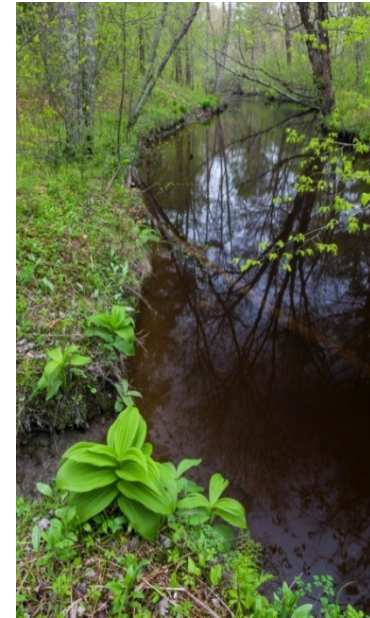




Oyster River Initiative



THE
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CONSERVING LAND
FOR PEOPLE

Durham Town Council

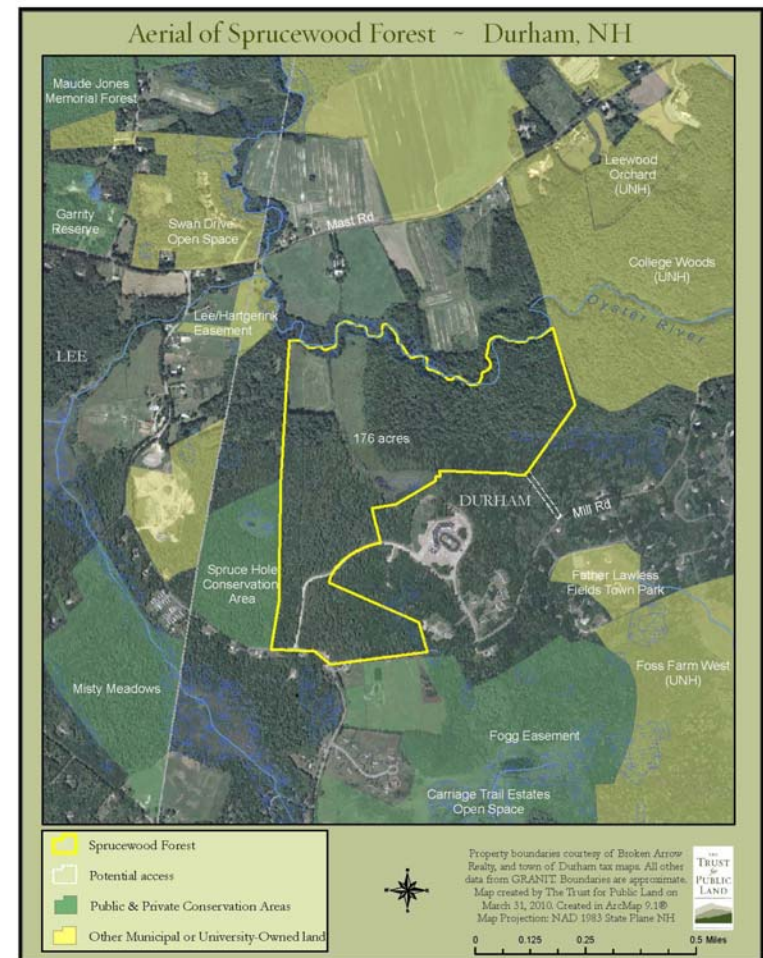
November 5, 2012





Oyster River - Resource Values

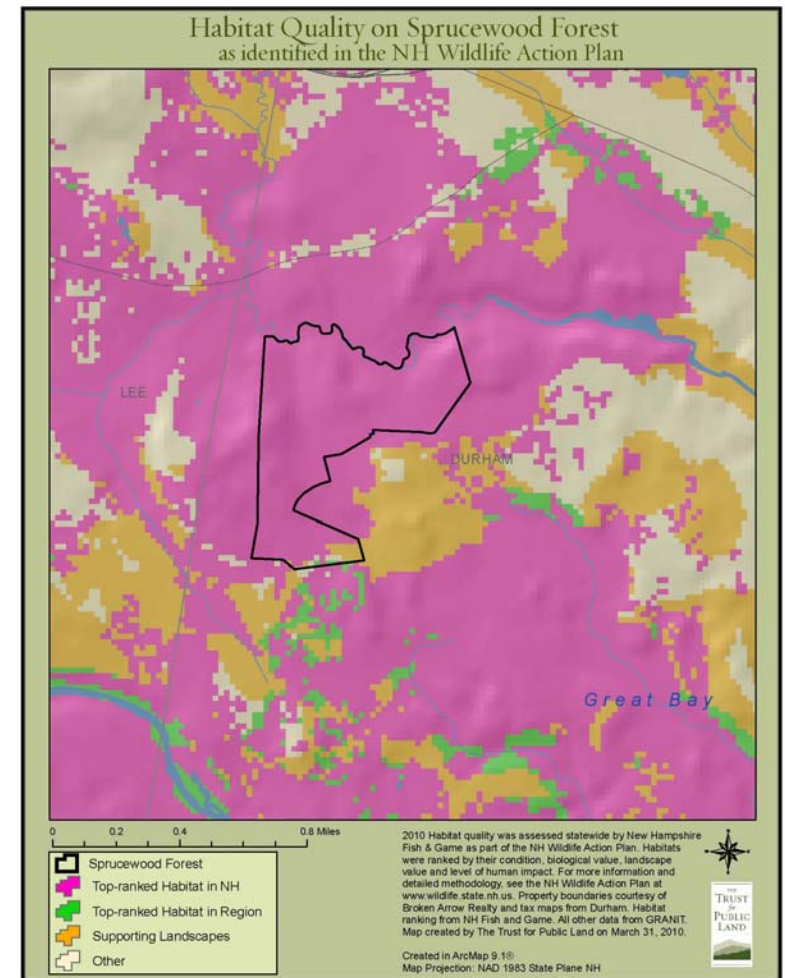
- 172 acres
- Connectivity to 2,200 acres of existing conservation land
 - College Woods
 - Spruce Hole Conservation Area
 - Amber Acres
- Building blocks





Oyster River – Habitat Values

- Wildlife Habitat
 - 97% Tier I Habitat
 - Critical habitat types
 - Threatened Species
- NH Coastal Management Plan
- NEC Initiative Focus Area
- Riparian habitat protection in both Durham and Lee Master Plans





Oyster River - Aquatic Values

Project protects drinking water in two important ways:

- Surface water
 - 4,640 ft of frontage on Oyster R.
 - 4,000 ft on Amber Acres
 - Help maintain water quality in Great Bay





Project Structure – Phase I

Acquisition will occur in two steps:

1. NRCS Agreement-To-Purchase
 - Wetland Reserve Program – easement only
 - NRCS covers all costs associated with the conservation easement
 - Easement deed is signed by current owners but carries forward to all future landowners





