Open Space and Recreation Plan
Town of Rockport

2019

®Maps produced by Peter Van Demark using Maptitude GIS software

October 2019

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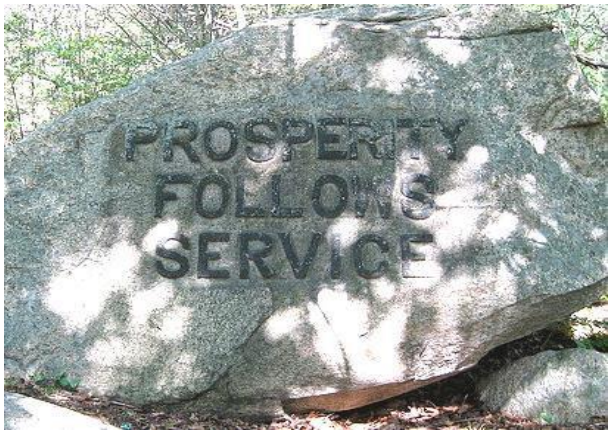

PROSPERITY FOLLOWS SERVICE

PATHWAYS

The Islanders had built along the shoreline leaving the center of the island almost virgin overgrown with trees and brush, an occasional open area here, a granite deposit there.

Pathways cut through the terrain, offering a tourist hiker several choices.

A new path is always an adventure. The first passage is more a reconnoiter concentrating on direction, orientation, markers and eventual destination.

The second pass is leisurely and indulgent allowing time to appreciate the colors, odors, indigenous flora, local fauna, the special essence of the place.

Approach a poem like a wooded path with secrets to impart, one reading will reveal her scheme, the second her heart.

from Pathways by J.J. Coyle

This plan is dedicated to Frederick H. “Ted” Tarr, III.

Thank you for the pathways.

Thank you for your service.

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Open Space and Recreation Plan Town of Rockport - October 2019

SECTION 1: PLAN SUMMARY

The objective of Rockport's 2019 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 eight goals:

GOAL 1: PROTECT AND ENHANCE DRINKING WATER SOURCES

GOAL 2: PROTECT AND MANAGE CRITICAL NATURAL RESOURCES

GOAL 3: PRESERVE PRIORITY LAND FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

GOAL 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT

GOAL 5: ENHANCE ACCESS TO RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES APPROPRIATE FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGE GROUPS AND ABILITIES

GOAL 6: PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE EXISTING TRAIL NETWORK

GOAL 7: ANALYZE ROCKPORT'S BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

GOAL 8: PROMOTE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ABOUT OPEN SPACE

These eight goals, originally set in the 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan (the Plan), remain priorities in the 2019 Plan. Over the past nine years, the Town of Rockport has made great strides toward the achievement of each of these goals. The town's vast network of trails is well on its way to being properly mapped. Priority parcels like Woodland Acres and the Cape Hedge overlook have been preserved through community partnerships. Protections have been put in place for our water supply. Access has been expanded for hikers, shore side anglers, bikers, and even Cape Ann Transit Authority riders. These are just a few of the many open space goals that have been met. It is the intention of this Plan to lay a course to renew the community's commitment to protect and enhance Rockport's open spaces by furthering the fulfillment of these eight goals.

SECTION 2: INTRODUCTION

2A. Statement of Purpose

The 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan was the Town's first approved plan since 1983. That Plan grew from a strong commitment by residents to protect our watershed and trails and to enhance recreational opportunities in Rockport's open space. In developing the 2009 Plan, the Open Space and Recreation Committee (OSRC), then advisory, relied heavily on community input. Additionally, the 2009 OSRC included extensive, well researched background information on all aspects of the Town of Rockport. It has served as a framework and a vision for open space protection and enhancement for over nine years. With such a strong plan in place, the current OSRC used the 2009 Plan as the starting point for the 2019 – 2025 renewal, making the Town of Rockport's OSRP a living document that grows and changes with the community's open space needs.

As was the case in 2009, Rockport continues to face the challenge of preserving its unique natural and community character while it provides adequate municipal services to residents, summer residents, and visitors. The OSRP can help the community meet that challenge. In the 2019 Plan development process, the OSRC again relied on the community. Beginning with the September 2017 Town Meeting, a survey, designed to determine Rockporters' open space and recreation priorities, was distributed throughout town. Hard copies of the form were available through October 19th at the Town Hall and at several other sites in town. It was also available on line. Multiple notices advertising the survey were posted in the Gloucester Daily Times.

Over the many years 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 produced a report for the Department of Public Works identifying parcels considered of high priority for purchase to protect the municipal water supply. Several of those significant watershed lands have been purchased by the town. Most recently, the Town and Essex County Greenbelt have worked to protect several parcels of conservation land. Those include the Cape Hedge Beach overview at the foot of South Street; the Steve Johnson land and quarries on Pigeon Hill Street; land along the perimeter of Flat Ledge Quarry; a Right of Way protecting the fields and usage of the lane along

Lane's Farm; and access to the Town's Deep Rocks Wells and Little Parker Pit. Of great open space and recreation significance is the recent preservation of a 47 acre parcel of land in Pigeon Cove, commonly known as "Woodland Acres." Working in partnership with the Town, Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA) purchased the parcel and then conveyed the property to the Town, subject to a Conservation Restriction held by ECGA. The land will be permanently preserved as open space with publicly accessible trails. The property contains vernal pools and has been designated as core habitat for rare species by the state's Natural Heritage Program. This parcel is a wonderful addition to Rockport's publicly accessible open spaces. Yet, despite this progress, significant work remains to extend protection of priority open space areas throughout the Town. An up to date OSRP to manage town-owned land is key to furthering these efforts.

The overriding goals of the 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plan remain closely related to those developed in the adopted Plan of 1983 and the state approved Plan of 2009. 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.

2B. Planning Process and Public Participation

The Committee

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

The 2019 Plan update was conducted by the current committee members listed below:

Lawrence Neal, Chair, Conservation Commission, DPW Commissioner
Rob Claypool
Stephanie Cunningham
Ted Tarr (Ted contributed to our committee until his very last days)
Tom Mikus, Right of Way Committee, Planning Board
Peter Van Demark, Cartographer

The Committee's Charge

Originally, 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.[1]" A permanent OSRC was then adopted by the Board of Selectmen to continue carrying out this charge.

Meetings

The Committee meets monthly. Meetings are open to the public and were held at the Rockport Public Library or the Town Hall Annex on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm. Each meeting is 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. The Committee routinely documents new information that pertains to the status of open space in Rockport. This information is summarized in meeting notes, available online on the Committee's web page. The information is also included in the Committee's Annual Report to the Town. This information has been included as part of the 2019 Plan. The new feedback from the public will added to this section as part of the final 2019 OSRP submitted to the Commonwealth.

Open Space and Recreation Survey

The Committee gathered input to establish community goals in several ways. A survey based on the 2008 Rockport survey was designed to determine Rockporters' open space and recreation priorities. Following distribution at the September 2017 Town Meeting, survey forms were available through October 19th at Town Hall and on line at (HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/6TYQ5W). Multiple notices advertising the survey were carried in the Gloucester Daily Times. The Committee received 250 responses compared to 296 in 2008, 152 in 1997 and 252 in 1983. Surveys completed on line were automatically tabulated using Survey Monkey while paper surveys were added manually.

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

The new survey showed that the goals in 2017 remained closely related to those developed in the adopted 1983 Plan and the state approved Plan of 2009. Respondents continued to feel that the Town's quality-of-life and economic vigor are strongly tied to the care of its natural resources.

After reviewing the participation data of our initial surveys the committee was concerned that Rockport's youth priorities may not be represented in our results. In September we received enthusiastic support from a Rockport Middle School teacher to help us survey the students. Most of those results are similar to our general survey and but there are some differences. The survey is further discussed in Sections 6&7.

Developing the 2019 Plan/Public Input Meetings

Since adoption and approval of the 2009 OSRP, the OSCR has held monthly meetings, advertised and open to the public. The Committee has also conducted routine reviews and updates of the 2009 Plan with current open space status and priorities. To begin the 2019 Plan update, OSRC members and associates volunteered to study sections of the 2009 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. This resultant draft was available electronically on the Town of Rockport's web page and in hard copy at Town Hall and the Library. Notice of the draft was circulated to town boards, committees, and departments for further review and comment. The 2019 plan revision includes results of a public meeting to garner comments and guidance from residents. That meeting was held on Oct 4th at the Rockport public library. The notice of the meeting, the plan and its availability where previewed in a front page article in the Gloucester Daily Times. Results of this process where compared to the 2008 survey and used to shape the Final Goals and Objectives and Seven-Year Action Plan included in the final drafts of this plan revision.

The revised draft was finalized for submission to the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission and our regional planning agency. We also distributed it to locally involved land and recreation groups. After their review and comments, but before submission to the state for approval, the Plan will have one final review.

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 that is number three in lobster landings for Massachusetts, and its ancillary services still works out of the Town's harbors and piers. This industry has estimated annual revenues of over $1 million/year. The four Rockport harbors also provide moorings for a very active pleasure boat fleet. The Inner Harbor includes a private yacht club.

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. Many 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 150 privately owned 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.

Map 3A Regional Context

The watershed lands in the South Woods adjoin an extensive stretch of undeveloped land, loosely referred to as “Greater 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, with 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. Many of these well-traveled visitors have been so taken with the town that they have become property owners.

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 Pequot's, 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 as part of the City of Gloucester. Rockport was incorporated as a separate town in 1840. 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 that took place in Gloucester. These harbors continue to serve one and two-man lobster boats.

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, two man pits 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 railway cut from Flat Ledge Quarry to Granite Pier. The Town's harbors, with hand cut granite breakwaters and piers formerly used to ship granite to other parts of the world, and now serve fishermen and recreational sailors.

Efforts were made from time to time to develop industries other than fishing, farming, 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 water power prevented the Town from developing into a mill town, as did many other nineteenth century New England towns that did not have river access.

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 mine-layers, 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 $1,941,500. 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.

[2] Town on Sandy Bay, p. 137

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% to about 7800. It declined in 2010 and currently numbers 6952 people year-round. As of June 1, 2019, the Rockport Town Census counted 6,916 residents, with at least that many 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 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 part of the Pigeon Cove property with condominiums, retail space, and public access to the waterfront was approved by the Town in 2007. Since then, several entities have proposed development plans, but none have been successful. The most recent developer began renovating the site in 2015, but progress has been halted.

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. The State Park is a very popular tourist destination and the parking lot is filled to capacity on most summer weekends. The visitor center there is being rebuilt and a proposal to improve the public access to the park is being explored.

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 (TIA). The restored boat ramp allows access for kayakers, campers, bird watchers, and hikers. This summer TIA expanded visitor access by completing the restoration of a boat ramp on nearby Straitsmouth Island.

Rockport continues its history as an active year-round art and music community. The Rockport Art Association, recently renamed Rockport Art Association & Museum, was 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 are available at Front Beach and Cape Hedge Beach. The Department of Public Works is also in the process of upgrading all sidewalk crossings with ADA compliant curb cuts and transition plates.

In 2009, 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 included the 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan. A Master Plan for Downtown Rockport was completed in 2011.

3C. Population Characteristics

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%), then declining
- To 6,952 in 2010 (down 10.5%)

The 2011-2015 American Community Survey from the U.S. Census Bureau estimates a population of 7,111 for that five-year time period, rather than a count for a specific date. As of June 1, 2019, the Rockport Town Census counted 6,916 residents, also indicating that the full time population has declined since 2000.

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. The most recently available data are for 2014-15. The summer months from May to October accounted for 77% of the taxable receipts, while the period from November to April accounted for only 23%. The disparity is likely attributable to the summer's population influx.

The population in the Town of Rockport is the oldest average age in Massachusetts. The 2011-2015 American Community Survey shows Rockport's median age was 53.0, while for Essex County it was 40.6, for Massachusetts 39.3 and for the U.S 37.6. This is not a new trend. The Town of Rockport Planning Study Report 1967 noted that of the 115 Massachusetts urban areas studied only Plymouth (17.4) had a higher percentage of over 65 residents than Rockport (17.3)

In the 2011-2015 American Community Survey, only 609 (33%) of the 1,825 Rockport families had children under age 18. Enrollment in the Elementary and Middle Schools decreased between 2005 and 2013, while the Rockport High School enrollment increased, partly due to significant numbers of entering School Choice students, and then decreased again. In the last four years all schools have had some increase in enrollment.

School/Year	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
Elementary	449	438	447	414	398	394	403	390	407	408	419
Middle	253	246	243	253	246	249	231	238	254	256	235
High	328	354	358	341	331	306	290	305	314	302	304

Compared to the county, state, and nation, the 2010 U.S. Census for Rockport showed a lower percentage of residents within the age range of 0-19, about half the national average of people aged 20-34, a slightly higher percentage at ages 35-54, and more than one and a half times the national average of people aged 55+.

Age Range	0-19	20-34	35-54	55+
Rockport	19%	11%	27%	43%

Essex	26%	17%	30%	27%
Mass	25%	20%	29%	26%
U.S.	27%	20%	28%	25%

The 2011-2015 American Community Survey shows basically the same percentages, with Rockport having less (22%) in the 35-54 range and more (47%) in the 55+ range.

Since the 1990 U.S. Census, the percentage of Rockporters aged 20-34 has dropped significantly, the percentage aged 35-54 has increased and then decreased, and the percentage aged 55+ has increased significantly:

Age Range	0-19	20-34	35-54	55+
1990	21%	18%	29%	32%
2000	23%	11%	34%	32%
2010	19%	11%	27%	43%

There are more males among those aged 0-19 and more females among those who are aged 55 and older. There are 949 women 65 and older in the 2010 U.S. Census, while there are only 659 men that old.

Age Range	0-19	20-34	35-54	55+
Males	22%	12%	27%	40%
Females	17%	10%	28%	45%

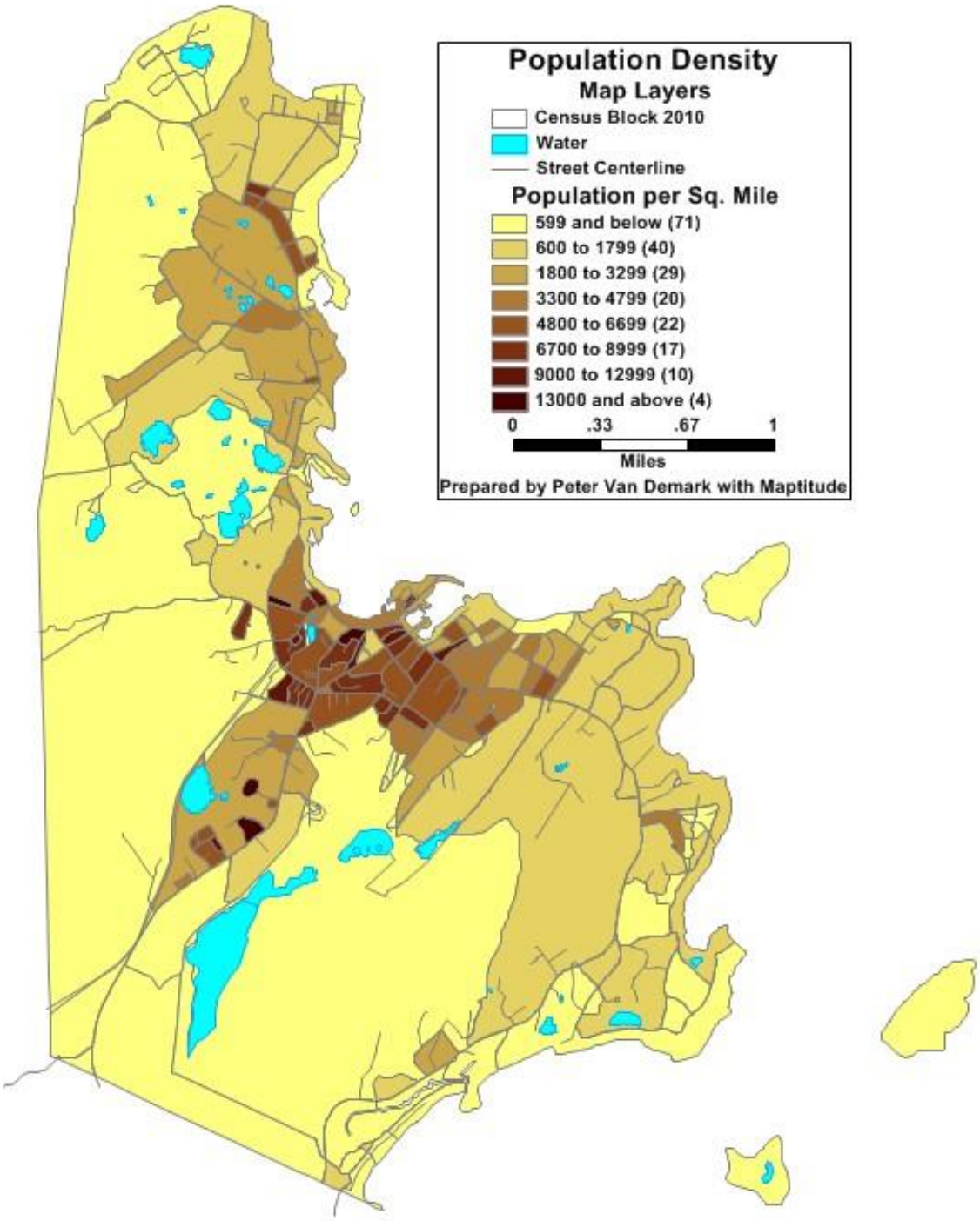
Population Density

The average population density in Rockport is 991 people per square mile (about 1.5 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). The 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 (Thacher 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). This is due in part to designated wetlands and the predominance of granite ledge. 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.

Employment Trends

Rockporters are well educated, according to the 2010-2014 American Community Survey from the U.S. Census Bureau. Among those aged 25 and older, 98% are at least high school graduates and 50% have at least a bachelor's degree. Over half (54%) of those 16 and older who are employed have a management, professional, or

Map 3C Population



related occupation while 19% are in sales or office occupations, 11% are in service occupations, and 16% 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 remote employment has helped to overcome distances for some jobs and the direct connection to Boston by rail are important in attracting full time residence.

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 2013-2017 American Community Survey for Rockport was $72,015 below the $73,533 for Essex County and the $74,167 statewide[3]. This compares with $50,661 for Rockport, $51,576 for Essex County, and $50,502 statewide in the 2000 U.S. Census.

Rockport's socioeconomic status helps to 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 and 2017 Survey results indicated that many residents use the Town's open space areas and give it very high value. When all Middle school students were surveyed, they also overwhelming think protection for, and access to, open space is important.

In the 2010-2014 American Community Survey Rockport had about 4% (221) non-white residents, 6% (405) foreign-born residents, and under 1% (39) lacking English language proficiency, all 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.

[3] U.S.Census Bureau, American Fact Finder (https://factfinder.census.gov), 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

After Route 128 was completed to Gloucester in 1954, a wealthier commuting middle class emerged, as people discovered a town with relatively inexpensive seaside property only one hour from Boston. Today some 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.

By far now new home construction in town involves the demolition of smaller, older homes for the construction of much larger homes and the subdivision of larger lots into two or more parcels in a trend driven by the increased value of ocean views and seaside living. As a result, majority of surveyed Rockport residents are concerned with maintaining the current developed mix that we have or more of the open space protected. The trend to an older population has brought an increased desire for sidewalks and an interest in preserving trails and open land for hiking. When Middle school students were surveyed many thought one of the town's important features is that it is such a walk-able town.

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. Harbor facilities in Rockport are used exclusively for fishing and pleasure craft. A popular and heavily used bike route follows Rockport's coastline. The route is narrow in some parts and users must remain alert. The route is also used for 12K and 3K foot races. In 2013 Route 127 and Route 127A were designated as state scenic byways. Cape Ann Trail Stewards has become very active in Rockport. That group has worked with the CATA to add trail stops with interpretive information and maps to increase trail usage.

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 used to fill Cape Pond during the summer months when the tourist industry requires a large supply increase. The town has recently developed a Deep Rock Well. It has been permitted by the DEP and is used in the non-winter months to supply water to Cape Pond. The permit allows the Town to withdraw up to .36 million gallons a day from this source. A more detailed discussion of the water supply will be found in Section 4C.

2c. Sewer Service

Map 3D2 shows Rockport's sewer infrastructure. Town ordinances allow for the sewer lines from the town mains to the buildings to be privately owned, which is unusual. Approximately 60 per cent of households have sewer connections including a recent expansion on Marmion Way in the south side of Town. For several years, the town was under a moratorium order for new sewer connections because of excess inflow and infiltration (I&I) in the system. The DPW did a lot of work to reduce our system I&I and that moratorium was lifted in 2015. The Town is now in compliance. Rockport's topography and preponderance of granite make the alternative use of septic systems difficult. Even with the Town's ongoing I&I program, our treatment plant is sometimes near its maximum permitted, but not operational, capacity. The DPW Commission currently has no way of limiting new sewer hook-ups, irrespective of the establishment of any town-developed sewer overlay district, and would need state legislative action in order to keep future sewer demand within our existing sewer capacity.

3. Long-Term Development Patterns

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council[4] previously predicted that Rockport would experience some full time population growth, to 8,515 persons in the year 2020 compared to 8,182 in 2010 and 7,767 in 2000. The Metropolitan Area Planning Council is now predicting that Rockport will experience much smaller full time population growth, to 7,803 persons in the year 2020 compared to their estimate of 7,715 in 2010, which is above the 6,952 in the 2010 U.S. Census. In 2016, the Rockport Town Census counted 6,916, tracking below the 2020 estimated population. 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 difficult

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

choices needed to balance 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 it will be financially feasible to build "high tech" private sewage disposal systems with "green" technology. Map 3D4 depicts a somewhat lessened development impact because of wetland laws requiring 200-foot buffers in the watershed overlay districts.

Chapter 40B presents another challenge to towns like Rockport where a shortage of affordable housing exists. A court case in neighboring Gloucester allowed a Chapter 40B development to be built on a filled, and previously developed, wetland, all though no housing has ever been built. 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 also contribute to the shortage of affordable housing in Town by increasing even further construction costs.

Rockport median household incomes average about 3% lower than those for the whole of Massachusetts. Rockport housing prices are 34% higher than the state average. Although this phenomenon of real estate costs rising more rapidly than median household income is evident across the North Shore, Rockport's gap is one of the largest. Increases in sales to second home buyers may be contributing to the cost gap. And, these housing market changes continue 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

After the 2009 Open Space report was published, most of the development in town has been small subdivisions. They typically include separating single home larger lots so that two or three homes could be built. The original house is sometimes renovated, or relocated on the land, or taken down. Many of these have been built sometimes adding large two family homes. Examples are on South Street, Tarr's Lane West and High Street. There are three projects now under construction on Marmion Way where two large inns are being renovated and are becoming single family residences. The surrounding land is being subdivided, and then sold as single

lots. In some cases, like at Alpaca Ct in 2015, a field is subdivided and several houses are built. Other pieces of land, that historically have been too difficult to build on, have become viable for construction with the increased value of a home. There is a mixed income, multi-unit complex on Granite Street at the site of the former Silva Brothers Greenhouse property that has recently received some CPA funding. Ground has not broken yet on this project.

There a large project being challenged. A project for 12 residential townhouse units plus a commercial unit in a rehabilitated old machine shop building at the Cape Ann Tool Company property was begun in 2015; however, the project has not been completed and progress is at a standstill. Rockport's Planning Board began an update of the Town's Master Plan by creating a Downtown Master Plan, completed in 2011 The Town now has an agreement with the state to work using best practices to develop a town wide Master Plan. The Planning board is now working to develop a plan to increase development around the Rockport MBTA station in alliance with the states Smart Growth initiative.

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.

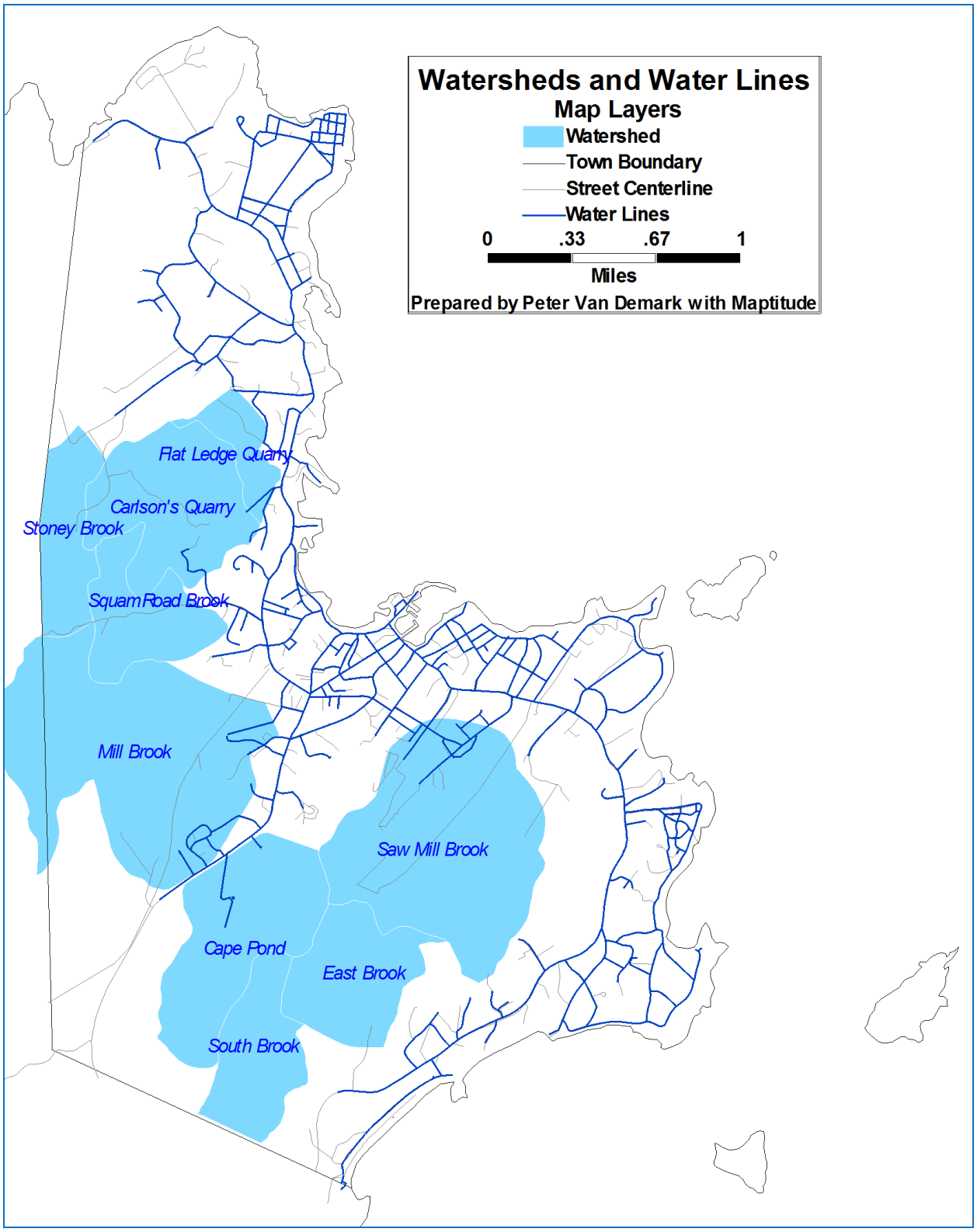
Using fully built-out conditions, the study showed Rockport could look much different from what it does today. Although areas of Town have long been considered unbuildable due to poor soil conditions for septic systems, alternatives allowed under revised Title Five regulations could allow development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

Table 3D. Buildout Study Summary *(see Map 3D4 Developable Lands and Partial Constraints)*

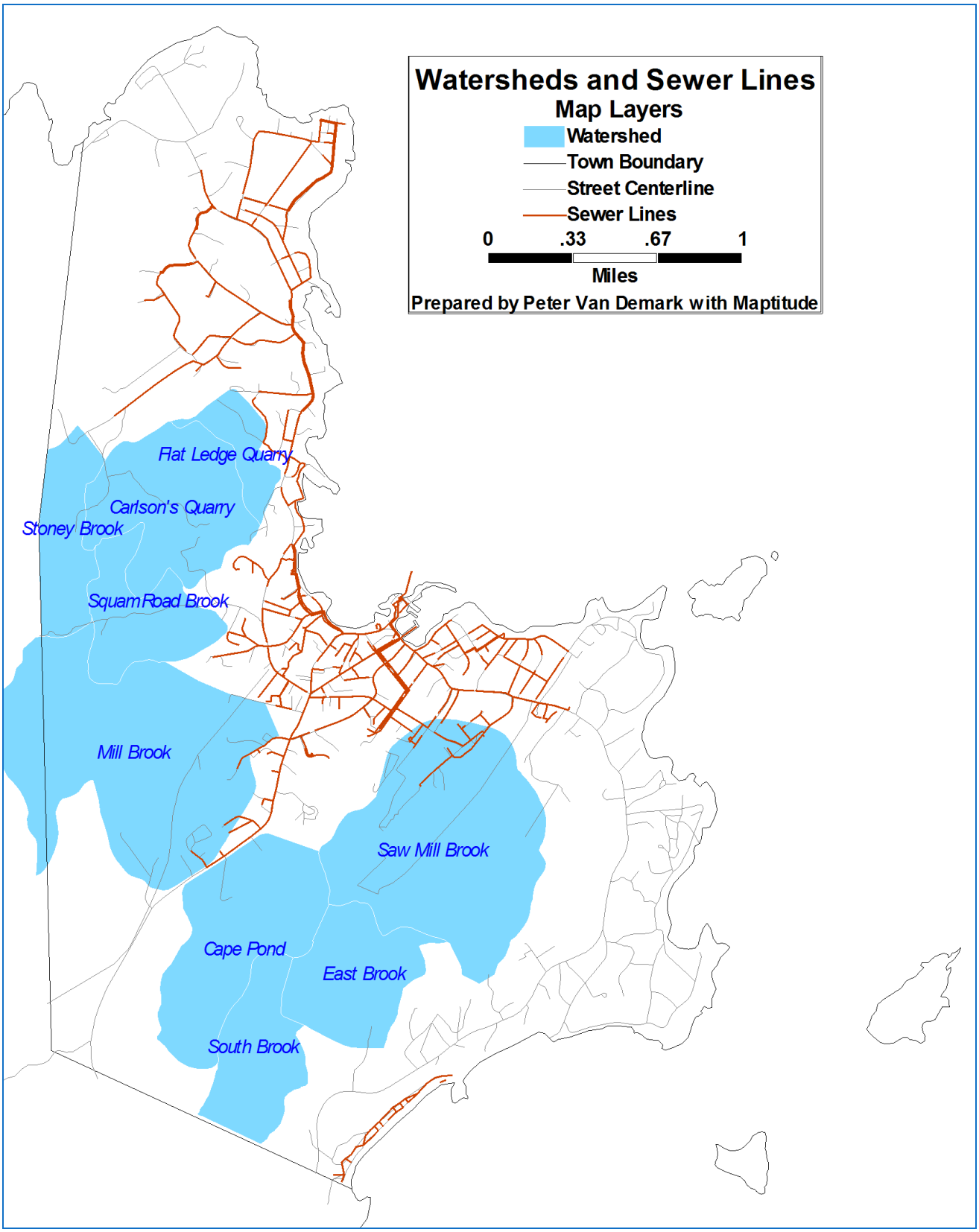
Development Impact	2008	Full Buildout Addition	% Change
Developed land area	n/a	61,175,680 sq. ft	
Total residential lots	n/a	1,456	
Dwelling lots	4,202	1,485	35.34
Future residents	7,700	3,088	40.10
Residential water use	606,000 gal/day	231,618 gal/day	38.22
Municipal solid waste	3,724 tons	1,584 tons	42.53
Non-recycled solid waste	2,734 tons	729 tons	26.66
Students	1,048	488	46.56
New roads		19.55 miles	

