Beginning with HABITAT

An Approach to Conserving Maine's Natural Space for Plants, Animals, and People

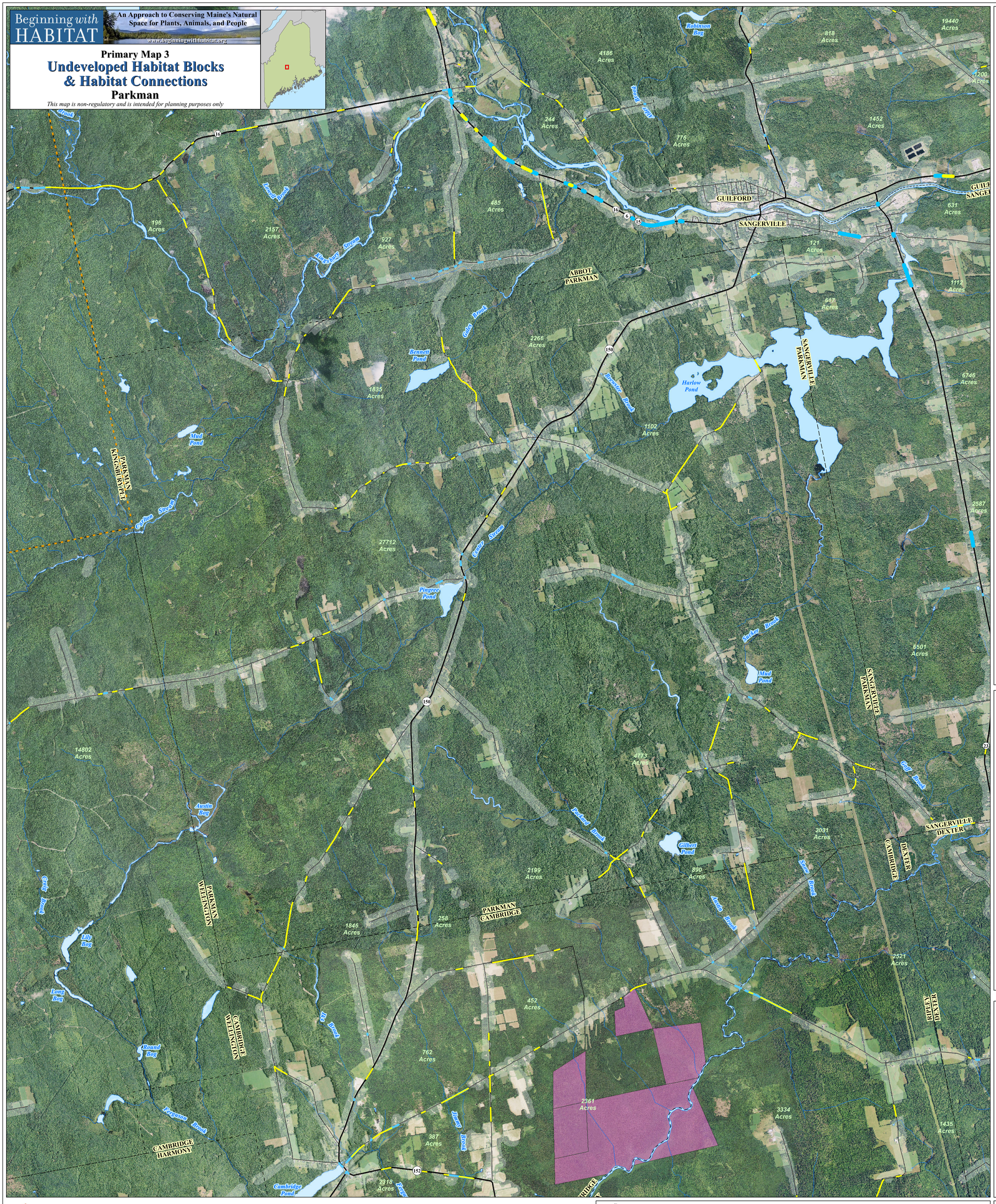
www.beginningwithhabitat.org

Primary Map 3

Undeveloped Habitat Blocks & Habitat Connections

Parkman

This map is non-regulatory and is intended for planning purposes only



LEGEND

This map highlights undeveloped natural areas likely to provide core habitat blocks and habitat connections that facilitate species movements between blocks. Undeveloped habitat blocks provide relatively undisturbed habitat conditions required by many of Maine's species. Habitat connections provide necessary opportunities for wildlife to travel between preferred habitat types in search for food, water, and mates. Roads and development fragment habitat blocks and can be barriers to moving wildlife. By maintaining a network of interconnected blocks towns and land trusts can protect a wide variety of Maine's species—both rare and common—to help ensure rich species diversity long into the future. Maintaining a network of these large rural open spaces also protects future opportunities for forestry, agriculture, and outdoor recreation.

Organized Township Boundary

Unorganized Township *(Beginning with Habitat does not provide data for unorganized townships)*

Roads

Streams and Brooks

Ocean, Lakes, Ponds, and Rivers

Habitat Blocks

Development Buffer (*pale transparency*)
250-500 foot buffer around improved roads and developed areas (based on development intensity).

