



Recommendations for Community Forest Program Application Maps

Introduction: Community Forest and Open Space Program (CFP) applicants may submit two maps showing the location of the property in relation to roads and other improvements as well as parks, conserved open space or other protected lands in the vicinity. The following are observations and recommendations related to the two maps that are part of a CFP project application. These recommendations are the result of feedback from previous selection panels from other federally funded forest land conservation programs including CFP. Following these recommendations is not a requirement, nor are they a guarantee of successful project selection; these are suggestions to help in the development of a competitive application.

Recommendations:

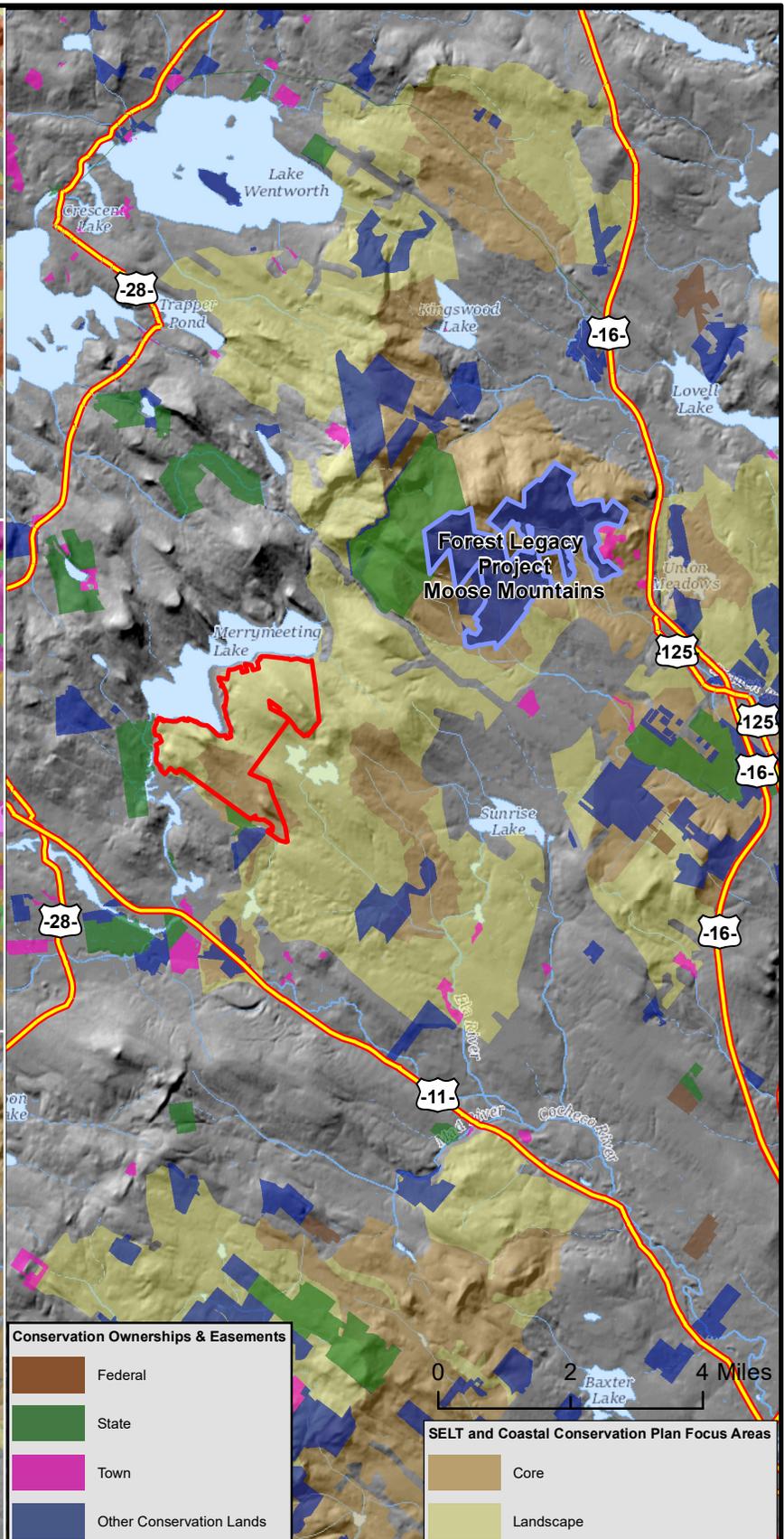
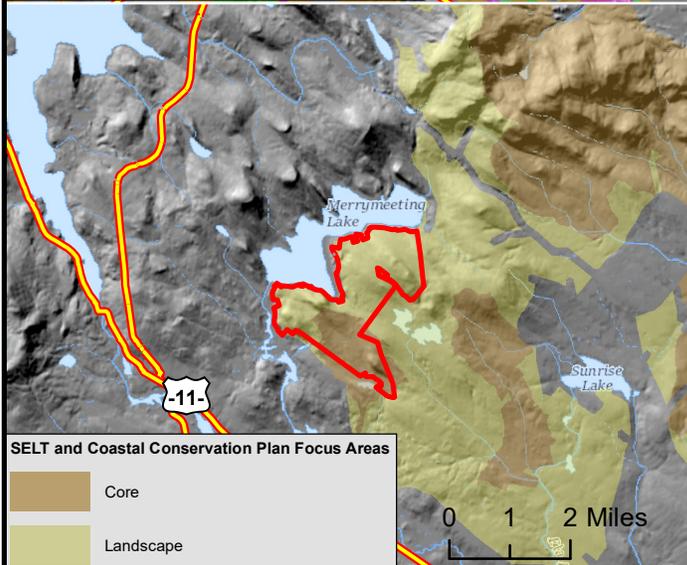
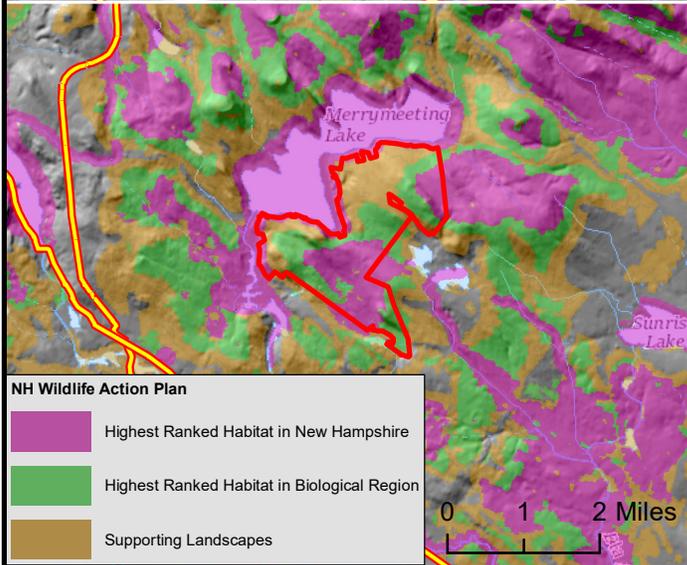
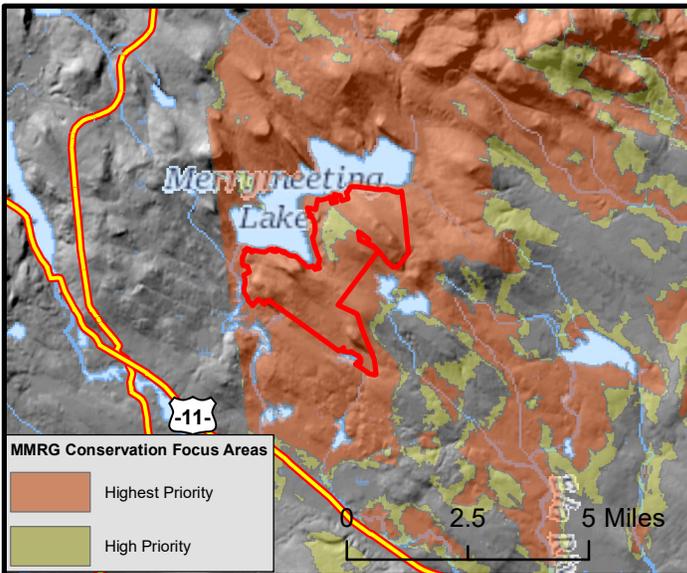
- **Utilize both maps effectively:** The CFP application allows for two full page maps (eight and a half inches by eleven inches in size) to be submitted in addition to the eight page narrative. It is highly recommended the application contain two maps. A successful approach used by applicants is described below:
 - One map is at a landscape scale, showing how the project fits in with other conserved lands and supports the projects strategic contribution and connection to broader landscape conservation initiative(s) described in the application narrative.
