



BAXTER STATE PARK

HUBER LOT ASSIMILATION PLAN

Baxter State Park Authority

October, 2012

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Executive Summary

A parcel of land of approximately 143 acres on the southeast shore of Katahdin Lake owned by the Huber Corporation was gifted without condition or restriction to the Baxter State Park Authority in January of 2012. Park staff and member of the Baxter State Park Advisory Committee conducted field reviews of the parcel and fisheries biologist Nels Kramer of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife surveyed the fisheries of Rocky Pond and found the pond provides good nursery habitat for eastern brook trout. Management recommendations are to retain the current day use recreation patterns of the parcel. No campsite installations are recommended. The parcel provides opportunity for improved hiking trail access on the parcel as well as opportunity to consolidate hiking trails in the area in a more effective manner for Park visitors and long-term trail maintenance needs. If possible, actions will be taken to remove culverts and decommission a short length of forest management road on the parcel.

Ownership History

The so-called “Huber Lot” or “Keep Lot” has an unusual and interesting history. There is no known evidence of Native American use of the parcel or the adjoining Katahdin Lake, but it seems reasonable to presume that native Americans were well aware of Katahdin Lake and likely visited the area to hunt and fish, using Katahdin Brook as an access pathway from the more heavily used corridors along Wassataquoik Stream and the East Branch of the Penobscot.

European settlers in Maine began to visit the area in the mid 1800’s, marked primarily by the efforts of Reverend Marcus Keep of Patten, who cut one of the first trails to access Katahdin from the east. Keep worked to promote the trail access and as a reward for his efforts, the Maine Legislature “accepted Keep’s petition that he be granted 200 acres at the outlet of Katahdin Lake, where he had cleared several acres and built a crude camp, and granted him title to the land in 1860.”¹ Evidence of the structure has disappeared but investigation suggests it stood along the north side of Katahdin Brook a short distance east of the outlet. Presumably for financial reasons, Keep held the parcel for a single day before taking out a mortgage for \$50.00 to Ebenezer S. Coe, a well known and influential lumberman in the region. The parcel was eventually sold to Coe and after a series of interim owners, was purchased by the Huber Family in 1944.

The lot remained undeveloped by the Huber Family and the Huber Corporation until 2005, when a forest management road was constructed into the property from the east to facilitate a partial harvest of the portion of the lot on the south side of Rocky Pond and Katahdin Brook. In 2011, the Huber Corporation informed the Baxter State Park Authority of their desire to donate the parcel, without restriction or condition, to the Authority to become a part of Baxter State Park. On January 12, 2012, the Authority formally accepted the gift at a scheduled meeting in Room 600 of the Cross Building. The meeting was followed by a ceremony in the Maine State House Hall of Flags with the Baxter State Park Authority, officials from the Huber Family and the Huber Corporation, officials from the Governor’s office and many others. Huber family spokesperson Sherry Huber spoke about the background and history of the

¹ Hakola, John. W.; *Legacy of a Lifetime, The Story of Baxter State Park*; TBW Books, 1981; p. 19

lot and the family's wish for the lot to be enjoyed by Maine people in the future (speech text included in the appendix).



0-1 Sherry Huber and Authority Chair Doug Denico at the Hall of Flags Ceremony

Current Landscape Description

Natural

The Huber Lot is within the Maine and New Brunswick Foothills and Eastern Lowlands sub-region of the Bailey Ecoregion classification. This sub-region is broadly defined as follows:

Section 212B--Maine and New Brunswick Foothills and Eastern Lowlands

Geomorphology. The Section is part of the New England geomorphic province. It is a glacially scoured and dissected peneplain dominated by a broad, central, marine plain. The rest of the Section is characterized by gently sloping hills and low, rounded mountains (monadnocks). The Section exhibits some glacial features, primarily kames, eskers, and terraces. Mass wasting and fluvial erosion, transport and deposition are the primary operating geomorphic processes. Elevation ranges from 400 to 1,000 ft (120 to 300 m); local relief ranges from 100 to 500 ft. (30 to 150 m). Gentle slopes cover 50 to 80 percent of the landscape, 50 to 70 percent in the lowlands. Subenvelop elevation ranges from 330 to 980 ft (100 to 300 m).²

Locally, the Huber Lot is a generally flat to slightly rolling parcel sloping gently to the west toward Katahdin Lake. The parcel is roughly bisected by the Katahdin Brook, the outlet of Katahdin Lake. This perennial stream, running approximately 10 to 20 feet in width, flows eastward toward its confluence with Wassataquoik Stream and eventually the East Branch of the Penobscot River. Within the parcel, the stream widens to form the shallow 14 acre Rocky Pond before narrowing and resuming its course to the Wassataquoik.

