and Gloucester. It is the largest area on the wetlands map. This extensive sphagnum bog not only provides exceptional wildlife habitat, but also acts as a jumbo-size sponge, slowly releasing water to Mill Brook throughout even the longest droughts in Rockport, to keep water in the Mill Brook, Loop Pond and Mill Pond throughout the year.
- Mill Pond was created by the colonial era Mill Pond dam. This 2.5-acre pond is located adjacent to Mill Brook Park at the intersection of a number of public walkways, roads and trails. In addition to pure aesthetic value the pond is used for skating and fishing. The dam is currently in disrepair but plans are underway to repair it in the near future using federal and state grants. It should be noted that the Mill Pond is filling up with storm water sediments and has lost most of its original depth and has lost some of its recreational values.
- Halibut Point Quarry is a large abandoned granite quarry that is now part of the state park system.
- Steel Derrick, Big and Little Parker Pits are located within the Carlson Quarry watershed and are used as private swimming areas.
- Henry's Pond is a small coastal pond with associated wetlands, separated from the ocean by only about 100 feet of coastal dunes. This area is well known for relatively safe winter skating due to its shallow depth, but it is also important as a freshwater stopover spot for migrating shorebirds and waterfowl.
- Rockport has dozens of both certified and uncertified vernal pools (see map 4C1 above) located throughout the undeveloped sections of Town. Many are located in areas of abandoned granite quarries and are either seasonally or permanently filled with water.

## 3. Tidewater Resources

### Salt Marshes

Rockport possesses just one area of salt marsh wetlands, totaling about 64 acres, located behind Long and Cape Hedge beaches. These wetlands play a particularly important role in flood protection and wildlife habitat, notably as a foraging area for migratory birds. Coastal wetlands provide flood attenuation and are an important buffer from strong coastal storms. They also provide important foraging and spawning habitat for a wide variety of commercially and recreationally important marine species such as rainbow smelt, winter flounder and American eels. The town of Rockport has made numerous efforts in the past decade to increase protection and undertake restoration of this area of salt marsh.

### Beaches

Rockport contains many relatively small but highly valuable public sandy beaches including Back, Front, Old Garden, Loblolly, Pebble, Cape Hedge, and Long Beach. Coastal water quality is an important attraction for both residents and tourists who visit Rockport's beaches.

### Rocky Coastal, Open and Sub-tidal Water Resources and Recreation

Rockport has extensive rocky coastline, most of which is accessible for public use and enjoyment for swimming, walking, fishing and other shore-side activities.

Sub-tidal coastal water resources are some of the most important in this community. Many people in Rockport make their living from the lobster fishery that takes place in very close proximity to the shore. In addition, Rockport is one of the most popular scuba diving locations on the east coast of the United States and many people are attracted to the Town for the recreational fishing opportunities just off our shoreline. Many other recreational activities take place in the waters surrounding Rockport including sailing, kayaking and boating.

### 4. Flood Protection and Watershed Management

A vast number of regulatory and non-regulatory management and protection tools, actions, committees and plans oversee fresh water and tidal water resources in Rockport. From a regulatory standpoint, construction-oriented activities in close proximity to water resources may come under the authority of any or all of the following: Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Health, Department of Public Works, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers. Rockport waterways come under many regulatory authorities because so much of the Town is located in coastal flood zones or in close proximity to streams, reservoirs, wetlands and other wetland resource areas. FEMA Flood Hazard zones A and V can be viewed in map 4C1.

Rockport is bordered by the sea and is subject to flooding in severe storms. FEMA indicates that the Old Harbor, Bearskin Neck and some properties seaward of Mount Pleasant Street on Rockport Harbor are areas that fall within the coastal floodplain and would be inundated by 100-year flooding with additional hazards from storm waves. The land along Main Street and Beach Street between the Old Harbor and Rowe Point falls within the floodplain, with the properties seaward of Main Street in the Old Harbor having the potential to be flooded to a depth of 1-3 feet.
In addition to the regulatory approaches to water resource management, Rockport has a number of non-regulatory boards and committees that manage or provide advice on water related activities. These include the Watershed Protection Committee, Granite Pier Committee, Harbor Committee, and Rights of Way Committee. Non-profit organizations such at The Trustees of Reservations, Essex County Greenbelt Association and Massachusetts Audubon Society all own and manage land in Rockport.

## 4D. Vegetation

### 1. General Inventory

Red and white oaks dominate the forested mid-slope areas in Rockport, often in association with red maple and yellow, black, and gray birch. Where beech dominates the canopy, there are dense areas of mountain laurel and smaller numbers of witch hazel, hobblebush, and blueberry. On moister northern slopes, stands of pure hemlock provide cool, shady shelter for wildlife. On the low slopes and along the upland borders of Rockport's wetlands, the plant community begins to support more moisture tolerant species such as red oak, white ash and tupelo.

Large stands of tupelo can be found near ponds and swamps throughout Rockport with smaller numbers of witch hazel, high bush blueberry, and arrow-wood.

Each of these communities supports a tremendous amount of herbaceous growth, including many species of ericas (heath), lilies and orchids. Common species of upland ferns include bracken, hay scented and Christmas ferns, as well as marginal wood fern.

In addition to the typical New England forest trees, Rockport supports extensive areas of coastal thicket and maritime forest. At Halibut Point, a forested area dominated by black locust, black cherry and honeysuckle gives way to an enormous and dense coastal shrub thicket of low bush blueberry, huckleberry, wind stunted black cherry and stag horn sumac, all protected by and interwoven with common greenbrier and poison ivy. Paths running through this area lead to the sea, providing access for blueberry pickers and sunbathers.

## 2. Forest Land and Shade Trees

Rockport's rugged upland topography has a variety of upland mixed forest and shrub land. On the drier hilltops and south facing slopes with thin soils, oak, red cedar and pitch pine dominate the low canopy, while healthy low shrubs such as huckleberry, low bush blueberry, and common juniper form a dense and impenetrable ground cover. Table 4D1 shows the major public woodland tracts in Rockport.

### Table 4D1 Rockport Public Woodland Tracts

| Woodland Tracts | Acreage | Recreational and Environmental Interest |
|---|---|---|
| Carlson Quarry Watershed | 11.50 | Walking, biking, vernal pond, cross country skiing & ecosystem protection |
| Pine Pit | 18.63 | Walking, cross country skiing, biking, ecosystem protection |
| Cape Pond Watershed | 248.60 | Walking, horseback riding, cross country skiing, biking, ecosystem protection |
| Town Forest | 74.07 | Walking, biking, ecosystem protection |
| Homecrest | 12.99 | Ecosystem protection |
| Loop Pond | 32.56 | Walking, ecosystem protection |
| Halibut Point uplands | 12.00 | Walking, sea access, ecosystem protection |
| Delamater Sanctuary | 41.79 | Walking, ecosystem protection |
| Kieran Preserve | 10.43 | Walking, ecosystem protection |
| Andrews Woods | 15.00 | Walking |
| Manning Park | 15.34 | Ecosystem protection |

Table 4D1 shows the wide variety of Rockport's protected forested land, supporting a wide variety of native tree vegetation, including a large number and variety of shade trees. Particularly because Rockport maintains its own water supply, the watershed surrounding and providing that resource has always required special consideration and care. Table 4D1 shows the vast array of large and small acres protected for that valuable resource as well as many tracts used almost entirely for recreational activities.

In addition, with tourism a long-standing economic driver for the Town, Rockporters understand the economic value of their tree vegetation. Most recently, as ecotourism has been a growing consideration for the Town's economy, there is new interest in reinvigorating a long-neglected specific plan for the Town's shade trees. Like many others, Rockport's main streets once were lined with large healthy shade trees, many of which disappeared during the years of rampant Dutch Elm disease. Today's widespread budget pressures prevent funding for an official shade tree program, including the lack of an official Town Arborist who, in past years directed Rockport's shade tree care.

Section 4G9 describes the recent commitment from the Town's very active Garden Club to fund and supervise an expanding program to monitor and address the health of the many in-town shade trees. It appears these "privately" funded efforts will need to take responsibility while the public budget remains inadequate to do so. The Garden Club's addition of this program to its very full agenda of 14 public flower gardens shows the value placed on Rockport's tree inventory by its residents.

### 3. Wetland Vegetation

Rockport supports a large number of wetlands, including red maple swamps, emergent scrub swamps, freshwater marshes, wet meadows, and even a couple of small cranberry bogs. In addition, old motions (former small granite quarries), shallow gravel pits and the naturally uneven topography in town provide numerous locations for vernal ponds, 40 of which have been documented.

Rockport has many areas of red maple swamp, including parts of Briar Swamp and Cape Pond. A beautiful example exists on the Delamater property on the south side of town adjacent to South Street. In addition to red maples, these communities are often characterized by an understory of densely growing high bush blueberry, winterberry, northern arrow-wood, shadbush, and spicebush. Herbaceous cover usually consists of cinnamon and sensitive fern, jewelweed, skunk cabbage, and sphagnum moss.

Shrub swamps also occur in Rockport in areas that are in transition between wet meadow and red maple swamp. These areas support some red maples, but are chiefly dominated by dense stands of speckled alder, pussy willow, silky dogwood, high bush blueberry, sweet pepper bush and numerous other wetland species. Herbaceous species found here are often the same or similar to those found in red maple swamps.

### 4. Freshwater Marsh Systems

Freshwater marsh systems can be found near Cape Pond, and in pockets both in the south end of town and in Dogtown. These areas are characterized and dominated by herbaceous plant species such as common and narrow leaved cattail, tussock sedge, bur-reed, and numerous rushes and sedges. Many of these areas are tremendously diverse, but in some places *Phragmites australis* (common reed) and *Lythium salicaria* (purple loosestrife) are taking over and out-competing the native species. Freshwater marshes naturally support the greatest plant diversity of any wetland, making protection of particular importance.

### 5. Wet Meadow and Grassland Areas

Like freshwater marshes, Rockport's wet meadows are dominated by herbaceous plant species. Rushes and ferns can be found along with tussock sedge, purple loosestrife and many graminoid species. Finally, a number of tiny bogs may be found scattered throughout Rockport's open spaces, including an area on the Delamater property and at least one near Rockport's section of Dogtown. These small areas are generally covered with sphagnum moss and support cranberry, bog rosemary and several other bog species. High bush blueberry, sweet gale and winterberry mark the edges of these systems. Added to these naturally occurring wetland habitats, Rockport's quarrying history created many small ponds and vernal pools where motions and abandoned gravel pits returned to life as they filled with water over many years.

Rockport has a limited number of valuable grassland areas as well, including the Rowe Field, Waring Fields and the Loop Pond Conservation Area, where active field restoration is currently underway.

### 6. Salt Marsh

Saratoga Creek, at the South end of Town, is a protected saltwater marsh bounded by a quite densely developed upland, an extremely developed and seasonally inhabited area adjacent to Long Beach, the undeveloped Cape Hedge Beach, and the route to Gloucester, Thatcher Road. Many decades of storm drain sediment load had raised the marsh surface several feet by1999, surrounding the storm water outfalls. In addition, a freshwater point source from storm drain outfalls promoted a vigorous stand of common reed (*Phragmites australis*) that was replacing the *Spartina patens* community. Since 1999 local officials have collaborated with state and federal funding agencies and local nonprofit organizations to undertake a number of salt marsh restoration projects.

### 7. Agricultural Land

There is little agricultural land in Rockport. Most of the farmland has become either overgrown or developed. The little that remains is mainly used to graze horses or to harvest hay.

### 8. Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

The Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (MNHESP) has identified several plant species in Rockport which are state or federally classified as rare, endangered, or threatened. These are shown in Table 4D2. In addition, the MNHESP has identified instances of the Southern New England Rocky Headland Community (an "exemplary natural community") in Rockport at Halibut and Emerson Points. There are also 40 certified vernal pools in town, and two areas specified as priority sites of rare species habitat, including Briar Swamp.

### Table 4D2 Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plant Species

| Taxonomic group | Scientific Name | Common Name | MESA Status | Federal Status | Most Recent Observation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Vascular Plant | *Ophioglossum pusillum* | Adder's tongue Fern | Threatened | Not Listed | 1928 |
| Vascular Plant | *Platanthera flava var. herbiola* | Pale green Orchids | Threatened | Not Listed | 1921 |
| Vascular Plant | *Rumex pallidus* | Sea beach Dock | Threatened | Not Listed | 2006 |

## 4E. Fisheries and Wildlife

### 1. Wildlife

Wildlife is abundant and diverse in Rockport due to the Town's extensive woodland, wetland and coastal areas. Migrant and resident populations of birds, fish and mammals are typical of those found throughout much of Essex County, and the rocky intertidal and salt marsh habitats support a rich variety of species characteristic of the northeast coast. Table 4E2 shows the mammals and Table 4E3 shows the reptiles and amphibians found in Rockport.

### Table 4E2 Mammals

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Whitetail Deer | Red Fox | White-footed Mouse |
| Eastern Cottontail | Little Brown Bat | Red-backed Mole |
| North East Cottontail | Big Brown Bat | Meadow Vole |
| Striped Skunk | Eastern Long-eared Bat | Pine Vole |
| Short-tailed weasel | Eastern Mole | Muskrat |
| Long-tailed weasel | Star nose Mole | Meadow Jumping Mouse |
| Mink | Eastern Gray Squirrel | Woodland Jumping Mouse |
| Otter | Red Squirrel | Norway Rat |
| Fisher | Eastern Chipmunk | House Mouse |
| Raccoon | Woodchuck | Masked Shrew |
| Coyote | Beaver | Short tail Shrew |
| | Porcupine | |

### Table 4E3 Reptiles and Amphibians

| Snakes | Turtles | Frogs & Toads | Salamanders |
|---|---|---|---|
| Common Garter | Eastern Box | Spring Peeper | Yellow-Spotted |
| Ring-Necked | Painted | Gray Tree | Four-Toed |
| Milk | Snapping | Pickerel | Two-Lined |
| Eastern Ribbon | Spotted | Leopard | Spring |
| Brown | | Bullfrog | Red-Backed |
| Black Racer | | Green | Eastern Red Spotted Newt |
| Northern Water | | Wood | |
| | | American Toad | |

### 2. Vernal Pools

As of fall 2008, according to the Natural Heritage website[8], Rockport had 40 certified vernal pools. Several additional sites have been identified as potentially certifiable vernal pools in the National Heritage Atlas. A major focus of future open space efforts should be to gain certification for these vernal pools, particularly those on private property. Opportunities for enhancing property owner cooperation should be explored in order to make certification more viable. The Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team is a local non-profit organization that specifically focuses on protection and stewardship of the vernal ponds of Cape Ann.

### 3. Diadromous Fish[9]

Diadromous fish are fish which live part of their life in fresh water and part in salt water and are made up of both anadromus and catadromous fish. Anadromous fish live in the sea and spawn in fresh water. Since 2000, two rainbow smelt (*Osmerus mordax*) spawning habitats have been identified in Rockport, one in the Sawmill Brook and one in Mill Brook. Rainbow smelt, native between southern New England to the Arctic Ocean, are schooling fish that feed primarily on microscopic sea animals (zooplankton). Annual smelt spawning occurs in Massachusetts Bay from March through May. Smelt are popular with recreational fishermen and form an important component of the food chain. Smelt eggs are adhesive and are typically deposited on the substrate of freshwater riffles just upstream of tidal influences.

[8] National Heritage and Endangered Species Program, WWW.MASS.GOV/DFWELE/DFW/NHESP/NHESP.HTM
[9] Rockport Municipal Harbor Plan, 2003, p.12 WWW.UHI.UMB.EDU/PDF_FILES/ROCKPORT_HARBOR_PLAN.PDF

A direct relationship exists between stream flows and smelt spawning. Discharge data and field observations from the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game indicate that the present minimum flow at both Rockport brooks is barely sufficient to attract spawning adults and protect the eggs. Withdrawals below this threshold could easily jeopardize the habitat, although further investigation is required before any definite characterizations can be made.

Catadromous American eel (*Anguilla rostrata)* also live in most of the freshwater streams and larger water bodies that drain out of Rockport. These fish live most of their lives in fresh water and spawn in salt water.

### 4. Freshwater Fish

Table 4E3 shows the freshwater fish that can be found in pools, ponds and streams in Rockport.

### Table 4E3 Freshwater Fish

| | |
|---|---|
| Yellow Perch | Bluegill Sunfish |
| White Perch | Banded Sunfish |
| Chain Pickerel | Orange Spotted Sunfish |
| Large Mouth Bass | Small Mouth Bass |
| Black Crappie | American Eel |
| Common Shiner | Golden Shiner |
| Yellow Bullhead | Brown Bullhead |
| Carp | White Sucker |

### 5. Shellfish

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has responsibility for monitoring the water quality in shellfish bed areas and classifying shellfish beds.

The shellfish beds immediately offshore in Sandy Bay are classified as Management Closure by DMF using Federal Standards.[10] The Management Closure indicates the maximum area that could be directly impacted by a potential bacterial contamination caused by total failure of the sewage treatment process. The closure is in effect even if no contamination exists at the time and the Town meets current state standards. Recreational and commercial shell fishing is prohibited in a Closure area.

Anecdotal information exists that there is some recreational shell fishing of surf clams (*Spisula solidissima*) by divers off the coast of Rockport. Other shellfish resources in the area include surf clams, blue mussels (*Mytilus edulis*), sea scallops (*Placopecten magellanicus*), and ocean quahogs (*Arctica islandica*).

### 6. Birds

Rockport is home to an extraordinary diversity of bird species. The Halibut Point Reservation bird list numbers 235 species, including northern goshawk, peregrine falcon, American golden plover, snowy owl, redheaded woodpecker, northern and loggerhead shrikes, white-winged crossbill, and grasshopper sparrow. The list includes a full representation of regular spring and fall migrant birds as well as pelagic rarities such as northern fulmar, great skua, and ivory gull. Birds commonly found in Rockport's central upland regions are listed in Table 4E4.

[10] ibid p. 27

### Table 4E4 Birds of Upland Areas

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Broad-winged Hawk | Ovenbird | Brown Thrasher |
| Red-tailed Hawk | American Redstart | Wood Thrush |
| Ruffed Grouse | Northern Oriole | Starling |
| Eastern Kingbird | Brown-headed Cowbird | Black and White Warbler |
| Blue Jay | Rose-breasted Grosbeak | Prairie Warbler |
| Black-capped Chickadee | Rufous-sided Towhee | Common Yellowthroat |
| White-breasted Nuthatch | American Kestrel | Red-winged Blackbird |
| Gray Catbird | Morning Dove | Common Grackle |
| American Robin | Downy Woodpecker | Scarlet Tanager |
| Cedar Waxwing | Common Crow | Purple Finch |
| Red-eyed Vireo | Tufted Titmouse | Field Sparrow |
| Yellow Warbler | House Wren | Song Sparrow |

### 7. Wildlife Corridors

The fall migratory passage of seabirds along the coast of Rockport is spectacular, including flocks of Double-crested Cormorants, several species of scoters, and two species of Eiders. Strong northeastern storms in November frequently blow migrating species into near shore waters, sometimes in the hundreds or even thousands: Common and Red-throated Loons, Red-necked and Horned Grebes, Northern Gannets, two species of Cormorants, Black-legged Kittiwakes, Razorbills, Thick-billed Murres, and Black Guillemots. The ability to view these pelagic birds and other, rarer species from shore makes Rockport one of the most important shore birding locations in the state.

### 8. Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

The species listed in Table 4-8 have all been classified by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species program as rare, threatened or endangered. All have been found in Rockport.

### Table 4E5 Status of Threatened Species[11]

| Taxonomic Group | Scientific Name | Common Name | State Rank | Federal Rank | Most Recent Observation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bird | *Ixobrychus exilis* | Least Bittern | Endangered | Not Listed | 2001 |
| Bird | *Sterna dougallii* | Roseate Tern | Endangered | Endangered | 1920 |
| Bird | *Sterna hirundo* | Common Tern | Special Concern | Not Listed | 1920 |
| Reptile | *Terrapene carolina* | Eastern Box Turtle | Special Concern | Not Listed | 1937 |

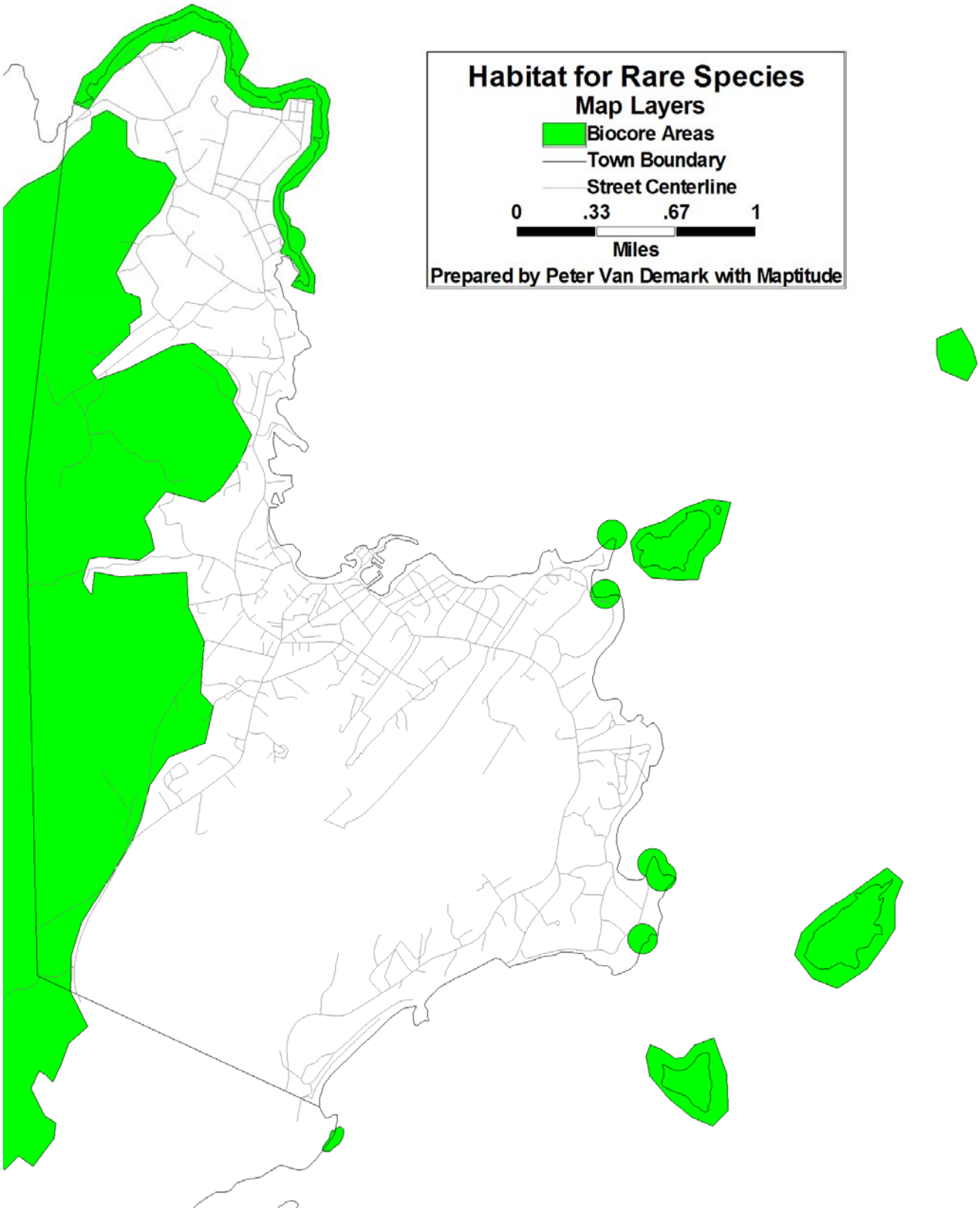
### 9. Open Space Priorities for Wildlife Habitat

When determining open space preservation priorities, the following factors should be considered to ensure that viable wildlife corridors and habitat varieties are conserved (see Map 4E). The targeted open space should help to:

- Provide habitat for game and non-game animals, including those considered threatened, endangered, or of special concern
- Maintain biological diversity
- Maintain connectivity
- Contribute to ground water recharge and to improved water quality
- Represent high &/or outstanding examples of native plant communities, populations of state-listed rare plants or rare animal aggregations

[11] National Heritage and Endangered Species Program, 2008

**Map 4E Habitat for Rare Species**



## 4F. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

### 1. Scenic Resources

Rockport is blessed with the breathtaking beauty of its rocky shoreline, picturesque harbors, beaches and tranquil woodlands. Ocean views unfold from the border with Gloucester on the North side of Town all the way to Long Beach. Rockport's inland open space can be enjoyed through access to trails through the woods, many of which border the tranquil waters of Cape Pond, Carlson's and Flat Ledge quarries. Along the trails are relics from the old quarrying days, mounds of tailings, cut stone ready for shipping, holes in large rocks ready to be split, steel ropes propped up by growing trees, and many anchor points for quarrying machinery (see Map 4B for unique features).

At the north end of Town it is possible to walk from Folly Point, through Halibut State Park, and along the Atlantic Path to Andrews Point, with constant vistas across Ipswich Bay to Crane's Beach and Plum Island stretching to Mount Agamenticus in Maine and the Isles of Shoals in New Hampshire. Walking south on the Atlantic path there are long views over Sandy Bay to Straitsmouth lighthouse and the twin lights on Thacher Island. Rockport's shore is one of very few places where three lighthouses can be seen simultaneously. The Atlantic Path terminates in the quaint little fishing harbor of Pigeon Cove, one of the original Rockport settlements. Across Pigeon Cove Harbor are the remains of the Cape Ann Tool Company with its signature smokestack, long noted as a navigation aid on boating navigation charts. Plans have been approved to replace the old Tool Company with condominiums, maintaining public access with a shorefront walkway and retaining the smokestack. From Pigeon Cove there are vistas of the Dry Salvages, three miles out on the Atlantic Ocean, immortalized by T. S. Elliot in the poem of the same name. Further south is Granite Pier, a busy place of summer boating activity and the starting point for many of the quarry trail walks.

Back Beach, a rocky beach near the center of Town, often hosts kayakers and scuba divers from throughout the Commonwealth and beyond. Continuing south is Front Beach, the main sandy beach for residents and visitors. As at all Rockport beaches, there is no charge for admission. Further down Main Street is Dock Square, the starting point of Bearskin Neck, one of the Town's most popular visitor attractions. Now a commercial area with shops located inside old lobster shacks, the many stores, galleries and restaurants are the hub of Rockport's tourist economy. Located on Rockport's central harbor is Motif #1, a picturesque restored fishing shack and a favorite subject for generations of artists. Facing Motif #1 is the Sandy Bay Yacht Club, a small informal structure, its high-masted yachts a contrast to the working harbor's fishing boats.

On the south side of Rockport Harbor a public viewing spot called The Headlands provides granite benches and wonderful views of downtown Rockport. From here visitors can see the northerly coast line from Andrews Point past the Cape Ann Tool Company to Pigeon Hill, continuing to the old quarry derrick and Johnson's quarry with its tall cell Tower. From the Headlands the Old Garden Path Right of Way stretches south past Old Garden Beach and the old Coast Guard Station, providing views of Straitsmouth Island, a Massachusetts Audubon bird sanctuary. At the end of the island is a lighthouse. As the Old Garden Path continues, it provides wonderful views of the twin Thacher Island lighthouses and the Atlantic Ocean. Walkers can enjoy the scenic panorama as it stretches south along Rockport's coastline, on the road and via historic rights of way to the shore, arriving at three contiguous beaches, Pebble Beach, Cape Hedge Beach and Long Beach, the latter sandwiched between the sea and Saratoga Creek.

## 2. Major Characteristics or Unusual Geologic Features

The "rock" which gives Rockport its name is largely granite bedrock upon which the town is built. The land, scoured to bare rock during the most recent glacial episode, consists mostly of a very thin layer of soil over the bedrock. There are many enormous glacial erratic boulders and moraines, deposited throughout the landscape during the glacial retreat. The result is a rugged but strikingly beautiful landscape jutting out into the sea.

## 3. Cultural, Archaeological and Historic Areas

Granite was the Town's unrecognized treasure until 1820, when Nehemiah Knowlton learned by trial and error to split a piece of granite for a mooring stone, starting the business of shipping granite to Boston. In the nineteenth century the population increased as workers from Sweden, Finland, Italy, Ireland, and French Canada arrived to work in the granite industry. Rockport granite was used all over the United States for paving blocks on city streets. More locally, much was used to construct the Custom House in Boston and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. The industry flourished until the 1920's when labor and transportation costs and the use of concrete contributed to its decline.

Summer visitors started to come to Rockport in the mid 1850's, and local residents began to take in guests. Ralph Waldo Emerson summered in Pigeon Cove in 1856. The painter, Gilbert Margeson, arrived in 1873 and was so impressed by the area's quality of light that he stayed permanently. Local artist Fitz Henry Lane painted many of his masterpieces on Cape Ann. Today the Town still has a very large artistic community. The Rockport Art Association, founded in 1921, celebrated its 87th anniversary in 2008. The Sandy Bay Historical Society, founded in 1926, celebrated its 70th anniversary in 1996 with an addition to its headquarters on King Street. The Society's two buildings, the first-period "salt box" in Pigeon Cove (the Old Castle) and the Granite Sewall-Scripture House (1832) on King Street, contain historic exhibits, and the library boasts valuable records for researchers in our area. The Sandy Bay Yacht Club was founded in 1885 and continues to thrive at its headquarters on T Wharf in Rockport Harbor with a busy racing season each summer. Rockport’s Chamber Music Festival continues to expand its offerings as it begins construction of a new waterfront performance venue. Informal cultural activities in the Town include several choral singing groups, dramatic and dance events, painting and photography, book circles, and lecture series covering a wide variety of subjects.