Source: DPW, 2007 Buildout Study

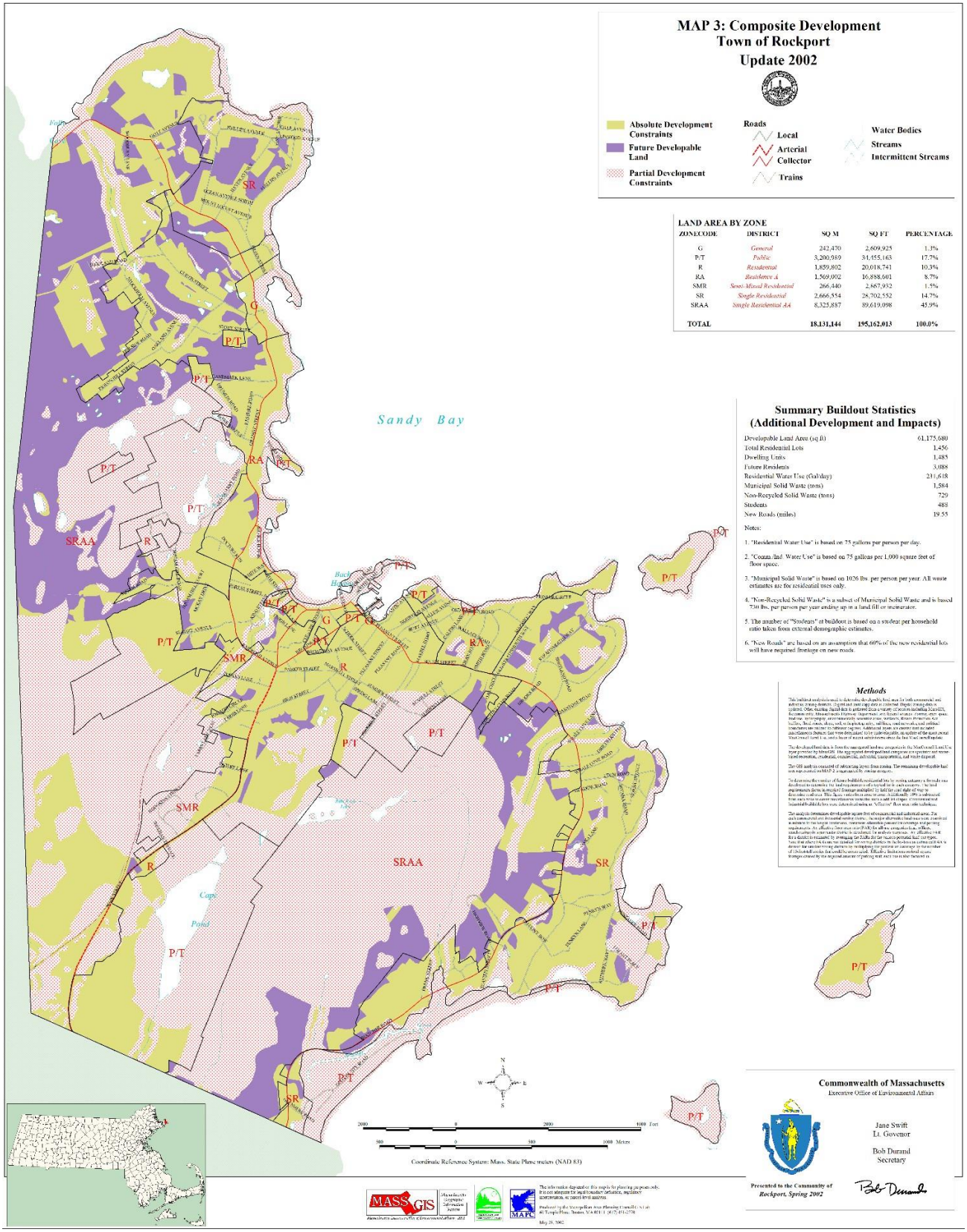
Map 3D1 Watersheds and Water Lines



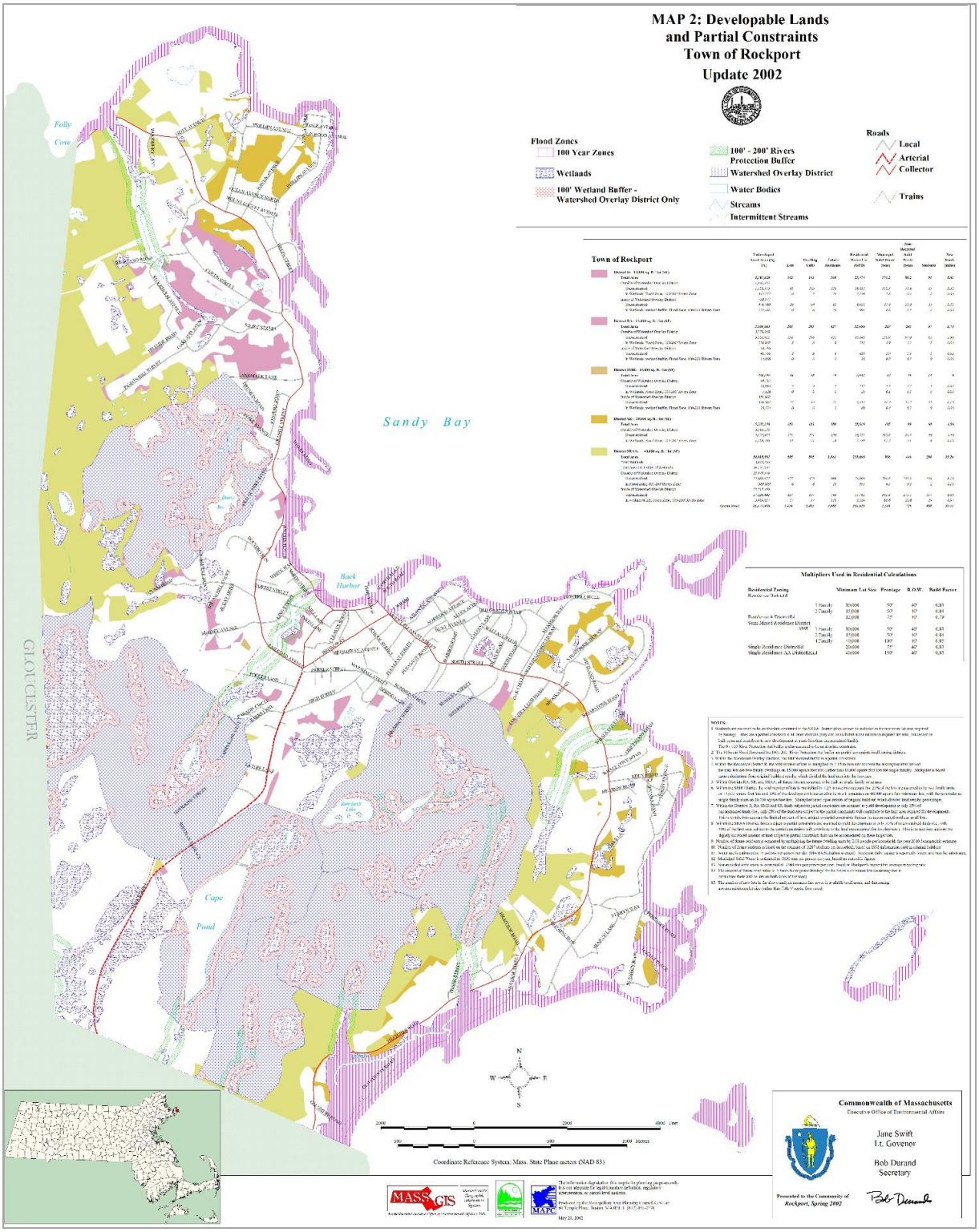
Map 3D2 Watersheds and Sewer Lines



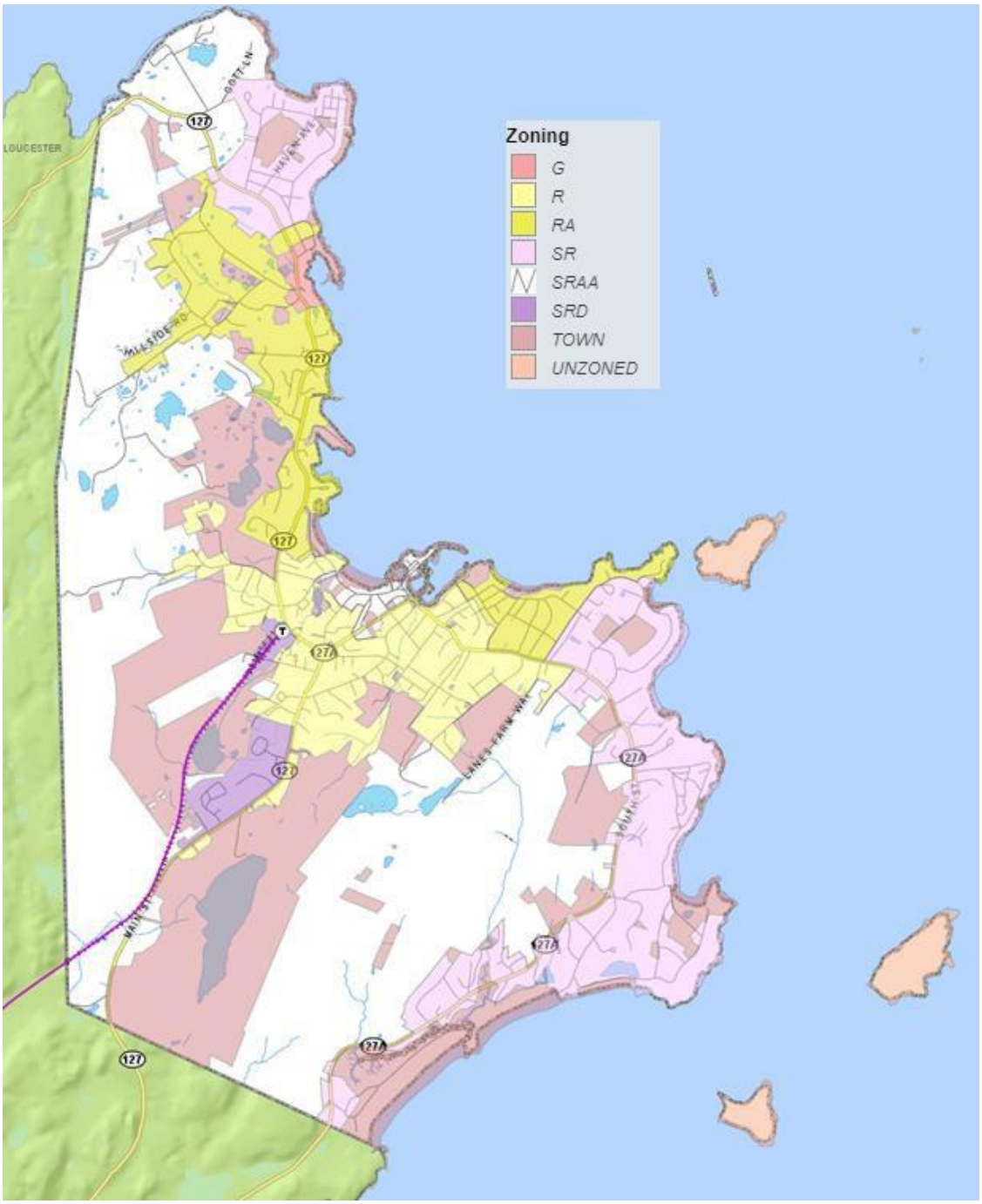
Map 3D3 Zoning and Composite Development



Map 3D4 Developable Lands and Partial Constraints



Map 3D5 Zoning Map



Source: https://www.mapsonline.net/rockportma

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 most of the open space in Rockport, a large portion of which is also watershed land, making adherence to state and local wetland regulations critical in the protection of town open space.

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[5]. 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 the cellars of brick buildings, then used for posts on North and Market Streets. Actively quarried in Rockport between 1840 and 1929[6], 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

[5] 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

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[7]. 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.

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, which is 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 once higher than today can be found by examining the wave-cut benches at Loblolly Cove. These escarpments were probably cut 11,000 to

[7] Draft of Rockport's Open Space Plan, 1997

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 pre-glacial in origin. Without clay soils to hold it, most precipitation either runs immediately off from the 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; see "Other Water Supply Areas" in Section 4C.

3. Soils

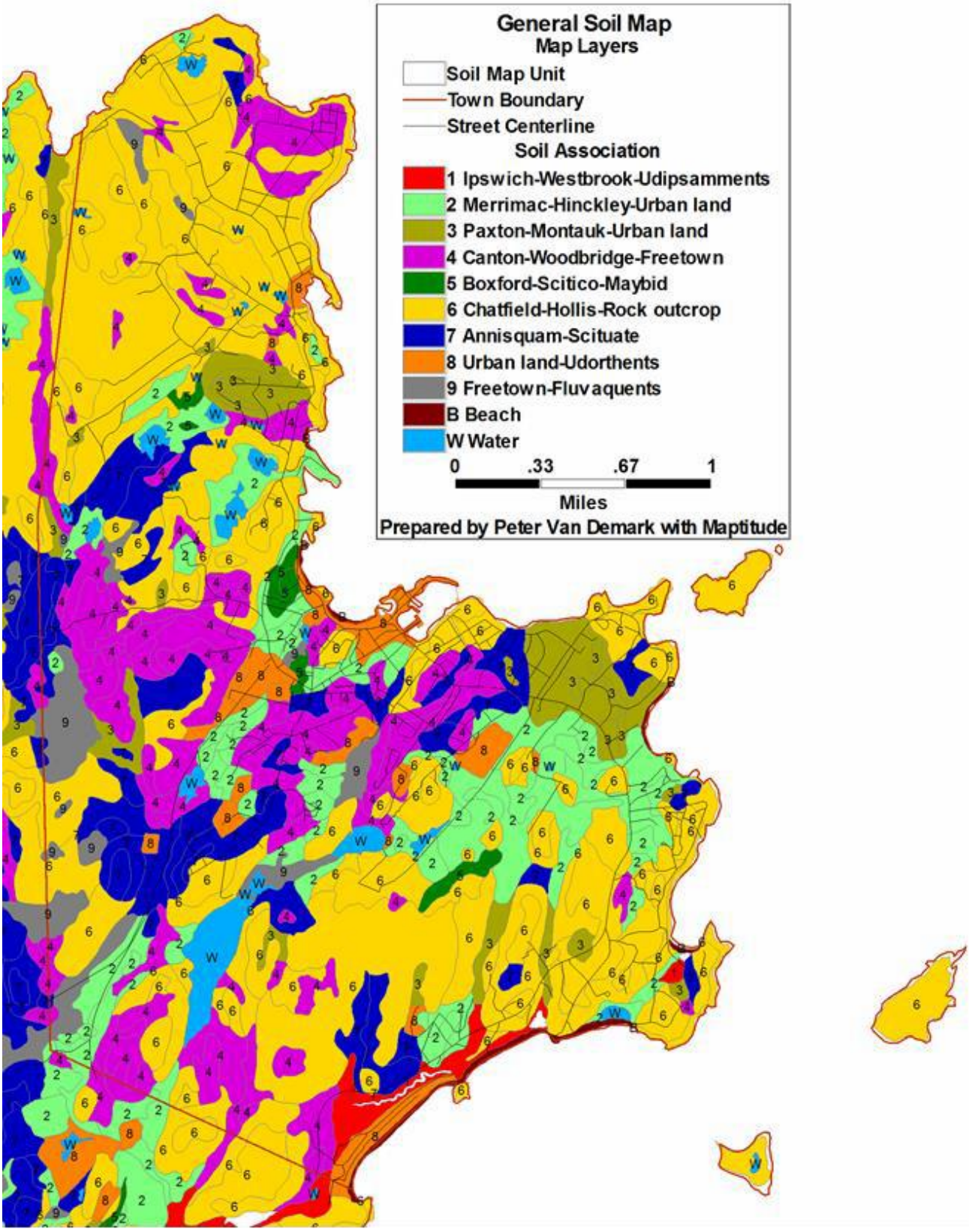
The last glacial episodes produced the base for the mineral soils that are now found in Rockport. These are known as Inceptisols and occur throughout New England. In well- drained, undisturbed sites this topsoil averages between two and a half and eight inches deep. Due to their glacial origin, these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

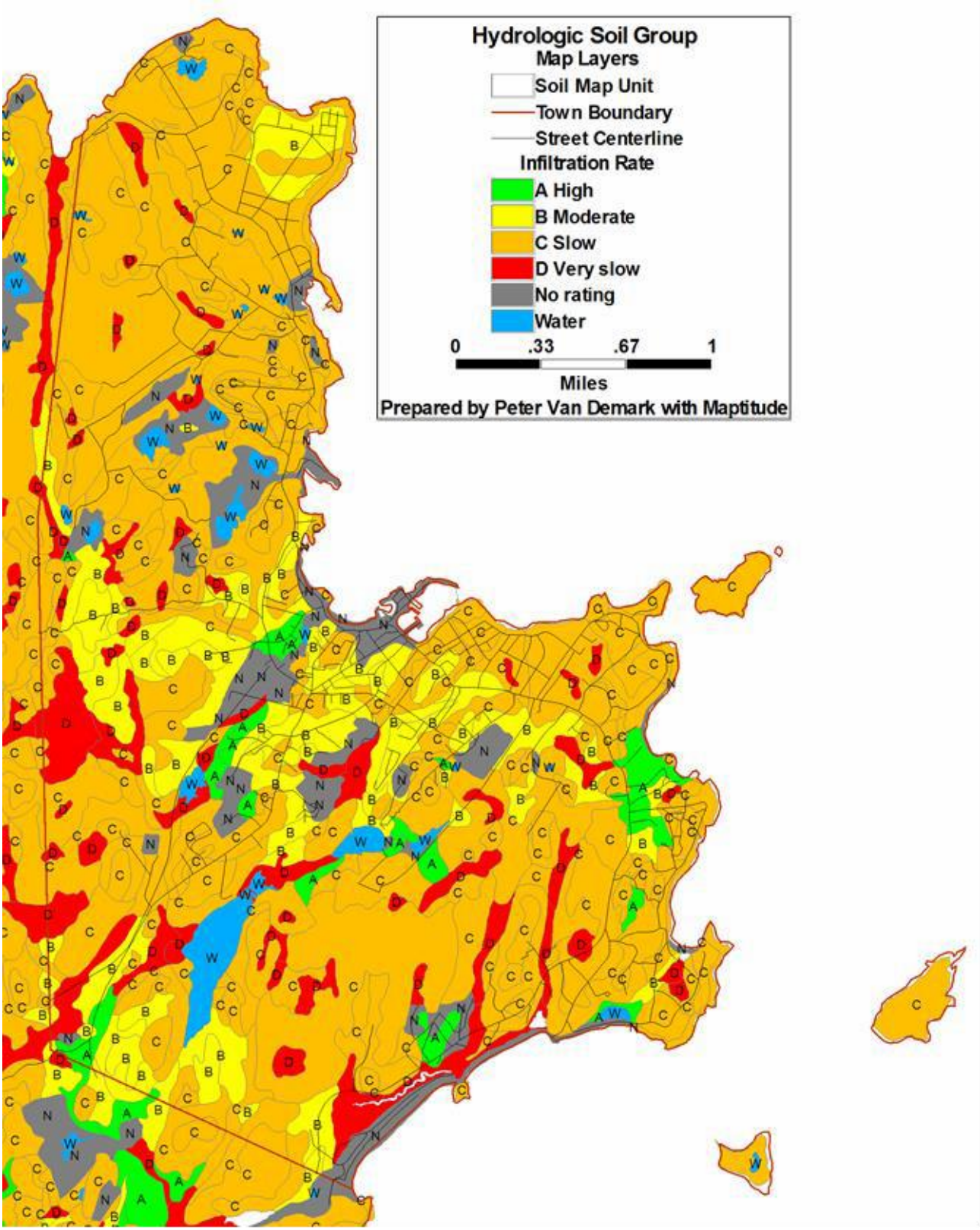
4. Development

Undeveloped land comprises nearly two thirds of Rockport's 7 square mile land area, which is a very high percentage for a long-established community 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 instituted a limited sewer

Map 4A1 General Soil Map



Map 4A2 Hydrologic Soil Group



Moratorium as it undertook a storm water and groundwater inflow and infiltration minimization program to mitigate excess flows to the sewage plant and overflows of raw sewage to the ocean[8]. This restriction was lifted with the DEP issuing of the 2011 ACO. With the increased desirability of Rockport, especially for summer and retirement homes, the economics and technology of development in bedrock areas could affect the rate of growth.

5. Drinking Water and Wastewater Issues

Rockport has ten watershed areas defined by the Rockport Zoning Bylaw, of which two are key to 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. The Seven-Year Action Plan includes recommendations for protecting the water supply strongly based on the 2008 report of the Watershed Protection Committee[9]. The Watershed Protection Committee was disbanded in early 2015. The roles and responsibilities of this committee are now the purview of the recently reinstated Ad Hoc Water Committee (AHWC).

The Mill Brook well field and the Deep Rock well, consisting of a total of four tubular wells, are the 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. The Deep Rock well is located in the Cape Pond water shed area. These wells collectively are permitted for approximately 50% of the total permitted capacity in Rockport, but on an annual basis provide around 40% 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

[8] DEP Administrative Consent Order

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

the well field. The size of the watershed and aquifer is approximately 0.6 square miles and the headwaters start in Gloucester.

The Mill Brook 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. The Deep Rock well is located a short distance to the SE side of Cape Pond. 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 and Cape Pond watersheds are 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 a small part on some of the residential parcels. The watersheds contain numerous walking trails. There are also extensive wetlands, primarily associated with Briar Swamp and Loop Pond. More than 60% 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 because 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 to carry Rt. 127, under which quarry railway trains, filled with granite, passed on their way to Granite Pier to be loaded onto ships, now it is a gravel foot path. Adjacent to the old railway foot path 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.

2. Major Trail Networks (see Map 4B2)

Halibut Point Reservation is a state park adjacent to a large area owned by the Trustees of Reservations and on the new Essex County Scenic Byway. 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.

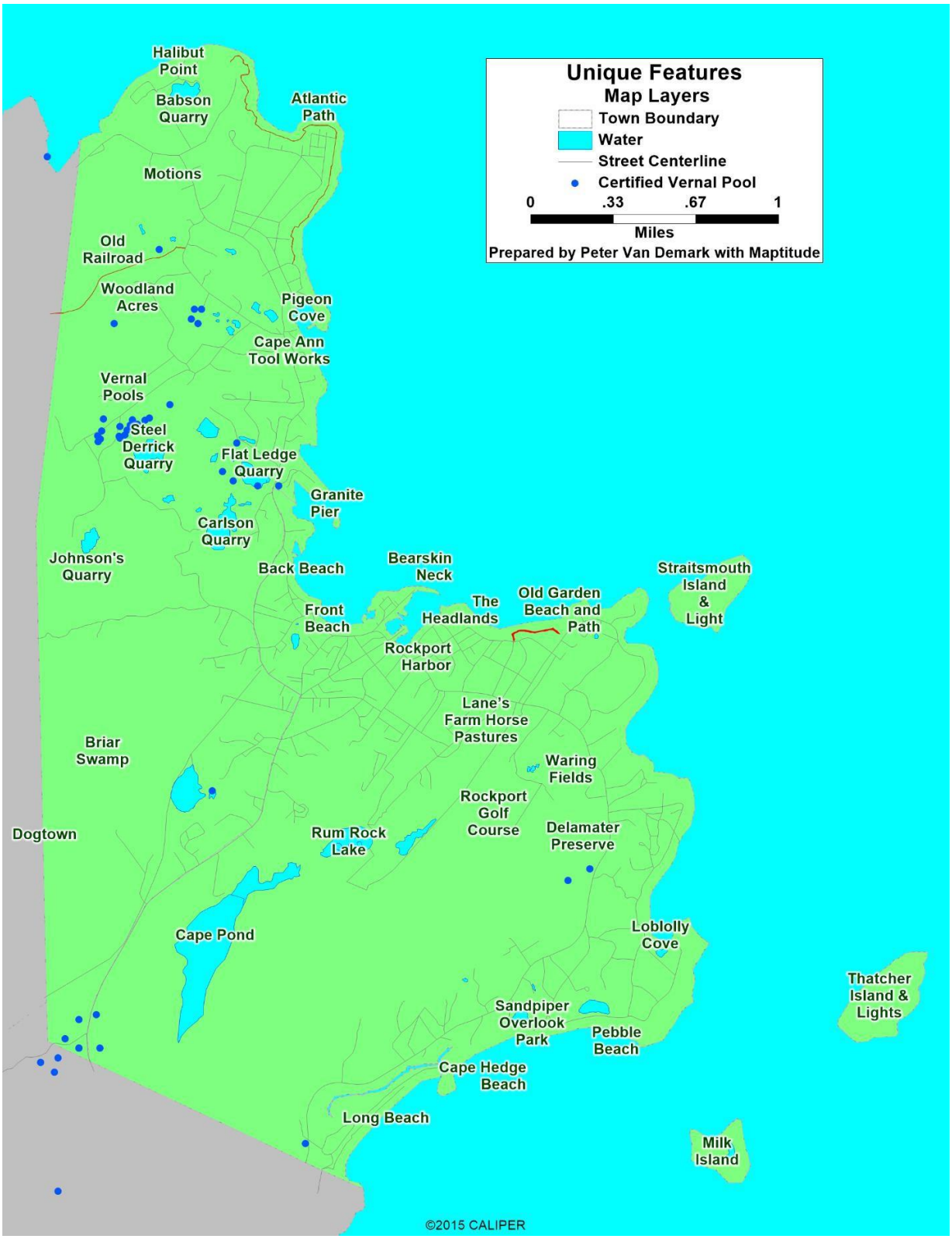
With several footpaths leading to it from the street, the 1.25-mile **Atlantic Path** allows walkers to follow the rocky shore from Pigeon Cove to the northern end of Hoop Pole Cove. Like Halibut Point, the Atlantic Path is an ideal vantage point for spotting sea birds, especially in the winter. In both 2015 and 2019 the Town of Rockport received grant funding from the Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries to cut brush and improve access along the path for recreational fishing. Shore access for recreational fishing is fairly limited in Massachusetts and the Atlantic Path supplies some of the best shore access in the area.

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. The area is overseen by an active group of local residents, Friends of Andrews Woods, who routinely maintain trails and remove debris. More information on this dedicated group and this special area can be found at http://andrewswoods.org.

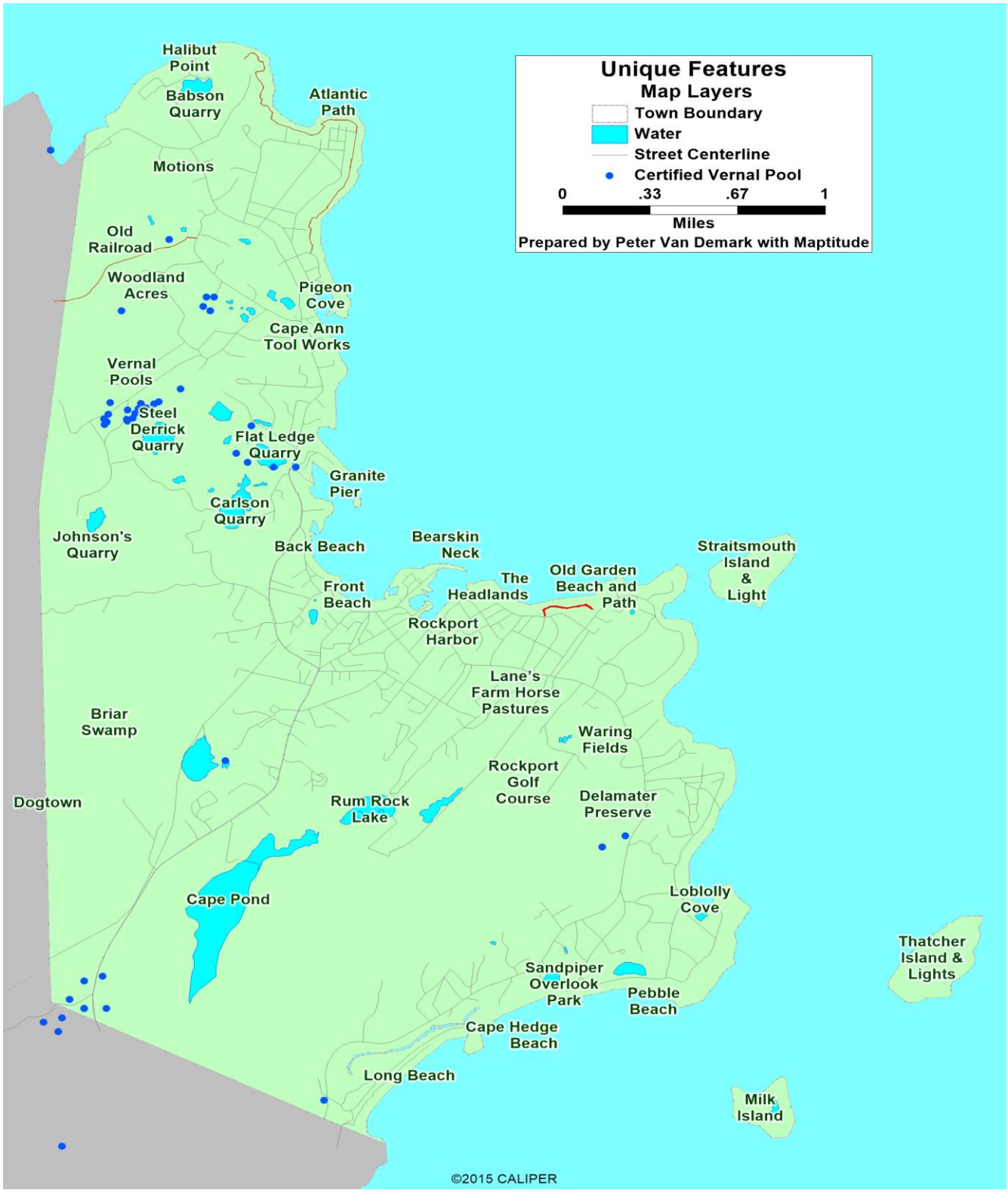
A railway track that ran between Folly Cove in Gloucester and Pigeon Cove harbor once brought stone from the quarries to be exported by sea. A section of the railway bed leading west off Curtis Street was acquired by the Town, with some adjoining woods, as a conservation area. Trails lead through the woods around a small quarry, **Pine Pit**, and the old railway bed runs over wetlands that attract flocks of migratory birds. This area has had a public trail directory kiosk added at its head by Cape Ann Trails Stewards. It also is adjacent to Woodland Acres and connected by footpaths.

Woodland Acres is a newly acquired, in 2017, parcel located adjacent to Pine Pit. Working in partnership with the Town, Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA) purchased the parcel and then conveyed the property to the Town, subject to a Conservation Restriction held by ECGA. The land is permanently preserved as open space with publicly accessible trails. The property contains vernal pools and has been designated as core habitat for rare species by the state's Natural Heritage Program. The parcel has an existing trail system and it's connected to town land and the parking area at Pine Pit. Pine Pit is the starting point for access to the rail bed, which continues through the woods and connects with trail systems in the City

Map 4B1 Unique Features



Map 4B2 Major Trails Areas



of Gloucester. This parcel is a wonderful addition to Rockport's publicly accessible open spaces.

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. In 2015 the former Rockport Granite Savings bank, just as it was to be sold, sponsored a project to reduce the over growth in the area so that this very unique bridge is more visible to users of the trail.

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**.

In 2013 the Conservation Commission has purchased property at the top of **Pigeon Hill Street** that allows improved parking for the area. That property has three small granite quarries on it and trails that connect directly to Steel Derrick and Johnsons Quarry water shed.

Rockport's **Town Forest** can be accessed from Summit Avenue and Squam Hill Road. Existing trails on private land lead around a water tower and along a footbridge that spans the cranberry bogs and pitcher plants of **Briar Swamp** and into the many wooded acres of Dogtown. Paths also 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 and a dirt surface fire road 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. The area is remarkable for its open woodlands, not overgrown with invasive low growth like much of the town's

undeveloped area. 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.

On the eastern side of the South Woods, bordering the Rockport Golf Club and on the new Essex County Scenic Byway, the town owned meadows of **Waring Fields** are maintained as active agricultural land by the locale Lane Farm.

The trails from Waring Field lead to the **Delamater Preserve** conservation area, which can also be accessed directly from South Street. Cape Ann Trail Stewards has added this as part of the CATA bus route trail head stop. They have added a trail map kiosk and trail stop sign directly on South Street (RT 127A) to increase public use of trails.

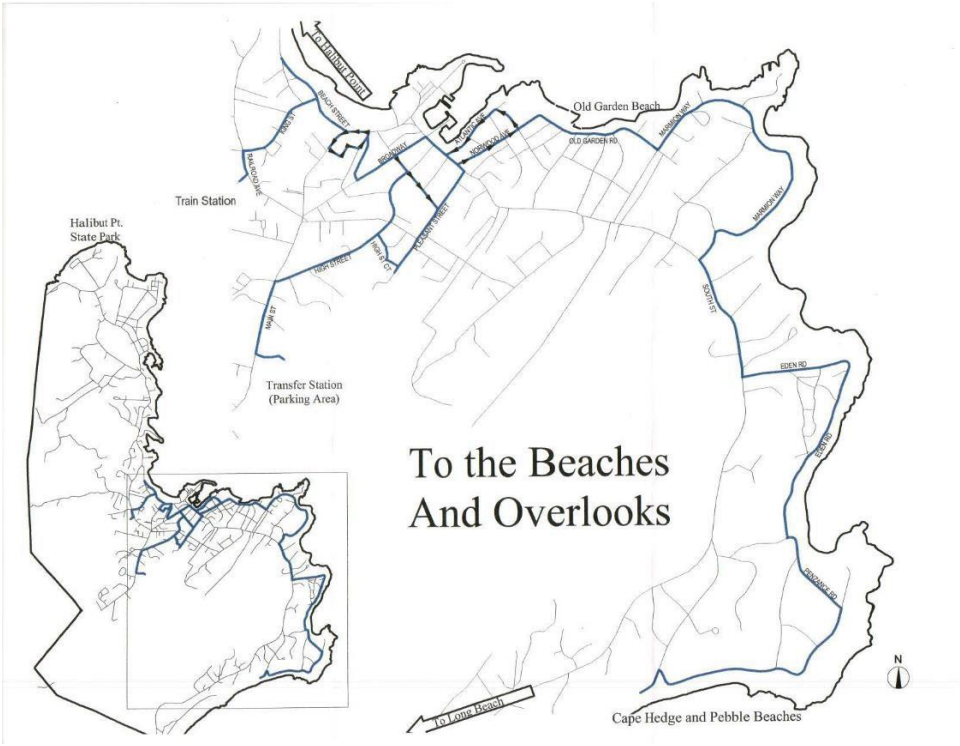
Access to the ocean south of the center of Rockport is available along a chain of beaches, coves, and rocky ledges. Public footpaths lead in from the road to **Emerson Point, Flat Rock Point, Steep Bank Landing**, and **Cogswell Farm Landing**. There is limited parking at **Long Beach, Cape Hedge Beach, 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.

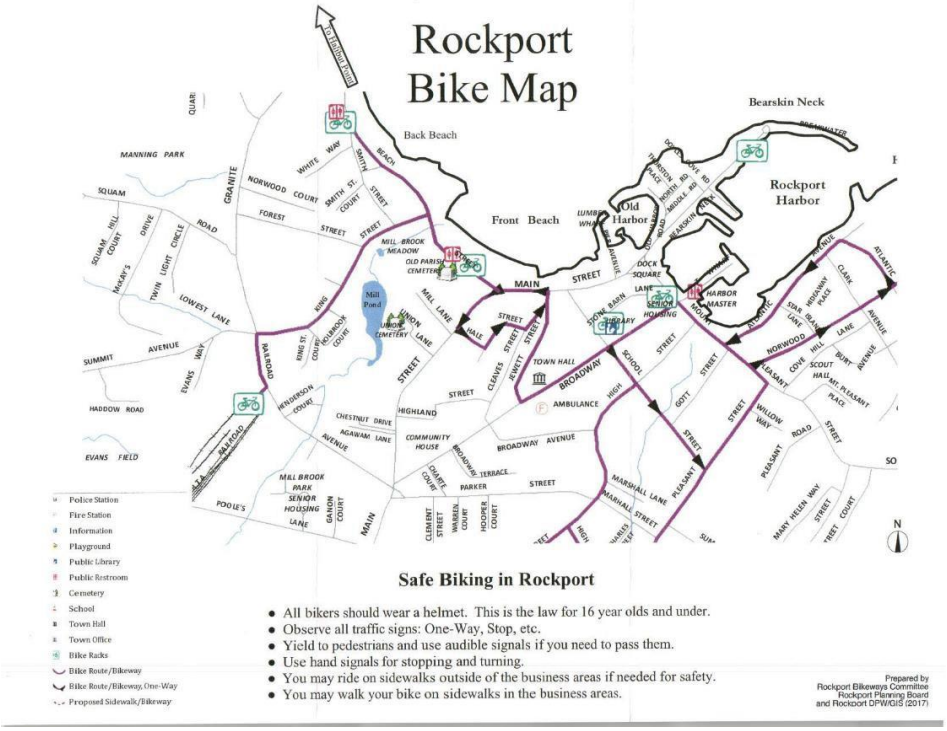
In 2013 the owners donated to the town the spectacular property that directly overlooks Open Ocean, Cape Hedge and Pebble Beach. The land known as the **Sandpiper Overlook** was the site of an Inn that burnt down over 30 years ago. The land was encircled with a chain link fence and contained a collapsed foundation and old parking area. The site is being cleaned up and revitalized by the Rockport DPW and Conservation Commission with a natural landscape that contains a walking trail with a few viewing areas.

Eden Road along the ocean 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.

Map 4B3 Rockport Bike Trail





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.

In addition to all of the above, 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.

Over the past 18 months, the Rockport Bikeway Committee, working under the Planning Board, completed a Bikeway map (see Map 4B3 Rockport Bike Map), that gives bikers a safer route through the downtown business district and out to the beaches and overlooks. The Bikeway Committee also created a brochure and procured and placed bike racks in several key locations throughout the Town. Maps are available near the public bike racks and can be found online by searching Town of Rockport bike map. In an effort to create a safe route from downtown to the commercial entities on Pond Road, the Bikeway Committee investigated the possibility of an off-road, family friendly route. The current route, down busy Route 127, is unsuitable for most recreational bike traffic. A number of land control issues need to be resolved before more work on this route can move forward.

3. 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
Pebble Beach	Partially
Cape Hedge Beach	Resident
Long Beach	Resident
Loblolly Beach	Resident

4. Issues

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

- Marking of trails, including kiosks
- 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 way
- Mapping of trails and rights of way
- ADA access
- Improving the level of protection on all trails used by the public
- 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. Water resources, both fresh and marine, comprise 60% of the Town's total area[10]. 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.

In 2013, the Town contracted with Dewberry Engineers Inc. to provide the Town with a Water Needs Assessment of its water system supply and infrastructure. The Needs Assessment was completed in 2015 and can be found on the Town's DPW web page. This section has been updated with information from the 2015 report.

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 3500 connections serving approximately 96% of the Town's population. In 2013, the average daily demand on the system was 0.57 million gallons per day (MGD). The Town historically experiences a seasonal increase of about 30% above its average daily water usage during the summer months due to it being a popular summer destination. Rockport's water system is registered under

[10] "Geographic Identifiers: 2010 Demographic Profile Data (G001): Rockport town, Essex County, Massachusetts". U.S. Census Bureau, American Factfinder. Retrieved September 5, 2012.

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	0.72 MGD includes Carlson's, Flat Ledge and Mill Brook Wellfield
Carlson's Quarry Reservoir	Registered	
Flat Ledge Quarry	Permitted as additional source -	
Mill Brook Well field And Deep Rock well	Registered	Deep Rock added in 2013 0.36 MGD
Saw Mill Brook	Emergency use only	
Steel Derrick Quarry	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. In 2013, the reservoir currently supplied approximately 100.9 MG from Cape Pond, representing 47% of the total supply pumped. 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. Within this watershed, the Deep Rock well was added in 2013 and is permitted for 0.36 MGD. It pumps directly into Cape Pond. It will be used primarily in the summer season to help compensate for Rockport large influx of summer residence and visitor. During the summer of 2016, a rare algae bloom developed in Cape Pond Reservoir due to unusual drought conditions combined with elevated daily temperatures. The bloom limited the Town's ability to draw from this source for a portion of the summer. Previous to that, the Town pumped 40.8 MG from the well to Cape Pond in 2015.

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 as recently as 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 been used for emergency water supply in the past, but not in the last several years. Water was 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 continues in 2019 to have authorization to expand the storage capacity of Flat Ledge Quarry with the construction of a large concrete dam at the eastern side of the quarry. In 2018 the town did purchase the last two private parcels of land that bordered the quarry. With the addition of the deep rock well filling Cape Pond, the town does not feel this dam needs to be constructed at this time.

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. Many on-going subdivision and smaller development projects are being proposed within this watershed. This area's water quality is such that when it is pumped into Cape Pond it requires more extensive chemical processing to bring water quality to current standards. With the Deep Rock Well on line it while be very unlikely to be used.

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 0.2 MGD or about 25% of the water demand in Rockport. For 2013, The Town pumped approximately 12.6 MG from the Mill Brook Well Field averaging 0.0345 MGD. Water is pumped from the wells to either Cape Pond or directly to the water treatment facility (See 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.