 - The second map is at a scale that shows the property's public benefits described in the application narrative such as existing and proposed trails and access points. Unique wildlife habitats and corridors, significant natural communities, water protection zones (e.g. wetlands, streams and rivers, green infrastructure) and other environmental benefits that can be displayed on the map should also be included.
- **First impressions matter:** Many reviewers have indicated that the maps were the first item they reviewed on a project application. If the maps were difficult to read, reviewers became confused from the outset about how the project would provide public benefits, was threatened, or fits within a larger conservation initiative.
- **Tell the same story:** It is important to ensure that the project application narrative and the map tell the same story and that the story is accurate.
 - For example, if a proposed tract is being highlighted for its public recreation amenities such as a trail head, picnic area and trail network and these amenities are not identified on the map, then it is difficult for reviewers to give the project full points for that attribute.
 - If the proximity of features are highlighted in the application, make sure the features also appear on the map.
- **Style suggestions:** The information portrayed on the maps should be clear, concise, and easy to read. Some map style suggestions are below:
 - Reserve bright colors for proposed Community Forest area(s) and other conserved lands (e.g. highlight the proposed CFP tract/s in red with a clear delineation of boundaries if more than one tract.).
 - Other protected lands are easy to spot as saturated earth tones (e.g. gradient shades of green to differentiate federal, state and privately conserved land).



