

# **Developing Management Plans for Conservation Lands**

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**&**

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**Rhode Island Land & Water Summit**

**March 9, 2013**



**Stewardship...** *the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care*





# The Baseline Documentation & Management Planning Process

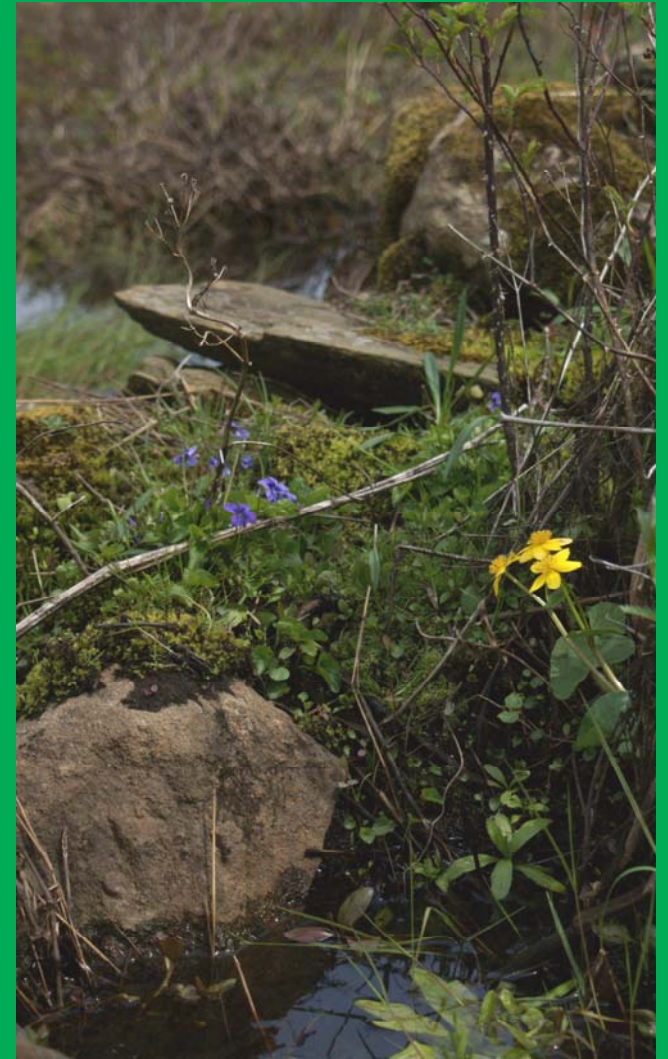
1. Baseline Documentation Report (BDR)
  - documents existing conservation values
  - static document
  - RI Conservation Stewardship Collaborative – ‘Baseline Documentation & Inventory Protocol’ (BDIP)
2. Management Plan (MP) – builds off Baseline Documentation to include property management concerns
3. Annual Monitoring & Enforcement



# *Why do you need a Management Plan?*

## **A Management Plan...**

- Provides guidance for stewardship activities
- Identifies and addresses threats to the integrity of existing conservation values
- Describes intentions for future use
- Describes management goals specific to conservation values
- Identifies opportunities for the future





# Management Planning is an Ongoing Process!



- MPs are dynamic documents that require periodic review
- BDRs are facts; MPs involve organizational priorities and values, policy-making, and technical decision-making
- Decision-makers must be identified up front (Board?, Staff?, Stewardship Committee?)
- Place to catalog opportunities
- It is okay to include aspirational language

# Components of a Management Plan

# Site Overview

*(some pieces may already be covered  
in associated Baseline Documentation)*

- Orienting (ownership, location, plat/lot, acreage, access & parking information)
- Existing Deed or Conservation Restrictions
- Inventory of Conservation Values
- Boundary Documentation





## Site Overview Continued...

- Management Responsibility – who?
- Management Plan Review – who and when?
- Monitoring and Management History – what's happened so far? Is there a plan for annual monitoring?



## Restrictions, Terms, Permissible Uses

Identify applicable or overarching limitations on management planning...