## 4. Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Rockport does not contain any state recognized "Areas of Critical Environmental Concern" (ACEC). However, the Town does contain many significant resource areas. These include:

- The Town's many wetlands, including Briar Swamp, which has been determined to contain rare species habitat
- The nine regulated watershed areas of Rockport: Flat Ledge Quarry, Carlson’s Quarry, Stoney Brook, Squam Brook, Mill Brook, Cape Pond, East Brook, South Brook and Saw Mill Brook
- Saratoga Creek and the associated salt marsh system
- The Long Beach, Cape Hedge Beach and Pebble Beach barrier beach system
- Forty certified and many uncertified vernal pools
- The South Woods area
- The rocky intertidal ecosystem along town's entire coastline

## 4G. Environmental Challenges

### 1. Hazardous Waste Sites

Table 4G1 details the five hazardous waste sites that have been identified. There has been no activity since 1998. It should be noted that developers have planned construction on or close to the first two sites.

### Table 4G1 Rockport's Hazardous Waste Sites[12]

| Address | Tracking # | Site |
|---|---|---|
| Granite St. | 3-0010272 | Pigeon Cove |
| 146 Granite St | 3-0001090 | Cape Ann Tool Co. FMR |
| 18 Railroad Avenue | 3-0011066 | Untitled |
| 18 Railroad Ave | 3-0012207 | Building Center inc. |
| Upper Main St. | 3-0000425 | Rockport DPW |
| 14 Wharf Road | 3-0015621 | Untitled |
| 30 Pleasant St. | 3-0022040 | The Gift House |

### 2. Spills in the Rockport Watersheds

In 1988 a gasoline spill occurred at the Rockport DPW garage, Cape Pond watershed.

In 1985 a 55-gallon drum of solvent cleaning solution was illegally dumped at Carlson's Quarry. Since that spill incident, gates have been erected at Carlson’s Quarry and Cape Pond reservoir. The water supply at Cape Pond and Mill Brook has been monitored for volatile organic contaminants.

### 3. Landfills

The Rockport landfill has been closed and capped and is monitored. It is now used as a parking area and bus shuttle stop for town visitors and will also continue to serve as the town's waste and recycling transfer station.

### 4. Erosion

Rockport has experienced erosion of coastal banks and barrier beaches due to winter storms at several locations. Penzance Road adjacent to Pebble Beach is often washed out or overblown by sand and boulders. The coastal banks just south of Old Garden Beach have slumped and eroded due to the migration of soils within the bank from wind and wave action. Both Bradley and T Wharf have shown signs of slumping and loss of structural integrity as a result of severe storms and rising sea level over the last twenty-five years. The breakwater and seawall at Pigeon Cove harbor has been rebuilt twice since 1978 due to storm action. The Rockport breakwater has been rebuilt once since 1978. Many homes and coastal properties have suffered from storm driven flooding and wave damage, particularly within the last 25 years.

### 5. Sedimentation

Mill Pond is suffering from sedimentation problems and increased aquatic plant growth. This is probably the result of a combination of increased construction within the Mill Brook watershed over the last twenty years as well as winter road sanding. A neighborhood organization is working with the DPW to explore the possibility of having the pond dredged.

[12] Massachusetts DEP Clean up Sites

## 6. Development Impact

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) predicts a 2.8% increase in population for Rockport between 2008 and 2020. Rockport's population is estimated to double during the peak tourist season in the summer. In 2008 the percent of undeveloped land in Rockport was 61%. A high percentage of Rockport's watersheds are not developed areas. The town owns most of the Cape Pond watershed and a high percentage of the Carlson and Flat Ledge Quarry watersheds. Significantly, a high percentage of the East and South Brook watersheds are privately owned but not developed.

Although the town's projected rate of growth is moderate, development impacts, particularly nonpoint source pollution from additional construction, could come to have a negative impact on all of Rockport's water resources, including its coastal estuaries and bays. The existing rate of development has already strained the town's ability to provide road maintenance and proper drainage, which in turn has created runoff and nonpoint source pollution problems such as those seen at the Mill Pond.

Infiltration and inflow (I and I) problems have led to a consent order with DEP whereby the town sewage treatment plant is prohibited from accepting new sewer hookups at this time. The town has been conducting its own inflow and infiltration remediation program since late 1996. Alternative septic treatment systems under the revised Title Five state septic code may allow development of Rockport lands that were once considered unbuildable or marginal. Although the Town does have a watershed protection overlay district, it should consider updating the regulations to provide better protection of watershed areas. It should also implement zoning changes and strengthen its wetlands bylaw to better protect critical natural resource areas. These recommendations will be included in Section 9.

## 7. Ground and Surface Water Issues

Rockport, in very dry years, has had difficulty meeting water demands in the summer months when demand more than doubles due to the large influx of summer residents. The town has worked to address its water supply shortage problems in several ways.

- Metering of individual water usage.
- Permitting to allow increased storage of water behind the proposed Flat Ledge Dam
- Development of deep rock wells

The DPW is analyzing the results of recent tests at two deep rock wells near the Cape Pond Reservoir to see if they can be used as emergency supplies in the summer.

Any development in the watershed areas could potentially affect the town water supply, open space, wildlife habitat and overall character of the town. As noted above, nonpoint source pollution to all water resources in Rockport will increase as population rises. Even large lot development, if done without regard for reducing impervious surfaces or retaining natural drainage patterns, will have a cumulative impact. In 2008 the Planning Board adopted storm water runoff regulations to help prevent these impacts. Other indirect impacts to ground and surface water include excessive winter road sanding and illegal motor vehicle use in the Town's watershed areas.

## 8. Invasive Species

Rockport's most significant challenges with invasive plants have been alien plant species existing in its many freshwater and saltwater wetlands as well as in disturbed upland areas of fields and exposed soils. Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) has long been particularly troublesome in the salt marsh habitat associated with Saratoga Creek, where tall dense stands dramatically out-compete native salt marsh vegetation.

Over the past decade, the Rockport Conservation Commission and Department of Public Works have cooperated in a number of wetland restoration projects, including enhancement of storm water treatment and enlargement of culverts to increase tidal flows through wetland areas. Although of limited success, the work has eradicated some areas of *Phragmites* from wetlands and has helped prevent further spread.

Purple loosestrife (*Lythium salicaria*) has also increasingly impacted many of Rockport's freshwater areas. Freshwater marshes naturally support the greatest plant diversity of any wetland, making protection of these environmental resources particularly important. The Town continues research to address its spread.

An example of current work followed Rockport's recent acquisition of the Rowe Parcel, an open acreage in the Saw Mill Brook watershed. In recent years, a pathway providing access had become so overgrown with multiflora rose and oriental bittersweet that these invasive plants increasingly threatened many of Rockport's nearby open grasslands. Working on this problem has raised residents' awareness of the Town's environmental concerns.

More recently, in 2010, following approval from the Town's Conservation Commission, Rockport's 200 plus member Garden Club began an ambitious new initiative, "The Invasive Plant Project." Choosing to focus its initial project year on Japanese Knotweed, the volunteers, at no cost to Rockport, collected a complete database of this invasive plant, mapping locations on both private and Town lands with symbols denoting the level of control activity.

In 2011, with guidance from the Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, the New England Wildflower Society, and the Parker River Wildlife Refuge, the Rockport Garden Club will develop a list of appropriate and safe methods for eradication of local invasive plants. This handout will be available for residents to treat plants on their own property or to work with Garden Club volunteers for eradication.

To address invasives on Town lands, the Club will seek a grant to engage a licensed biologist to direct an eradication program, as required by law. In future years, the Garden Club plans to expand their pilot project with Japanese Knotweed to other invasives, including oriental bittersweet and multiflora roses.

## 9. Forestry Issues

Rockporters early discovered the impossibility of significant agricultural use of the granite-covered Rockport landscape, and the native forestry became the increasingly-valued landscape. Underlying granite deposited by ancient glaciers largely defined locations for native tree cover, and still serve to limit planting locations. Heavy shoreline winds have been another important factor for the health of Rockport's forestry.

Budget constraints in recent years have caused deep funding cuts for the care of Rockport's trees, to the detriment of their aesthetic value for the Town.

In 2009 the Rockport Garden Club offered to draw up and fund a pilot program for care of trees in town gardens under their care. Increased funding each year has paid for the work of a professional arborist and former Town tree warden, assisted by Garden Club members.

In 2009 many large Tulip trees were heavily pruned; in 2010 25 ornamental Library trees and an overgrown Hawthorn were pruned and a dying Norway maple was removed. The club plans to continue their commitment to this important program for the Town's trees.

# SECTION 5: INVENTORY OF LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION INTEREST

Rockport is a small and relatively isolated community that has been favored by nature and its own history with a uniquely attractive environment. Its location, on a granite peninsula surrounded on three sides by the ocean, has given it commercial advantages - fishing and quarrying in the past, tourism in recent times - and made it a very desirable place for people to live. In a small area, the diversity of open space uses is unusual, from formal recreation areas and parks to rough woods trails, rocky shoreline walkways, and ocean settings for swimming, fishing, diving, and boating.

Although the natural features of the town aren't usually factored into its economic schemes, Rockport is entirely dependent on quarries and deep-rock wells for its water supply. Preservation and expansion of watershed lands is essential for this purpose alone. In addition, the town's open space constitutes a major attraction for visitors and year-round residents. All of the open space that isn't currently protected exists in a precarious balance with development and other encroachments of a rising demographic. Without public access to its woods, harbors, beaches, and parks, its scenic vistas and pollution-free air, Rockport could become either an expensive, privatized enclave or a suburb with a long commute.

Open Space is defined by the Open Space and Recreation Planner's Workbook as undeveloped land with a particular conservation or recreation interest. Rockport has many and varied open space resources including beaches, sea rocks, forests, ponds, quarries, vernal pools, wetlands, remnants of earlier development, parks, and recreational areas. Rockport has public access to about half its shoreline, with seven major beaches, the Atlantic Path, and many harbors and protected areas. It also has a major state park at Halibut Point. Table 5 shows that Rockport is in a fortunate position where 35.3% of the total acreage is owned by the Town, the state, or non-profit entities. Some of the open space in public and non-profit ownership is permanently protected because it is a public park such as Halibut Point. Beaches are also permanently protected, as are areas governed by Article 97, which is a state-administered deed restriction program that focuses on open space values. The major challenge is to protect some of the remaining 26% of the Town that is open space still in private hands.

## Recreation

Currently, Rockport residents enjoy a multitude of passive and active recreation activities involving both water and land. Kayaking, rowing, sailing, swimming, surfing, canoeing, scuba diving, and snorkeling are popular active water-related recreational activities. Passive recreation on land includes hiking, walking, running, snow shoeing, bike riding, horseback riding and cross country skiing.

Active recreation includes tennis, golf, baseball, softball, basketball, soccer, field hockey, skateboarding, Ultimate Frisbee, and volleyball.

There is strong organizational support for active recreation both by public and private organizations. The Recreation Committee sponsors several programs for all ages and abilities in the community. Tennis, playground activities, T ball, Ultimate Frisbee, and volleyball are low-cost town subsidized programs that the community participates in actively.

The school system sponsors many recreational programs, and there is a strong private sector that sponsors soccer, baseball and softball for a wide range of ages.

The 2008 Rockport Open Space Survey[11] indicated strong support for the addition of playing fields as well as for long-term protection of the existing trail network and for open space to be enjoyed for general passive recreational uses.

## Community Open Space Distribution

The Town of Rockport is a relatively small land area, but it does have three distinct sections. They are Downtown Rockport and its adjoining neighborhoods, which is the physical and commercial center of the community, opening onto a fishing and recreational boating harbor. The northern section is the village of Pigeon Cove, which developed around its protected harbor, a focus for fishing and the former granite quarrying industry. The South End stretches along beaches and rocky shores, with a large inland wooded area. Rockport's 61.3% of open space is evenly distributed throughout the town. Each section of the town has places of public ocean access, acres of wooded uplands with trails, and recreational playing fields. From any point in Rockport, you are in open space or a short walk to open space. Map 5A1 Total Public, Non-profit and Private parcels, graphically displays the balanced open space distribution in Rockport.

### Table 5 Open Space in Rockport

| Type of Open Space | Parcels | Acres | Percent of Town |
|---|---|---|---|
| Town, Public & Non-Profit | 233 | 1628 | 35.3 |
| Private | 640 | 1198 | 26.0 |
| **Total Open Space in Rockport** | **873** | **2826** | **61.3** |

As seen in blue on Map 5A1, Rockport has several large, contiguous public open spaces in the west toward neighboring Gloucester. Adjacent to these areas are a large number of parcels in private hands, shown in green on map 5A and listed in tables 5A1 through 5A4. These were analyzed to see if they had more than three ecological and cultural values and therefore should be considered for protection.
The 2009 Open Space Report incorporates many conclusions from the 2008 Watershed Protection Committee's (WPC) Report regarding protection of private parcels with open space. Of the 71 parcels of high interest for conservation identified in the WPC Report, all are in the watershed overlay districts. Coincidently, they also have a number of historic trails and many include habitat for rare species, according to the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (MNHESP). The area on the western side of Rockport along the Gloucester border is a stretch of land with the most need for protection. This report also includes recommendations for open space outside these areas, much of which is in the South Woods.

## 5A. Private Parcels

The Committee has identified four distinct types of private parcels that are of interest:

1. Parcels with conservation easements and restrictions
2. Parcels of interest for obtaining conservation easements and or conservation restrictions
3. Private parcels that have three or more ecological and cultural values without a residence
4. "Orphan parcels" - land about which the assessor's office has no data on ownership and on which no taxes have been paid in recent times

Table 5A1 shows parcels that have conservation restrictions administered by the Conservation Commission. Table 5A2 shows private property that would be of interest for conservation. In the Committee's public forum

[11] *Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee Open Space Survey by Peter Van Demark with Maptitude GIS*

several attendees voiced concern about possible development of the Rockport Golf Club, which borders four town-owned parcels - Waring Fields and the Delamater Sanctuary. Table 5A3 shows 56 private parcels that have three or more ecological and cultural values and no residence and are concentrated in the green areas shown on map 5A1.

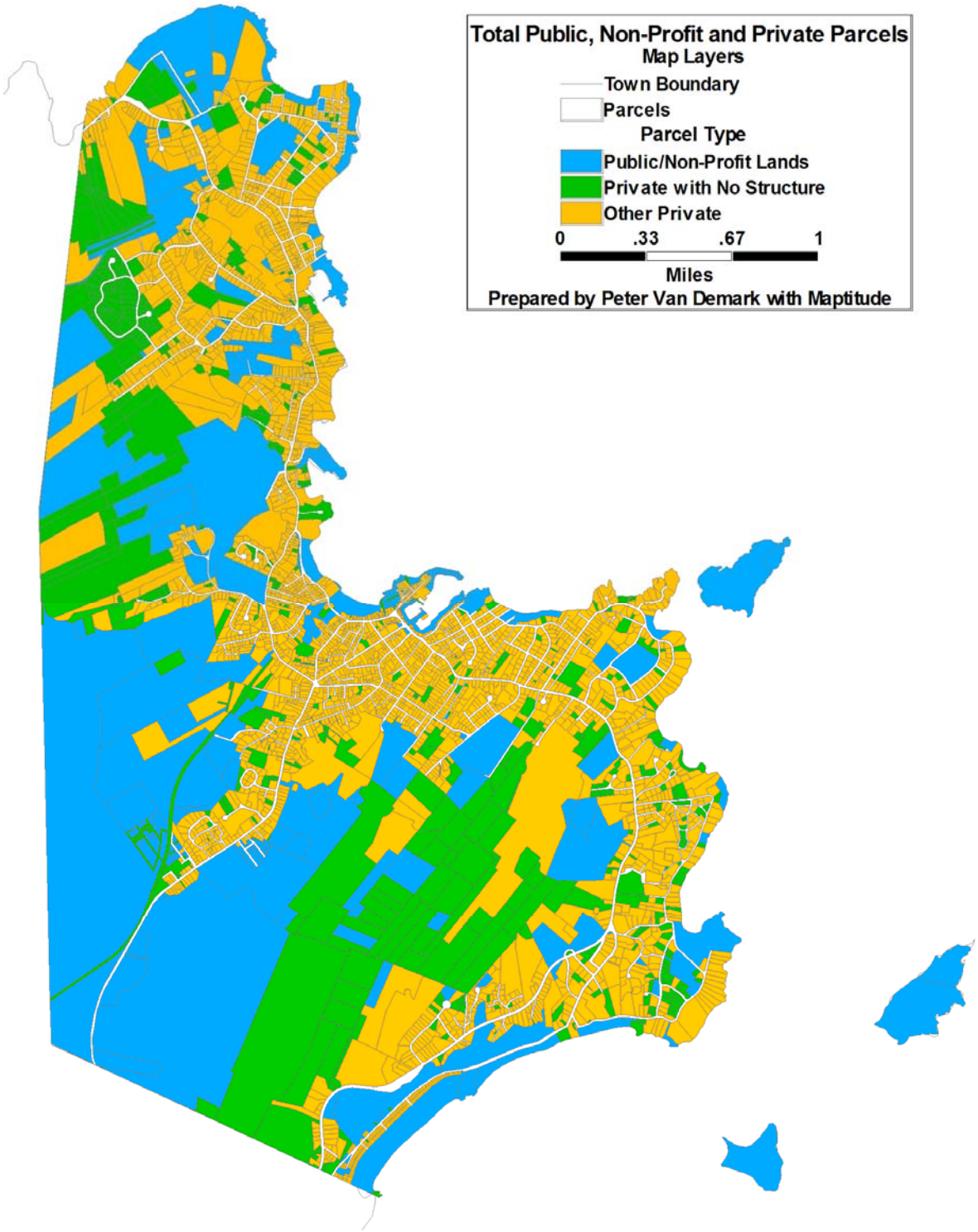
The final table, 5A4, shows a list of ten "orphan parcels" that have at least three ecological and cultural values. These parcels have no tax data and no record of private ownership. The Committee will recommend, in Section 9, that the Town research these properties with a view to confirming Town ownership and protection. Map 5A2 shows the four types of private parcels.

## Table 5A. CLASSIFICATION OF OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION LANDS PRIVATELY OWNED

### Table 5A1 Private Parcels with Conservation Restrictions and Easements

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Ecological and Cultural Values | | | | | | Managing Agency |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Water shed | Wet-land | Trail | Historic | Rare Habitat | Connects to | |
| Johnson | 3-34 | 0.23 | SRAA | No | Yes | No | No | Yes | Johnson Rd | ConCom |
| Johnson | 3-34A | 1 | SRAA | No | Yes | No | No | Yes | Johnson Rd | ConCom |
| Johnson | 3-35 | 1 | SRAA | No | Yes | No | No | Yes | Johnson Rd | ConCom |
| Brackett | 10-41A ,B,C | 23.3 | SRAA | Flat Ledge | Big Parker Quarr y | Yes | Motions | No | Yes | ConCom |
| Hooper | 8-26 | 12.8 | SRAA | No | No | Atlanti c Path | No | Flyway | Halibut Point | Trustees of Reser-vations |
| Spiegel | 22-145 | 0.3 | RA | No | No | No | No | No | No | ConCom |

**Map 5A1 Total Public, Non-Profit and Private Parcels**



### Table 5A2 Private Parcels of Interest for Conservation Restrictions and Easements

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Ecological and Cultural Values | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Watershed | Wetlands | Trails | Historic | Rare Habitat | Connects to |
| Steel Derrick/ Pigeon Hill Quarry Assoc | 3-40 | 28 | SRA A | Carlson's | Yes | Old Quarry Road | Quarry/ Motions | Yes | Old Quarry Road/Rowe Ave. |
| Williams | 19-93A | 40 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Rum Rock Lake | | | | ECGB Land |
| Rockport Golf Club | 24-66 | 11.9 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Luce/ Horse-shoe | | | Town Land |
| Rockport Golf Club | 24-68 | 4.1 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Yes | | | Delamater/ Horseshoe |
| Rockport Golf Club | 24-69 | 4.2 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Horse-shoe | | | |
| Rockport Golf Club | 27-35 | 83.65 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Horseshoe/ Delamater | Yes | Yes | | Yes |
| Rockport Golf Club | 27-38 | 4.4 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes Woodlands | Trails | Historic | Rare Habitat | Connection |

### Table 5A3 Private Parcels That Have Three or More Values and No Residence[13]

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Ecological and Cultural Values | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Watershed | Wetland | Trails | Historic | Rare Habitat | Connects to |
| Nickerson | 2-9 | 4.55 | SRA A | No | No | Yes | | Yes | Luce/ Railroad |
| Lakso | 2-10A | 0.9 | SRA A | No | No | | | Yes | Luce/ Railroad |
| Cleaves | 3-45 | 7.5 | SRA A | Carlson's | Yes | Old Quarry Road | | Yes | Town Land |
| Sherburne | 4-7 | 2.7 | SRA A | Carlson's | | Old Quarry Road | | Yes | Orphan Parcel |
| Johnson | 4-8 | 3.3 | SRA A | Stoney Brook | Yes | Luce/ Johnson Rd | | Yes | |
| Stone | 4-9 | 2.7 | SRA A | Squam Brook | Yes | | | Yes | Orphan Parcel |
| Johnson Trustees | 4-10 | 32.34 | SRA A | Carlson's | Yes | Yes | Quarry | Yes | Sponge Bob trail |

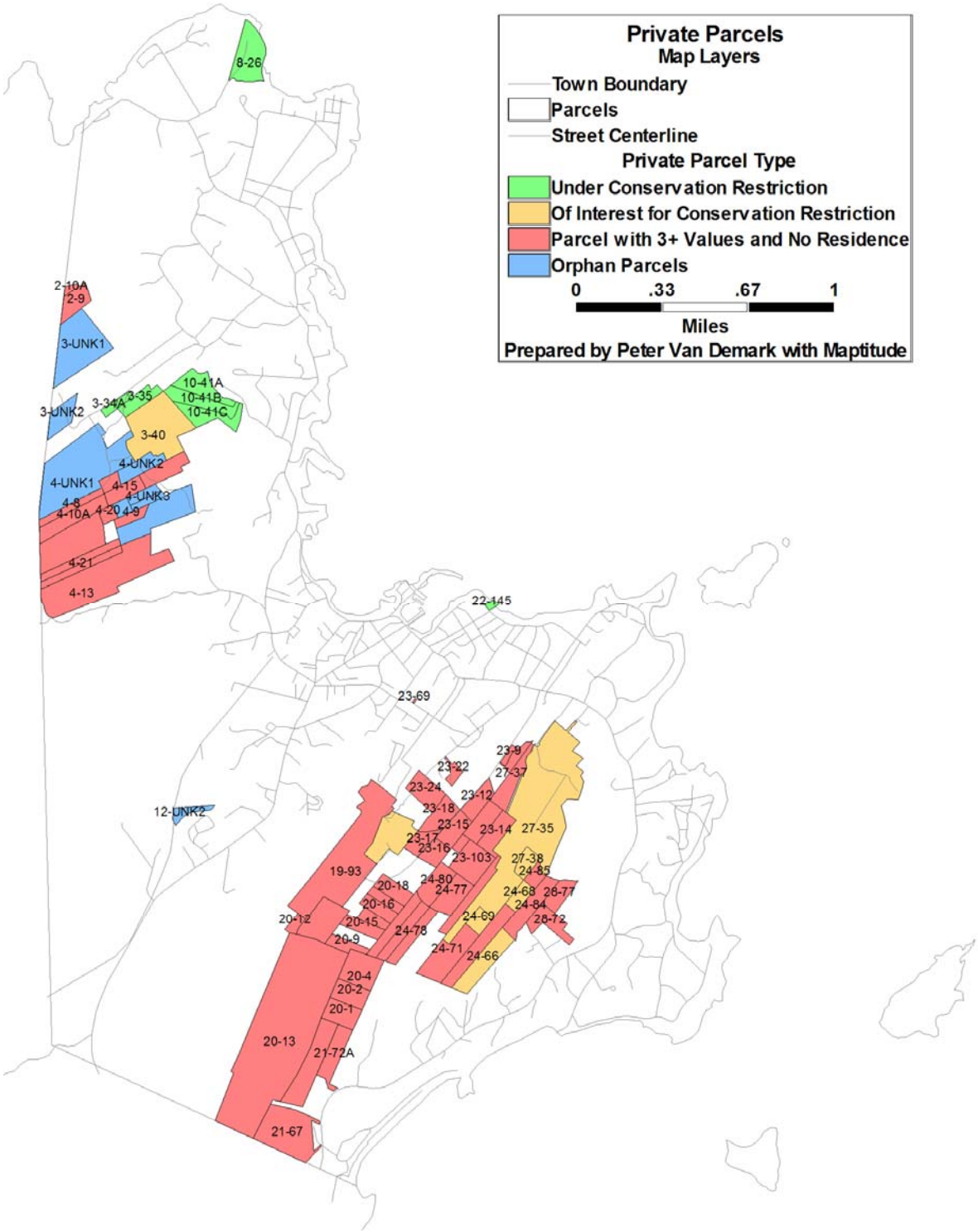
[13] Parcels with residences are ***italicized & Bolded***

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Ecological and Cultural Values | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Watershed | Wetland | Trails | Historic | Rare Habitat | Connects to |
| Johnson Trustees | 4-10A | 9 | SRA A | Stoney Brook | Yes | Luce/ Johnson Road | Quarry | Yes | |
| Johnson | 4-13 | 7.2 | SRA A | Squam Brook | Knowlton Swamp | Sponge Bob/ Squam/ Butman/ Quarry | | Yes | Old Quarry Rd/ Squam Rd/ Anne's Path |
| Sears, Gretchen | 4-15 | 2 | SRA A | Carlson's | Yes | Carlson's | Motion | Yes | Orphan Parcel |
| Adams | 4-18 | 5 | SRA A | Stoney Brook | Yes | Johnson Circular | Quarry | Yes | Old Quarry Road/ Orphan |
| Johnson | 4-20 | 2.5 | SRA A | Carlson's | Yes | Yes | Quarry | Yes | |
| Johnson | 4-21 | 5.9 | SRA A | Stoney Brook | Yes | Sponge Bob | | Yes | |
| Sheilacres | 19-93 | 47.57 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Rum Rock Lake | Luce/Rum Rock/ Pleasant St. | Walls | No | Adjacent to ECG, Town Land |
| Poole | 20-1 | 7.27 | SRA A | East Brook | Yes | Lane's Rd Ext. | Joppa Rd. | No | |
| Rockport Nat'l Bank | 20-2 | 6.85 | SRA A | East Brook | Yes | Lane's Rd Ext. | Old Joppa Rd. | No | Adjacent to Town Land |
| Frost | 20-4 | 10.96 | SRA A | East Brook | Yes | Lane's Rd Ext. | Old Joppa Rd. | No | |
| Frost | 20-6 | 3.23 | SRA A | East Brook | No | Lane's Rd Ext. | | No | Adjacent to Town Land/Pipe |
| Boy Scouts | 20-9 | 3.85 | SRA A | East Brook | No | Lane's Rd.Ext/ Luce | Old Joppa Rd. | No | Adjacent to Town Land |
| Casey | 20-15 | 4.81 | SRA A | East Brook | Yes | Lane's Rd Ext. | Old Joppa Rd. | No | Adjacent to Town Land |
| Casey Jr. | 20-12 | 1.8 | SRA A | Cape Pond | Yes | Yes | | No | Adjacent to Town Land |
| Merrill | 20-13 | 140 | SRA A | Cape Pond | Yes | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Yes |
| Casey Jr. | 20-14 | 12.6 | SRA A | Cape Pond | Yes | Luce | Rock Walls | No | Pipeline Trail |
| Casey | 20-16 | 4.4 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Road to Gloucester |
| Frost | 20-17 | 3.1 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Road to Gloucester |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Ecological and Cultural Values | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Watershed | Wetland | Trails | Historic | Rare Habitat | Connects to |
| Casey | 20-18 | 5.4 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Lane's Farm Rd Ext. | Rock Walls | No | Adjacent to ECG |
| Lane | 23-9 | 1.18 | SRA A | Saw Mill | No | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Road to Gloucester |
| Lane | 23-10 | 2.6 | SRA A | Saw Mill | No | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Road to Gloucester |
| Rosenberg | 21-67 | 22.49 | SRA A | South Brook | No | | | No | Thatcher Rd |
| Gale | 21-72A | 15.93 | SRA A | East Brook | Yes | Lane's Farm Rd Ext | | No | Old Joppa Rd. |
| Merrill | 21-73 | 14.5 | SRA A | East Brook | Yes | | | No | |
| Bryant | 23-12 | 5.15 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Yes | | No | . |
| Bryant | 23-13 | 7 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Yes | | No | Trail from Country Club Rd |
| Rockport Real Estate | 23-14 | 7.7 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | | Rock Walls | No | |
| Byrd | 23-15 | 6.36 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Lane's Farm Rd Ext |
| Lane | 23-16 | 4.91 | SRA A | Saw Mill | No | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Lane's Farm Rd Ext |
| Poole | 23-17 | 4.71 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Pond | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Lane's Farm Rd Ext |
| French | 23-18 | 6.66 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Pond | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Lane's Farm Rd. Ext./Abuts Protected Land |
| Campbell | 23-22 | 2 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Stream | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Town Easement |
| Beaton Tr. | 23-24 | | SRA A | Saw Mill | Rowe Pond | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Jerdens Lane Ext |
| Bryant | 23-101 | 1.53 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Yes | Rock Walls | No | Country Club Rd Ext |
| Smith Trust | 23-103 | 10.7 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Country Club Ext | | No | |
| Douglas | 24-67 | 12 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Luce/ Horseshoe | | No | |
| Kenney | 23-69 | 4.2 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Horseshoe | | No | |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Ecological and Cultural Values | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Watershed | Wetland | Trails | Historic | Rare Habitat | Connects to |
| Rockport Real Estate | 24-71 | 14.3 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Luce/ Horseshoe | | No | Pipeline |
| Douglas | 24-75 | 7.4 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Horseshoe | | No | ECG Land |
| Smith | 24-77 | 7.7 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | | | No | ECG Land |
| Rockport Real Estate | 24-78 | 6.9 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | | | No | ECG/ Pipeline |
| Rockport Real Estate | 24-79 | 7.2 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Country Club Ext | | No | Pipeline |
| Smith | 24-80 | 7.9 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Country Club Ext | | No | ECG |
| Rockport Real Estate | 24-81 | 8 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Country Club Ext. | | No | Pipeline |
| Casey | 24-84 | 9.9 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | Ridgewood Rd/ Horseshoe | | No | Delamater |
| Casey | 24-85 | 2.8 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | | | No | Delamater |
| Bryant | 27-37 | 7.52 | SRA A | Saw Mill | Yes | | | No | |
| Coit | 28-72 | | SRA A | | No | | | No | |
| Holmes | 28-77 | 5.5 | SRA A | | Yes | Horseshoe | | No | Delamater |