- The map is easier to analyze if the base map is light gray or a neutral color, so it does not distract from the map message.
- Include a legend to decode the symbols and colors used to represent features on the map and a scale to explain the relationship of the map to the real world.
- Label other federal, state, county and local land conservation projects and areas on the map with the name and program or agency, (e.g. Forest Legacy Program; National Forest; Wild and Scenic Rivers; National Scenic Trails; state, county and local government parks, conserved open space, land trust conserved lands etc.).
- Do not clutter the map with unnecessary labels (e.g. labeling local roads that don't pertain to navigation to the property, or labeling other minor features that are not referenced to in the narrative).

Examples: While there are many examples of successful CFP maps, we have provided three examples in this enclosure. These maps are pulled from funded CFP applications and successfully utilize the recommendations and style suggestions identified above.

- Birch Ridge Community Forest
- Milan Community Forest Gateway Project
- Ragged Mountain Community Forest



Birch Ridge Community Forest Conservation Plans and Context New Durham, NH

PARTNERSHIP FOR BIRCH RIDGE COMMUNITY FOREST

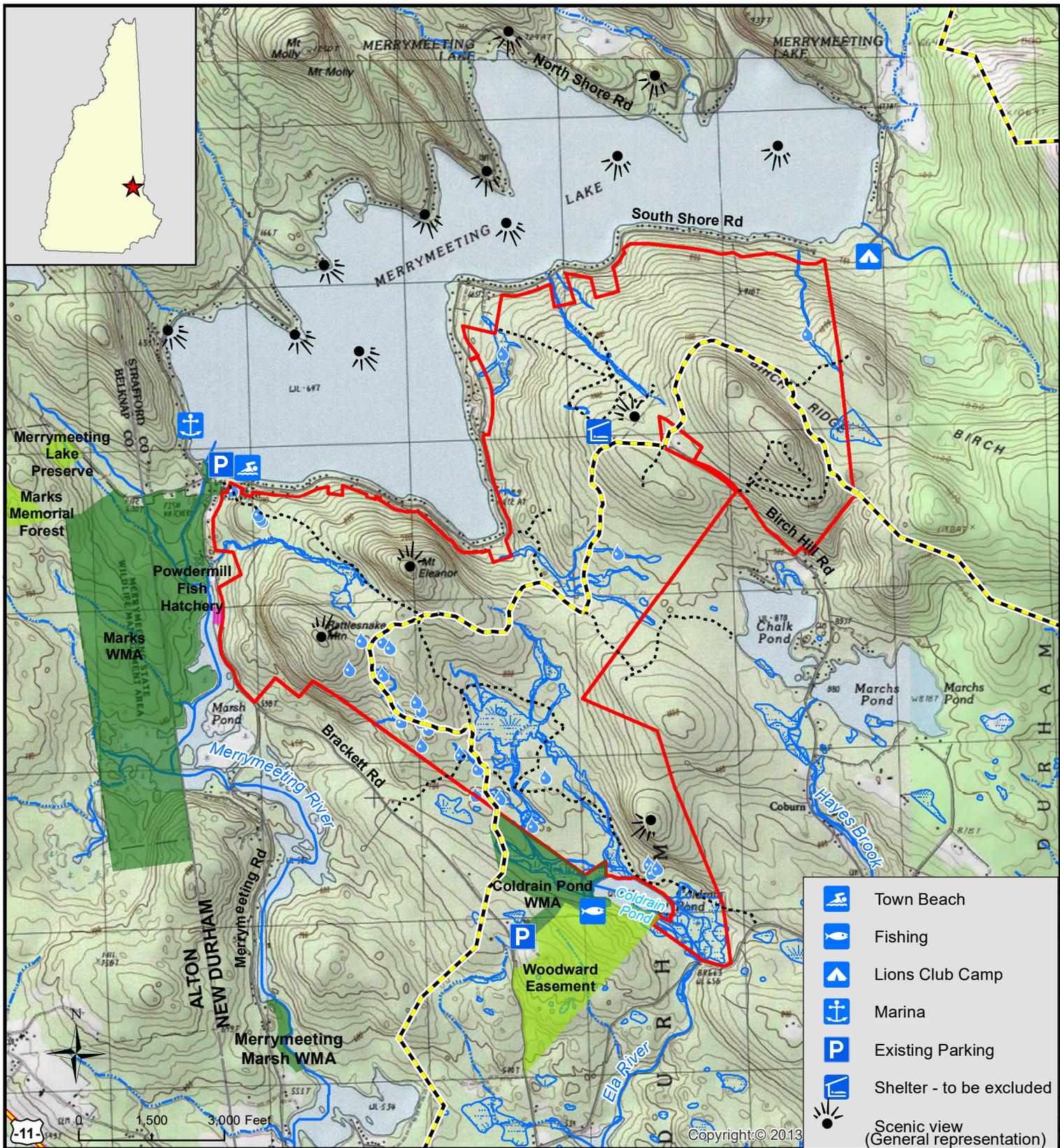
- Birch Ridge Community Forest
- Major Roads



Boundary and feature locations are approximate. Easement boundary based on tax maps.

Map prepared by
Southeast Land Trust of NH
June 2018





Birch Ridge Community Forest

Conservation Ownerships & Easements

- State
- Other Conservation Lands
- NWI and site specific wetlands
- Stream/River
- Intermittent Stream

Birch Ridge Community Forest Public Benefits, and Recreation Features New Durham, NH

1:33,000

- Vernal Pools
- Trail
- State Snowmobile Corridor #22
- Major Roads

PARTNERSHIP FOR
**BIRCH RIDGE
COMMUNITY FOREST**



Merrymeeting Lake
Association



MOOSE
MOUNTAINS
REGIONAL
GREENWAYS



SELT

Map prepared by Southeast Land Trust of NH June, 2018
Boundary and feature locations are approximate. Property boundary based on tax maps.

