



Brainstorm Notes

Brainstorm Notes from June 28th Wachusett Reservoir, Stillwater River and Quinapoxet River Sub-basins Public Meeting

Habitat

- salmon/trout restoration- fish ladders
- beaver dams affect on reducing possibility of salmon spawning in Stillwater
- aquatic vegetation reduces WQ and capacity

Water Quality

- beavers affect on WQ
- increasing water fowl contaminating reservoir
- acid rain concern
- swimming beaches WQ problems, bacteria after rains Crow Hill Pond Leominster St Forest
- aquatic vegetation reduces WQ and capacity

Water Supply

- aquatic vegetation reduces WQ and capacity
- beavers affect on WQ leading to low flow on Washacum Brook
- Increase reservoir capacity by dredging islands

Recreation

- more access for horses
- aquatic vegetation reduces WQ and capacity (especially: East & West Washacum and Eagle Lakes and Unionville Pond)
- Access to Pine Hill Reservoir for passive rec. [Note: new acquisitions by MDC/City of Worcester will be more accessible]
- improve gating at public open spaces to control detrimental activities ie: camping, ATVs (especially at Malden Brook problems even with gates); several areas near Leominster that gate to prevent illegal access

Open Space

- unfair distribution Boston vs. Central MA
- Holden too pro-development; need more encouragement from state agencies to emphasize environmental protection
- MDC should consider acquiring/protecting intermittent streams
- educate townspeople regarding "cost of community services"
- conflicting state policies i.e.: land protection/land & economic development; brownfields, schools siting
- how far does MDC protection extend with regard to intermittent streams?

Quality of Life

- state revalues its land every 5 yrs but municipalities do theirs every 3 yrs. [Note: resolution is a legislative decision]
- proactive boards/commissions need technical assistance, i.e.: WQ, bylaws/regs, wetland delineations training, enforcement assistance
- would like to see Holden Poor Farm Brook area/ large parcel Bergen Christmas Tree Farm which is for sale acquired; neighboring properties with subdiv plans: habitat, water supply- affect on Chaffins Brook and Pond