Undeveloped Habitat Block
Remaining land outside of Development Buffers.
Blocks greater than 100 acres are labeled with their estimated acreage

Approximate Habitat Connections

The habitat connections represented on this map were identified by predictive computer modeling that highlighted locations where quality habitat is likely to occur on both sides of a given road between undeveloped habitat blocks greater than 100-acres and between higher value wetlands. The habitat connectors represented on this map are approximate and have not been field verified.

Undeveloped Block Connectors
Likely habitat areas linking undeveloped habitat blocks greater than 100 acres.

Riparian Connectors
Likely crossing locations for wetland dependent species moving between waterways and wetlands divided by roads

Note: The width of both habitat connection types indicates traffic volume, and corresponding level of threat of habitat fragmentation and animal mortality. Wide lines indicate average daily traffic volumes greater than 2000 vehicles. Narrow lines indicate less than 2000 vehicles per day.

Highway Bridge Connectors
Maine Dept. of Transportation bridges along I-95 and I-295 that span riparian habitat connecting adjacent habitat blocks that are separated by the highway. These are locations where species are likely to take advantage of infrastructure to move between habitat blocks.

Conserved Lands

The State of Maine's conserved lands database includes lands in federal, state, and non-profit ownership. It does not include many privately owned conservation lands, especially those protected by local land trusts, or town owned conservation lands. For the most accurate and current information about land ownership, consult with the local assessor and/or other local land management agencies. If public access potential to any of the properties displayed here is uncertain, landowners should be contacted to determine if permission is necessary.

Ownership Type (*transparent layers*)

Federal
National parks, forests, and wildlife refuges.

State
Wildlife Management Areas and other properties managed by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, state parks, and parcels managed by the Bureau of Parks & Lands.

Municipal
Town parks, athletic fields, community forests, etc.

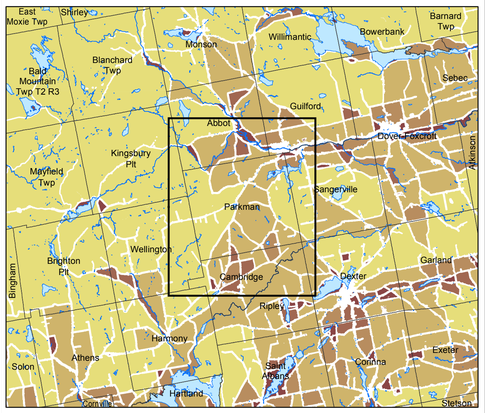
Private Conservation
Properties owned and managed by private (usually non-profit) organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Maine Coast Heritage Trust; Trust for Public Land, and local land trusts.

Easement
Voluntary legal agreements that allow landowners to realize economic benefit by permanently restricting the amount and type of future development and other uses on all or part of their property as they continue to own and use it.

Aerial Imagery

Aerial imagery is often the best tool available to visualize existing patterns of development and resulting changes in the natural landscape. By depicting undeveloped habitat blocks, habitat connectors and conserved lands with aerial photos, the map user can more easily identify opportunities to expand the size and ecological effectiveness of local conservation efforts.

REGIONAL
Undeveloped Block Sizes



Developed Areas	500-1,000 acres
0 - 250 acres	1,000-5,000 acres
250-500 acres	> 5,000 acres

1 : 325,000 **1 inch equals 5 miles**

Data Sources

DATA SOURCE INFORMATION
(note: italicized file names can be downloaded from Maine Office of GIS)
TOWNSHIP BOUNDARIES
Maine Office of GIS (2006); *metwp24*
ROADS
Maine Office of GIS, Maine Department of Transportation (2005); *medotpub*
HYDROLOGY
Maine Office of GIS, U.S. Geological Survey (2004); *hyd24*
UNDEVELOPED HABITAT BLOCKS, DEVELOPMENT BUFFER, CONNECTORS
Beginning with Habitat
CONSERVATION LANDS
Maine State Planning Office (2009); *conserved_lands*
AERIAL IMAGERY
U.S. Department of Agriculture: *NAIP 2009* - state-wide 1-meter color orthoimagery (collected between 06/17/2009 and 09/17/2009)

DATA SOURCE CONTACT INFORMATION
Maine Office of GIS - http://apollo.ogis.state.me.us/catalog
Maine Natural Areas Program - http://www.maine.gov/doc/nrimc/mnap/
Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife - http://www.maine.gov/ifw/
Maine Department of Transportation - http://www.maine.gov/mdot/
Maine Department of Environmental Protection - http://www.maine.gov/dep/

DIGITAL DATA REQUEST
To request digital data for a town or organization, visit our website.
http://www.beginningwithhabitat.org/the_maps/gis_data_request.html

State of Maine · The Nature Conservancy "Protecting nature. Preserving life." · Maine Audubon · Maine Coast Heritage Trust, A Statewide Land Conservation Organization · SWOAM · MaineDOT

5,000 2,500 0 0.5 1 Miles
Feet
Meters
1,000 500 0 0.5 1 Kilometers

1:24,000 Scale
Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Projection
North American Datum (NAD) 1983

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MAINE LOON THANX