

HOPKINS PROPERTY, FOSTER
FOSTER LAND TRUST
BASELINE DOCUMENTATION REPORT



PREPARED BY APPLIED BIO-SYSTEMS, INC.
MARCH, 2011
FOR THE FOSTER LAND TRUST

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FOSTER LAND TRUST

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HOPKINS PROPERTY BASELINE DOCUMENT DRAFT

1. Land Info:

Current Landowner: Foster Land Trust

Property Name: "Hopkins Property"

Municipality: Foster

County: Providence

State: Rhode Island

Plat / Lot Information: Lot 48 of Foster Tax Assessor's Plat 15 (Figure 1)

Owner information

The Foster Land Trust was established by Charter Amendment with the authority to acquire, hold, and manage real property and interest therein, including development rights, situated in the town for the purpose of protecting, managing and preserving natural areas, forest land, farm land, aquifer recharge areas, rivers and streams, swamps and marshes, wildlife habitats, walking and bicycle paths, sports and playing fields and historical sites.

The Foster Land Trust is the Fee owner of the property described as that parcel of land containing approximately twenty-four (24) acres of land on the southerly side of Danielson Pike and the easterly side of Rams Tail Road, in the Town of Foster. The Foster Land Trust is a municipal land trust whose by-laws are part of the charter of the Town of Foster. The Land Trust acquired the "Hopkins" property in December of 2008 with support of a RIDEM Open Space Grant Award and funding assistance from TNC and The Champlin Foundations.

Parcel Data

Parcel Name is the Hopkins Property and the property is located at Ram Tail Road and Danielson Pike (Route 6), Foster, RI (Map 15 Lot 48). The parcel is 24.9 acres in size and is comprised of various habitats including deciduous hardwoods, coniferous woods, riverine habitat including the Ponagansett River and Dolly Cove Brook, field, marsh and vernal pool. The centerline of Dolly Cole Brook is the eastern boundary of the parcel and the centerline of the Ponagansett River is the southwestern boundary (refer to Figure 2 for aerial photo).

Land

The property is conserved and protected from development in perpetuity. A Management Plan exists for the property (refer to Figure 15). The land consists of woods and wetlands with a walking trail that leads from the gated entrance off of Ram's Tail Road to the confluence of Dolly Cole Brook and Ponagansett River. Evidence of a former bridge remains at this location .

Conservation Easement Name:

Conservation Easement Information

Conservation Easement Recorded in Volume 0161 Page 0739

Conservation Values – values, uses and restrictions:

A management plan exists for the parcel, refer to Figure 15. The Foster Land Trust will also be working with Trout Unlimited to prepare a specialized "fishing management plan".

2. Purpose of Protection or Use – statement of purpose from land conservation organization:

Purpose and Values:

- To conserve and protect the special plant and animal populations on the Premises, and to prevent its use or development for any purpose or in any manner that would conflict with the maintenance of the Premises, in its current, natural, scenic and open condition
- That the Premises will be retained forever in its open, natural, scenic, agricultural, ecological, or educational condition and to prevent any use of the Premises that will significantly impair or interfere with the conservation values of the Premises

Prohibited activities (Refer to Conservation Easement for full language):

- Subdivision of land or disturbance or change in natural habitat
- Placement or construction of buildings or improvements. Refer to Management Plan
- Any alteration of land, roads or change in topography except the maintenance of existing foot trails.
- Any removal, destruction or cutting of trees or plants or planting of trees or plants, use of fertilizers, spraying with biocides, introduction of non-native animals, except as set forth in Management Plan
- The dumping or storing of any materials; the changing of topography or any activity that would cause siltation or erosion on the Premises
- The manipulation or alteration of water resources or activities which would be detrimental to water purity, protection of watershed or alteration of water levels and / or flow
- The operation of any motorized vehicles, except for maintenance of Premises or protect Premises during an emergency
- Hunting or trapping of animals except as set forth in Management Plan

The grantors of the property expressed the will to keep fishing access open to the public (personal communication with Walter May, Sept 16, 2010). Fishing access is part of the RIDEM – approved Management Plan for the property.

Landuse History

Several stone walls and remnants of historic stone foundations exist throughout the property.

3. Property Description

Boundaries

The entire property was surveyed in 2008 By Foster Survey Company – plan dated September 18, 2008. During the site inspection performed on September 16, 2010 by Applied Bio-Systems, Inc. with Walter May of the Foster Land Trust; we found the majority of the property bound survey markers were located except for four (4) points located along the southern edge of the Hopkins Mill Cemetery and points surrounding lot (AP 22 Lot 4). All other points are photo documented and demarcated in the field. (Refer to Figure 3 for copy of reduced survey plan).

Topography

See attached USGS Topographic Map Figure 4.

Soils

The Soil Survey of Rhode Island (Rector, 1981) classifies roughly 50% of the property as having wetland (hydric) soil units. Refer to Figure 5. The following 6 soil classification units are found within the parcel:

Canton and Charlton fine sandy loams (CeC): These gently sloping to sloping, well drained soils are on side slopes and crests of glacial upland hills and ridges. Stones and boulders cover 2 to 10 percent of the surface, and rock outcrops cover up to 10 percent. Areas are irregular in shape and mostly range from 3 to 250 acres. The mapped acreage of this unit is approximately 50 percent Canton soils, 30 percent Charlton soils, and 20 percent other soils. The areas of this unit consist of either Canton soils or Charlton soils or both. The soils were mapped together because they have no major differences in use and management.

These soils are suitable for woodland and trees. Stones and rock outcrops make these soils unsuitable for cultivation. These soils are suitable for woodland wildlife habitat. The rock outcrops limit suitability for openland wildlife habitat and the soils are too dry to provide wetland wildlife habitat.

Hinckley gravelly sandy loams: Hinckley gravelly sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes (HkA): This nearly level, excessively drained soil is on terraces and outwash plains. Areas are irregular in shape and mostly range from 5 to 75 acres. Hinckley gravelly sandy loam, rolling (HkC): This excessively drained soil is on

terraces, outwash plains, kames, and eskers. Areas are irregular in shape and mostly range from 2 to 20 acres. Slopes range from 3 to 15 percent. Hinckley gravelly sandy loam, hilly (HkD): This excessively drained soil is on terraces, outwash plains, kames, eskers, and recessional moraines. Areas are irregular in shape and mostly range from 5 to 40 acres. Slopes range from 15 to 35 percent.

This soil is suited to cultivated crops. The soil is suitable for woodland wildlife habitat and openland wildlife habitat. It is too dry to provide wetland wildlife habitat.

Merrimac sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes (MmA): This nearly level, somewhat excessively drained soil is on outwash plains and terraces. Areas are irregular in shape and mostly range from 2 to 400 acres.

This soil is suited to trees and forested land. This soil is suited to cultivated crops and irrigation is needed. The soil is suitable for woodland wildlife habitat and openland wildlife habitat. It is too dry to provide wetland wildlife habitat.

Scarboro mucky sandy loam (Sb): This nearly level, very poorly drained soil is in depressions and drainageways of terraces and outwash plains. Slopes range from 0 to 3 percent but are dominantly less than 1 percent. Areas are irregular in shape and range mostly from 2 to 50 acres. This soil unit is a hydric soil type.

This soil is hydric and poorly suited for cultivation or community development. The soil is poorly suited to woodland wildlife habitat and openland wildlife habitat; however, it is suited for wetland wildlife habitat.

Sudbury sandy loam (Ss): This nearly level, moderately well drained soil is in depressions in terraces and outwash plains. Areas are irregular in shape and range mostly from 3 to 50 acres. Slopes range from 0 to 3 percent. This soil unit has a seasonally high water table during the growing season.