The lot is forested in a mixture of softwood forests and northern hardwood dominated forests. The softwood types consist primarily of red spruce and balsam fir and include white pine, eastern hemlock and northern white cedar. The northern hardwood types include sugar and red maple, beech, paper and yellow birch. Much of the forest type is a mixture of hardwood and softwood types. In 2005, 3,500' of forest management road was constructed into the southeastern 1/3 of the parcel and a light partial harvest was completed south of Rocky Pond and Katahdin Brook to the southern boundary of the parcel. Site damage from this harvest was negligible to non-existent. The harvest has resulted in the emergence of 6-10' mixed softwood and hardwood regeneration. In the unharvested sections of the parcel, the forest stand is mature and includes some large red spruce, eastern hemlock, red and sugar maple and yellow birch.

Evidence (droppings/browse) of moose and white tail deer exist on the parcel. Black bear have been a frequent visitor to the nearby Katahdin Lake Wilderness Camps and can be presumed to include the parcel in their home range. An otter was observed fishing Rocky Pond through openings in the ice sheet in March of 2012.³

² W. Henry McNab and Peter E. Evers (compilers), United States Forest Service, Ecological Subregions of the United States, Chapter 14, Laurentian Mixed Forest, WO-WSA-5

³ Bissell, Morrill, Hoekwater, Woodard; personal observation

Katahdin Brook and its flowage, Rocky Pond, provide habitat for eastern brook trout and other fish, including pumpkin seed sunfish, and introduced species (likely hauled up to the pond in the early days of the sporting camp era⁴). In response to the Park's request, IF&W District Fisheries Biologist Nels Kramer completed a survey of Rocky Pond during the summer of 2012 (survey included). Kramer found Rocky Pond to be a shallow pond, perhaps formed from a debris jam in Katahdin Stream, with a maximum depth of 4.5' and a size of approximately 16 acres. Several fish species were identified in the survey including a population of eastern brook trout ranging from 5" to 8" in length. Kramer noted numerous springs in and along the pond that provide thermal refuge, spawning and nursery habitat for trout.

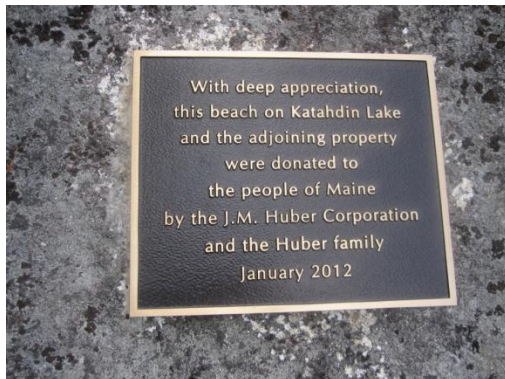
Human

- Memorial/Historical

Currently, the parcel has several signs of present and past human use. One of the most striking and attractive features on the parcel are represented by three small beaches on Katahdin Lake. These small "pocket" beaches, approximately 25" across and 10' deep, provide unobstructed and striking views of Katahdin and the several cirques (Great, South, North and Little North basins) that extend south from the narrow arête known as the Knife Edge. This view was immortalized in Frederick Church's famous 1850's landscape painting "Mount Katahdin". These beaches and particularly the beach closest to the

Katahdin Brook outlet, known locally as "Painter's Beach" have over time provided many artists and photographers the opportunity to try and capture a view or an expression of Katahdin and its mountain landscape.

Prior to donating the parcel to the Baxter State Park Authority, the Huber family installed a modest plaque on a large rock on Painter's Beach commemorating the gift of the parcel to the people of Maine.