- Existing property-specific deed or conservation restrictions
- Federal or State Regulations – Freshwater and Coastal Wetlands?
- Local Ordinances – Zoning restrictions, local wetland requirements

# Threats to Conservation

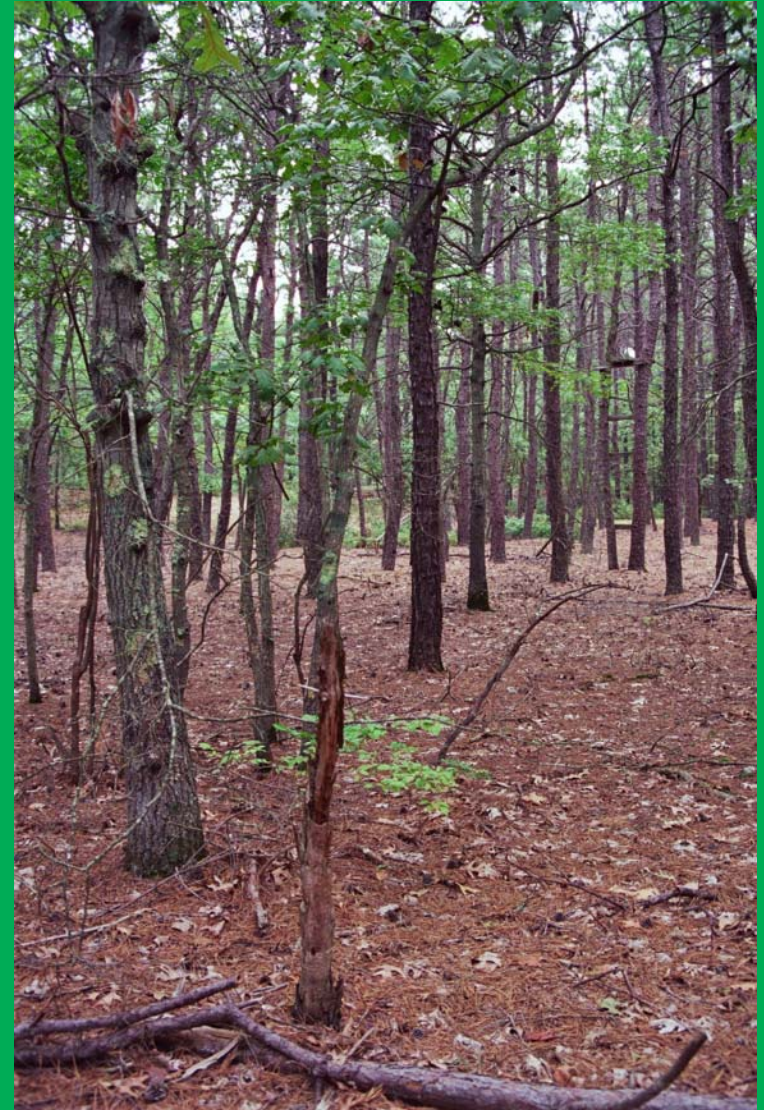
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# Management Goals

## Ecological Conservation & Habitat Management

- Rare Species & Species of Conservation Concern
- Harvested Species
- Invasive Species
- Deer Management
- Tick / Mosquito Management



# Management Goals

## Agricultural Resource Management



- Farming / mowing practices – permitted uses
- Agricultural infrastructure
- Forest management for harvest
- Herbicide & pesticide use



# Management Goals Wetlands & Water Resource Protection

- Freshwater & Coastal Wetlands
- Water Quality
- Watershed Protection
- Drinking Water Supply
- Stormwater Runoff, Erosion, Sedimentation



# Management Goals

## Scenic, Historic, and Cultural Resource Protection



- Scenic Quality and View Corridors
- Cultural Restoration / Maintenance
- Management of Historic Sites



# Management Goals

## Public Access , Recreation & Educational Resource Use



Permissible Uses – Active? Passive?  
User conflicts? Safety considerations?

- Hunting – size, feasibility, permission, safety, tracking
- Fishing - water access?
- Horses –seasonal or spatial restrictions?
- Dogs – leash requirements?
- Mountain Bikes / ATVs – access? erosion or habitat degradation concerns? spatial restrictions?
- Infrastructure – parking, trails, signage, structure/kiosks



# Management Goals

## Infrastructure Maintenance

- Structures
- Dams & Bridges
- Roadways
- Boundary Marking





Action Plan,  
Budget,  
Timeline

Maps &  
Representative  
Photos



**Noyes Neck Property**

-  Conservation Area
- Community Types**
-  Garden
-  Hayfield
-  Pond
-  Upland Forest
-  Wetland Forest



0 100 200 400 600 800 Feet

Datalayers: Full color digital orthophotography, 6" spatial resolution, Spring 2011 RIDEM (RIGIS). CLT 10/12

## Questions?

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