The soil is suited to woodland wildlife habitat and openland wildlife habitat. It is not suited to wetland wildlife habitat because it is too dry in the summer.

Walpole sandy loam (Wa): This nearly level, poorly drained soil is in depressions and small drainageways of terraces and outwash plains. Areas are irregular in shape and range mostly from 2 to 70 acres. This soil unit is a hydric soil type.

This soil is hydric and poorly suited for cultivation or community development. The soil is poorly suited to woodland wildlife habitat and openland wildlife habitat; however, it is suited for wetland wildlife habitat.

Agricultural Values / Open Space Values / Landscape

There is no agricultural land within the subject property or directly abutting the property (Refer to Figure 6). A historical cemetery exists adjacent to the north-western corner of the property. The property abuts a classified historic district to the west and south. The lot is located within a relatively unfragmented landscape with very few residential housing lot which adds to its high open space value.

Wetlands/Rivers/Streams

Much of the parcel is wetland habitat and the Ponagansett River is along much of the length of the western property line and Dolly Cove River is the entire length of the eastern property line. The confluence of the two rivers is the southern point of the property. Refer to Figure 7. The Ponagansett River is known trout fishing waters and the property allows public access for trout fishing and will be managed by "Trout Unlimited" in the near future.

Water Resources

The parcel is entirely within the Barden Reservoir Watershed and Sub Basin. This parcel is the connecting link between the Ponagansett River Corridor (protected open space for public use) and the Barden Reservoir, part of the Scituate Reservoir Watershed (closed to public use). The Scituate Reservoir Tributaries Subbasin #RI0006015 waters are classified by RIDEM as Class AA.

Class AA Waters - These waters are designated as a source of public drinking water supply (PDWS) or as tributary waters within a public drinking water supply watershed for primary and secondary contact recreational activities and for fish and wildlife habitat. These waters shall have excellent aesthetic value. Refer to Figure 8 Sub basin map.

Flora and Fauna

Only one flora and fauna survey was conducted during the site walk performed on September 16, 2010 by Applied Bio-Systems, Inc. Wildlife species were observed by vocalizations, sight and tracks / sign. This survey should not be regarded as a complete inventory of the property. During this survey a few wildlife species were observed; most note-worthy being a 6-foot black racer snake (*Coluber constrictor*) along the edge of the vernal pool on the property. Other species observed that day include: American crow, blue jay, downy woodpecker, white-breasted nuthatch and several common green darner dragonflies (*Anax junius*). An active beaver (*Castor canadensis*) lodge was observed at the west side bank of the Dolly Cove Brook. Additional wildlife surveys at different times of the year will be required to achieve a more representative listing of wildlife species present within the site. The Rhode Island Natural Heritage Program has not documented any Endangered or Threatened species within the property. Refer to Figure 9.

The property provides valuable habitat for many species of wildlife that were not observed during our inspection. Other species are expected to utilize the wetland and upland areas throughout the year. These species of wildlife include game and non-game species, which may be either obligate or facultative, and which may be permanent residents, seasonal or transient in nature. The two rivers serve as a valuable travel corridor for obligate wetland species connecting wildlife habitats. These wildlife species include: brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*), other fish species and larger aquatic animals such as mink (*Mustela vison*), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*), or otter (*Lutra Canadensis*). The wetlands and riverine habitat serves as a nesting site, feeding site, resting site, nursery and/or brood rearing site, escape cover, and seasonal breeding, migration, and overwintering habitat for wildlife.

The vegetative survey was conducted during the baseline survey on September 16, 2010. The forested habitats are comprised dominantly of black oak (*Quercus velutina*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), white oak (*Quercus alba*) and white pine (*Pinus strobus*). The understory throughout much of the wooded upland habitats was primarily open with little understory. Other vegetative habitats present within the property consist of marsh, white pine forest, open field, early successional forest and Vernal Pool. Refer to Figure 10 for entire observed vegetative species list.

Rare, Endangered and / or Threatened Plant Animal Species

No known rare, endangered and / or threatened plant or animal species exist within the property. However, the RIDEM Environmental Resource Map identifies a large Natural Heritage Area for rare species to the east of the property as well as two additional smaller areas on the northern end of Barden Reservoir south of the subject property. It is likely that rare plant and / or animal species exist within the property because of the proximity to other rare species as well as adequate natural, pristine habitat. Additional site inspections during different seasons of the year would be required to document presence or absence of endangered and threatened species. Refer to Figure 11.

Invasive Vegetative Species

Several invasive plants were noted on the property. These include: bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*), buckthorn (*Rhamnus* sp.) and common reed (*Phragmites australis*). These species are in bold type in Figure 10.

Historic, Educational, Recreational, & Scenic Resources

This property contains several remnants of stone foundations from a historic mill dam and several stonewalls. The remains of a historic bridge are located at the confluence of Dolly Cove Brook and Ponagansett River at the property's southern point.

Roads and Trails

A walking trail leads from the northwest corner of the property, where a small unmarked area for parking is available. This trail is well used and accessible. It meanders south through the property leading people to the southern point of the parcel where it meets the confluence of the Dolly Cole Brook and Ponagansett River. Historically, at this location a bridge crossed the river here to allow access to the other bank, however, only stone footings remain in existence. The trail allows hikers and fishermen to access the river.

Structures/Human disturbance/Alterations

There are no buildings or structures located within the parcel. However, remnants of an old dam and mill are located within the wooded portions of the property. A historical walking trail is still presently used within the property. The property is accessible for fishing. Evidence of a recent fire was observed during the inspection within the wetland and trail area just before the southern point of the old bridge abutments.