0-1 Plaque on Painters Beach



0-2 The view from Painters Beach

⁴ Nels Kramer, Personal communication

- Forest management road

As mentioned earlier, in 2005, the Huber Corporation constructed a forest management road into the parcel in order to provide access for a timber harvest operation. This road includes 4 corrugated metal pipes for cross drains and stream crossing and a lightweight gate at the former parcel boundary.



0-3 Forest management road and gate

- Private stored canoes/abandoned canoes (Rocky Pd)

Inspection of the area found several canoes on the property in a variety of conditions. Three water worthy canoes are stored a short distance behind the small beach to the south of Painters beach (see map). The ownership of these canoes is not identified on the watercraft and all are locked to trees. A makeshift table for camping has been constructed in the vicinity as well. An additional canoe was discovered on the north side of Rocky Pond toward the eastern end of the pond. This canoe is not useable. The remains of another watercraft exist near the intersection of the southern boundary of the parcel and the shore of Katahdin Lake.

- Property lines

The property lines around the parcel were renewed by Park staff in early 2007 after the survey that followed the gift of the Katahdin Lake parcel in December of 2006. The lot is painted in orange with Baxter Park Boundary signs posted at regular intervals. The northern boundary line separating the parcel from the privately owned Page lot is painted in orange without boundary signs and is in good condition.

Management Intent

This plan represents the efforts of the Baxter State Park Authority and staff to assimilate the parcel gifted to Baxter State Park by the Huber Family and Corporation into the management framework of Baxter State Park. A similar, but much more extensive effort was completed in 2007 on the 4,119 acres Katahdin Lake Parcel.

The Katahdin Lake Parcel, gifted to the Park in 2005, surrounds the Huber parcel and provides appropriate guidance to the assimilation of the substantially smaller Huber lot. As stated in the Katahdin Lake Assimilation Plan, the management intent was to:

“Provide for management of the Huber Lot (Katahdin Lake Parcel) in a manner consistent with Baxter State Park and consistent with the Deeds of Trust that govern management in adjacent areas of the Park.”⁵



0-1 Katahdin from the outlet of Katahdin Brook

⁵ Katahdin Lake Assimilation Plan; Baxter State Park Authority, 12/11/2007

Management Considerations

Resource Elements Considered

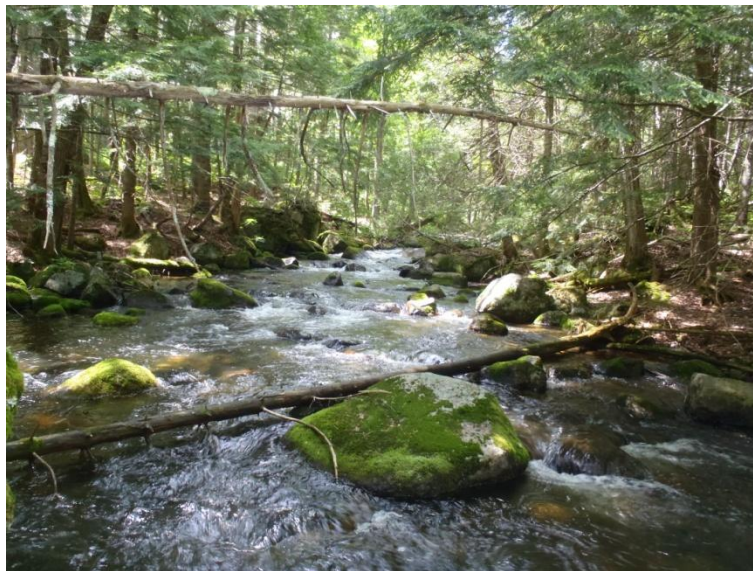
- **Forest management road**

The 3,500' forest management road extending into the property from the discontinued Rocky Pond Road on Elliotsville Plantation Inc. lands includes 4 cross drain culverts (corrugated metal pipe). The road is excavator constructed and is surfaced with native material.

- **Katahdin Brook**

- **Fisheries management**

Manage fisheries in accordance with recommendations of IF&W Fisheries Biologists for seasonal eastern brook trout fishery.



