

**Tamworth Conservation Commission  
Conservation Lands Review Committee  
Meeting Minutes of November 28, 2006  
7:00 pm, Tamworth Town Office  
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Committee members in attendance: Chris Conrod, Chair, Chele Miller, David Little, John Mersfelder, Margaret Rieser. Participant: Willie Farnum.

I. **Committee Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2006** were reviewed and accepted.

II. **NRCS Soil Classifications** supplied by Elaine Cleveland were reviewed to determine if the committee should include soils of local importance in the NRI scoring system. Discussion centered on whether or not soils in the category of local importance, because of their ubiquity, would dilute the importance of prime agricultural soils and soils of statewide significance. It was pointed out that all soils which were not poorly drained, very rocky or with steep slopes were included in the local significance category and that all areas within that category which are currently being farmed or maintained in an open condition receive points in the Agricultural Use category.

**Vote:** 2-1 to not include soils of local importance in the NRI scoring system.

III. **NRI Mapping and Scoring;** a continuation.

1. **Wetlands:** Agreed to use three categories for mapping and scoring. In descending order of importance:
  - a. Prime Wetlands as designated by town vote.
  - b. Wetlands identified in the national wetlands inventory.
  - c. Hydric soils as identified by NRCS.
2. **Surface Water:** Discussed whether or not to include buffer areas around surface water and, if so, what distance (width) should be used. Decided that the few parcels which would include a buffer area but not the surface water itself would be of little significance; only those parcels which include surface water or shoreline will be scored. All surface waters will be mapped. There will be two categories:
  - a. Streams.
  - b. Lakes/Ponds.
3. **Land Cover:** Decided to use the NH F&G Wildlife Action Plan habitat cover map to delineate unusual/uncommon examples of land cover. Four land cover types were chosen to be included in the map and scoring system:
  - a. Pine Barren
  - b. Floodplain
  - c. Spruce-Fir (high and low elevation)
  - d. Northern Hardwoods

4. **Wildlife:** NH F&G Wildlife Action Plan maps were scrutinized. It was felt by the committee that, although the scoring system used was likely adequate for making decisions at the regional level, it didn't translate well at the local level. Merits and inadequacies of the F&G course filter maps were discussed; there would be a problem of complexity and redundancy with other categories in applying the data to the Tamworth NRI. Agreed to continue discussion at next meeting.

IV. **Meeting Adjourned** at 9:30.

V. **Next Meeting:** January 3, 2007, 7:00 pm at Library or Town Office.

Submitted by Chris Conrod

**NRI Mapping and Scoring to date** (scoring criteria listed in ascending order):

<b>Category</b>	<b>On Map</b>	<b>Scored</b>
Lot Size: based on Meredith NRI (5 categories) a. 0-2 ac. b. 2-10 ac. c. 10-50 ac. d. 50-150 ac. e. >150 ac.	N	Y
Conservation Land: a. Status a. Unprotected b. Current Use c. Public or Private Trust d. Conservation Easement e. Forever Wild b. Proximity to protected land a. Contiguous one side b. Contiguous two or more sides c. Connecting two protected parcels	Y       N	Y       Y
Agricultural a. Soils a. Statewide Significance b. Prime Agricultural soils b. Land in use a. Open b. Regularly Mown c. Productive – hay d. Productive - crops	Y    N	Y    Y
Scenic	N	?
Water Quality a. Stratified Drift Aquifer b. Wells with protection radii	Y Y	Y Y

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Contaminants (these are minus scores) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Known threat</li> <li>b. Potential threat</li> <li>c. No threat</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wetlands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Hydric (NRCS)</li> <li>b. National Wetlands Inventory</li> <li>c. Prime Wetlands</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surface Water (categories have equal weight) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Streams</li> <li>b. Lakes/Ponds</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land Cover (categories have equal weight) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Pine Barren</li> <li>b. Floodplain</li> <li>c. Spruce-Fir</li> <li>d. Northern Hardwoods</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> <li>Y</li> </ul>
Wildlife		
Rare/Endangered/Exemplary		
Special Features		
Access/Fragmentation		
Level of Human Activity		
Development Potential		
Forest Soils		