dcr MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Myles Standish Complex Resource Management Plan

Ellisville Harbor State Park

Pilgrim Memorial State Park

Kingston State Forest

DCR Public Meeting

December 10, 2013 6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
Plymouth Public Library, Plymouth MA

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor
Deval L. Patrick

Energy and Environmental Secretary
Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner
John P. Murray

dcr
Massachusetts

DCR Mission Statement

To protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all

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Tonight's Meeting

Pilgrim Mother Fountain / Statue
Pilgrim Memorial State Park

- Presentation
  - Introduction to Resource Management Plans (RMPs)
  - Overview of properties in Myles Standish Complex
  - RMP Contents
- Public Input
  - Issues / concerns at DCR properties in complex that DCR should address

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Resource Management Plan Requirements

Summer at Scusset Beach

Ellisville Harbor Beachfront

By statute, RMPs must:

Be prepared for all "reservations, parks, and forests" under DCR management;

"include guidelines for the operation and land stewardship of… reservations, parks and forests";

"provide for the protection and stewardship of natural and cultural resources"; and

"ensure consistency between recreation, resource protection and sustainable forest management"

M.G.L. Chapter 21; Section 2F

RMPs: Scope and Functions

- Consider the past, present, and future of a property
- Guide short- and long-term management of DCR properties
- Help set priorities for capital and operating budgets, and resource allocation
- Enhance communication and cooperation with visitors, partners, and surrounding communities

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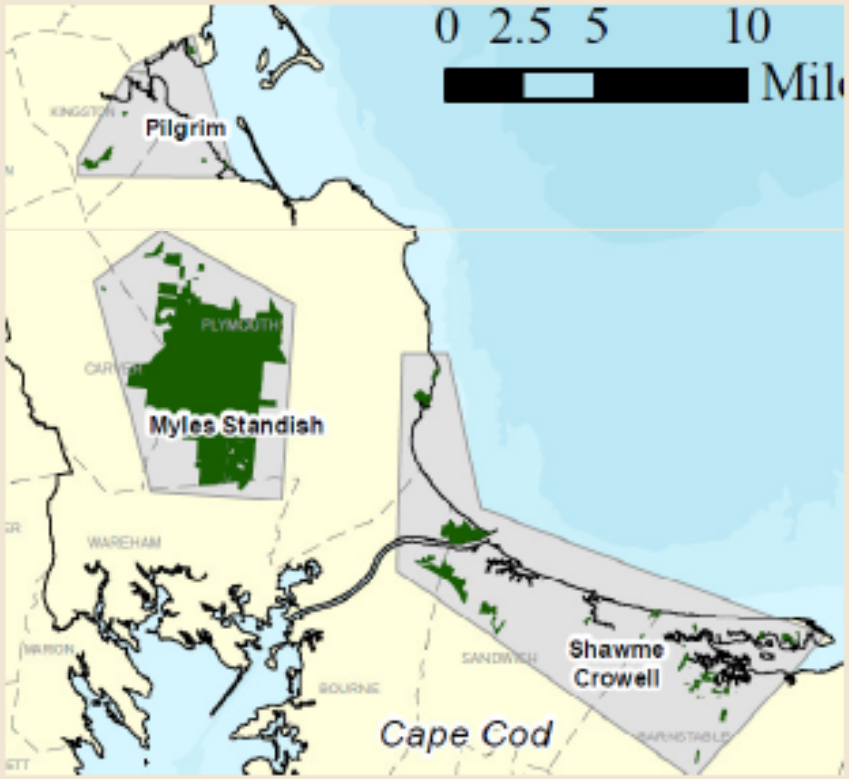
Complex Level RMPs: A New Direction

