

Calais Conservation Commission
Natural Resources Inventory Report Presentation

Date: March 9, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Present: CC Members: Stephanie Kaplan, Julie Hand, Larry Bush, Drew Lamb, Lou Cherry, Neal Maker, Richard Maizell

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheet for list of attendees

Presenter: Matt Peters, Consulting Ecologist & Botanist

A special meeting was held by the Calais Conservation Commission Committee to share the latest findings by Matt specific to our Natural Resources Inventory here in Calais. Matt's intention of consulting with the town was to develop a more comprehensive understanding of local natural resources relevant to town planning and policy making.

Matt's presentation provided the group with both visuals and detail about wildlife habitat, wetlands, and knowledge of ecologically significant features, including natural communities and rare species; documentation of significant wildlife habitats, habitat blocks and connectivity areas.

The following is a snapshot of what was presented during the meeting:

In brief, the updated wetland assessment maps 620 wetland and potential wetland units that collectively span just over 10% of the town (includes all lakes and ponds), demonstrating an unusually high density of wetlands in Calais. This provides substantially improved accuracy, comprehensiveness, and consistency over prior wetland maps. Classification of these units yielded 27 different wetland and aquatic natural community types, including a number of rare and uncommon types, underscoring the significant contribution wetlands make to Calais' biodiversity and natural heritage.

Questions were raised at the meeting which Matt answered and provided clarity by referring back to different areas of the presentation. Matt remains available for questions so we encourage you to review the entire report by visiting the Town of Calais website at, www.calaisvermont.gov. Matt's contact information is on the first page of the report.

The presentation was well very received and wrapped up at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Candi Smith

Conservation Commission Recording Secretary