FIGURE 1

Town of Foster Tax Assessor's Plat Map to be placed here

FIGURE 2
SURVEY PLAN

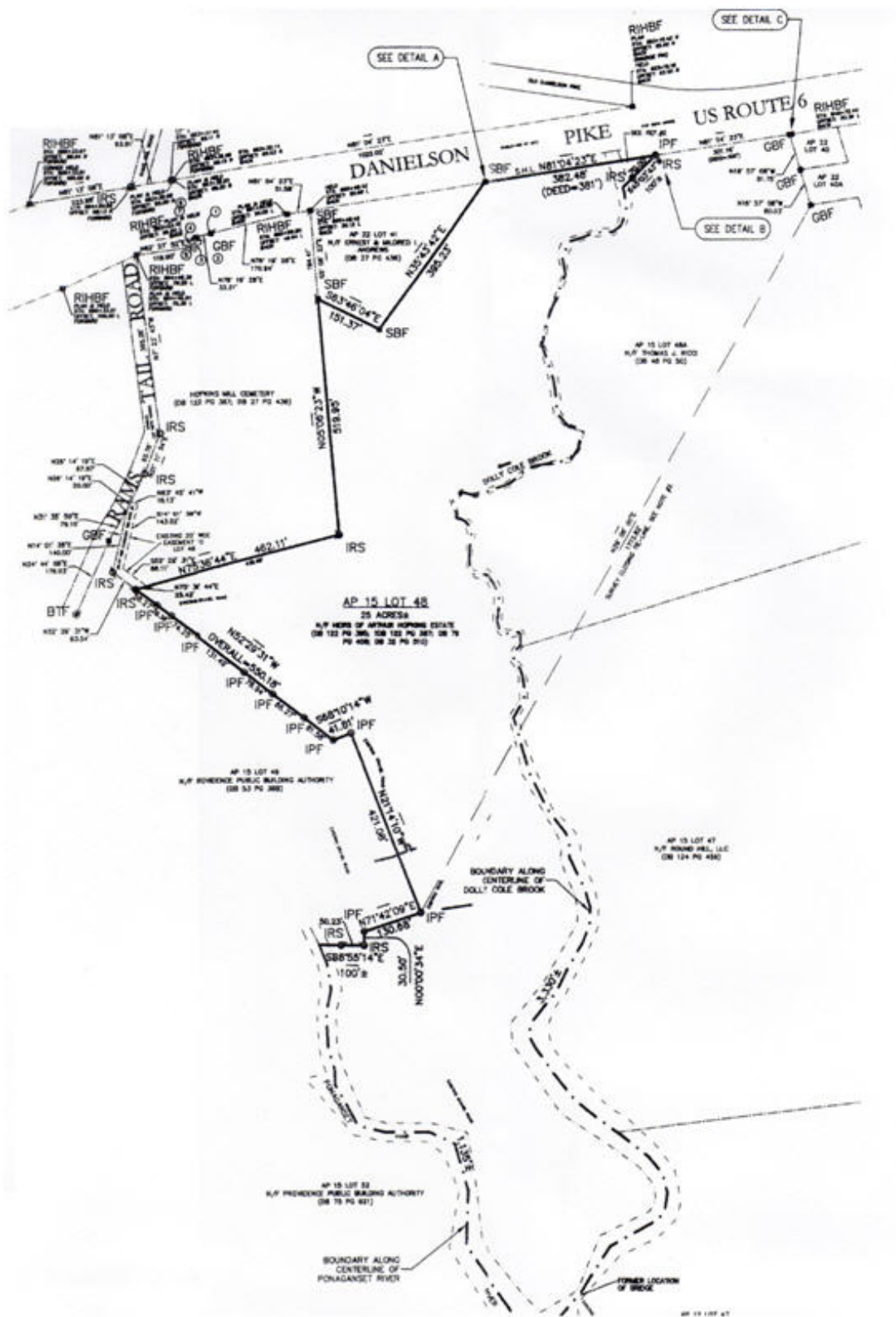


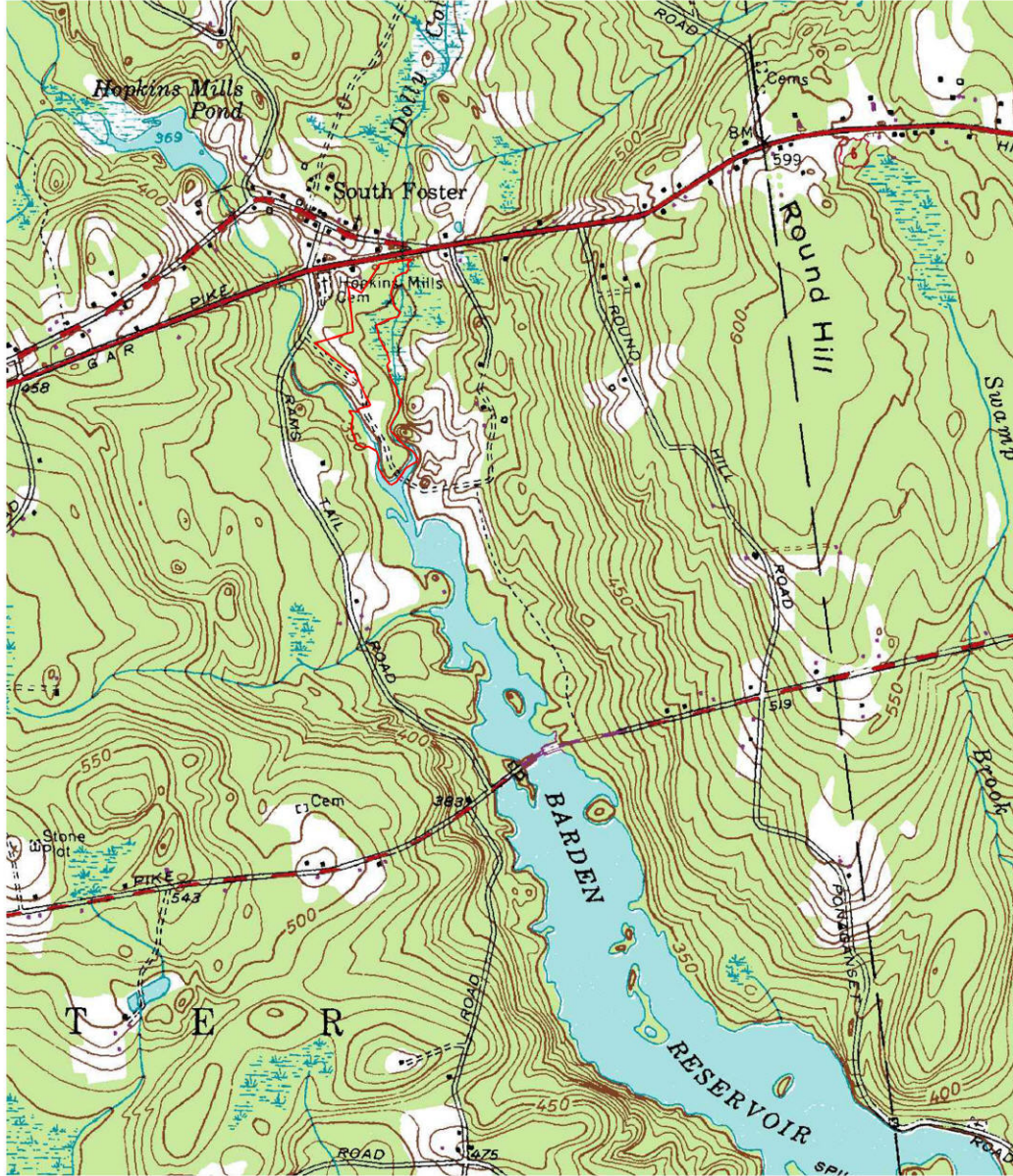
FIGURE 3

Aerial Photo /. Property Map
Hopkins Property, Foster Land Trust
Foster, Rhode Island