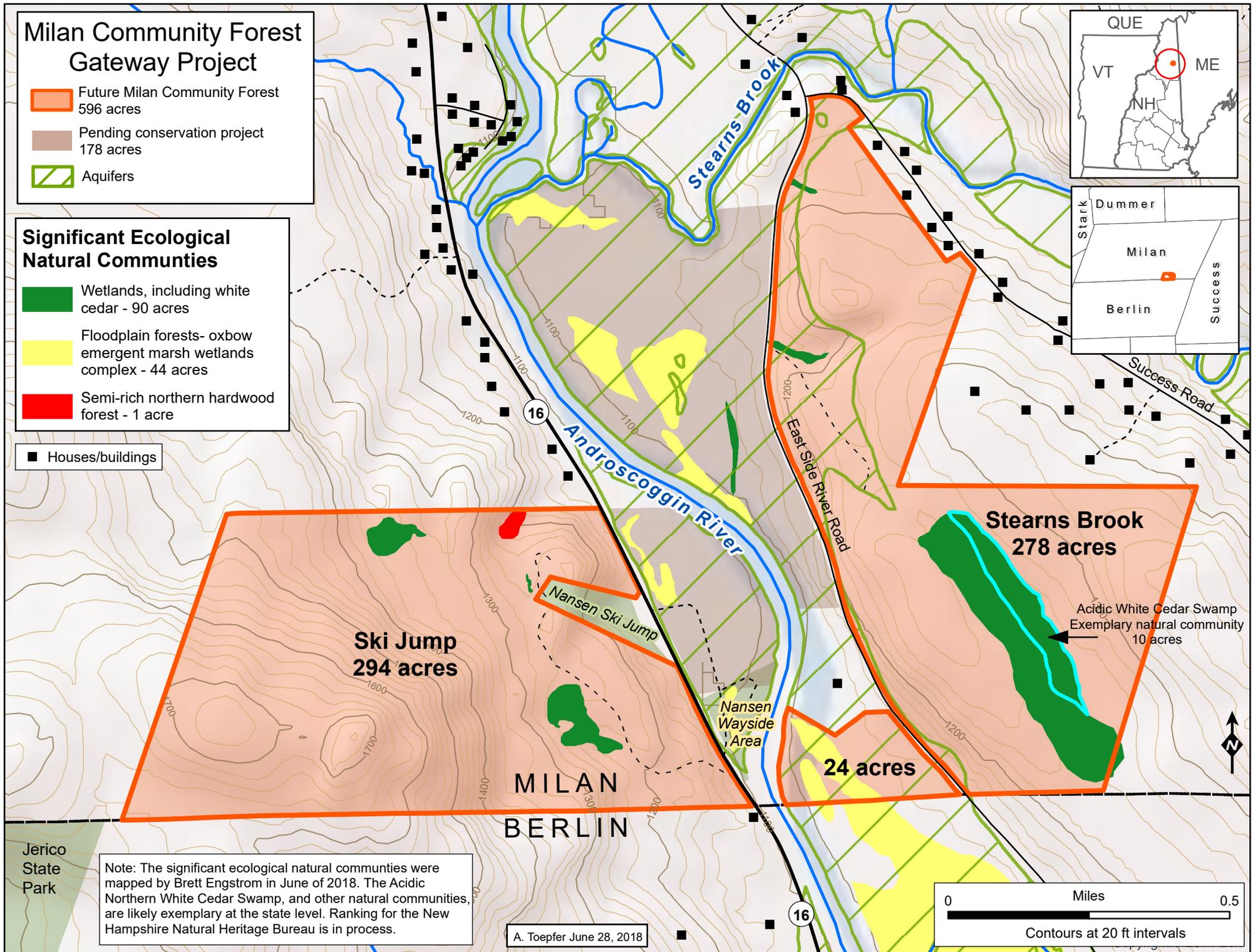
Milan Community Forest Gateway Project

- Future Milan Community Forest
596 acres
- Pending conservation project
178 acres
- Aquifers

Significant Ecological Natural Communities

- Wetlands, including white cedar - 90 acres
- Floodplain forests- oxbow emergent marsh wetlands complex - 44 acres
- Semi-rich northern hardwood forest - 1 acre

