

Critical Natural Resources

Introduction:

Dresden has two State of Maine Wildlife Management areas in Town. The Redford Kelly Management area on the Dresden Bog and Green Point Farm Management area, (which borders the Kennebec and Eastern Rivers). The State also owns a number of small parcels of land. There are a number of registered Deer-yards in Dresden, along with shore frontage on the Eastern and Kennebec Rivers. There are a number of large and small farms in Dresden. This creates a multitude of natural resources.

Analysis and Key Issues:

Currently, the State wildlife areas; the Dresden Bog, Green Point Farm Management area and the deer-yards are under State Wildlife management plans that are under the control of IF&W, (Inland Fisheries and Wildlife).

Dresden Land Use Ordinances encompass the State's latest Shore land Zoning Rules & Regulations, and with State DMR (Department of Marine Resources) and Federal US Fish & Wildlife Service maintain important waterfowl habitat in the river systems and Merrymeeting Bay.

Dresden has a history of partnership with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO), like The Friends of Swan Island, Friends of Merrymeeting Bay and the Alewife Harvesters of Maine to help with best management practices for the natural resources that impact the environment.

There is constant regional cooperation with State agencies for the best wildlife management practices.

The Maine Farm Bureau is active with our larger farms for best management practices. Dresden has Timber Harvest Ordinances and Water Resource Protection areas.

Conditions and Trends:

Dresden has always updated its Land Use Ordinances and Shore land and Timber Harvest Plans to keep up with State regulations. Dresden keeps current updated Natural Resource maps provided by the State of Maine and IF&W for the latest Deer-yard and Waterfowl habitat. (Appendix, Map 2 High Value Plant & Animal Habitat, Map 8 Valuable Habitat for Priority Trust Species)

Policies:

Dresden has always worked with the State and local communities to best manage its critical natural resources.

Strategies:

Continue to keep updated shore land zoning areas and maps.

Time frame; on going

Keep Dresden Land Use Ordinances updated to reflect changes in deer yards, waterfowl habitat, timber lands and farms to reflect best management practices.

Time frame; on going

Continue to keep and update the best management practices for subdivisions and construction near deer-yards and waterfowl areas and work with landowners through educational programs to ensure public and private best land use practices in areas that have known valuable natural resources.

Time frame; on going

Implement best practices for public land management around roads and construction projects.

Time frame; on going

Pursue public and private partnerships to protect critical natural resources through purchase of land and easements from willing sellers.

Time frame; on going

Comments:

In short, Dresden needs to continue to do what it does best. That is, a public / private best management practice with timber harvesting, farming and wildlife management areas and shore land zoning and waterfowl habitat that is in keeping with Dresden's rural lifestyle and character.