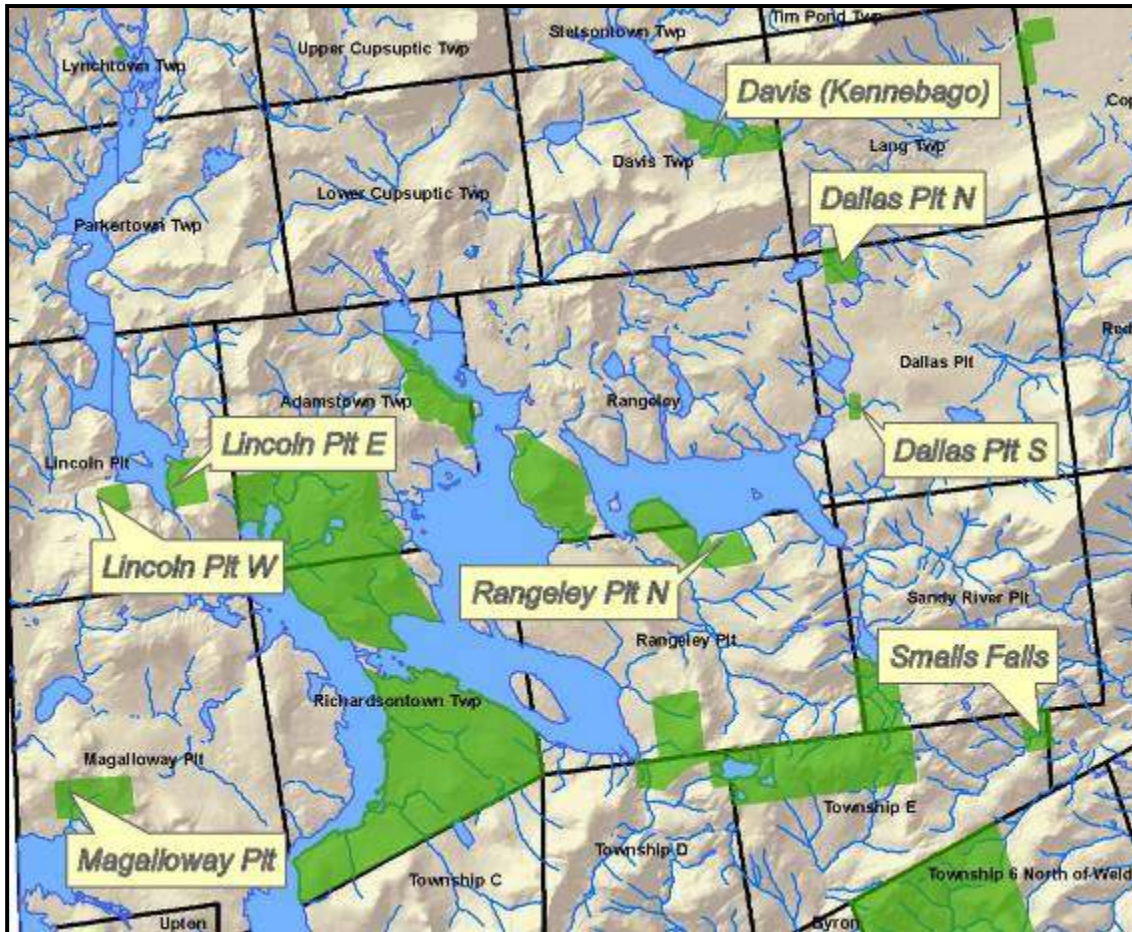


Natural Resource Inventory of the Mahoosuc and Rangeley Region: Small Units



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Mahoosuc/Rangeley Small Units

The numerous smaller scattered holdings in the Mahoosuc/Rangeley Region are managed primarily for forest products and dispersed recreation, such as hunting and fishing. Aside from the lakeshores and Smalls Falls, the units receive comparatively little public use. Units included in this portion of the report are: Dallas Plantation North and South Lots, Kennebago, Lincoln Plantation East and West Lots, Magalloway, Rangeley, and Smalls Falls. The public land units range in size from 66 to 1,764 acres and collectively support roughly equivalent areas of softwood, mixed wood, and hardwood. The smaller lots average 23 cords/acre, which is slightly larger than the BPL regional average stocking and significantly higher than the average stocking on private lands in the region. All the units have been managed for timber by BPL and former owners. No rare or endangered species or rare or exemplary natural communities are known from any of these smaller units.

Dallas Plantation Lots – North and South

The 380-acre Dallas Plantation North Lot is an original state lot that has been managed for forest products for many years, with the most recent harvests occurring in the mid and late 1980s. It is characterized by gentle slopes and mid-aged northern hardwood and mixed forests, with softwoods along a central meandering stream that drains from the Greeley Ponds to Loon Lake. Three small emergent beaver meadows (each less than 2 acres) lie along this stream, and a large area of inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat lies just east of the Unit around the Greeley Ponds. Approximately 110 acres (the southeastern half of the lot) of softwood and mixed forest have been mapped as a Deer Wintering Area.