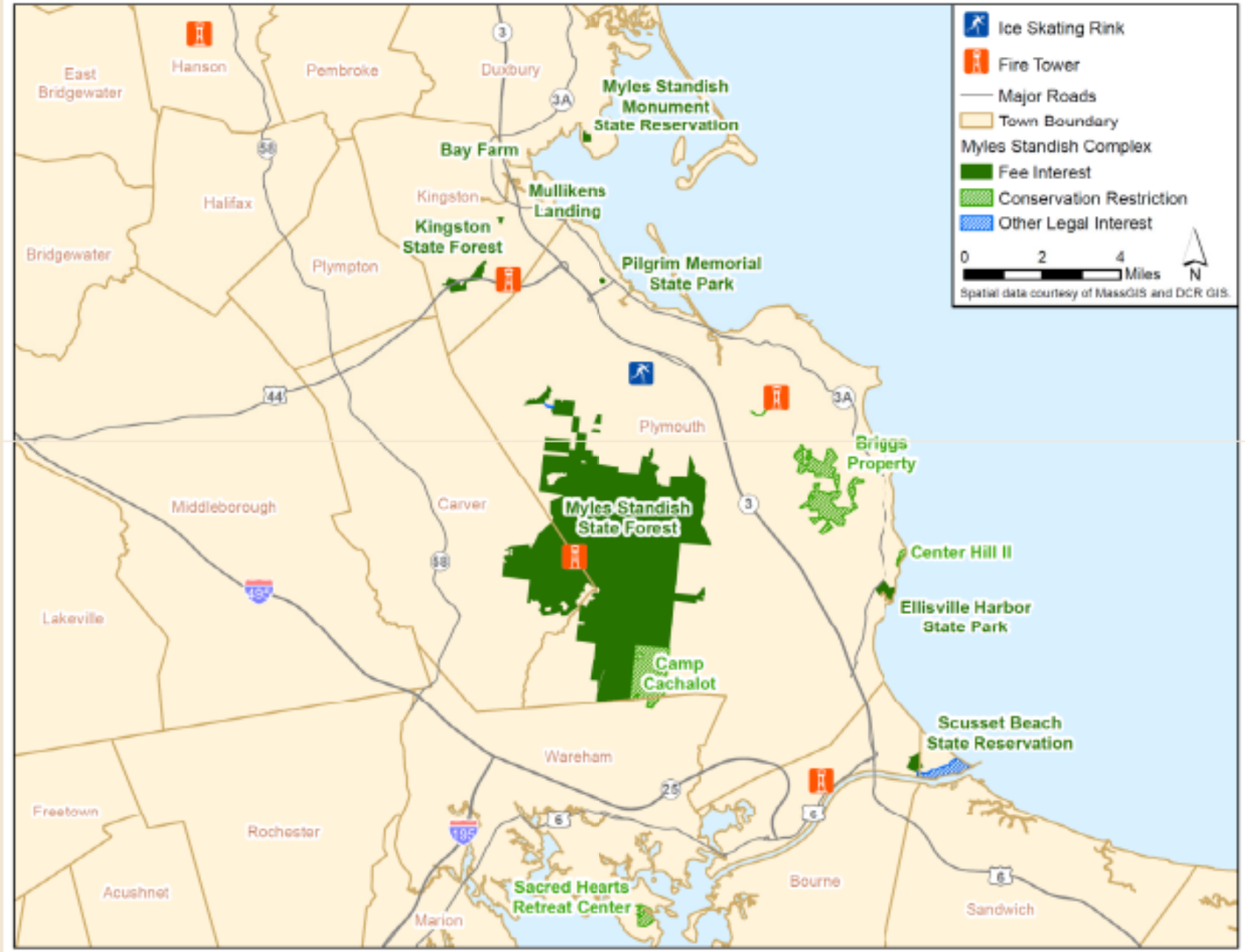
The 2011 DCR Parks Unification effort required RMPs to adapt to a new management structure.



Before Parks Unification…
Three Planning Units: Three RMPs

…After Parks Unification
One Complex: One RMP

Myles Standish Complex



Bay Farm / Mulliken's Landing

Bay Farm (Kingston) - DCR Ownership

Bay Farm

Location: Kingston

Established: 1988

Area: 6.3 acres (DCR-owned portion)

Recreation: Hiking / Walking (Bay Circuit Trail)

Jones River from Mulliken's Landing Parcel

Mulliken's Landing

Location: Kingston

Established: 2002

Area: 1.3 acres

Recreation: Boat access to Jones River

Ellisville Harbor State Park

Harlow Farmhouse

Remnants of Farming Equipment

Location: Plymouth

Established: 1991

Area: 97 acres

Recreation: Fishing, hiking/walking, horseback riding, pet walking, swimming (unguarded)