■ Houses/buildings

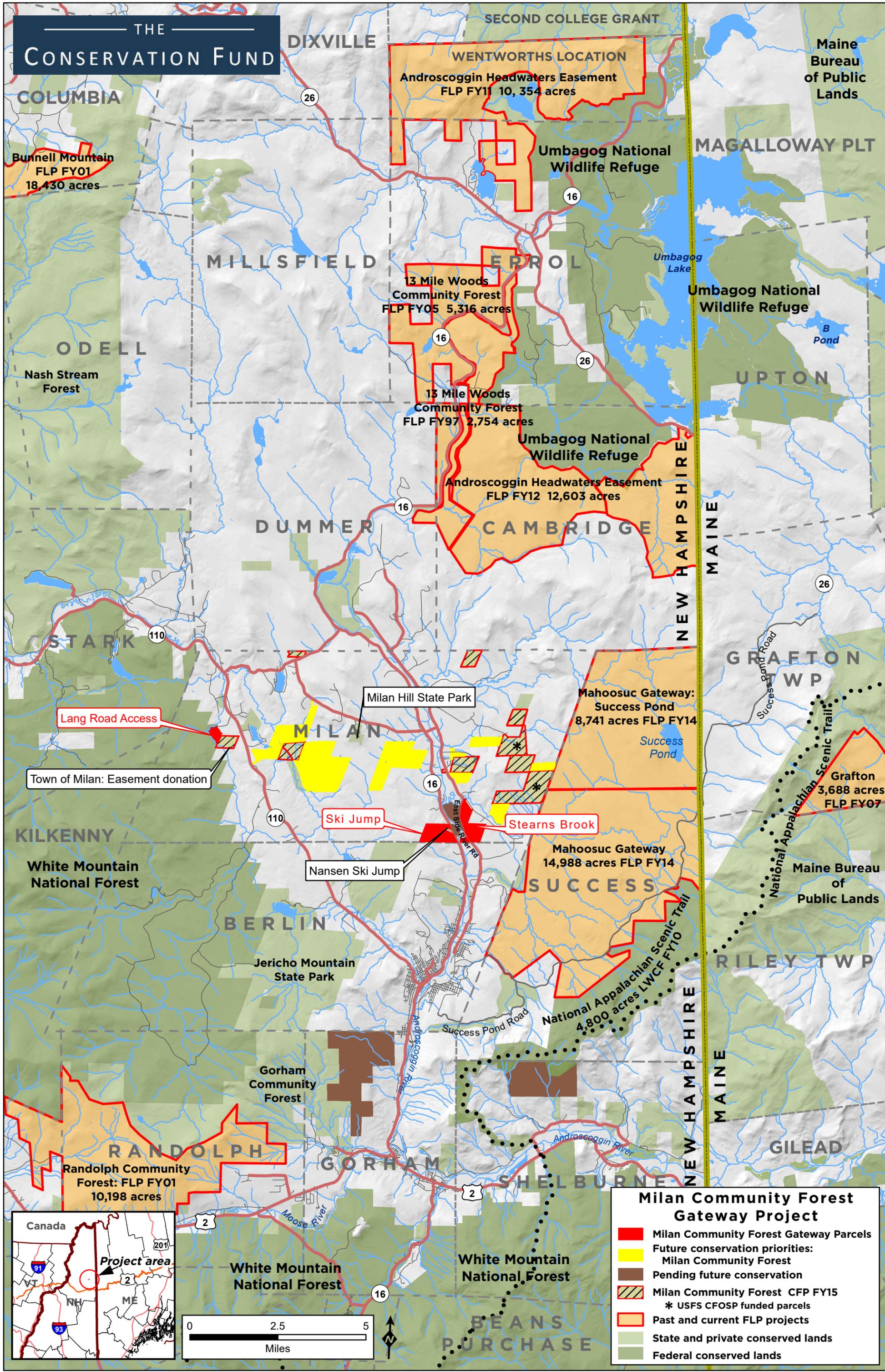


Note: The significant ecological natural communities were mapped by Brett Engstrom in June of 2018. The Acidic Northern White Cedar Swamp, and other natural communities, are likely exemplary at the state level. Ranking for the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau is in process.

A. Toepfer June 28, 2018



THE CONSERVATION FUND



Bunnell Mountain
FLP FY01
18,430 acres

WENTWORTHS LOCATION
Androscoogin Headwaters Easement
FLP FY11 10,354 acres

13 Mile Woods
Community Forest
FLP FY05 5,316 acres

13 Mile Woods
Community Forest
FLP FY97 2,754 acres

Androscoogin Headwaters Easement
FLP FY12 12,603 acres

Mahoosuc Gateway:
Success Pond
8,741 acres FLP FY14

Mahoosuc Gateway
14,988 acres FLP FY14

Grafton
3,688 acres
FLP FY07

Lang Road Access

Town of Milan: Easement donation

Ski Jump

Stearns Brook

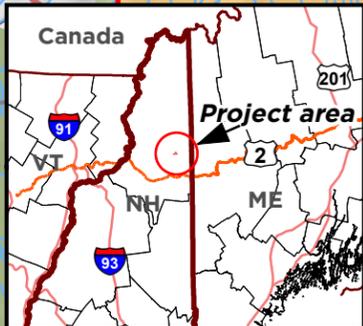
Nansen Ski Jump

National Appalachian Scenic Trail
4,800 acres LWCF FY10

Randolph Community
Forest: FLP FY01
10,198 acres

Milan Community Forest Gateway Project

- Milan Community Forest Gateway Parcels
- Future conservation priorities:
Milan Community Forest
- Pending future conservation
- Milan Community Forest CFP FY15
* USFS CFOSP funded parcels
- Past and current FLP projects
- State and private conserved lands
- Federal conserved lands