FIGURE 4

USGS Topographic Map
Hopkins Property, Foster Land Trust
Foster, Rhode Island

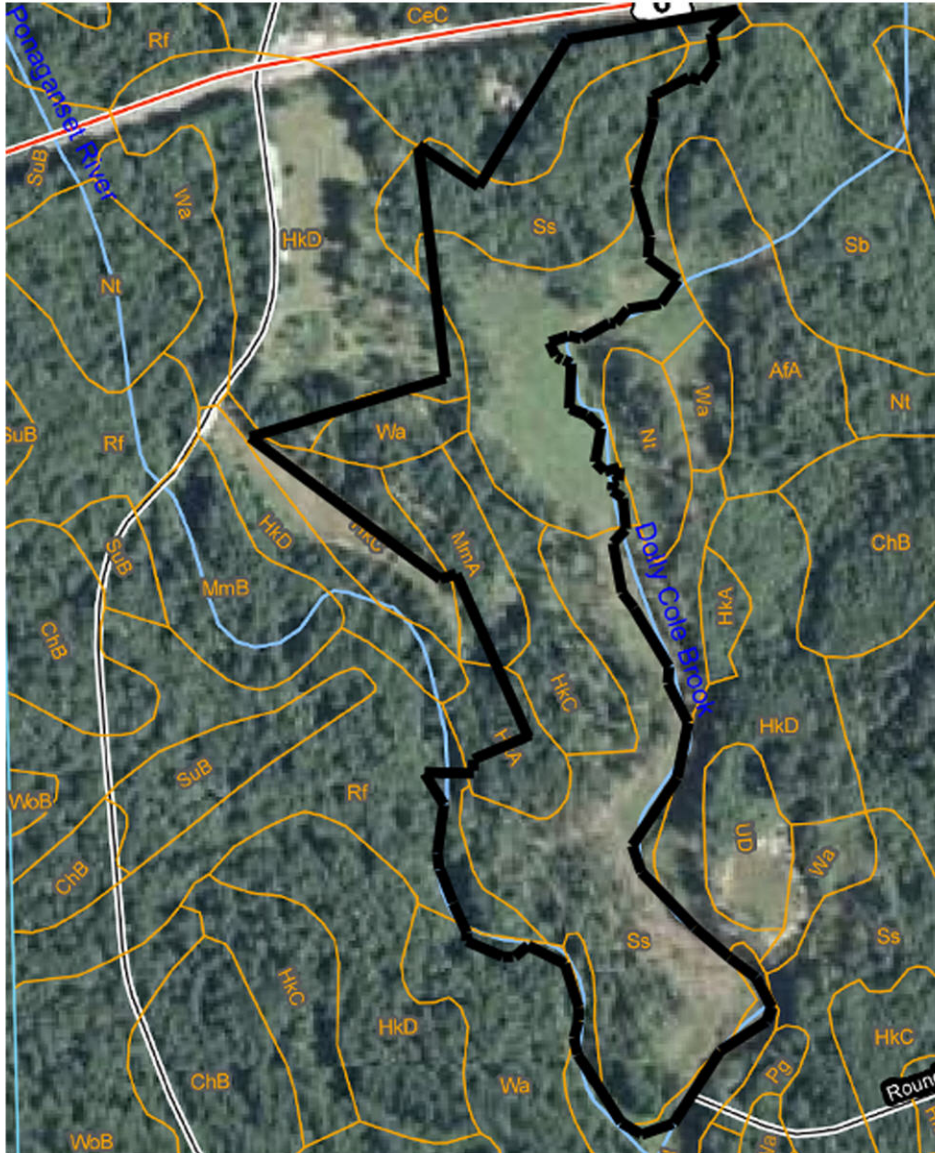


USGS 7.5 Minute Topographical
Clayville Quadrangle from
www.usgs.gov



FIGURE 5

Soils Map
Hopkins Property, Foster Land Trust
Foster, Rhode Island



Base layer map generated from: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

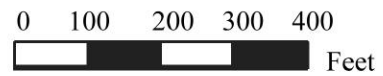
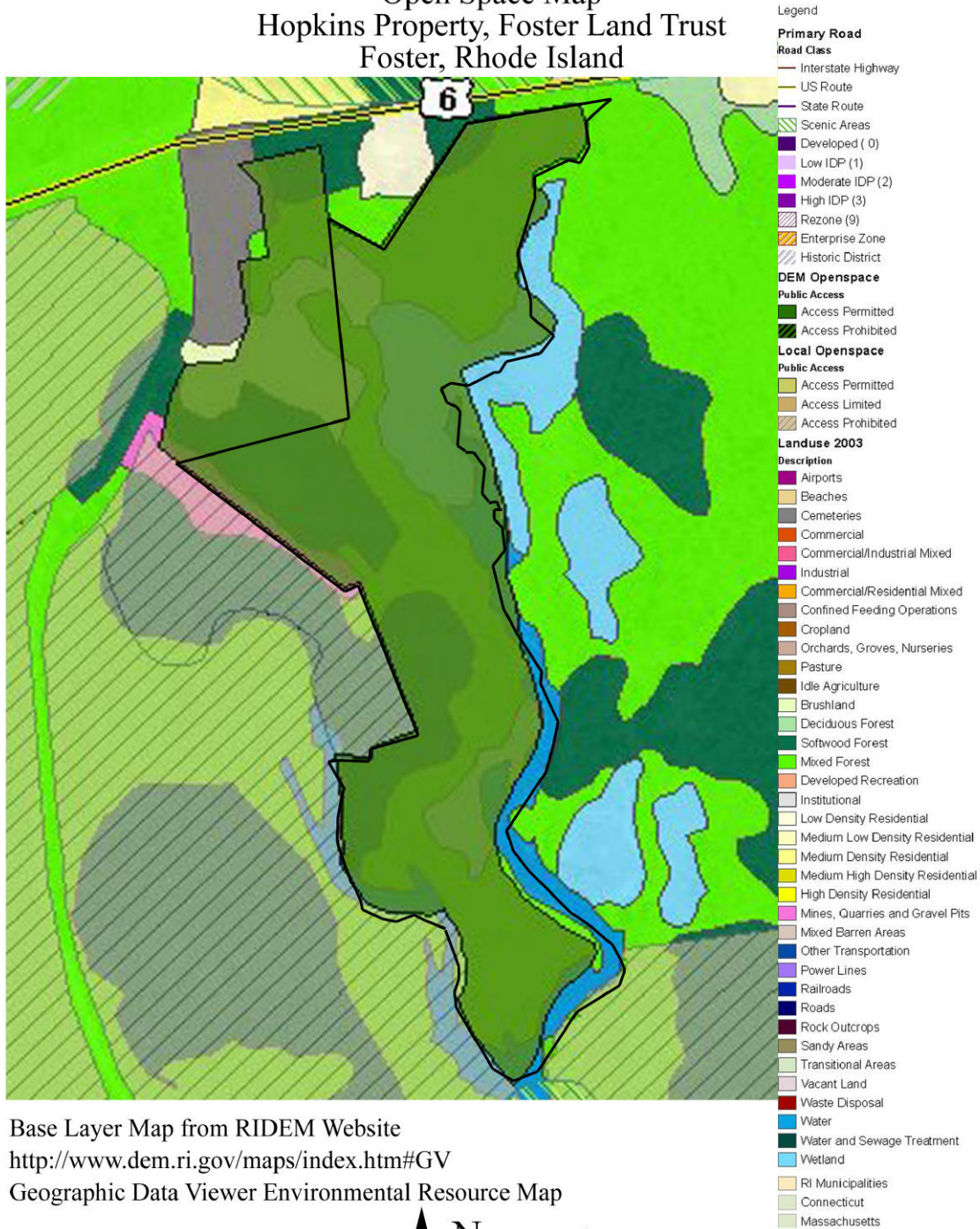


FIGURE 6

Open Space Map
Hopkins Property, Foster Land Trust
Foster, Rhode Island



Base Layer Map from RIDEM Website
<http://www.dem.ri.gov/maps/index.htm#GV>
 Geographic Data Viewer Environmental Resource Map

Note, approximate locations of open space areas - not field verified by RIDEM

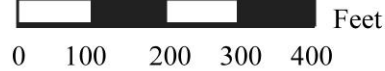


FIGURE 7

Wetlands Location Map
Hopkins Property, Foster Land Trust
Foster, Rhode Island



Base Layer Map from RIDEM Website <http://www.dem.ri.gov/maps/index.htm#GV>
Geographic Data Viewer Environmental Resource Map