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. Even with the Deep Rock Well on line, the exceptional dry summer of 2016 caused the town to implement water usage restrictions for the first time in several years. The DPW has taken a very proactive stance in requiring these restrictions to ensure that there will be sufficient water to carry us through the 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 for their potential support for the municipal water system in the future.

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 1.5-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 was completely rebuilt in 2011 using federal and state grants. It should be noted that the Mill Pond was filling up with storm water sediments and had lost most of its original depth and much of its recreational value. In 2017 the town approved usage of approximately 600K$ of CPC money, and the dredging of 5000sf of the main pond and the nearby Frog pond was completed in 2018. Replanting of the two ponds continues.

Henry's Pond, sometimes referred to as Camborne 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. After a successful appeal, DEP granted the DPW a 3 year permit allowing work to restore the protective pebble dune and road that helps prevent the pond from filling with materials from the adjacent barrier beach. This work is now dependent on available funding.

Rockport has dozens of both certified and uncertified vernal pools (see Map 4C1 above) located throughout the undeveloped sections of Town. Many are in areas of abandoned granite quarries and are either seasonally or permanently filled with water.

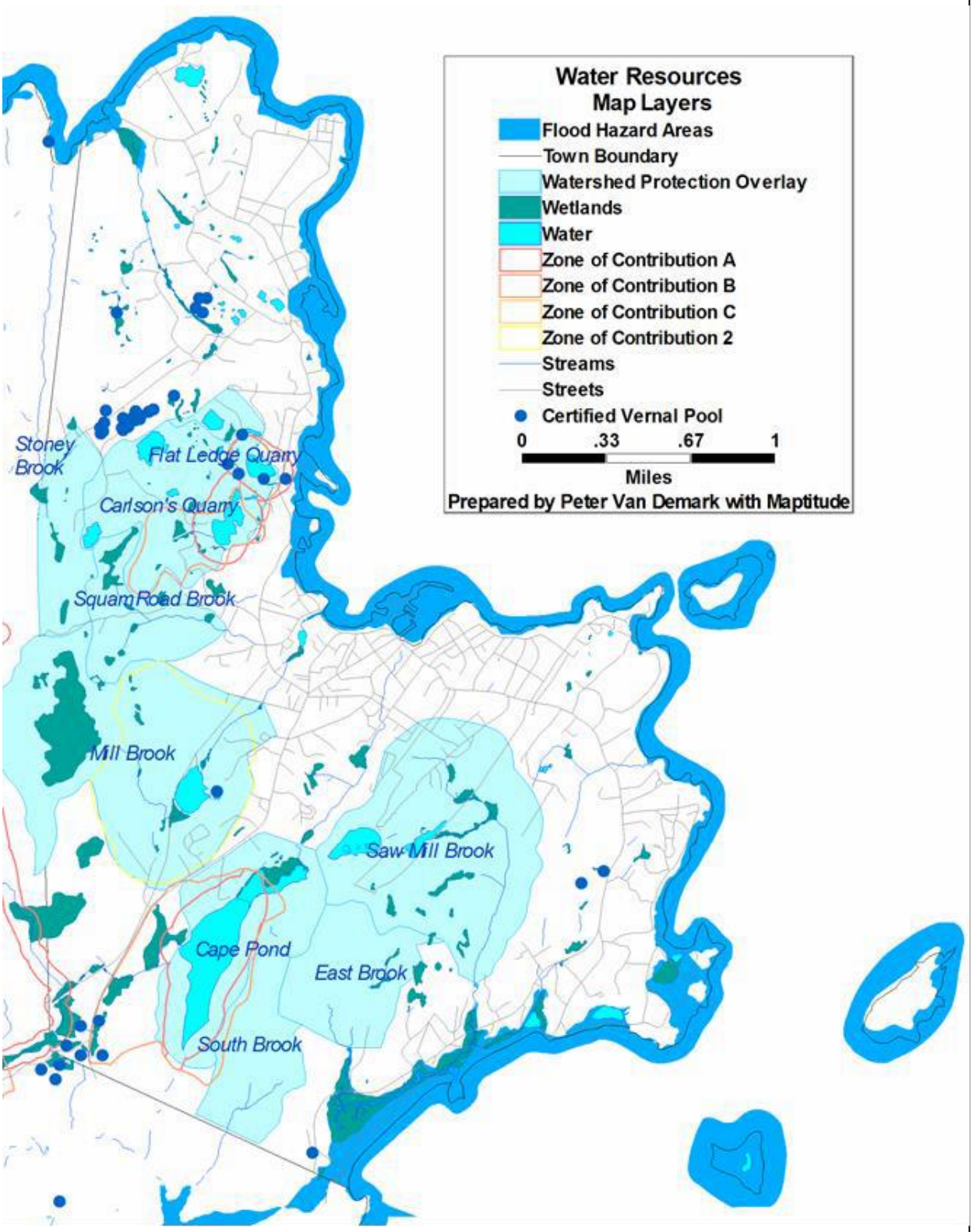
Tidewater Resources Salt Marshes

Rockport possesses just one large 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.

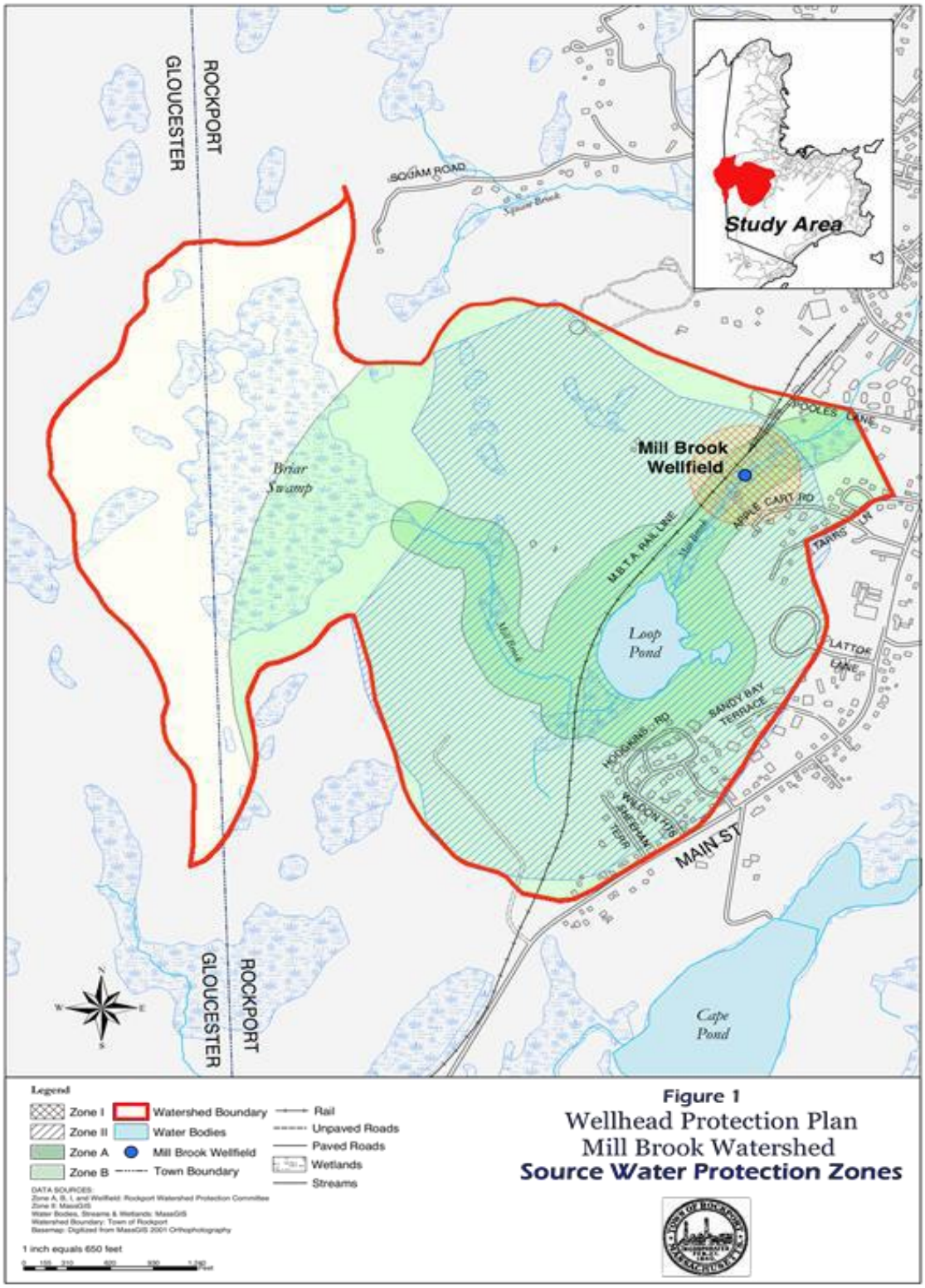
Beaches

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

Map 4C1 Water Resources



Map 4C2 Millbrook Well Field



Cape Ann Mapping

visit Rockport's beaches. These are pocket beaches with the associated winter summer sand movement. The town has had the Long beach sand movement studied and it may consider a sand nourishment project there.

Rocky Coastal, Open and Sub-Tidal Water Resources and Recreation

Much of Rockport borders the Atlantic Ocean with most of this coastline accessible to public use. This is our most enjoyed resource by all ages of residence and visitors. The town's proximity to this seashore resource offers beach and rocky shore activities like boating, swimming, snorkeling, scuba diving, sailing, paddle boarding, kayaking, fishing and lobstering. The town has three major harbors. They are Rockport Harbor, Granite Pier Harbor and Pigeon Cove Harbor. Boats have protected mooring in these areas.

Additional boat access is offered from the public boat ramp at Granite Pier. Free boat pump-outs are also available by contacting the harbor master's office. In addition to boats, small personal watercraft (PWC) can access from launch areas specifically for PWC. These are located in several areas seen on "Unique Features" map 4B1. There are PWC launch points near Granite Pier, Back Beach and Loblolly Cove. Popular PWC destinations for experienced sea-goers are Thacher and Straitsmouth islands. Each island is uninhabited and has seasonally dependent access. Granite Pier's upper level offers excellent bird watching and stargazing opportunities as well as beautiful scenic vistas of the Atlantic and area shores. Rockport's shoreline offers access to surf fishing along rocky intertidal areas. In addition to a predominantly rocky shoreline, there are several sandy beaches. The major beaches are Back, Front, Old Garden, Pebble, Cape Hedge and Long. Some beaches offer better sunbathing while others offer better opportunities to explore underwater by snorkeling or scuba diving. Water access is a unique characteristic of Rockport's open space diversity.

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 2015, the updated FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) maps where introduced. Many of the zone levels had changed dramatically with this update. The areas mentioned above, along with the Long Beach community, were the ones that the town felt were most affected and not characterized correctly. The FIRM Maps were officially challenged by the town. The town won and most of the FEMA lines where reverted back to the pre- 2015 levels. This still leaves some areas of the downtown in flood prone locations. The current FEMA FIRM maps, with their flood and velocity zones continue to set the legal building requirements.

FEMA also has introduced the National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) maps. These maps include a Line of Moderate Wave Action that is used as a reference to indicate where a wave's height can cause structural damage. CZM encourages the use of this line in any flood planning.

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, Thacher Island Committee and Rights of Way Committee. Non-profit organizations such as The Trustees of Reservations, Essex County Greenbelt Association and Massachusetts Audubon Society all own and manage land in Rockport.

4D. Vegetation

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.

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 and Map 4D show the major public woodland tracts in Rockport.

Table 4D1 Rockport Public Woodland Tracts

Woodland Tracts	Acreage	Recreational and Environmental Interest
Carlson Quarry	11.50	Walking, biking, vernal pond, cross country skiing & ecosystem
Pine Pit	18.63	Walking, cross country skiing, biking, ecosystem protection
Cape Pond Watershed	248.60	Walking, horseback riding, cross country skiing, biking, ecosystem
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
Woodland Acres	47.00	Walking, hiking, cross country skiing, ecosystem protection, vernal pool, & links to existing trail network

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 and summer visitors the top long-standing economic driver for the Town, many Rockporters understand the economic value of their tree vegetation. Visitors stay in conventional inns and hotels, but enjoy recreational activities on beaches, ocean, parks and nature trails. Just as there has been an effort to reinvigorate the use of our parks and water access areas; the long-neglected specific plan for the Town's shade trees should be revamped and acted on. 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. The predominant tree in place now is Norway maple, an invasive species. Many of these Norway maples are starting to reach their end of life, making them good candidates for replacement with native species. Today's widespread budget pressures prevent funding for an official shade tree program, an additional obstacle is the lack of a Town Arborist who in past years directed Rockport's shade tree care. Wide public support to fund a tree replacement program would be a solution to this.

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 shade trees that are in, or are adjacent to, gardens they care for. It appears "privately" funded efforts will need to take responsibility while the public budget is considered inadequate to do so. The Garden Club's addition of this program to its very full agenda of 13 public flower gardens shows the value placed on Rockport's tree inventory by its residents.

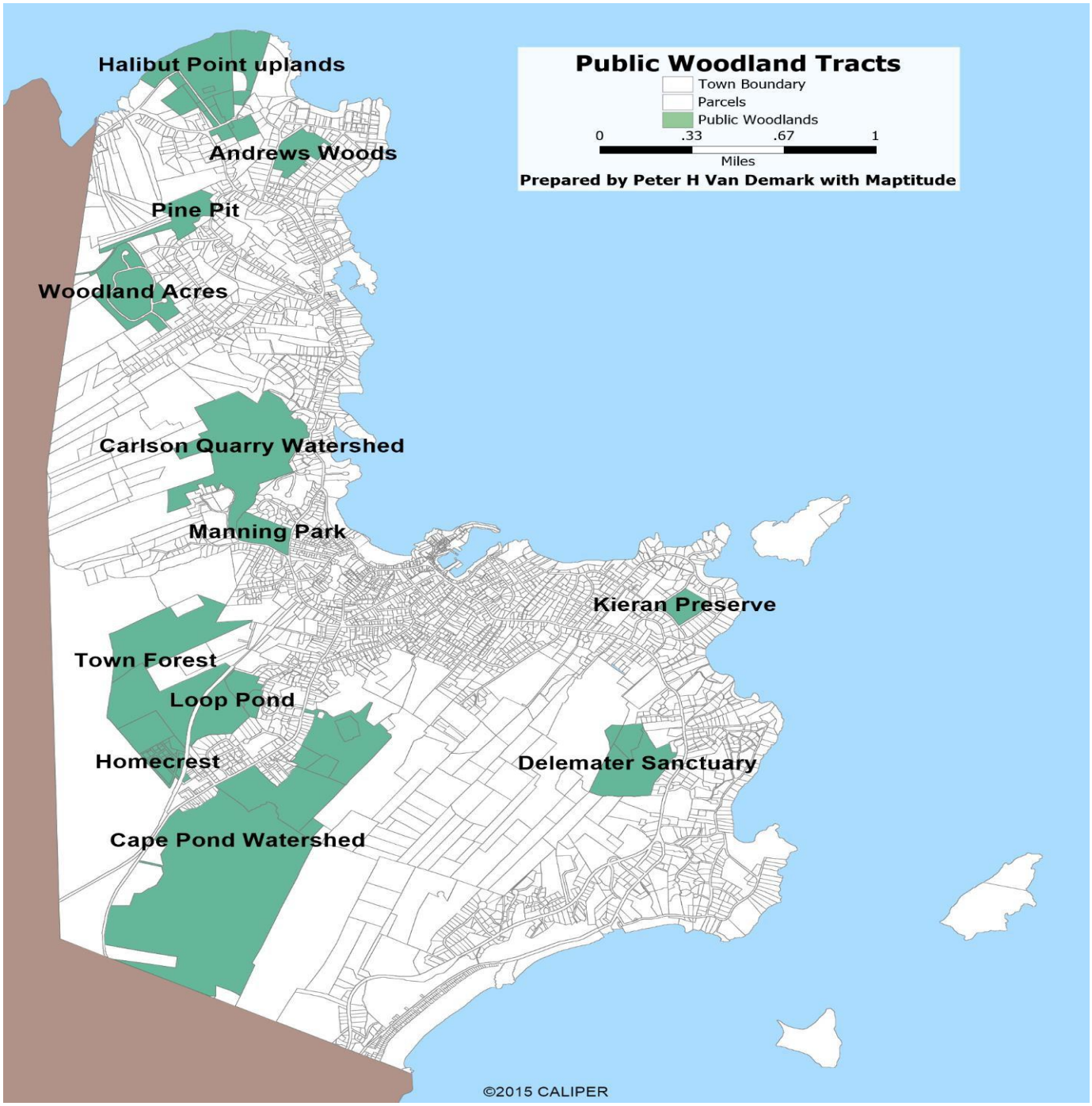
It should be noted here that several concurrent years of gypsy moth and winter moth defoliation, combined with dry summers, have damaged both forested areas and landscaped areas across Cape Ann. The stress of producing multiple sets of foliage under drought conditions has left many oaks and other large trees

weakened, if not dead. It is too soon to predict the long term impacts from this damage. Much will depend on annual rainfall amounts and future insect infestations.

Wetland Vegetation

Rockport supports many wetlands, including red maple swamps, emergent scrub swamps, freshwater marshes, wet meadows, and even a couple of small cranberry

Map 4D Public Woodland Tracts



bogs. In addition, old motions (former small two-man granite quarries), shallow gravel pits and the naturally uneven topography in town provide numerous locations for vernal ponds, 75 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.

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 particularly important.

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, many 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 Area.

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, Thacher 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 many salt marsh restoration projects.

Agricultural Land

There is only a small amount of agricultural land in Rockport. But the 200 plus year old Lane farm has been reinvigorated by its present generation of the Lane family. It participates in the very popular local farmers markets, raises grass feed beef and runs its own farm stand offering that and its organic vegetables. The farm leases and maintains the town owned Waring fields as agricultural land. The Bryant family has developed a farm plan that gained state approval for some of their property that has also been in agricultural use for centuries. Fortunately for Rockport, the Lane farm fields, Waring fields and Bryant fields, along with other privately-owned grazing areas, are all nearly adjacent to the Rockport Golf Club land. This matrix makes up a collective accessible open area of approximately 130 acres. This is largest area like this in town and it is very much appreciated by the walkers and hikers of Rockport.

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 75 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	2008

4E. Fisheries and Wildlife

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	Blandings*	Bullfrog	Red-Backed

Black Racer	Green	Eastern Red Spotted Newt
Northern Water	Wood	
	American Toad	

* State Status: Threatened

Vernal Pools

As of 2009, according to the Natural Heritage website[11] , Rockport had 75 certified vernal pools. A few 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.

Diadromous Fish[12]

Diadromous fish are fish which live part of their life in fresh water and part in salt water and are made up of both anadromous 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.

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

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

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. Mill Brook, and its upstream watershed, supports an active eel run. Since the Mill Brook dam's reconstruction was completed in 2014, a group of local volunteers has maintained an elver trap at the dam to document the strength of that run and to evaluate the effectiveness of the eel ramp mounted during the reconstruction. In 2015, the group recorded 603 elvers between April and October. During the same period in 2016, only 10 elvers were recorded. The large discrepancy between the two years is believed to be a factor of the record drought conditions in 2016. Summer rainfall amounts were so low that flows down the eel ramp stopped from late July through late September. The trap had to be disconnected for much of that time period. In 2017 with more normal precipitation, record numbers of eels were collected at the site. There were 1,924 elvers collected between March and October of that year. The majority of those were recorded in the final weeks of May 2017. Elver numbers in 2018 were far below 2017's numbers. Only 216 elvers were recorded and the trap was pulled for the season on October 6, 2018. One contributing factor could have been the low amounts of precipitation during the 2018 sampling season, as compared to the 2017 season. The group plans to continue monitoring at the dam.

Freshwater Fish

Table 4E4 shows the freshwater fish that can be found in pools, ponds and streams in Rockport.

Table 4E4 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

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[13]. 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).

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.

There were 77 species of birds found nesting in Rockport in the Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas 2, carried out in 2007-2011 by the Massachusetts Audubon Society. The species are listed in taxonomic order in Table 4E5.

Table 4E5 Birds Breeding in Rockport

Canada Goose	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Brown Thrasher
Mute Swan	Red-bellied Woodpecker	European Starling
Wood Duck	Downy Woodpecker	Cedar Waxwing
American Black Duck	Hairy Woodpecker	Yellow Warbler
Mallard	Northern Flicker	Pine Warbler
Common Eider	Eastern Phoebe	American Redstart
Ring-necked Pheasant	Great Crested Flycatcher	Ovenbird
Wild Turkey	Eastern Kingbird	Common Yellowthroat

[13] Ibid, p. 27

Double-crested	Red-eyed Vireo	Eastern Towhee
Green Heron	Blue Jay	Chipping Sparrow
Osprey	American Crow	Field Sparrow
Cooper's Hawk	Tree Swallow	Song Sparrow
Broad-winged Hawk	Northern Rough-winged	Northern Cardinal
Red-tailed Hawk	Bank Swallow	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Piping Plover	Barn Swallow	Bobolink
Killdeer	Black-capped Chickadee	Red-winged Blackbird
Willet	Tufted Titmouse	Common Grackle
Herring Gull	White-breasted Nuthatch	Brown-headed Cowbird
Great Black-backed Gull	Carolina Wren	Orchard Oriole
Common Tern	House Wren	Baltimore Oriole
Least Tern	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Purple Finch
Rock Pigeon	Eastern Bluebird	House Finch
Mourning Dove	Wood Thrush	Pine Siskin
Great Horned Owl	American Robin	American Goldfinch
Barred Owl	Gray Catbird	House Sparrow
Chimney Swift	Northern Mockingbird	

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.

Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

The species listed in Table 4E6 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 4E6 Status of Threatened Species[14]

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	MESA Status	Most Recent Observation
Butterfly/Moth	Chaetaglaea cerata	Waxed Sallow Moth	SC	2013
Reptile	Emydoidea	Blanding's Turtle	T	2015
Reptile	Terrapene carolina	Eastern Box Turtle	SC	1937
Bird	Ixobrychus exilis	Least Bittern	E	2001
Bird	Sterna dougallii	Roseate Tern	E	1920
Bird	Sterna hirundo	Common Tern	SC	1920

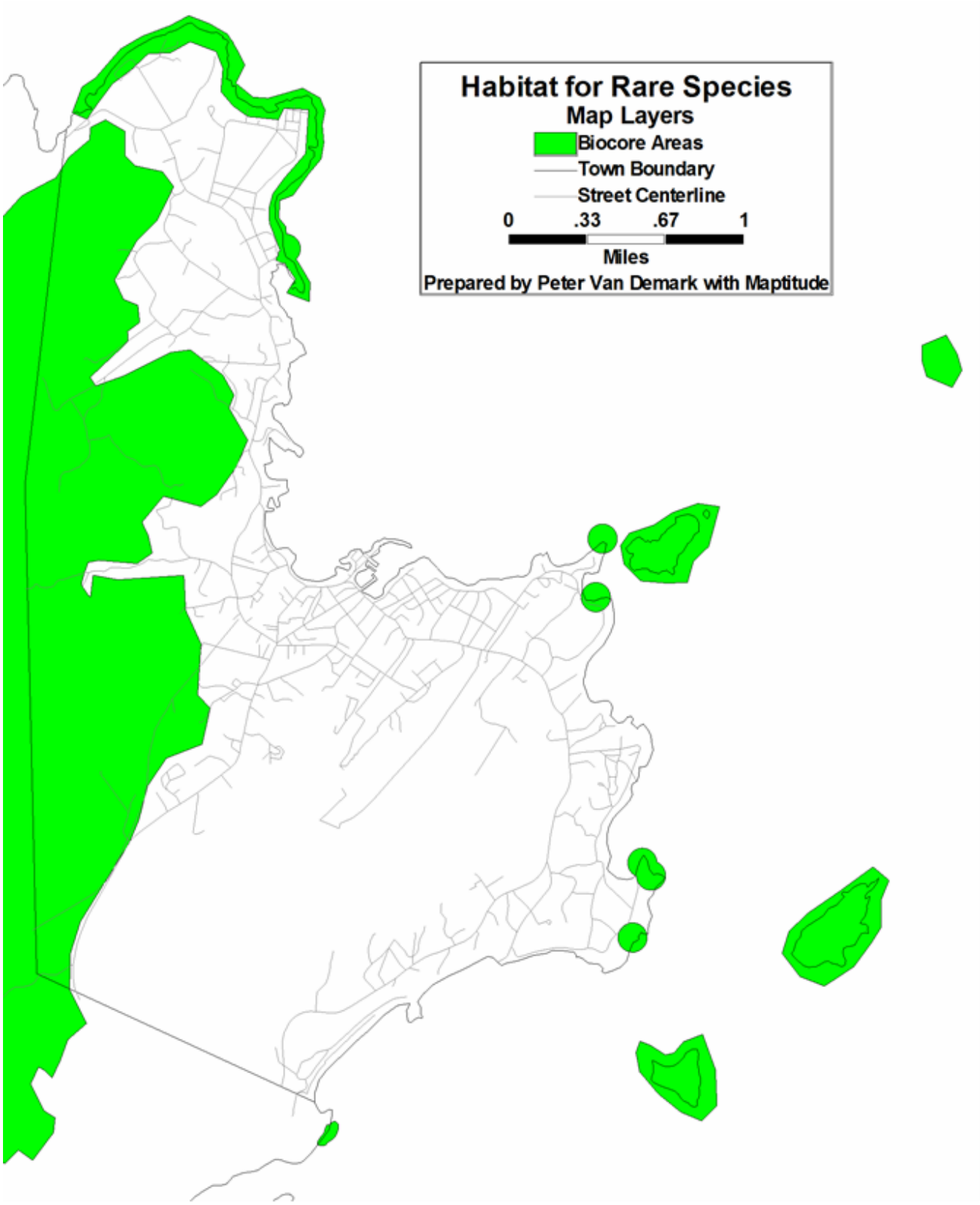
Open Space Priorities for Wildlife Habitat

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:

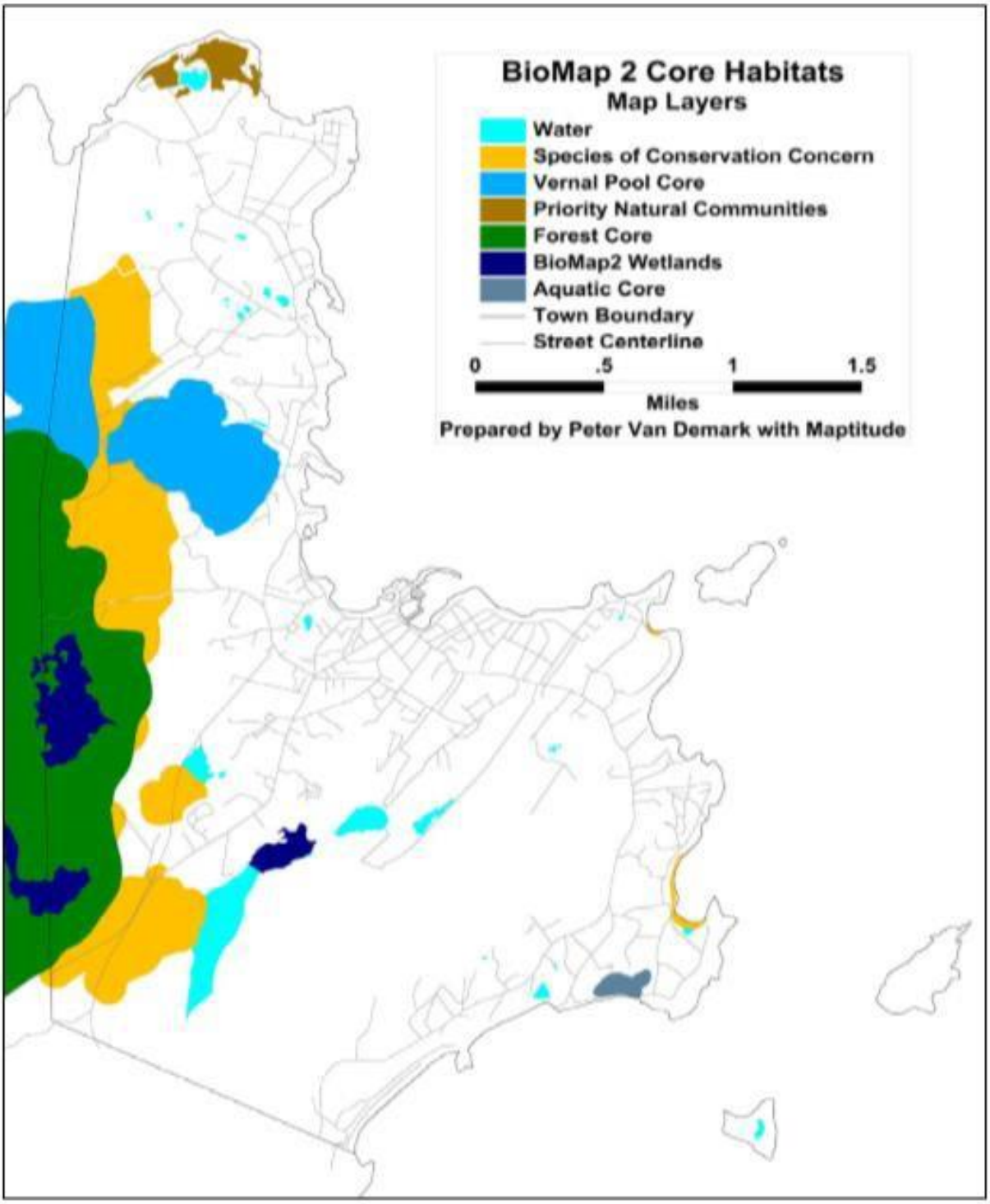
- Provide habitat for game and non-game animals, including those considered threatened, endangered, or of special concern,
- Maintain biological diversity,
- Maintain connectivity,
- Contribute to ground water recharge and to improved water quality,
- Represent high &/or outstanding examples of native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

[14] National Heritage and Endangered Species Program, 2008

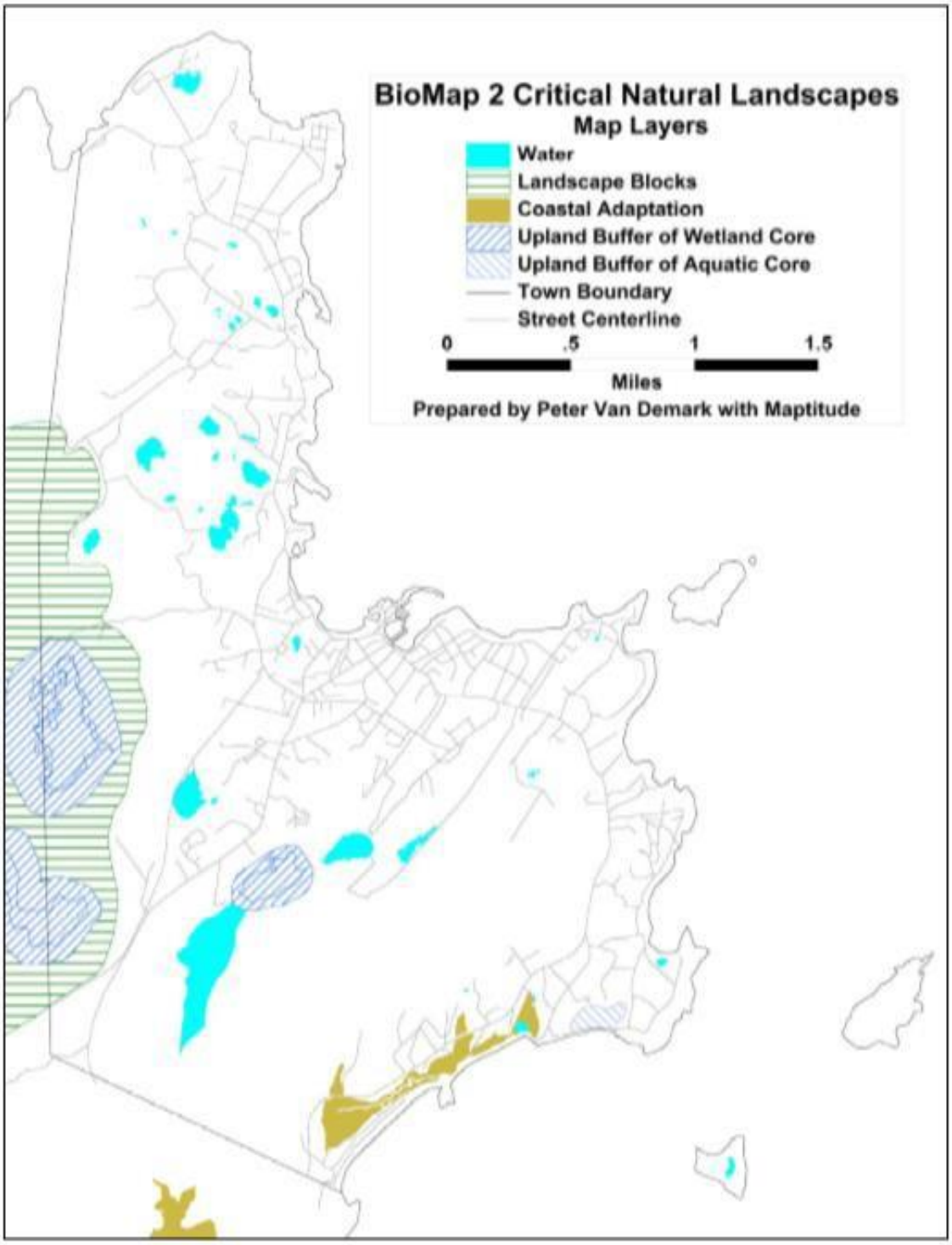
Map 4E Habitat for Rare Species



4E1 BioMap 2 Core Habitats



4E2 BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes



4F. Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

Scenic Resources

Rockport is has truly the breathtaking beauty with its rocky shoreline, picturesque harbors, bay, beaches and tranquil woodlands. The director from one of the many movie companies who have filmed here once commented "you really can't take a bad picture in this town." Ocean views unfold from the border with Gloucester on the North side of Town at Folly Cove all the way to Long Beach. RT-127A has been added as part of the new Essex County Scenic Coastal Byway. 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 remnants Cape Ann Tool Company. Plans are currently in court challenge to replace the old Tool Company with condominiums and stores, maintaining public access with a shorefront walkway and add some docking area. 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. Granite Pier is large, elevated, drive-on jetty that extends out into Sandy Bay. It is a popular drive-up destination offering panoramic views of the town and the coastline.

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. Directly across from Front Beach's north entrance

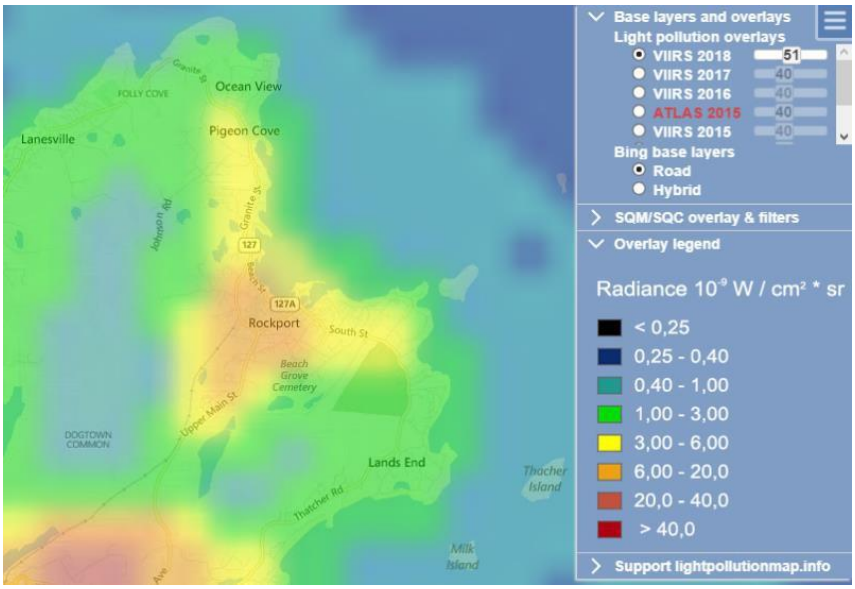
is the Mill Pond with its Meadow. In contrast to the Downtown's many coastal features offered by Sandy Bay, it is a lush, green upland area with a meandering stream and fresh water ponds. The area has been completely renovated and is greatly enjoyed by visitors and townspeople alike. Further down Main 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, Cape Hedge and Long, the latter sandwiched between the sea and Saratoga Creek.