**Map 5A2 Private Parcels**



### Table 5A4 Orphan Parcels

| Location | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Ecological and Cultural Values | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Watershed | Wetlands | Trails | Historic | Rare Habitat | Connects to |
| Gloucester Line | 3-A | 27.63 | SRA A | No | Yes | Luce, Blueberry | | Yes | Rockport/ Gloucester |
| Gloucester Line | 3-B | 1 | SRA A | Yes | Yes | | | | |
| Old Quarry Road | 4-A | 50# | SRA A | Stoney Brook/ Carlson | Yes | Old Quarry Road | Motions | Yes | Luce/Anne's Path |
| Old Quarry Road | 4-B | 7.5# | SRA A | Carlson | Yes | Old Quarry Road | Motions | Yes | Steel Derrick Quarry |
| Old Quarry Road | 4-C | 2.1 | SRA A | Carlson | Yes | Butman | Motions | Yes | Old Quarry Rd/ Squam Rd |
| Old Quarry Road | 4-D | 2.4 | SRA A | Carlson | Yes | Butman | Motions | Yes | Old Quarry Rd/ Squam Rd |
| Johnson Road | 4-E | 2.7 | SRA A | Carlson | Yes | | | Yes | |
| Old Quarry Road | 4-F | 15# | SRA A | Carlson | Yes | Old Quarry Rd | Yes | Yes, Lady Slipper | |
| Loop Pond | 12-B | 1.5 | SRA A | Mill Brook | Yes | Yes | | No | |
| Loop Pond | 12-A | 1.5 | SRA A | Mill Brook | Yes | Yes | | No | |

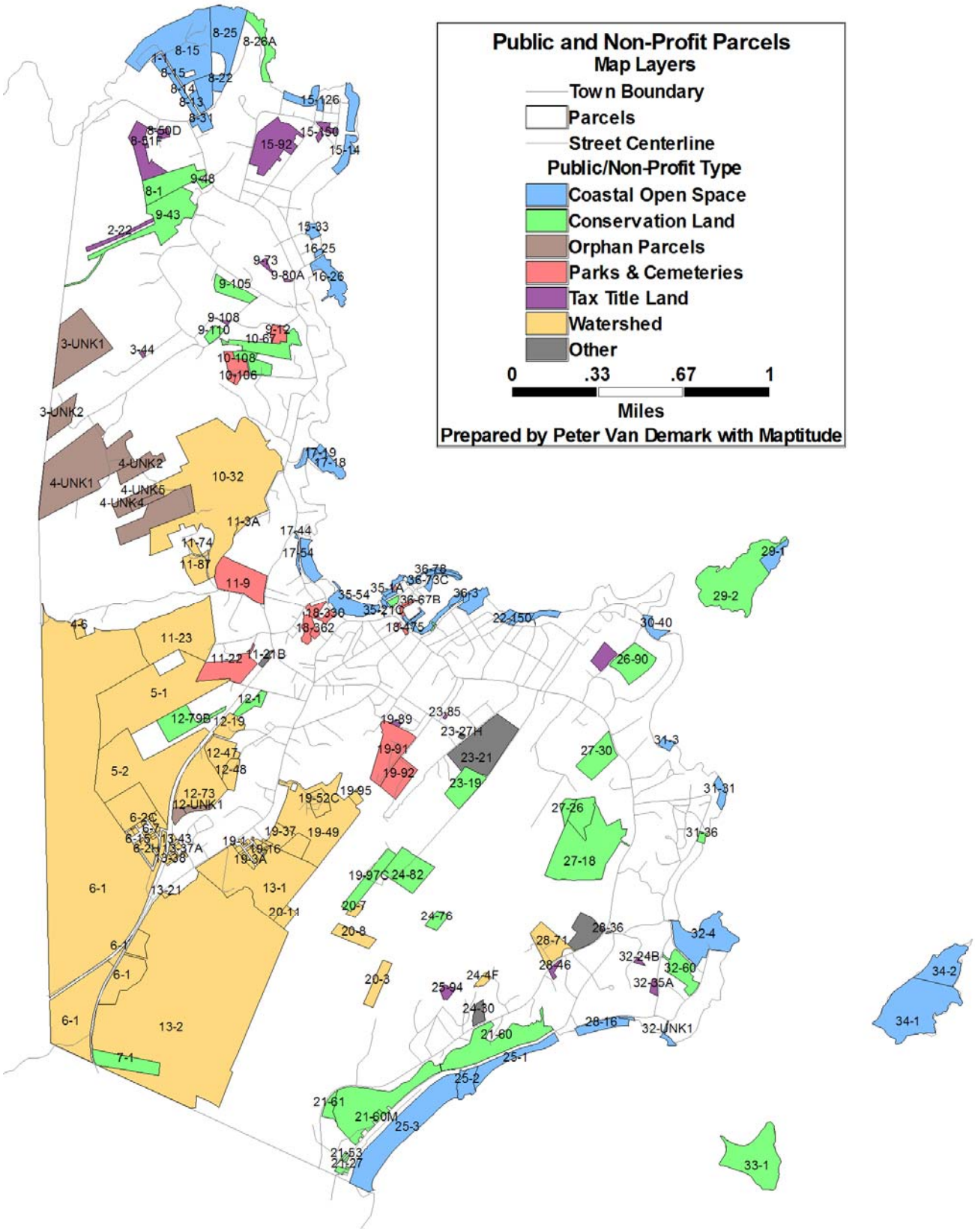
## 5B. Public and Non-Profit Parcels

Rockport has a considerable amount of open space land owned by public and non-profit entities, as can be seen from both Map 5B and the inventory in Table 5B. Rockport has acquired most of its land through purchase, gifts, tax title proceedings and, more recently, with funds from the Community Preservation Act. There are many ways to classify open space. The committee decided to classify the data by management type:

- Coastal
- Conservation land
- Parks and Cemeteries
- Tax Title land
- Watersheds
- Other

The condition of the town-owned open space is good with the few exceptions outlined in the next paragraph. The parcels are generally well kept or undisturbed, and they are not in a degraded condition. The heaviest used parcels are our coastal lands, parks, cemeteries and recreation fields. All of these are regularly maintained by town departments, the managing agency, or the organizations that use them. The interior conservation parcels and watershed lands are much more lightly used, mostly by walkers, bikers, and horseback riders. Many of these users help maintain the trails and carry out their trash. Organizations periodically conduct area cleanups.

**Map 5B Public and Non-Profit Parcels**



There are two areas of concern with land condition and the problem is heavy litter. The issue is not so much in specific parcels, but with the transportation corridor that passes near them. The first area is the MBTA railroad line. The litter is always extremely heavy, starting at the Rockport rail yard and tapering off to more a moderate level, as you travel along it towards Gloucester. The rail line litter spills over on watershed parcels,12-19, 12-47,12-73,5-2 and conservation parcels 12-1 and 12-79B The second area of concern is Route 127, a state road. The road comes into Rockport at the Gloucester line and then travels .6 miles along what is known as Nugent Stretch (Upper Main Street). The litter is regularly picked up from mid spring to early fall by people from the state and county but not during the balance of the year. Then it is typically heavily littered. The litter extends into bordering Watershed parcels 6-1, 13-2 and Conservation parcel 7-1, which includes active vernal pools.

The inventory indicates that the Town has a great diversity of open space that is used for various types of recreation. The Town is very fortunate to have public access to a considerable amount of the coast for walking, fishing, swimming, diving, sailing and kayaking. The Atlantic Path, which stretches from Halibut Point to Pigeon Cove, has many access points, which provide the public with the opportunity to walk a long stretch of the coastline. Rockport has seven main beach areas. Halibut Point State Park lies in the north of Town and draws visitors from all over the state, particularly for bird watching and walking. The state Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has organized programs so that persons with disabilities can enjoy the magnificent sea views and quarries at this location. Since the last report was written in 1997, there has been an improvement in access and facilities both at Front Beach, the main beach area, and at T Wharf, the main tourist destination. Rockport also owns a considerable amount of forest and wetlands, almost all of which lie within the various watersheds. The City of Gloucester owns a large parcel in the southwestern part of town that protects the water supplies of both Gloucester and Rockport and provides opportunities for walkers, bikers, and horseback riders.

The definition of protected property is a controversial issue in Rockport. For example, many years ago, coastal land owned by the Trustees of Reservations adjacent to Halibut Point was sold to a private party. Many would have considered that type of land to be permanently protected. The Town of Rockport owns a significant amount of open space land, as detailed in Table 5B, but not all of this land is permanently protected. After spending considerable time trying to understand the nature of permanent protection, including consultations with Irene Del Bono at DCS, the Rockport Conservation Commission, and others, the Committee decided to take a very conservative approach in assigning the protected label to a parcel. In assessing protection status of open space, the Committee felt comfortable that the following types of land had protection:

- Land at Halibut Point administered by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)
- Land Trust parcels such as those belonging to Essex County Greenbelt & Massachusetts Audubon
- Lands specified under article 97 including beaches, historic cemeteries and historic landings
- Lands protected by town meeting under article 97 and land within 100 feet of a drinking water source

The Committee has made recommendations in Section 9 to increase the amount of Town land placed under the protection of article 97. It is also recommending that all lands that have previously been granted Article 97 status by Town Meeting, or will be in the future, should be recorded at Salem Deeds.

**TABLE 5B CLASSIFICATION OF OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION LANDS OWNED BY PUBLIC AND NON-PROFIT ENTITIES**

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Coastal** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Halibut Point State Park/ Common-wealth | 1-1,8-13,14, 14B, 15,19, 22,31 | 31.85 | R1/ SRA A | DCR | Bi,E ,H,T ,Sc | House/ Fire Tower Trails/ Scenic | Yes | Park-ing/ Toilet/ DCR pro-grams | P | Art 97 | T, Wa, Bi |
| Halibut Point/ Mass Audubon | 8-1 | 14.44 | SRA A | Mass Audubo n | Bi,E ,T,S | Trails/ Scenic | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wa, Bi |
| Halibut Point/ TTOR | 8-22, 8-25 | 15.58 | SRA A | TTOR | Bi,T, Sc | Trails/ Scenic | Yes | No | P | Statute | T, Bi |
| Andrews Point/ Town | 15-4 | 3.6 | SR | Town | Bi,F, T,Sc | Atlantic Path | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wa, Bi, F |
| Angling Point/ Town | 15-14 | 3.2 | SR | Town | Bi,F, R | Atlantic Path | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wa, Bi, F |
| Cathedral Point/ Town | 15-33 | 1.22 | RA | Town | Bi,R ,S | Atlantic Path/ Diving | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wa, Bi, D |
| Hoop Pole Cove/ Town | 15-119 | 15.01 | SR | Town | Bi,T, F,Sc | Atlantic Path | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wa, Bi, F |
| Cove Ave/ Town | 15-126 | 0.83 | SR | Town | Sc | Adja-cent to Atlantic Path | Yes | No | No | | Wa |
| Pigeon Cove/ Town | 16-25,26 | 13.49 | G | Town | O | Good | Yes | Yes | No | | N |
| Back Beach/ Town | 17-44 | 0.11 | P, T | DPW | Sw, D, R,W t | Diving access | Yes | ramp | No | | K, Sw, D, Bo, Wa |
| Back Beach/ Town | 17-54 | 5.0 | P/T | DPW | Sw, D, R,W t | Diving access | Yes | ramp | P | Statute | K, Sw, D, Bo, Wa |
| Headland s/Town | 22-139 | 3.62 | RA | Town | Sc,T | Scenic/ Bench-es | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wa |
| Granite Pier/Tow n | 17-17,18,1 9, 19B,20 | 8.34 | P/T | Town | R | Boat Launch | Yes | Yes | No | | Bo, K |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Coastal** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Old Garden Beach & Landing/ Town | 22-148 thru 150, 22-309 | 5.91 | RA | DPW | Sw, D | Good diving access | Resident Parking | No | No | | K, Sw, D |
| Cape Hedge Beach/ Town | 25-1,2 | 11.4 | P/T | DPW | Sw, Wt | Good | Res, Parking | No | P | Statute | Sw |
| Long Beach/ Town | 25-3 | 29 | P/T | DPW | Sw, Su, Wt | Surfing access | Yes | No | P | Statute | Sw, Wa, Su |
| Pebble Beach/Town | 28-16 | 3.8 | P/T | DPW | Sw, R | Good | Yes | No | P | Statute | K, Sw |
| Straits-mouth Light/ Town | 29-1 | 3.27 | P/T | Town | O | Trans-ferred from USA | Boat | No | No | | Sc |
| Straits-mouth Cove/ Town | 30-40 | 1.67 | SR | DPW | Sc | Good | Limited | No | P | Statute | Bi |
| Steep Bank Landing/ Town | 31-3 | 1.13 | SR | DPW | Sc | Historic Landing | No | No | P | Statute | Sc |
| Paradise Rock/ Town | 31-31 | 2.05 | SR | Town | Bi, Sc | Sea Rocks | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wa, Bi |
| Loblolly & Emerson Pt./Town | 32-4 | 14.17 | P/T | Town | Bi,T, Sc | Sea Rocks, Trails | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wa, Bi, T |
| Cogswell Farm Landing/ Town | 32-UNK1 | 1.75 | SR | Town | Sc | Historic Landing | Right of Way | No | P | Statute | Sc |
| Pebble Beach/ Town | 32-19A | 0.2 | P/T | DPW | Sw, R | Good | Yes | No | P | Statute | K, Sw |
| Thacher Island/ Town | 34-1 | 48.36 | P/T | Town | T, C | Good | Launch | No | No | Statute | C, Wa, Bi |
| Old Harbor/ Town | 35-1A, 6A | 0.58 | G | DPW | Sc, R | Moor-ings | Resident Parking | Yes | No | | Bo |
| Pier Avenue/ Town | 35-18C | 0.14 | R | DPW | H | Historic Wharf | No | No | P | Statute | Sc |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Coastal** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pier Avenue/ Town | 35-21 | 0.38 | R | DPW | H | Water basin | No | No | P | Statute | Sc |
| Pier Avenue/ Town | 35-21C | 0.09 | R | DPW | H | Historic Wharf | No | No | P | Statute | Sc |
| Front Beach/ Town | 35-54 | 7.0 | G | DPW | Sw, D,W t | Life Guard/ Toilets | Yes | Acces sible ramp, ADA toilets | P | Statute | Sw, K, Wa, D, Bo |
| Atlantic Avenue Mudflats/ Town | 36-1,2,3 | 2.42 | R | Town | Sc | Muddy | No | No | P | Statute | Sc, Wa |
| T Wharf/ Town | 36-32, 33 | 0.84 | P/T | DPW | H, R, Sc | Motif 1 Attract-ion, Workin g Wharf | Parkin g | ADA Acces s, Toilets | No | | Sc |
| T Wharf Mudflats/ Town | 36-34, | 0.3 | R | Town | R, F, O | Muddy/ Toilets | No | No | P | Statute | Sc, Bo, F |
| Motif No. 1/Town | 36-67B | 0.15 | G | DPW | H, Sc | Tourist Attract-ion | Yes | No | No | | Sc |
| Bearskin Neck Breakwat er/Town | 36-73C, 77 | 2.54 | | Town | O | Good | Yes | Parkin g | P | Statute | Wa, Sh |
| Bearskin Neck Break water/ Town | 36-78 | 0.35 | | Town | O | Good | Yes | Parkin g | No | | Wa, Sh |
| Seawall & Rocks/ Town | 36-124 | 1.5 | R | Town | O | Fair | Yes | No | No | | Sc |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Conservation Land** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nugent Stretch/ Town | 7-1 | 8.94 | P/T | DPW | Sc, H, Wo | Water-shed | No | No | P | SH/S Art 97 | T |
| Granite St/ Mass. Audubon | 8-1 | 14.44 | SRA A | Mass Audubon | B,C | Scenic Vistas | Yes | No | P | Statute | T |
| Sea Rocks /Town | 8-26A | 7.03 | SRA A | ConCom | T,S | Coastal trail to Atlantic Path | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wa |
| Pine Pit/Town | 9-43 | 18.63 | SRA A | ConCom | T | Woods/ Quarry | Park-ing | No | P | SH/S Art 97 | T, Sw |
| Granite St., Mass. Audubon | 9-48 | 0.73 | SR | Mass Audubon | B,R | Woods | No | No | P | Statute | T |
| Liljas Pit/ Town | 9-105 | 6.97 | RA | ConCom | C | Woods/ Quarry | Yes | No | P | | T |
| Pigeon Hill St/Town | 9-110 | 1.894 | RA | ConCom | C | Wetlands | Yes | No | P | | N |
| Pingree Trails/ Sandy Bay Historical Society | 10-67, 68 | 12.78 | RA | ECGB | R | Woods/ Trails | Yes | No | P | | T |
| Waring/ Town | 12-1 | 3.66 | SRA A | ConCom | C | Field | Yes | No | P | SH/S Art 97 | Trail |
| Mill Brook Watershed/ ECGB | 12-79B | 9.03 | SRA A | ECGB | B | Woods | Trail | No | P | Statute | Wd |
| Rum Rock Lake/ ECGB | 19-97C | 7.7 | SRA A | ECGB | C/R | Trail | Yes | No | P | Statute | Trail |
| Saratoga Creek Salt Marsh/ Town | 21-27,53,57,60,60M,60P, 61 | 45.44 | P/T | Town | B | Wet-lands | Parking | Parking/Rest Facility | P | Statute | Bi |
| Rowe Parcel/ Town | 23-19 | 8.23 | | ECGB | R | Wet-lands | Yes | No | P | In nego-tiation | T, Nature study |
| South Woods/ ECGB | 24-76 | 2.5 | SRA A | ECGB | C/R | Field/ Woods | No | No | P | | Wd |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Conservation Land** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rum Rock Lake/ ECGB | 24-82 | 7.7 | SRA A | ECGB | C/R | Trail | Yes | No | P | | Trail |
| Kieran Preserve/ Town | 26-90 | 10.87 | SR | ConCo m | T | Woods/ Trail | Yes | No | P | | T, Wildlife |
| Delamate r Sanctuar y/ Town | 27-18 | 31.03 | SRA A | ConCo m | T | Trail & ROW need maint-enance | Limite d Parkin g | No | P | Art97* | T, Flora, Wildlife |
| Waring Fields/ Town | 27-25,26, 30 | 19.22 | SRA A | ConCo m | C | Field/ Woods | Yes | No | P | Art97* | Bi |
| Straitsmo uth Island/ Mass. Audubon | 29-2 | 32.76 | P/T | Mass Audubo n | H,B, C,S | Island/ Bird Sanctu -ary | No | No | P | | Bi |
| Eden Road/ Town | 31-36 | 0.80 | SR | ConCo m | S | Views | No | No | P | | Wa |
| Penzanc e Road Marsh/ Town | 32-60 | 7.54 | SR | ConCo m | 0 | Wet-lands | Limite d | Limite d | P | | B, Wa |
| Milk Island/ Common-wealth | 33-1 | 24.83 | P/T | DEM | B,C | Island/ Bird Sanctu -ary | No | No | P | | Bi |
| Old Harbor/ Town | 35-1 | 0.6 | G | ConCo m | H,C, F | Tourist/ Moor-ings | Limite d parkin g | Yes | P | SH/S | Bo, Sh |
| Star Island/ Town | 36-14,17 | 0.16 | R | ECGB | S | Views | Limite d | No | P | Book 6065 p234 | Sc |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Parks & Cemeteries** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pingree Park/Town | 9-12 | 1.5 | P/T | DPW/Little League | R | Base-ball/ Softball /Tennis /Basket-ball | Parking | Limited | P | Deed | Swings, Baseball |
| Manning Park/Town | 11-9 | 15.34 | P/T | DPW | T | Heavily Wooded | Parking | No | No | | T |
| Millbrook Meadow/ Town | 18-325 | 1.56 | P/T | DPW | R | Play-ground/ Concert/ Walks | Limited | Yes | P | | Play-ground |
| Mill Pond Park/Town | 18-319 | 2.56 | R | DPW | S,H | Pond | Limited Parking | Yes | P | | Wildlife |
| Evans Field/Town | 11-22 | 10.4 | RT | DPW/ Little League | R | Base-ball/ T ball/ Skate Park | Park-ing | Yes/ toilets | P | | Base-ball, Skate Ramp, Youth center |
| Pigeon Hill/Town | 10-106,107,108 | 4.76 | P/T | DPW | S | Views of That-cher Lights | Park-ing | Yes | No | | Sc, Picnics |
| Harvey Park/Town | 18-475 | 0.23 | | DPW | S | Tourist Meeting Place | Park-ing | Yes | No | | Sc |
| Barletta Park/Town | 18-513A | 0.16 | R | DPW | S | Tourist Meeting Place | Park-ing | Yes | No | | Sc |
| Seafenc-ibles/Town | 35-3 | 0.72 | P/T | DPW | S,H | Harbor View | Limited park-ing | Yes | No | | Sh |
| Inner Harbor Park/Town | 36-53 | 0.87 | P/T | DPW | S | Scenic | Park-ing | Yes | No | | Sc |
| Inner Harbor /Town | 36-54 | 0.87 | P/T | DPW | S | Scenic | Park-ing | Yes | No | | N |
| Old Parish/ Town | 18-330 | 1.35 | P/T | DPW | H | Neat | Yes | Yes | P | | Wa |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Parks & Cemeteries** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Union Cemetery /Town | 18-362 | 0.73 | P/T | DPW | H | Neat | Yes | No | P | | Sc |
| Beech Grove/ Town | 19-91,92 | 20.7 | P/T | DPW | H | Neat | Yes | Yes | P | | Wa |
| **Tax Title Land** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Granite Street/ Town | 1-5 | 7.07 | SRA A | Town | O | Habitat, rare Species | Street | No | No | | Contig-uous to Mass. Audu-bon |
| Highland Rd/Town | 2-22 | 2.25 | SRA A | Town | O | Habitat, rare species | No | No | No | | Contig-uous to Pine Pit |
| Hillside Rd/ Town | 3-44 | 0.22 | R | Town | O | Less than House Lot | Street | No | No | | N |
| Woodbury Lane/ Town | 8-50D | 0.48 | SRA A | Town | O | House Lot | Street | No | No | | N |
| Woodbury Lane/ Town | 8-50E | 0.46 | SRA A | Town | O | House Lot | | No | No | | N |
| Woodbury Lane/ Town | 8-51F | 0.14 | SRA A | Town | O | Habitat Rare Species | | No | No | | Contig-uous to 1-5 |
| Off Granite St/Town | 9-73 | 0.66 | RA | Town | O | Land-locked above Old Railroad | No | No | No | | N |
| Granite St/ Town | 9-80A | 0.10 | G | Town | O | Origin-ally Railroad Drive-way | Street | No | No | | N |
| Pigeon Hill St /Town | 9-108 | 0.65 | RA | Town | O | House Lot | Street | No | No | | N |
| Phillips Avenue/ Town | 15-92 | 15 | SR | Town | O | Woods, Trails | Street | No | No | | Conser-vation |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Tax Title Land** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Phillips Avenue/ Town | 15-141 | 1.23 | SR | Town | O | Island Lot | Street | No | No | | N |
| Phillips Avenue/ Town | 15-150 | 0.47 | SR | Town | O | House Lot | Street | No | No | | N |
| Pleasant Street/ Town | 19-89 | 0.11 | R | Town | O | Less than house lot | Street | No | No | | N |
| South St Court/ Town | 23-85 | 0.12 | R | Town | O | Less than house lot | Street | No | No | | N |
| LS 6 & 7/ Town * | | | SRAA | Town | O | | No | No | No | | Resear ch |
| Highview Road/ Town | 25-94 | 1.27 | SR | Town | O | | Street | No | No | | T |
| Straits-mouth Way/ Town | 26-81 | 3.15 | SR | Town | O | Wet-lands, opposit e Kieran Pre-serve | Street | No | No | | T |
| Thatcher Road/ Town | 28-46 | 0.73 | SR | Town | O | | Street | No | No | | N |
| Thatcher Road/ Town | 28-74 | 0.04 | SR | Town | O | | Street | No | No | | Contig-uous town Owned 28-73 |
| Penryn Way/ Town | 32-24B | 0.4 | SR | Town | O | Less than SR zone for House Lot | Street | No | No | | N |
| Ruthern Way/ Town | 32-35A | 0.89 | SR | Town | O | Less than SR zone for House Lot | Street | No | No | | N |
| Caleb's Lane/ Town | 22-211 | 0.09 | R | | O | | Street | No | No | | Road |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Watershed** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **MILLBROOK** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pool Hill/ Town | 5-1 | 47.83 | P/T | Town | Wt | Woods | Park-ing | Parkin g | No | | T |
| Pool Hill Forest/ Town | 5-2 | 48.4 | SRA A | Town of Rockpor t | Wt | Woods | Trail | No | P | Art 97 TM | T |
| Briar Swamp/ City of Gloucest er | 6-1 | 299.8 | SRA A | Glouces ter DPW | Wt | Trails | No | No | P | Statute | T |
| Homecre st/Town | 6-2 | 12.99 | SRA A | Town of Rockpor t | Wt | Water-shed/ woods | Trail | No | No | | N |
| Homecre st/Town | 6-2A,B, C,D,E, F,G,H, J, 6-3, 6-12, 6-12A | 6.96 | SRA A | Town of Rockpor t | Wt | Woods | No | No | No | | N |
| Homecre st/Town | 6-4,5,7, 8,9,10, 14,15, 17 | 1.56 | SRA A | Town | Wt | Woods | No | No | No | | N |
| Town Forest/ Town | 11-23 | 30.14 | SRA A | DPW | Wt | Water-shed | Yes | Yes | No | | T |
| Millbrook Pumping Station/ Town | 12-19 | 4.35 | | DPW | Wt | Water-shed | Yes | No | P | Statute | |
| Loop Pond/ Town | 12-47, 48,73, 77 | 32.78 | SRA A | DPW | Wt | Trails, woods | Yes | No | P | Statute | Wildlife , T, Sc |
| Main Street/To wn | 13-37, 37A-37E,38 ,43,46 | 1.68 | R | Town | Wt | Woods | Park-ing | No | No | | N |
| Main Street/ Town | 13-40 | 1.68 | R | Town | Wt | Woods | No | No | P | Art 97 TM | N |
| Mill Brook Watershe d/ Town | 4-6 | 2.67 | SRA A | Town | Wt | Water-shed | No | No | P | Art 97 TM | Wd |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CAPE POND** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DPW, Police, Forest Fire/Town | 13-1 | 43.07 | SR | DPW | O | DPW, Police build-ings | Park-ing | Park-ing, Toilets | No | | N |
| Cape Pond Reservoir /Town | 13-2 | 248.6 | P/T | DPW | Wt | Woods/ pond | Park-ing | No | P | Statute | T, Sc |
| Cape Pond/ Town | 20-11 | 2.8 | SRA A | DPW | Wt | Water-shed | No | No | P | At 97 TM | T |
| Pleasant St/Town | 19-52C, 95 | 26 | SRA A | DPW | Wt | Water-shed | No | No | P | | |
| Cape Pond/ Town | 13-11 | 0.09 | SRA A | DPW | Wt | Water-shed | No | No | P | Art 97 TM | N |
| Cape Pond/ Town | 13-21 | 0.34 | SRA A | DPW | Wt | Water-shed | No | No | P | | N |
| Great Hill/Town | 19-1,3, 3A,3B, 3C,3D, 3E,4,5, 6,7, 8,9,12, 13,14,15,16,17,17A,17B, 18,31A,31B,37,38,49 | 48.95 | R | Town | Wt | Water-shed | No | No | P | | |
| Great Hill/Town | 19-19, 19C | 0.08 | R | Town | Wt | Water-shed | No | No | P | Art 97 TM | N |
| **CARLSON'S QUARRY** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Carlson's Quarry/ Town | 10-32 | 129.3 | P/T | DPW | Wt, R | Trails, woods | Limit-ed park-ing | No | P | Statute | T |
| Carlson's Quarry/ Town | 11-3A, 74,87 | 129.3 | P/T | DPW | Wt, R | Trails, woods | Limit-ed park-ing | No | P | | Wd |

| Property Name | Map/ Lot | Acres | Zone | Managing Agency | Use | Descrip-tion | Public Access | ADA Access | Protec-tion Status | Grant Type | Recrea-tion Pot-ential |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **EAST BROOK** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| East Brook/ Town | 20-3 | 4.6 | SRA A | Town | Wt, R | Woods | No | No | P | | Wd |
| East Brook/ Town | 20-7 | 1.1 | SRA A | Town | Wt, R | Woods | No | No | Yes | Art 97 TM | Wd |
| East Brook/ Town | 20-8 | 4.7 | SRA A | Town | Wt, R | Woods | No | No | P | | Wd |
| **SAW MILL BROOK** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Water Tower/ Town | 28-71 | 8.44 | SRA A | DPW | R | | No | No | No | | Wd, Tl |
| Saw Mill Brook Pump Station/ Town | 24-4F | 1.24 | | DPW | R | Pond | Yes | No | No | | T |
| **Other** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Railroad Parking/ Town | 11-21B | 0.86 | P/T | DPW | O | | Park-ing | Yes | No | | N |
| South St./Town | 28-36 | 0.08 | G | Town | O | | No | No | No | | N |
| School/ Town | 23-21 | 21.45 | P/T | DPW | R, E | Educa-tion/ Fields | Park-ing | Toilets, Inclu-sive, Play-ground | No | | Ball fields |
| Summer St./Town | 23-27H | 0.29 | R | DPW | O | | Park-ing | No | No | | N |
| Thatcher Rd/Town | 24-30 | 2.1 | SR | Town | O | Woods | No | No | No | | Wd |
| Thatcher Rd/Town | 28-73 | 7.15 | SR | Town | O | Woods | No | No | No | | Wd |