0-1 Katahdin Brook (Nels Kramer)

- **Rocky Pond**

Rocky Pond is a shallow (max depth 4.5') 16 acre pond, existing as a flowage of Katahdin Brook. The pond has views of Katahdin from the eastern end. This pond supports populations of eastern brook trout and other fish and provides spawning and nursery habitat for eastern brook trout.

- **Canoe access**

Canoe access to the parcel exists from several sites. Day-use hikers reaching Katahdin Lake by a 3.2 mile hike on from the Roaring Brook Road at Avalanche Field can utilize Park rental canoes on the south shore of Katahdin Lake and reach the Huber Lot with a short paddle.

The south end of Katahdin Lake can be rough on windy fair-weather days, but the short paddle is safe and available to most hikers on most days. Park campers camping at the Park's South and North Katahdin Lake leanto sites can use the canoe dedicated to these sites to paddle to the Huber Lot. The paddle from the South Katahdin Lake leanto is similar to the rental canoe paddle. The paddle from the North Katahdin Lake leanto requires circumnavigating or crossing Katahdin Lake and should be attempted by experienced paddlers. A third option for canoe access is provided by Katahdin Lake Wilderness Camp canoes provided to camp guests (private camp operated under lease/agreement with BSPA). Current day use patterns indicate that all three of the above described options are in use to access the Huber Lot by canoe.



0-2 Rocky Pond (Nels Kramer)

- **Trail access**

Several informal hiking trails exist in the area. An informal trail begins at Katahdin Lake Wilderness Campground (KLWC) and roughly follows the southeast shore of Katahdin Lake to the outlet of Katahdin Brook. Although less distinct and more grown-in with vegetation, this trail continues on the north side of Katahdin Brook to Rocky Pond and on to the eastern boundary of the Park.

A second informal hiking trail exists on the south side of Katahdin Brook between the outlet of Katahdin Lake and Rocky Pond. This trail is located along the very edge of Katahdin Brook and ends abruptly at the wetland marsh on the southwestern end of Rocky Pond.



0-3 Existing hiking trail along Katahdin Lake

- **Private stored canoes**

Three privately owned canoes are stored and secured behind the middle pocket beach on Katahdin Lake on the Huber Lot. These canoes were in place at the time of the ownership transfer of the Huber Lot to the Baxter State Park Authority.

Approximately 20 years ago, the Park addressed the concern of numerous privately owned watercraft stored at various pond-side locations throughout the Park. The Park applied notification stickers to the private watercraft to notify the owners that identification was required. Private watercraft owner identification data and watercraft locations were then entered into a database. Park administration then worked with the owners to establish criteria for site protection and watercraft storage. To address the expectation that without controls, private watercraft storage in the Park would likely increase over time (for a good example, visit Slaughter Pond just outside the western boundary of the Park), the intention of current Park policy is that eventually all watercraft access to Park ponds will be provided by Park rental watercraft or day-use of watercraft transported into and out of the Park by visitors. Accordingly, the private canoe storage that existed in 1990 was grandfathered, but storage privileges are limited to the original listed owners only and not transferrable.

Storage rights are annual rights only and must be renewed by the owner each year. When the current owners are deceased or otherwise no longer able or interested in using a stored canoe, the canoe will be removed from the Park and delivered back to the owner. No new permanent storage will be permitted but Park policy provides a permitting process for the temporary storage of private watercraft in the Park for a period of up to fourteen days.

- **Property lines**

A cursory check of the property lines around the parcel, including both exterior boundary lines delineating the east, west and southern bounds of the parcel, as well as the interior boundary line on the north side of the parcel delineating the Sewall Lot to the north, are in

good condition. Park staff will work to remove or otherwise obscure any boundary lines, signs and/or postings on the exterior boundary lines.