The night sky is a scenic resource that can be easily overlooked, but it contributes to a town's character and quality of life in several ways. The United States National Park Service (NPS) considers the night sky to be a natural, cultural, and economic resource worthy of conservation and protection. Naturally dark skies provide refuge for wildlife, and allow natural processes and rhythms to evolve unimpeded. Additionally, communities surrounding national parks are finding that stargazing activities draw more tourists and tend to increase the length of stay and corresponding economic benefit to those communities. With its seaside location, the Town is fortunate to have several locations dark enough to provide optimal stargazing and to provide protection and navigation for wildlife. In fact, the town has an existing general bylaw restricting exterior residential lighting. As the light pollution overlay map below (www.lightpollutionmap.info) illustrates, Halibut Point State Park and the Cape Hedge Overlook provide easily accessible stargazing. Dog

Town proper, in the Center of Cape Ann, provides exceptionally low light pollution levels. Cape Ann has a very active astronomy club. The Gloucester Area Astronomy Club (GAAC http://gaac.us/) was founded in 2003 as an informal, lightly-organized group and has remained so ever since. Not all members have telescopes or binoculars, but all share an interest in the night sky. Meetings are held at the Lanesville Community Center in Gloucester MA, at 8:00 pm on the second Friday of every month, and all are welcome. Some meetings feature speakers from area groups such as the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, or from Astronomy departments at some of the colleges & universities in the greater Boston area, and some are more hands-on events led by local observers.

Map 4F1 Light Pollution Overlay Map



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.

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, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and most currently rebuilding the towers of the Longfellow Bridge. 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 large artistic community.

Although this generation with many award winning prominent national recognized artist is passing away and because of the cost to buy or rent locale property is so high they may not be replacing at the rate that is needed to sustain that community's viability.

Seldom when an artist gallery closes is it replaced by a new art gallery. The Rockport Art Association & Museum, founded in 1921, celebrated its 97th anniversary in 2018. The Sandy Bay Historical Society, founded in 1926, will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2026. 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 Music in its new award-winning performance center continues to expand its offerings. 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.

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.
- Seventy five certified and many uncertified vernal pools.
- The South Woods area.
- The rocky intertidal ecosystem along town's entire coastline.

4G. Environmental Challenges

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. There only remain two sites open, and neither have "Features Data" available.

Table 4G1 Rockport's Hazardous Waste Sites[15]

Address	Tracking #	Site
18 Railroad Ave	3-0012207	Building Center
Upper Main St.	3-0000425	Rockport DPW

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.

[15] Massachusetts DEP Cleanup Sites

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. They converted to “Pay as you Throw” only for residents July 2018. The parking lot was designated in 2018 by the Green Community Task Force as a solar electric generation zone. That group is looking to add solar panels to the area.

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 because of severe storms and rising sea level over the last twenty-five years. The breakwater and seawall at Pigeon Cove harbor have been rebuilt twice since 1978 due to storm action. The upper sea walls at Granite Company harbor have been rebuilt two times in the past 8 years. A cement seawall section was added on Beach Street at Back Beach to protect the street. Pigeon Cove Harbor Breakwater has been recently rebuilt. At the lowest portion of Marmion Way, on Straitsmouth Gap, protecting boulders have been redone and the street repaired several times. Penzance Road at Loblolly Cove has been repaired from storm damage several times. The Bearskin Neck breakwater, protecting the main harbor, was completely rebuilt as an Army Corp Engineers project in 2015. Many homes and coastal properties have suffered from storm driven flooding and wave damage, particularly within the last 25 years.

Sedimentation

Mill Pond and Frog Pond located in downtown Millbrook Meadow, have both suffered from sedimentation problems and increased aquatic plant growth. This was 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. The DPW has implemented a policy that has eliminated most of the winter sanding of town roads. A neighborhood organization, the Millbook Meadow Committee successfully worked with DPW and the CPC to create a master plan for Millbook Meadow that has included the dredging and replanting of both water bodies.

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.

Infiltration and inflow (I & I) problems had led to a consent order with DEP whereby the town sewage treatment plant was prohibited from accepting new sewer hookups. The town then conducted its own inflow and infiltration remediation program and the moratorium was lifted in 2015. The Rockport DPW is considering developing a Sewer Overlay district, but its effectiveness is questioned. 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, and has approved more protective zoning, it should remain vigilant in enforcing the Town's wetlands bylaw to better protect critical natural resource areas. These recommendations will be included in Section 9.

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
- replacement of an aging water tank at the top of Landmark Lane.

The recent addition of the deep rock well near the Cape Pond Reservoir has increased the town's resiliency during dry summer months.

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. During the summer of 2016, for the first time in several years, an extended drought has led the town to implement water usage restrictions. A significant issue that has arisen during this same period is an algae bloom in the town's primary reservoir, Cape Pond. Because the bloom as made Cape Pond unfit for use, it necessitated the town pump water directly from quarry storage areas and well fields. Additional pump capacity in the quarry storage areas is being pursued in order to better manage the town's freshwater resources during future emergency shortage situations.

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 Rockport's brackish marsh habitats, where tall dense stands dramatically out-compete native vegetation. Along with the environmental damage to the marshes themselves, birds like red wing blackbirds that had always thrived in the former cattail marshes are far fewer in number. Roads, along which travelers could previously enjoy spectacular views, are now a tunnel of invasive species. Common reed has even spread to Cape Pond, the town's primary water supply.

Over the past decade, the Rockport Conservation Commission and Department of Public Works have cooperated in many 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 slowed down the spread of Phragmites from wetlands.

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. These have been mostly eliminated by local efforts. A couple

of additional invasive/nuisance plant species that should be noted are Black Swallow-wort (*Cyananchum louiseae*), Pale Swallow-wort (*Cynanchum rossicum*) and Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*). The swallow-worts are known to have a negative impact to breeding monarch butterflies. The barberry is known to increase tick populations and the diseases they carry.

An example of the group's current work was illustrated after Rockport's 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.

In 2010, following approval from the Town's Conservation Commission, Rockport's Garden Club members began an ambitious initiative, "The Invasive Plant Project." Choosing to focus initially 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.

With guidance from the Rockport Conservation Commission, Mass Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, the New England Wildflower Society, and the Parker River Wildlife Refuge, the Rockport Garden Club has developed appropriate and safe methods for eradication of local invasive plants. This information is 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, such as Millbrook Meadow, Mill Pond, and the Headlands, the Rockport Garden Club engages a licensed applicator when herbicide application is the method of choice, as required by law. Currently, the Rockport Garden Club offers advice on other invasives, including Oriental bittersweet, multiflora rose, Bishops weeds (Gout weed) and Field bindweed.

The Town of Rockport has also seen significant increases in the numbers and diversity of marine invasive species. Rockport Middle School students have been monitoring Front Beach in Rockport for several years and have over 5 years of data that documents invasive mollusks, crabs, alga, and anemones. Included in that list are the green crab, Asian shore crab, common periwinkle, purple anemone, red alga, and sheath tunicates. The Middle School plans to continue this valuable project as part of its science curriculum. More work is certainly needed around quantifying marine invasives in Rockport, their impacts on our native species and environments, and their control or eradication. A large body of data that exists on

marine invasives is available through the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/program-areas/marine-invasive-species/ and MIT Sea Grant's (https://massbay.mit.edu/) Marine Bioinvasions Programs.

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. Insect infestations and drought conditions over the past several years have damaged woodland tracts across Cape Ann and placed additional burdens on the Town's limited budget.

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, coordinated by Garden Club members with the DPW. This important program continues on and is now in its 10th year.

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 mostly 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. 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 continuing challenge is to protect some of the remaining 26% of the Town's open space that is enjoyed by the public, but is 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 with high levels of community participation.

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

range of ages. The 2008 Rockport Open Space Survey[16] 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 four distinct sections. The first is Downtown Rockport and its adjoining neighborhoods. This area is the physical and commercial center of the community, opening onto to the Bay and the fishing and recreational boating harbors. The second are is the northern section known as the village of Pigeon Cove. Pigeon Cove developed around its protected harbor, with a historic focus on fishing and the former granite quarrying industry. The third area is the South End. The South End stretches along beaches and rocky shores, with a large inland wooded area. The fourth is made up of Rockport's fresh and marine waters totaling 6,720 acres, or 60% of the Town's total area.

Rockport's 61.3% of land based 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 only 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	235	1639	35.3
Private	640	1201	26.0
Total Open Space in Rockport	875	2840	61.3

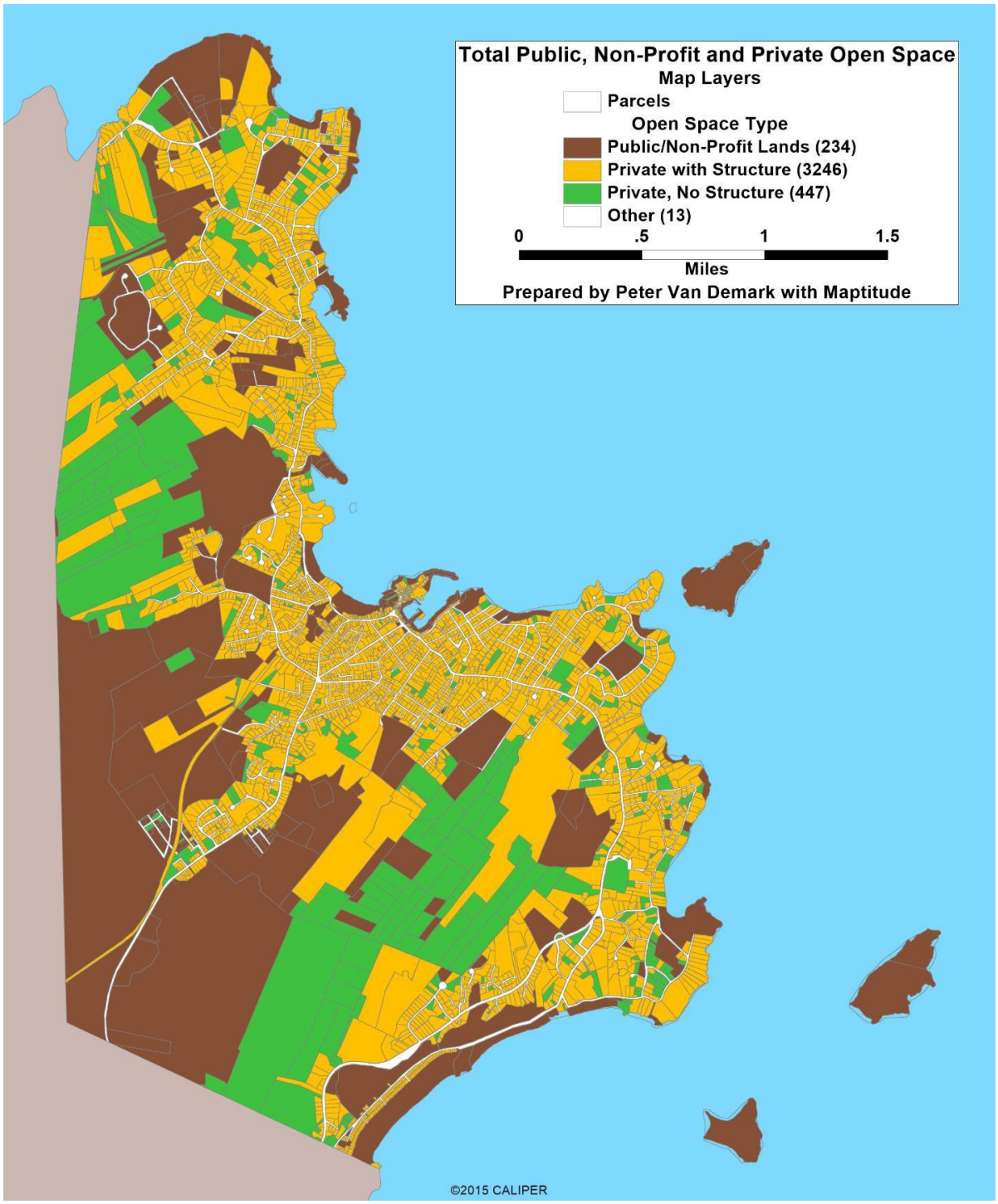
Note: The new numbers above reflect status change in parcels 3-35, 8-45N, 3-10 & 26-141.

As seen in brown 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

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

2019 Open Space Report retains 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. Coincidentally, they also have many 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.

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



5A. Private Parcels

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

- Parcels with conservation easements and restrictions
- Parcels of interest for obtaining conservation easements or conservation restrictions
- Private parcels that have three or more ecological and cultural values without a residence
- "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 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.

In all three tables, in the Habitat column "R" means Rare Habitat and "C" means Core Habitat.

CLASSIFICATION OF OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION LANDS PRIVATELY OWNED
(Tables 5A1 through 5A4)

Table 5A1 Private Parcels with Conservation Restrictions and Easements

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Ecological and Cultural Values					
				Watershed	Wetland	Trail	Historic	Habitat	Connects to
Johnson	3-34	0.23	SRAA	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Johnson Rd
Johnson	3-34A	1	SRAA	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Johnson Rd
Johnson	3-25	1	SRAA	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Johnson Rd
Hooper	8-26	12.8	SRAA	No	No	Atlantic Path	No	Flyway	Halibut Pt
Brackett	1041A,B,C	23.3	SRAA	Flat Ledge	Big Parker Quarry	Yes	Motions	No	Yes
Spiegel	22-145	0.3	RA	No	No	No	No	No	No
Bryant	23-12,13,17, 23-37	25	SRAA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

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

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Ecological and Cultural Values						Managing Agency
				Watershed	Wetland	Trail	Historic	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	3-25	1	SRAA	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Johnson Rd	ConCom

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Ecological and Cultural Values						Managing Agency
				Watershed	Wetland	Trail	Historic	Habitat	Connects to	
Hooper	8-26	12.8	SRAA	No	No	Atlantic Path	No	Flyway	Halibut Pt	Trustees of Reservations
Brackett	10-41A,B,C	23.3	SRAA	Flat Ledge	Big Parker Quarry	Yes	Motions	No	Yes	ConCom
Spiegel	22-145	0.3	RA	No	No	No	No	No	No	ConCom
Bryant	23-12,13,17, 23-37	25	SRAA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Greenbelt & ConCom

Table 5A3 Private Parcels That Have Three or More Values and No Residence

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

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Ecological and Cultural Values					
				Watershed	Wetland	Trail	Historic	Habitat	Connects to
Johnson Trustees	4-10	32.34	SRAA	Carlson's	Yes	Yes	Quarry	R C	Sponge Bob trail
Johnson Trustees	4-10A	9	SRAA	Stoney Brook	Yes	Luce/ Johnson	Quarry	R C	
Johnson	4-13	7.2	SRAA	Squam Brook	Knowlton Swamp	Sponge Bob/ Squam/ Butman/ Quarry		R C	Old Quarry Rd/ Squam Rd/ Anne's Path
Sears, Gretchen	4-15	2	SRAA	Carlson's	Yes	Carlson's	Motion	R C	Orphan Parcel
Adams	4-18	5	SRAA	Stoney Brook	Yes	Johnson Circular	Quarry	R C	Old Quarry Rd/ Orphan
Johnson	4-20	2.5	SRAA	Carlson's	Yes	Yes	Quarry	R C	
Johnson	4-21	5.9	SRAA	Stoney Brook	Yes	Sponge Bob		R C	
Sheilacres	19-93	47.57	SRAA	Saw Mill	Rum Rock Lake	Luce/Rum Rock/ Pleasant St.	Walls		Adjacent to ECGA, Town Land
Poole	20-1	7.27	SRAA	East Brook	Yes	Lane's Rd Ext.	Joppa Rd.		
Rockport Friends of Scout Hall, Inc.	20-2	6.85	SRAA	East Brook	Yes	Lane's Rd Ext.	Old Joppa Rd.		Adjacent to Town Land
Frost	20-4	10.96	SRAA	East Brook	Yes	Lane's Rd Ext.	Old Joppa Rd.		

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Ecological and Cultural Values					
				Watershed	Wetland	Trail	Historic	Habitat	Connects to
Frost	20-6	3.23	SRAA	East Brook	No	Lane's Rd Ext.			Adjacent to Town Land/Pipe
Boy Scouts	20-9	3.85	SRAA	East Brook	No	Lane's Farm Rd. Ext/ Luce	Old Joppa Rd.		Adjacent to Town Land
Casey	20-15	4.81	SRAA	East Brook	Yes	Lane's Farm Rd Ext.	Old Joppa Rd.		Adjacent to Town Land
Casey Jr.	20-12	1.8	SRAA	Cape Pond	Yes	Yes			Adjacent to Town Land
Merrill	20-13	140	SRAA	Cape Pond	Yes	Yes	Rock Walls		Yes
Casey Jr.	20-14	12.6	SRAA	Cape Pond	Yes	Luce	Rock Walls		Pipeline Trail
Casey	20-16	4.4	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Yes	Rock Walls		Road to Gloucester
Frost	20-17	3.1	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Yes	Rock Walls		Road to Gloucester
Casey	20-18	5.4	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Lane's Farm Rd	Rock Walls		Adjacent to ECGA
Lane	23-9	1.18	SRAA	Saw Mill	No	Yes	Rock Walls		Road to Gloucester
Lane	23-10	2.6	SRAA	Saw Mill	No	Yes	Rock Walls		Road to Gloucester
Rosenberg	21-67	22.49	SRAA	South Brook	No				Thacher Rd
Gale	21-72A	15.93	SRAA	East Brook	Yes	Lane's Farm Rd			Old Joppa Rd.

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Ecological and Cultural Values					
				Watershed	Wetland	Trail	Historic	Habitat	Connects to
Merrill	21-73	14.5	SRAA	East Brook	Yes				
Bryant	23-12	5.15	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Yes			.
Bryant	23-13	7	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Yes			Trail from Country Club
Rockport Real Estate	23-14	7.7	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes		Rock Walls		
Byrd	23-15	6.36	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Yes	Rock Walls		Lane's Farm Rd Ext
Lane	23-16	4.91	SRAA	Saw Mill	No	Yes	Rock Walls		Lane's Farm Rd Ext
Poole	23-17	4.71	SRAA	Saw Mill	Pond	Yes	Rock Walls		Lane's Farm Rd Ext
French	23-18	6.66	SRAA	Saw Mill	Pond	Yes	Rock Walls		Lane's Farm Rd. Ext./Abuts Protected Land
Campbell	23-22	2	SRAA	Saw Mill	Stream	Yes	Rock Walls		Town Easement
Beaton Tr.	23-24		SRAA	Saw Mill	Rowe Pond	Yes	Rock Walls		Jerdens Lane Ext
Bryant	23-101	1.53	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Yes	Rock Walls		Country Club Rd Ext
Smith Trust	23-103	10.7	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Country Club Ext			
Douglas	24-67	12	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Luce/ Horseshoe			
Kenney	23-69	4.2	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Horseshoe			
Rockport Real Estate	24-71	14.3	SRAA	Saw Mill	Yes	Luce/ Horseshoe			Pipeline

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

Map 5A2 Private Parcels

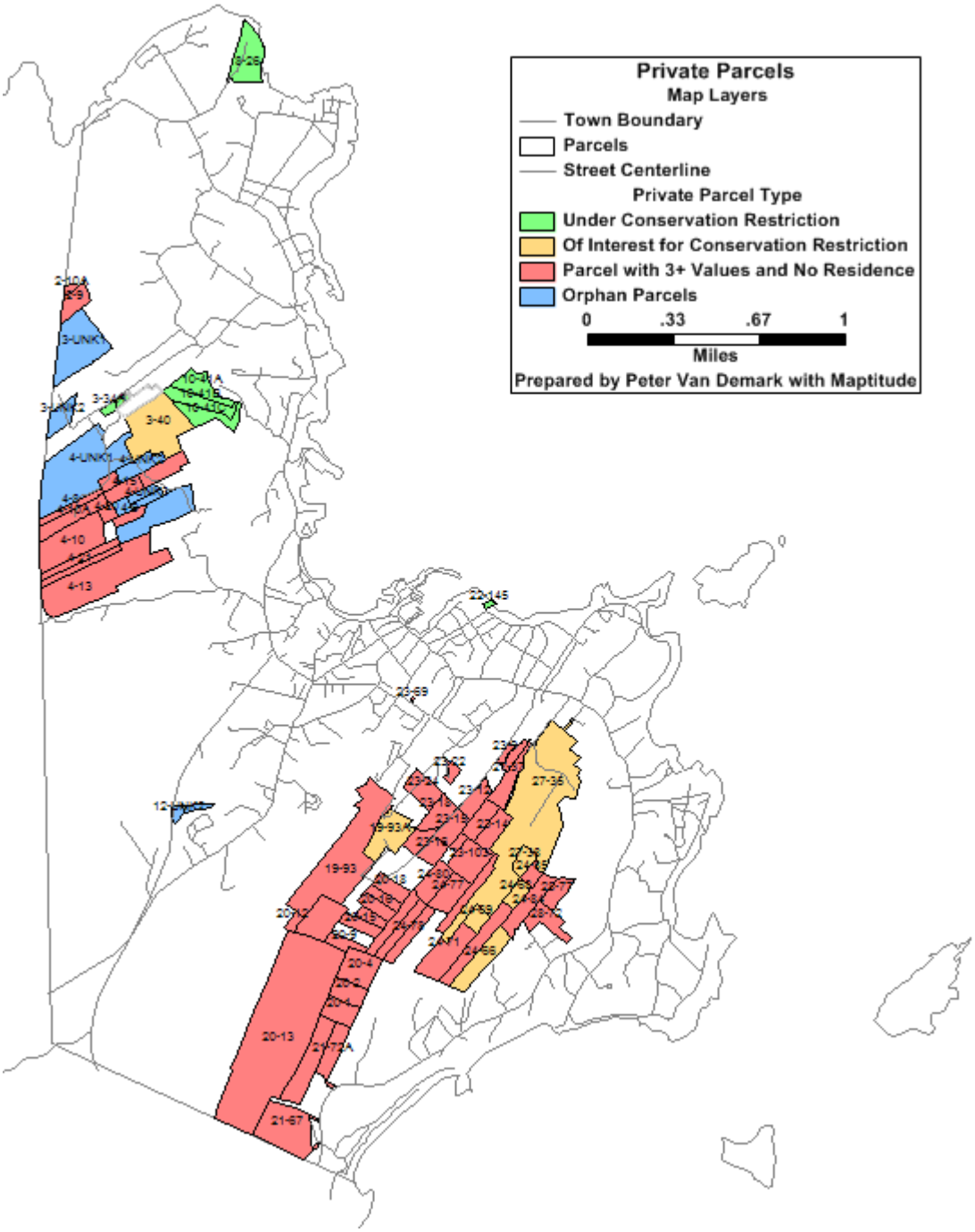


Table 5A4 Orphan Parcels

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

5B. Public 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 open space
- Conservation Land
- Harbors & landings
- Marshes
- Parks & 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.

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. Millbrook Meadow and Mill Pond comprise a 4 acre parcel strategically located in downtown Rockport directly across from Front Beach. The park provides a place for all ages to play, relax, and enjoy nature. It is also a favorite spot for fairs and seasonal festivals. Since 1938, volunteers have worked to maintain this “Green Jewel.” They have also coordinated a full restoration of both the meadow and the pond. The majority of the restoration, funded through Community Preservation Act funding, private donations, and Town funds, will be completed in 2019. 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

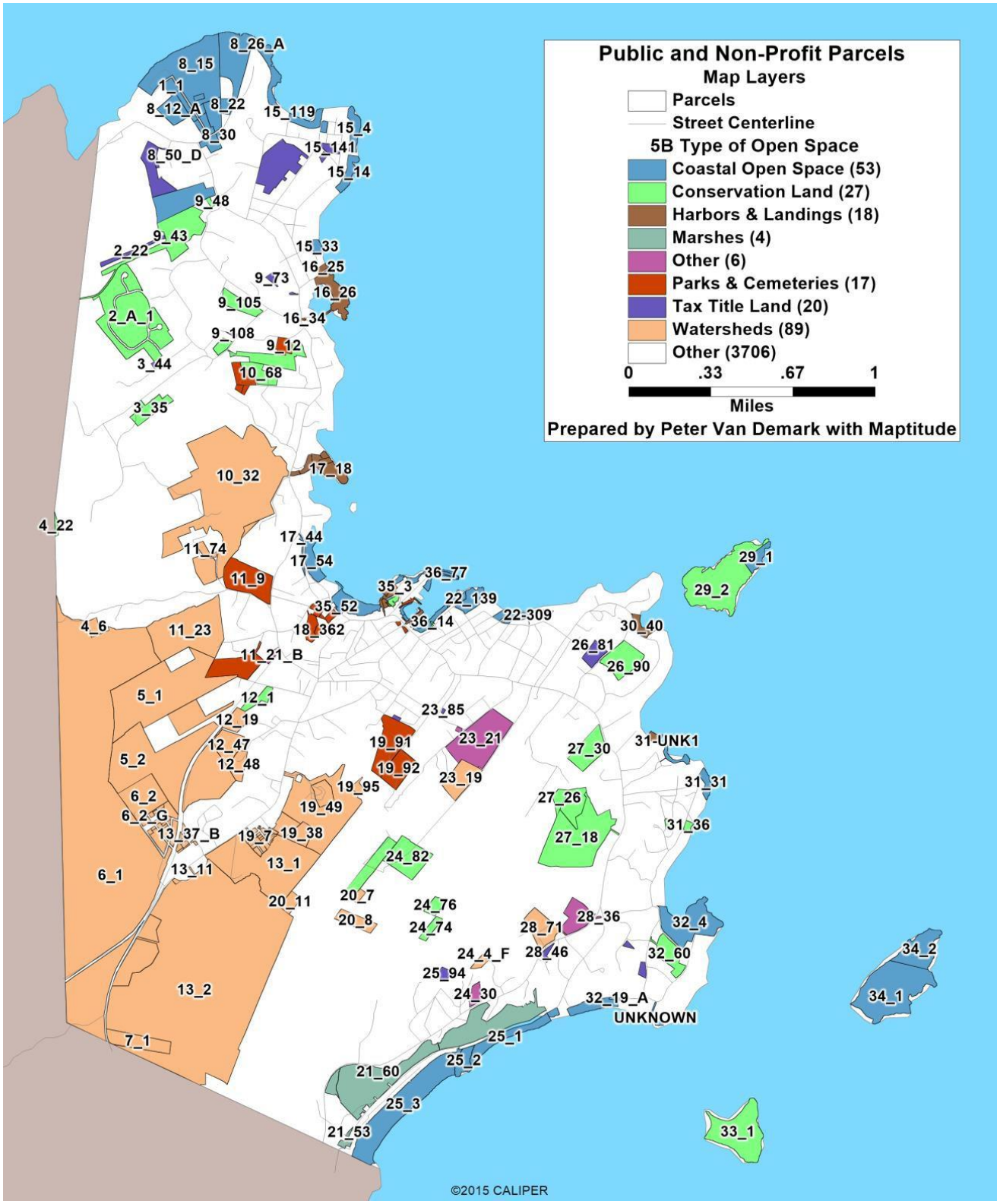
magnificent sea views and quarries at this location. As area is rebuilt by DCR ADA access has and will continue to improve. Since the last report was written in 1997, there has been an improvement in access and facilities both at Front Beach, the main beach area, and at T Wharf, the main tourist destination. 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.

Map 5B Public and Non-Profit Parcels



CLASSIFICATION OF OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION LANDS OWNED BY PUBLIC AND NON-PROFIT ENTITIES *(keys at end of table)*

Table 5B Parcels Owned by Public and Non-Profit

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Coastal											
Halibut Point State Park/ Common -wealth	1-1,8-13,14, 14B, 15,19, 22,31,8-	31.85 37	R1/ SRAA	DCR	Bi,E,H, T, Sc	House/ Fire Tower Trails/ Scenic	Yes	Parking/ Toilet/ DCR pro-grams	P	Art 97	T, Wa, Bi
Halibut Point/ Mass Audubon	8-1	14.44	SRAA	Mass Audubon	Bi,E,T, S	Trails/ Scenic	Yes	No	P	Statute	Wa, Bi
Halibut Point/ TTOR	8-22, 8-25	15.58	SRAA	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

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Cove Ave/ Town	15-126	0.83	SR	Town	Sc	Adjacent 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,Wt	Diving access	Yes	ramp	No		K, Sw, D, Bo, Wa
Back Beach/ Town	17-54	5.0	P/T	DPW	Sw,D, R,Wt	Diving access	Yes	ramp	P	Statute	K, Sw, D, Bo, Wa
Headlands/ Town	22-139	3.62	RA	Town	Sc,T	Scenic/Bench-es	Yes	No	P	Statute	Wa
Granite Pier/Town	17-17,18,19, 19B-20	8.34	P/T	Town	R	Boat Launch	Yes	Yes	No		Bo, K
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

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Long Beach/ Town	25-3	29	P/T	DPW	Sw,Su, W t	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	Transferred 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

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
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	Moorings	Residen t Parking	Yes	No		Bo
Pier Avenue/ Town	35-18C	0.14	R	DPW	H	Historic Wharf	No	No	P	Statute	Sc
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, Wt	Life Guard/ Toilets	Yes	Accessible 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

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
T Wharf/ Town	36-32, 33	0.84	P/T	DPW	H, R, Sc	Motif 1 Attraction, Working Wharf	Parking	ADA Access, 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 Attraction	Yes	No	No		Sc
Bearskin Neck Breakwater /Town	36-73C, 77	2.54		Town	O	Good	Yes	Parking	P	Statute	Wa, Sh
Bearskin Neck Break water/ Town	36-78	0.35		Town	O	Good	Yes	Parking	No		Wa, Sh
Seawall & Rocks/ Town	36-124	1.5	R	Town	O	Fair	Yes	No	No		Sc
Conservation Land											
Nugent Stretch/ Town	7-1	8.94	P/T	DPW	Sc, H, Wo	Watershed	No	No	P	SH/S Art 97	T
Woodland Acres	2A-1-17 & 2A-22-75	39.2	SRAA	Greenbelt	C	Woods	Yes	No	P		Contiguous to Pine Pit & Rail Trail

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Granite St/ Mass. Audubon	8-1	14.44	SRAA	Mass Audubon	B,C	Scenic Vistas	Yes	No	P	Statute	T
Sea Rocks /Town	8-26A	7.03	SRAA	ConCom	T,S	Coastal trail to Atlantic Path	Yes	No	P	Statute	Wa
Pine Pit/Town	9-43	18.63	SRAA	ConCom	T	Woods/Quarry	Parking	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	SRAA	ConCom	C	Field	Yes	No	P	SH/S Art 97	Trail

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Mill Brook Watershed / ECGB	12-79B	9.03	SRAA	ECGB	B	Woods	Trail	No	P	Statute	Wd
Rum Rock Lake/ ECGB	19-97C	7.7	SRAA	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	Wetlands	Yes	No	P	In nego-tiation	T, Nature study
South Woods/ ECGB	24-76	2.5	SRAA	ECGB	C/R	Field/ Woods	No	No	P		Wd
Rum Rock Lake/ ECGB	24-82	7.7	SRAA	ECGB	C/R	Trail	Yes	No	P		Trail
Kieran Preserve/ Town	26-90	10.87	SR	ConCom	T	Woods/Trail	Yes	No	P		T, Wildlife
Delamater Sanctuary/ Town	27-18	31.03	SRAA	ConCom	T	Trail & ROW need maintenance	Limited Parking	No	P	Art97*	T, Flora, Wildlife

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Waring Fields/ Town	27-25,26, 30	19.22	SRAA	ConCom	C	Field/ Woods	Yes	No	P	Art97*	Bi
Straitsmo-uth Island/ Mass. Audubon	29-2	32.76	P/T	Mass Audubon	H,B,C, S	Island/ Bird Sanctuary	No	No	P		Bi
Eden Road/ Town	31-36	0.80	SR	ConCom	S	Views	No	No	P		Wa
Penzance Road Marsh/ Town	32-60	7.54	SR	ConCom	0	Wet- lands	Limited	Limited	P		B, Wa
Milk Island/ Common -wealth	33-1	24.83	P/T	DEM	B,C	Island/ Bird Sanctuary	No	No	P		Bi
Old Harbor/ Town	35-1	0.6	G	ConCom	H,C,F	Tourist/ Moorings	Limited parking	Yes	P	SH/S	Bo, Sh
Star Island/ Town	36-14,17	0.16	R	DPW	S	Views	Limited	No	P	Book 6065 p234	Sc

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Johnson Property	3-35	5.8		ConCom		Woods/ Quarries	Parking area, existing trails/ trail access	No			
Parks & Cemeteries											
Pingree Park/Town	9-12	1.5	P/T	DPW/Little League	R	Base- ball/ Softball/ Tennis/ Basketball	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	Baseball/ T ball/ Skate Park	Parking	Yes/ toilets	P		Baseball, Skate Ramp, Youth center
Pigeon Hill/Town	10-106,107, 108	4.76	P/T	DPW	S	Views of Thatcher Lights	Parking	Yes	No		Sc, Picnics

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Harvey Park/Town	18-475	0.23		DPW	S	Tourist Meeting Place	Parking	Yes	No		Sc
Barletta Park/Town	18-513A	0.16	R	DPW	S	Tourist Meeting Place	Parking	Yes	No		Sc
Seafen-cibles/ Town	35-3	0.72	P/T	DPW	S,H	Harbor View	Limited parking	Yes	No		Sh
Inner Harbor Park/Town	36-53	0.87	P/T	DPW	S	Scenic	Parking	Yes	No		Sc
Inner Harbor /Town	36-54	0.87	P/T	DPW	S	Scenic	Parking	Yes	No		N
Old Parish/ Town	18-330	1.35	P/T	DPW	H	Neat	Yes	Yes	P		Wa
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											

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Granite Street/ Town	1-5	7.07	SRAA	Town	O	Habitat, rare Species	Street	No	No		Contiguous to Mass. Audubon
Highland Rd/Town	2-22	2.25	SRAA	Town	O	Habitat, rare species	No	No	No		Contiguous 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	SRAA	Town	O	House Lot	Street	No	No		N
Woodbury Lane/ Town	8-50E	0.46	SRAA	Town	O	House Lot		No	No		N
Woodbury Lane/ Town	8-51F	0.14	SRAA	Town	O	Habitat Rare Species		No	No		Contiguous 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

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Phillips Avenue/ Town	15-92	15	SR	Town	O	Woods, Trails	Street	No	No		Conservation
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		Research
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	Wetlands, opposite Kieran Preserve	Street	No	No		T
Thatcher Road/ Town	28-46	0.73	SR	Town	O		Street	No	No		N

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Thatcher Road/ Town	28-74	0.04	SR	Town	O		Street	No	No		Contiguous 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
Watershed											
MILLBROOK											
Pool Hill/ Town	5-1	47.83	P/T	Town	Wt	Woods	Parking	Parking	No		T
Pool Hill Forest/ Town	5-2	48.4	SRAA	Town of Rockport	Wt	Woods	Trail	No	P	Art 97 TM	T
Briar Swamp/ City of Gloucester	6-1	299.8	SRAA	Glouc. DPW	Wt	Trails	No	No	P	Statute	T
Homecrest /Town	6-2	12.99	SRAA	Town of Rockport	Wt	Watershed/ woods	Trail	No	No		N

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Homecrest /Town	6-2A,B, C,D,E,F, G,H,J, 6-3	6.96	SRAA	Town of Rockport	Wt	Woods	No	No	No		N
Homecrest /Town	6-4,5,7, 8,9,10, 14,15, 17	1.56	SRAA	Town	Wt	Woods	No	No	No		N
Town Forest/ Town	11-23	30.14	SRAA	DPW	Wt	Watershed	Yes	Yes	No		T
Millbrook Pumping Station/ Town	12-19	4.35		DPW	Wt	Watershed	Yes	No	P	Statute	
Loop Pond/ Town	12-47, 48,73, 77	32.78	SRAA	DPW	Wt	Trails, woods	Yes	No	P	Statute	Wildlife, T, Sc
Main Street/ Town	13-37, 37A-37E,38,43,46	1.68	R	Town	Wt	Woods	Parking	No	No		N
Main Street/ Town	13-40	1.68	R	Town	Wt	Woods	No	No	P	Art 97 TM	N
Mill Brook Watershed / Town	4-6	2.67	SRAA	Town	Wt	Watershed	No	No	P	Art 97 TM	Wd
CAPE POND											

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
DPW, Police, Forest Fire/Town	13-1	43.07	SR	DPW	O	DPW, Police buildings	Parking	Parking, Toilets	No		N
Cape Pond Reservoir /Town	13-2	248.6	P/T	DPW	Wt	Woods/ pond	Parking	No	P	Statute	T, Sc
Cape Pond/ Town	20-11	2.8	SRAA	DPW	Wt	Watershed	No	No	P	At 97 TM	T
Pleasant St/Town	19-52C, 95	26	SRAA	DPW	Wt	Watershed	No	No	P		
Cape Pond/ Town	13-11	0.09	SRAA	DPW	Wt	Watershed	No	No	P	Art 97 TM	N
Cape Pond/ Town	13-21	0.34	SRAA	DPW	Wt	Watershed	No	No	P		N
Great Hill/Town	191,3,3A, 3B,3C,3D, 3E,4,5,6,7 ,8,9,12,13 ,14,15,16 ,17,17A, 17B,18,31 A,3	48.95	R	Town	Wt	Watershed	No	No	P		

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
Great Hill/Town	19-19, 19C	0.08	R	Town	Wt	Watershed	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	Limited parking	No	P	Statute	T
Carlson's Quarry/ Town	11-3A, 74,87	129.3	P/T	DPW	Wt,R	Trails, woods	Limited parking	No	P		Wd
EAST BROOK											
East Brook/ Town	20-3	4.6	SRAA	Town	Wt,R	Woods	No	No	P		Wd
East Brook/ Town	20-7	1.1	SRAA	Town	Wt,R	Woods	No	No	Yes	Art 97 TM	Wd
East Brook/ Town	20-8	4.7	SRAA	Town	Wt,R	Woods	No	No	P		Wd
SAW MILL BROOK											
Water Tower/ Town	28-71	8.44	SRAA	DPW	R		No	No	No		Wd, Tl

Property Name	Map/ Lot	Acres	Zone	Managing Agency	Use	Description	Public Access	ADA Access	Protection Status	Grant Type	Recreation Potential
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		Parking	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	Education/ Fields	Parking	Toilets, Inclusive, Play-ground	No		Ball fields
Summer St./Town	23-27H	0.29	R	DPW	O		Parking	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 to TABLES

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. All of the sidewalks in downtown area now have ADA cuts. The DPW has made a strong commitment that every road that they repave and where sidewalks are redone have appropriate curb cuts and crosswalks. Over the past ten years this has included sidewalks out of the town center that include the outlying areas. Those areas include the schools playing fields, visitor parking area, train station, beaches and most water access areas.