## Keys

### Management Agency

| Abbr. | Name |
|---|---|
| DCR | Department of Conservation & Recreation |
| DPW | Rockport Department of Public Works |
| ECGB | Essex County Greenbelt |
| Town | Town of Rockport |
| TTOR | The Trustees of Reservations |

### Zoning

| Code | Name | Minimum Lot Size |
|---|---|---|
| P/T | Public or Trust Owned | |
| G | General | 7,500 sq ft |
| SMR | Intermediate or Semi-Residential | 10,000 sq ft |
| R | Residential | 10,000 sq ft |
| RA | Residence A | 12,000 sq ft |
| SR | Single Residential | 20,000 sq ft |
| SRAA | Single Residential AA | 40,000 sq ft |

### Use and Recreation Potential

| Code | Name |
|---|---|
| Bi | Bird Watching |
| Bo | Boat Landing |
| C | Camping |
| D | Diving |
| E | Education |
| F | Fishing |
| H | Historical Interest |
| K | Kayaking |
| N | None |
| O | Other |
| R | Recreation |
| Sc | Scenic |
| Sh | Shopping |
| Su | Surfing |
| Sw | Swimming |
| T | Trail |
| Wa | Walks |
| Wd | Woods |
| Wt | Watershed |

### Protection

| Code | Name |
|---|---|
| P | Protected |
| L | Low level protection |
| No | No protection |
| * | Check vote for ConCom as manager |

## 5C. ADA Access and Public Transportation to Open Space

Rockport has made great strides in the past decade to improve universal access. A prime Town attraction is Motif #1, which has long been a Rockport icon. Scenic views of Motif #1, the harbor and the coastal shoreline of Sandy Bay can all be enjoyed from town-owned T Wharf, which has ADA-accessible parking and rest rooms. Visitors and residents can use the sidewalks, all cut to ADA standards, to move to many waterfront access points and parks in the harbor area. There is much to be enjoyed from T Wharf to Bearskin Neck, another popular attraction, historically an area of lobster fishing shacks, the majority of which are now converted into shops and galleries. At the end of Bearskin Neck is the Breakwater where ADA parking provides some of the finest scenic views in Rockport.

The Town's main swimming beach, Front Beach, has an ADA-accessible ramp and restroom facilities. Across the street is Millbrook Park, site of the first settlers' encampment. It is now a beautifully maintained, quiet, natural area, accessible to all, with an open green meadow, stone dam and a brook.

Halibut Point State Park, near the northern boundary of Rockport, includes a granite quarry, extensive open natural shoreline and nature trails. The area has partial ADA accessibility, which the State continues to improve. Section 9 of this Report includes a recommendation to DCR for continued improvement of accessibility.

Rockport has excellent ADA-compliant public transportation, allowing accessibility to the Town's open space and recreation areas for those who cannot afford or choose not to use private transportation. In that way direct access is possible to areas for walking, swimming, sightseeing, fishing, playgrounds, wildlife watching, and sunbathing, activities found to be the most popular in the 2006 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Report.

The MBTA provides daily service to and from Boston, with the train station a 15-minute walk from public beaches, parks, the harbor, and rocky coastlines. Cape Ann Transportation Authority (CATA) provides bus service connecting the train station to these areas and other parts of Cape Ann. From mid-spring to mid-fall, CATA also operates a trolley service on weekends and holidays between the town center, the train station, and the main public parking area at the edge of Town. All CATA bus and trolley services will pick up and drop off passengers on request, at any spot on their regular routes.

At the Rockport school campus, the Town's tennis courts, softball, baseball and soccer fields are all accessible. In addition, in 2008 a new, fully ADA-equipped children's playground was opened at the school complex.

Viewed in its entirety, there is good ADA access to a substantial variety of open space and recreation areas in Rockport. Section 9 of this Report suggests actions in this area, especially for trail walking, the primary recreational activity found to be least universally accessible.

The ADA Access Self-Evaluation documentation can be found in Appendix 3.

# SECTION 6: COMMUNITY VISION

## 6A. Description of Process

The Committee gathered input to establish community goals in several ways. A survey based on the 1997 Rockport survey and on surveys from other area towns was designed to determine Rockporters' open space and recreation priorities. Following distribution at the April Town Meeting, survey forms were available through June 30th at Town Hall and on line at (HTTP://GROUPS.GOOGLE.COM/GROUP/OSRAC/WEB/SURVEY). Multiple notices advertising the survey were carried in the Gloucester Daily Times. The Committee received 296 responses compared to 152 in 1997 and 252 in 1983. Surveys completed on line were automatically tabulated using Survey Monkey while paper surveys were added manually.

Results of the 2008 Survey were posted on the web site (see Appendix) and discussed with the public at an advertised forum on September 15, 2008 at the Town library. An enthusiastic group of 29 Rockporters (compared to 15 in 1997) heard the specific assignment given to the committee by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee then presented a power point draft of GIS mapping and of the current draft report of survey results.

In the question and answer time that followed, the public raised these issues for consideration:

- Buildout costs result in a net loss in dollars to the Town
- When acquiring land, connectivity of parcels is important
- The Committee was asked to layer attributes for each parcel being considered for acquisition the more attributes, the higher rank for acquisition
- Concern for increased costs to provide water and sewer connections if full buildout occurs
- Concern about development affecting carbon footprint
- The Committee was urged to study the 2003 Harbor plan
- The Committee was urged to be vigilant regarding Chapter 91 public rights
- Concerns about potential development of the Rockport Golf Club
- Rockport's volunteer Rights of Way Committee, established in 1989 has done a wonderful job of protecting public rights of way, but there is ongoing concern about legal challenges to these rights of ways since some have been lost in the past.
- Preservation/Protection of Andrews Woods - a 15 acre tax title lot

Although the Commonwealth did not accept the 1997 report, by 2008 many recommendations had been fully implemented or continued in process. The intervening years produced a number of related studies, zoning changes and publications (see References in Section 7), which were reviewed for this report.

Key among them are:

- The Community Development Plan prepared by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)
- Securing Rockport's Water Supply prepared by Community Investment Associates
- Guide to Public Paths & Town Landings by the Rockport Rights of Way Committee
- Dogtown Common trail maps and other guides
- Updates to the Watershed Protection Overlay Zoning District
- Open Space Residential Design Zoning Bylaw
- Wetlands By-Law amendment exempting wetlands from overall lot measurement
- 1999 Rockport Buildout Analysis MAPC
- 2002 Rockport Buildout Analysis Update MAPC
- 2003 Harbor Plan

Following the September 2008 Public Meeting, the Committee reviewed the 1997 Open Space Report recommendations, noting current levels of implementation for each, and synthesized them together with comments offered after the second public presentation, May 11, 2009. Town boards and other participants in the process responded with further comments to a draft report sent to them in late spring. Their responses were incorporated in the final document. All public input was considered by the committee. Our findings are included in the Analysis of Needs (Section 7) and the Community's Goals and Objectives (Section 8).

## 6B. Open Space and Recreation Goals

Rockport's 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan is intended to be a blueprint for improvement on current efforts to enhance quality of life for all Rockport residents. It considers both active and passive recreational needs as well as residents with disabilities, emphasizing expanded accessibility. Action items from the 1997 Open Space and Recreation Plan were integrated with results of the 2008 survey to determine current priorities.

2008 Survey responses, seen in Tables 6B1, 6B2 and 6B3, are extremely consistent with priorities articulated in past reports. Residents' major areas of concern led to the overarching primary goals as Rockporters envision the future:

- Protection of Water Resources
- Protection of open space and natural resources for recreational use, especially wooded areas and shoreline lands
- Meet recreational needs of all the Town's residents with emphasis on those with disabilities

### Table 6B1 2008 SURVEY: Top Ten Recreational Activities in which Families Participate

- 90% Walking
- 81% Beach
- 76% Nature hikes
- 74% Swimming
- 63% Boating/canoeing/kayaking
- 58% Bicycling
- 41% Cross-country skiing
- 40% Bird watching
- 39% Picnicking
- 38% Sailing

### Table 6B2 2008 SURVEY: Importance of Preservation by Category

- 78% Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources
- 72% Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat
- 69% Forests and woodlands
- 68% Provide long-term protection of existing trail network
- 68% Open space for public coastal access
- 58% Provide bike paths/sidewalks
- 53% Contiguous/continuous open space areas
- 49% Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.)

Clear priorities for these respondents are protection of water resources, wildlife habitats, forests, woodlands, coastal access and existing trails. This suggests an ideal Open Space and Recreation Plan would emphasize permanent protection and maintenance of public access to open space areas while adding more bike paths, trails and contiguous open space, all of which are highly ranked in Table 6B2.

Table 6B3 shows the seriousness of the community's desire to protect open space with support for zoning law changes. This is strengthened by the fact that 45% of respondents would be willing to donate money and 5 % would rewrite their deed to protect open space. It is clear that Rockporters have a strong desire to protect open space, reinforcing results seen in the previous survey.

Consistent priorities in the several studies as well as the accomplishment of goals from previous plans show the strength of residents' commitment. Sections 8 and 9 of this report detail plans to address these ambitious goals.

Following approval of this Plan, the Committee will ask the Board of Selectmen to establish a permanent Open Space and Recreation Committee to encourage and support the Town entities assigned primary responsibility for the Action Plan in Section 9.

### Table 6B3 2008 SURVEY: Ways to protect and add to Open Space

- 88% Vote to change zoning laws
- 45% Donate money to buy land
- 15% Support rewriting their deed to limit future use of their land
- 8% Contribute land to the Town

# SECTION 7: ANALYSIS OF NEEDS

## 7A. Summary of Resource Protection Needs

Rockport appears to have considerable open space, although several areas of it are only perceived open space and are not yet protected. The environmental inventory shows that Rockport provides all its own drinking water; thus, the Town needs to do more to protect its essential watershed areas. In our survey the community ranked preserving this resource highest, with 89.5% of the responders finding it Very Important or Moderately Important. The survey also supported the use of many methods to protect water resources, including zoning changes, purchases of land and updating watershed protection rules. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) updated the Essex County Landscape Inventory with the Massachusetts Heritage Landscape Inventory Program in 2005. That program produced the Rockport Reconnaissance Report in which some of these same properties are designated as Priority Landscapes. The report notes that protecting them could require a significant effort, because many have multiple owners or unclear titles.

The Committee's 2008 survey ranked protection of the Town's existing extensive trail system as residents' top recreation concern, with 89.1% responders finding it Very Important or Moderately Important. Some of the existing trail network is on private land; those portions of the trails are subject to being blocked at any time. The loss of access to historic rights of way has been a significant issue in the past ten years. Many parcels that are of interest for the protection of the water supply are also of interest for protection of trails, rare species habitat, wetlands, and vernal pools. Some of the same land is valued for historic interest, especially in the quarry and agricultural areas. Much is adjacent to undeveloped land and thus at particular risk for change. Protecting those lands would also support the DCR's recommendation "to work towards protecting large core areas of open space, which keep or improve the community's ecological network".

The resources listed with the highest usage in the Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) are coastal beaches and shorelines. Preserving access to them also ranked very high in the Committee's survey, with 88.3% of responders declaring it Very Important or Moderately Important. Coastal access has been a strong concern of the Town but it can never be taken for granted, as access can change with new development or new ownership. The DCR Rockport Reconnaissance Report singles out Andrew's Point and the Atlantic Path for ongoing attention.

As the character of our coastal wetlands continues to change, invasive species take greater hold making the work to eradicate those species an increasing concern included in Section 8.

## 7B. Summary of Community's Needs

The community, according to the Committee's survey, puts its highest priority on protecting the drinking water supply. Also highly ranked were protection and improvement of the trail system, working to preserve large tracts of open space, preservation of areas for passive recreation and the protection of historic access and rights of ways. Lands of interest have been identified for protection in this report.

The 2006 Massachusetts Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) was developed by conducting extensive research into the usage and needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth. The data is both statewide and region specific with Rockport included in the Northeast region. In most cases the SCORP and the information developed from the Committee meetings, workshops and surveys are very similar.

Both reports show high participation in the passive recreation pursuits of walking, hiking, swimming and fishing. Differences include our survey's much higher rank of boating than reported in SCORP. In the Committee's survey bicycling is also very near the top at number five but only number eleven in SCORP. The SCORP report ranks

good bikeways as highest of the unmet needs statewide; similarly Rockport's survey ranks this Very High. Goal 5 of this Report addresses this concern.

Participation rates for active recreation (those activities that require a facility) are similar for SCORP and our survey. Tennis, golf, baseball, and playgrounds rank high in both. As a reference, we reviewed Rockport's facilities for all activities using the National Recreation and Park Associations guidelines and standards. For our population size, Rockport facilities typically meet or exceed the service guidelines.

One area that did not meet them was baseball. The SCORP found that Essex County has the largest baseball participation in the state and participation in baseball was also the highest field-based activity in the the Committee's survey. The guidelines call for one full-size facility per 5000 residents. Rockport's little league/soft ball facilities meet the guidelines, but full size diamond usage should be reviewed. Proposed changes for Rockport's MBTA railroad station will affect both current use and access to Evans field, one of our main lighted playing fields. The station's parking lot is currently used by athletes during off peak train travel hours when most field activity takes place. In the MBTA's proposed layout, parking will still exist, but it may no longer be free.

There is an ever growing demand for more playing fields with many organizations vying for their use. There are currently 4 baseball diamonds, two soccer fields, and one set of usable tennis courts. Tennis continues to grow in popularity with over 200 adults and children participating in summer outdoor recreation programs.

More water activity programs, particularly swimming, could be offered by the Town, since Rockport is a seacoast community.

Rockport has narrow streets that can make biking and walking unsafe. There should be a needs assessment both sidewalks and bike trails.

The skateboard park at Evans Field requires ongoing maintenance and the Town does not maintain it, although it is on Town property. A new organizational plan would address how this park should be maintained.

Pingree Park in Pigeon Cove has tennis courts, a basketball court and a playground are all in disrepair. The baseball diamond and fencing are in very good condition. The Town should repair the facilities.

Most of the recreation facilities would benefit from better parking.

Overall, the Town should undertake a needs assessment focused on usage of, demand for, and efficiency of its active recreation facilities.

Rockport has made great strides in the past decade to improve access to open space and recreation areas for people with disabilities. Section 9 suggests recommendations for improved access.

Long Beach, the Town's seasonal beachfront community, offers a flat ¾ mile long sidewalk atop the seawall separates shoreline cottages from the beach but it is not easily accessible for people with some disabilities. Portions are owned by the city of Gloucester and by private landowners. ADA access to the whole walkway would require collaboration between Rockport and the other owners.

The Committee recognizes that a major recreational activity not fully accessible is trail walking. Section 9 contains two action recommendations. The first recommends to the Commonwealth that an ADA trail be provided at Halibut Point with ADA accessible restroom facilities. The second recommends a joint effort with the Rockport Conservation Commission to develop ADA accessibility wherever possible in woodland areas. Also recommended is improvement of beach access at the Cape Hedge Beach entrance ramp on South Street.

## 7C. Management Needs, Potential Change of Use

Although Rockport has many committees interested in open space, their activities on behalf of open space protection need better coordination. The Open Space and Recreation Planners Workbook recommends: "the goal should be to have one group responsible for ensuring communication, coordination and implementation of the Open Space and Recreation Plan." The Workbook also suggests" the group be made up of representatives from the related committees." This role should be played by the Committee, which has members from each of the major open space groups: Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Rights of Way Committee, Recreation Committee and the Watershed Protection Committee. It will be very important for these committees to monitor and promote the recommendations in Section 9 in order to bring them to fruition.

The DPW has responsibility for management of the Town's open space and recreation areas, including Town-owned beaches, wharfs, rocky coastline, parks, cemeteries, fields and woodlands. Many of this plan's Actions will require DPW input and coordination.

The Committee will work with the Planning Board as it develops the updated Master Plan, in which the Open Space Plan will be a key component. Many of the Committee's recommendations on zoning and other land use will require work with the Planning Board and other interested residents.

Rockport is fortunate to have benefited from the Community Preservation Act. Recently the Watershed Protection Committee obtained $300,000 for land acquisition through the Act. Once the Commonwealth approves this plan, Rockport will be eligible for Self-Help grants from the Commonwealth, which could bring substantial funds for land purchases or protection. To maximize use of these monies will require time-consuming effort as well as coordination with related Boards and Committees. It is important for the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee to transition to a permanent Open Space and Recreation Committee.

# SECTION 8: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals and objectives of the 2009 Open Space Plan were compiled after analysis of the community's voice expressed through the Public Survey, the First Public Meeting and analysis of the 1997 Open Space Report. The community's goals and objectives have remained very consistent over the past ten years, with primary emphasis on protecting and enhancing drinking water sources. The community is very interested in maintaining its fortunate combination of natural and manmade surroundings. The Committee has formulated nine key goals and objectives listed below:

### GOAL 1: PROTECT AND ENHANCE DRINKING WATER SOURCES

### GOAL 2: PROTECT AND MANAGE CRITICAL NATURAL RESOURCES

### GOAL 3: PRESERVE SIGNIFICANT LAND FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

### GOAL 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT

### GOAL 5: ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES APPROPRIATE AND ACCESSIBLE TO ALL AGE GROUPS AND PERSONS OF DISABILITY

### GOAL 6: PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE EXISTING TRAIL NETWORK

### GOAL 7: ESTABLISH A PERMANENT OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE WITH RESOURCES FROM TOWN COMMITTEES INVOLVED WITH LAND ISSUES

### GOAL 8: ANALYZE ROCKPORT'S BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

### GOAL 9: PROMOTE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ABOUT OPEN SPACE

# SECTION 9: SEVEN-YEAR ACTION PLAN

For each goal the Committee has defined one or more actions to be undertaken during the next seven years.

## GOAL 1: PROTECT AND ENHANCE DRINKING WATER SOURCES

Action 1a) Enhance legal protection for Town-owned watershed property
Responsibility: WPC, PB, OSRC, TM, CONCOM, DPW

Action 1b) Purchase or enact conservation restrictions on key watershed land in Rockport
Responsibility: CONCOM, WPC, OSRC, TM, DPW

Action 1c) Upgrade Watershed Protection Overlay zoning bylaw to be consistent with MADEP guidelines
Responsibility: PB, OSRC, CONCOM, DPW, WPC, TM

Action 1d) Increase the restrictions within the SRAA zone district to provide increased protection within the Watershed Overlay District
Responsibility: OSRC, PB, TM

Action 1e) Assess the Watershed Overlay District boundaries and modify as necessary
Responsibility: OSRC, PB, DPW, WPC

Action 1f) Discourage special permits and variances which are contrary to the long term protection of drinking water resources
Responsibility: WPC, BOS, ZBA, PB, CC, BI

## GOAL 2: PROTECT AND MANAGE CRITICAL NATURAL RESOURCES

Action 2a) Move towards identifying, certifying and monitoring all vernal pools in Rockport
Responsibility: CONCOM, OSRC

Action 2b) Develop a digital wetlands map for Rockport using the new Massachusetts Wetlands Conservancy Program aerial orthophoto maps and data from local sources and filings
Responsibility: CONCOM, OSRC

Action 2c) Encourage the eradication of invasive species.
Responsibility: CONCOM, OSRC

Action 2d) Evaluate, prioritize, and implement protection of current and potential agricultural land uses.
Responsibility: CONCOM, OSRC

## GOAL 3: PRESERVE SIGNIFICANT LAND FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

Action 3a) Establish and maintain an ongoing open space inventory for acquisition and conservation, including current status of all parcels, at least annually
Responsibility: OSRC, WPC

Action 3b) Identify town-owned open space and recreation parcels most in need of active management.
Responsibility: OSRC

Action 3c) Evaluate town-owned parcels and tax title land for appropriate municipal stewardship
Responsibility: OSRC, TM, BOS, CONCOM

Action 3d) Track and publicize funds accruing to the Town from the sale of tax title lands, Community Preservation allocations, grants, and other public and private sources when these funds could potentially be used for open space acquisition. Identify and monitor the disposition of money specifically designated as land bank funds
Responsibility: OSRC, BOS

Action 3e) Evaluate conservation easements and restrictions for all parcels of interest
Responsibility: OSRC, BOS, CONCOM

Action 3f) Prioritize the protection of all private parcels of interest with three or more ecological and cultural values
Responsibility: OSRC

Action 3g) Ascertain the status of all "Orphan parcels" in Rockport
Responsibility: OSRC

Action 3h) Identify and protect large contiguous areas that have significant ecological and cultural values
Responsibility: OSRC

Action 3i) Research, create and distribute grant opportunities for land protection and stewardship.
Responsibility: OSRC

## GOAL 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT

Action 4a) Identify important trails and wildlife corridors and develop a plan to protect these resources
Responsibility: OSRC, ROW, CONCOM

Action 4b) Identify discontinuous trails and wildlife corridors and develop a plan for restoration
Responsibility: OSRC, ROW, CONCOM

## GOAL 5: ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES APPROPRIATE AND ACCESSIBLE TO ALL AGE GROUPS AND PERSONS OF DISABILITY

Action 5a) Undertake a needs assessment, including parking needs, for facilities in Rockport for active recreation such as tennis, basketball, skateboarding, baseball, and soccer
Responsibility: OSRC, REC, BOS

Action 5b) Ensure ADA accessibility to appropriate public land, recreational facilities, and related buildings as indicated in the facility inventory in Table 5B
Responsibility: OSRC, REC, BOS, CONCOM, DPW

Action 5c) Undertake a needs assessment for bicycle trails
Responsibility: OSRC, BOS, REC, CONCOM

Action 5d) Implement the ADA transition plan (see Appendix 3)

Responsibility: OSRC, BOS, Police, CONCOM, DPW

Action 5e) Undertake a needs analysis for improved access to the shore
Responsibility: OSRC, REC, DPW

## GOAL 6: PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE EXISTING TRAIL NETWORK

Action 6a) Conduct a comprehensive trail and trail easement inventory and publish an official map of public trails
Responsibility: OSRC, ROW

Action 6b) Research undocumented rights of way
Responsibility: OSRC, ROW

Action 6c) Maintain the public trail network
Responsibility: OSRC, ROW, DPW

Action 6d) Encourage suitable parking at entrances to paths and footpaths
Responsibility: OSRC, ROW

## GOAL 7: ESTABLISH A PERMANENT OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE WITH RESOURCES FROM TOWN COMMITTEES INVOLVED WITH LAND ISSUES

Action 7a) Create a permanent Open Space and Recreation Committee with seven members to monitor and facilitate the implementation of the 2009 Action Plan; evaluate the seven-year plan annually and revise the Action Plan accordingly; consider unanticipated open space issues and make recommendations for action; update the 2009 Plan with a view to a submission of a revised plan in 2016; and establish a budget as needed
Responsibility: OSRC, BOS, TM

## GOAL 8: ANALYZE ROCKPORT'S BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

Action 8a) Promote increased communication and consistency among committees, boards, and commissions on any land disposition action, including watershed protection
Responsibility: All Town boards

Action 8b) Monitor license applications under Chapter 91 as they pertain to open space issues
Responsibility: OSRC, CONCOM, ROW, PB, Harbor Advisory Committee

## GOAL 9: PROMOTE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ABOUT OPEN SPACE

Action 9a) Develop a plan to involve Rockport students in open space plan implementation and involve students in stewardship of the town's open space.
Responsibility: OSRC, Rockport High School

Action 9b) Promote public awareness and education about open space issues
Responsibility: OSRC

Action 9c) Educate the public about the network of local trails, publicize the availability of trail maps and improve trailhead signage
Responsibility: OSRC, ROW

Action 9d) Educate the public about Town recreation opportunities via brochures, maps, and signage, and make the materials available at the information booth, the shuttle parking lot, the train station, Town web site, and prominent spots in the local business areas
Responsibility: OSRC, REC

Action 9e) Brief the relevant Town staff, boards and committees and the public on the development and implementation of the 2009 Open Space Plan
Responsibility: OSRC

Action 9f) Designate Open Space Committee members as liaisons to other Town boards, committees and officials with action responsibilities and have them report back to the Open Space Committee on a regular basis
Responsibility: OSRC

## First-Year Action Plan

The Action Plan for the first year was formulated by voting on the top ten actions, weighting those actions by their being easy, medium, or hard to implement, and creating a final list of 11 actions to be undertaken in the first year of the 2009 Open Space Plan.

Table 9-1 lists those actions from easiest to hardest to implement. Actions with the same weighted vote are listed in numerical order. Some action descriptions have been truncated; see above for the full description.