- **Camping**

There are currently no formal campsites on the Huber Parcel

Proposed Actions

General Discussion

The options regarding both existing and potential recreational opportunities on the Huber Lot were the most prevalent topic of the staff, advisory and interested party discussions that contributed to this plan. A number of factors were discussed including:

- The distance of the Huber Lot from Avalanche Field for day hikers. (approximately 4 miles)
- The existence of the backcountry leantos at North and South Katahdin Lake locations.
- The existence of day use rental canoes (2) at Katahdin Lake, and backcountry canoes dedicated to campers staying at North and South Katahdin Lake leantos.
- The existence of the Katahdin Lake Day Use Picnic Shelter on the south shore of Katahdin Lake.
- The operation of Katahdin Lake Wilderness Camps (KLWC) including day use hiking, fishing, and numerous day-use canoes.
- The impacts of Park hikers traversing through KLWC to reach a destination on the Huber Lot.
- The history of “Painter’s Beach” and the importance of this day-use location to local artists and photographers.
- The International Appalachian Trail (IAT) including current and potential access points, IAT hiker behavior and motivation and potential for increased use over time.

In addition to the considerations listed above, a number of backcountry camping options were discussed including the establishment of one or more tentsite or leanto campsites established behind or near the pocket beaches, near the shoreline of Katahdin Lake north of the Katahdin Brook outlet, near the north shoreline of Katahdin Brook between Katahdin Lake and Rocky Pond, and near the north shore of Rocky Pond.

Campsites

The Huber Lot has an established pattern of day use. Visitors to the area can include Park day use hikers leaving from the Avalanche Field trailhead, Park campers staying at the South Katahdin Lake, North Katahdin Lake or Martin Pond Leantos and campers staying at Katahdin Lake Wilderness Camps (privately operated on land leased from the BSPA). Visitors may access the area by foot or by canoe as the Park provides rental canoes at the Katahdin Lake day use area as well as each backcountry campsite, and KLWC provides canoes for the use of camp guests. Painter’s Beach is a consistent day-use destination for Maine artists and other visitors in all seasons. Artists typically stay at KLWC and canoe or hike to the beach.

A campsite in the area of the pocket beaches would provide additional backcountry camping opportunities for Park campers, but the campsite would be located on a dead-end trail for Park hikers and would require back-tracking to reach the primary Park trail system leading to other sites. As part of the Katahdin Lake Assimilation Plan, the Park established three backcountry campsites in the area – two

on the shore of Katahdin Lake and one on the shore of Martin Pond to the west. The Park located and constructed approximately 5 miles of hiking trail to connect the sites. Long term plans include extending the existing North Katahdin Lake Trail north to eventually link with the Wassataquoik Stream Trail. The use of these sites has been increasing over the past 2-3 years, but capacity remains for increased use on these existing sites.

An additional consideration regarding campsites on the Huber Lot is the potential for IAT hiker traffic in the area (see Trails section below). A campsite established on the Huber Lot in conjunction with trail access to the IAT community would likely lead to unauthorized use by IAT hikers entering the Park from the north.

Proposed Action: no actions planned to establish backcountry campsite(s) on the Huber Lot. Use rates for the existing backcountry campsites on Katahdin Lake will be monitored.

Trails

Informal trails exist on the Huber Lot connecting the lot to the Park trail system at the Katahdin Lake Trail at KLWC. In some areas the trails are in good condition and would be ready to include in the Park system without additional work. In other areas, the trails will need additional work to bring them to Park standards. Informal trails exist on both sides of Katahdin Brook between the outlet at Katahdin Lake and Rocky Pond. Existing trail crosses Katahdin Brook at the outlet of the brook on Katahdin Lake. This crossing is shin deep during the summer season and is easily forded by hikers with minimal hazard. The trail on the south side of Katahdin Brook is very close to the brook and ends abruptly on marshy ground at the west end of Rocky Pond. The existing trail on the north side of Katahdin Brook is located at a more appropriate distance from the brook.

The International Appalachian Trail (IAT) currently ends (or begins, depending on the hikers intent) at the eastern boundary of the Park south of the Huber Lot at the terminus of the Park's Katahdin Lake Trail. The Katahdin Lake Trail provides access to Park visitors wishing to enter on foot from the east and satisfies a condition of the Katahdin Lake gift negotiations with the Maine Legislature. The last 1.5 miles of the trail utilize a former logging road to reach the boundary of the Park. With the gift of the Huber Lot, the opportunity exists to reroute the Katahdin Lake Trail on mostly existing trail to reach the Park's eastern boundary on the north side of Katahdin Brook.