N

0 100 200 300 400 Feet

Note- Approximate location of wetlands - not field verified by RIDEM

FIGURE 8

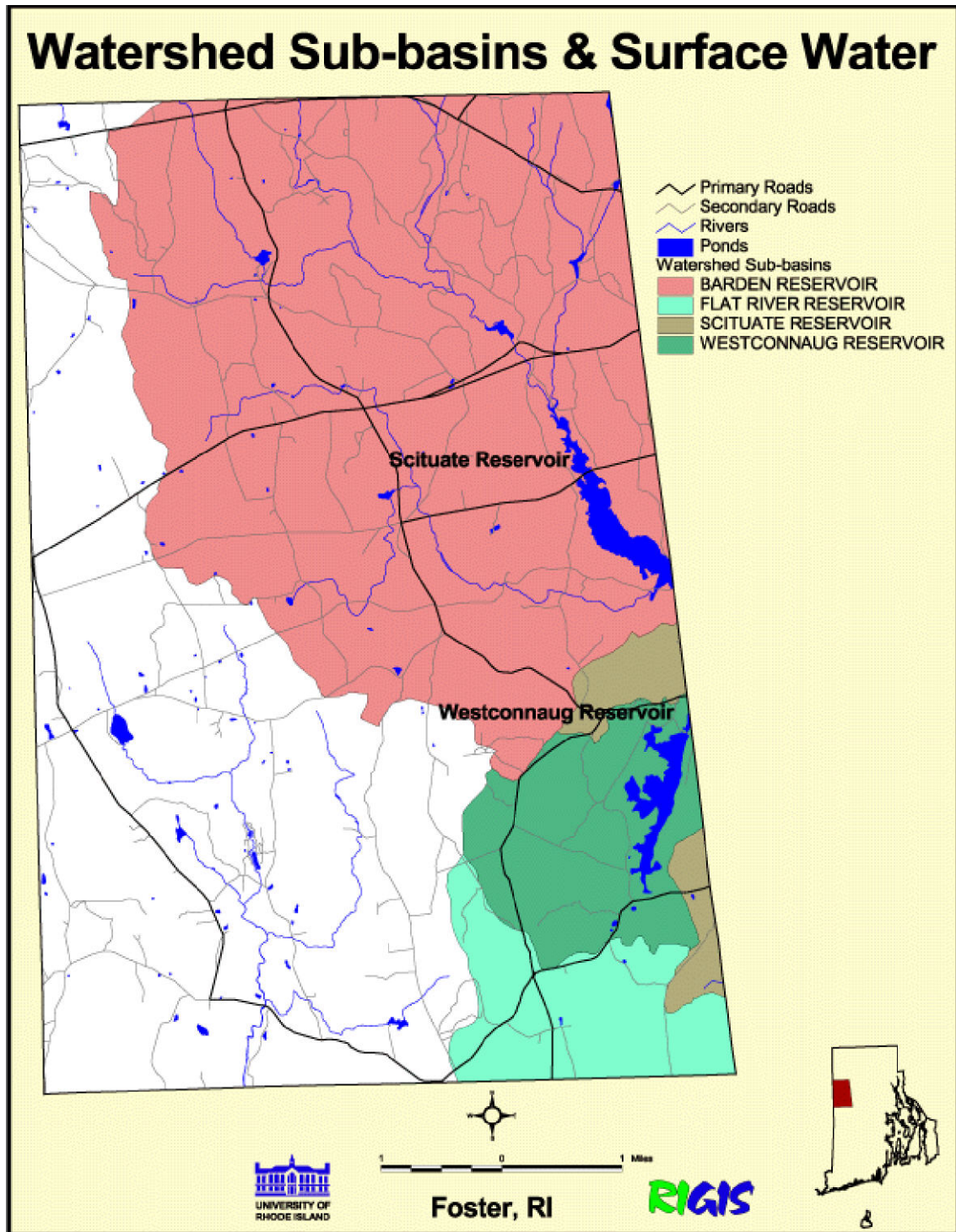


FIGURE 9

FOSTER LAND TRUST													
FOSTER, Ram Tail Road and Danielson Pike													
AP 15 Lot 48													
WILDLIFE BASELINE													
by Applied Bio-Systems, Inc.													
OBSERVED WILDLIFE SPECIES													
				9/16/2010		WOODS		FIELD		RIVER		EDGE	WETLAND
Birds													
	American crow (<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>)		X										
	blue jay (<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>)		X										
	downy woodpecker (<i>Picoides pubescens</i>)		X										
	white-breasted nuthatch (<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>)		X										
Mammals													
	white-tailed deer (<i>Odocoileus virginiana</i>)		X			X							
Amphibians / Reptiles													
	black racer (<i>Coluber constrictor</i>)		X								X		
	green frog (<i>Rana clamitans</i>)		X						X				
Invertebrates													
	common green darner (<i>Anax junius</i>)		X					X					
Fish													
	none observed												

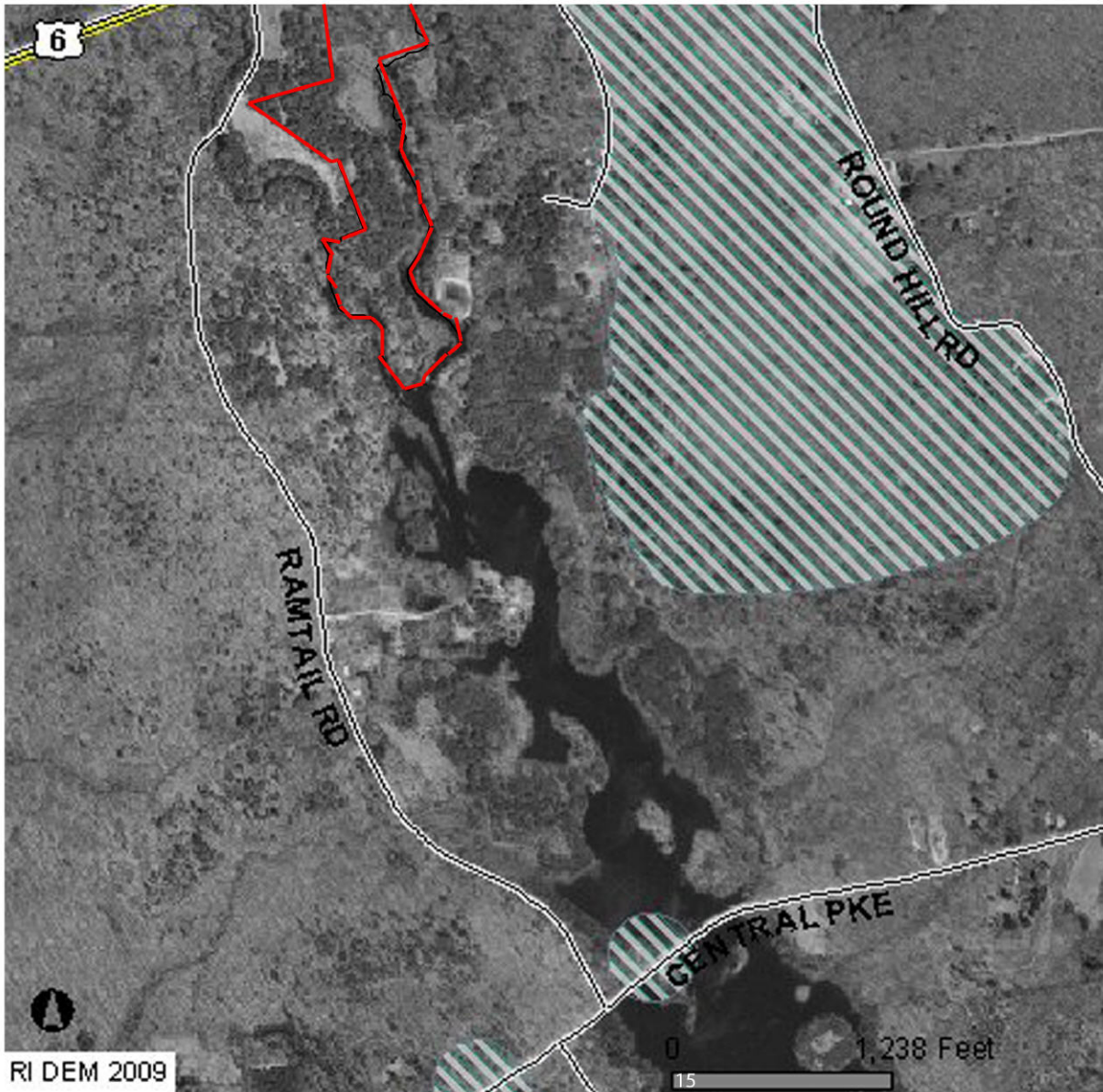
EXPECTED WILDLIFE SPECIES (THESE WERE NOT OBSERVED)				
american woodcock				
barn swallow				
barred owl				
black and white warbler				
eastern bluebird				
eastern phoebe				
eastern wood pewee				
great crested flycatcher				
great horned owl				
hairy woodpecker				
mallard duck				
northern cardinal				
northern oriole				
red-tailed hawk				
ruby throated hummingbird				
tree swallow				
wild turkey				
coyote				
fischer				
gray fox				
ground hog				
opossum				
raccoon				
red fox				
short-tailed weasel				
striped skunk				
northern gray tree frog				
red-backed salamander				
spotted salamander				
spring peeper				
wood frog				
brook trout				