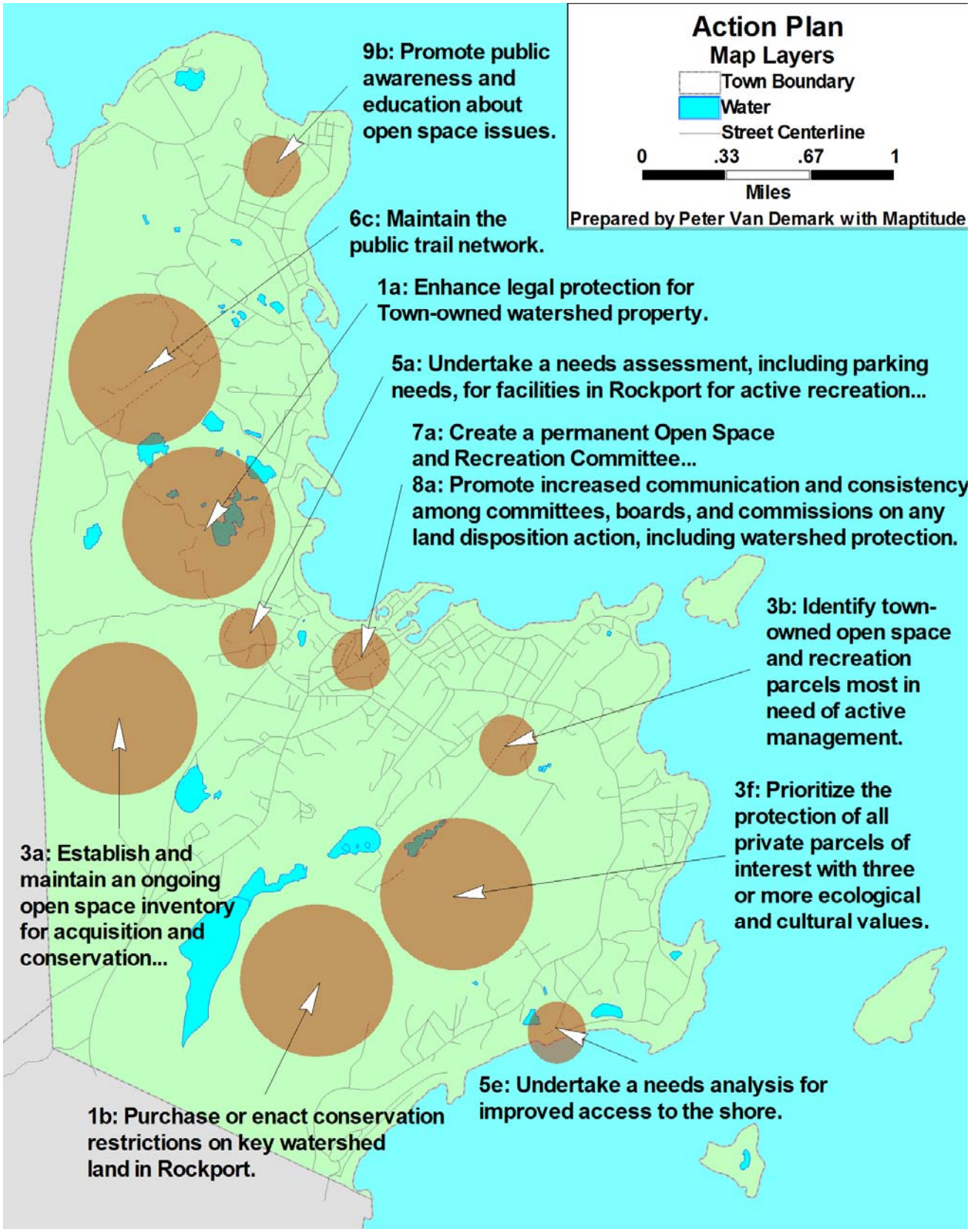
### Table 9-1 First-Year Action Plan

| Action | Description |
|---|---|
| 7a | Create a permanent Open Space and Recreation Committee... |
| 3f | Prioritize the protection of all private parcels of interest with three or more ecological and cultural values. |
| 3a | Establish and maintain an ongoing open space inventory for acquisition and conservation... |
| 1a | Enhance legal protection for Town-owned watershed property. |
| 3b | Identify town-owned open space and recreation parcels most in need of active management. |
| 8a | Promote increased communication and consistency among committees, boards, and commissions on any land disposition action, including watershed protection. |
| 9b | Promote public awareness and education about open space issues. |
| 5e | Undertake a needs analysis for improved access to the shore. |
| 5a | Undertake a needs assessment, including parking needs, for facilities in Rockport for active recreation... |
| 6d | Maintain the public trail network. |
| 1b | Purchase or enact conservation restrictions on key watershed land in Rockport |

Map 9: Action Plan shows the 11 actions in the First-Year Action Plan. Some actions are not specific to a place, and some actions are for many places, so the locations of the actions are representative of the places that will be affected by the actions.

OSRC will continually review progress on implementing the actions and will annually revise the Action Plan. Only the First-Year Action Plan has been presented here, but it is the intent of OSRC to address all of the current actions, and new actions that become priorities, within the seven years of the 2009 Open Space Plan.

**Map 9: First-Year Action Plan**



## Action Plans for Years Two to Seven

The action plans for years two to seven were formulated by having each Committee member suggest years to start the actions not in the first-year plan, then discussing and agreeing on the starting year for each action. Many actions are already underway, and many actions will continue over the seven years of the plan.

Table 9-2 lists the actions for each year, in action code order, with suggested funding. Many actions require minimal or no funding, and can likely be covered within existing leads work and organization. These are indicated with an asterisk (*) after the organization name. Some action descriptions have been truncated; see the beginning of this section for the full description.

### Table 9-2 Action Plans for Years Two to Seven

| Year | Action | Description | Funding |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 1c | Upgrade Watershed Protection Overlay zoning bylaw to be consistent with MADEP guidelines | PB*,TM |
| | 1f | Discourage special permits and variances which are contrary to the long term protection of drinking water resources | OSRC* |
| | 2a | Move towards identifying, certifying and monitoring all vernal pools in Rockport | CONCOM* |
| | 2c | Encourage the eradication of invasive species | CONCOM*, Garden Club |
| | 3i | Research, create and distribute grant opportunities for land protection and stewardship | CONCOM* |
| | 4a | Identify important trails and wildlife corridors and develop a plan to protect these resources | CONCOM & ROW* |
| | 6c | Maintain the public trail network | ROW & DPW* |
| | 8b | Monitor license applications under Chapter 91 as they pertain to open space issues | CONCOM*, PB |
| | 9d | Educate the public about Town recreation opportunities… | REC & Town funding |
| | 9f | Designate Open Space Committee members as liaisons to other Town boards, committees and officials … | OSRC* |
| 3 | 1d | Increase the restrictions within the SRAA zone district to provide increased protection within the Watershed Overlay District | PB* |
| | 1e | Assess the Watershed Overlay District boundaries and modify as necessary | WPC* |
| | 2b | Develop a digital wetlands map for Rockport… | CONCOM & Town funding |
| | 3e | Evaluate conservation easements and restrictions for all parcels of interest | CONCOM* |
| | 5c | Undertake a needs assessment for bicycle trails | REC* |
| | 6a | Conduct a comprehensive trail and trail easement inventory and publish an official map of public trails | ROW & Town funding |
| | 9c | Educate the public about the network of local trails, publicize the availability of trail maps and improve trailhead signage | ROW* |
| | 9e | Brief the relevant Town staff, boards and committees and the public on the development and implementation of the 2009 Open Space Plan | OSRC* |

| Year | Action | Description | Funding |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 3d | Track and publicize funds accruing to the Town… | Town Services & OSRC |
| | 5d | Implement the ADA transition plan (see Appendix 3) | BOS, CPA funds & grants |
| | 6b | Research undocumented rights of way | ROW & Town funding |
| 5 | 3h | Identify and protect large contiguous areas that have significant ecological and cultural values | CONCOM, CPA funds & grants |
| | 4b | Identify discontinuous trails and wildlife corridors and develop a plan for restoration | CONCOM & ROW* |
| | 9a | Develop a plan to involve Rockport students in open space plan implementation and involve students in stewardship of the town's open space | OSRC* |
| 6 | 3c | Evaluate town-owned parcels and tax title land for appropriate municipal stewardship | OSRC* |
| | 5b | Ensure ADA accessibility to appropriate public land, recreational facilities, and related buildings… | BOS, CPA funds & grants |
| 7 | 2d | Evaluate, prioritize, and implement protection of current and potential agricultural land uses | OSRC* |
| | 3g | Ascertain the status of all "Orphan parcels" in Rockport | OSRC & Town funding |

# SECTION 10: PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following comments were received:

- Planning Board
- Conservation Commission
- Essex County Greenbelt Association
- Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- J. Beauvais
- Rights of Way Committee
- Recreation Committee
- Board of Appeals
- Watershed Protection Committee
- DPW
- C. Britt ( Consultant to Planning Board)
- Public Meeting May 11
- B. Goll
- B. Sparks
- B. Hope and S. Gelb
- M. White

See Appendix 3 for the full text of the comments.

# SECTION 11: RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

The Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee heard from many individuals, in meetings and in conversations and explored a variety of printed resources to produce Rockport's 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan. We are very grateful to the following individuals and providers of information. This is a partial list.

## 11A. Resources

### Individuals

Jeff Amero, GIS Specialist
Armand Aparo, Rockport Selectman
Toby Arsenian, Resident
Nicolas Barletta, Resident
Carolyn Britt, Community Investment Associates, Rockport Town Planner, Ipswich Open Space Committee
Robert Clark, Rockport High School, coordinator of volunteers
Irene Del Bono, Department of Conservation Services, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Terry Duffy, Assessor, Rockport
Geralyn Falco, Conservation Agent, Town of Rockport
Barbara Goll, Friends of Rockport Rights of Way
Sarah Haggerty, Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program
Andrew Heinze, Rockport Selectman
Neal Jacobs, Resident
Phyllis Krenn, Co-Chairman, Rockport Rights of Way Committee
Chris Leahy, Massachusetts Audubon Society
Tom McCarthy, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Julie McMahon, Watershed Protection Committee
Susan Jones Moses, Essex County Greenbelt Association
Bill Mueller, Andrews Woods Association
George Robertson, Assistant Director, Rockport Department of Public Works (now retired)
Ann Sheinwald, Founder of Rockport Rights of Way Committee
Wendy Sweetser, Highland Community Initiative
Phil Tanson, Rockport Recreation Committee
Ted Tarr, Resident, Friends of Rockport Rights of Way
Peg Wheeler, Land Protection Specialist, The Trustees of Reservations
Sarah Wilkinson, Rockport Selectman
Christina Wolfe, Attorney

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# Section 12 APPENDICES

## Appendix 1 Results of the Rockport Open Space Survey 2008

### Rockport Open Space Survey 2008

**1. How important is it to you for the town to preserve/acquire the following:**

| Choice in Order Asked | Very Important | Moderately Important | Less Important | Not Important | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Add to the trail network | **39.4% (111)** | 35.1% (99) | 19.9% (56) | 5.7% (16) | 282 |
| Provide bike paths/sidewalks | **58.2% (164)** | 24.8% (70) | 12.4% (35) | 4.6% (13) | 282 |
| Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest | **45.4% (128)** | 33.0% (93) | 15.6% (44) | 6.0% (17) | 282 |
| Historic/archeological sites | **44.9% (124)** | 35.1% (97) | 12.7% (35) | 7.2% (20) | 276 |
| Forests and woodlands | **69.1% (199)** | 21.9% (63) | 4.5% (13) | 4.5% (13) | 288 |
| Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat | **72.3% (206)** | 15.4% (44) | 6.0% (17) | 6.3% (18) | 285 |
| Contiguous/continuous open space areas | **52.9% (148)** | 26.8% (75) | 13.6% (38) | 6.8% (19) | 280 |
| Open space for active recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis etc.) | **43.2% (123)** | 29.1% (83) | 21.8% (62) | 6.0% (17) | 285 |
| Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.) | **48.8% (137)** | 35.6% (100) | 11.7% (33) | 3.9% (11) | 281 |
| Open space to preserve real estate values | 26.2% (73) | **31.5% (88)** | 28.3% (79) | 14.0% (39) | 279 |
| Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources | **78.3% (224)** | 11.2% (32) | 5.2% (15) | 5.2% (15) | 286 |
| Open space for public coastal access | **67.8% (192)** | 20.5% (58) | 6.7% (19) | 4.9% (14) | 283 |
| Provide long term protection of existing trail network | **67.8% (194)** | 21.3% (61) | 5.9% (17) | 4.9% (14) | 286 |

| Choice in Importance Order | Very Important | Moderately Important | Less Important | Not Important | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources | **78.3% (224)** | 11.2% (32) | 5.2% (15) | 5.2% (15) | 286 |
| Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat | **72.3% (206)** | 15.4% (44) | 6.0% (17) | 6.3% (18) | 285 |
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| Contiguous/continuous open space areas | **52.9% (148)** | 26.8% (75) | 13.6% (38) | 6.8% (19) | 280 |

| Choice in Importance Order | Very Important | Moderately Important | Less Important | Not Important | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.) | **48.8% (137)** | 35.6% (100) | 11.7% (33) | 3.9% (11) | 281 |
| Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest | **45.4% (128)** | 33.0% (93) | 15.6% (44) | 6.0% (17) | 282 |
| Historic/archeological sites | **44.9% (124)** | 35.1% (97) | 12.7% (35) | 7.2% (20) | 276 |
| Open space for active recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis etc.) | **43.2% (123)** | 29.1% (83) | 21.8% (62) | 6.0% (17) | 285 |
| Add to the trail network | **39.4% (111)** | 35.1% (99) | 19.9% (56) | 5.7% (16) | 282 |
| Open space to preserve real estate values | 26.2% (73) | **31.5% (88)** | 28.3% (79) | 14.0% (39) | 279 |

Answered question: 293
Skipped question: 3

**2. Indicate the recreational activities in which you or your family participate or would like to participate**

| Choice in Response Order | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Walking | 90.1% | 256 |
| Beach | 80.6% | 229 |
| Nature hikes | 76.4% | 217 |
| Swimming | 74.3% | 211 |
| Boating/canoeing/kayaking | 63.0% | 179 |
| Bicycling | 57.7% | 164 |
| Cross-country skiing | 40.8% | 116 |
| Bird watching | 40.5% | 115 |
| Picnicking | 39.1% | 111 |
| Sailing | 37.7% | 107 |
| Fishing | 35.9% | 102 |
| Jogging | 30.3% | 86 |
| Tennis | 24.3% | 69 |
| Golf | 23.9% | 68 |
| Mountain biking | 23.2% | 66 |
| Baseball | 21.5% | 61 |
| Ice skating/hockey/curling | 21.1% | 60 |
| Soccer | 20.8% | 59 |
| Outdoor basketball | 17.3% | 49 |
| Tot playground | 16.5% | 47 |
| Indoor basketball | 15.8% | 45 |
| Softball | 14.8% | 42 |
| Skateboarding | 12.0% | 34 |
| Other | -- | 31 |
| Horseback riding | 10.2% | 29 |
| Track | 7.4% | 21 |
| Football | 6.3% | 18 |
| Lacrosse | 5.3% | 15 |
| Snowmobiling | 1.8% | 5 |

**Other:**

| |
|---|
| [Curling circled] |
| beach combing |
| Blueberry Picking! |
| Bocce |
| Camping (scouts) |
| DEDICATED SPACE FOR DOG WALKERS AND THEIR DOGS |
| dirt biking |
| Dog Park |
| dog walking |
| Dog Walking |
| Frisbee |
| Garden Club - maintaining Town Gardens |
| hunting |
| Indoor & Outdoor volleyball |
| indoor swimming |
| It would be great to add some more playing fields for the children of Rockport as well as preserving the town's charm and beauty. |
| leave some areas off limits to human activity! |
| personal |
| please DO NOT ALLOW ANY MOTORIZED VEHICLES in Dogtown & adjoining woodlands owned by Gloucester, Rockport or other organizations/private landowners |
| plein air drawing/painting, rowing |
| Rollerblading |
| senior citizen stuff |
| snow shoeing |
| snow shoeing |
| snowshoeing |
| summer beach areas for dogs |
| Surfing |
| Ultimate Frisbee |
| Ultimate Frisbee |
| Wall Ball-talk to any elementary student for explanation |
| yoga, karate |

Answered question: 284
Skipped question: 12

**3. How important for you are the town's recreational places for:**

| Choice in Order Asked | Very Important | Moderately Important | Less Important | Not Important | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Toddlers (up to age 4) | **38.1% (102)** | 29.9% (80) | 20.1% (54) | 11.9% (32) | 268 |
| Young children (5 – 8) | **47.1% (129)** | 31.8% (87) | 13.9% (38) | 7.3% (20) | 274 |
| Upper elementary (9 – 12) | **58.1% (158)** | 29.0% (79) | 7.0% (19) | 5.9% (16) | 272 |
| Teenagers (13 – 18) | **63.0% (174)** | 25.7% (71) | 6.5% (18) | 4.7% (13) | 276 |
| Adults | **59.4% (161)** | 31.7% (86) | 7.7% (21) | 1.1% (3) | 271 |
| Handicapped | **45.1% (119)** | 37.9% (100) | 12.9% (34) | 4.2% (11) | 264 |
| Senior citizens | **48.4% (133)** | 37.8% (104) | 10.9% (30) | 2.9% (8) | 275 |

| Choice in Response Order | Very | Moderately | Less | Not | Response |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | Important | Important | Important | Important | Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Teenagers (13 – 18) | **63.0% (174)** | 25.7% (71) | 6.5% (18) | 4.7% (13) | 276 |
| Adults | **59.4% (161)** | 31.7% (86) | 7.7% (21) | 1.1% (3) | 271 |
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| Toddlers (up to age 4) | **38.1% (102)** | 29.9% (80) | 20.1% (54) | 11.9% (32) | 268 |

Answered question: 285
Skipped question: 11

**4. Describe specific parcels in Rockport you would like the town to acquire for open space and what makes them unique for prioritization:**

| Group | Response |
|---|---|
| 1: Andrews Woods | Haven Ave: large (15 acre) undeveloped parcel |
| 1: Andrews Woods | South Woods, Haven/Phillips Ave woods - contiguous open space - not much left |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Woodland area off Stockholm Ave, land left vacant Phillips Ave- South woods available land |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Land off Phillips, land between Lilya Pit and Monroe Drive |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Save the Pigeon Cove woods off of Haven |
| 1: Andrews Woods | 16 acres between Haven and Phillips Ave. |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Phillips Ave/Haven Lot 20+ acres - much wildlife, walking trails in conjunction w/Atlantic Path |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Would you please preserve the 15 acres between Phillips and Haven so important for birds and children? Thank you. |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Andrews Woods--the large woods owned by the town in Pigeon Cove between Phillips and Haven. This woods is already in daily use by hikers (who connect to it via the adjacent Atlantic Path), neighborhood strollers, dog-walkers, children, etc. It is a well-established, integral part of this community, simply as it is. It is also home to a tremendous variety of plant and animal species. To lose it to |
| 1: Andrews Woods | 15 acres on Phillips Ave in Pigeon Cove |
| 1: Andrews Woods | 15 acres on Phillips Ave in Pigeon Cove |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Blueberry Lane. Woodland Acres 45 acres pristine priority Habitat & wetlands. Haven Ave Woods as a sanctuary on north. |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Phillips estate - large unspoiled woodland with walking paths, wildlife, birds |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Cape Ann Tool company: last available space for town to operate park and ocean access; ; Keep land off Haven and Phillips Avenue for wildlife and paths; ; Land near Schools for future athletic fields and sports expansion |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Haven/Phillips Avenue parcel of woodland used for walking, nature, green space. Should be conserved for public access and to prevent creating a suburb out of the area. |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Woods off Philips Ave - Quiet trails for walking - Viewing nature |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Andrews Woods - Between Phillips & Haven Ave Pigeon Cove |
| 1: Andrews Woods | STRONGLY URGE PRESERVATION OF ANDREWS WOODS AS IS!!!!!! |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Andrews Woods - wonderful paths and plants - great wildlife especially the birds |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Andrews Wood - Trails, walking, beauty - vernal pools |

| Group | Response |
|---|---|
| 1: Andrews Woods | particularly Andrews Wood |
| 1: Andrews Woods | ANDREWS WOODS _ Historic & fits many uses above |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Andrews Woods - 15 acres on Phillips Ave. Trails make refreshing walks possible and safer than streets. |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Andrews Point Woods |
| 1: Andrews Woods | Andrews Woods |
| 1&2: Andrews/Johnson | LAND OFF HAVEN AVE - OPEN SPACE FOR DOG WALKING; ; JOHNSON'S QUARRY - ACCESS TO DOG TOWN |
| 1&2: Andrews/Johnson | Andrews Woods; ; Johnsons Quarry |
| 1&5: Andrews/Tax Title | Andrews Woods Most towns fight to keep & protect open spaces. We just want the TAX $'s No Matter what |
| 1&5: Andrews/Tax Title | Andrews Woods 15 Acre Tax-Title land for walking trails |
| 1&5: Andrews/Tax Title | The Haven Ave woods as they are in jeopardy of being lost forever and to identify other parcels of tax title land that are used for recreational purposes throughout town so they may be preserved as well. |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | #1 Johnson's Quarry; ; #2 Any watershed land for our drinking water supply; ; #3 Any land contiguous with our beachfronts |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson Quarry - Hiking trails, watershed; ; Bedrock wells area for water production |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson's Quarry---watershed, trails, non-buildable open space, historical value (quarry industry) |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson's quarry (if still possible) |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson's quarry, if it could be made available for swimming, trails |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Woodland Acres, Johnson's Quarry, Johnson Road |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | The Johnson Quarry - precious blueberry patch + unique woodlands and terrain, Historic Quarry also. |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnsons Quarry area |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson's Quarry area. It's a large area with multiple possibilities. |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson's quarry--it is a "hub" for many trails. |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson's quarry; ; Quarry itself, trails. vistas |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson's quarry-water and rec |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson's Quarry |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson't Quarry |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Not sure what is available for acquisition besides Johnson's Quarry |
| 2: Johnson's Quarry | Johnson's Quarry - to preserve woodlands and the town water supply |
| 2&3&4: Johnson's/South/Dogtown | Johnson's quarry; land around Dogtown; parcels in the South Woods |
| 2&3: Johnson's/South | "South Woods", Johnson Quarry, Lane's Farm & Bryant Land + Smith Land into South Woods |
| 2&4: Johnson's/Dogtown | I' like to see everything that is green and open stay that way. Including Charlie Lane's pastures and the land behind them. All the South Woods, all of Dogtown, Johnson's Quarry. Everything. |
| 2&4: Johnson's/Dogtown | Johnson's Quarry: trails, watershed, access to Dogtown, water supply, swimming |
| 2&4: Johnson's/Dogtown | Johnson's Quarry for water and hiking, as a start to Dogtown paths and blueberry picking |
| 3: South Woods | Lane's farmland behind the Rockport Country club and next to the schools,, running back into the South woods. Ideal for adding to existing high school playing fields, joining with existing woodland. |
| 3: South Woods | Preserve the south woods. |
| 3: South Woods | I don't know enough about what the Town owns and doesn't own, but the Southern Woods would seem to be an ideal candidate for preservation. |
| 3: South Woods | South woods |

| Group | Response |
|---|---|
| 3&4: South/Dogtown | The land between Sam Seguls place, going north. Also the South Woods, between the Country Club and Long Beach. All of Dogtown |
| 4: Dogtown | Any land near Dogtown |
| 4: Dogtown | DOGTOWN - (Wind turbines + trails |
| 4: Dogtown | Restore Dogtown |
| 4: Dogtown | trails for biking, walking, running, inline skating, etc - possible route along train track or up through Dogtown common to get you into Gloucester so you would not have to deal with traffic. |
| 4: Dogtown | please do not allow any motorized vehicles into the woods of Dogtown and adjoining parcels |
| 4: Dogtown | I want the Dogtown woods to be protected from development and from restricted use. We enjoy hiking, walking, jogging and biking in them. |
| 5: Tax Title Land | Tax Title Land! |
| 5: Tax Title Land | Tax title land in various areas |
| 5: Tax Title Land | tax title land already held is beautiful & important as habitat/bird watching & just a quiet place |
| 6: Other | Parcel that protect public access to trails currently used. Parcels in the town's watershed land. |
| 6: Other | Whatever is required to enlarge, enhance coastal rights-of-way. ?DPW support for maintenance |
| 6: Other | Clean sidewalks to enjoy walking during all seasons |
| 6: Other | Playgrounds; soccer fields |
| 6: Other | Steel Derrick Quarry - Water Supply & protection |
| 6: Other | Old Tool Company Waterfront |
| 6: Other | Parcels for ball fields, watershed protection, recreation. |
| 6: Other | Acquiring any areas that protect nature and would add/protect-hiking areas are of primary importance to me. |
| 6: Other | Pigeon Cove Tool Company - An ideal site for a water related activity, (Aquarium, Whale Watching or a Marine Mammal Center or a Ocean Research Center, etc). These activities would attract tourism, provide a recreational activity for local residents and serve as a higher learning center. |
| 6: Other | None |
| 6: Other | None |
| 6: Other | I love Millbrook Park and would love to see the Pond and playground restored. |
| 6: Other | Adjacent to school grounds |
| 6: Other | 25 Dock Square concrete walkway.; ; lobster pool next to Back Beach. |
| 6: Other | None |
| 6: Other | Not sure - - anything that can successfully host baseball fields and tennis courts and a walking path. Recreation space for everyone!!!!!!! |
| 6: Other | Watershed areas, Trails and paths particularly in watershed areas |
| 6: Other | ??? |
| 6: Other | Waring Field is already a town owed parcel, which could be a wonderful multi, use space, there plans already drawn and should be considered again. |
| 6: Other | unsure |
| 6: Other | nothing specific |
| 6: Other | Protect areas near the ocean and near the quarries. |

| Group | Response |
|---|---|
| 6: Other | Parcels along South St. This is evolving into a valuable residential area. Close to beaches. Properties are available for sale that would make excellent parks, sitting areas, etc. Granite Pier area is an incredible untapped resource. |
| 6: Other | None |
| 6: Other | as available, waterfront |
| 6: Other | none-waste of money |
| 6: Other | Start taking care of what we have .....we can't even do that.....start taking care of existing buildings and stop protecting bugs and frogs |
| 6: Other | Unsure where they are or what they are called (not originally from Rkpt). Would be helpful to list parcels and have us give our opinions as some, like me, probably have opinions but don't know which specific parcels you have in mind. |
| 6: Other | do not acquire anything |
| 6: Other | Open space bounded by Blueberry Lane and Hoot Owl Alley (the old railway line from Lanesville to Curtis St |
| 6: Other | Land at end of south street by cape hedge beach.; ; Would make nice park for picnic, is ugly and un inviting as is with no trespassing signs. |
| 6: Other | any available land around the schools for ball fields and playgrounds |
| 6: Other | open lot adjacent to 11 Old Garden Road - Fantastic ocean vista, walking distance to the inns on Marmion Way, where many patrons walk by on the way to the beach, town or Headlands. It would make for a nice marketing brochure picture. Although I believe the lot was recently sold (long time owner was Joe Lockett), development there would be restricted. |
| 6: Other | Do not have an specific parcels in mind at moment |
| 6: Other | any available parcels within the watershed overlay district |
| 6: Other | Sidewalks. Sidewalks. Sidewalks. So we can actually walk from Rockport to Gloucester without getting run over.; ; ; ; Oh, and bike lanes. For the same reason. |
| 6: Other | nesting grounds (and not cutting meadows) for birds; shoreline nesting sites; any sites that are unique ecology of cape Ann, including geological |
| 6: Other | Preserve what we have - the town has been "short sighted" forever about open space and preserving our heritage - stop selling town land to meet short term budget needs |
| 6: Other | not sure about large lots but it would be nice if the stone gazebo by front beach could be purchased. Sad that it's private now |
| 6: Other | Watershed any place in Town (We have only our water supply to depend on - with rights to Babson in Gloucester). ANY OPEN SPACE on the Atlantic - (to protect our scenic views) |
| 6: Other | Steel Derrick (I know pipedream, but it's ridiculous that citizens can't use it); ; Johnson’s Quarry - Be nice to see that land taken care of. Looks like a wasteland now.; ; Tool Company - Can't something be done with this eyesore? Public Marina??? |
| 6: Other | Am not knowledgeable enough about specific parcels |
| 6: Other | The South End areas of Loblolly Cove and Emerson Point areas; Cape Hedge and Pebble Areas. |
| 6: Other | Unless the town is acquiring parcels for active recreation, they should not be acquiring any additional space. The town owns enough land for open space and protection of our resources, further acquisition of parcels should only be for playing fields. Any other acquisitions are only a pretense for halting any further development of Rockport. Time to stop over regulating, and start respecting privacy |
| 6: Other | I don't know of any parcels I could name here. |

| Group | Response |
|---|---|
| 6: Other | (Wrightson property @ Cape Hedge beach. Year round waterfront park + fishing & seasonal beach) access.) (Hooper property for Atlantic Path at Trustees/Halibut Pt.) (Feldman property at Granite Pier. Public waterfront) |
| 6: Other | I do not know specific parcels but my main priority would be in preserving open space that currently is owned by the town that needs critical care to maintain. |
| 6: Other | parcels to protect our watersheds |
| 6: Other | The lot at Cape Hedge Beach for a park. |
| 6: Other | The undeveloped center of the island-it takes just a few steps for Rockporters to access this peaceful, natural environment. |
| 6: Other | ? |
| 6: Other | Land around Little Parker Pit. This should be part of the Flat Ledge Watershed. There are now no houses next to this pit. There may be if the land stays privately owned. |
| 6: Other | 191 South Street. The lot at the end of South St formerly The Sandpiper Inn burned in 1976-7 vacant since |
| 6: Other | Have no knowledge |
| 6: Other | Any priority of watershed protection comm |
| 6: Other | steel Derek |
| 6: Other | There are several building lots (I believe four) located to the side and rear of 117 Main Street, This land directly borders tthe Mill Brook and (according to the Massachusetts Tercentenary Commission) is the site of the original European setlement of Rockport. Acquistion of these lots by the Town would: 1. Allow for expansion of the beautiful Millbrook Meadow; 2. Preserve what some would argu |
| 6: Other | Any that give the public access to coast, either physically or visually |
| 6: Other | Hooper property (Atlantic Path to Halibut Point) Granit Savings Bank on Broadway" |
| 6: Other | We don't know of any specific parcels |
| 6: Other | The town should not be acquiring any more open space because that takes it off the tax rolls and the Town needs more, not less, land on tax rolls. |
| 6: Other | parcels that become available that are adjacent to school to add to recreational facilities; in terms of other parcels would be helpful to have a list to respond to |
| 6: Other | I am not aware of the parcels that are for sale. I would like to have more areas for sports as well as dog walking/dog fields. |