Proposed Action: Establish existing informal trail to Park standards from the junction of the Katahdin Lake Trail at KLWC along the southeast shore of Katahdin Lake to the outlet of Katahdin Brook, then parallel along the north side of Katahdin Brook and Rocky Pond to the Park boundary east of Rocky Pond where it may provide an improved connection to the International Appalachian Trail. Work with the IAT to provide an IAT leanto outside the Park near this connection to provide a staging area for southbound IAT hikers reaching the Park to avoid conflicts with Park or KLWC site use.

Retain the outlet of Katahdin Brook as a wet crossing with no bridge or other crossing structure. When this trail work is complete the final section of the Katahdin Lake Trail shall be relocated to this trail, blue-blazed, signed and added to the Park Trail GIS layer. The existing portion of the Katahdin Lake Trail extending from KLWC to the former RP-16 Road and the Park boundary shall be discontinued and removed from the Park Trail GIS layer.

The existing informal trail extending along the south side of Katahdin Brook from the outlet of Katahdin Brook to Rocky Pond shall be discontinued.

(Completion date: 2014)

Privately owned canoes

It is the intention of current Park policy that eventually all watercraft access to Park ponds will be provided by Park rental watercraft or day-use of watercraft transported into and out of the Park by visitors.

Proposed Action: Owners of the three sound and useable canoes secured on the Huber Lot will be provided the opportunity to enter into the existing permit system for canoe storage or to remove their watercraft from the Park.

(Completion date: 2012)

Fisheries

Proposed Action: Manage the fishery on Katahdin Brook and Rocky Pond in accordance with the recommended management strategy of Dept. of IF&W Fisheries.

(Completion date: 2012)

