

CONCEPTUAL MANAGEMENT PLAN #2

PHILBRICK TRAIL

LOCATION: Skowhegan (Town Map 5 Lot 122 & Town Map 27 Lot 94), south shore of the Kennebec River, east of Joyce Street. Parcel #2 on SWT map.

SIZE: 34 acres total (25 + 9.2 acres).

LAND COVER: Wooded.

FEATURES /PUBLIC VALUES:

1. Key parcel with about 1200 feet of Kennebec River frontage for public use.
2. Quit-Claim deeds conveying property state “All of said land to be used for a public park.”
3. Existing partnership with Town of Skowhegan that provides a public, non-motorized trail system.
4. A fifteen (15) year lease agreement between the Town of Skowhegan and SWT was approved at the June 8, 2009 Town Meeting and was signed by the Selectmen and SWT in July 2009. The term of the lease is from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2024.
5. Provides majority of land for the 50-acre combination Town/SWT public trail system that is accessed from Joyce St. near the Treatment Plant.
6. Potential component of Run of River project.
7. Scenic resource.
8. Upland and riparian wildlife habitat.
9. Partly within Skowhegan Shoreland Zoning Resource Protection District.
10. IF&W Beginning with Habitat Maps identify parcel as containing Riparian Buffer, Undeveloped Habitat Blocks, and Large Areas of Interior Forest.

FOCUS SPECIES:

1. None at present.

CONCERNS:

1. Damage by ATVs.
2. Some improper use and trash.
3. At least one potential MDOT bridge/bypass project alternative could impact it.
4. Property not adequately signed to identify SWT as owner.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Continue to manage in partnership with Town of Skowhegan as a public non-motorized trail system.
2. Bar use of motorized vehicles.
3. Develop interpretive signing and brochure.
4. Seek ways to promote in association with the proposed Run of River Project.
5. Study potential management for focus species.

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. Do not allow significant disturbance of the ground without prior review and approval by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission or other accepted archeological (prehistoric/historic) authority.
8. Oppose any MDOT project alignment that would impact this or the other associated SWT Kennebec River parcels directly or indirectly.
9. Evaluate and determine Focus Species.
10. Monitor property more closely.
11. Put up signs identifying SWT as the owner.