Answered question: 128
Skipped question: 168

**5: How many:**

| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6+ | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reside in your household? | 0 | 48 | 141 | 30 | 33 | 21 | 8 | 281 |
| Are 18 years or younger? | 165 | 25 | 32 | 16 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 245 |

Answered question: 282
Skipped question: 14

**7: What do you like MOST about living in Rockport? (indicate the top THREE):**

| Choice in Order Asked | First | Second | Third | Rating Average | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Small town character | 103 | 33 | 29 | 1.6 | 165 |
| Open space | 22 | 34 | 8 | 1.8 | 64 |
| Very walkable town | 22 | 54 | 35 | 2.1 | 111 |
| Schools | 5 | 9 | 7 | 2.1 | 21 |
| Sense of community | 23 | 30 | 24 | 2.0 | 77 |
| Town parks & beaches | 6 | 24 | 24 | 2.3 | 54 |
| Access to Boston | 3 | 11 | 15 | 2.4 | 29 |
| Local businesses rather than chain stores | 1 | 6 | 12 | 2.6 | 19 |
| Ocean environment | 85 | 44 | 61 | 1.9 | 190 |
| Friendly people | 4 | 10 | 9 | 2.2 | 23 |
| Recreational opportunities | 5 | 5 | 8 | 2.2 | 18 |
| Art & cultural activities | 3 | 18 | 39 | 2.6 | 60 |

| Choice in Response Count Order | First | Second | Third | Rating Average | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ocean environment | 85 | 44 | 61 | 1.9 | 190 |
| Small town character | 103 | 33 | 29 | 1.6 | 165 |
| Very walkable town | 22 | 54 | 35 | 2.1 | 111 |
| Sense of community | 23 | 30 | 24 | 2.0 | 77 |
| Open space | 22 | 34 | 8 | 1.8 | 64 |
| Art & cultural activities | 3 | 18 | 39 | 2.6 | 60 |
| Town parks & beaches | 6 | 24 | 24 | 2.3= | 54 |
| Access to Boston | 3 | 11 | 15 | 2.4= | 29 |
| Friendly people | 4 | 10 | 9 | 2.2= | 23 |
| Schools | 5 | 9 | 7 | 2.1 | 21 |
| Local businesses rather than chain stores | 1 | 6 | 12 | 2.6 | 19 |
| Recreational opportunities | 5 | 5 | 8 | 2.2 | 18 |

**Other:**

| |
|---|
| All of the listed items are important |
| Everything |
| Access to Boston, Local businesses rather than chain stores, Ocean environment, Friendly people, Art & cultural activities |
| [All checked] |
| Very hard to choose only 3 |
| Sense of community, Town parks & beaches, Local businesses rather than chain stores,Ocean environment, Friendly people, Art & cultural activities |
| But we are loosing community strength as more dwellings become seasonally occupied by uninterested or self interested |
| friendly people, art and cultural activities |
| all of the above are important to us! |
| rural charachter, i.e. horses, horse farms, horse trails |
| Rockport is a Beautiful town to live in and raise a family! |
| Safe community |
| Its a safe town police do great job |
| Police are great |
| Safety provided by police |
| Police |

**Other:**

| |
|---|
| Police |
| police |
| small town, not a suburb |
| agcricultural lands and views (i.e. not a suburban town) |
| low crime rate/relative safety |
| State Park (Halibut Pt.) |
| Swap shop |
| It is hard to pick just 3 |
| sailing |
| Just the right distance from Boston. The hometown character. |
| actually all of the above |
| Accessible Government (Town meeting) |
| Sense of belonging - - First |
| Peace & quiet |
| scenic |
| historic aspect - buildings & cemetery(s) |
| The ability to see wildlife esp birds & Ducks |
| safety |
| I do not see what schools, access to Boston, local business vs. chain stores, friendly people or arts and cultural activies have to do with an open space survey. |
| Love the diversity of architecture - no 2 homes the same |

Answered question: 284
Skipped question: 12

**8: In 15- 20 years, how would you like to see Rockport's mix of residential/business/open space (NUMBER 1 & 2)**

| Choice in Order Asked | First | Second | Rating Average | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Same general mix as it is now | 121 | 81 | 1.4 | 202 |
| More business (thus more business/residential tax) | 36 | 30 | 1. 5 | 66 |
| More housing | 5 | 21 | 1.8 | 26 |
| Build out into the woods | 10 | 10 | 1.5 | 20 |
| Less protected open space | 7 | 13 | 1.7 | 20 |
| More protected open space | 120 | 84 | 1.4 | 204 |

| Choice in Response Count Order | First | Second | Rating Average | Response Count |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| More protected open space | 120 | 84 | 1.4 | 204 |
| Same general mix as it is now | 121 | 81 | 1.4 | 202 |
| More business (thus more business/residential tax) | 36 | 30 | 1.5 | 66 |
| More housing | 5 | 21 | 1.8 | 26 |
| Build out into the woods | 10 | 10 | 1.5 | 20 |
| Less protected open space | 7 | 13 | 1.7 | 20 |

Answered question: 283
Skipped question: 13

**Other:**

| |
|---|
| More low-mod income housing |
| More affordable housing |
| Better defined public trails & rights of way |
| More Art and Cultural activities |
| Assisted living complex needed to keep our elderly in their own community and this is a business! "clean" = business |
| Sell tax lien properties unless holding them benefits the ENTIRE town. |
| more ocean access for the public at large |
| more ocean access |
| residents need to appreciate business that is already present. A better relationship between community and business owners. |
| More downtown parking |
| More playing fields |
| IT IS MYTH TO THINK THE TOWN GETS TAXES FROM BUSINESS. WE DO NOT. WE REAL ESTATE TAX SAME AS WE DO FOR ALL OTHER BUILDINGS IN TOWN. IF BUSINESSES WERE TO DOUBLE THEIR PROFITS WE WOULD STILL GET THE SAME TAX...ZERO FROM SALES. AND THE SAME REAL ESTATE TAXES THAT WE WOULD GET REGARDLESS OF HOW MUCH PROFIT THEY MAKE FROM T SHIRTS, OR LIQUOR. SOME IN TOWN CLAIM WE SPEND UPWARDS OF $ ONE MILLION OF TAX MONEY TO SUPPORT BUSINESS. |
| more winter tourism |
| sports fields |
| affordable housing units |
| the business side of the mix just needs to be upgraded |
| more protected watershed |
| creation of an industrial park to draw new business and increase the commercial tax base |
| Less housing - or it will become too big and no longer be a tourist draw, losing significant income |
| More art/resort activities |
| Better mix than it is now. |
| habitat protection for species impacted by climate change |
| small grocery store w/vegetables in town near main st. |
| No building out into the woods! |
| Affordable housing |
| LESS Residential Development! |
| Protect the woods - once they are gone, they are gone for good! |
| more interesting restaurants and shops |
| Please don't do anything that would change Rockport. |
| more substantial businesses-less t-shirt & trinket culture |
| More access to medium income housing for younger adults and seniors |
| More affordable housing (want to add that many of my answers are swayed by the need to fund education in Rockport, as a first priority) |
| Restaurants |
| Good restaurants |
| more of a local connection to unique assets of Rockport, i.e., town beaches, etc. |
| NOT more business; MORE affordable housing; NOT built out into woods; NOT less protected open space; MORE protected open space |
| Do NOT want more business. I want more AFFORDABLE housing. Do NOT build out into woods. Preserve as much open space as possible. I think the level of culture in Rockport is fine, more events are not needed. |
| same amount of protected open space. If only "protected" means we can use it for sports, etc... we need to take care of our people as well as our space. |

**9: To preserve/add open space in Town, would you (check any or all)**

| Choice in Order Asked | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Contribute land to the Town | 8.2% | 19 |
| Donate $$ to buy land | 45.1% | 105 |
| Rewrite your deed to limit future use of your land | 14.6% | 34 |
| Vote to change zoning laws | 88.4% | 206 |

| Choice in Response Count Order | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Vote to change zoning laws | 88.4% | 206 |
| Donate $$ to buy land | 45.1% | 105 |
| Rewrite your deed to limit future use of your land | 14.6% | 34 |
| Contribute land to the Town | 8.2% | 19 |

Answered question: 233
Skipped question: 63

**10: What methods of open space protection do you support (check any or all):**

| Choice in Order Asked | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Land acquisition by the Town | 68.9% | 186 |
| Acquisition only thru donations or government grants | 50.7% | 137 |
| Protection thru Town bylaws/zoning regulation | 85.2% | 230 |

| Choice in Response Count Order | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|---|---|
| Protection thru Town bylaws/zoning regulation | 85.2% | 230 |
| Land acquisition by the Town | 68.9% | 186 |
| Acquisition only thru donations or government grants | 50.7% | 137 |

Answered question: 270
Skipped question: 26

# Appendix 2

## Mailing List for Rockport 2009 Draft Report Review

### Committees requiring review letters:

**Board of Selectmen**

| | |
|---|---|
| Mike Racicot, Town Administrator | MRacicot@town.rockport.ma.us |
| Board of Selectmen | Selectmen@town.rockport.ma.us |

**Conservation Committee**

| | |
|---|---|
| Melvyn Michaels | macluj@comcast.net |
| Gerri Falco | gfalco@town.rockport.ma.us |

**Planning Board**

| | |
|---|---|
| Samuel W. Coulbourn | persnav@shore.net |
| Carolyn Britt | cbritt@communityinvestment.net |
| Mary Bourguignon | mbourguignon@town.rockport.ma.us |

**Metropolitan Area Planning Council**

| | |
|---|---|
| Marc Draisen, Executive Director | mdraisen@mapc.org |

### Other Committees invited to send reviews

**Department of Public Works Commissioners**

| | |
|---|---|
| Bob Burbank | sanbobrkpt@comcast.net |

**Department of Public Works**

| | |
|---|---|
| Joe Parisi | jparisi@town.rockport.ma.us |

**Watershed Protection Committee**

| | |
|---|---|
| Eric Hutchins | Eric.Hutchins@noaa.gov |

**Recreation Committee**

| | |
|---|---|
| Donna Marshall | rockportrecreation@msn.com |

**Rights of Way Committee**

| | |
|---|---|
| Phyllis Krenn | prkrenn@yahoo.com |

**Board of Appeals**

| | |
|---|---|
| Peter Bergholtz | kenbar@aol.com |

**Board of Health**

| | |
|---|---|
| Health Agent Leslie Whelan | lwhelan@town.rockport.ma.us |

**Essex County Greenbelt**

| | |
|---|---|
| Edward Becker, Director | eob@ecga.org |

# Appendix 3: Public Comments

OSRAC has received public comments from:

- Planning Board
- Conservation Commission
- Essex County Greenbelt Association
- Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- J. Beauvais
- Rights of Way Committee
- Recreation Committee
- Board of Appeals
- Watershed Protection Committee
- DPW
- C. Britt ( Consultant to Planning Board)
- Public Meeting May 11
- B. Goll
- B. Sparks
- B. Hope and S. Gelb
- M. White
- Board of Selectmen

## Planning Board

**PLANNING BOARD**
**34 Broadway**
**Rockport, Massachusetts 01966**
**Telephone (978) 546-5008**

*Samuel W. Coulbourn, Chairman*
*Mary Ruth Sole, Vice Chairwoman*
*John D. Heinzmann*

*Patricia Joy Edgerton*
*Barbara Sparks*
*Carolyn J. Britt, AICP, Planner*

June 23, 2009

Christopher A. H. Lewis, Chairman
Rockport Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee
Town Hall
Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

Dear Chairman Lewis:

The members of the Rockport Planning Board have reviewed and discussed the contents of the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan. The members of the Board found the plan to be thorough, clear, and filled with many valuable recommendations.

The Planning Board welcomes the Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) as a key component of the planning documents recently prepared by the Town. The existence of the OSRP will allow the Planning Board to consider the importance of open space and land protection in areas where the Board is reviewing site plans or subdivision plans. Preparation of the OSRP also encourages the Planning Board to develop other sections of what we hope will become a master plan for Rockport.

Members and our Planner have provided detailed comments individually.

Thank you and the Open Space and Recreation Committee for your splendid work in the preparation of this Plan.

Sincerely,

Samuel Coulbourn, Chairman
Rockport Planning Board

## Conservation Commission

# CONSERVATION COMMISSION
**ROCKPORT, MASSACHUSETTS**
**01966**

DATE: June 3, 2009

TO: Christopher Lewis, Chairman
Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: Geralyn Falco, Conservation Agent

RE: Comments to Open Space & Recreation Plan

The Rockport Open Space & Recreation Plan was distributed to all Commission members for their review. It was then discussed at two of our meetings. The Commission is very positive on the report. They find it both comprehensive and interesting to read. This report is an important work to the Town. The Commission thanks the OSRAC members for their effort. The following are the comments from the Rockport Conservation Commission for OSRAC review:

1. Section 4G (8) Invasive Species (pg. 55): determine that the town has access across the easement from Jerden's Lane to the Rowe Parcel. I remember looking up the deed for the Rowe Parcel and finding that the only access the town has to this parcel is from Lane's Farm Way. There may well be multiflora rose on that path, but if the town has no rights of access, it might be cause for a legal battle between town officials and the private owners of that easement.
2. Section 4G (1) Hazardous Waste Sites (pg 53): This list seems small with no mention of the "gift house" on Pleasant Street. Unknown what criteria was used to put the 5 release sites. Maybe you could clarify this rationale. Obviously leaving out incidental oil spills at gas stations and auto shops might be good, but there is an auto shop adjacent to Mill Brook.
3. Section 4E (2) Vernal Pools (pg 46): A discussion of an educational component should be added to this paragraph. Including the school system, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts.
4. Section 4D (7) Agricultural Land (pg 45): Farm land on Lane's Farm Way should be described here...so what if it is just used for grazing horses, it still agricultural open space (a part of town that Rockport should be proud of and try to protect as such). Should not the Poole agricultural tax exemption (Assessor's category 60A) property be discussed here (even just mentioned)? There are fields that are hayed (21 South Street and Waring Field are ones that I know of, there might be more). What about the Smith agricultural property on South Street? Other horse farm on South Street?

5. Section 4D. Vegetation (pg 43): I am surprised that open grasslands are not discussed here. There are at least 2 large open grasslands (Waring Field and the Tarr's Lane field –even though it is under construction/rehabilitation).
6. Section 4C Beaches (pg 42). Considering that Rockport is a coastal community, your paragraph on the beaches is lacking. Description of each beach should be here. What about other recreational swimming areas (Steel Derrick, Parker Quarry, Rum Rock Lake)? They may be private, but they are areas that Rockport residents swim. What about the harbors? Isn't there recreation from T-Wharf, Granite Pier and Old Harbor via boats?
7. The trail system through town is extensive; should there not be a list of trails and their trail heads in this report?
8. The ConCom members recognize the importance of outdoor recreation to the citizens of Rockport. They would like to see recreation items expanded and become very prominent actions.
9. Perform a detailed grammatical clean up of the report. Page 6 particularly in need of this.
10. Need to emphasize in the main body of the report, that the importance of the information contained in the Appendixes.

## Essex County Greenbelt Association

From: Tracie Hines <tracie@ecga.org>
Date: Wed, Jul 1, 2009 at 6:33 PM
Subject: Rockport Open Space Plan
To: Christopher Lewis <chrisahlewis@gmail.com>

Hi Christopher,

I've gone through the open space plan and it looks great. I have no specific comments except to say that it will come in very handy if the town (or greenbelt or any other conservation group) applies for public or private funds or needs to craft a conservation restriction application form. When we download the Rockport landowner and parcel data into our database we will characterize the priority parcels (starting on p.58) as such.

Best Regards,

Tracie

---
Tracie Hines
Assistant Director of Land Conservation
Essex County Greenbelt Association
82 Eastern Avenue
Essex, MA 01929
978/768-7241 ext.16
www.ecga.org

## Metropolitan Area Planning Council

**Metropolitan Area Planning Council**
60 Temple Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02111 617-451-2770 fax 617-482-7185 www.mapc.org
*Serving 101 cities and towns in metropolitan Boston*

May 22, 2009

Christopher Lewis, Chairman
Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee
Rockport Town Hall
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Thank you for submitting the Open Space and Recreation Plan for the Town of Rockport 2009 to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) for review.

The Division of Conservation Services (DCS) requires that all open space plans must be submitted to the regional planning agency for review. This review is advisory and only DCS has the power to approve a municipal open space plan. While DCS reviews open space plans for compliance with their guidelines, MAPC reviews these plans for their attention to regional issues generally and more specifically for consistency with *MetroFuture*, the regional policy plan for the Boston metropolitan area.

**Recommended revisions to the plan**

The following are MAPC's recommendations for amendments to the Rockport Open Space and Recreation Plan that will serve to bring a more regional perspective to the plan.

***Five Year Action Plan*** – The Five Year Action Plan is very detailed. The only element that is lacking is some indication of the phasing of the different actions. This is usually done by assigning them to one or more years of the five year span of the plan.

***Consistency with MetroFuture*** – The section on regional context should include information on *MetroFuture*. *MetroFuture* is the official regional plan for Greater Boston, adopted consistent with the requirements of Massachusetts General Law. The plan includes goals and objectives as well as thirteen detailed implementation strategies for accomplishing these goals. We encourage all communities to become familiar with the plan by visiting the web site at http://www.metrofuture.org/.

The following comments are provided to help your community understand how your plan fits within the *MetroFuture* framework. Overall, we see many positive connections between your plan and *MetroFuture*.

Jay Ash, *President* Michelle Ciccolo, *Vice President* Grace S. Shepard, *Treasurer* Marilyn Contreas, *Secretary*
Marc D. Draisen, *Executive Director*
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

*Community Preservation Act* –Rockport's adoption of the Community Preservation Act is consistent with implementation strategy #3E of *MetroFuture*. As you may be aware, state matching funds for CPA are now in steep decline. Senator Cynthia Creem (D-Newton) and Representative Stephen Kulik (D-Worthington) have filed legislation to address this issue, with the strong support of MAPC. For further information about how the town could help to advance this legislation, please contact MAPC's Government Affairs Manager Rebecca Davis at (617) 451-2770 extension 2029.

*Water Supply – MetroFuture* implementation strategy #13I relates to the protection of water supplies through source controls and land use planning. Rockport has done a very thorough job of integrating water supply protection planning into its open space plan. In this regard it achieves a high degree of consistency with *MetroFuture*.

*Greenway and trail planning - MetroFuture* implementation strategy #4D13 advocates for increased intermunicipal park, greenway and trail planning. Although Rockport shares a border only with Gloucester, the plan does address the inter-connected system of trails.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this plan.

Sincerely,

Marc D. Draisen
Executive Director

Cc: Charles H. Clark, MAPC Representative, Town of Rockport
Melissa Cryan, Division of Conservation Services

## J. Beauvais

6/8/09
Jane Beauvais
182 Granite St.
Rockport,MA 01966
tel. 978-546·0266
email: JOM8@verizon.net
Att'n: OSRC
Town of Rockport

Dear OSRC Members, First of all. .. WOW! Thanks for all of your hard work that is reflected in the documentation. It appears that you have covered everything and have prioritized well.

When I look at the big picture and what the OSRC would like to achieve and how we can finance all that we would like to preserve, I think of ecotourism. I picture a smaller and yet much more accessible Acadia. I envision involving Gloucester, the Chamber of Commerce, transportation, cultural organizations, etc. to really look at what Cape Ann has to offer (for both residents and tourists) and how to integrate all of our assets into an overall plan for Cape Ann. The new train station could accommodate day trippers with bikes or hikers/kayakers who want to explore the trails and coastline, with trolleys ready to take them to trail starting points, accommodations, and equipment rental shops. I've talked to residents who would love to see bike trails connecting Rockport and Gloucester through the woods for commuting and recreation. Bike routes could be established that take tourists between Rockport and Gloucester to experience the historical, cultural, and recreational activities that we offer. I can go on and on about the possibilities but I know that more and more people are seeking out active vacations and I believe that it would open up grant possibilities. Please refer to my AMC brochures and you will get an idea of the activities and types of trips that those living in more urban areas are seeking. I have seen hikes and bike trips in Dogtown advertised in these pages and I think that Cape Ann could offer so much more to this type of tourist. A wonderful hike for AMC daytrippers could be the Atlantic Path/Andrews Farm Woods loop incorporating birdwatching, the geological wonders of Andrews Point, peaceful woodlands, and beautiful scenery. Or park at Pine Pit and take the historical quarrying railroad bed and wildlife corridor, the Owl Hoot Trail, for great hiking to explore the beautiful woods and remnants of the quarrying industry into Dogtown to see the carved boulders and cellars. In the South Woods, tourists could hike or bike from the new visitor center through the beautiful woods there full of laurel to our beautiful beaches or bike to the Back Shore and Rocky Neck. Please check out the lady slipper article in the AMC magazine that I enclosed. I can't believe that there was a more beautiful lady slipper display than that seen in the Pigeon Cove woods this May. This could be an advertised hike. The AMC often organizes cultural and outdoor recreational week-ends which would fit in nicely with the Chamber Music and Windhover offerings here. And, now I'm really dreaming, but wouldn't it be great to have an ecotourism center in beautiful downtown Pigeon Cove? Something sponsored by LL Bean or a similar business for rentals, sales, education, organized tours, etc. Okay, I am going on about the possibilities but I do believe that we have so much to offer here and so much to lose if we don't protect it. I would love to be involved in such an endeavor.

I would like to comment on playing fields that I am very much in favor of having for both kids and adults. The Saturday after you presented this draft in May, I was at the school playground from 10:30 until 11:20 in the morning. During this time, there was a soccer game going on in the field adjacent to the tennis courts. The high school soccer field, the softbal1 diamond, and the practice field adjacent to the playground were empty. To me, this should have been a peak sport time. After speaking with parents, it appears that there are certain times during peak use when fields seem to be lacking. One mom told me that her daughter's soccer team has adapted by practicing at Millbrook Meadow and it has worked out well. I have also noticed that, since the fencing with advertising has been put up in Pigeon Cove around the baseball field, it left a soccer practice field chopped up and

useless. I am saying this not to be adversarial but just hope that these things are well studied before nature, also important to children, is acquired for more playing fields. Also, regarding tennis, are the courts in Pigeon Cove maintained and well used? It doesn't seem so.

Years ago, Rockport hired a planner to guide them. He said, "Preserve what you can, develop only what you have to." Wise words that say it all. Thanks again for listening to everybody's input.

Jane Beauvais

## Rights of Way Committee

Rights of Way Committee
Rockport, MA 01966

June 2, 2009

Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee
Christopher Lewis, Chairman
c/o Town Office Building
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

Dear Committee members

The Rights of Way Committee sends this letter in support of your comprehensive and well-researched Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan. The nine goals presented in your report will help to protect and preserve water sources, natural resources, open space and existing trails for future generations.

We commend the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee for your dedication and hard work in writing this draft report, and look forward to working with your committee towards our common goals.

Regards

Right of Way Committee

cc: Board of Selectmen

## Recreation Committee

Rights of Way Committee
Rockport, MA 01966

June 2, 2009

Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee
Christopher Lewis, Chairman
c/o Town Office Building
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

Dear Committee members

The Rights of Way Committee sends this letter in support of your comprehensive and well-researched Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan. The nine goals presented in your report will help to protect and preserve water sources, natural resources, open space and existing trails for future generations.

We commend the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee for your dedication and hard work in writing this draft report, and look forward to working with your committee towards our common goals.

Regards

Right of Way Committee

cc: Board of Selectmen

## Board of Appeals

TOWN OF ROCKPORT, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF APPEALS

June 5, 2009

Christopher A. H. Lewis, Chairman
Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee
19 Bayridge Lane
Rockport, MA 01966

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the report on the concerns and issues facing the Town of Rockport with respect to the use of open space. There is nothing that the Board of Appeals can add or change to this extremely well written and researched report.

Best regards,

Tacy D. San Antonio
Chair

**Watershed Protection Committee**

Eric Hutchins, Chair
John Catena
Stephanie Cunningham
Julia McMahon

# Rockport Watershed Protection Committee

Date: June 7, 2009

To: Christopher Lewis, Chairman
Open Space and Recreation Committee

From: Eric Hutchins, Chair
Rockport Watershed Protection Committee

RE: Comments to the Open Space and Recreation Plan

The Rockport Watershed Protection Committee (WPC) has discussed the development and details of Open Space and Recreation Plan at a number of our monthly meetings over the past year. Our committee is very impressed with the current final draft of the report and fully endorses the actions necessary to get this plan approved by the Board of Selectman and certified by the State of Massachusetts. The WPC is particularly pleased with the level of inclusion of issues and opportunities related to watershed protection in Rockport. The WPC is committed to working on and implementing many, if not all, of the identified actions that are relate to watershed in the next couple of years. As you are well aware, I'll continue to provide detailed comments and edits as the draft plan is completed and put into final accepted form.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Open Space Committee for a job well done.

## DPW

From: Joseph Parisi <jparisi@town.rockport.ma.us>
Date: Fri, Jun 5, 2009 at 1:22 PM
Subject: RE: Town of Rockport 2009 Open Space Report Draft
To: Christopher Lewis <chrisahlewis@gmail.com>

Chris,

I do have a question on 4C for you. Under Source Water Supply for Rockport Watershed, the numbers under the permitted withdrawal look incorrect. Can you tell me where these numbers came from? I can tell you that Cape Pond, Carlson's Quarry and Mill Brook Well Field, as registered sources, can contribute up to .72 MGD on an annual average basis. Flat Ledge is permitted as an additional source but does not add any additional permitted withdrawal amount to the .72 MGD. It can only contribute to the .72 at a rate of .29 MGD annual average.

Thanks
Joe

On Fri, Jun 5, 2009 at 9:33 AM, Joseph Parisi <jparisi@town.rockport.ma.us> wrote:
Hi Chris,

I am taking a look at section 4c to verify some numbers. I will let you know what comments I have on it. Bob Burbank was also looking over the report so I have included him on this email to see if he has any comments for you as well. Thanks

Joe

## C. Britt ( Consultant to Planning Board)

# PLANNING BOARD

**34 Broadway**
**Rockport, Massachusetts 01966**
**Telephone (978) 546-5008**

Samuel W. Coulbourn, Chairman
Mary Ruth Sole, Vice Chairwoman
John D. Heinzmann

Patricia Joy Edgerton
Barbara Sparks
Carolyn J. Britt, AICP, Planner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Christopher Lewis
FROM: Carolyn Britt, AICP, Consultant to the Planning Board
DATE: June 23, 2009
RE: Comments on Open Space and Recreation Plan

I have had some time to review the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan for the Town of Rockport. The plan is impressively done for a volunteer committee. I offer just a few specific comments and a few general comments:

**Specific Comments**

Page 22: Foxberry Court has 5 lots, the Hobbs subdivision just approved has two additional buildable lots, and Old Colony has 25 units approved.

The Planning Board is not undertaking all the activities in the last paragraph of Section 4. The Historic Commission is working on the additions to Historic Districts, and the Planning Board has not yet started on the sewer district work.

Page 58: The 5A series of tables needs footnotes to define some of the headings, e.g. "rare habitat" refers to habitat where there are species identified on the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species maps, and "connection" means the parcel contains trails or ways that connect to other protected or unprotected land, etc.

Table 5B: What does good mean under "description", what does "no" under protection status mean? Grant type doesn't seem like quite the correct heading for this column.

**General Comments**

Page 5, Section 2A: This section and the entire Plan would greatly benefit from a strong statement of purpose. The last sentence of the section addresses the purpose as an almost after-thought. It would be valuable to have a strong statement regarding unique habitats, protection of wildlife, unique historic resources in quarries and old roadways providing key access, the value of public footpaths, etc., and the lifestyle that is then allowed to residents and how residents hold that lifestyle so dear. Often the particulars of plans and the actions that arise from them need to be defended based on the purpose of the plan. Having a strong "purpose" section can be quite valuable.

Page 56: The definition provided for open space does not seem very satisfactory. Does it come from the state or some other source? Much of what is open space in Rockport has remnants of earlier development, and that is what makes it so interesting (old woods roads, etc.) It also seems that the definition should mention wildlife habitat, some of the categories of species protection, role of land protection in water supply protection, etc. This would benefit from being a rich and inclusive definition of open space.

Thank you for all your efforts. I hope these comments prove useful.

## Public Meeting May 11

Jane Beauvais #1: "Excellent report. Could you better explain what percent of the town is pristine open space?"

Tony Andrews: What kind of work is being down to gain more sports fields?

June Michaels: You should clarify that that there are access issues on the Atlantic Path near the Hooper property. How long is the state approval process for the Plan? Are any grants available up front, while waiting for plan approval? You should increase the priority in the plan for active recreation...we certainly have extensive passive recreation opportunities. Increase proactive activity like inspection of the septic systems in water shed areas.

Toby Arsenian #1: I do not agree that "land purchase" is considered the last approach to land protection by everyone on OSRAC as state by Peter Van Demark, please comment. Article 97 isn't the most secure land protection method; third party (like Essex Greenbelt) is more secure and should be pursued.

Julie McMahon: I would like to recommend that an action be added that specifically calls out for retaining and protection the equestrian activities throughout Rockport. State will consider the town for some grants if an OS&R plan has been submitted. Keep horse trails open. Give consideration to preserve remaining agricultural and equestrian open space.