FIGURE 10

Vegetation	WOODS	FIELD	RIVER	EDGE	WETLAND
FOSTERLAND TRUST					
FOSTER, Ram Tail Road and Danielson Pike					
AP 15 Lot 48					
Vegetation Baseline by Applied Bio-Systems, Inc.					
Vegetation	9/16/2010	FIELD	RIVER	EDGE	WETLAND
Trees/shrubs					
black oak (<i>Quercus velutina</i> Lam.)	X				
buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus</i> sp.)	X				
gray birch (<i>Betula populifolia</i>)	X		X		
hickory (<i>Carya</i> sp.)	X				
highbush blueberry (<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>)	X				X
red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>)	X		X	X	
scrub oak (<i>Quercus ilicifolia</i>)	X				
white oak (<i>Quercus alba</i>)	X			X	
white pine (<i>Pinus strobus</i>)	X				
wild cherry (<i>Prunus serotina</i>)					
yellow birch (<i>Betula</i> sp.)	X				
Herbaceous					
American bitterweet (<i>Celastrus scandens</i>)	X			X	
bristly dewberry (<i>Rubus hispida</i>)	X			X	
bristly sarsaparilla (<i>Aralia hispida</i>)	X			X	
cinnamon fern (<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>)	X				X
common reed (<i>Phragmites australis</i>)	X				X
hay-scented fern (<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i> (Michx.) T. Moore)	X			X	
indian cucumber root (<i>Medeola virginiana</i> L.)	X				
jack-in-pulpit (<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>)	X				X
poison ivy (<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>)	X				X
prince's pine (<i>Lycopodium dendroideum</i> Michx.)	X				X
royal fern (<i>Osmunda regalis</i>)	X				X
sphagnum sp. (<i>Sphagnum</i> sp.)	X				X
spotted wintergreen (<i>Chimaphilla maculata</i>)	X			X	
tussock sedge (<i>Carex stricta</i>)	X				X

FIGURE 11

RARE SPECIES AREA - NATURAL HERITAGE MAP
HOPKINS PROPERTY, FOSTER
FOSTER LAND TRUST



Base Layer Map from RIDEM website <http://www.dem.ri.gov/maps/index.htm#G>
Geographic Data Viewer Environmental Resource Map

Note - Approximate Location of Rare Species Habitat Areas - not field verified by RIDEM

FIGURE 12

Photo Documentation Location Map
Hopkins Property, Foster Land Trust
Foster, Rhode Island



Base Layer Map from RIDEM Website <http://www.dem.ri.gov/maps/index.htm#GV>

Geographic Data Viewer Environmental Resource Map

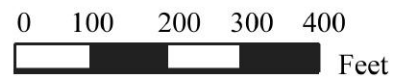


FIGURE 13



Photo #1 Point 1 - looking NW at property



Photo # 2 Point 2 - looking north at access



Photo # 3 Point 3 - black racer outside of vernal pool



Photo # 4 Point 4 looking south along berm



Photo # 5 Point 5 looking southwest



Photo # 6 Point 6 looking southwest



Photo # 7 Point 7 - looking west at property line survey flag



Photo # 8 Point 7 - survey flag on ground



Photo # 9 Point 7 - looking west at center of Ponagansett River which is property line

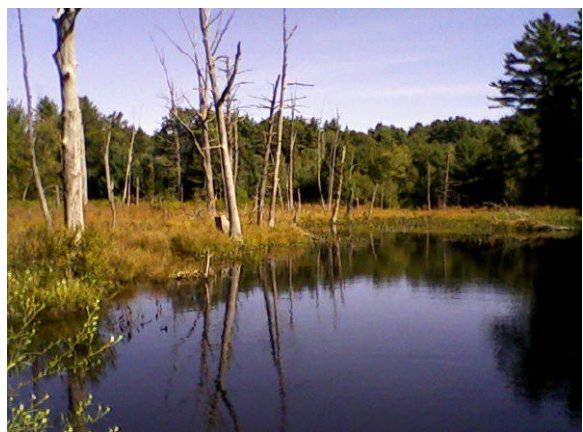


Photo # 10 Point 8 - looking north at wetland



Photo # 11 Point 8 - looking southeast at old bridge remnants and beaver dam



Photo # 12 Point 8 - looking south at confluence of 2 rivers



Photo # 13 Point 9 - looking south



Photo # 14 Point 10 - looking south

FIGURE 14

Photo Point Description Sheet
Hopkins Property, Foster Land Trust
Foster, RI

Photo No.	Photo Point	Photo Description
1	1	Looking northwest at property corner from western property line closest to Ram Tail Road
2	2	Looking north at access gate close to western property line near Ram Tail Road
3	3	Looking at black racer snake within Vernal Pool habitat midway through parcel
4	4	Looking south at western property line located along berm.
5	5	Looking southwest at point along western property line
6	6	Looking southwest at point along western property line
7	7	Looking west at point along western property line.
8	7	closeup photo of survey marker at photo point 7 along western property line.
9	7	Looking west at center of Ponagansett River which is western property line.
10	8	Looking north at Dolly Cove Brook and wetland.
11	8	Looking southeast at southern property point within parcel.
12	8	Looking south at confluence of two rivers at southern property point of parcel.
13	9	Looking south at property marker on northern line - western side of frontage along route 6
14	10	Looking south at property marker on northern line - eastern side of frontage along route 6

FIGURE 15

HOPKINS MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. PROPERTY MAPS INCLUDED:
 - a) Topographic Map showing:
 - i. property boundaries
 - ii. physical features
 - iii. scale and north arrow
 - iv. locations of management activities
 - v. vegetation types
 - b) Plat Map showing:
 - i. public access (A)
 - ii. vehicle parking (B)
 - iii. trail to confluence of rivers (C)
 - iv. rest stop (D)
2. PUBLIC USE:
 - i. Public access is from a deeded Right-of-Way through the Hopkins Mill Cemetery on F Tail Road as shown on the property map (A).
 - ii. There will be space for about 5 cars along the Right-of-Way just before a locked gate (B).
 - iii. Beyond that location, access to trails is for foot traffic only. Foot traffic welcome; hiking, birding, snow-shoeing, cross-country skiing, passive recreation activities.
 - iv. The trail consists of an abandoned dirt road continuing from the gate to the south boundary of the property at the confluence of the Dolly Cole Brook and the Ponagansett River. The main trail ends at the remnants of an historic bridge (C). There is a loop trail back with views of the Dolly Cole Brook.
 - v. There is a rest stop with a picnic table along the Ponagansett River (D).
 - vi. This is a Carry-in, Carry-out hiking area. No facilities; no trash receptacles.
 - vii. Open Dawn to Dusk
 - viii. Due to the proximity of the Barden Reservoir (E), only limited fishing will be allowed
 - Fishing regulations not yet finalized: Foster Land Trust (FLT), Trout Unlimited (TU) (contact: Al Ball), and DEM Division of Fish and Wildlife (contact: Christine Dudman) will prepare fishing regulations for future submission.
 - Prior to opening this property for public fishing access, several management practices will be tried via public events sponsored by TU and the FLT. (see 5-year plan below)
 - ix. Prohibited Activities:
 - 1) No motorized vehicles
 - 2) No swimming
 - 3) No equestrian activities
 - 4) No mountain biking
 - 5) No unauthorized open fires
 - 6) No unauthorized camping
 - 7) No hunting
3. MAINTENANCE
 - i. The property will be overseen by the Foster Land Trust.