The Town's main swimming beach, Front Beach, has an ADA-accessible ramp, which was constructed several years ago and is not at current standard, 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. A new children's play area has been added to the park with ADA compliant equipment.

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 as new work continues.

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. They have also added a new smaller play area that is ADA compliant.

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.

5D. Sports Playing Fields

Open Space and Recreation Considerations for Active Sports Teams

To assess the utilization of existing sports fields, directors and organizers for primary community sports were asked to provide data to frame the current and historic usage. Listed below in no particular order are the teams and fields they use.

Fall sports (Sep-Nov)
Rockport High School (RHS) Varsity Boys Soccer
RHS JV Boys Soccer
RHS Varsity Girls Soccer
RHS JV Girls Soccer
RHS Varsity Field Hockey
Rockport Middle School (RMS)Field Hockey
Rockport Youth Soccer (RYS)21 teams grades 1-6
Rockport Little League (RLL) evaluations

Spring sports (Apr-July)
RHS Varsity Baseball
RHS JV Baseball
RHS Varsity Softball
RYS 8 teams grades 1-6
RLL 10 teams grades 2-8
Rockport Townies

Fields

Evans
Parisi RLL (when Evans is not in use)
Green (softball and RLL practice)
McCloy (softball and RLL practice)
Evans outfield (fall soccer)
Track RHS (soccer split fields)
Play games AWAY in Gloucester (RLL) or Manchester/Essex when possible

All respondents cited severe constraints on availability of playing fields. Several common comments emerged. No field is universal to multi-sport play. Each has been configured with regulation distances of a particular sport. Some fields like Evans and Parisi are mutually exclusive sharing space to accommodate each sport rule but overlapping outfields. This makes them unable to support parallel play for most. Also scheduling has proven difficult with priority conflicts and loosely set guidelines. Some team sports i.e.: golf, basketball, football and tennis, have not been included within the scope of this report.

A town committee has just formed with the intent of outlining physical improvements that are needed to fields and apply for Community Preservation funds to implement.

The sport team representative respondents whose comments were used in this section were John Parisi RHS, Kevin Merz RYS, Greg Norris RLL, and Phil Whitley Rockport Elementary School.

5E. Boating Access Areas

Recreational boating is very popular in Rockport and the town has several embayments that provide access in the form of slips or moorings. A 2019 memorandum from the Rockport Harbor Department quantified the number of recreational versus commercial vessels in each access area (see below).

Harbor	Commercial	Non-Commercial	Total

Harbor	Commercial	Non-Commercial	Total
Rockport Harbor	31	118	149
Granite Pier	11	53	64
Pigeon Cove Harbor	24	30	54
White Wharf		24	24
Coast Guard Cove		10	10
Total vessels	66	295	301

Although the numbers of recreational vessels far exceed commercial numbers, it should be noted that a typical recreational boat in Rockport utilizes about half of the watersheet footprint of a typical commercial vessel. There is a considerable amount of upland open space used for associated fish shacks and fishing gear storage at both Granite Pier's lower level and Pigeon Cove. Additionally, forty-five of the 295 non-commercial vessels are small sailboats utilized by the Sandy Bay Yacht Club sailing program. These numbers do not reflect the many transient recreational boaters that visit Rockport each summer. Additional boating access is provided by the Town's public boat ramp located on Granite Pier, as well as carry-down access for personal watercraft at Granite Pier, Back Beach, Loblolly Cove, and Pebble Beach. A recently constructed storm hardened stairway has been put in place to provide access from the upper level of Granite Pier to the lower level, a vertical drop of about 20 feet. This provides much improved access for parking and boating at Granite Pier.

SECTION 6: COMMUNITY VISION

6A. Description of Process

The Committee gathered input to establish community goals in several ways. A survey based on the 2008 Rockport survey was designed to determine Rockporters' open space and recreation priorities. Following distribution at the September 2017 Town Meeting, survey forms were available through October 19th at Town Hall and on line at (HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/R/6TYQ5W). Multiple notices advertising the survey were carried in the Gloucester Daily Times. The Committee received 250 responses compared to 296 in 2008, 152 in 1997 and 252 in 1983. Surveys completed on line were automatically tabulated using SurveyMonkey while paper surveys were added manually.

To insure we were seeing a good representation from the Rockport Youth, and with cooperation of the schools we did a target survey of all Middle School students.

Results of the 2017 General Survey and the 2018 Middle School Students are posted on the web site (see Appendix). These results were discussed with the public at the posted and published forum on October 4, 2018 at the Town library. The draft plan in hard copy and electronically was available before the meeting. The forum included two hours of questions, answers, and comments by public and committee members on the draft plan. Seventeen people were in attendance. Many suggestions where offered for the draft plan which the Committee has reviewed with actions added. Also this draft has been available online for review and comments. The draft has been circulated to town boards and groups for comments 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 2019 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 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan were integrated with results of the 2017 survey to determine current priorities.

2017 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 2017 GENERAL SURVEY:

Top Ten Recreational Activities in which Families Participate

93% Walking

84% Beach

79% Nature hikes

64% Swimming

54% Bicycling

48% Dog Walking

47% Kayaking/canoeing/rowing/sail boarding

46% Bird watching

40% Picnicking

35% Fishing

33% Cross-country skiing

Table 6B2 2017 GENERAL SURVEY:

Importance of Preservation by Category

84% Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources

76% Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat

75% Open space for public coastal access

69% Forests and woodlands

66% Provide long-term protection of existing trail network

51% Contiguous/continuous open space areas

51% Historic/archeological sites

50% Provide bike paths/sidewalks

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 51% of respondents would be willing to donate money and 19% 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.

The 2018 Middle School Student surveys results are in many ways similar to General Survey. They show Walking, Beach, Swimming, Bicycling, Self-powered

boating activates all with top participation. There are some differences. Nature hikes participation is lower showing typically less than 50% and fishing is much higher being done by more than half of respondents. We also surveyed them about Dog walking, which was for them a top activity. We did notice that horseback riding was surprisingly high to our committee members. In some grades it ranked higher then sailing and soccer which are both considered to have a high amount of participation in Rockport. Horseback riders are a trail user that needs to be remembered in long term planning.

The 2018 Middle School Survey was also somewhat different than General Survey in the importance of what to protect. There was support for all on the list above, but their highest picks are, not in a particular order Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources, Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat, Forests and woodland, Provide bike paths/sidewalks. They also rate Open space for active recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields and tennis etc.) as a top priority.

This Survey shows Open Space is as important to them, maybe even more than the population overall, but they use it sometimes in a different way.

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 the approval of this Plan, the Open Space and Recreation Committee will continue to encourage and support the Town entities assigned primary responsibility for the Action Plan in Section 9.

Table 6B3 2017 GENERAL SURVEY:

Ways to protect and add to Open Space

94% Vote to change zoning laws 51% Donate $$ to buy land

15% Rewrite your deed to limit future use of their land

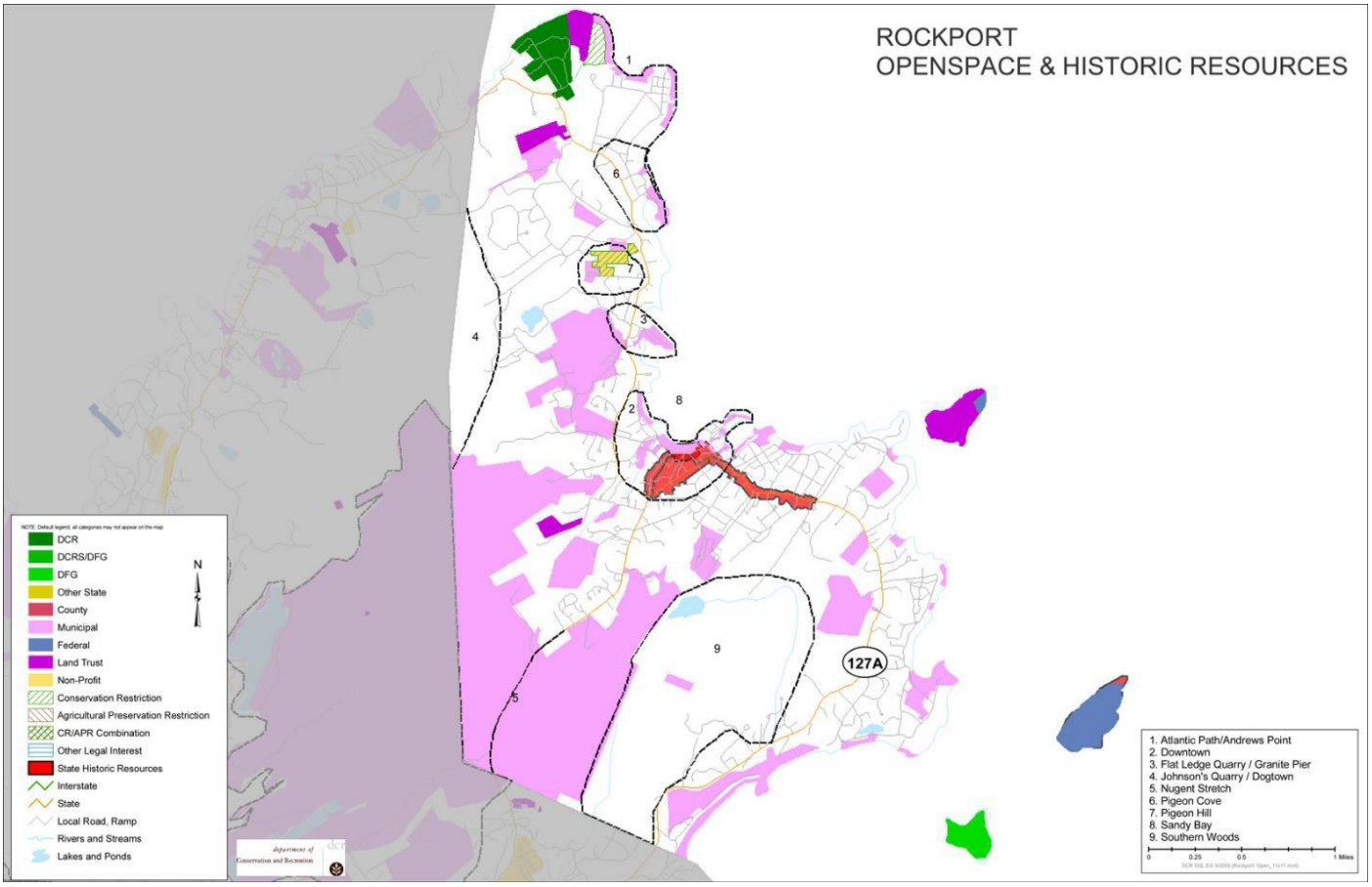
8% Contribute land to the Town

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 of its own drinking water; thus, the Town needs to do more to protect its essential watershed areas. In our general survey the community ranked preserving this resource highest, with 95% of the respondents finding it Very Important or Moderately Important. The 2018 Middle School survey also considers this a top five item. Both surveys support the use of many methods to protect open space, 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 (see HTTPS://WWW.MASS.GOV/FILES/DOCUMENTS/2019/08/SL/ROCKPORT-WITH-MAP.PDF). The report notes that protecting them could require a significant effort, because many have multiple owners or unclear titles. Map 7-7A is from that report.

Map 7A Rockport Open Space & Historic Resources



The Committee's 2017 general survey ranks protection of the Town's existing extensive trail system as the residents' top recreation concern, with 86% respondents finding it Very Important or Moderately Important. Some of the existing trail network is on private land; those portions of the trails are at risk of 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 Committee ranks preserving open space for public coastal access at the same high level, with 85% of respondents considering it Very Important or Moderately Important. The 2017 General survey's top five activates for participation by

residence are, Walking, Beach, Nature Walks, Swimming and Boating/Canoeing/ Kayaking. These local top areas of concern and participation coincide with what the state also outlines in the Massachusetts 2012 and 2017 Draft Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) (see https://www.mass.gov/files/massachusetts-scorp-2017-for-submission.pdf). It was developed using online surveys and a survey specialist company using a statistically developed phone sampling plan. From that information, they outlined goals to best serve the residents of Massachusetts. The 2017 plan update is in draft phase now. Their finalized 2012 report was also reviewed by our committee for this report. The 2012 plan lists four overall goals: 1) increase the availability of all types of trails for recreation, 2) increase availability of water-based recreation, 3) invest in recreation and conservation areas that are near communities' populated areas so they can be enjoyed with a short visit, and 4) invest in racially, economically, and age diverse neighborhoods, because of their projected increase in use of outdoor recreation.

The techniques used, locations surveyed and descriptions of activities by the three surveys and the 2018 Middle School Survey creates some differences in results, but there is a clear message of what residents are participating in. The very top activities require access to trails for walking, hiking, jogging, and water access for swimming, boating, canoeing, and kayaking. Other higher participation activities of note in the combined results are bicycling, fishing, area for active recreation with the school students, dog walking, picnicking, camping, cross country skiing, horseback riding.

Our coastal access, open space, and trail system has been a strong concern of the townspeople of Rockport. 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 by comparing each parcel to a standard set of values.

The 2017 Draft SCORP was developed by conducting extensive research into the usage and needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth. The data are collected statewide, with Rockport included in the Metro North Regional Planning Area and the North Shore Task Force. In most cases the SCORP and the information developed from the Committee meetings, workshops and surveys are very similar.

Both the 2017 Draft SCORP and the 2017 Rockport survey show high participation in the passive recreation pursuits of walking, hiking, swimming, and fishing. Differences include our survey's much higher rank of power boating than the SCORP, which ranked non-motorized water craft very highly. In the Committee's survey bicycling is also very near the top at number six, with road bicycling number four and off road number twelve in the Draft 2017 SCORP. The 2012 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 2012 SCORP does not show regional statistics. But the 2006 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 Committee's survey. The guidelines call for one full-size facility per 5000 residents. Rockport's little league/softball facilities meet the guidelines, but full size diamond usage should be reviewed. As the MBTA works to improve the facilities at its station they can affect the use of and access to Evans Field, one of our main lighted playing fields. The station's parking lot is currently used by athletes and the public in general during off peak train travel hours, which is when most playing field activity takes place. The parking area looks like one continuous MBTA parking area but sections of it are owned by the Town of Rockport. In 2017 and 2018 the MBTA and the Rockport DPW made many improvements to the area. The tracks that blocked the east side of Evans Field where relocated. A transformer building, that provides full electrical power to operate all functions on layover trains, has been built directly in front of the Little League field entrance. Drainage to the parking lot has been repaired, and the parking lot has all been paved along with a new paved pass through road. The lot is

still open to the public without a fee. This project overall has been a positive change for the area.

The Evans Field surface is six feet higher and separated by a granite reinforced retaining wall from the MBTA area. The town now has the opportunity to greatly improve access to field with stairs and ramps. This will be expensive and is just in the beginning stages of consideration.

There is an ever growing demand for more playing fields with many organizations vying for their use. There are currently four baseball diamonds, two soccer fields, and two sets of usable tennis courts. Tennis continues to grow in popularity, with over 200 adults and children participating in summer outdoor recreation programs. The active playing fields are now under review by a town committee to better understand use, and how best to improve them. As noted in the 2018 Middle School Survey these fields are one of their highest priorities.

More water activity programs, particularly swimming, could be offered by the Town, since Rockport is a seacoast community. The use of "self-powered watercraft" has moved to be one of the top recreation activities on Cape Ann, as it is for Massachusetts and New England. Rockport should consider improvements, including adding public launch/retrieve areas on our coast better suited to them.

Rockport has narrow streets that can make biking and walking unsafe. In our 2009 report we recommended a needs assessment for both sidewalks and bike trails. In 2017 a committee was formed y the Planning Board to look at improving biking. They have now created and published suggested routes in an available guide. More work needs to be done. Bike riding is one of the highest rating activates on the General and Middle School surveys. With the Middle School showing Providing Bike Paths and Sidewalks is one of the highest concerns.

The skateboard park at Evans Field requires ongoing maintenance. When this plan was written in 2009, the Town did not maintain it, although it is on Town property. From 2010-2013 a collaboration between the Rockport DPW, Recreation Committee and the private Skateboard Park fund has made several improvements to the park. They include expanding area, resurfacing complete park, new fencing and an entry area. The Community Preservation Act has been changed so that it now allows spending on improvements to facilities not originally paid for with CPA funds. The Skate Park received CPA funding to expand its area and add new jump ramps. The park celebrated its 25-year anniversary in 2014.

Pingree Park in Pigeon Cove has tennis courts, a basketball court, a baseball diamond, and a playground. All had been in need of repair. A gift was given towards the repair of the tennis courts, basketball court and playground, and the Town of

Rockport Recreation Department funded the rest of the work to make all three areas serviceable. The baseball diamond and fencing at the park continue to be well maintained. Most of the town's recreation facilities would benefit from better parking. The work at Evans Field has been very successful for its users, as this is fully developed, it will enhance accessibility to the whole area.

Rockport has made great strides in the past decade to improve access to open space and recreation areas for people with disabilities. The DPW is continuing to add ADA access to our town's sidewalk network. Section 9 suggests recommendations for improved access.

Long Beach, the Town's seasonal beachfront community, offers a flat, three-quarter mile long sidewalk atop the seawall that 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. In 2012 the town did extensive engineering work to determine the best approach to maintain the Long Beach seawall. The town has financed a study to understand the sand movement on the beach and possible long-term effects of the rise in sea level. The Long Beach Association is also working on maintaining their community. The Association, citing a growing elderly population in the beach cottages, strongly supports improved access to the seawall. At the end of 2017 the Town formed a committee to review all current information about Long Beach and the surrounding area, in an effort to develop a plan for improvements to public structures, infrastructure and municipal systems. They have made their presentation to BOS recommending seawall replacement in the long term, and also protection from high-water levels in the marsh to protect the road and parking. To prevent further leaning of the seawall, the DPW added granite ballast stones to the foot of the wall this winter along certain sections. CZM has recommended the town do a large beach nourishment project along the entire extent of the beach. But, with limited finances, the town will only be able to do a small sand nourishment project this coming winter.

The Committee recognized in 2009 that trail walking is a major recreational activity. Now electronic mapping is available by many sources and their results are online.

Members of the Rockport Rights of Way Committee, OSRC, DPW, Cape Ann Trails, and private citizens have worked continuously from 2009 to record and emap trail locations. We recognize that our trails are not fully ADA accessible and improvements can be made. Section 9 contained two action recommendations. The

first was to the Commonwealth that an ADA trail be provided at Halibut Point with ADA accessible restroom facilities. ADA compliant restrooms have been installed. The upgrade of Halibut Point facilities continues. The second recommends a joint effort with the Rockport Conservation Commission to develop ADA accessibility wherever possible in woodland areas. Trail and open space access, including adjoining parking points and implementation of Cape Ann trail head public bus service, has improved but none of Town land trails meet the ADA standard. Also recommended is improvement of beach access at the Cape Hedge Beach entrance ramp on South Street. The ramp itself has not been improved, but significant work went into transferring ownership of the beach overlook area at the foot of South Street. The parcel was gifted to the Town.

Conservation Commission and the DPW did landscape work that included major clean up, making the site safe, and adding native plants, accessible paths and benches. This area could allow visitors of all abilities to park a car and, with a couple steps on a level pathway, sit and enjoy one of the most spectacular views on Cape Ann. Unfortunately, some of the work was destroyed by a storm on March 1, 2018. A neighborhood group has done some work to improve the area after the storm, but more work is needed as it is regularly used by the public.

7C. Management Needs, Potential Change of Use

Rockport has many committees interested in Town land management, including its open space land. One of the results of the 2009 plan was that the Board of Selectmen changed the Open Space and Recreation Committee from temporary to regular committee status. One of its primary functions, not being done by any of the existing committees, is the regular review of all parcels in town to a standard; and from those reviews, the maintenance of a priority listing of what land is most actively in need of protection. The Open Space and Recreation Committee now work directly with the Conservation Commission and their land protection person to insure they have the best information to assess a parcel's level of importance against the standard. The Open Space and Recreation Committee works closely with Conservation Commission, Rights of Way Committee, IT and individual groups on related Town projects.

The DPW has responsibility for management of the Town's open space and recreation areas, including the Town-owned beaches, wharfs, rocky coastline, parks, cemeteries, fields, and woodlands. Many of this plan's actions, like those in the 2009 plan, will require DPW input, coordination, and labor. This Committee is available to work with the Planning Board as it updates its Master Plans, in which the Open Space Plan is considered a key component.

Rockport is fortunate to have benefited from the Community Preservation Act. With the Commonwealth's continued approval of this plan update, Rockport will continue to be eligible for Self-Help grants from the state. Maximizing use of these monies requires time-consuming effort as well as support from related boards and committees.

Information and full understanding of this plan and the most recent SCORP are critical to establishing the value of open space and recreation facilities to the people who live in and visit Rockport.

Not often considered is the value that open space and recreation bring to the community in actual revenue. The 2017 Draft SCORP cites tourism as one of the top revenue producing industries in the state and is the third largest employer. Additionally, it states that outdoor recreational resources are cited as one of the top five reasons people visit the state. The report also found studies that show housing with dedicated open space was found to appreciate at a higher rate than conventional housing, and that a majority of people would choose a home near a park or open space over one that was not similarly located.

The advantages of open space were not only limited to the value of the housing market. The 2012 SCORP final report states that "when potential employees are considering what company to work for, environmental quality of the state (they will be living in) is considered more frequently than housing, cost of living, or good schools". They also show the availability of quality open space and recreation resources in the state helps to attract businesses, and small-business decision makers rated park, recreation and open space amenities as being the most important factor to use when measuring quality of life.

SECTION 8: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The community's goals and objectives have remained very consistent over the past ten years. All current surveying, interacting with our community and personal experiences support this. The community is very interested in maintaining its fortunate combination of natural and manmade surroundings. As the survey shows, the simple pleasure of going for a walk is a high priority. The 2019 Plan goals are listed below:

GOAL 1: PROTECT AND ENHANCE DRINKING WATER SOURCES

GOAL 2: PROTECT AND MANAGE CRITICAL NATURAL RESOURCES

GOAL 3: PRESERVE PRIORITY LAND FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

GOAL 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT

GOAL 5: ENHANCE ACCESS TO RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES APPROPRIATE FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGE GROUPS AND ABILITIES

GOAL 6: PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE EXISTING TRAIL NETWORK

GOAL 7: ANALYZE ROCKPORT'S BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

GOAL 8: PROMOTE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ABOUT OPEN SPACE

SECTION 9: SEVEN-YEAR ACTION PLAN

GOAL 1: PROTECT AND ENHANCE DRINKING WATER SOURCES

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

Action 1b) Purchase or enact conservation restrictions on key watershed land in Rockport

Responsibility: CONCOM, WPC, OSRC, TM, DPW

Action 1c) Assess the Watershed Overlay District boundaries and current requirements. Modify as necessary

Responsibility: OSRC, PB, DPW, WPC

Action 1d) Encourage that special permits and variances are in support to the long term protection of drinking water resources

Responsibility: WPC, BOS, ZBA, PB, ConCom, BI

GOAL 2: PROTECT AND MANAGE CRITICAL NATURAL RESOURCES

Action 2a) Promote identifying, certifying and monitoring all vernal pools in Rockport

Responsibility: CONCOM, OSRC

Action 2b) Encourage the eradication of invasive species through education and during permitting process.

Responsibility: CONCOM, OSRC, Rockport Garden Club

Action 2c) Support the protection and use of current and potential agricultural land uses.

Responsibility: CONCOM, OSRC, BOS

Action 2d) Utilize resiliency planning and standards for identification of parcels most at risk from sea level rise and climate change.

Responsibility: CONCOM, OSRC, MVP

GOAL 3: PRESERVE PRIORITY LAND FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

Action 3a) Maintain the open space inventory for acquisition and conservation, including current status of all parcels. Prioritize at least annually.

Responsibility: OSRC, WPC

Action 3b) Develop a plan to manage town-owned open space and recreation parcels most in need of increased care.

Responsibility: OSRC, ROW, CONCOM, CATS

Action 3c) Evaluate town-owned parcels and tax title land for appropriate municipal stewardship.

Responsibility: OSRC, PB, BOS, CONCOM, ROW

Action 3d) Monitor funding available, and use of funding, from town, state, and private sources that is related to Open Space and Recreation Land protection. Responsibility: OSRC, CONCOM, CPC, BOS

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

Action 3f) Research, create and distribute grant opportunities for land protection and stewardship.

Responsibility: OSRC

Action 3g) Evaluate public and private parcels using the new FEMA NFHL documentation recommended by Coastal Zone Management and prioritize parcels most at risk from sea level rise.

Responsibility: OSRC

GOAL 4: ENHANCE PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT

Action 4a) Continue to monitor the state of Massachusetts Core Habitat areas for opportunities of increased protection in land acquisitions and through permitting process Responsibility: OSRC, CONCOM

GOAL 5: ENHANCE ACCESS TO RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES APPROPRIATE FOR ALL AGE GROUPS AND ABILITES

Action 5a) Undertake a needs analysis for improved access to the towns shore line and ocean

Responsibility: OSRC, REC, DPW

Action 5b) Increase access and ADA accessibility to all public land, recreational facilities, and related buildings

Responsibility: OSRC, REC, BOS, CONCOM, DPW, ROW

Action 5c) Make a plan to improve and increase bicycle paths and trails
Responsibility: OSRC, BOS, REC, ROW, CONCOM

Action 5d) Implement the ADA transition plan (see Appendix 3) Responsibility: OSRC, BOS, RocPolD, CONCOM, DPW,TrafParkCom

Action 5e) Identify a priority trail on town-owned land for the development of an ADA compliant trail Responsibility: OSRC, DPW, REC

Action 5f) Develop a brochure or pamphlet to emphasize and promote Rockport's ocean access Responsibility: OSRC, ROW, Harbor Masters, DPW

GOAL 6: PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE EXISTING TRAIL NETWORK

Action 6a) Research undocumented rights of way

Responsibility: OSRC, ROW

Action 6b) Create and implement a plan that will improve maintenance, to keep open the current public trail network

Responsibility: OSRC, ROW, DPW, Cape Ann Trails, Stewards

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

Action 6d) Town hire a licensed applicator that will work on invasive plant removal.
Responsibility: DPW, Rockport Garden Club

GOAL 7: ANALYZE ROCKPORT'S BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

Action 7a) Promote increased communication and consistency among committees, boards, and commissions on any land disposition action, including watershed protection

Responsibility: All Town boards

Action 7b) Monitor license applications under Chapter 91 as they pertain to open space issues

Responsibility: OSRC, CONCOM, ROW, PB, Harbor Advisory Committee

GOAL 8: PROMOTE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ABOUT OPEN SPACE

Action 8a) 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 8b) Promote public awareness and education about open space issues Responsibility: OSRC

Action 8c) Continue to increase the public awareness of the local trails network by promoting trail information and improving trailhead signage

Responsibility: OSRC, ROW,

Action 8d) Continue to increase the public awareness about Town recreation opportunities. Promote the information online and at the frequently used locations in town. Responsibility: OSRC, REC

Action 8e) Offer Open Space Committee members as liaisons to other Town boards, committees and officials

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 10 actions to be undertaken in the first year of the 2019 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
2b	Encourage the eradication of invasive species through education and during permitting process.
6b	Create and implement a plan that will improve maintenance, to keep open the current public trail network
3a	Maintain the open space inventory for acquisition and conservation, including current status of all parcels. Prioritize at least annually

Action	Description
1a	Enhance protection for Town-owned watershed property
3b	Develop a plan to manage town-owned open space and recreation parcels most in need of care.
7a	Promote increased communication and consistency among committees, boards, and commissions on any land disposition action, including watershed protection.
8b	Promote public awareness and education about open space issues.
5a	Undertake a needs analysis for improved access to the shore.
5e	Identify a priority trail on town-owned land for the development of an ADA compliant trail and explore grant opportunities for completion
5f	Develop a brochure or pamphlet to emphasize and promote Rockport's ocean access

Map 9: Action Plan shows the 10 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 2019 Open Space Plan.

ACTION PLAN 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.

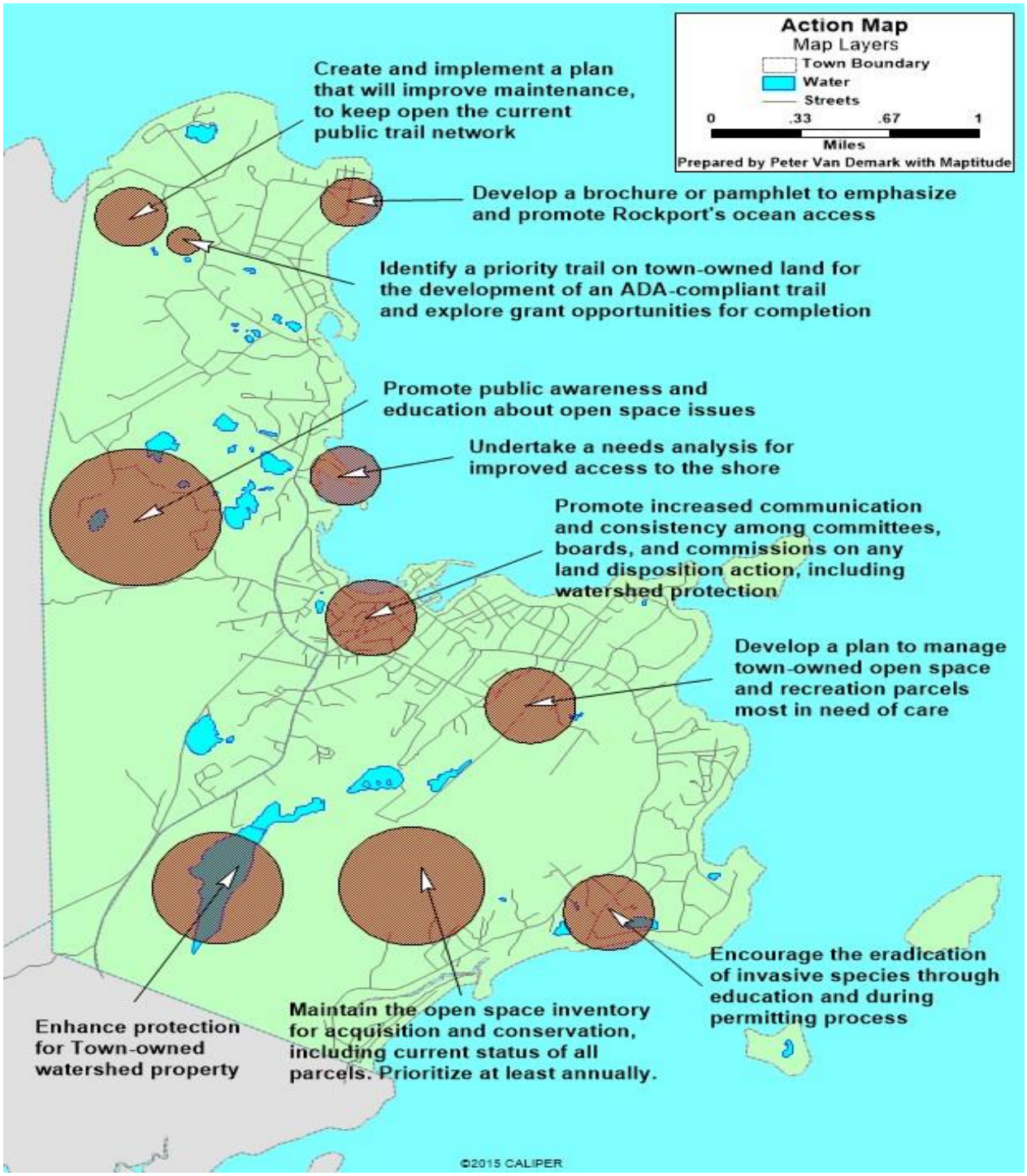
Table 9-2 Action Plans for Years Two to Seven

Year	Action	Description	Responsibility
2	6d	Town hire a licensed applicator that will work on invasive plant removal.	DPW,OSRC,ROW

Year	Action	Description	Responsibility
	1d	Encourage that special permits and variances are in support to the long term protection of drinking water	OSRC*,CONCOM
	2a	Move towards identifying, certifying and monitoring all vernal pools in Rockport	CONCOM*
	2d	Move towards resiliency planning and identification of parcels most at risk from sea level rise and climate change	CONCOM*
	3f	Research, create and distribute grant opportunities for land protection and stewardship	CONCOM*
	4a	Continue to monitor the state of Massachusetts Core Habitat areas for opportunities of increased protection in land acquisitions and through permitting process	CONCOM & ROW*
	8c	Continue to increase the public awareness of the local trails network by promoting trail information and improving trailhead signage	CONCOM* & ROW
	5e	Investigate grant opportunities for completion of an ADA compliant trail on town-owned land.	OSRC, DPW, REC, ROW, CONCOM
	8d	Continue to increase the public awareness about Town recreation opportunities. Promote the information online and at the frequently used locations in town	REC & Town funding
	8e	Offer Open Space Committee members as liaisons to other Town boards, committees and officials	OSRC*
3	1c	Assess the Watershed Overlay District boundaries and current requirements. Modify as necessary	WPC*
	1b	Purchase or enact conservation restrictions on key watershed land in Rockport	WPA, ConCom Town funding
	5c	Make a plan to improve and increase bicycle paths and trails	REC*,ROW, ROW*, OSRC*, CONCOM*
4	3d	Monitor funding available, and use of funding, from town, state, and private sources that is related to Open Space and Recreation Land protection.	Town Services & OSRC
	5d	Implement the ADA transition plan (see Appendix 3)	BOS, CPA funds & grants
	6a	Research undocumented rights of way	ROW & Town funding
5	6c	Encourage suitable parking at entrances to paths and footpaths	ConCom, ROW, DPW
	2c	Support the protection and use of current and potential agricultural land uses	CONCOM & ROW*
	8a	Develop a plan to involve Rockport students in open space plan implementation and involve students in stewardship of the town's open space	OSRC*

Year	Action	Description	Responsibility
6	3c	Evaluate town-owned parcels and tax title land for appropriate municipal stewardship	OSRC* & ROW
	5b	Increase access and ADA accessibility to all public land, recreational facilities, and related buildings.	BOS, CONCOM, ROW, CPA
	5e	Construct ADA Trail on Town land	funds & grants
7	7b	Monitor license applications under Chapter 91 as they pertain to open space issues Responsibility	ConCom*, PB*, ROW
	3e	Evaluate conservation easements and restrictions for all parcels of interest	OSRC, CONCOM, ROW

Map 9: First-Year Action Plan



SECTION 10: PUBLIC COMMENTS

During the review process, the Committee received comments from the following entities and individuals:

- Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- Board of Selectmen, Chair, Town of Rockport
- Board of Health, Town of Rockport
- Department of Public Works Commission, Town of Rockport
- Greenbelt, Essex County's Land Trust
- Ad Hoc Water Committee, Town of Rockport
- Rockport Garden Club
- Rights of Way Committee, Town of Rockport
- Conservation Commission, Town of Rockport
- Herman Lilja, Planning Board Member
- M. Lawton, resident, public meeting comments
- E. Nelson, resident, public meeting comments
- N. Ives, resident, public meeting comments
- L. Seigel, resident, public meeting comments
- G. Norris, Rockport Little League, public meeting comments
- Z. Seppala, resident, public meeting comments
- W. Mueller, Andrews Woods Assn., email

All comments were reviewed and, where possible, were incorporated into the final OSRP. Please see Appendix 3 for the full text of the comments.