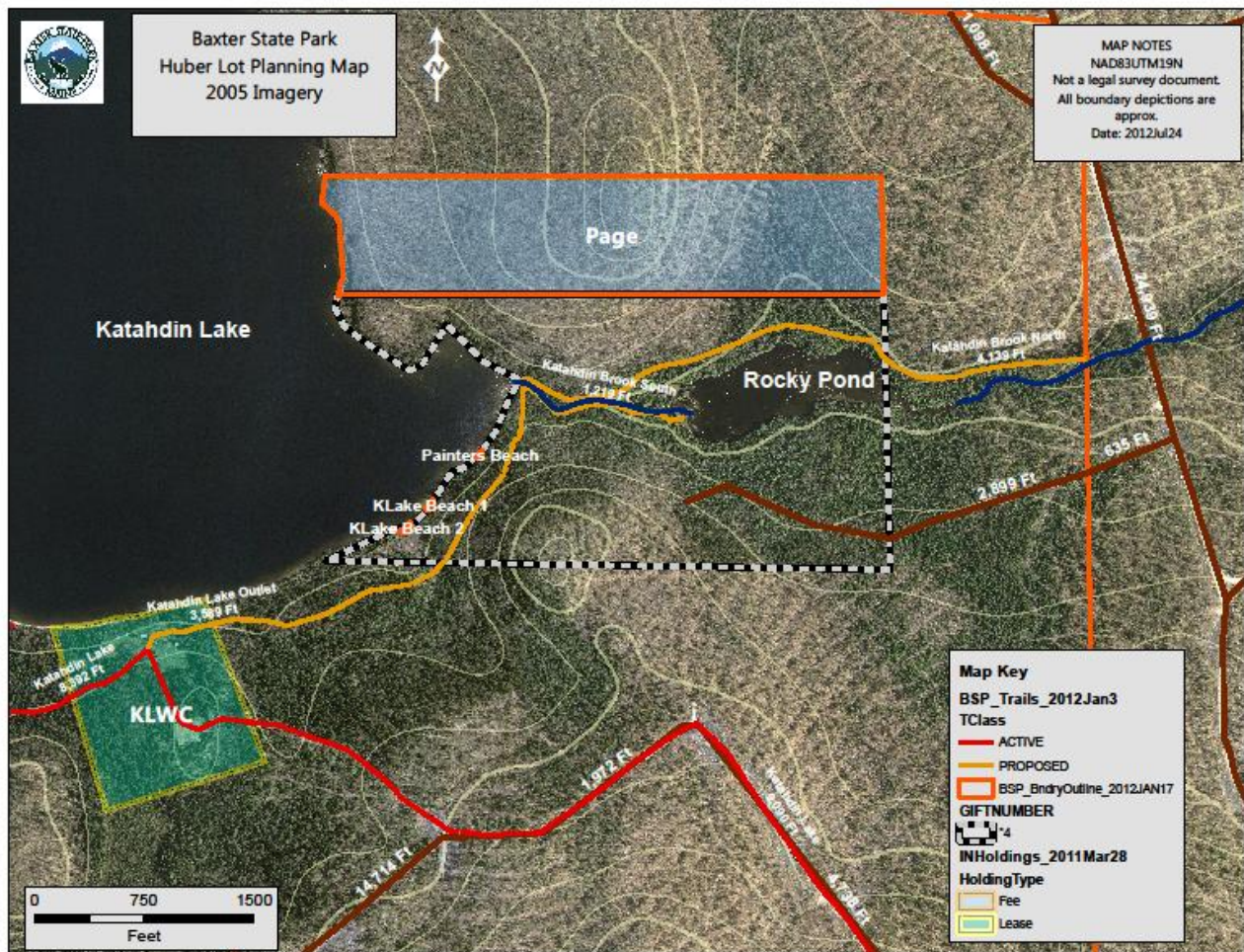
Forest Management Road

Proposed Action: Remove culverts and stabilize drainage pathways. Remove gate. Block road with rocks at Park boundary. Utilize Park volunteers to plant road edge and road surface with red/white pine seedling mix to hasten naturalization.

(Completion date: 2013)

Appendix

Planning Map



Fisheries Report

Fish Collections Summary Form, Revised 7-16-06

Water name: Rocky Pond
Township: T3R8 WELS
Mgt Type/ Spp:¹ Coldwater
Date Sampled: 6/8/2012

Watcode: 2018
County: Penobscot
Date last sampled: New survey

Purpose of Proposed Collection:² New pond survey to determine physical/chemical attributes and fish species present.

Sampling Needs:³ Representative sample of all species present.

Sampling needs met?: No, will attempt to acquire additional BKT samples on another sampling event.

Gear Type Employed (GN, TN, EF, EX, ANGLING, etc): One 200' red experimental (1"x2.5") gillnet and 2 minnow traps.

Effort expended (net-hrs, EF minutes, angling hours, etc): Gillnet-2 hours, minnow traps-5.25 hours.

Start Date: 6/8/2012

Stop Date: 6/8/2012

Summary of Catch

(NOTE: use the back of this page or additional sheets for necessary detail such as age, growth, etc.)

Species	Number caught	Percent Hatchery	Mean Length(mm) +/- S.E.	Mean Weight(g) +/- S.E.	Condition (K) +/-S.E.	Range (mm)
BKT	3	0				131-205
PKS	1	0				95
CMS	10	0				78-110
FLF	1	0				205
WHS	5	0				100-230

¹ For instance, Trophy BKT, quality size SMB, etc.

² For instance, evaluate stocking pgm (new, change of spp, rate, etc); evaluate regulations: existing, changes, specify; changes in access, changes in spp composition, etc.

³ number of specimens required (by species) to achieve purpose.

Land Ownership Record (courtesy Earl Raymond)

IAT PROJECT KEEP LOT KATAHDIN "POND"

Friday 21 July 2006

additions & revisions October 8,9, 2006 May 2011 & JULY 2012

Penobscot County registry of Deeds Bangor, Maine

T3R8 WELS

"Resolve of the legislature entitled " Resolve in favor of Marcus R. Keep" approved February 19,1859

Grantor : B.W.Norris Agent to superintend and manage the sale and settlement of the Public Lands of the State of Maine.