- ii. Trout Unlimited will oversee the fishing access. They will be closely monitoring the property and removing trash weekly during season. At the time of this writing, Al Ball, or designee, will monitor the grounds and
- iii. has agreed to monitor the Water Quality (NCRS Stream Assessment) of both rivers at confluence.
- iv. Only authorized maintenance vehicles will be permitted on the grounds.

4. 5-YEAR PLAN, PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS:

- i. Installation of locked gate (projected for Winter, '08; cost to be covered by Hop family)
- ii. Clear survey bounds marked to prevent trespass on abutting Providence Water S Board property (projected for Spring '09; cost covered by Foster Land Trust step ship funds; signs already purchased).
- iii. Restoration of graveled area near trailhead with native, non-invasive plants donations, volunteer labor, matching grants).
- iv. Dolly Cole Brook access trail improvement.
- v. Trail development which will exhibit and protect cultural artifacts of the historic foundations and bridge crossing, including informational signs.
- vi. Species identification/baseline data collection/educational signs
- vii. A three-year renewable management plan with Trout Unlimited will be developed in order to best assess the fishing management techniques which will provide the amount of environmental impact on water quality and on native species in the area including brook trout. Results of public access to fishing will be evaluated and necessary modifications made. River bank will be monitored and stabilized at designated fishing access.
- viii. Because of the proximity to the Barden Reservoir, fishing access will be limited and closely monitored.
- ix. Public events, such as a family fishing day or a children's educational fishing will be sponsored by TU and FLT as trial fishing management possibilities. Fishing practices will reflect and protect this sensitive environment. Single hook, artificial lure and catch and release procedures have been successful as low impact methods in Falls River area. Float-stocking rainbow and brown trout and/or limiting or excluding native brook trout from the take may be considered. Family-fishing and youth educational fishing events will be tested in several locations to help determine policies that can successfully be managed in this area.
- x. When the area becomes open to public fishing, educational signage, including signage information, will be displayed. Except for management-sponsored public events, fishing will be prohibited until DEM/Land Trust/Trout Unlimited fishing regulations have been approved.
- xi. Forest Management guidelines will be followed to ensure forest, understory and wetland health.

5. RARE SPECIES PROTECTION

- i. Baseline data of species will be documented. Trails will be diverted from habitat areas of any endangered species documented.
- ii. Fishing management plans will strive to protect and increase populations of native species.

iii. Invasive or introduced species may be targeted for removal if a threat to native populations is mented. Environmentally sound forest and wetland management practices will be employed. quired, consideration can be given to selective hunting or trapping for population control and management.

iv. The vernal pond will not be public access, except for educational programs and data collector

6. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

i. A Kiosk with information and photographs of aquatic species found in the area is proposed.

ii. Fish identification (Brook trout vs. rainbow, etc.) will be provided with the assistance of Trout limited.

iii. A self-guided tour of culturally significant artifacts and information about the farming area pri the establishment of the Reservoirs is a part of the projected use plan.

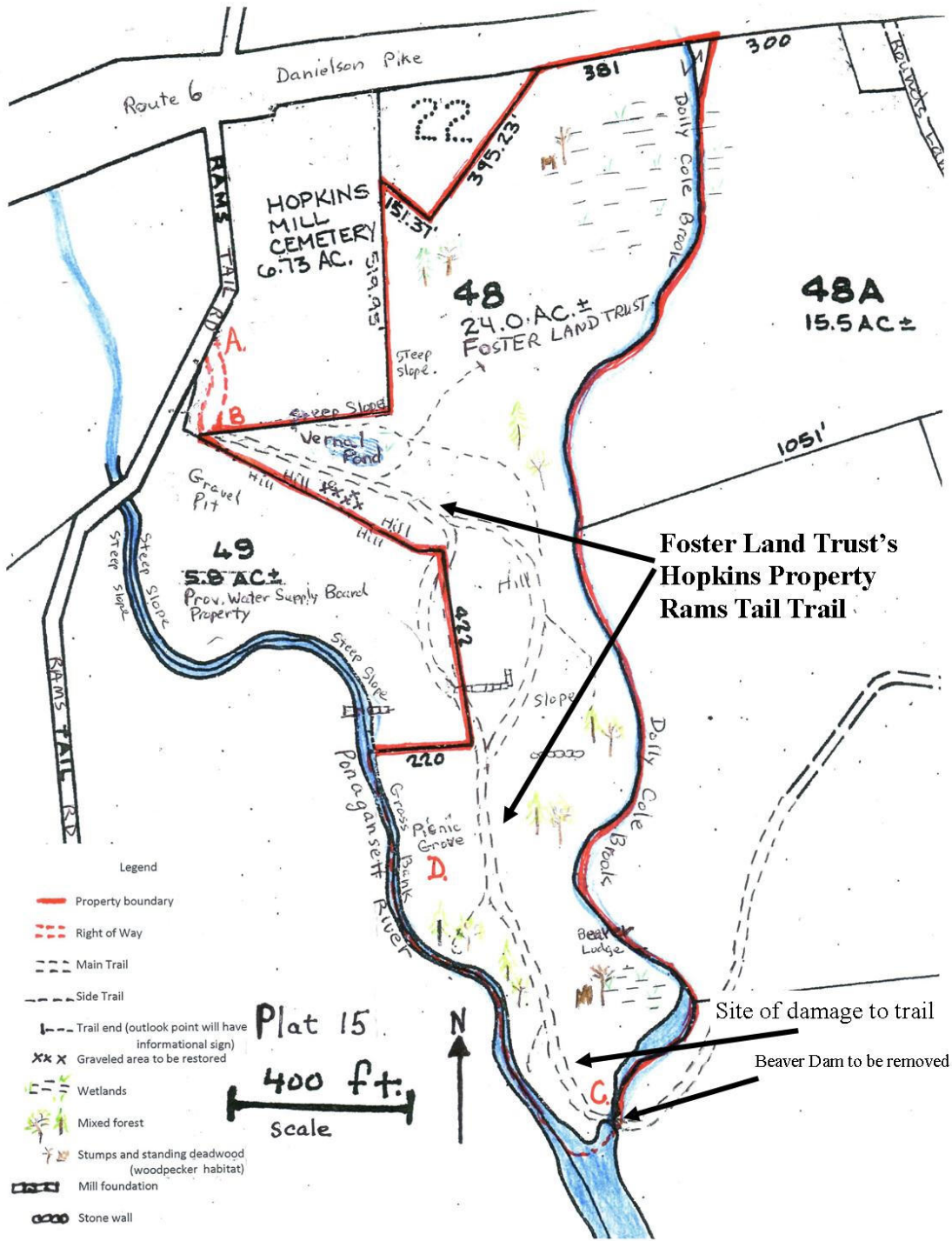
iv. Trout Unlimited will provide educational opportunities such as a family-oriented educational 1 day.

7. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

i. Property boundaries, hours of operation, usages will be posted.

ii. Public access will be marked and a trail map will be available.