SECTION 11: RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

The Open Space and Recreation Committee has heard from many individuals in our monthly meetings and in general conversations with residence and visitors about many issues related to topics covered in this plan. This being an update of the approved 2009 plan, along with new information we have used, much of the 2009 information was reviewed and used. This section reflects all of resources and references.

11A. Resources - Individuals

Amero,Jeff , GIS Specialist

Aparo, Armand, Rockport Selectman 2009 Rockport ConCom 2018

Arsenian, Toby, Resident Barletta, Nicolas, Resident

Britt, Carolyn , Former Rockport Town Planner, Ipswich Open Space Committee

Damassa, Sarah, Conservation Commission

Del Bono, Irene, Department of Conservation Services, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Duffy, Terry, Assessor, Rockport 2009, Rockport Beautification Com and Planning Board 2018

Edwards, Nanette, Rockport Garden Club

Falco, Geralyn, Conservation Agent, Town of Rockport

Gardner, James, DPW Commissioner

Goll, Barbara, Friends of Rockport Rights of Way 2009

Gallotta, Michael, Rockport GIS Manager

Haggerty, Sarah, Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program 2009

Heinze, Andrew, Former Conservation Commission and Rockport Selectman 2009

Hallowell, Laura, Rockport Garden Club

Hutchins, Eric, NOAA Scientist and former OSRC member

Jones Moses, Susan, Essex County Greenbelt Association 2009

Kerans, Thomas, Rockport Rights of Way

Krenn, Phyllis, Former Co-Chairman, Rockport Rights of Way Committee 2009

LaPoint, Chris, Land Protection Essex County Greenbelt

Leahy, Chris, Massachusetts Audubon Society 2009

Lewis, Christopher, Former OSRC member and chair

Marshall, Donna, Former OSRC member and Rockport Recreation Director

McCarthy, Tom, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation 2009

McMahon, Julie, Watershed Protection Committee 2009

McWilliams, Carolyn, Environmental Teacher Rockport Middle School

Mertz, Kevin, Rockport School Sports

Mueller, William, Andrews Woods Association, Former Rights of Way

Norris, Greg, Rockport Little League

Parisi, Joseph, Director DPW

Parisi, John, Rockport School Sports Reed, Bruce, DPW Commissioner

Robertson, George, former Assistant Director, Rockport Department of Public Works 2009

Sheinwald, Ann, Former and Founder of Rockport Rights of Way Committee 2009

Siegel, Marcia, Former OSRC member

Sole, Mary Ruth, Former Planning Board member, OSRC member and co-chair

Viera, Mitchell, Acting Town Administrator and ADA coordinator

Wheeler, Peg, Land Protection Specialist, The Trustees of Reservations

Wilkinson, Sarah, Rockport Selectman

11B. References - Books, Booklets and Online information

Alluring Rockport, A Guide to the Village. Walkabout Press, 1986

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APPENDIX 1: Results of the Rockport Open Space Surveys 2017

Rockport Open Space General Public Survey

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
Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources	**83.87% (208)**	10.89% (27)	1.61% (4)	3.63% (9)	248
Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat	**76.02% (187)**	13.82% (34)	5.69% (14)	4.47% (11)	246
Forests and woodlands	**69.11% (170)**	19.51% (48)	6.91% (17)	4.47% (11)	246
Provide long term protection of existing trail network	**65.99% (163)**	20.24% (50)	8.50% (21)	5.26% (13)	247
Open space for public coastal access	**75.00% (186)**	15.73% (39)	5.65% (14)	3.63% (9)	248
Provide bike paths/sidewalks	**49.80% (123)**	24.70% (61)	17.00% (42)	8.50% (21)	247
Contiguous/continuous open space areas	**50.62% (123)**	28.40% (69)	13.17% (32)	7.82% (19)	243
Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.)	**47.77% (118)**	30.36% (75)	13.36% (33)	8.50% (21)	247
Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest	**47.54% (116)**	31.56% (77)	16.39% (40)	4.51% (11)	244
Historic/archeological sites	**50.62% (123)**	32.51% (79)	12.35% (30)	4.53% (11)	243
Open space for active recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis etc.)	35.77% (88)	**38.21% (94)**	18.70% (46)	7.32% (18)	246
Add to the trail network	**33.33% (82)**	32.93% (81)	23.17% (57)	10.57% (26)	246
Open space to preserve real estate values	**34.96% (86)**	33.33% (82)	18.29% (45)	13.41% (33)	246

Choice in Importance Order	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources	**83.87% (208)**	10.89% (27)	1.61% (4)	3.63% (9)	248
Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat	**76.02% (187)**	13.82% (34)	5.69% (14)	4.47% (11)	246
Open space for public coastal access	**75.00% (186)**	15.73% (39)	5.65% (14)	3.63% (9)	248
Forests and woodlands	**69.11% (170)**	19.51% (48)	6.91% (17)	4.47% (11)	246
Provide long term protection of	**65.99% (163)**	20.24% (50)	8.50% (21)	5.26% (13)	247

Choice in Importance Order	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
existing trail network					
Contiguous/continuous open space areas	**50.62% (123)**	28.40% (69)	13.17% (32)	7.82% (19)	243
Historic/archeological sites	**50.62% (123)**	32.51% (79)	12.35% (30)	4.53% (11)	243

Choice in Importance Order	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
Provide bike paths/sidewalks	**49.80% (123)**	24.70% (61)	17.00% (42)	8.50% (21)	247
Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.)	**47.77% (118)**	30.36% (75)	13.36% (33)	8.50% (21)	247
Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest	**47.54% (116)**	31.56% (77)	16.39% (40)	4.51% (11)	244
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Open space to preserve real estate values	**34.96% (86)**	33.33% (82)	18.29% (45)	13.41% (33)	246
Add to the trail network	**33.33% (82)**	32.93% (81)	23.17% (57)	10.57% (26)	246

Answered question: 249

Skipped question: 0

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	93.47%	229
Beach	84.49%	207
Nature hikes	78.78%	193
Swimming	64.08%	157
Bicycling	54.29%	133
Dog walking	48.57%	119
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing/sailboarding	46.94%	115
Birdwatching	45.71%	112
Picnicking	40.00%	98
Fishing	35.10%	86
Cross-country skiing	33.06%	81
Snowshoeing	27.76%	68
Sailing	27.35%	67
Plein air drawing/painting	26.12%	64
Jogging	25.71%	63
Tennis	24.49%	60

Choice in Response Order	Response Percent	Response Count
Power boating	22.04%	54
Golf	21.22%	52
Tot playground	21.22%	52
Ice skating/hockey/curling	20.41%	50
Mountain biking	19.18%	47
Soccer	14.29%	35
Horseback riding	14.29%	35
Baseball	13.88%	34
Outdoor basketball	13.06%	32
Surfing	10.20%	25
Other (please specify)	--	24
Indoor basketball	8.57%	21
Skateboarding	6.53%	16
Track	6.53%	16
Softball	6.12%	15
Football	5.31%	13
Lacrosse	3.67%	9
Snowmobiling	1.63%	4
Golf	0.00%	0
Bicycling	0.00%	0
Mountain biking	0.00%	0
Snowmobiling	0.00%	0
Tot playground	0.00%	0

Other:

plant I.D. mushroom picking, butterfly I.D.
Field hockey
Kickball
Dancing
Nature study, archaeology, concerts, performances, poetry readings
Comment: all are worthwhile
More free community concerts + education concerts at Shalin Liu by local classical and jazz musicians
Exercise classes
Mushrooming, enjoying scenic vistas, plant/wildflower I.D., butterfly I.D.
Visiting the seaside views, not only beach
Historical walking & hiking, Photography walks,
Instead of jogging, I walk.
Too old for many, but when younger participated in more
Farmers market, festivals, etc.
Keep ocean access and views for public
Hanging on my deck without being bothered
Hunting
Dog walking

Spaces left untouched to be a part of our environment
Outdoor Music, Sculpture, Gardens
Mushroom hunting, foraging
Scuba diving
Yoga
Pickle ball

Answered question: 245

Skipped question: 4

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)	**41.00% (98)**	**27.20% (65)**	**19.25% (46)**	**12.55% (30)**	**239**
Young children (5 – 8)	**51.67% (124)**	26.67% (64)	12.08% (29)	9.58% (23)	240
Upper elementary (9 – 12)	**55.19% (133)**	24.07% (58)	12.03% (29)	8.71% (21)	241
Teenagers (13 – 18)	**54.13% (131)**	25.21% (61)	13.22% (32)	7.44% (18)	242
Adults	**65.56% (158)**	22.41% (54)	9.96% (24)	2.07% (5)	241
Handicapped	**55.46% (132)**	28.99% (69)	12.18% (29)	3.36% (8)	238
Senior citizens	**62.40% (151)**	25.21% (61)	9.92% (24)	2.48% (6)	242

Choice in Response Order	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
Teenagers (13 – 18)	**54.13% (131)**	25.21% (61)	13.22% (32)	7.44% (18)	242
Senior citizens	**62.40% (151)**	25.21% (61)	9.92% (24)	2.48% (6)	242
Upper elementary (9 – 12)	**55.19% (133)**	24.07% (58)	12.03% (29)	8.71% (21)	241
Adults	**65.56% (158)**	22.41% (54)	9.96% (24)	2.07% (5)	241
Young children (5 – 8)	**51.67% (124)**	26.67% (64)	12.08% (29)	9.58% (23)	240
Toddlers (up to age 4)	**41.00% (98)**	27.20% (65)	19.25% (46)	12.55% (30)	239
Handicapped	**55.46% (132)**	28.99% (69)	12.18% (29)	3.36% (8)	238

Answered question: 245

Skipped question: 4

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	Please work with the Conservation Commission to obtain a conservation restriction of Andrews Woods - Pigeon Cove's central park & community space.
1: Andrews Woods	Conservation restrictions for Andrews Woods. The only open space in the avenues area that is consistently used for: walking, hiking, dog-walking, XC skiing, biking

Group	Response
	jogging, full of birds, turkeys, hawks, fox, rabbits, etc.
1: Andrews Woods	access to the rocks on Andrews Point - make sure those paths to them are kept available from Phillips Ave.
1: Andrews Woods	Pigeon Cove and woods
1: Andrews Woods	Preserve the already acquired Andrews Woods.
1: Andrews Woods	Conserve Andrews Woods
1&6: Andrews/Tool	Property that protects the flyways of birds/animals, property abutting dog town, Tool and Dye Company property, Waring Field, Andrews Woods
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson's Quarry and surrounds
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson Rd - Top of Pigeon Hill St. No sewer extension!
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson Property from Johnson Road to Squam Hill
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson's Quarry: trail hub
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson Quarry
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson Road. Protected wetlands, birds, wildlife. Stop any building from happening. Woodland Acres
2: Johnson's Quarry	Steve Johnson land on Pigeon Hill. An additional housing development in that location would only add to Pigeon Hill congestion, especially the high (and dangerous) traffic volume we are now experiencing. We also have serious concerns about potential impact on the water table. Acquisition of this area would also add to existing hiking and walking in our part of town and, we believe, enhance the value and attractiveness of our area.
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnsons Quarry and any other wooded big lots as well as anything historical
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson's Quarry: this is urgent before development overtakes it. It is archaeologically unique, particular to Rockport's history, and ecologically critical.
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnsons Quarry, Trails and expand abutting protected land. All unbuilt Private parcels in South Woods, trails, expand abutting protected land, water shed
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson's Quarry - abuts trail system, provides contiguous wildlife habitat, representative of the town's quarrying history
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson's Quarry: adjacent to other public land
2: Johnson's Quarry	Woodland Acres and Johnson Quarry. Both core habitat areas that expand large protected areas.
2: Johnson's Quarry	Johnson's Quarry because it has historic, cultural, recreational, and environmental value.
2&3: Johnson's/South	South Woods + land near Johnson's Quarry
2&4: Johnson's/Dogtown	I would like to protect the top of Pigeon Hill St from further development specifically the Johnson's Quarry/Rd area. It is important for wildlife conservation as well as keeping existing hiking/walking/mountain biking trails/access to Whale's Jaw/Prof. Norton's/Dogtown open.
2&4: Johnson's/Dogtown	Johnson's Quarry area because it is at the heart of connecting Rockport to the Dogtown trail network.
3: South Woods	South Woods - Relatively undisturbed but potentially 110's of house lots
3: South Woods	Waring Field -> location accessible to South Rockport
3: South Woods	I don't know what parcels are available. I love the South Woods trails but get lost. Would love a map also feel that room on 127 for bikes is important as it is dangerous? So this is an area where the town would need to take space from homeowners to expand road width. The new park at Cape Hedge is looking great!

Group	Response
3: South Woods	Remaining parcels needed to turn South Woods fire road into a bike path
3: South Woods	I'm not aware of parcels we should acquire but if there are extensive southern woods and/or watershed parcels at risk for development, I would like the town to prioritize these for purchase. I would also like to retain existing, owned, parcels.
3: South Woods	From what I understand Stan Poole owns about 60 acres in the Southern woods. There is an old road or fire road that crosses his property, I believe. I would like to see this natural area preserved for future generations.
3: South Woods	Areas along the east side of South Street/Thatcher that have not been developed.
3: South Woods	Anything along the Marmion way Old Garden Beach area. South woods.
3: South Woods	South Woods
3&4: South/Dogtown	any woods abutting South Woods or Dogtown
3&4: South/Dogtown	Any open space that protects contiguous land between south woods and Dogtown.
3&4: South/Dogtown	Important to secure all open space adjacent to South Woods, Dogtown and North Woods to prevent these areas from being developed
3&8: South/Atlantic	Atlantic Pathway, South End Woods
4: Dogtown	Areas of Dogtown to be made more accessible to people.
5: Tax Title Land	Tax title land that can be accessed via Phillips Ave and Haven Ave; it is an asset to the town. Any open space should be preserved for the benefit of the town residents and the environmental health of our community.
6: Tool Company	Tool Company
6: Tool Company	Tool factory, suggest removing and replacing with a park. Coastal property to preserve the coastline for all the people
6: Tool Company	Tool Company parcel
6: Tool Company	Cape Ann Tool Company - access to water and charming Pigeon Cove Harbor.
6: Tool Company	The tool factory. Location.
6&7: Tool/Quarries	1. Steel Derrick - so all Rockport residents can enjoy the quarry; 2. Pigeon Cove Tool Company site - to get rid of the eyesore and to put in place a harbor side park for residents.
7: Quarries	I do not know what parcels are currently owned by Rockport and which are not, but much of the open space and woodlands that I currently walk and hike in should be preserved for the purpose, Sadly, much of the Quarry lands are becoming private property owned by transplants from out of town that have no intention of allowing public access to their lands.
7: Quarries	Quarries for water
7: Quarries	quarries for public swimming

Group	Response
7: Quarries	The end of Pigeon Hill Street. Would be a beautiful park. Lovely quarry.
7: Quarries	quarries unique to Rockport
8: Atlantic Path	Maintain the entire length of the Atlantic Path.
8: Atlantic Path	Assure access to Atlantic path and ocean front; concern that new developers slowly taking over public right of ways to oceanfront. NB: Cathedral Ave (public)but owner of house has put sign that private & no trespassing...not appear that town caring for road; Road by Henry's Pond & Pebble Beach needs to remain open and passable to public. Maintain/acquire open accessible spaces
8: Atlantic Path	I think the number of parcels the town has are impressive. I do not feel the parcels are kept up appropriately, specifically the Atlantic path, it is covered in poison ivy in many places. I think all parcels should have well signed, easy access and PARKING. Waring Field is a lovely spot, but the gate is closed most of the time.
8: Atlantic Path	Hoop's Pole portion of Atlantic Path (now in private hands)
8: Atlantic Path	anything left on Atlantic paths to restrict further building
8: Atlantic Path	Any parcels that would improve access to and continuity of the Atlantic Path
9: Other	None
9: Other	All existing open land
9: Other	No opinion
9: Other	Rockport's "green jewel" the Mill Pond and Meadow
9: Other	Now I do not know re specific parcels
9: Other	Harbors for more slips & moorings
9: Other	Fields behind Lane's Farm
9: Other	None. We need to utilize open space for housing etc.
9: Other	No more
9: Other	None
9: Other	We need more housing!
9: Other	None
9: Other	None
9: Other	End of Norman stone
9: Other	not aware of any specific parcels
9: Other	No specific parcel in mind. Nevertheless, it is very important to the quality of life in the town to lessen the density in the undeveloped areas of the town. With current technology, a septic system can be installed on parcels that were previously unbuildable. Consequently, more and more land is being sold for development and more houses, mostly large, are being constructed. The town may want to look at its zoning for the less developed areas, such as in the south end. Also, more building means destruction of more wildlife and bird habitat and less natural beauty for the residents to enjoy. All of these things are interrelated.
9: Other	Doesn't it make a difference because millionaires will come in and buy it and put up mega mansions and Rockport continues to allow it this town government is destroying this beautiful little piece of heaven
9: Other	I don't have any specific parcels in mind but I would like to buy land for a place people can bury their pets. Proceeds can go back to the town. This would give people a chance to put their sentiments on a stone and visit their beloved pet. I know it sounds crazy but people are crazy about their animals.

9: Other	Any and all -- the town is losing its rural character
9: Other	Firehouse Trust Building -never used in current state and should be an active building that the public can use and fixed up on the outside.
9: Other	Too new to town to identify.
9: Other	Unsure
9: Other	Stop all the McMansion building and keep ocean access/views for the public. We are becoming an empty town in the winter with nothing much to see. The train noise is awful. Day trippers who come for sports don't spend anything and add nothing but traffic.
9: Other	Sea side of Eden Road, Current land on Ruthern Way, pond side of Pebble Beach - all beautiful views with important bird, bug, plant habitats. All current parks and open space in Rockport - Halibut Point area.
9: Other	I would like ALL current open spaces to remain AS IS.
9: Other	Keep all we have and add any that are available if there is any CPA money left!
9: Other	Vast area on main street going out of town.
9: Other	No specific but when purchased signage should indicate the public's right to use and parking should be provided. Several purchases by the town appear to be gifts to neighbor’s vs a real public use.
9: Other	Big open lot by Old Garden beach between two residences
9: Other	More parks & fields for sports
9: Other	None we own too much now!!!
9: Other	Coastal and woodland areas.
9: Other	Please provide a list of options to choose from.
9: Other	None
9: Other	Anything along the water.
9: Other	Keep all we have and add any that are available if there is any CPA money left!
9: Other	If the town wants to attract young people in needs to take serious efforts to make this happen. Buy property in the downtown and turn into park for children.
9: Other	To have porter potties on the beaches
9: Other	Do not know of specific parcels, but properties that seem to become more commercial

	and overused should be restored to more open and environmentally sound.
9: Other	Sandpiper Point....location near the beach
9: Other	I'm opposed to the Town acquiring additional land parcels.
9: Other	Upkeep current areas such as Sandpiper Park - South Street
9: Other	Coastal paths accessibility makes Rockport a special place to live.
9: Other	5a Marmion Way. A building there would be a big mistake. Too dense.
9: Other	Anything that facilitates a walkway between Studio Crepe/Train Station to Millbrook Park. A pedestrian/bike/nature path from RR Ave. to the beach following the Mill Brook would amplify our attractiveness on a million levels (nature, recreation, disabled access, day tripper access...)
9: Other	No specific areas but a few quarries would be nice.
9: Other	None we own too much now
9: Other	[empty]
9: Other	Keiran Preserve trail
9: Other	Lloyd B. Waring Preserve. As of December 26, 1990 by 2/3rds vote at annual town meeting may vote to change use.
9: Other	No specific parcels in mind but I think it's important to keep a nice mix of different types of areas. I would love to see sidewalks all around Town; when the town put sidewalks in, they left off the last mile of the south end; which is a very busy part of town as the footbridge is there, the beaches are there, there are several families, dog walkers, visitors, beach-goers, etc. and in addition to open space being important, it's critical that people be able to access them safely. My family never ever went bike riding and it was because that end of town is not conducive to walking, bicycling, or attempting to get anywhere safely....a real shame. Equally important is a bike path all along town. So, the space is important, but ACCESS to the sites is important. Mass in Motion provides monies to help facilitate things like this; the Committee should look into these monies for sure.
9: Other	8-26 to expand Halibut Point State Park; 19-93 to control Rumrock Lake

Answered question: 112

Skipped question: 137

5: How many:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	Response Count
Reside in your household?	0	38	117	30	37	8	2	232
Are 18 years or younger?	150	17	29	4	5	0	0	205

Answered question: 234

Skipped question: 15

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

Choice in Order Asked	First	Second	Third	Response Count
Ocean environment	134	35	8	177
Small town character	24	59	25	108
Very walkable town	5	22	46	73
Sense of community	13	19	16	48
Open space	15	34	22	71
Art & cultural activities	2	21	30	53
Town parks & beaches	12	11	22	45
Access to Boston	8	3	12	23
Friendly people	3	3	11	17
Schools	6	2	1	9
Local businesses rather than chain stores	6	4	16	26
Recreational opportunities	1	9	8	18

Choice in Response Count Order	First	Second	Third	Response Count
Ocean environment	134	35	8	177
Small town character	24	59	25	108
Very walkable town	5	22	46	73
Open space	15	34	22	71
Art & cultural activities	2	21	30	53
Sense of community	13	19	16	48
Town parks & beaches	12	11	22	45
Local businesses rather than chain stores	6	4	16	26
Access to Boston	8	3	12	23
Recreational opportunities	1	9	8	18
Friendly people	3	3	11	17
Schools	6	2	1	9

Other:

Also checked: Sense of community; Town parks & beaches; Friendly people; Schools; Local businesses rather than chain stores; and Recreational opportunities

Comment: all of the above
Also checked: All other choices
Interesting residents
Also checked: Sense of community; Art & cultural activities; Town parks & beaches; Access to Boston; Friendly people; Local businesses rather than chain stores; and Recreational opportunities. Comment: All checked are most important!
Comment: this is hard!
Also checked: Sense of community; Art & cultural activities; Town parks & beaches; and Recreational opportunities
Also checked: Art & cultural activities; Town parks & beaches
Also checked: Sense of community; Open space; Art & cultural activities; Town parks & beaches; Friendly people; Schools; Local businesses rather than chain stores; and Recreational opportunities
Also checked: Open space; Town parks & beaches; Access to Boston; Local businesses rather than chain stores; and Recreational opportunities
Also checked: Recreational opportunities
Also checked: Open space; Art & cultural activities; Town parks & beaches; Schools; Local businesses rather than chain stores; and Recreational opportunities
Also checked: Town parks & beaches and Recreational opportunities
Recreational power boating
Hiking Trails
Retains some historical and rural character
Really absolutely everything on this list PLUS the Historic Architecture!
#4. Winter, when the tourists are gone and we own our town.
Ocean and beaches the same feel for me, as is the open space and recreation
Rockport's special history and importance in the country's infrastructure.
I honestly cannot answer because everything that I loved about this town is getting destroyed the town of Rockport allows these wealthy people to come in and destroy our historic buildings tear down our fields and put up view blocking mansions
Love all the options
Sense of community is really high on the list but I think local business and art/culture are instrumental in creating that community.
Safe community (low crime etc.)
...and every other characteristic listed above.
All of the above are important, they are why I love living here
The walkable woods
Also love local businesses rather than chain stores, and single family homes NOT condos or gated communities
1--ocean environ. 2. Town parks & beaches 3. recreational opportunities
Art and cultural is really tied for #3
Also #4 small town character.
Ocean front property
All of the above
Feel safe & secure - little or no crime
Commitment to recycling and reusing materials
Small size and lack of large developments
Like all of these things!

Three are not enough! sense of community and local businesses=small town character, town beaches=ocean environment=recreational opportunities
Abundance of hiking trails.
Volunteer participation in municipal government

Answered question: 231

Skipped question: 18

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 (& Response Count)	First	Second	Response Count
More protected open space	128	42	170
Same general mix as it is now	72	61	133
More business (thus more business/residential tax)	33	54	87
More housing	26	37	63
Build out into the woods	12	28	40
Less protected open space	9	26	35

Answered question: 226

Skipped question: 23

Other:

Stable_ businesses--entice to establish w/ tax breaks
Education/regulation to preserve rock that builders, developers, realtors are currently blowing up to build
Maintain & improve assets we already have
Comment: Planning Board was correct
More ethnic mix
Please help prevent this: Build out into the woods
More slips & moorings
Rockport will become just another nondescript overcrowded suburb outside of Boston if measures aren't continued/increased to preserve the natural open and wooded spaces, history and small town charm of the town.
Protect moderately priced housing; Prevent McMansions from being built
Affordable housing-not mega mansions
If more housing is needed and adaptive reuse is not possible, better to build into the woods than cram more houses onto small lots along the shore. The coast is what defines Rockport. Not the woods. Don't wreck the coast.
Less development.
Limit McMansions, height and spread
Rockport could make better use of the residential/commercial areas that it has now,

allowing for both better tax base expansion and protections of open spaces.
Less bureaucracy small towns tend to have.
Strategic waterfront development (Granite Pier etc.)
This question #8 seems tilted towards development
Encourage in-town food market and a few more dining spots.
More business in existing spaces
Affordable housing
Affordable housing needs to be addressed in a more thoughtful and better way than what is currently. Based on the average age of resident, the old pass away, then mcmansions are built. What about having a development of first time buyer homes, so the kids that grew up here can move back? A development from habitat for humanity?
No additional multiple family housing - condos
Don't care...most likely I'll be dead (need market, Dr's office, basics)
'Housing' in my answer means affordable
Less traffic would be nice, so less building out.
A better mix of small business on bearskin neck
We must manage development intelligently or it will overtake us.
Terrible question - not answerable OR actionable! Who WROTE this survey and who approved it?
Affordable housing!!!
More trails, paths, etc.
Less leased property (Long Beach)

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

Choice in Order Asked (& Response Count)	Response Percent	Response Count
Vote to change zoning laws	93.88%	184
Donate $$ to buy land	50.51%	99
Rewrite your deed to limit future use of your land	19.39%	38
Contribute land to the Town	12.24%	24

Answered question: 196

Skipped question: 53

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

Choice in Order Asked (& Response Count)	Response Percent	Response Count
Protection through Town bylaws/zoning regulation	84.21%	176
Land acquisition by the Town	77.51%	162
Acquisition only thru donations or government grants	39.71%	83

Answered question: 209

Skipped question: 40

Rockport Open Space Survey 2018: Rockport Schools: Sixth Grade

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
Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources	52.46% (32)	**26.23% (16)**	**16.39% (10)**	**4.92% (3)**	**61**
Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat	66.13% (41)	**16.13% (10)**	**16.13% (10)**	**1.61% (1)**	**62**
Forests and woodlands	63.93% (39)	**21.31% (13)**	**8.20% (5)**	**6.56% (4)**	**61**
Provide long term protection of existing trail network	**26.98% (17)**	34.92% (22)	**25.40% (16)**	**12.70% (8)**	**63**
Open space for public coastal access	**30.00% (18)**	31.67% (19)	**26.67% (16)**	**11.67% (7)**	**60**
Provide bike paths/sidewalks	56.67% (34)	**30.00% (18)**	**8.33% (5)**	**5.00% (3)**	**60**
Contiguous/continuous open space areas	**23.73% (14)**	38.98% (23)	**33.90% (20)**	**3.39% (2)**	**59**
Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.)	42.37% (25)	**30.51% (18)**	**18.64% (11)**	**8.47% (5)**	**59**
Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest	36.67% (22)	**23.33% (14)**	**23.33% (14)**	**16.67% (10)**	**60**
Historic/archeological sites	28.81% (17)	28.81% (17)	**25.42% (15)**	**16.95% (10)**	**59**
Open space for active recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis etc.)	54.24% (32)	**28.81% (17)**	**13.56% (8)**	**3.39% (2)**	**59**
Add to the trail network	**26.67% (16)**	35.00% (21)	**25.00% (15)**	**13.33% (8)**	**60**
Open space to preserve real estate values	**25.42% (15)**	**20.34% (12)**	27.12% (16)	27.12% (16)	**59**

Choice in Importance Order	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat	**66.13% (41)**	16.13% (10)	16.13% (10)	1.61% (1)	62
Forests and woodlands	**63.93% (39)**	21.31% (13)	8.20% (5)	6.56% (4)	61
Provide bike paths/sidewalks	**56.67% (34)**	30.00% (18)	8.33% (5)	5.00% (3)	60
Open space for active recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis etc.)	**54.24% (32)**	28.81% (17)	13.56% (8)	3.39% (2)	59
Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources	**52.46% (32)**	26.23% (16)	16.39% (10)	4.92% (3)	61

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.)	**42.37% (25)**	30.51% (18)	18.64% (11)	8.47% (5)	59
Contiguous/continuous open space areas	23.73% (14)	**38.98% (23)**	33.90% (20)	3.39% (2)	59
Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest	**36.67% (22)**	23.33% (14)	23.33% (14)	16.67% (10)	60
Add to the trail network	26.67% (16)	**35.00% (21)**	25.00% (15)	13.33% (8)	60
Provide long term protection of existing trail network	26.98% (17)	**34.92% (22)**	25.40% (16)	12.70% (8)	63
Open space for public coastal access	30.00% (18)	**31.67% (19)**	26.67% (16)	11.67% (7)	60
Historic/archeological sites	**28.81% (17)**	**28.81% (17)**	25.42% (15)	16.95% (10)	59
Open space to preserve real estate values	25.42% (15)	20.34% (12)	**27.12% (16)**	**27.12% (16)**	59

Answered question: 63

Skipped question: 0

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
Swimming	75.81%	47
Beach	70.97%	44
Dog walking	62.90%	39
Bicycling	59.68%	37
Walking	58.06%	36
Fishing	56.45%	35
Soccer	54.84%	34
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing/sailboarding	50.00%	31
Nature hikes	45.16%	28
Outdoor basketball	45.16%	28
Jogging	43.55%	27
Ice skating/hockey/curling	43.55%	27
Surfing	41.94%	26
Horseback riding	38.71%	24
Baseball	37.10%	23
Golf	35.48%	22
Mountain biking	35.48%	22
Indoor basketball	35.48%	22
Football	33.87%	21
Power boating	32.26%	20

Choice in Response Order	Response Percent	Response Count
Picnicking	30.65%	19
Tennis	30.65%	19
Cross-country skiing	29.03%	18
Sailing	29.03%	18
Track	27.42%	17
Snowmobiling	27.42%	17
Skateboarding	25.81%	16
Snowshoeing	24.19%	15
Plein air drawing/painting	24.19%	15
Softball	22.58%	14
Lacrosse	17.74%	11
Tot playground	16.13%	10
Birdwatching	14.52%	9
Golf	0.00%	0
Bicycling	0.00%	0
Mountain biking	0.00%	0
Snowmobiling	0.00%	0
Tot playground	0.00%	0

Other:

Science
Searching tide pools
ocean wildlife; Emergency room
Bowling
Snow boarding
Skiing
Starbucks
Lego Store
Camping site
Video games
Field hockey
Snow Boarding
[At top:] I don't live in Rockport
Lobstering
[At top:] Don't live in Rockport
Dancing
Gardening
Canoeing
Being good to the environment

Answered question: 62

Skipped question: 1

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)	**55.93% (33)**	20.34% (12)	13.56% (8)	10.17% (6)	59
Young children (5 – 8)	**57.89% (33)**	28.07% (16)	7.02% (4)	7.02% (4)	57
Upper elementary (9 – 12)	**77.59% (45)**	18.97% (11)	3.45% (2)	0.00% (0)	58
Teenagers (13 – 18)	**55.17% (32)**	24.14% (14)	13.79% (8)	6.90% (4)	58
Adults	**55.17% (32)**	24.14% (14)	13.79% (8)	6.90% 4()	58
Handicapped	**72.88% (43)**	20.34% (12)	1.69% (1)	5.08% (3)	59
Senior citizens	**72.88% (43)**	10.17% (6)	10.17% (6)	6.78% (4)	59

Choice in Response Order	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
Upper elementary (9 – 12)	**77.59% (45)**	18.97% (11)	3.45% (2)	0.00% (0)	58
Handicapped	**72.88% (43)**	20.34% (12)	1.69% (1)	5.08% (3)	59
Senior citizens	**72.88% (43)**	10.17% (6)	10.17% (6)	6.78% (4)	59
Young children (5 – 8)	**57.89% (33)**	28.07% (16)	7.02% (4)	7.02% (4)	57
Toddlers (up to age 4)	**55.93% (33)**	20.34% (12)	13.56% (8)	10.17% (6)	59
Teenagers (13 – 18)	**55.17% (32)**	24.14% (14)	13.79% (8)	6.90% (4)	58
Adults	**55.17% (32)**	24.14% (14)	13.79% (8)	6.90% 4()	58

Answered question: 59

Skipped question: 4

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

more space for sports
I don't know
I dk
So makes them adults prioritization upper elementary
Playgrounds are important for kid to have fun.
I think Rockport should by an ocean area.
I would like the town to buy a field so that there can be more sports teams.
Starbucks
Put in a skating rink and get a hockey team
The skateboard park at Evans Field.
NO
little league baseball field with a fence because there is no true baseball feild for kids
None Because I don't care
I don't know
Starbucks to get food and drinks
the woods

the abandoned field horse place
More Nature/environments = no cutting trees
Rocky walkway to water or ocean! Ocean front!
Woods
I think we should have an indoor soccer field so we can play indoor soccer in a great place like Rockport
Oceanfront view
I would like fields
All
Starbucks
Drive thrus!!! dog park!
More ice cream shops. I want more pertiaktiv areas for animals
town park because lots of people have/do activities there
Woods

Answered question: 29

Skipped question: 34

5: How many:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	Response Count
Reside in your household?	0	3	2	11	23	11	8	58
Are 18 years or younger?	1	14	24	8	6	2	1	56

Answered question: 59

Skipped question: 4

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

Choice in Order Asked	First	Second	Third	Response Count
Ocean environment	36	0	0	36
Small town character	15	0	0	22
Very walkable town	5	11	11	27
Sense of community	0	0	1	1
Open space	2	4	2	8
Art & cultural activities	0	2	0	2
Town parks & beaches	4	9	10	23
Access to Boston	0	1	4	5
Friendly people	0	10	7	17
Schools	0	0	8	8
Local businesses rather than chain stores	0	0	5	5
Recreational opportunities	0	0	2	2

Choice in Response Count Order	First	Second	Third	Response Count
Ocean environment	36	0	0	36
Very walkable town	5	11	11	27
Town parks & beaches	4	9	10	23
Small town character	15	0	0	22
Friendly people	0	10	7	17
Open space	2	4	2	8
Schools	0	0	8	8
Access to Boston	0	1	4	5
Local businesses rather than chain stores	0	0	5	5
Art & cultural activities	0	2	0	2
Recreational opportunities	0	0	2	2
Sense of community	0	0	1	1

Other:

I don't live in Rockport
[Also checked Town parks & beaches and Schools]
[All checked except Local businesses rather than chain stores]
[Also checked Art & cultural activities, Town parks & beaches, Friendly people and Schools, plus:] Small community
[Also checked Open space, Art & cultural activities, Town parks & beaches, Access to Boston, Friendly people and Schools]
All the dog friendlies
[All checked]
[Note on Town parks & beaches:] No beaches I hate the beach
[Also checked Friendly people]
[Also checked Access to Boston, Friendly people and Schools]
Biking and walking paths
[All checked except Art & cultural activities, Town parks & beaches and Local businesses rather

than chain stores]
[Also checked Town parks & beaches and Friendly people, plus:] Shops
Sports
[All checked except Access to Boston]
[Also checked Access to Boston]
[All checked]
[Also checked Friendly people and Schools]
[Also checked Art & cultural activities, Town parks & beaches, Access to Boston and Friendly people, plus] Hate Schools

Answered question: 54

Skipped question: 9

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	Response Count
More protected open space	31	3	34
Same general mix as it is now	11	14	25
More business (thus more business/residential tax)	3	3	6
More housing	2	8	10
Build out into the woods	0	3	3
Less protected open space	0	3	3

