

Status of Conservation Planning for Watersheds of Southern Maine

The Wells Reserve has produced or assisted with every key conservation planning document prepared for southern Maine watersheds over the past decade. Use this chart to learn which plans cover your town, then download the plan(s) from our website or read them at the Dorothy Fish Coastal Resource Library.

To get involved in land or water protection in your area, contact the individuals or organizations named in the plans. Key contacts for most towns and watersheds can also be found at swim.wellsreserve.org. If these avenues don't work out, call the Wells Reserve stewardship coordinator, Tin Smith, at 646-1555 ext 119.

Watershed \ Town	Bridges Swamp	Cape Neddick River	Great Works River	Josias River	Kennebunk River	Little River	Mousam River	Ogunquit River	Piscataqua River	Salmon Falls River	Southside Brook	Spruce Creek	Webhannet River	York River
Acton							7			11				
Alfred					4		7							
Arundel					4		7							
Berwick			2,3							2,11				
Eliot									2,11	2,11		2,13,14		2,16,17
Kennebunk					4	5,6	7							
Kennebunkport					4									
Kittery									11	11	0	13,14		16,17
Lebanon										11				
Lyman					4		7							
North Berwick			2,3							2,11				
Ogunquit				2				2,8,9,10						
Sanford			3,12			5,6,12	7,12			11,12				
Shapleigh							7			0				
South Berwick			2,3,10					2,8,9		2,11				2,16,17
Waterboro							7							
Wells			2,3,10			2,5,6		2,8,9		2,11			2,15	
York	0	1,10	3					8,9		11				10,16,17

0. Town overlaps watershed, but no planning document available or imminent.
1. Cape Neddick River Watershed Conservation Strategy 2003
2. Great Works Regional Land Trust Strategic Conservation Plan 2009
3. Great Works River Watershed Non-point Pollution Watershed Plan 2007 *
4. Kennebunk River Watershed Nonpoint Source Pollution Survey 2001 *
5. Merriland River – Branch Brook – Little River Watershed Conservation Strategy 2003
6. Merriland River, Branch Brook, and Little River (MBLR) Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Plan 2004
7. Fishery Management Plan for the Mousam River Drainage 2010 anticipated publication
8. Ogunquit River Watershed Conservation Strategy 2003
9. Ogunquit River Watershed Management Plan 2007
10. A Conservation Plan for the Mount Agamenticus Region 2004 *
11. The Land Conservation Plan for Maine's Piscataqua Region Watersheds 2010 anticipated publication
12. Headwaters: A Collaborative Conservation Plan for the Town of Sanford 2009
13. Spruce Creek Watershed Conservation Strategy 2003
14. Spruce Creek Watershed Based Management Plan 2008 *
15. Webhannet River Conservation Strategy 2003
16. York River Watershed Management Plan 2005
17. York River Conservation Strategy 2003

* Documents authored by other organizations with Wells Reserve support.

What is a watershed?

An area in which water, sediments, and dissolved material drain to a common outlet, such as a river, lake, bay, or ocean.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

A geographic area in which water flows on its way to a larger water body, such as a stream, river, estuary, lake, or ocean. Coastal and ocean resources are affected not only by activities in coastal areas but also by those in upland watersheds.

U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy

Why these watersheds?

The chart shows the Maine watersheds and towns that are included in the web-based Seacoast Watershed Information Manager (swim.wellsreserve.org). The SWIM website offers lots more information plus downloadable versions of the reference documents.

What is in these documents?

The first step in watershed planning is often a **nonpoint pollution survey**, which helps identify threats to water quality. A **watershed conservation strategy** identifies key natural resources within a watershed to help guide planning. A **watershed management plan** recommends actions a community can take to maintain and improve water quality and river health. A **fishery management plan** guides future actions and activities affecting a river and promotes stewardship and partnerships.