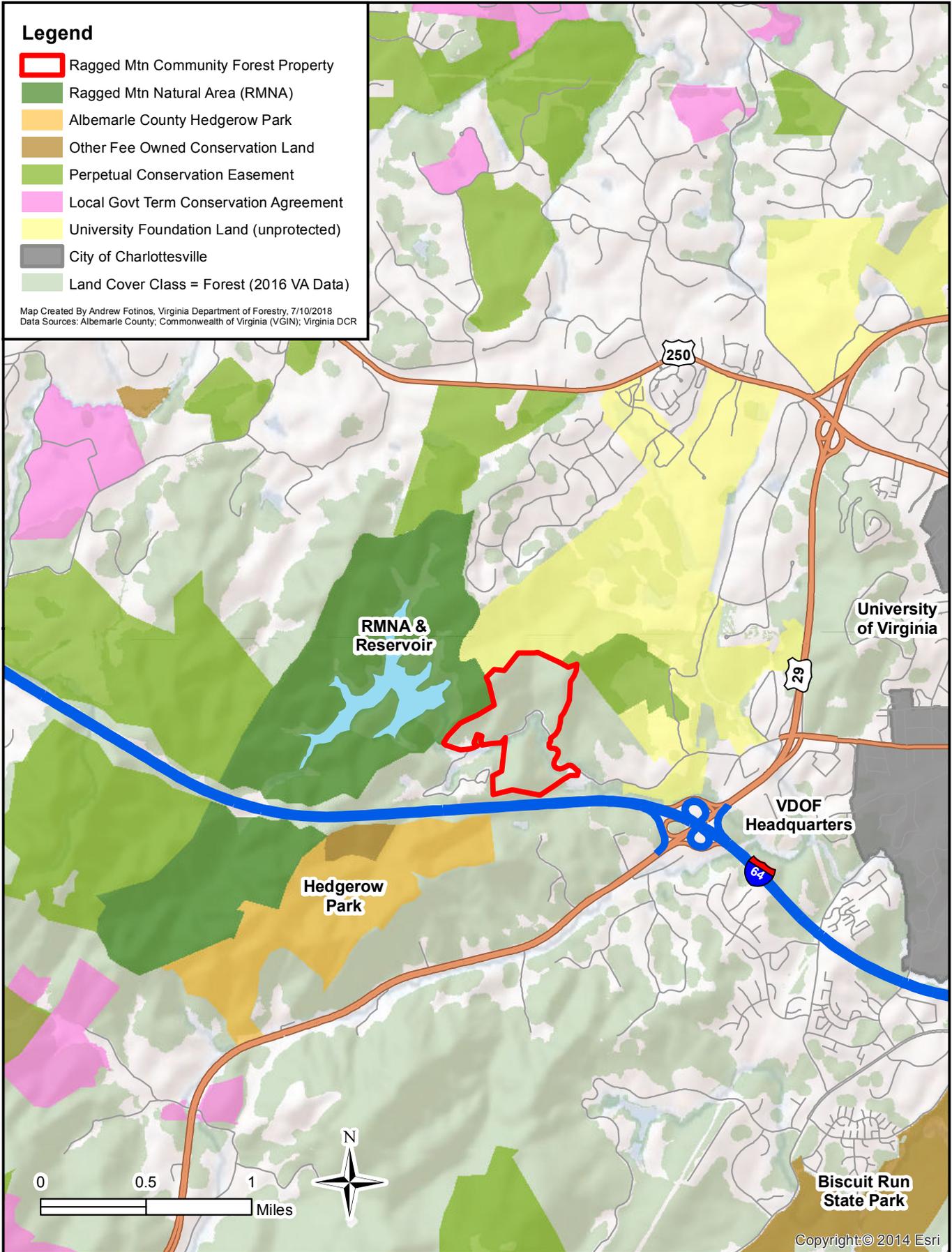


Ragged Mountain Community Forest Regional Map - Conservation Land

Legend

-  Ragged Mtn Community Forest Property
-  Ragged Mtn Natural Area (RMNA)
-  Albemarle County Hedgerow Park
-  Other Fee Owned Conservation Land
-  Perpetual Conservation Easement
-  Local Govt Term Conservation Agreement
-  University Foundation Land (unprotected)
-  City of Charlottesville
-  Land Cover Class = Forest (2016 VA Data)

Map Created By Andrew Fotinos, Virginia Department of Forestry, 7/10/2018
Data Sources: Albemarle County; Commonwealth of Virginia (VGIN); Virginia DCR



Ragged Mountain Community Forest Aerial Map

