

CONCEPTUAL MANAGEMENT PLAN #20

INDIAN & FOWL MEADOW ISLANDS

LOCATION: Embden (Town Map 6 Lot 58), in Kennebec River. (Note: mistakenly shown as in Solon on USGS and Town of Solon maps) Parcel #20 on SWT map.

SIZE: 32 acres.

LAND COVER: Floodplain forest and ferns on both islands; some upland forest (e.g., white pine, white birch, silver maple) on Indian Island.

FEATURES/PUBLIC VALUES:

1. Undeveloped and wild state.
2. Floodplain forest.
3. River shoreline.
4. Habitat for a variety of wildlife species.
5. Identified by IF&W as Inland Waterfowl Habitat, which is considered as significant wildlife habitat.
6. Habitat for indigenous flora.
7. Scenic area viewed by public.
8. Unique ecological, geological, and cultural features present.
9. Ostrich fern (fiddlehead fern) (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*) traditionally harvested by public.
10. Recognized by Town of Embden for their “distinctive flora including lush ferns and wildflowers in the spring”, for use by migrant waterfowl, and for “evidence of old logging drives” (from online: Maine.gov Town of Embden).
11. Within Embden Resource Protection District (Shoreland Zoning).
12. Protected by conditions of a Conservation Easement granted by SWT to The Nature Conservancy.

FOCUS SPECIES:

1. None at present.

CONCERNS:

1. Potential impacts from inappropriate use by public.
2. No signs indicating that SWT is owner.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Evaluate for and determine Focus Species, if appropriate.
2. Allow traditional harvesting of “fiddleheads” during the spring season to continue on a sustainable basis.
3. Allow non-motorized recreation by the public including hiking, fishing, and bird watching as consistent with the purposes of the CE.
4. Restore or support native species as appropriate.

5. Allow justified non-destructive scientific and archaeological research.
6. Advise State natural and cultural resource agencies, such as MNAP, IF&W, and MHPC, of the location of this and other SWT properties and invite them to review and provide comments and recommendations regarding them.
7. Put up signs identifying SWT as owner.