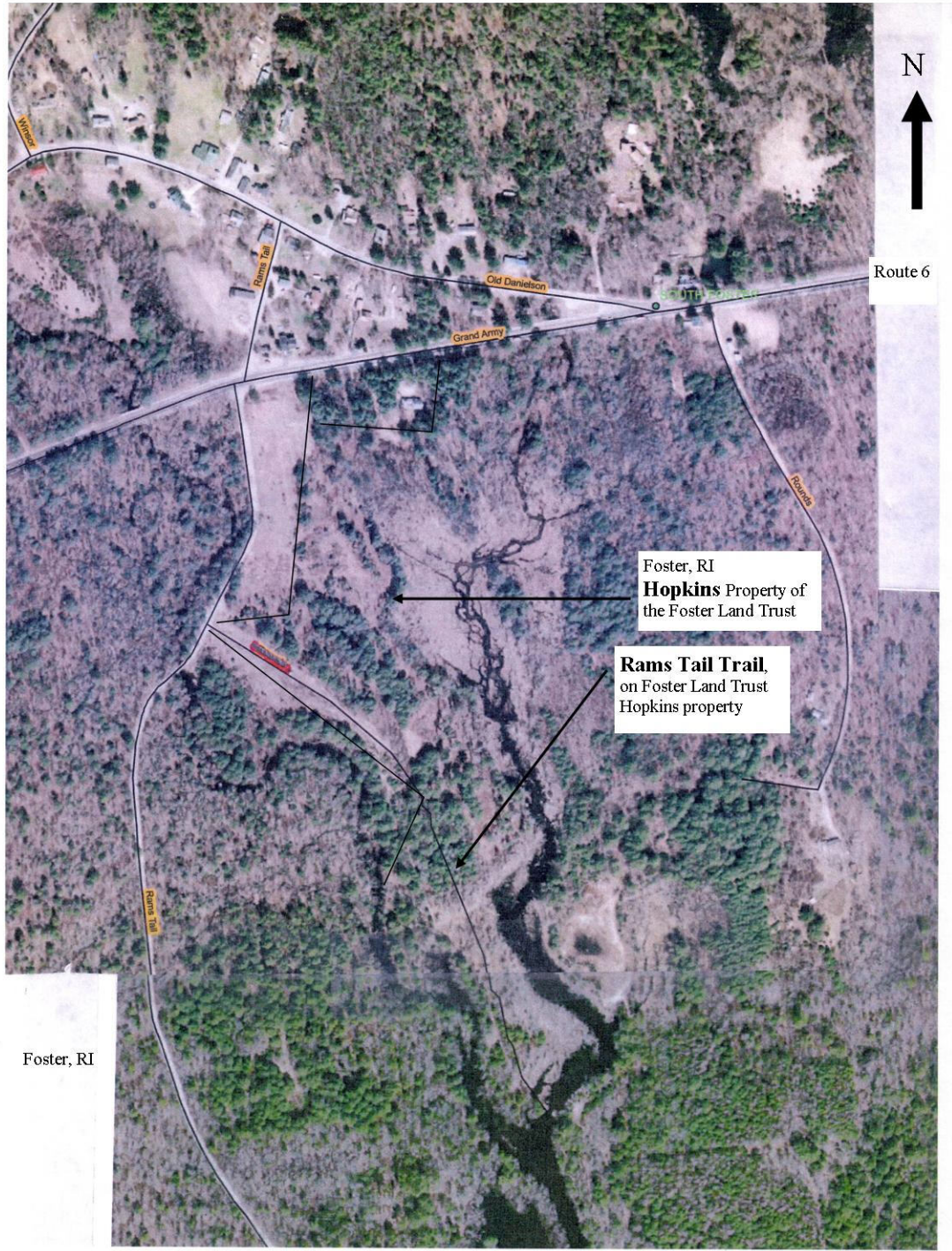
iii. Permanent signs will be used to acknowledge the use of Open Space Bond assistance at the pr



Foster Land Trust's Hopkins Property Rams Tail Trail

Site of damage to trail

Beaver Dam to be removed



Rebecca L. McCue
Senior Wetlands Biologist

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Biology and Management
University of Rhode Island, Kingston RI, May 1995

MEMBERSHIPS

Rhode Island Association of Wetland Scientists
Rhode Island Wild Plant Society
Rhode Island Natural History Survey

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS

Wetland Scientist – Rhode Island Association of Wetland Scientists

BACKGROUND

As Senior Wetlands Biologist, Ms. McCue has worked on a variety of projects with Applied Bio-Systems, Inc. Ms. McCue has worked with Applied Bio-Systems, Inc. since 1997 and has assisted numerous private and state clients in her role as Wetlands Biologist. These clients were provided with a wide array of ecological services including Wetland Delineations, Wildlife and Vegetation Inventories, Soils Analysis, Aerial Photo Interpretations, Wetland Functions / Values Assessment, Project Impact Assessment, Contractor Monitoring, and Environmental Permitting for RIDEM, CRMC, MADEP and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Prior to Applied Bio-Systems, Inc., Ms. McCue held a variety of positions working in the environmental field. These positions included working as a field biologist for the Loon Preservation Committee in Moultonborough, New Hampshire; a Research Assistant for the National Biological Service in Tallulah, Louisiana; and a Wildlife Technician working as a Volunteer for the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Coleharbour, North Dakota.

SPECIAL EXPERTISE

- Wetland Delineation for State and Federal Permitting
- Wildlife Inventories and Habitat Assessments
 - Bird Vocalizations, Mist-netting capture techniques, Small-mammal traps, Amphibian Chorus counts, Vegetative Transects, Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Surveys, Soils Analysis, benthic sampling (river and stream)
- State and Federal Environmental Permitting with RIDEM, CRMC and USACE
- Aerial Photo Interpretations
- Wetlands Functions / Values Assessments
- Contractor Monitoring
- Project Impact Assessment
- Coordination with USACE, RIDEM and CRMC



APPLIED BIO-SYSTEMS, Inc.

Linda A. Steere
President and Principal Wetlands Biologist

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Zoology

University of Rhode Island, Kingston RI, June 1971

Masters of Animal Science

University of Rhode Island, June 1978

MEMBERSHIPS

Association of State Wetland Managers

Rhode Island Association of Wetland Scientists

Rhode Island Wild Plant Society

Rhode Island Natural History Survey

Society of Wetland Scientists

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS

Wetland Scientist – Rhode Island Association of Wetland Scientists

Soil Scientist – The Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England

PUBLICATIONS

Sod removal and replacement tried in tidal marsh restoration, Chumra, G. and Steere, L.; Restoration and Management Notes, 1981, 1:1:22.

Tidal marsh sod replacement trial: Progress Report, Steere, L.; Restoration and Management Notes, 1982, 1:2:124.

Review of Freshwater Wetlands: A Guide to Common Indicator Plants of the Northeast by D. W. McGee, Steere, L.; Restoration and Management Notes, 1982, 1:2:169.

BACKGROUND

Ms. Steere has over 29 years of experience in the field of wetland ecology, permitting and regulatory requirements. Her educational background at the University of Rhode Island is in Wildlife Biology. She obtained an MS in Animal Science (Wildlife Management) and then furthered her education with coursework to become a registered Soils Scientist. She has a strong background in regulatory permitting spending over six years as a Wildlife Biologist for the RI Department of Management – Division of Fish and Wildlife as well as staff Biologist to the CRMC. She left RIDEM in 1986 to start her present firm, Applied Bio-Systems, Inc., in order to provide environmental consulting services to state, local and private clients.

SPECIAL EXPERTISE

- Project Management and Coordination
- Wetland Delineation for State and Federal Permitting
- Wildlife Inventories and Habitat Assessments
 - Bird Vocalizations, Mist-netting capture techniques, small-mammal traps, Amphibian Chorus counts, Vegetative Transects, Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Surveys, Soils Analysis, benthic sampling (river and stream)
- State and Federal Environmental Permitting with RIDEM, CRMC and USACE
- Aerial Photo Interpretations
- Wetlands Functions / Values Assessments
- Contractor Monitoring
- Project Impact Assessment
- Coordination with USACE, RIDEM and CRMC
- Prior experience designing a marine science program for Seascope, an education program for grades 3-8 sponsored by the Marine Advisory Program at the University of Rhode Island