Defining Characteristics:

- Former working agricultural landscape dating to early 1700s
- Rare species habitat (turtle and shorebirds species)
- Outstanding scenic values
- Salt marsh estuary

Kingston State Forest

Location: Kingston

Established: 1910

Area: Approximately 133 acres

Recreation: Cross-country skiing, hiking/walking, horseback riding, mountain biking, showshoeing

Defining Characteristics:

- Rare species habitat
- Water resources (ponds, four certified vernal pools)
- Property acquired and managed for forestry

Myles Standish Monument State Reservation

Myles Standish Monument

Location: Duxbury

Established: 1920

- Monument completed in 1898

Area: 29.9 acres

Recreation: Interpretive programs, pet walking, picnicking, special events

Defining Characteristics:

- Privately-funded expression of national pride
- Outstanding scenic resources (views to Provincetown, Boston)
- Location has strong connection to Myles Standish (on land formerly owned by Myles Standish)

Myles Standish State Forest

Location: Plymouth, Carver, Wareham

Established: 1916

Area: 12,439.5 acres

Recreation: Bicycling, boating, camping, hiking, hunting, interpretive programs, swimming

Adopted RMP for Myles Standish State Forest is in place (2011)

Defining Characteristics:

- High prevalence of rare species habitat and ecological communities
- Cultural resources (related to pre-contact and park/recreation history)
- Diversity of recreational opportunities

Pilgrim Memorial State Park, including National Monument to the Forefathers

Portico at Pilgrim Memorial State Park

National Monument to the Forefathers

Location: Plymouth

Established:

1889 (Monument completed)
1924 (Pilgrim Memorial State Park)

Area: 16.8 acres

Recreation: Interpretive programs, picnicking, special events

Defining Characteristics:

- Identified as location where Pilgrims first landed in 1620
- Commemorative 1920s landscape including noted works of art
- Sites are prominent tourist attractions and cultural landmarks

Scusset Beach State Reservation

New Boardwalk – Scusset Beach

Location: Bourne, Sandwich

Established: 1957 (date reservation was opened to public)

Area: 181 acres leased to DCR by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Recreation: Bicycling, camping, fishing, hunting, swimming, universal access programs

Defining Characteristics:

- Popular summer destination for camping, fishing, swimming
- Site is adjacent to easterly opening to Cape Cod Canal
- Example of successful intergovernmental collaboration

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RMP Contents

Massasoit Statue

Existing Conditions

- Natural Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Recreation Resources
- Infrastructure

Management Resources & Practices

- Operations & Facilities Management
- Interpretive Services & Environmental Education

Recommendations

- Land Stewardship Zoning
- Management Recommendations

  Recommendations to focus on:

  Public safety

  Regulatory compliance

  Imminent resource degradation

RMP Schedule

Task	Date
1st public meeting	December 10, 2013
Comment period ends	January 14, 2014
Prepare draft RMP	Winter-Spring 2014
Undergo internal DCR review	Spring 2014
2nd Public Meeting for comments on draft RMP (30 day comment period to follow)	Spring 2014
Prepare updated version to incorporate public comments	Spring-Summer 2014
Submit to DCR Stewardship Council for adoption	Summer 2014

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Public Comment

Fly Fisherman – Myles Standish State Forest

Mulliken's Landing

- RMP format or process
- Natural Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Recreation Resources
- Interpretive Services
- Operations & Facility Management
- Information to contribute
- Other

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Public Comment

General Guidelines

- Please state:
  - Name
  - Affiliation (if any), and
  - Property that you are providing comments on.

- To assist us, please make comments in context of what resources or issues DCR should address during this Resource Management Planning process.

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Additional Information

For more information:

Web: http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/public-meetings/

Send your comments and suggestions by Tuesday, January 14, 2014 to:

E-mail: dcr.updates@state.ma.us
Please put "Myles Standish Complex RMP" in the subject line

U.S. Mail: Department of Conservation and Recreation
Office of Public Outreach
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Note: Public comments submitted to DCR will be posted in their entirety on the DCR website.

Thank You for Participating!

View to Plymouth Harbor – Pilgrim Memorial State Park