Toby Arsensian #2: I would like to recommend that the Plan explicitly makes some policy recommendations that extensive dead end roads and related development are minimized in the watershed protection zone to help provide the Board of Appeals and Planning Board stronger guidance when asked to make variances and special permits for proposed projects. Also a statement from the appropriate boards, that it is not in the towns best interest to turn current designated woodlots into developments.

Peter Goodwin: What is the status of Flat Ledge Quarry dam and how does this relate to the Plan?

Bob Burbank: Flat ledge still in litigation.

Toby Arsenian #3: I would like to suggest that the plan includes a section on the various mechanisms and approaches the town has to protect land. The whole process used visible to all. Maybe an action that creates an appendix that can explain this to the public.

Jane Beauvais #2: What protection is in watershed areas now? Are pesticides and herbicides now being used in those areas?

Pam McIntosh: I love all aspects of the plan but I think the town should pursue an action to site a full size basketball court somewhere. Tennis courts are not available to adults when the school is using them. Recreation facilities availability to adults is important and needs to be emphasized.

Sandy Jacques: Is there a timeline for the Board of Selectman to comment on the plan?

Erin Batistelli: Does the state have a timeline for completion or submittal of the plan?

Sam Coulbourn: Great job on the plan.

## B. Goll

Barbara Goll
8 Atlantic Ave
Rockport MA 01966
978-546-7708
barbaragoll@verizon.net

6/6/09

Dear Members of OSRAC,

In addition to the technical edits sent yesterday, I would like to add the following comments and suggestions on the Open Space Plan.

On page 73, the 7th bullet point reads: "The Committee was urged to be vigilent regarding Chapter 91 rights". You might add the word "public" to rights, so it reads "public rights".

Also on page 73, the 10th bullet point reads: "Preservation/Protection of Andrews Woods – a 15 acre tax title lot". You might mention that it was the top vote getter in the Open Space Survey.

Years ago, when reading Open Space Plans online, I discovered that Hopkinton's OSP included mention of the sale of tax title land only by a 2/3 majority, so as to protect a non-renewable resource. However, this is something which has to be done by Town Meeting, but it's worth mentioning here as part of the discussion.

Again, thank you for a brilliant job on the OSP. It's very impressive.

Sincerely,

## B. Sparks

**From:** bsparks@gis.net
**Subject:** **use of lawn chemicals**
**Date:** June 12, 2009 8:37:44 AM EDT
**To:** maryruth8@verizon.net, persnav@shore.net, cbritt@communityinvestment.net

Re Open Space Plan comments, here is a suggested addition concerning use of lawn chemicals:

Page 80
Section 9: Five-Year Action Plan
Goal 1: Protect and Enhance Drinking Water Sources

Action XXX: Evaluate use of herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers on Town-owned and private- or non-profit-owned land within the Watershed Overlay District boundaries.
Responsibility: OSRAC, PB, TM, CONCOM, DPW, Rockport Schools, WPC, Board of Health, BOS

Comment: it would be desirable to not restrict this to the Watershed Overlay District boundaries, but that may be beyond the scope of this report. At the OSRAC workshop, a question was raised about use of chemicals by the Rockport Golf Club.

Please feel free to change/edit as appropriate!

Thanks,
barbara

## B. Hope and S. Gelb

From: Bob Hope / Sylvia Gelb <gelbhope@verizon.net>
Date: Tue, Jun 9, 2009 at 6:57 PM
Subject: Rockport Open Space and Recreation Committee draft plan
To: chrisahlewis@gmail.com

OSRC:

We would like to very adamantly register our preference for leaving the Rockport woods and trails as they are. The major attractions for us living in Rockport are the sea, the woods with trails, and the wildlife that such pristine woods preserve. We judge there are sufficient playgrounds, parks, and so on now and more should not intrude on the values above.

Bob Hope and Sylvia Gelb
53 Curtis St.
Rockport, MA 01966

## M. White

From: Mary White <marytwhite@verizon.net>
Subject: Rockport Open Space Concern
To: chrisahlewis@yahoo.com
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2009, 3:42 PM

Dear Mr. Lewis:

I am a Rockport resident with an organic gardening business.

I was unable to attend the recent meeting of the Open Space Committee --- the purpose of which was to determine the town's open space priorities.

I was gratified to read in the GD Times that watershed protection was at the top of the "concerns" list.

As an organic gardener I am particularly sensitive to our watershed's contamination from toxic pesticides and chemical fertilizers. I have a client on Dr's Run. My client seems to be the only one in the neighborhood whose property is organically maintained. Dr's Run DIRECTLY abuts one of the town's quarry reservoirs.

I have observed chemical lawn services applying treatments at many properties in this neighborhood on a regular basis. I am quite convinced that the runoff heads directly into our drinking water supply. Many studies have shown a connection between exposure to these pesticides and various types of cancer, metabolic problems, hyperactivity in children, etc.

As a resident of Bayridge Lane, I wonder if you have noticed this situation as well. Perhaps you can confirm if your neighborhood employs such chemical lawn treatments. Please understand, I am not trying to point an accusational finger -- these are products being applied legally on private property. But, I feel that a strong connection exists between preserving our open space and looking after its healthful welfare -- as well as the health of our community.

As the chairman of the Open Space Committee, I felt a need to draw my concern to your attention. If you are so inclined, there are websites that can provide you with more info on this issue. One of the better ones is: www.beyondpesticides.org

Many thanks for taking the time to read my email. Hopefully, your committee's concern for Rockport's open space will extend to it healthy care and maintenance. What we need is more community education about the toxic nature of these products, its connection to our drinking water, and the safer alternatives.

Best regards,

Mary T. White
White Gardens of Rockport
PO Box 373
Rockport, MA 01966
tel: 978.546.9513
email: marytwhite@verizon.net

## Board of Selectmen

### Actions and Comments

At the end of September, each member of the Rockport Board of Selectmen was given a copy of the draft Rockport Open Space and Recreation Plan for review and comments. The following are the related actions they took, and each of the Selectman's comments.

### Action by Board of Selectmen on Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan

The excerpt below is from the November 17, 2009 BOS meeting's public minutes. The full meeting minutes are available online at (http://www.town.rockport.ma.us/):

*Board of Selectmen's Meeting*
*November 17, 2009*
*The Board of Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 in Conference Room A with five Selectmen and the Interim Town Administrator.*

*"Report of the Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee*
*Selectman Wilkinson moved that the report of the Open Space & Recreation Advisory Committee be received and accepted. Selectman Heinze seconded. Vote: 5-0"*

### Comments E-mailed on December 11, 2009 from Selectman Chairman Sandy Jacques

*I reviewed the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan, and support its submission to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental affairs. It is an impressive document and represents a tremendous collective team effort. The most important outcome going forward will be to keep it current as it gets put to work in so many different areas of the Town over time.*
*Congratulations to all the members of OSRAC.*

*Sandy Jacques*

### Comments E-mailed on December 3, 2009 from Selectman Charles Clark

*p. 15 - Substitute the following sentence for the second sentence under paragraph 2c (Sewer Service) in its entirety: Rockport is currently under an administrative consent order issued by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to remediate the inflow and infiltration of storm and ground water into its sewer system and has imposed a moratorium on all new connections until remediation is accomplished and the Town is in compliance with its NPDES permit for one year.*
*p. 23 - The third paragraph under "Topography" references some arcane language that should be defined somewhere (e.g. "serpent kame", "osar" etc.*
*p. 27 - Under "Pigeon Hill" you might want to add language that states that Pigeon Hill is also parkland as defined by state law. (This designation was a defense to the installation of an ATT cell tower in the mid-90's before the Town had adopted wireless overlay districts for the sitting of cell towers).*
*p. 29 - Under "Thacher Island" you might want to add the role that the US Fish and Wildlife service plays on T.I. on the north side.*
*p. 44 - In the second paragraph under "Scenic Resources" I think "Agamenticus Mountain" should be "Mt. Agamenticus" and "Isle of Shoals" should be "Isles of Shoals".*
*p. 78 - In the first line, "in behalf of" should be "on behalf of".*

*Aside from these comments, I think the plan is very well written and will be useful to the Town for many years.*

*Charlie Clark*

### Comments E-mailed on December 9, 2009 from Selectman Ellen Canavan

*To: Open Space and Recreation Committee*
*From: Selectman Ellen Canavan*
*Date: December 9, 2009*
*I am totally impressed. This is probably the only document in Town that has Rockport's history coupled with current day statistics; committee members with the expertise to recognize, identify and inform us of the proper names of various rock out-croppings; and the ability to do mapping. I look forward to following the plan.*
*Finding no errors of substance, I noticed four "typos":*

*P.9. sec.3B. line 2. "...places it the with others..." Should be: "...places it with the others..."*
*P.47. sec.8. line 4. "...outcompeting with native..." Should be: "...out-competing native..."*
*P.76. sec.7A. line 3. "...its eseential watershed..." Should be: "...its essential watershed..."*
*P.78. sec. 7c. line 2. "...need better coordiantion..." Should be: "...need better co-ordination..."*

*Thank you all for your dedication and hard work.*
*Ellen Canavan*

### Comments E-mailed on December 9, 2009 from Selectman Andrew Heinze

*I have reviewed the Open Space and Recreation Plan submitted by the Open Space and Recreation Committee. It is a very comprehensive and all encompassing plan. I support its submission to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. Please forward this to Larry Neal.*

*Thanks,*
*Andy*

### Comments E-mailed on December 12, 2009 from Selectman Sarah Wilkinson

*To whom it may concern,*
*I have reviewed the 2009 draft Open Space Recreation plan for the Town of Rockport and I fully support its submission to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. I wish to thank the members of the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee for their hard work and due diligence in getting this draft complete.*

*Best,*
*Sarah Wilkinson*
*Selectman, Town of Rockport*

# Appendix G: ADA Access Self Evaluation

The Rockport Town Administrator, Michael J. Racicot, is our Board of Selectman's designated ADA Coordinator.

The ADA Self- Evaluation presented below was completed with the involvement of the Rockport Open Space and Recreation Committee, the Rockport ADA Coordinator and a disabled Rockport resident, who with his service dog regularly travels and uses many of the areas described. The evaluations and interviews were conducted in March and April of 2009.

Below please find copies of the following items:

- Town of Rockport ADA Grievance Procedure
- Town of Rockport Americans with Disabilities Act Public Notice
- ADA Coordinators statement on the towns Employment Practices
- Recreation Committees program accessibility statement
- ADA Self- Evaluation of the towns Conservation Commission and Recreation Areas and their Programs:
    1. Beach Areas: Front, Back, Old Garden, Cape Hedge, Long, Pebble
    2. North Uplands: Liljas Quarry, Pigeon Hill, Pine Pit, Pingree Trails
    3. Parklands: Manning, Millbrook Meadow, Millbrook Pond, Harvey, Barletta, Seafencibles
    4. Recreation Areas: Pingree Park, Evans Field, School Playing Fields
    5. Rocky Shoreline Access Areas: Halibut Point, Atlantic Path, Loblolly/Emerson Point, Pigeon Cove, Granite Pier
    6. South End Uplands: Penzance Road Marsh, Eden Road, Kieran Preserve, Delamater Sanctuary, Waring Field
    7. Town Center Ocean Access: T-Wharf, Bearskin Neck, Old Harbor/Pier Avenue, Headlands, Motif No. 1
- Summary Sheet of Access Related Comments and Findings
- Transition Plan

# TOWN OF ROCKPORT, MA

## TOWN OF ROCKPORT
## ADA GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A person with a disability or their authorized representatives who believe that they have been discriminated against on the basis of disability in employment or the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits are encouraged to use it to bring their complaints to the attention of the Town of Rockport.

The complaint should be submitted in writing, by email, or on audiotape to the ADA Coordinator. It should include a description of the alleged discriminatory incident or action, the place and date of its occurrence, and the name of any employee or representative of the Town of Rockport involved. The complaint should also include the name, address, and phone number of the person bringing the complaint or their authorized representative. If assistance is needed to file or pursue the complaint, the ADA Coordinator, upon request, will provide it. The complaint should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged discriminatory incident. The complaint must be sent to:

ADA Coordinator
Town of Rockport
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966
Telephone #: (978) 546-6786
Fax #: (978) 546-2881
E-mail: mracicot@town.rockport.ma.us

Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the ADA Coordinator will meet with the complainant to clarify the facts of the incident and discuss possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the ADA Coordinator will respond in writing, or if needed for effective communication, in an alternate format preferred by the complainant, such as large print, email, Braille, or audiotape. The response will explain the position of the Town of Rockport and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

If the ADA Coordinator's response does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the ADA Coordinator's decision within 15 calendar days of its receipt to the Board of Selectmen or their designee. The Board of Selectmen will meet with the complainant 15 days after receiving the appeal letter to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of receipt of the appeal, the Board of Selectmen or their designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All complaints received by the ADA Coordinator, appeals to the Board of Selectmen or their designee, and responses from the ADA Coordinator and the Board of Selectmen or their designee will be kept by the Town of Rockport for at least four years.

# TOWN OF ROCKPORT, MA

## AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Rockport does not discriminate on the basis of disability. Program applicants, participants, members of the general public, employees, job applicants, and others are entitled access to all Town programs, activities, and services without regard to disability.

Copies of the notice are available, upon request, in accessible formats (large print, audiotape, Braille, computer disc., and etc.). Our grievance procedure, self-evaluation, as well as ADA policies, practices and procedures are readily available, upon request. This notice is posted prominently at all our sites, and on all program brochures and manuals.

The Town of Rockport has designated the following person to coordinate its efforts to comply with the ADA. Inquiries, requests, and complaints should be directed to:

Michael J. Racicot, ADA Coordinator
Town of Rockport
Board of Selectmen's Office
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966
Telephone #: (978) 546-6786
Fax #: (978) 546-2881
E-mail: mracicot@town.rockport.ma.us

ARMAND D. APARO
ELLEN CANAVAN

SARAH J. WILKINSON, CHAIRMAN

CHARLES H. CLARK
ANDREW HEINZE

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Town of Rockport

MASSACHUSETTS 01966-1537

TOWN OFFICE BUILDING
34 BROADWAY

PHONE (978) 546-6786
FAX (978) 546-2881

MICHAEL J. RACICOT
*TOWN ADMINISTRATOR*

The Town of Rockport practices are in full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) which prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in employment.

The Town of Rockport does not discriminate against a "qualified individual with a disability" in employment recruiting or within the Personnel Rules and Regulations.

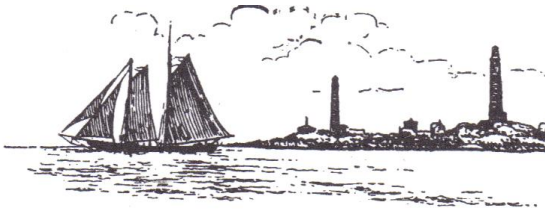
Employment applications do not ask about the existence and nature of disabilities, and after an offer of employment, a medical exam may be required if all entering employees in that job category are required to pass the exam. Only exam findings related to ability to perform "essential job functions," with or without reasonable accommodations, will be used in employment decisions.

Leave, collective bargaining, fringe benefits and other programs are all in compliance with ADA and Chapter 151B. Wages and salaries are equally administered.

Signature _____

Name and Title Michael J. Racicot, ADA Coordinator

Date April 15, 2009



Town of Rockport
Recreation Committee
Rockport, MA 01966

The Recreation Department of Rockport provides a variety of programs to the community from the age of 4 to the mature citizen. Tennis for all ages, T- Ball, Senior Exercise, Adult Volleyball, Youth Basketball, and our Play Ground program provide affordable programs with the emphasis on participation and not competition. Our programs are always held at ADA approved locations without restriction. We encourage all to participate regardless of age or athletic ability.

The programs are held at a variety of locations in Rockport that are all ADA accessible and include:

- Rockport High School Gymnasium
- Rockport Elementary School Gymnasium
- Town Playing Fields
- The Rockport Congregational Church

Sincerely,
Donna Marshall-Higgins
Co-Chair Recreation Committee

# Beach Areas

| ADA Self Evaluation Recreation/ConCom | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Beach Areas** | **FRONT BEACH** | **BACK BEACH** | **OLD GARDEN BEACH** | **CAPE HEDGE** | **LONG BEACH** | **PEBBLE BEACH** |
| | Main swimming beach in town area. | Rocky cove with some sand areas. | Small sand and pebble stone beach with open lawn | Sand and pebbled stone beach, with large pebbled dune. | Largest sand beach. | Pebbled stone dune with small sand areas. |
| Notes | Hard surfaced scenic viewing and sitting area | Hard surfaced scenic viewing and sitting area | Mowed lawn scenic viewing and sitting area. | Hard surfaced scenic viewing and sitting area | Summer cottage community . | Public roadway passes directly adjacent to the beach and pebble dune. |
| | | | | | Seawall walkway | |
| | | | | | Part of the beach is in and owned by the City of Gloucester | |
| NA= NOT APPLICABLE | | | | | | |
| Y= YES TO STANDARD | | | | | | |
| N= NO TO STANDARD | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES** | | | | | | |
| NOTES | Sitting benches with paved path of travel to them | Sitting benches with paved path of travel to them | Sitting benches in lawn area | Sitting benches with paved path of travel to them | Seawall walkway is a flat concrete path over 4 feet wide | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **GRILLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **TRASH CANS** | | | | | | |
| Cans located adjacent to accessible paths | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N |
| **PICNIC SHELTERS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **TRAILS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **BEACHES** | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Location from accessible path to water | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Handrails | N | N | N | N | N | N |
| Location from accessible parking | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | N |
| Shade provided | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N |
| | | | | | | |
| **PLAY AREAS (TOT LOTS)** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **GAME AREAS ;baseball, basketball, tennis** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **Boat Docks** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **FISHING FACILITES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **PROGRAMMING** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **PARKING** | | | | | | |
| NOTES / PARKING | | | | | | |
| | On street parking | On street parking | Gravel parking area | On street parking | Gravel parking area | On street parking directly adjacent to beach. |
| | Metered parking | Sticker and non-sticker | By sticker only | By sticker only | By sticker only | Both by sticker and non sticker |
| | On CATA bus and trolley route | Metered parking | | | | |
| | | On CATA bus and trolley route | | | | |
| | | One curb to beach from ADA space needs to be cut | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces | Y2 | Y3 | N1 | Y2 | Y 4 | |
| Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance. | Y | Y | NONE | Y | Y | NONE |
| Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within100 ft. | NA | NA | Y | NA | NA | Y |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Min. width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle | Y | Y | NA | Y | Y | NA |
| Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle. | | | | | | |
| Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces. | Y | Y | NA | Y | Y | NA |
| Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign | N | N | NA | Y | Y | NA |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks) | Y | Y | NA | Y | Y | NA |
| Surface slope less than 1:20, 5% | Y | Y | NA | Y | Y | NA |
| Curb cut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present. | Y | Y | NA | Y | Y | NA |
| Curb cut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow. | Y | Y | NA | Y | Y | NA |
| | | | | | | |
| **RAMPS** | | | | | | |
| NOTES/RAMPS | Concrete ramp from sidewalk to beach sand. | Concrete ramp is from sidewalk to the pebble stone and sand beach. | Concrete ramp is from sidewalk to the pebble stone and sand beach. | Concrete ramp is from sidewalk to the pebble stone and sand beach. | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | Full ADA Access depends on beach sand movement . | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Slope Maximum 1:12 | Y | Y | N | N | NA | NA |
| Minimum width 4 ft between handrails | Y | Y | Y | Y | NA | NA |
| Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft | N | N | N | N | NA | NA |
| Handrails at 34” and 19” from ramp surface | N | N | N | N | NA | NA |
| Handrails extend 12” beyond top and bottom | N | N | N | N | NA | NA |
| Handgrip oval or round | Y | N | N | N | NA | NA |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Handgrip smooth surface | Y | N | N | N | NA | NA |
| Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 2" | Y | N | N | N | NA | NA |
| Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail | Y | N | N | N | NA | NA |
| Non-slip surface | Y | Y | Y | Y | NA | NA |
| Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction | N | N | N | N | NA | NA |
| | | | | | | |
| **SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES** | | | | | | |
| NOTES/SITE ACCESS,PATH/ENTRANCES | Access is to site, scenic viewing areas and beach ramp. | Access is to the site, scenic viewing area & beach ramp. | Access is to the site, scenic viewing area & beach ramp. | Access is to the site, scenic viewing area & beach ramp. | Access is to beach from lot and over a foot bridge with gangways. | Site scenic viewing road with parking. |
| | All Outdoor Area | All Outdoor Area | All Outdoor Area | All Outdoor Area | Pebble surface parking area. | Beach access over shifting coastal pebble dune. |
| | | | | | More direct access by entering from the Gloucester part of the beach. | Pebble surface parking area. |
| | | | | | Review for possible ADA access to seawall walkway | All Outdoor Area |
| | | | | | All Outdoor Area | |
| | | | | | | |
| Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance. | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N |
| Disembarking area at accessible entrance | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N |
| No ponding of water | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | | | | | | |
| **Path of Travel** | | | | | | |
| Path does not require the use of | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| stairs | | | | | | |
| Path is stable, firm and slip resistant | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N |
| 3 ft wide minimum | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50). | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch. | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N |
| Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane. Objects protruding more than 4” from the wall must be within 27” of the ground, or higher than 80" | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N |
| Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| parking, and drop-offs. | | | | | | |
| **Entrances** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **STAIRS , DOORS and FLOOR** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **RESTROOMS** | | | | | | |
| NOTES / REST ROOM | New, built to ADA standards. | Older rest rooms not to current ADA standard. | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| 5 ft turning space measured 12” from the floor | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | | |
| **At least one Sink:** | | | | | | |
| Clear floor space of 30” by 48” to allow a forward approach | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34” to top of rim | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Extends at least 22” from the wall | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Open knee space a minimum 19” deep, 30” width, and 27” high | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Cover exposed pipes with insulation | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle) | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | | |
| **At least one Stall:** | | | | | | |
| Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60” wide | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| by 72” deep | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stall door is 36” wide | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Stall door swings out | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Stall door is self closing | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Stall door has a pull latch | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and32” above the floor | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Coat hook is 54” high | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| **Toilet** | | | | | | |
| 18” from center to nearest side wall | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 42” minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Top of seat 17”-19” above the floor | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| **Grab Bars** | | | | | | |
| On back and side wall closest to toilet | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1¼” diameter | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1½” clearance to wall | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Located 30” above and parallel to the floor | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Acid-etched or roughened surface 42" long | | | | | | |
| Toilet paper dispenser is 24” above floor | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| One mirror set a maximum 38” to bottom (if tilted, 42”) | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42” above the floor | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | | |
| **Floors** | | | | | | |
| Non-slip surface | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Corridor width minimum is 3 ft | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4” into the path of travel from a height of27” to 80” above the floor | Y | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | | |
| **Drinking Fountains** | NONE | NONE | | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| Spouts no higher than 36” from floor to outlet | NA | NA | N | NA | NA | NA |
| Hand operated push button or level controls | NA | NA | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| Spouts located near front with stream of water as parallel to front as possible | NA | NA | N | NA | NA | NA |
| If recessed, recess a minimum 30” width, and no deeper than depth of fountain | NA | NA | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor space30” x 48” to allow parallel approach | NA | NA | Y | NA | NA | NA |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Telephones** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **PICNICKING** | Picnicking is done on rocks, sitting areas, and beach and from cars. | Picnicking is done on rocks, sitting areas, and beach and from cars. | Picnicking is done on rocks, sitting areas, and beach and from cars. | Picnicking is done on rocks, sitting areas, and beach and from cars. | Picnicking is done on rocks, and beach. | Picnicking is done on rocks, and beach and from cars. |
| NOTES/PICNICKING | | | | | | |
| No Tables or benches are provided | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **SWIMMING POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **SHOWER ROOMS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

# North Uplands

| **ADA Self Evaluation Recreation/ConCom** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| North Uplands | **LILJAS QUARRY** | **PIGEON HILL** | **PINE PIT** | **PINGREE TRAILS** |
| | Granite quarry and woodland trails. | Fields with scenic views, wooded and brush areas with trails. | Granite quarry and woodland trails. | Natural woodland with foot trails. |
| Notes | Abandoned granite quarry | Highest point in Rockport. | Abandoned Granite quarry. | |
| | | View of Sandy Bay and Town | with established trail to the center of Caped Ann. | |
| NA=NOT APPLICABLE | | | | |
| Y= YES TO STANDARD | | | | |
| N= NO TO STANDARD | | | | |
| **PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| NOTES | | | With ConCom, develop ADA picnic area. | |
| | | | | |
| **GRILLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **TRASH CANS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **PICNIC SHELTERS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **TRAILS** | | | | |
| NOTES/TRAILS | | Open grass areas | With ConCom, develop ADA trail. | |
| | | | | |
| Surface material | Gravel and rock | Grass and gravel | Gravel | Gravel and rock |
| Dimensions | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Rails | N | N | N | N |
| Signage (for visually impaired) | N | N | N | N |
| | | | | |
| **POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **BEACHES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **PLAY AREAS (TOT LOTS)** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **GAME AREAS ;baseball, basketball, tennis** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Boat Docks** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **FISHING FACILITES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **PROGRAMMING** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **PARKING** | | | | |
| NOTES / PARKING | Small pull off area along road. | Paved road with open Parking. | Small gravel lot | On street |
| | | | With ConCom develop ADA marked parking. | Walk to trails. |
| Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance. | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within100 ft. | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | | | | |
| **RAMPS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES** | | | | |
| NOTES/SITE ACCESS,PATH/ENTRANCES | All outdoor area | Fields are mowed grass. | Parking area, edge of quarry and trails all are accessible. | All outdoor area |
| | | Paved road accessible for all. | Walking surface can be uneven. | |
| | | Spectacular panoramic view to New Hampshire coast of town, bay, islands blocked by overgrown brush. | With ConCom develop plan to Standards. improve to ADA | |
| | | All outdoor area | All outdoor area | |
| Accessible path of travel from passenger | N | Y | Y | N |
| disembarking area and parking area to accessible | | | | |
| entrance. | | | | |
| Disembarking area at accessible entrance | Y | Y | Y | N |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed | N | Y | Y | N |
| No ponding of water | Y | Y | Y | N |
| **Path of Travel** | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Path does not require the use of stairs | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Path is stable, firm and slip resistant | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 3 ft wide minimum | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50). | Y | Y | Y | N |
| Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch. | N | N | N | N |
| Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane. | N | N | N | N |
| Objects protruding more than 4" from the wall must be within 27" of the ground, or higher than 80" | N | N | N | N |
| Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs. | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | | | | |
| **Entrances** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **STAIRS , DOORS and FLOOR** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **RESTROOMS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **Drinking Fountains** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **Telephones** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **PICNICKING** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | |
| **SHOWER ROOMS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