Choice in Response Count Order	First	Second	Response Count
More protected open space	31	3	34
Same general mix as it is now	11	14	25
More housing	2	8	10
More business (thus more business/residential tax)	3	3	6
Build out into the woods	0	3	3
Less protected open space	0	3	3

Other:

[Also checked More housing]
[All checked]
More sports areas
Stores
[Also checked More business (thus more business/residential tax)]
[Additional comment:] I really want Starbucks
[Additional comment:] we should have a little league field in Rockport
[Also checked Less protected open space, plus:] Starbucks

[Also checked Build out into the woods]
[Also checked Build out into the woods, adding:] just a little
[Also checked Build out into the woods]
[Additional comment:] More fun thin for kids
[Additional comment:] What is this for?!
[Also checked More housing] [Additional comment:] We should have a grocery store
[Also checked More housing]
None

Answered question: 48

Skipped question: 15

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

Choice in Order Asked	Response Percent	Response Count
Vote to change zoning laws	38.46%	10
Donate $$ to buy land	65.38%	17
Rewrite your deed to limit future use of your land	23.08%	6
Contribute land to the Town	30.77%	8

Choice in Response Count Order	Response Percent	Response Count
Donate $$ to buy land	65.38%	17
Vote to change zoning laws	38.46%	10
Contribute land to the Town	30.77%	8
Rewrite your deed to limit future use of your land	23.08%	6

Answered question: 26

Skipped question: 37

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

Choice in Order Asked	Response Percent	Response Count
Protection through Town bylaws/zoning regulation	57.89%	11
Land acquisition by the Town	52.63%	10
Acquisition only thru donations or government grants	57.89%	11

Choice in Response Count Order	Response Percent	Response Count
Protection through Town bylaws/zoning regulation	57.89%	11
Acquisition only thru donations or government grants	57.89%	11
Land acquisition by the Town	52.63%	10

Answered question: 19

Skipped question: 44

Rockport Open Space Survey 2018: Rockport Schools: Seventh Grade

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
Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources	**54.55% (24)**	34.09% (15)	9.09% (4)	2.27% (1)	44
Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat	**53.33% (24)**	35.56% (16)	8.89% (4)	2.22% (1)	45
Forests and woodlands	**45.45% (20)**	**45.45% (20)**	4.55% (2)	4.55% (2)	44
Provide long term protection of existing trail network	**50.00% (22)**	31.82% (14)	13.64% (6)	4.55% (2)	44
Open space for public coastal access	**40.91% (18)**	31.82% (14)	25.00% (11)	2.27% (1)	44
Provide bike paths/sidewalks	**52.27% (23)**	29.55% (13)	13.64% (6)	4.55% (2)	44
Contiguous/continuous open space areas	31.82% (14)	**38.64% (17)**	22.73% (10)	6.82% (3)	44
Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.)	**47.73% (21)**	31.82% (14)	11.36% (5)	9.09% (4)	44
Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest	26.19% (11)	**40.48% (17)**	19.05% (8)	14.29% (6)	42
Historic/archeological sites	26.19% (11)	**42.86% (18)**	21.43% (9)	9.52% (4)	42
Open space for active recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis etc.)	**67.44% (29)**	25.58% (11)	4.65% (2)	2.33% (1)	43
Add to the trail network	**36.36% (16)**	20.45% (9)	34.09% (15)	9.09% (4)	44
Open space to preserve real estate values	9.30% (40)	**32.56% (14)**	25.58% (11)	**32.56% (14)**	43
Open space for active recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis etc.)	**67.44% (29)**	25.58% (11)	4.65% (2)	2.33% (1)	43
Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources	**54.55% (24)**	34.09% (15)	9.09% (4)	2.27% (1)	44

Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat	**53.33% (24)**	35.56% (16)	8.89% (4)	2.22% (1)	45
Provide bike paths/sidewalks	**52.27% (23)**	29.55% (13)	13.64% (6)	4.55% (2)	44
Provide long term protection of existing trail network	**50.00% (22)**	31.82% (14)	13.64% (6)	4.55% (2)	44
Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.)	**47.73% (21)**	31.82% (14)	11.36% (5)	9.09% (4)	44
Forests and woodlands	**45.45% (20)**	**45.45% (20)**	4.55% (2)	4.55% (2)	44
Historic/archeological sites	26.19% (11)	**42.86% (18)**	21.43% (9)	9.52% (4)	42
Open space for public coastal access	**40.91% (18)**	31.82% (14)	25.00% (11)	2.27% (1)	44
Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest	26.19% (11)	**40.48% (17)**	19.05% (8)	14.29% (6)	42
Contiguous/continuous open space areas	31.82% (14)	**38.64% (17)**	22.73% (10)	6.82% (3)	44
Add to the trail network	**36.36% (16)**	20.45% (9)	34.09% (15)	9.09% (4)	44
Open space to preserve real estate values	9.30% (40)	**32.56% (14)**	25.58% (11)	**32.56% (14)**	43

Answered question: 45

Skipped question: 2

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
Swimming	76.60%	36
Walking	72.34%	34
Beach	72.34%	34
Bicycling	65.96%	31
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing/sailboarding	63.83%	30
Fishing	57.45%	27
Soccer	57.45%	27
Nature hikes	55.32%	26
Dog walking	51.06%	24

Jogging	48.94%	23
Baseball	48.94%	23
Ice skating/hockey/curling	48.94%	23
Tennis	42.55%	20
Outdoor basketball	40.43%	19
Surfing	38.30%	18
Indoor basketball	38.30%	18
Power boating	34.04%	16
Picnicking	31.91%	15
Sailing	31.91%	15
Horseback riding	31.91%	15
Football	31.91%	15
Mountain biking	27.66%	13
Track	27.66%	13
Skateboarding	25.53%	12
Plein air drawing/painting	25.53%	12
Cross-country skiing	23.40%	11
Golf	23.40%	11
Snowmobiling	21.28%	10
Snowshoeing	19.15%	9
Birdwatching	17.02%	8
Softball	17.02%	8
Lacrosse	17.02%	8
Tot playground	14.89%	7
Golf	0.00%	0
Bicycling	0.00%	0
Mountain biking	0.00%	0
Snowmobiling	0.00%	0
Tot playground	0.00%	0

Other:

Boy Scouts
[not specified]
?
Scootering
Basketball
Go-karting
Camping in some areas
Snowboarding

Answered question: 47

Skipped question: 0

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)	20.00% (9)	**33.33% (15)**	22.22% (10)	24.44% (11)	45
Young children (5 – 8)	**34.09% (15)**	29.55% (13)	31.82% (14)	4.55% (2)	44
Upper elementary (9 – 12)	**56.52% (26)**	34.78% (16)	6.52% (3)	2.17% (1)	46
Teenagers (13 – 18)	**65.22% (30)**	32.61% (15)	0.00% (0)	2.17% (1)	46
Adults	**52.17% (24)**	28.26% (13)	15.22% (7)	4.35% (2)	46
Handicapped	**50.00% (22)**	36.36% (16)	9.09% (4)	4.55% (2)	44
Senior citizens	**43.18% (19)**	36.36% (16)	13.64% (6)	6.82% (3)	44

Choice in Response Order	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
Teenagers (13 – 18)	**65.22% (30)**	32.61% (15)	0.00% (0)	2.17% (1)	46
Upper elementary (9 – 12)	**56.52% (26)**	34.78% (16)	6.52% (3)	2.17% (1)	46
Adults	**52.17% (24)**	28.26% (13)	15.22% (7)	4.35% (2)	46
Handicapped	**50.00% (22)**	36.36% (16)	9.09% (4)	4.55% (2)	44
Senior citizens	**43.18% (19)**	36.36% (16)	13.64% (6)	6.82% (3)	44
Young children (5 – 8)	**34.09% (15)**	29.55% (13)	31.82% (14)	4.55% (2)	44
Toddlers (up to age 4)	20.00% (9)	**33.33% (15)**	22.22% (10)	24.44% (11)	45

Answered question: 46

Skipped question: 1

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

A pool would be nice because some people don't like the sand t the beach. So many people would go to the pool.
The beaches so people can hang out.
None
Seaview Farms
Off of Rowe Ave near the house with the glass front house. There is a big field with a huge tree.
Sport fields, canoeing/kayaking, ice rink/hockey, cross country skiing
Near steel Derrek, make something useful out of the place where the stone house is.
None
None?
I don't see.
No preference. Just not the woods.
I want a bait and tackle shop in Rockport
None
None
I think that all of the open areas left should stay open. Rockport already overflows with buildings, we don't need more.

None
None
No
?
Some biking/hiking/snowshoe/cross country skiing in the South Woods
Sea View Farm would make room for fields of courts.
Old bamboo factory behind 24 King Street
I would like to make more open space for baseball fields.
Outdoor or indoor basketball court
I don't know
The areas in the woods with trails behind the school. It is a fun space for hiking and natures walks. Boy Scouts frequently use that area.
Open land on South St.
A bigger visitor center, so people can know more about the town
More open space and keep more woods

Answered question: 29

Skipped question: 18

5: How many:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	Response Count
Reside in your household?	0	0	5	3	22	9	4	43
Are 18 years or younger?	1	10	18	10	2	1	0	42

Answered question: 43

Skipped question: 4

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

Choice in Order Asked	First	Second	Third	Response Count
Ocean environment	30	0	0	30
Small town character	6	11	0	17
Very walkable town	8	12	6	26
Sense of community	0	3	1	4
Open space	1	4	0	5
Art & cultural activities	0	4	1	5
Town parks & beaches	0	6	10	16
Access to Boston	0	2	1	3
Friendly people	0	2	10	12
Schools	0	1	8	9
Local businesses rather than chain stores	0	0	4	4
Recreational opportunities	0	0	4	4

Choice in Response Count Order	First	Second	Third	Response Count
Ocean environment	30	0	0	30
Very walkable town	8	12	6	26
Small town character	6	11	0	17
Town parks & beaches	0	6	10	16
Friendly people	0	2	10	12
Schools	0	1	8	9
Open space	1	4	0	5
Art & cultural activities	0	4	1	5
Sense of community	0	3	1	4
Local businesses rather than chain stores	0	0	4	4
Recreational opportunities	0	0	4	4
Access to Boston	0	2	1	3

Other:

[Also checked Town parks & beaches and Local businesses rather than chain stores]
[Lots of scribbles]
[Crossed out Town parks]
Hiking trails

Answered question: 45

Skipped question: 2

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	Response Count
More protected open space	27	6	33
Same general mix as it is now	13	18	31
More business (thus more business/residential tax)	3	4	7
More housing	0	2	2
Build out into the woods	0	3	3
Less protected open space	0	3	3

Choice in Response Count Order	First	Second	Response Count
More protected open space	27	6	33
Same general mix as it is now	13	18	31
More business (thus more business/residential tax)	3	4	7
Build out into the woods	0	3	3
Less protected open space	0	3	3
More housing	0	2	2

Other:

I like the woods :)
[Lots of scribbles]
Protect the beaches
Sports
I want it to stay similar as it is now
Less art shops and more variety/more odd shops. (#9: I want _more_ woods)
Less only summer homes were they taxes 1/11 of the year
More woodland areas

Answered question: 45

Skipped question: 2

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

Choice in Order Asked	Response Percent	Response Count
Vote to change zoning laws	48.72%	19
Donate $$ to buy land	48.72%	19
Rewrite your deed to limit future use of your land	30.77%	12
Contribute land to the Town	35.90%	14

Choice in Response Count Order	Response Percent	Response Count
Vote to change zoning laws	48.72%	19
Donate $$ to buy land	48.72%	19

Contribute land to the Town	35.90%	14
Rewrite your deed to limit future use of your land	30.77%	12

Answered question: 39

Skipped question: 8

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

Choice in Order Asked (and Response Count)	Response Percent	Response Count
Protection through Town bylaws/zoning regulation	78.38%	29
Land acquisition by the Town	48.65%	18
Acquisition only thru donations or government grants	35.14%	13

Answered question: 37

Skipped question: 10

Rockport Open Space Survey 2018: Rockport Schools: Eighth Grade

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
Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources	**47.95% (35)**	32.88% (24)	13.70% (10)	5.48% (4)	73
Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat	**54.79% (40)**	30.14% (22)	9.59% (7)	5.48% (4)	73
Forests and woodlands	**67.12% (49)**	21.92% (16)	4.11% (3)	6.85% (5)	73
Provide long term protection of existing trail network	**40.28% (29)**	29.17% (21)	20.83% (15)	9.72% (7)	72
Open space for public coastal access	**49.32% (36)**	27.40% (20)	13.70% (10)	9.59% (7)	73
Provide bike paths/sidewalks	**54.79% (40)**	26.03% (19)	10.96% (8)	8.22% (6)	73
Contiguous/continuous open space areas	**36.11% (26)**	31.94% (23)	15.28% (11)	16.67% (12)	72
Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.)	**46.58% (34)**	26.03% (19)	13.70% (10)	13.70% (10)	73
Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest	**34.25% (25)**	21.92% (16)	23.29% (17)	20.55% (15)	73
Historic/archeological sites	**41.10% (30)**	13.70% (10)	23.29% (17)	21.92% (16)	73
Open space for active	**50.00% (36)**	27.78% (20)	11.11% (8)	11.11% (8)	72

Choice in Order Asked	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis etc.)					
Add to the trail network	30.14% (22)	**34.25% (25)**	17.81% (13)	17.81% (13)	73
Open space to preserve real estate values	19.18% (14)	17.81% (13)	28.77% (21)	**34.25% (25)**	73

Choice in Importance Order	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
Forests and woodlands	**67.12% (49)**	21.92% (16)	4.11% (3)	6.85% (5)	73
Open space to protect wetlands and wildlife habitat	**54.79% (40)**	30.14% (22)	9.59% (7)	5.48% (4)	73
Provide bike paths/sidewalks	**54.79% (40)**	26.03% (19)	10.96% (8)	8.22% (6)	73
Open space for active recreational needs (baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis etc.)	**50.00% (36)**	27.78% (20)	11.11% (8)	11.11% (8)	72
Open space for public coastal access	**49.32% (36)**	27.40% (20)	13.70% (10)	9.59% (7)	73
Open space to protect groundwater and drinking water resources	**47.95% (35)**	32.88% (24)	13.70% (10)	5.48% (4)	73
Open space for passive recreational needs (hiking, XC skiing, horseback riding, etc.)	**46.58% (34)**	26.03% (19)	13.70% (10)	13.70% (10)	73
Historic/archeological sites	**41.10% (30)**	13.70% (10)	23.29% (17)	21.92% (16)	73
Provide long term protection of existing trail network	**40.28% (29)**	29.17% (21)	20.83% (15)	9.72% (7)	72
Contiguous/continuous open space areas	**36.11% (26)**	31.94% (23)	15.28% (11)	16.67% (12)	72
Buildings/places of historical or architectural interest	**34.25% (25)**	21.92% (16)	23.29% (17)	20.55% (15)	73
Add to the trail network	30.14% (22)	**34.25% (25)**	17.81% (13)	17.81% (13)	73
Open space to preserve real estate values	19.18% (14)	17.81% (13)	28.77% (21)	**34.25% (25)**	73

Answered question: 73

Skipped question: 0

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

Choice in Response Order	Response Percent	Response Count
Walking	72.46%	50
Swimming	76.81%	53
Beach	73.91%	51
Bicycling	63.77%	44
Dog walking	55.07%	38
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing/sailboarding	47.83%	33
Nature hikes	44.93%	31
Jogging	44.93%	31
Fishing	42.03%	29
Ice skating/hockey/curling	40.58%	28
Power boating	34.78%	24
Soccer	33.33%	23
Surfing	28.99%	20
Picnicking	27.54%	19
Sailing	26.09%	18
Tennis	26.09%	18
Mountain biking	26.09%	18
Baseball	26.09%	18
Indoor basketball	26.09%	18
Softball	26.09%	18
Football	26.09%	18
Outdoor basketball	24.64%	17
Plein air drawing/painting	24.64%	17
Track	23.19%	16
Horseback riding	18.84%	13
Cross-country skiing	17.39%	12
Snowmobiling	17.39%	12
Snowshoeing	17.39%	12
Skateboarding	15.94%	11
Golf	14.49%	10
Lacrosse	10.14%	7
Birdwatching	8.70%	6
Tot playground	8.70%	6
Golf	0.00%	0
Bicycling	0.00%	0
Mountain biking	0.00%	0
Snowmobiling	0.00%	0
Tot playground	0.00%	0

Other:

Boxing facility
Dog walks
Softball fields for JV, swimming pool
Open space for Frisbee

Field hockey
Field hockey
Horse walking
Areal silks/trapeze
Paintball
Video games

Answered question: 69

Skipped question: 4

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)	**41.43% (29)**	25.71% (18)	14.29% (10)	18.57% (13)	70
Young children (5 – 8)	**47.14% (33)**	24.29% (17)	14.29% (10)	14.29% (10)	70
Upper elementary (9 – 12)	**49.30% (35)**	23.94% (17)	16.90% (12)	9.86% (7)	71
Teenagers (13 – 18)	**73.24% (52)**	19.72% (14)	4.23% (3)	2.82% (2)	71
Adults	**42.86% (30)**	38.57% (27)	15.71% (11)	2.86% (2)	70
Handicapped	**54.41% (37)**	29.41% (20)	10.29% (7)	5.88% (4)	68
Senior citizens	**47.83% (33)**	27.54% (19)	15.94% (11)	8.70% (6)	69

Choice in Response Order	Very Important	Moderately Important	Less Important	Not Important	Response Count
Teenagers (13 – 18)	**73.24% (52)**	19.72% (14)	4.23% (3)	2.82% (2)	71
Handicapped	**54.41% (37)**	29.41% (20)	10.29% (7)	5.88% (4)	68
Upper elementary (9 – 12)	**49.30% (35)**	23.94% (17)	16.90% (12)	9.86% (7)	71
Senior citizens	**47.83% (33)**	27.54% (19)	15.94% (11)	8.70% (6)	69
Young children (5 – 8)	**47.14% (33)**	24.29% (17)	14.29% (10)	14.29% (10)	70
Adults	**42.86% (30)**	38.57% (27)	15.71% (11)	2.86% (2)	70
Toddlers (up to age 4)	**41.43% (29)**	25.71% (18)	14.29% (10)	18.57% (13)	70

Answered question: 71

Skipped question: 2

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

Better fields for sports
Maybe some more big stores so we don't need to go to Gloucester
This isn't open space but I think there should be more quarry passes because I live right in from

of (literally have a path in my yard) the quarry and we can't find a pass
More equine, snowmobile trails
I think Rockport is a great town but I would like to eliminate parking at Bare skin neck so there is open space
Scootering
More woods paths to walk on [crossed out]
I don't know

Answered question: 8

Skipped question: 65

5: How many:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6+	Response Count
Reside in your household?	0	1	5	10	21	23	7	67
Are 18 years or younger?	0	13	33	12	4	2	1	65

Answered question: 68

Skipped question: 5

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

Choice in Order Asked	First	Second	Third	Response Count
Ocean environment	44	0	0	44
Small town character	6	19	0	25
Very walkable town	4	15	16	35
Sense of community	3	3	1	7
Open space	0	2	2	4
Art & cultural activities	0	1	2	3
Town parks & beaches	3	9	6	18
Access to Boston	1	3	6	10
Friendly people	1	5	5	11
Schools	2	5	5	12
Local businesses rather than chain stores	0	1	9	10
Recreational opportunities	0	0	6	6

Choice in Response Count Order	First	Second	Third	Response Count
Ocean environment	44	0	0	44
Very walkable town	4	15	16	35
Small town character	6	19	0	25
Town parks & beaches	3	9	6	18
Schools	2	5	5	12
Friendly people	1	5	5	11

Access to Boston	1	3	6	10
Local businesses rather than chain stores	0	1	9	10
Sense of community	3	3	1	7
Recreational opportunities	0	0	6	6
Open space	0	2	2	4
Art & cultural activities	0	1	2	3

Other:

[Also checked Schools]
[All checked except Recreational opportunities]
[All checked]
[Also checked Friendly people and Local businesses rather than chain stores]
[All checked]
[All checked except Art & cultural activities]
[Also checked Town parks & beaches, Access to Boston, Schools and Local businesses rather than chain stores]
[Also checked Town parks & beaches and Recreational opportunities]
[Next to Friendly people: no! NO one is friendly. I cross the street every day, and no-one stops for me!]
[Also checked Access to Boston and Recreational opportunities]
[All checked]
[Also checked Town parks & beaches, Access to Boston and Friendly people
Sports
[Also checked Friendly people and Schools] plus Rockport sports teams (field hockey, soccer, etc)
[Also checked Sense of community, Open space, Town parks & beaches, Access to Boston, Friendly people and Schools
[All checked]
[Checked all items except Open space]
[Also checked Town parks & beaches, Friendly people, Schools and Local businesses rather than chain stores]
[Also checked Ocean environment, Small town character, Open space and Art & cultural activities]
[Also checked Sense of community, Open space, Town parks & beaches, Friendly people and Schools]
Nothing i want to leave
[Also checked Open space, Art & cultural activities, Town parks & beaches and Access to Boston]
[Checked all items, plus:] Having such a beautiful town
[Also checked Open space, Art & cultural activities, Town parks & beaches, Access to Boston, Friendly people and Schools]
[Checked all items]
Library
[Also checked Sense of community, Art & cultural activities, Town parks & beaches, Friendly people, Schools and Recreational opportunities]
[Also checked Friendly people]
[Also checked Access to Boston and Friendly people]
I don't.

Answered question: 64

Skipped question: 9

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	Response Count
More protected open space	10	1	11
Same general mix as it is now	5	3	8
More business (thus more business/residential tax)	2	0	2
More housing	2	1	3
Build out into the woods	1	0	1
Less protected open space	0	1	1

Choice in Response Count Order	First	Second	Response Count
More protected open space	10	1	11
Same general mix as it is now	5	3	8
More housing	2	1	3
More business (thus more business/residential tax)	2	0	2
Build out into the woods	1	0	1
Less protected open space	0	1	1

Other:

[next to Build out into the woods: most definitely not]
Stop building more houses, the town is too expensive
Nothing
I really don't care ("I wouldn't" and "I don't care" to #9&10)

Answered question: 20

Skipped question: 53

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

Choice in Order Asked	Response Percent	Response Count
Vote to change zoning laws	50.00%	4
Donate $$ to buy land	50.00%	4
Rewrite your deed to limit future use of your land	0.00%	0
Contribute land to the Town	25.00%	2

Choice in Response Count Order	Response Percent	Response Count
Vote to change zoning laws	50.00%	4
Donate $$ to buy land	50.00%	4
Contribute land to the Town	25.00%	2
Rewrite your deed to limit future use of your land	0.00%	0

Answered question: 8

Skipped question: 65

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

Choice in Order Asked	Response Percent	Response Count
Protection through Town bylaws/zoning regulation	50.00%	3
Land acquisition by the Town	33.33%	2
Acquisition only thru donations or government grants	50.00%	3

Choice in Response Count Order	Response Percent	Response Count
Protection through Town bylaws/zoning regulation	50.00%	3
Acquisition only thru donations or government grants	50.00%	3
Land acquisition by the Town	33.33%	2

Answered question: 37

Skipped question: 10

APPENDIX 2: Mailing list for Rockport Draft Report Review

All comments forwarded to:

Lawrence Neal lneal33@gmail.com

Or mailed to:

Rockport Town Hall
Attn: Lawrence Neal
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

Contacted for review comments:

Board of Selectmen

Mitchell Vieira Town Administrator	mvieira@rockportma.gov
Sarah Wilkinson Chairperson	sarahjwilk@gmail.com
Donald Campbell Vice Chairperson	dcampbell@rockportma.gov

Conservation Committee

Armand Aparo Chairperson	Coastalconstruction100@gmail.com
David McKinnon Vice Chairperson	d76mc@gmail.com
Gerri Falco Agent	gfalco@rockportma.gov

Planning Board

Herman Lilja Chairperson	herman.lilja @gmail.com
Edward Hand Vice Chairperson	edwardhand2@gmail.com
Mary Bourguignon Administrative	mbourguignon@rockportma.gov

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Marc Draisen, Executive Director	mdraisen@mapc.org

Department of Public Works Commissioners

Jim Gardner Chairperson	jkgardner@gmail.com

Department of Public Works

Joe Parisi Director jparisi@rockportma.gov

Ad Hoc Watershed Committee
Tom Mikus Member tmikus@yahoo.com

Recreation Committee
Donna Marshall rockportrecreation@msn.com

Rights of Way Committee
Tom Mikus Chairperson tmikus@yahoo.com
Monica Lawton Vice Chairperson monicalawton2@gmail.com

Green Community Task Force
David Perry Chairperson davidperry14@gmail.com

Board of Appeals
Alan Battistelli Chairperson
Peter Bergholtz Vice Chairperson kenbar@aol.com
Helen Barnett Administration hbarnett@rockportma.gov

Board of Health
Health Agent Leslie Whelan lwhelan@rockportma.gov
Marianne Peters Administration mpeters@rockportma.com

Essex County Greenbelt
Kate Bowditch President kbowditch@ecga.org

Cape Ann Trail Stewards
Nicholas Holland VP, Treasurer nholland99@yahoo.com

Dogtown Advisory Committee
Mark Carlotto Chairperson markcarlotto@comcast.net

Millbrook Meadow Committee
Sam Coulbourn Chairperson scoulbourn@verizon.net

APPENDIX 3: Public Comments

Comments from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council

May 14, 2019

Lawrence Neal, Chair
Rockport Open Space and Recreation Committee / Conservation Commission
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

Dear Mr. Neal:

Thank you for submitting the Town of Rockport's 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) for review.

The Division of Conservation Services (DCS) requires that all open space plans be reviewed by the applicable regional planning agency. This review is advisory and only DCS has the power to approve a municipal open space plan. While our office reviews open space plans for compliance with your 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.

Consistency with MetroFuture - MetroFuture is the official regional plan for Greater Boston, adopted in 2008 in accordance with the requirements of Massachusetts General Law. The plan includes 65 goals and objectives as well as 13 detailed implementation strategies for accomplishing these goals. We encourage all communities within the MAPC region to become familiar with the plan by visiting www.mapc.org/get-involved/metrofuture-our-regional-plan. (We also note that MAPC and its member communities are now in the process of developing a new regional plan, which will look out to 2050, and is accordingly called *MetroCommon 2050*.)

We are pleased to see that the Rockport OSRP directly references *MetroFuture* in the identification of regional open space and recreational needs. The Rockport OSRP further highlights the *MetroFuture* implementation strategies advanced by Rockport's open space and recreational planning activities, including open space acquisition and preservation, watershed and natural resource protection, preservation of existing trail networks, and enhancing access to recreational opportunities for all.

Surrounding communities - The OSRP emphasizes the importance of protecting water resources for the Town of Rockport, as well as regional watersheds (some watershed land in Rockport is under the control of the City of Gloucester). The OSRP's 7-year action plan calls for the purchase of land and acquisition of conservation restrictions for the purpose of watershed protection. The OSRP also calls for the protection of the existing trail network and MAPC

encourages the Town to work towards connecting its trail network with surrounding communities in accordance with MAPC's Landline Trail and Greenway Plan (see https://www.mapc.org/transportation/landline/).

The Rockport Open Space and Recreation Plan provides a great deal of detail regarding its inventory of private and public parks and open spaces, which includes an assessment of their ecological and cultural values, current condition, and future needs. It should serve the Town well as it continues its efforts to preserve open space and provide for the recreational needs of its residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this plan.

Sincerely,
Marc D. Draisen
Executive Director

cc: Melissa Cryan, Division of Conservation Services

Comments from the Rockport Board of Heath

Tuesday March 5, 2019 MP

Larry,

At the Board of Health Meeting on last Tuesday 2/26/19, some initial feedback from the Board members (on draft OSRP) include the following subjects/ideas:

- Bicycling lanes
- Maintenance of the Town's trails and other public ways
- A way to walk from downtown to Long Beach (on sidewalks) year around.
- Maintenance and connections of Paths through the woods
- Sidewalks extended from Seaview Street to the area of Glenmere Road where the Town line stops.

Unfortunately, the Board did not get the information in enough time to give it a thorough read or enough thoughtful consideration but they did ask me to pass along their initial thoughts that were brought up at the meeting. They do have the link and will put the subject on the April 9th agenda

(there is no BOH meeting in March) for further discussion and will provide more input based on their discussion

The Board commends the Open Space & Recreation Committee's commitment and fruitful efforts for residents and visitors alike and recognizes the time and energy needed to provide us with this wonderful open space and the importance of having open space.

Thank you.

Regards,
Marianne Peters, Administrative Assistance
Board of Health & Conservation Commission

Follow Comments from the Board of Health
May 2, 2019 --- MP

Larry,

The Board follow-up at their 4/9/19 meeting on their preliminary comments expressed at their 2/26 meeting regarding the OS&R Plan

"Dr. Cohen Rockport BOH, discussed his review the Open Space Committee's draft Open Space Plan. He enjoyed reading the report, and learned a lot. He noted that the report made reference to septic systems and indicated that the Board of Health has a role to play as reviewing agency. Dr. Cohen's comments about the Town's abundant resource of nature trails engendered group conversation including audience member and Open Space Committee member, Tom Mikus, about the importance of access, maps, and promotion of trails through out town. The group discussed the importance of physical activity, and pickle-ball, for which there is an adult league in Rockport on Thursday evenings during part of the year at the High School. Dr. Jimenez suggested a focus group could be beneficial. Health Agent will send minutes of this meeting, or a memo describing BOH comments to the Open Space Committee."

Thank you.
Regards,
Marianne Peters, Administrative Assistance
Board of Health & Conservation Commission

Comments from Essex County Greenbelt

April 11, 2019 --- DM

Larry,
This is a very well thought out and put together report.

On your invasive plant list, could you add species, Black Swallow-wort (*Cynanchum louiseae*), Pale Swallow-wort (*Cynanchum rossicum*) and Japanese barberry Berberis thunbergii. The swallow-worts are known to have a negative impact to breeding monarch butterflies. The barberry plant is known to increase tick populations and the diseases they carry.

As a land trust we strive towards adding multiple layers of protection for all conservation land projects. Preserving town owned parcels like Andrew's Woods is something we agree with. Adding extra layers of protection to already conserved parcels through Conservation Restrictions is something we encourage.

With so much focus on Dogtown, the South Woods seemed to get overlooked. Actively pursuing conservation options for this section of woods should be of high priority.

Encouragement of accessible trails should be an item the town takes on.

The Greenbelt can assist with any of these projects. Please let us know how we can help.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

David McKinnon
Land Stewardship Assistant
Greenbelt | Essex County's Land Trust
82 Eastern Ave
Essex, MA 01929

Comments from the Rockport DPW Commission

From: **Jim Gardner** <jkgardner@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Apr 3, 2019 at 12:12 PM
Subject: Re: Cover letter for comments 2019 OSR Plan update To:
Lawrence Neal <lneal33@gmail.com>
Cc: Bruce Reed <bruce_reed@comcast.net>, Paul Sena <psena@lmheavycivil.com>

Hi Larry,

I know you asked for only a few sentences, but since I had to read the entire 136 page report in order to develop any response, I'm going to give you a reading assignment as well...here it is:

Comments on the Open Space and Recreation Committee report:

Overall I would say that the report is good, but that it is also limited to land-based issues.The primary reason is because the state definition of "Open Space" is really constrained to land-based open space, and not coastal or tideland open space. And because technically the tidelands are state-owned, not town-owned. But, from a practical perspective there's a lot of coastal open space and recreation options/issues that are simply not addressed at all in the report because of the land-based definition of open space.

Some examples of coastal open space/recreation issues that the report does not address include:

-How to increase the number of mooring/slip spaces in town. (Better mooring systems/harbor space allocation)
-How to significantly reduce the wait time on the mooring waiting list. (Effect of lower-than market mooring fees)
-How to create any access for small human powered craft (currently every dock/pier/landing/slip/mooring in town is configured or reserved only for large motor-driven boats, It is virtually impossible to get a human powered kayak, rowboat, outrigger canoe, or surfski onto the water anywhere in Rockport).
-How to better balance commercial/recreational use of existing piers/landings and docks.
-Current strategies from coastal committees (Harbor advisory committee/harbormasters/etc. and the effect on recreational access/asset allocation).
- Future sea level rise and the implication for beach access/beach survival 50 years hence
- Future sea level rise and the implication for Town-based recreational infrastructure (Docks/piers/landings, etc.)
- Future sea level rise and the implication for Town water resources and sewer infrastructure (Flat ledge water/low-lying pump stations, etc.)
- Etc.

Also, it seems to me that the report dwells a lot on trying to create more "public access" to trails, roads, and open space by implying that we ought to pave more areas. For example, there is an implication that creating more parking areas, widening roads for better bicycle safety, paving trails in the woods for more "family-friendly" transit, creating more ADA access

(which would presumably require paved ramps/walkways, etc. are all good things that we ought to pursue. I disagree. I think we'd be better served by looking at ways of reclaiming areas that have been overly paved, and by assiduously avoiding the urge to pave things or the thinking that we'll make an improvement in open space by doing so.

Here are some specific comments on various sections of the report:

Community Setting

The last time I looked into the issue only 10% of the boats on town slips and moorings were commercial boats, and that was probably 15 years ago. It would be good to see what the current percentage is and include that in the report.

Infrastructure/Transportation Systems

I've biked all the roads around Gloucester/Rockport as much as anyone and I have no idea where the route is "dangerously narrow" as stated in the report.

Sewer Service

The second sentence of that paragraph needs to be re-written. The town was under a moratorium on new sewer connections because of excess I&I in the system for many years, but after doing a lot of I&I work that moratorium was lifted in 2015. ***We currently have no way of controlling or limiting new sewer hook-ups, irrespective of the establishment of any town-developed sewer overlay district, and will need state legislative action if we want to keep future sewer demand within our existing sewer capacity.***

Landscape Character/Major trail networks

The last section states that the "Bikeway Committee investigated...an off-road route...[from downtown to Pond Rd]."

In my opinion it would be wrong to pave that trail. The trail is already bike-able using a MTB.

Wildlife

It would be interesting and useful to know what the minimum contiguous wilderness area is necessary to support and sustain each of the wildlife species currently listed. Would further encroachment threaten any of those species?

That's all I've got for now. I'd be happy to discuss if you have any questions.

-Jim

Comments from D. Cartwright a member of the Rockport Ad Hoc Water Committee

March 28, 2019 --- DC

Larry,

I have read through the draft OSR 2019. This is an impressive document and should be required reading for all residents. The following are a few thoughts and comments but you may have already corrected some of these:

Page 11 Seems odd that there are no maps 3B or 8.

Page 28 Typo. Rewrite sentence beginning with "In 20116...."

Page 30 Sewer line is missing on Marmion Way.

Page 59 I'm not sure a Watershed Protection Committee still exists but you should add Ad Hoc Water Committee as we are working on watershed protection.

Page 76 Perhaps you could include something about the 2017 General Bylaw for lighting as it is for dark skies.

Page 81 Last sentence in Section 4 (Erosion) says "Many homes and coastal properties have suffered from storm driven flooding and wave damage..." Can you quantify this and how extensive has the damage been? This sentence may discourage people from purchasing coastal properties, many of which generate much needed higher property tax revenues for the town.

Page 83 Under 8 (Invasive Species), paragraph six beginning with the sentence "To address...” seems to be missing a noun.

Page 125 Do you have a more recent estimate than 2012 of the cost to replace the Long Beach Seawall. I have heard much higher estimates.

The following comments are around statements made on pages 33, 78, and 126 that have to do with the high cost of properties in Rockport. On page 78, there is a sentence in the last paragraph around the cost of renting/buying

in Rockport being too high for artists. I have looked at the average home prices in Zillow of coastal cities and towns in MA and Rockport is about the average of these. Plus, Rockport has relatively low property taxes compared to many cities and towns. Given all the natural beauty of the coast and the inland wooded areas, it only makes sense that it's going to be a bit more expensive than some of the Greater Boston Metropolitan area. In fact, on page 126 paragraph 3 you acknowledge that the value of open space increases property values. Also, I think there is a somewhat prejudiced statement on page 33 in the last paragraph of the Long Term Development Patterns where it blames relatively affluent second home buyers for increasing the property values in Rockport. As the population of the US increases and as some people have more disposable income, it only stands to reason that these people are going to buy second homes in beautiful locations. These part time residents subsidize the lower property taxes that many full time residents pay and they are using fewer of the Town's resources. I don't think it's a particularly good thing that Rockport's income averages 12% below the BMSA and don't think that that the nature of the community is going to change significantly if more affluent people move to Town which seems to be a fear of some of the longtime residents and officials. You don't want to discourage people from buying a more expensive property here.