Book 321 page 366 dated 6/27/1860 recorded 10/02/1862

"Said lot located at the outlet of Katahdin pond adjacent to said pond, extending north and south eighty rods each way far enough to include the land and improvements contemplated in said Resolve, said lot containing 200acres , more or less, according to the survey and plan of said lot returned to the Land Office in 1859 by Noah Barker, surveyor, reference to said" (not found in the registry) Sketch by Noah Barker by B.W.NORRIS (Agent of the State)

Marcus R. Keep of Ashland that same day took out a mortgage to Ebenezer S. Coe of Bangor for \$ 50.00. Book 321 page 367 recorded October 2, 1862

KEEP Marcus R.

To

Coe, Ebenezer S.

Warantee

Book 477 page 159 January 1,1866

Recorded February /12/1877

Devised by WILL of Eben S. COE ADMITTED TO PROBATE January 1900

Book 231 page 129

Thomas U. Coe

To

James W. Sewall & Ira D. Eastman

Book 708 page 394

12/19/1901 recorded 12/21/1901

James W. Sewall

To

James W. Sewall Jr. WILL

Book 753 page 414 7/3/19-1905 recorded 7/24/1905

Louise G. Sewall (Gray) (James W. Sewall Jr. Dower) Book 994 page 435-436 4/16/1925
recorded January 11, 1926

To

Frank C. Wright

Frank C. Wright

To

KTAADN LAKE CLUB Book 994 page 436 1/11/1926

KTAADN LAKE CLUB

TO

FRANK C. WRIGHT book 1053 page 371 April 10, 1931

recorded April 16, 1931

Frank C. Wright

To

The Huber Company, Incorporated

Book 1204 page 141 May 01/1944 recorded ?

Sherry Huber Speech: Hall of Flags, January 12, 2012

I've been asked to say a few words on behalf of the Huber family.

In his remarks earlier, Bob mentioned several donations of environmentally significant land Huber has made in Maine, Crystal Bog, Seboeis River and Gorge and Marble Fen.

I remember standing here in the Hall of Flags in 1976 when Crystal Bog and the Seboeis land was given to The Nature Conservancy, with Mike Huber, then president of the company and David Huber, his brother, my husband and recently the Vice President in charge of the Timber and Minerals Division of J.M. Huber. Mike, Dave and many others who worked for Huber over the years, took great pride in and responsibility for the skillful management of the thousands of acres of forestland under their care.

As you have heard, the two people most responsible for Huber's acquisition of the Katahdin Lake parcel were my father-in-law Hans Huber and one of his and David's best friends, Joe Sewall, who died only recently. Thanks to Joe, Hans was introduced to the Katahdin Lake land and many other properties which the company bought over the years.

Without them, Mike and Dave, we would not be standing here today.

Others, some no longer with us, were equally determined to do right by Huber forestland. They include:

Frank Pelletier of Houlton, who assured me when Dave and I moved to Maine, "Sherry, Maine has too many trees, not too few"

Charlie Sleight of Milford, a Lubec native , who always introduced himself as "Charles Sleight of Lubec and the Yale School of Forestry."

David Semonite of Yarmouth, who succeeded Dave Huber as VP of T&M, and successfully competed in sailboat races like the Monhegan to relax.

Bill Goodspeed, a family member, now of Falmouth and Idexx, who managed Huber Timber for a number of years along with many other Huber responsibilities.

Jon Ford, now of sunny Arizona, a forester and timberland manager for Huber for 35 years, who almost was done in by an ostrich.

And of course, Peter Triandafillou, the forester who grew up in the wilds of New York City! And also is an accomplished saber and epee competitor in fencing circles.

Seriously, they all cared first and foremost about the land, the water, the trees and the people they worked with.

Our company's exemplary forest stewardship was demonstrated to many in our growing family during a Huber meeting on the shores of Millinocket Lake in 2003. With the help of Huber employees, we toured some of these lands and learned why they were affectionately called "the jewels in the crown" of Maine timberland by these dedicated professionals. The visit made a lasting impression on our family and our environmental ethic was brought home for them by this on-the-ground experience.

We are grateful that our forbears have made it possible for us to make this gift of land on Katahdin Lake to this most appropriate recipient, the state of Maine's Baxter State Park. Long may the land's unspoiled natural beauty and unique features inspire all who come here or who experience them through the skill of writers, artists and photographers.