Easement Terms

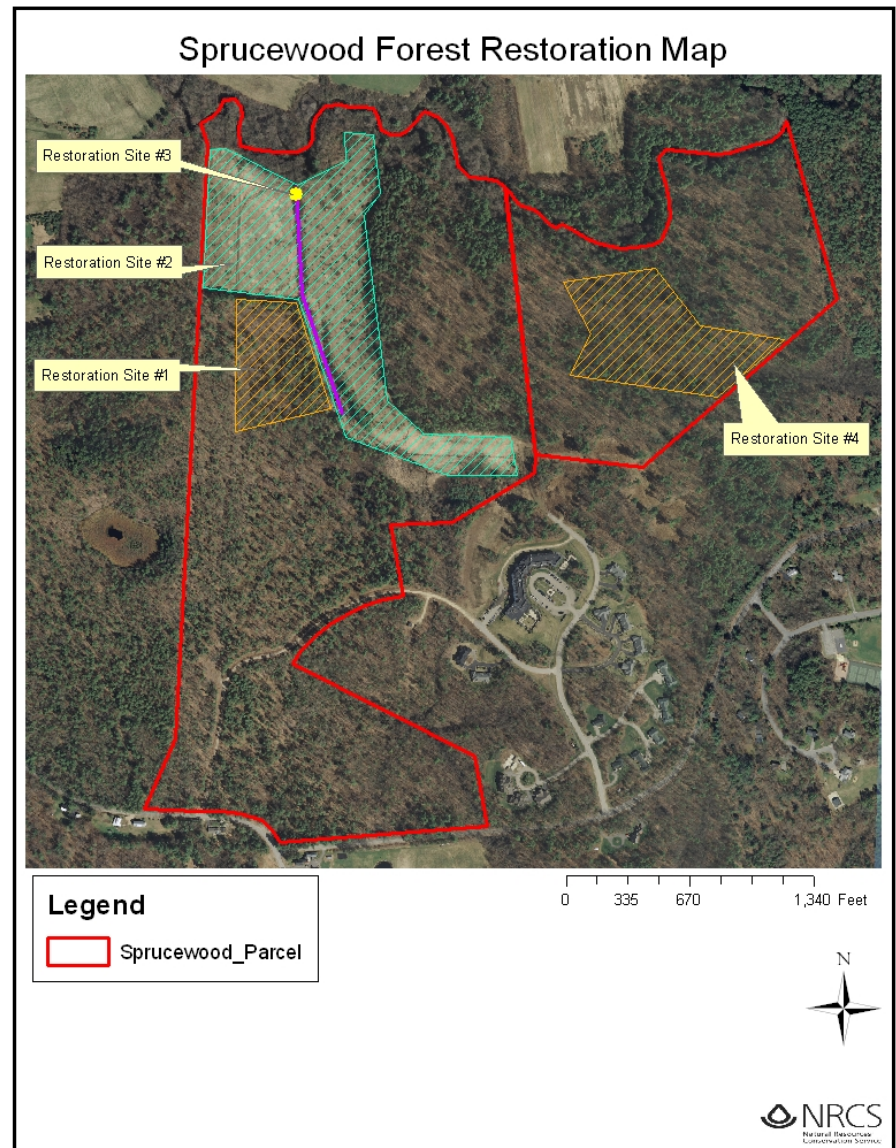
- Boilerplate deed (NRCS Wetland Reserve Program)
- Landowner reserves the right to:
 - quiet enjoyment*
 - access control*
 - water supply needs*
 - undeveloped recreation*
- Future uses may include:
 - managed timber harvest*
 - periodic haying*
 - controlled grazing*





Restoration Plan

- **Restoration Site #1:**
Increase horizontal diversity and shelter habitat for New England Cottontail
- **Restoration Site #2:**
Remove invasive plants and plant native shrub layer to improve shelter habitat
- **Restoration Site #3**
Install stone ford at crossing, re-engage floodplain with woody debris additions to stream channel
- **Restoration Site #4**
Remove invasive plants and plant native shrubs to increase horizontal diversity and shelter habitat





Project Structure – Phase II

- TPL option to purchase restricted fee subject to WRP easement
- Ideally, TPL would acquire restricted fee immediately after easement conveyed
- Once acquired, TPL will convey the property to Durham

Future Ownership:

- Town of Durham will own the property
- Easement held by NRCS





Project Budget

Expenses:

CE Acquisition:	\$2,464,200
<u>Rest. Fee Acquisition:</u>	<u>\$1,535,800</u>
Total Purchase Price	\$4,000,000
Program Costs*:	\$ 82,500
Campaign Goal:	\$4,082,500

Revenue:

Committed:

WRP:	\$2,464,200
NH ARM:	\$ 500,000
<u>Private (to date):</u>	<u>\$ 92,500</u>
Total Committed:	\$3,056,700

Pending:

LCHIP:	\$ 100,000
Mooseplate:	\$ 40,000
Durham CC	\$ 375,000
<u>Private:</u>	<u>\$ 510,800</u>
TOTAL:	\$4,082,500

* Includes staff time, due diligence and private capital campaign.



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