Diane Cartwright
Ad Hoc Water Committee

Comments from L. Hallowell a member of the Rockport Garden Club

March 24, 2019 --- LH

Message:

This is such a comprehensive document. Congratulations on putting it together.
My plea to have Millbrook Meadow and Mill Pond mentioned more often is a result of the increased beauty and functionality of these spaces that is (will) result from the completion of the restoration this spring. We think it will be much more a destination than it has been in recent years.

Continued Comments attachment on Draft OPRP from Laura Hallowell 3/24/19:
I was watching mainly for references to Mill Pond and Millbrook Meadow as well as to public paths and invasive plants. I am submitting these comments as in individual, not as a representative from the Millbrook Meadow Committee or the RGC.
Section 4: Environmental Inventory and Analysis I was trying to understand where Millbrook Meadow and Mill Pond would fit in. The restoration will result in significantly enhanced facilities for passive and active recreation and more opportunities to “play in nature”. I am sure that Sam Coulbourn would be happy to supply any text that you need to fill this out a bit more.
I think a description of the enhanced Mill Pond and Millbrook Meadow needs to go into either one or some of the following sections:
 4B Landscape character section #1 Heritage landscape where many other notable natural features are described
 4D Vegetation
 4F section 1 Scenic resources and unique environment
 4F section 3 Cultural Archeological and Historic Areas I noticed that this section did not even mention Poole and Tarr and the importance of their early settlement and division of land right at Mill Pond.
They also should be mentioned in 5 Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreational Interest ~ p 85ff. Section 5B on Public and non-Profit parcels mentions features like the Atlantic path and Halibut Point, but not Millbrook Meadow and Mill Pond.
P 99 I eventually found the key at the very end of this table but was frustrated because I could not figure it out as I went along. Should the key be moved up or should there be a statement of where to find it?
P 83 Section 8: Invasive species. This had confusing use of tenses, putting in the future practice that have been in effect for several years.
Here are my suggestions below:
In 2010, following approval from the Town’s Conservation Commission, Rockport’s Garden Club members began an ambitious initiative, “The Invasive Plant Project.”

Choosing to focus initially 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.
With guidance from the Rockport Conservation Commission, Mass Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, the New England Wildflower Society, and the Parker River Wildlife Refuge, the Rockport Garden Club has developed appropriate and safe methods for eradication of local invasive plants. This information is 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 such as Millbrook Meadow, Mill Pond, and the Headlands, the RGC engages a licensed applicator when herbicide application is the method of choice, as required by law. Currently the Rockport Garden Club offers advice on other invasives, including Oriental bittersweet, Multiflora rose, Bishops weeds (Gout weed) and Field bindweed.

Comments from the Rockport Rights of Way Committee

3/23/2019 --- TM
TO: Tom Mikus
FR: Monica Lawton
RE: Comments on Draft 2019 Open Space & Recreation Report
I spent some time over the past couple of days reading through the draft Report. It is very impressive! It obviously represents an enormous amount of work, and the Committee did an outstanding job.

I know the Selectmen have written a letter suggesting additional topics they consider important to address in the report. As for myself, I find it very thorough and have no suggestions for any major changes or additions. I think ROW should submit a letter of endorsement, in which we emphasize our readiness to participate in the action plan in ways outlined in the report.

I did notice minor typos and a few garbled sentences throughout the report — and started to take note of them, but found it too arduous a task working just from a PDF, without the ability to mark it up. I would suggest someone with editing authority carefully proofread the entire document, if possible.

I did also have a few questions about the accuracy of some information — and wonder if some of it still needs updating. For example:

Page 27 – Section 2c on Sewer service – Is the last sentence correct in saying “the town is now looking at a sewer overly (sic) district to control the number of sewer hook ups”? This is a controversial notion – should it be toned down? Also, I would suggest clarifying the second sentence re the administrative consent order and moratorium, which is very confusing.

Page 30 – The map of the sewer lines is missing Marmion Way, and extension to Blueberry and perhaps others. Should it be updated, or does it not matter for this purpose?

Page 33 – Under current projects, is the information about the development at the site of former Silva Brothers Greenhouse correct? And does Rockport "have an agreement with the state…" to develop a town wide Master Plan? I'm wondering if this section needs some clarification.

Page 39 — again, is it correct to say that Rockport is "considering implementing a sewer overlay district to control sewer hookups"?

Page 56-57 – Regarding Henry's Pond, is it still correct that "The DPW has a project to restore the protective pebble dune and road…"?

On page 58 — Under Beaches, it says Rockport has studied the movement of Long Beach Sand and "may consider a sand nourishment program there." Aren't we doing that already, albeit in a limited way?

On page 81 — Line 3, where is the "Granite Company harbor" where seawalls have been rebuilt twice in 8years? Also on this page, under Development Impact, should the statistics on population growth be updated to project further into the future, beyond 2020? And, once again, should the reference to a possible "sewer overlay district" be changed?

On page 90 — Woodland Acres is still listed as private land on the chart.

On page 99 — Cove Ave. should not be listed as Town owned.

On page 105 — why is Essex County Greenbelt listed as managing agency for Star Island and Pingree Trails?
Is that correct? Is it correct that ConCom is managing agency for the Johnson property?
On page 123 — what does "SCORP" stand for, in the numerous references to a "2017 SCORP report"?

On page 125 — Does the reference to the estimated cost of seawall replacement at Long Beach need to be updated? It says $14M, which seems way off. Does a cost figure need to be mentioned at all?
Also on this page (par. 2, line 3) the reference to "Cape Ann Trails" should add the word "Stewards"

These are the items that jumped off the page to me in the body of the report, as I was scanning it quickly, and I thought were worth mentioning – though all are minor in the scheme of things. There may be others that I missed. I have not included minor typos.

And finally, I took a close look at what is arguably the most important part of the report -- SECTION 8:

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES and SECTION 9: SEVEN YEAR ACTION PLAN.

In SECTION 9, I see that ROW is listed as being one of the groups sharing in "Responsibility" for implementation of many of the goals and action items — which is all fine (though very ambitious!!!).
However, when it comes to funding sources for some of these same goals and action items, ROW is not listed. Conversely, ROW is listed as a funding source for certain actions, though was not listed as being "Responsible" for implementation — which makes no sense. So, in short, there are a number of inconsistencies. To correct this, I suggest the following edits.

In Section 9: Add ROW as "Responsible" for the following Goals/Action items (where ROW is later listed as a Funding Source):

Action 2c)
Action 3a)
Action 3e)
Action 5e)
Action 6d) (Also, should Garden Club be added, re invasive plant removal?)
Action 8d)

In Table 9-2: Add ROW as a Funding Source (where ROW was earlier listed as "Responsible"):

Year 6, Action 3c
Year 6, Action 5e
Year 7, Action 7b
Year 7 Action 3e

Also, I am not sure why ROW is listed as responsible and as a funding source for Goal 4/ Action 4a) — which is to monitor core habitat areas for opportunities for increased protection in land acquisitions. Of course, we may support that goal, but I don't see that as part of our charge, and suggest that it be deleted.

I think this covers the essentials. Hope it is helpful.

Comments from the Rockport Conservation Commission

DATE: March 20, 2019

TO: Lawrence Neal, Chairman
Open Space & Recreation Committee

FROM: Geralyn Falco, Conservation Agent

RE: Comments to Open Space & Recreation Plan

The Rockport Conservation Commission was told of the near completion of the Rockport Open Space & Recreation Plan (2019-2024) at its meeting on February 13, 2019 and was asked to make comments.
The Commission has very positive comments on the Plan, noting that it felt like this Plan was completed with much consciousness and in depth research of the town's priorities for open space. It especially liked the way this Plan included the younger residents (middle school students) of the town in its survey. The school children's responses are a great addition to the Plan, since they will be the future administrators of the lands protected and the actions considered today. I only found one (1) major error in the report. The FEMA FIRM Maps were approved on July 16, 2014 and within the Plan you site 2016.
In the 7-Year Action Plan, the Conservation Commission has an important role in implementing this Plan, where it calls out actions it should take in the next seven (7) years, including (those in bold are 1st year actions):

1. Enhance protection for Town-owned watershed property.
2. Purchase or enact conservation restrictions on key watershed land in Rockport.
3. Encourage special permits and variances which are in support to the long term protection of drinking water resources.
4. Move towards identifying, certifying and monitoring all vernal pools in Rockport.
5. Encourage the eradication of invasive species through education and during the permitting process.
6. Support the protection and use of current and potential agricultural land uses.
7. Develop a plan to manage town-owned open space and recreation parcels most in need of increased care.
8. Evaluate town-owned parcels and tax title land for appropriate municipal stewardship.
9. Monitor funding available and use of funding from town, state and private sources that is related to open space and recreation land protection.
10. Evaluate conservation easements and restriction for all parcels of interest.
11. Continue to monitor the state of Massachusetts Core Habitat areas for opportunities of increased protection in land acquisitions and through the permitting process.
12. Increase access and ADA accessibility to all public land, recreational facilities and related buildings.
13. Make a plan to improve and increase bicycle paths and trails.
14. Improve the ADA transition plan.
15. Encourage suitable parking at entrances to paths and footpaths.
16. Promote increased communication and consistency among committees, boards and commissions on any land deposition action, including watershed protection.
17. Monitor license applications under Chapter 91 as they pertain to open space issues.

Comments from the public meeting held on 4 October 2018

The draft plan was available in hard copy and electronically a few weeks before the meeting.
The Gloucester Daily Times published a front page story on the plan, its availability and announced when and where this meeting would be held.

M Lawton – suggest changing wording on Map 5A1, Total Public, Non-Profit and Private Parcels map, to state that there are no structures on the Public/Non-Profit Lands (However, are there cases where there are structures? Halibut Point, Evans Field, etc…)

E Hutchins – This survey found that 90%+ of respondents would support Zoning changes in support of additional Open Space that strong support should be communicated to the appropriate Town Board's.

E Hutchins – didn't see anything about the application for Federal Historic Designation of Dog Town. "Greater Dogtown" is being considered it includes about 1800 acres with 5 of the parcels in Rockport. The public meeting's are planned for Nov. or Dec. 2018; feel that mention of it should be included in the OSRP. Trails were one of the important attributes of the designation. Gloucester Historic Commission is primary facilitator with, Rockport ROW Committee and Rockport Historic participated. 18'ish landowners have parcels in the designated area and at least 50% of the owners must support the designation with a certified letter. Eric Hutchins and Julie McMahon are one of those owners.

M Lawton – how long will we be accept comments for OSRP?

N Ives – enthused about the GOALS 3 and 4 – but feels 5 and 6 are so very important. Consideration for disabled people, people with general difficulty in moving and trail maintenance is huge. Flatness and ADA important for access. Noted that current ADA audit is included in plan.
Delamater property – not being cleared. Birder – trouble accessing - daughter in powered wheel chair – can't get to these open space areas – Whales Jaw, etc. - very important point. Increase accessibility. Speaker volunteered to become active in Rockport trail work.

E Hutchins – additional town woods providing better access for many ages and abilities, in addition to Pine Pit, is the service road from the Cemetery to the Deep Rock Wells – access to Common Crow, etc.

P Van Demark- noted that when a group considered the idea of adding more usable bike path through South woods to Common Crow it was found that ROW limitations exist – small piece of private land that has permission that solely give DPW deep rock well maintenance access and not full public access.

L. Seigel – are open space projects only funded by grants?

L. Seigel – Is Town money available?

L. Seigel – signage is lacking, would really enhance and encourage use of areas – like Pine Pit. If more people use these areas, more of these areas will have support and group protections, use, etc.

E Hutchins – Cape Ann Trail Stewards have kiosks at various trails in Gloucester and a few places in Rockport that identify loops. The group also has a website. Trail loops are identified and named so that there is a common identifier for people.

M Lawton – suggest a group meeting with OSRC, ROW, Con Comm, CATS, and Essex County Greenbelt – want to know which areas CATS takes care of – CATS has stewards. It would be good to make a matrix of stewards and trails and this could be started at a group meeting.
– Sunday Hikes participants have become more active maintaining trails in advance of, and during, the Sunday hikes.

N Ives – there is a ROW form that people can fill out clearing the town of liability for trail workers

E Hutchins – CATS is currently trying to identify "stewards" or "lieutenants" – CATS is also coming up with clear guidance with help from DCR on how to best maintain trails legally. A table with matrix of "stewards" is in the works.

L. Seigel – the online trail matrix should be live and interested parties should be able to look up the current status of a trail and who is volunteering to be responsible for maintenance issues.

Z Seppala – We need a driving range in town. We should consider it because they require little maintenance, just mowing. The problem with Public Courses is land value. Golf is a good game that you pay a lot of money into once you get started, so a driving range would be self-supporting. Currently, the closest one is Cherry Hill in Beverly, opposite the old King's Grant. Appeal to OSRC to pursue a driving range for Rockport.

R Claypool – Presented youth sport information compiled over the past month (Greg Norris, from Rockport Little League was present)

- Rockport Sport Teams listed by season and sport, see attached list, both school sponsored teams and recreation dept. teams
- Large number of teams with varied needs compared to the number of available fields
- Most fields are not conducive to supporting all sports
  - Ex. use of Evans Field precludes use of Parisi Field, Green Field set up for softball – can't be used for baseball
- Still compiling data and reaching out to additional sports/teams

G Norris – In charge of Little League and coaching for 8 or 9 years now (?). The problem: volunteer organization, volunteer coaches, and no way to give any direction on where these volunteers can practice with their teams. Rockport teams don't do that well, aren't competitive, because practice is difficult, coaching is difficult. League has shrunk to just 3 teams that now play with Gloucester teams. When they try to get Rockport home games, game gets bounced. Need for town organized sports - many pro's - physical fitness, team work. He much supports the importance of our open spaces, is an avid fishermen, relocated here with his family because of both, and is a trail runner, too. The families he knows in town support open space.

E Hutchins – Should our Open Space Plan cover more about our beaches or rocky shorelines or open ocean as an important resource? Shouldn't it focus more on our shoreline and ocean resources – paddle boarding, sailing lessons? Suggests adding more about "our Bay" to OSRP.

G Norris – (Was asked by committee his suggestions on improving the sport teams and playing fields issues.) A Committee has been formed with Sarah Wilkinson BOS Chair. The group has

taken a look at what could be done – like, re-orient the greenspace and track at the school that could increase utility of those areas. Evans field could also be modified to update the space and make it more usable. (He answer to the question about no school track team but kids in survey say they do some organized running) – was noted that Erin Caniff does a running program with the schools. Motif #1 Day 5K – many kids participate. No organized school track team in Rockport – a cooperative with Manchester/Essex is available for students interested in organized competitive track and field.

Comment Letter from the Board of Selectmen

Donald J. Campbell, Jr.
Paul F. Murphy

Sarah J. Wilkinson, Chairperson

Denise Donnelly
Ruth C. George

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF ROCKPORT
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Mitchell R. Vieira
Interim Town Administrator

March 19, 2019

Rob Claypool
Stephanie Cunningham
Tom Mikus
Peter Van Demark
Lawrence Neal, Chairperson

Dear Mr. Neal,

Please consider the following edits/suggestions and questions relating to the 2019 draft update of the Rockport Open Space and Recreation Plan.

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. 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 was accomplished; the Town is in compliance with its NPDES ~~permit for one year~~ **and the moratorium was lifted** in 2015. Rockport's topography and preponderance of granite make the alternative use of septic systems difficult. Our treatment plant is sometimes near its maximum permitted, but not operational capacity, the town is now looking at a sewer overly district to control the number of sewer hook ups.*

Should we mention the fact that some sewer connections are privately owned (which is unusual), and the fact that town ordinances allow for private sewer lines gives the town somewhat less control over unwanted development?

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 most of the 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.

I don't understand the last sentence. If we already have five-acre zoning in these vulnerable areas, what additional zoning changes are you suggesting we need?

3. Issues

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

Marking of trails, including kiosks

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 way

Mapping of trails and rights of way ADA access improving the level of protection on all trails used by the public Identification of priority parcels for protection

Should we also include the effects of climate change as an issue?

3. Tidewater Resources

Salt Marshes

Rockport possesses just one large 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.

Should we mention the threat to the salt marsh posed by the Long Beach Seawall?

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 2015, the new FEMA maps where introduced. Many of their zone levels had changed dramatically. The areas above, along with the Long Beach community, were the ones that the town felt were most affected and not characterized correctly. The Maps were officially challenged by the town. The town won and most of the FEMA lines where reverted back to the pre2015 levels. This still leaves some areas of the downtown to be in a flood prone location.

I wonder if we might want to make mention of climate change here, as a threat to our freshwater drinking supply, and mention that 100-year flooding may no longer be subject to occurrence every 100 years…

Table 4E3 Reptiles and Amphibians doesn't indicate that Eastern Box Turtles are threatened, but Table 4E5 does.

9. Forestry Issues

Should we mention here gypsy moths and brown-tailed months? The Pigeon Cove forests have been almost destroyed by several years of gypsy moth infestations.

Action plan

Should we include climate resiliency as part of our action plan? Such as coordination with the MVP initiative.

The Board of Selectmen and the town is indebted to the entire committee for their hard work and commitment to this project.

Sincerely,

Sarah J. Wilkinson, Chair
Board of Selectmen

Comment letter from Herman Lilya of the Planning Board

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

Jason L. Shaw, Chairman
Henry T. Betts, Vice-Chairman
Herman S. Lilja

Terence Duffy
Thomas Mikus
Mary Bourguignon, Secretary

August 21, 2019

Lawrence Neal
Chairman
Open Space and Recreation Committee

Dear Mr. Neal,

You have requested that the Planning Board review the 2019 Open Space and Recreation Report and provide comments. At the request of the Board, I have written the response to your communication. I have enclosed copies of pages of the report on which changes have been suggested or typographical errors have been noted. These points may have already been brought to your attention and changes may have been made if thought necessary.

The Planning Board realizes that the charge of the OSRC is different from that of the Planning Board; however, the PB agrees that the additional thoughts below should be brought to the attention of the OSRC.

The PB sees protection of open space and recreation areas as essential to the future of Rockport. We also see the continued development of open space for commercial and residential use as equally essential if Rockport is to remain vibrant and attractive to all of the elements of our current population as well as to others seeking to reside in Rockport.

It would appear that the Open Space and Recreation Committee is primarily if not totally interested in maintaining the status quo and sees any additional development as a threat to open space and not an essential part of the continued growth and stability of the multifaceted Town we have. We as members of the Planning Board must think more broadly about the future of the Town. We would suggest that the OSRA reconsider the words included in the Introduction to the Massachusetts Open Space and Recreation Planner's Workbook (p.1) (enclosed) which speaks to setting aside open space but in concert with development. The 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plan is a valuable document and provides the reader with a vast compendium of information on the Town; however, it lacks any positive statement with regard to the continued development of Rockport which is also an essential element of Rockport's future.

Sincerely,

Herman S. Lilja

Enclosures

APPENDIX G: ADA Access Self Evaluation

The Rockport Town Administrator, Mitchell Vieira, 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 first in March and April of 2009. ADA self-audit and interviews where performed again and updated in Oct and Nov of 2018.

Please find the following information

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:
- Beach Areas: Front, Back, Old Garden, Cape Hedge, Long, Pebble
- North Uplands: Liljas Quarry, Pigeon Hill, Pine Pit, Pingree Trails
- Parklands: Manning, Millbrook Meadow, Millbrook Pond, Harvey, Barletta, Seafencibles
- Recreation Areas: Pingree Park, Evans Field, School Playing Fields
- Rocky Shoreline Access Areas: Halibut Point, Atlantic Path, Loblolly/Emerson Point, Pigeon Cove, Granite Pier
- South End Uplands: Penzance Road Marsh, Eden Road, Kieran Preserve, Delamater Sanctuary, Waring Field
- 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

DONALD J. CAMPBELL, JR.
PAUL F. MURPHY

SARAH J. WILKINSON, CHAIRPERSON

DENISE DONNELLY
RUTH C. GEORGE

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN OF ROCKPORT

MASSACHUSETTS 01966-1537

TOWN OFFICE BUILDING
34 BROADWAY

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

MITCHELL R. VIEIRA
INTERIM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

October 25, 2018

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

The Town of Rockport does not discriminate against "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 of all entering employees in that job category are required to pass the exam. Only exam findings elated to the ability to perform "essential job functions" with or without accommodations will be used in employment decisions.

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

Mitchell R. Vieira
ADA Coordinator

TOWN OF ROCKPORT, MA

TOWN OF ROCKPORT HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Any employee who believes they have been subjected to – or has witnessed – a form of harassment or sexual harassment should comply with the following procedure(s) in order to report an alleged charge or incident of harassment. Confidentiality will be maintained throughout the investigatory process to the extent practical and appropriate under the circumstances to protect the privacy of persons involved. Investigations may include interviews with parties involved and, where necessary, with individuals who may have observed the alleged conduct or may have relevant knowledge.

Step 1: The individual alleging harassment, where appropriate, must first communicate to the alleged harasser that the conduct exhibited is either unwelcome and/or unlawful and a violation of the Town's Harassment Policy.

Step 2: If such conduct continues, the individual alleging harassment may prefer to discuss the issue with his or her supervisor if appropriate; if not, the individual will report the incident to the Harassment Grievance Officer (who will immediately and thoroughly conduct a preliminary investigation of the complaint at the following address and telephone number:

Mitchell R. Vieira, Interim Town Administrator
Town Hall Office Building, 34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966
Phone: 978-546-6786

Step 3: If, after the completion of this preliminary investigation, it is determined that there is reasonable cause for finding a violation of this Policy, the Grievance Officer will notify the complainant and the alleged harasser of the finding. The alleged harasser will be provided with the details of the complaint and given the opportunity to refute the allegation by responding verbally or in writing, providing all specifics in support of rebuttal. Investigative efforts and interviews will be documented in an internal administrative memorandum, directed to the Interim Town Administrator and/or the appropriate department head.

The Grievance Officer shall issue a statement of findings that addresses an allegation in the complaint. If the allegations of harassment are unsubstantiated, the matter will be closed internally. If, after appropriate investigation, the allegations are shown to be deliberately false, the Interim Town Administrator will determine the potential for – and the type and severity of – disciplinary action against the complainant. If the investigative report concludes that a violation of the Town's Policy has occurred, the allegations shall be submitted to the Interim Town Administrator and then to Town Counsel for review, analysis, and disposition. In any case, the employee making the complaint also has a right to file a complaint with the following State and Federal Agencies:

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination
One Ashburton Place – Room 601
Boston, MA 02108
Ph. 617-273990

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
One Congress Street – 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114
Ph. 617-565-3200 TDD: 617-565-3204

Any retaliatory action taken by an employee against any other employee as a result of an individual's seeking redress under this procedure is prohibited and shall be regarded as a separate and distinct cause for complaint under this procedure and as a basis for disciplinary action against the offending employee.
The Board of Selectmen affirms its responsibilities to provide a work environment free of harassment and recognizes that such an environment is the result of continued responsible action and behavior by all employees. Any employee is encouraged to raise questions regarding harassment or other barriers to equal employment opportunity with the Interim Town Administrator.

TOWN OF ROCKPORT
BY IT'S BOARD OF SELECTMEN JUNE 2014

TOWN OF ROCKPORT, MA

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Rockport does not discriminate on the basis of disability. Program applicants, 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, 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:

ADA Coordinator, Mitchell R. Vieira
Town of Rockport
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966
Phone: 978-546-6786
Fax: 978-546-2881
Email: mvieira@rockportma.gov

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 provisions of services, activities, programs, or benefits – are encouraged to use it to bring their complaints to the attention of the Town of Rockport.

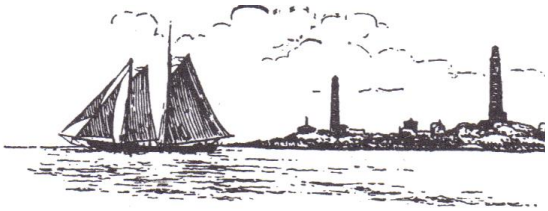
The complaint should be submitted in writing, by email, or an audiotape to the ADA Coordinator. It should include a description of the alleged discriminatory incident or action, the place and date of its occurrence, and the name of any employee or representative of the Town of Rockport involved. The complaint should also include the name, address, and telephone 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 sixty (60) calendar days after the alleged discriminatory incident. The complaint must be sent to:

ADA Coordinator, Mitchell R. Vieira
Town of Rockport
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966
Phone: 978-546-6786
Fax: 978-546-2881
Email: mvieira@rockportma.gov

Within fifteen (15) calendar days after receipt of the complaint, the ADA Coordinator will meet with the complainant to clarify the acts of the incident and discuss possible resolutions. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after the meeting, the ADA Coordinator will respond in writing or – if needed – 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 fifteen (15) calendar days of its receipt to the Board of Selectmen or their designee.

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 (4) years.



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

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 pebble and 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 NW entrance has been reconstructed this Audit	Hard surface path scenic viewing and sitting area	Mowed lawn scenic viewing and sitting area. Adjoining Davis Park added this Audit	Hard surfaced scenic viewing and sitting area. Adjoining Cape Hedge Overlook added this Audit Fish from Overlook	Summer cottage community. Seawall walkway improved this Audit	Public roadway passes directly adjacent to the beach and pebble dune. Fish from beach
					Seawall walkway widened by 6' and uneven concrete and grass changed to compacted stone dust	
					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	Sitting benches with paved path of	Sitting benches and picnic table on	Sitting benches with paved path of travel to	Seawall walkway 10' wide concrete and compacted	NONE

	travel to them. New benches and seating added	travel to them	lawn and viewing area	them. Granite benches on Overlook	stone dust	
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	N	N	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. Metered	By sticker only	By sticker only	By sticker or pass only	Both by sticker and non-sticker
	On CATA bus and trolley route					
		On CATA bus and trolley route				
Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces	Y1	Y3	Y1	Y2	Y 4	N2
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NONE
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft. of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within100 ft.	NA	NA	N/A	NA	NA	Y
Min. width of 13 ft. includes 8 ft. space plus 5 ft. access aisle	Y	Y	Y	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	Y	Y	Y	NA
Sign minimum 5 ft., maximum 8 ft. to top of sign	N	N	Y	Y	Y	NA
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	NA
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	Y	Y	Y	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	Y	Y	NA	Y	Y	NA

or painted yellow.						
RAMPS						
NOTES/RAMPS	Concrete ramp from sidewalk to beach sand.	Concrete ramp is from sidewalk to the pebble stone and sand beach over gangway	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 . DPW maintains summer season		
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 one stairs and one beach	Access is to the site, scenic viewing areas one gangway and one	Access is to the site, scenic viewing area & beach	Access is to the site, scenic viewing area & beach ramp.	Access is to beach from lot and over a foot bridge with gangways. Gloucester	Site scenic viewing road with parking.

	ramp.	beach ramp.	ramp.		end paved road to beach sand	
	All Outdoor Area	All Outdoor Area	All Outdoor Area	All Outdoor Area	Pebble surface parking area.	Beach access over shifting coastal pebble dune.
					.	Pebble surface parking area.
					Improved ADA access with newseawall	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 stairs	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
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	Y	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.	Rest rooms rebuilt to ADA standard this audit.	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
5 ft turning space measured 12” from the floor	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
At least one Sink:						
Clear floor space of 30” by 48” to allow a forward approach	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mounted without pedestal or legs, height 34” to top of rim	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Extends at least 22” from the wall	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Open knee space a minimum 19” deep, 30” width, and 27” high	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cover exposed pipes with insulation	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Faucets operable with closed fist (lever or spring activated handle)	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
At least one Stall:						
Accessible to person using wheelchair at 60” wide	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
by 72” deep						
Stall door is 36” wide	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Stall door swings out	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Stall door is self closing	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Stall door has a pull latch	Y	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	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Toilet						
18” from center to nearest side wall	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
42” minimum clear space from center to farthest wall or fixture	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA

Top of seat 17”-19” above the floor	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Grab Bars						
On back and side wall closest to toilet	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
1¼” diameter	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
1½” clearance to wall	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Located 30” above and parallel to the floor	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Acid-etched or roughened surface 42" long						
Toilet paper dispenser is 24” above floor	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
One mirror set a maximum 38” to bottom (if tilted, 42”)	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Dispensers (towel, soap, etc) at least one of each a maximum 42” above the floor	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Floors						
Non-slip surface	Y	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
Corridor width minimum is 3 ft	Y	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	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,	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

ventilation						
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.	Water filled 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. Kiosk with trail map added this audit 40+ acres trail area through wetlands and uplands added this audit	
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		Paths through open grass areas being overgrown with invasive brush	With ConCom, develop ADA trail. Current trail gravel surface with slope < 1 in 20	
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.	
		Once 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	N	Y	Y	N

passenger				
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 at Old Harbor**
	Heavily wooded natural landscape and improved with only historic trails.	Grass meadow with a waterfall, small pond and stream. Both Meadow and Pond are being renovated and reworked. Tot area removed but plan to be reinstalled	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	Many large cut stone benches
GRILLS	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
TRASH CANS	NONE		NONE			
Cans Located adjacent to accessible paths		Y	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	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

LOTS)						
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 ;baseball, basketball, tennis	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
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.	
		ADA space added at Mill Lane this audit.	ADA space added at Mill Lane this audit			
Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces						Y=1
Accessible space located	NONE	N	Y	Y	Y	Y

closest to accessible entrance.						
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft. of	N	NA	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	Y	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	Y	NA	Y	Y	Y
space or pair of spaces.						
Sign minimum 5 ft., maximum 8 ft. to top of sign	NA	N	NA	Y	Y	Y
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	NA	Y	NA	Y	Y	N
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	NA	Y	NA	Y	Y	Y
Curb cut to pathway from parking lot at each space	NA	Y	NA	Y	Y	Y
or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present.						
Curb cut is a minimum width of 3 ft., excluding	NA	Y	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	Paved public road	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	NA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

disembarking area and parking area to accessible entrance.						
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 (5%) and maximum cross pitch is 2% (1:50).	NA	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
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	NA	NA	N	NA	NA	NA

between 1¼" and 1½"						
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 (SEE T-WHARF)	NONE
Drinking Fountains	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
Telephones	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
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 and benches	Picnicking done in open lawn and benches	Picnicking done on benches	Picnicking done on benches	Picnicking done on rocks and benches
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, soft ball, tennis courts, basketball court and tot park. Tennis courts rebuilt this audit	Lighted for night play Hazardous rail siding has been relocated to improve field access this audit.	Lighted for night play
N= Not to ADA Standard Y= To ADA Standard NA= Not Applicable		Full baseball diamond, little league baseball, outdoor basketball, skateboard park, large multi-use field area and Town/YMCA youth center. Note all playing field discussion in land section 5D	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			
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	Y	NONE	Y
Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path	Y	NA	Y
Bern cuts onto courts	Y	NA	Y
Equipment Height	Y	NA	Y
Equipment Dimensions	Y	NA	Y
Spectator seating	N	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	Y	NONE
Access Routes location adjacent to accessible path	NA	Y	NA
Bern cuts onto courts	NA	Y	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	Crushed stone and paved parking	Two more ADA spaces are needed.
	ADA spot is needed	Train siding removed and parking lot redone. Developing a plan to redo field entrances.	No ADA parking nearest playing field.
Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces	Y=1	NONE(In Station parking)	Y=6
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance.	N		4
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 space or pair of spaces, if sidewalk (curb) is present.	NA	NA	Y
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 rooms available for some events.	School rest rooms 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. Park visitor center under renovation phase I. Phase II planning underway to improve path system. All will inprove ADA access.	Collection of properties with multiple access points from street to path.	Phragmite's taking over marsh area. Destroying marshes and blocking views	Working commercial fishing area.	Commercial fishing, recreational boating, nature and scenic viewing. New stairway connecting lower and upper pier this Audit
NA= NOT APPLICABLE Y= YES TO STANDARD N= NO TO STANDARD					Small ConCom controlled portion of total area.
PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES	N	NONE	NONE	NONE	Y
NOTES/PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES	Tables in parking lot	Visitors sit on rocks.	Visitors sit on rocks.		
GRILLS	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
TRASH CANS		NONE			
Cans Located adjacent to accessible paths	Y		Y	Y	Y

PICNIC SHELTERS	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
TRAILS					
Surface material	Wood chips	Natural mostly rock	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 connectin g 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. Kayak rack added this audit
PROGRAMMING	NOT	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

	EVALUATED				
SERVICES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	NOT EVALUATED	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
PARKING					
NOTES / PARKING	CATA bus route	.	Small open parking area.	Open parking along pier area.	Open parking area
		Street Parking sticker and Non-sticker sections.	By sticker only	By sticker only	Both by sticker and Non-sticker but pay
		Add ADA marked spot			
Total Spaces Required Accessible Spaces	3				1
Accessible space located closest to accessible entrance.	Y=3	NONE	NONE	NONE	Y1
Where spaces cannot be located within 200 ft of accessible entrance, drop-off area is provided within100 ft.		Y	Y	Y	NA
Min. width of 13 ft includes 8 ft space plus 5 ft access aisle	Y	NA	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.	Y	NA	NA	NA	Y
Sign minimum 5 ft, maximum 8 ft to top of sign	Y	NA	NA	NA	Y
Surface evenly paved or hard-packed (no cracks)	Y	NA	NA	NA	Y
Surface slope less than 1:20, 5%	Y	NA	NA	NA	Y
Curb cut to pathway from parking lot at each space or pair of spaces, if	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA

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.	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	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.

		moderate hiking.			
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 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.	N	NA	NA	NA	Y
Top of table no higher than 32” above ground	Y	NA	NA	NA	N
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	Y

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 FIELDS**
	Ocean wetlands, that Penzance Road bisects	Ocean bank heavily vegetated upland	Wetland	Short walk through woodlands into open mowed fields.	Mowed fields
Notes	Phragmite's taking over marsh area. Destroying marshes and blocking views			Agricultural land	Agricultural land Kiosk with trial map added this audit
NA= NON APPLICABLE Y= YES TO STANDARD 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 along old farm road that is becoming overgrown
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	On street
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 Y= YES TO STANDARD 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 then some walk to end of cut rock breakwater at their own risk.	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	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

hard-packed					
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 with a flat cut stone surface 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 space30” x 48” to allow parallel approach	Y	NA	NA	NA	NA
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 (Feb 2019)

LOCATION	ISSUE	LOCATION	ISSUE
Back Beach	One curb to beach from ADA space needs to be cut more directly connecting to Rest Rooms(which has been upgraded)	Beach Access Wheelchairs	Inplament Beach
Cape Hedge Beach	Full ADA Access depends on beach sand movement. Sand would require special chair.	Andrews Point	Add ADA marked spot
Long Beach	Seawall is degrading planning in process for best solution. Improved access a	Pingree Park	ADA spot is needed at playing field entrance
	Sand would require special chair.		
Public Trails	With ConCom, develop ADA trail and picnic area location at Pine Pit or South Woods		
	With ConCom develop ADA marked parking		
	With ConCom develop plan to improve to ADA standards for access	School Play Fields	Three more ADA spaces are needed
Halibut Point State Park	Park buildings and trails is completing the first phase of renovations to ADA standard. Trails in design review phase.		Current ADA spaces have improved but work still needed to be nearest playing fields entrance.
		Dock Square	Cross Walk at center island, w/ way finding information, has no curb cut.
		General Observation.	The access has greatly improved in the last seven years. The town itself, by many is used as a recreation area. In a very short distance you can enjoy the bay, rocky coast, beach's, parks, harbors, shops, restaurants and galleries. In this little town, miles of our sidewalks and crosswalks have been completely rebuilt to current standards in the past few years. Greatly enhancing movement by all.
Beach Wheel Chairs Plan.	Our two most used resources are the town area and beaches. The town is well addressed, but movement on the beach's themselves could be improved. Adding of public available specialty chairs should be reviewed.		

ADA Transition Plan

Dock Square; add an ADA Curb cut at the sidewalk end of the crosswalk from the pedestrian island
DPW Nov 2019

Beach Access Wheel Chairs. Develop a plan, including funding, for public access wheel chairs.
OSRC/ BOS Sept 2019

Pingree Park; add an ADA marked Parking spot
DPW/Rockport Police Dept. Sept 2019

School Playing Fields: Add two ADA spots nearest the field entrances
School Dept/ Recreation Committee Sept 2019

Beach Access Wheel Chairs. Implement a plan, for public access wheel chairs.
OSRC/ BOS June 2021

Evans Field: Review of ADA Access as part of the new field entrance plan. BOS/DPW June 2020

Rockport Public Trails. Establish best location and funding for ADA access by improved trail and parking surface..
ConCom/DPW June 2020

Long Beach Seawall Planning: Review of ADA access to seawall area as planning for replacement proceeds
ConCom/DPW/BOS June 2021

Long Beach Seawall Replacement. Improved ADA access to Beach and Seawall area DPW/BOS June 2024