# Parklands

| ADA Self Evaluation Recreation/ConCom | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parklands | **MANNING** | **MILL-BROOK MEADOW** | **MILL-BROOK POND** | **HARVEY** | **BAR-LETTA** | **SEA-FENCIBLES** |
| | Heavily wooded natural landscape. | Grass meadow with a waterfall, small pond and stream. | Large pond and wetland s | In town park | In town park | Including North side of the Old Harbor |
| NA= NOT APPLICABLE | | | | | | |
| Y= YES TO STANDARD | | | | | | |
| N= NO TO STANDARD | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES** | | | | | | |
| NOTES | NONE | Benches only, hard packed access. | Benche s only, hard packed access | Benches only, paved access | Benches only, paved access | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **GRILLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **TRASH CANS** | NONE | | NONE | | | |
| Cans Located adjacent to accessible paths | | Y | | Y | Y | Y |
| | | | | | | |
| **PICNIC SHELTERS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **TRAILS** | | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| Surface material | N | | | | | |
| Dimensions | N | | | | | |
| Rails | N | | | | | |
| Signage (for visually impaired) | N | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **BEACHES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **PLAY AREAS (TOT LOTS)** | NONE | | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| All Play Equipment same experience by all | NA | N | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path | NA | N | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Enough space between equipment for wheelchair | NA | N | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | | |
| **GAME AREAS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **;baseball, basketball, tennis** | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **Boat Docks** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | |
| NOTES/BOAT DOCKS | | | | | | Float with a gangway that has a step up & down. |
| | | | | | | |
| Access Routes Located adjacent to accessible paths | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | Y |
| Handrails | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | Y |
| | | | | | | |
| **FISHING FACILITES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **PROGRAMS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **PARKING** | | | | | | |
| NOTES / PARKING | On street only | On street only | On street only | On street only | On street only | With sticker only |
| | | | | | | |
| | | Site is on the CATA bus and Trolley route. | | Site is on the CATA bus and Trolley route. | Site is on the CATA bus and Trolley route. | |
| | | Add ADA space at Beach St. entrance. | | | | |
| Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces | | | | | | Y=1 |
| Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance. | NONE | NONE | NONE | Y | Y | Y |
| Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of | N | Y | Y | | | |
| accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within | | | | | | |
| 100 ft. | | | | | | |
| Min. width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle | NA | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every | | | | | | |
| accessible space, 8 ft | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative | | | | | | |
| is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft | | | | | | |
| aisle. | | | | | | |
| Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each | NA | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| space or pair of spaces. | | | | | | |
| Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign | NA | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks) | NA | NA | NA | Y | Y | N |
| Surface slope less than 1:20, 5% | NA | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| Curb cut to pathway from parking lot at each space | NA | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present. | | | | | | |
| Curb cut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding | NA | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to | | | | | | |
| exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow. | | | | | | |
| **RAMPS** | | | | | | |
| NOTES/RAMPS | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES** | | | | | | |
| NOTES/SITE ACCESS,PATH/ENTRANCES | Outdoor Natural area without establish-ed access points. | All Outdoor Area | All Outdoor Area | All Outdoor Area | All Outdoor Area | All Outdoor Area |
| Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance. | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Disembarking area at accessible entrance | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| No ponding of water | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| **Path of Travel** | | | | | | |
| Path does not require the use of stairs | NA | Y | N | Y | Y | Y |
| Path is stable, firm and slip resistant | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 3 ft wide minimum | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Slope maximum 1:20 | NA | Y | N | Y | Y | Y |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50). | | | | | | |
| Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch. | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane. | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Objects protruding more than 4” from the wall must be within 27” of the ground, or higher than 80" | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs. | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | | | | | | |
| **Entrances** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **STAIRS, DOORS and FLOOR** | | | | | | |
| STAIRS | NONE | NONE | | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| No open risers | NA | NA | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| Nosing's not projecting | NA | NA | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| Treads no less than 11” wide | NA | NA | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| Handrails on both sides | NA | NA | N | NA | NA | NA |
| Handrails 34”-38” above tread | NA | NA | N | NA | NA | NA |
| Handrail extends a minimum of 1 ft beyond top and bottom riser (if no safety hazard and space permits) | NA | NA | N | NA | NA | NA |
| Handgrip oval or round | NA | NA | N | NA | NA | NA |
| Handgrip has a smooth surface | NA | NA | N | NA | NA | NA |
| Handgrip diameter between 1¼” and 1½” | NA | NA | N | NA | NA | NA |
| 1½” clearance between wall and handrail | NA | NA | N | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | | |
| **Doors** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **Floor** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **RESTROOMS** | | | | | | |
| NOTES / REST ROOM | NONE | Rest rooms are across the street (SEE FRONT BEACH) | NONE | Rest rooms are across the street (SEE T-WHARF) | Rest rooms are across the street | NONE |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | (SEE T-WHARF) | |
| | | | | | | |
| **Drinking Fountains** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **Telephones** | NONE | NONE | NONE | | | NONE |
| | | | | Are across the street | Are across the street | |
| | | | | (SEE T-WHARF) | (SEE T-WHARF) | |
| | | | | | | |
| **Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **PICNICKING** | NONE | | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| NOTES/PICNICKING | | Picnicking done in open lawn | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **SWIMMING POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | | |
| **SHOWER ROOMS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

# Recreation Areas

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **ADA Self Evaluation Recreation/ConCom** | | | |
| **Recreation areas** | **PINGREE PARK** | **EVANS FIELD** | **SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS** |
| | Recreation area in the northern part of town. | Recreation area in the center part of town. | Recreation area in the southern part of town. |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| **NOTES** | | | |
| All of the fields are set up as needed, for a large variety of sports, age groups and skill levels. | Little league baseball, tennis courts, basketball court and tot park | Lighted for night play | Lighted for night play |
| N= Not to ADA Standard<br>Y= To ADA Standard<br>NA= Not Applicable | | Full baseball diamond, little league baseball, outdoor basketball, skateboard park, large multi use field area and Town/YMCA youth center. | Soft ball diamond, track, tennis courts, large multi use field area, soccer field, basketball courts and tot park. |
| | | | |
| **PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| NOTES/PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES | | | |
| No picnic areas are on playing fields | | | |
| | | | |
| **GRILLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| Grills Height of Cooking Surface | NA | NA | NA |
| Located adjacent to accessible paths | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | |
| **TRASH CANS** | | | |
| Cans Located adjacent to accessible paths | N | N | N |
| | | | |
| **PICNIC SHELTERS** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| Near water fountains, trash cans, RR , parking etc | NA | NA | NA |
| Located adjacent to accessible paths | NA | NA | NA |
| **TRAILS** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| **POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |
| **BEACHES** | NONE | NONE | NONE |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **PLAY AREAS (TOT LOTS)** | | | |
| NOTES/PLAY AREAS | | NONE | Location of the recognized tot park play area |
| Rockport has been noted for having the only fully inclusive tot park in the Cape Ann area. The lead people responsible for this happening where recognized at the Federation for Children's with Special Needs national convention | | | |
| All Play Equipment same experience by all | N | NA | Y |
| Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path | N | NA | Y |
| Enough space between equipment for wheelchair | Y | NA | Y |
| | | | |
| **GAME AREAS** | | | |
| NOTES/GAME AREAS | | This field is surrounded by the MBTA train yard. Access through yard is difficult, That access evaluated in Parking and site access section below. Game areas access evaluated on field only | |
| | | | |
| **Baseball full diamond** | NONE | | NONE |
| Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path | NA | Y | NA |
| Bern cuts onto courts | NA | Y | NA |
| Equipment Height | NA | Y | NA |
| Equipment Dimensions | NA | Y | NA |
| Spectator seating | NA | Y | NA |
| | | | |
| **Little league diamond** | | | |
| NOTE/LITTLE LEAGUE DIAMOND | | | Soft ball field is also used as Little League diamond. |
| Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path | Y | Y | Y |
| Bern cuts onto courts | Y | Y | Y |
| Equipment Height | Y | Y | Y |
| Equipment Dimensions | Y | Y | Y |
| Spectator seating | N | Y | Y |
| | | | |
| **Soft ball diamond** | NONE | NONE | |
| Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path | NA | NA | Y |
| Bern cuts onto courts | NA | NA | Y |
| Equipment Height | NA | NA | Y |
| Equipment Dimensions | NA | NA | Y |
| Spectator seating | NA | NA | Y |
| | | | |
| **Outside Basketball** | | | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path | N | Y | Y |
| Bern cuts onto courts | Y | Y | Y |
| Equipment Height | Y | Y | Y |
| Equipment Dimensions | Y | Y | Y |
| Spectator seating | N | N | Y |
| | | | |
| **Tennis** | | | |
| NOTES/TENNIS | CLOSED | NONE | |
| Pingree park tennis court playing surface is not usable. CPA money for repair was approved by town, but before repair was done, it was found because of a state law, money could not be used for that purpose. Town is interested in doing the repair but available money is in question. | | | |
| | | | |
| Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path | | NA | Y |
| Bern cuts onto courts | | NA | Y |
| Equipment Height | | NA | Y |
| Equipment Dimensions | | NA | Y |
| Spectator seating | | NA | N |
| | | | |
| **Soccer/multi area field** | NONE | | |
| Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path | NA | Y | Y |
| Bern cuts onto courts | NA | Y | Y |
| Equipment Height | NA | Y | Y |
| Equipment Dimensions | NA | Y | Y |
| Spectator seating | NA | Y | Y |
| | | | |
| **Skate board park** | | | |
| NOTES SKATE BOARD PARK | NONE | | NONE |
| Evans field skate board park surface has areas not usable. CPA money for repair was approved by town, but before repair was done, it was found because of state law, money could not be used for that purpose. Town is interested in doing the repair but available money is in question. | | Access route is very difficult and partially blocked. Surface damaged | |
| | | | |
| Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path | NA | N | NA |
| Bern cuts onto courts | NA | N | NA |
| Equipment Height | NA | N | NA |
| Equipment Dimensions | NA | N | NA |
| Spectator seating | NA | N | NA |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| **BOAT DOCKS** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **FISHING FACILITES** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |
| **PROGRAMMING** | | | |
| NOTE/PROGRAMMING & TECH ASSISTANCE | | | |
| All of the programs run by the Town's recreation committee are open to all. The focus is not on competition, but enjoyment and exercise in an inclusive environment School department programs where not reviewed | | | |
| | | | |
| Special programs? | N | N | N |
| Learn-to-Swim? | N | N | N |
| Guided Hikes? | N | N | N |
| Interpretive Programs | N | N | N |
| | | | |
| **SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** | | | |
| Services and Information available in alt. formats i.e. for visually impaired | N | N | N |
| Tech. Assistance Process to request interpretive services(i.e. sign language interpreter) for meetings | N | N | N |
| **PARKING** | | | |
| NOTES / PARKING | On street parking only | Only parking is in Train yard | Three more ADA spaces are needed. |
| | ADA spot is needed | Complete redo of area is planned in 2010, Parking and improved accessibility to field is still a question. | Current ADA spaces need better signage and improved layout to support playing Fields. |
| | | | |
| Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces | Y=1 | NONE | Y=6 |
| Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance. | N | | 3 |
| Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within100 ft. | Y | Y | Y |
| Min. width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle | NA | NA | Y |
| Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle. | | | |
| Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces. | NA | NA | Y |
| Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign | NA | NA | Y |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks) | NA | NA | Y |
| Surface slope less than 1:20, 5% | NA | NA | Y |
| Curb cut to pathway from parking lot at each | NA | NA | Y |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present. | | | |
| Curb cut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow. | NA | NA | Y |
| | | | |
| **RAMPS** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |
| **SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES** | | | |
| NOTES/SITE ACCESS,PATH/ENTRANCES | | | |
| | All outdoor area | All outdoor area | ADA spaces should be added and located near varied entrances to field. Only evaluated outdoor play areas not the in school Facilities. |
| Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance. | Y | N | Y |
| Disembarking area at accessible entrance | Y | N | Y |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed | Y | N | Y |
| No ponding of water | Y | N | Y |
| **Path of Travel** | | | |
| Path does not require the use of stairs | Y | N | Y |
| Path is stable, firm and slip resistant | Y | N | Y |
| 3 ft wide minimum | Y | N | Y |
| Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50). | Y | N | Y |
| Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch. | N | N | Y |
| Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane. | Y | N | Y |
| Objects protruding more than 4” from the wall must be within 27” of the ground, or higher than 80" | Y | N | Y |
| Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs. | Y | N | Y |
| **Entrances** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |
| **STAIRS , DOORS and FLOOR** | | | |
| **STAIRS** | NONE | NOT ADA STANDARD | NONE |
| | | | |
| **Doors** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |
| **floor** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |
| **RESTROOMS** | | | |
| NOTES / REST ROOM | | YMCA Youth center rest | School rest rooms |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | rooms available for some events. | available for some events. |
| | | The building and the rest rooms where recently constructed to ADA std. | Constructed to ADA standards. |
| **TELEPHONES** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |
| **PICNICKING** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |
| **SWIMMING POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | |
| **SHOWER ROOMS** | NONE | NONE | NONE |

# Rocky Shoreline Access Areas

**ADA Self Evaluation Recreation/ConCom**

| Rocky Shoreline access areas | **HALIBUT POINT** | **ALANTIC PATH** | **LOBLOLLY/ EMERSON PT** | **PIGEON COVE** | **GRANITE PIER** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | State park | Rocky shoreline, includes Andrews Point | Rocky shoreline, some area with beach pebble stones & coarse sand. | Harbor and Breakwater | Harbor and Breakwater |
| | | | | | |
| Notes | Self Evaluation only of public entrance area, not park itself. | Collection of properties with multiple access points from street to path. | | Working commercial fishing area. | Commercial fishing, recreational boating, nature and scenic viewing. |
| NA= NOT APPLICABLE<br>Y= YES TO STANDARD<br>N= NO TO STANDARD | | | | | Small ConCom controlled portion of total area. |
| | | | | | |
| **PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES** | | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| NOTES/PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES | | Visitors sit on rocks. | Visitors sit on rocks. | | |
| | | | | | |
| **GRILLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **TRASH CANS** | | NONE | NONE | | |
| Cans Located adjacent to accessible paths | Y | | | Y | Y |
| | | | | | |
| **PICNIC SHELTERS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **TRAILS** | | | | | |
| Surface material | Wood chips | Natural | Natural | NONE | Gravel |
| Dimensions | Y | N | N | NA | Y |
| Rails | N | N | N | NA | N |
| Signage (for visually impaired) | N | N | N | NA | N |
| | | | | | |
| **POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **BEACHES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| NOTES/BEACHES | | Swimming from rocks | Swimming from rocks | | |
| | | | | | |
| **PLAY AREAS (TOT LOTS)** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **GAME AREAS ;baseball, basketball, tennis** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| **Boat Docks** | NONE | NONE | NONE | | |
| NOTES/BOAT DOCKS | | | | Float, step on and off connecting gangway. | Float, step on and off connecting gangway. |
| Access Routes Located adjacent to accessible paths | NA | NA | NA | Y | Y |
| Handrails | NA | NA | NA | Y | Y |
| | | | | | |
| **FISHING FACILITES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| NOTES/ FISHING | | Fishing is done along the natural rocky coast. | Fishing is done along the natural rocky coast. | Fishing is done from pier and rocks. | Fishing is done from pier and rocks. |
| | | | | | |
| **PROGRAMMING** | NOT EVALUATED | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** | NOT EVALUATED | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PARKING** | | | | | |
| NOTES / PARKING | CATA bus route | General parking unclear because of use of varied types of No Parking signs. | Small open parking area. | Open parking along pier area. | Open parking area |
| | | Both by sticker and Non-sticker. | By sticker only | By sticker only | Both by sticker and Non-sticker. |
| | | Add ADA | | | Add ADA |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | marked spot | | | marked spot. |
| Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces | 3 | | | | |
| Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance. | Y=3 | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within100 ft. | | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Min. width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle. | | | | | |
| Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces. | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks) | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Surface slope less than 1:20, 5% | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Curb cut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present. | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Curb cut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12, and textured or painted yellow. | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | |
| **RAMPS** | To toilet | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| NOTES/RAMPS | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Slope Maximum 1:12 | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Minimum width 4 ft between handrails | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Handrails on both sides if ramp is longer than 6 ft | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Handrails at 34” and 19” from ramp surface | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Handrails extend 12” beyond top and bottom | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Handgrip oval or round | N | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Handgrip smooth surface | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Handgrip diameter between 1¼" and 2" | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Clearance of 1½" between wall and wall rail | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Non-slip surface | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Level platforms (4ft x 4 ft) at every 30 ft, at top, at bottom, at change of direction | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | |
| **SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES** | | | | | |
| NOTES/SITE ACCESS,PATH/ENTRANCES | | Many varied access points to view and enter the site. Some areas can be driven to, others have portions of well packed paths that can change to moderate hiking. | View can be driven to. Walking areas can be portions of well packed areas that can change to moderate hiking. | View can be driven to. Walking areas are well packed gravel, rock or paved. | View can be driven to. Walking areas are well packed gravel, rock or paved. |
| | | | | | |
| **Site Access** | | | | | |
| NOTES | Outdoor area | Drive to view, | Drive to view, | Open driving, parking & walking area. | Open driving, parking & walking area. |
| | | All outdoor area. | All outdoor area | All outdoor area | All outdoor area |
| Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance. | Y | N | Y | Y | Y |
| Disembarking area at accessible entrance | Y | N | Y | Y | Y |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed | Y | N | Y | Y | Y |
| No ponding of water | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| **Path of Travel** | | | | | |
| Path does not require the use of stairs | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Path is stable, firm and slip resistant | Y | N | N | Y | Y |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 ft wide minimum | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50). | Y | N | N | Y | Y |
| Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch. | Y | N | N | Y | Y |
| Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane. | Y | N | N | Y | Y |
| Objects protruding more than 4” from the wall must be within 27” of the ground, or higher than 80" | Y | N | N | Y | Y |
| Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| **Entrances** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **STAIRS , DOORS and FLOOR** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **RESTROOMS** | | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| NOTES / REST ROOM | Single outdoor toilet facility. to facility. ADA Access Did not do evaluation of inside. | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| **Drinking Fountains** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **Telephones** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation,** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PICNICKING** | | | | | |
| NOTES/PICNICKING | Standard attached bench wood tables. | Picnic on rocks only. | Picnic on rocks only. | Picnic directly from car. | Picnic directly from car. |
| A minimum of 5% of the total tables must be accessible with clear space under the table top not less than 30” wide and 19” deep per | N | NA | NA | NA | NA |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| seating space and not less than 27” clear from the ground to the underside of the table. An additional 29” clear space (totaling 48”) must extend beyond the 19” clear space under the table to provide access. For tables without toe clearance, the knee space under the table must be at least 28” high, 30” wide and 24” deep. | | | | | |
| Top of table no higher than 32” above ground | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Surface of the clear ground space under and around the table must be stable, firma nod slip-resistant, and evenly graded with a maximum slope of 2% in all directions | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Accessible tables, grills and fire rings must have clear ground space of at least 36” around the perimeter | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | |
| **SWIMMING POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **SHOWER ROOMS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

# South End Uplands

| ADA Self Evaluation Recreation/ConCom | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| South end Uplands | **PENZANCE RD MARSH** | **EDEN ROAD** | **KIERAN PRESERVE** | **DELAMATER SANCTUARY** | **WARING FIELD** |
| | Ocean wetlands, that Penzance Road bisects | Ocean bank heavily vegetated upland | Wetland | Short walk through woodlands into open mowed fields. | Mowed fields |
| | | | | | |
| Notes | | | | Agricultural land | Agricultural land |
| NA= NON APPLICABLE<br>Y= YES TO STANDARD<br>N= NO TO STANDARD | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| **PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES** | | | | | |
| NOTES | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **GRILLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **TRASH CANS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PICNIC SHELTERS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| **TRAILS** | | | | | |
| Notes | NONE | NONE | Only rudimentary footpaths | Short natural woodland trail to mowed fields. | Open mowed field |
| Surface material | NA | NA | N | N | Y |
| Dimensions | NA | NA | N | Y | Y |
| Rails | NA | NA | N | H | N |
| Signage (for visually impaired) | NA | NA | N | N | N |
| | | | | | |
| **POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **BEACHES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PLAY AREAS (TOT LOTS)** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **GAME AREAS ;baseball, basketball, tennis** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **Boat Docks** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **FISHING FACILITES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PROGRAMMING** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PARKING** | | | | | |
| NOTES / PARKING | No parking area | No parking area | On road | No parking area | No parking area |
| | | | | | |
| Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces | | | Y=1 | | |
| Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance. | NONE | NONE | N | NONE | NONE |
| Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within100 ft. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | | | | | |
| **RAMPS** | | | | | |
| NOTES/RAMPS | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES** | | | | | |
| NOTES/SITE ACCESS,PATH/ENTRANCES | Area accessed by traveling transverse road. All outdoor area | Area accessed by traveling transverse road. All outdoor area | All outdoor area | All outdoor area | All outdoor area |
| | | | | | |
| Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance. | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| Disembarking area at accessible entrance | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed | NA | NA | N | Y | Y |
| No ponding of water | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| **Path of Travel** | | | | | |
| Path does not require the use of stairs | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| Path is stable, firm and slip resistant | NA | NA | N | Y | Y |
| 3 ft wide minimum | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50). | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch. | NA | NA | N | Y | Y |
| Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane. | NA | NA | N | Y | Y |
| Objects protruding more than 4” from the wall must be within 27” of the ground, or higher than 80" | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs. | NA | NA | Y | Y | Y |
| | | | | | |
| **Entrances** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **STAIRS , DOORS and FLOOR** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **RESTROOMS** | | | | | |
| NOTES / REST ROOM | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **Drinking Fountains** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **Telephones** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation,** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PICNICKING** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **SWIMMING POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **SHOWER ROOMS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

# Town Center Ocean Access

**ADA Self Evaluation Recreation/ConCom**

| Town Center Ocean Access | **T-WHARF** | **BEARSKIN NECK** | **OLD HARBOR/ Pier Av.** | **HEADLANDS** | **MOTIF NO.1** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NA= NON APPLICABLE<br>Y= YES TO STANDARD<br>N= NO TO STANDARD | Pier area of main harbor. | Scenic viewing promenade into Sandy Bay. | Wharfs and breakwater on South side of Old Harbor area. | Natural rocky headland scenic viewing of Sandy Bay and harbor. | Granite Wharf adjacent to main harbor north basin. |
| | | | | | |
| **PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES** | NONE | Benches only | NONE | Benches only | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **GRILLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **TRASH CANS** | | | | | |
| Cans Located adjacent to accessible paths | Y | Y | N | Y | Y |
| | | | | | |
| **PICNIC SHELTERS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **TRAILS** | | | | | |
| NOTES / TRAILS | Open area | Open area | Open area | Paved surface access | Open area |
| | Hard paved | Hard paved | Both hard paved and loose stone sections. | trail stops abruptly at rocky coastal bank. | Both hard paved and loose stone sections. |
| Surface material | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Dimensions | Y | Y | Y | N | Y |
| Rails | N | N | N | N | N |
| Signage (for visually impaired) | N | N | N | N | N |
| | | | | | |
| **POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **BEACHES** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PLAY AREAS (TOT LOTS)** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **GAME AREAS ;baseball, basketball, tennis** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **Boat Docks** | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NOTES/BOAT DOCKS | Floats with gangways. Steps up & down at gangway. | NONE | NONE | NONE | Floats with ladders. |
| Access Routes located adjacent to accessible paths | Y | NA | NA | NA | Y |
| Handrails | Y | NA | NA | NA | N |
| | | | | | |
| **FISHING FACILITES** | NONE | Fishing from rocks | Fishing from rocks | Fishing from rocks | NONE |
| NOTES/ FISHING | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Access routes located adjacent to accessible paths | NA | N | N | N | NA |
| Access with handrails | NA | N | N | N | NA |
| **Fishing facilities equipment** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PROGRAMMING** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PARKING** | | | | | |
| NOTES / PARKING | | | | | |
| | By sticker and | Metered | On street parking | On street parking | By sticker only |
| | Non-sticker. | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces | Y=2 | Y=1 | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance. Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within100 ft. | Y | Y | | | |
| Min. width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle | Y | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| Van space – minimum of 1 van space for every accessible space, 8 ft wide plus 8 ft aisle. Alternative is to make all accessible spaces 11 ft wide with 5 ft aisle. | | | | | |
| Sign with international symbol of accessibility at each space or pair of spaces. | Y | Y | NA | NA | NA |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign | N | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks) | | | | | |
| Surface slope less than 1:20, 5% | Y | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| Curb cut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present. | Y | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| Curb cut is a minimum width of 3 ft, excluding sloped sides, has sloped sides, all slopes not to exceed 1:12 and textured or pt. yellow | Y | Y | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | |
| **RAMPS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **SITE ACCESS, PATH OF TRAVEL, ENTRANCES** | | | | | |
| NOTES/SITE ACCESS,PATH/ENTRANCES | Open area | Open area | Open area | Trail stops at natural rock coastal bank. | Open area |
| | Hard paved | Hard paved | Both hard paved and loose stone sections. | | Both hard paved and loose stone sections. |
| | | ADA curb cut needed at Dock square island cross walk. | | | |
| | All outdoor area | All outdoor area | All outdoor area | All outdoor area | All outdoor area |
| Accessible path of travel from passenger disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Disembarking area at accessible entrance | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Surface evenly paved or hard-packed | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| No ponding of water | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| **Path of Travel** | | | | | |
| Path does not require the use of stairs | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Path is stable, firm and slip resistant | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| 3 ft wide minimum | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Slope maximum 1:20 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50). | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Continuous common surface, no changes in level greater than ½ inch. | Y | Y | N | N | N |
| Any objects protruding onto the pathway must be detected by a person with a visual disability using a cane. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Objects protruding more than 4” from the wall must be within 27” of the ground, or higher than 80" | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Curb on the pathway must have curb cuts at drives, parking, and drop-offs. | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| | | | | | |
| **Entrances** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **STAIRS , DOORS and FLOOR** | NONE | NONE | Far end of pier and breakwater is raised area. | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **RESTROOMS** | | | | | |
| NOTES / REST ROOM | Recently built restrooms to ADA standard. | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| 5 ft turning space measured 12” from the floor | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| **At least one Sink:** | | | | | |
| Clear floor space of 30” by 48” to allow a forward approach | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34” to top of rim | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Extends at least 22” from the wall | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Open knee space a minimum 19” deep, 30” width, and 27” high | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Cover exposed pipes with insulation | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle) | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| **At least one Stall:** | | | | | |
| Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60” wide by 72” deep | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Stall door is 36” wide | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Stall door swings out | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Stall door is self closing | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stall door has a pull latch | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Lock on stall door is operable with a closed fist, and32" above the floor | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Coat hook is 54" high | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| **Toilet** | | | | | |
| 18" from center to nearest side wall | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 42" minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Top of seat 17"-19" above the floor | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| **Grab Bars** | | | | | |
| On back and side wall closest to toilet | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1¼" diameter | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 1½" clearance to wall | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Located 30" above and parallel to the floor | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Acid-etched or roughened surface42" long | | | | | |
| Toilet paper dispenser is 24" above floor | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| One mirror set a maximum 38" to bottom (if tilted, 42") | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42" above the floor | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| **Floors** | | | | | |
| Non-slip surface | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Corridor width minimum is 3 ft | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Objects (signs, ceiling lights, fixtures) can only protrude 4" into the path of travel from a height of 27" to 80" above the floor | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | |
| **Drinking Fountains** | | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| Spouts no higher than 36" from floor to outlet | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Hand operated push button or level controls | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Spouts located near front with stream of water as | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| parallel to front as possible | | | | | |
| If recessed, recess a minimum 30" width, and no deeper than depth of fountain | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| If no clear knee space underneath, clear floor | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| space30” x 48” to allow parallel approach | | | | | |
| **Telephones** | | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| Highest operating part a maximum 54” above the floor | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Access within 12” of phone, 30” high by 30” wide | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Adjustable volume control on headset so identified | Y | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| | | | | | |
| **Switches and controls for light, heat, ventilation,** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **PICNICKING** | | | | | |
| NOTES/PICNICKING | Picnicking done on rocks. | Picnicking done on rocks. | Picnicking done on rocks | Picnicking done on rocks. | Picnicking done on rocks. |
| No tables or picnic benches are provided | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| **SWIMMING POOLS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |
| | | | | | |
| **SHOWER ROOMS** | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE | NONE |

## Summary Sheet of Access Related Comments and Findings (4 April 09)

| LOCATION | ISSUE | LOCATION | ISSUE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Back Beach | One curb to beach from ADA space needs to be cut | Atlantic Path/ | General parking unclear because of use of varied types of No Parking signs |
| Cape Hedge Beach | Full ADA Access depends on beach sand movement | Andrews Point | Add ADA marked spot |
| | | Granite Pier | Add ADA marked spot |
| Long Beach | Review for possible ADA access to seawall walkway | Pingree Park | ADA spot is needed |
| | With ConCom, develop ADA picnic area | | Tennis courts closed |
| Pine Pit | With ConCom, develop ADA trail | Evans Field/ MBTA | Parking and improved accessibility to field is still a question |
| | With ConCom develop ADA marked parking | | Skate park surface damaged |
| | With ConCom develop plan to improve to ADA standards for access | School Play Fields | Three more ADA spaces are needed |
| | | | Current ADA spaces need better signage and improved layout to support playing fields |
| Pigeon Hill | Spectacular panoramic view of town, bay, islands to New Hampshire coast blocked by overgrown brush | | ADA spaces should be added and located near the varied entrances to the fields |
| Millbrook Meadow | Add a ADA space at Beach St Entrance | | |
| | | | |
| J Leblanc | TOWN GENERALLY GOOD, ISSUES MORE W/ PEOPLES ACTIONS | | ISSUES TO CHECK (J Leblanc) |
| Travels town area (T-Wharf to Back Beach) | 1. Parking on or blocking sidewalks, no way off for him. | | 1. Front entry door to T-wharf rest room building difficult to open without assistance |
| Uses facilities in a power chair and with a service dog | 2. Parking in front of a sidewalk cuts cause him to travel in street. | | 2.Cross Walk from center island in Dock Sq. has no curb cut in front of Greenery |
| | 3. Snow shovel to clear cuts by people than filled back in by plows and not removed | | |
| | 4. Maintenance of sidewalks surface. | | |

## Transition Plan

Back Beach; add an ADA Curb cut to the sidewalk across the street from the Rest Rooms.
DPW June 2010

Dock Square; add an ADA Curb cut at the sidewalk end of the crosswalk from the pedestrian island
DPW June 2010

Andrews Point: add an ADA marked Parking spot
DPW/Rockport Police Dept June 2010

Granite Pier; add an ADA marked Parking spot
DPW/Rockport Police Dept June 2010

Pingree Park; add an ADA marked Parking spot
DPW/Rockport Police Dept June 2010

Beach Street at Millbrook Meadow; add an ADA marked Parking spot
DPW/Rockport Police Dept June 2010

School Playing Fields: Improve current ADA space marking and Signage, Add three ADA spots nearest the field entrances
School Dept/ Recreation Committee June 2010

Evans Field: ADA Access and Parking as part of MBTA station rebuilding project.
BOS/MBTA June 2012

Pine Pit; Increase ADA access by improving trail and parking surface, add an ADA picnic facilities and Parking spot,.
ConCom/DPW June 2011

Long Beach Phase I: Explore adding ADA access to the Seawall sidewalk
ConCom/DPW June 2011

Long Beach Phase II; If Phase I is feasible, implement the method.
DPW June 2012