The 66-acre Dallas Plantation South Lot lies on lowland forest just a few miles outside of Rangeley. The lot is forested with mid-aged mixed wood stands and includes a small stream that drains into Bull Pond. The lot was most recently harvested by BPL in 1986.

Davistown

The 886-acre Davistown lot (also known as the Kennebago Lot) supports young to mid-aged forests on gentle slopes heading down to Kennebago Lake. Young hardwood and mixed wood stands dominate the slopes, while young softwood (primarily spruce-fir) forests occur along lowlands and along the two miles of lakeshore. Set of camps occupies the shore of a cove at the south side of the lake; access to the lake is gated and controlled by these camp owners, who share a common/undivided ownership of the camp area.

The 1,764-acre Kennebago Lake supports several sport fishes, including brook trout, brown trout, and landlocked salmon. Nesting loons have used the Lake in past years, with moderate numbers (10-20 adults) counted in annual surveys.

The Unit also contains most of the shoreline of Flatiron Pond, a 30 acre shallow pond in the southwest corner of the Unit. The Pond supports a number of native fishes, including blacknose dace, brook trout, creek chubsucker, and rainbow smelt (PEARL database). Water quality in Flatiron Pond is good for coldwater game fish



South shore of Kennebago Lake, with camp leases

Wild populations of brook trout spawn on the shore to support a good fishery. The pond is not stocked.

The east side of the Unit contains two of the Blanchard Ponds – small (<4 acre), shallow ponds that drain into Kennebago Lake through Blanchard Brook. Two ‘moderate value’ waterfowl and wading bird habitats have been mapped by MDIFW in this area. The ol

Extensive harvesting (clearcuts) occurred in the 1970s prior to BPL acquisition. Since that time, BPL has conducted no timber harvesting on this parcel. Most of the Unit supports young forest (sapling/pole stage stands), but some small more mature hardwoods occur upslope of Flatiron Pond.

Lincoln Plantation East and West

The 640-acre Lincoln Plantation East Lot contains over a mile of frontage on Black Brook Cove at the south side of Aziscohos Lake and north of Route 16. Most of this shore frontage is occupied by leased camps. The interior of the parcel is stocked with young to mid-aged stands of hardwood, mixed wood, and softwood. Partial harvesting occurred on the northern half of the lot in from 1999 to 2001.

The 280-acre Lincoln Plantation West Lot occupies the north facing slope of a 2,000 foot forested summit, south of Route 16. Most of the Lot is mid-aged northern hardwood forest, with younger spruce-fir occurring on the upper slope. This lot was most recently harvested by BPL in 1992 and 1993.

No rare features of Significant Wildlife Habitats are known from either Lot.

Magalloway

The 1,044-acre Magalloway Lot covers rolling terrain south of Sturtevant Mountain and sloping down into Umbagog Lake. Forest cover consists of mature mixed and hardwood stands that were selectively harvested by BPL in 2008 and 2009; prior to that, the tract was also harvested by BPL in 1984.

Nearly all the parcel is categorized as hardwood (49%) or mixed wood (44%), with only 7% softwood. Forest stocking following the recent harvest exceeds 25 cords/acre, which is higher than the average stocking of BPL lands in the region. The variable intensity of prior harvest activity across the site gives some stands the appearance of being minimally managed while others are more obviously responding to past removals. Some areas of the residual forest maintain late-successional values – particularly in the eastern half of the lot, where the frequency of large trees and late-successional lichens is high compared to adjacent forests.

The Unit includes part of a 25-acre ‘high value’ Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat mapped by MDIFW, and it also includes part of a deer wintering area cooperatively managed by BPL and MDIFW.

Rangeley Plantation North

The 462-acre Rangeley North Lot covers a north-facing hillside just east of Rangeley Lake State Park. The parcel has frontage along South Shore Road but no shore frontage. The parcel contains no shore frontage. Much of the lot was heavily harvested in the 1990s prior to state acquisition in 1998, and it now consists of young to mid-aged mixed and hardwood stands. There are no mapped streams, wetlands, or special features on the parcel.

Smalls Falls

The 375-acre Smalls Falls Lot is bisected by Route 4 in Township E. Small Falls is a series of seven drops along the Chandler Mill Stream, not far from a roadside picnic area, where Chandler Stream meets Sandy Stream.

Forests within the lot are regenerating from a heavy harvest that occurred in the 1990s shortly before state



acquisition in 1998. Small remnants of more mature forest remain in the northern part of the lot.

No rare species or Significant Wildlife Habitats are known from the property. A recent re-route of Route 4 within the lot has straightened a major curve in the highway and removed roughly ten acres of forestland.

References

PEARL database website: www.pearl.spatial.maine.edu

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Lake Surveys.

Appendix 1: Maps of the Small Units

