

# Land Conservation Priorities for the Protection of Coastal Water Resources (2016)

## Summary:

Supplementing the 2006 Land Conservation Plan for New Hampshire's Coastal Watersheds, this resource identifies land conservation opportunity areas based on coastal water resource benefits including water quality protection (pollutant attenuation and removal), storage of flood waters, salt marsh migration, and public water supply.

## Keywords:

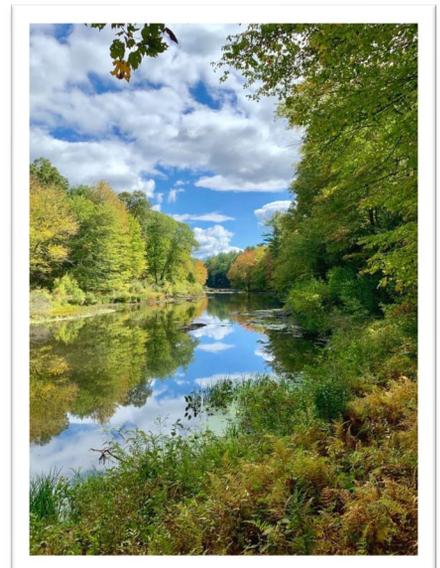
- Water Resources
- Land Conservation
- Conservation
- Environmental Benefits
- Land Protection
- Public Water Supply
- Flood Storage
- Pollutant Attenuation
- GIS Data Layer

## Key Points:

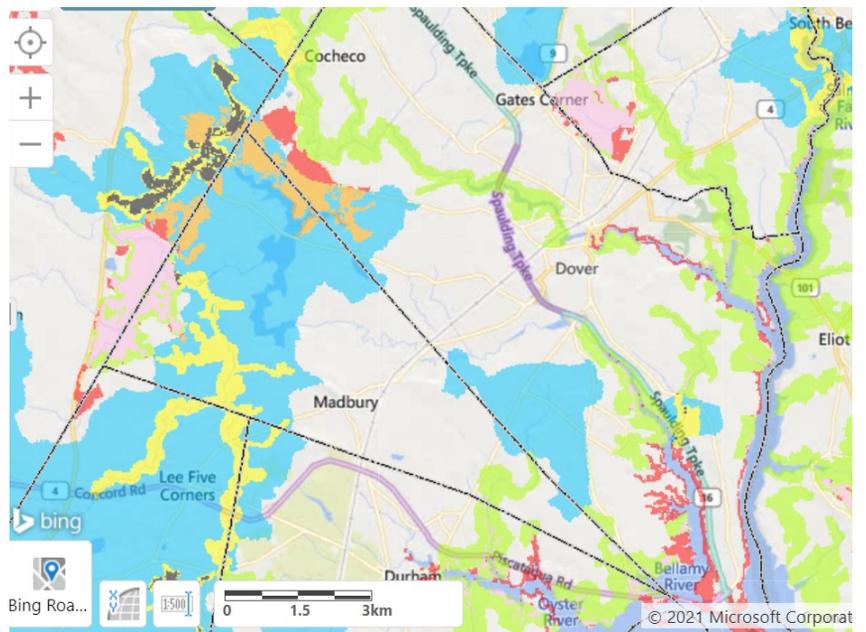
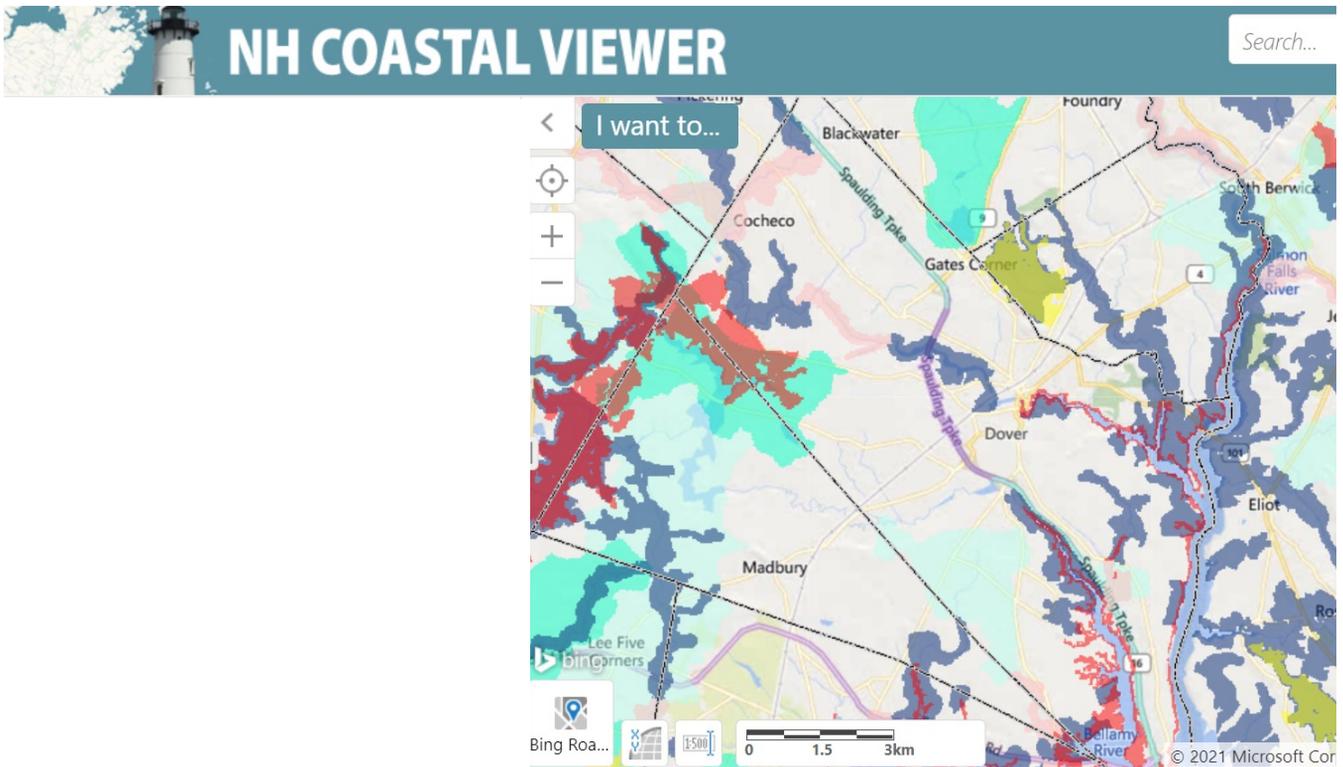
- There are many undeveloped areas in Dover that provide a single or – quite often – multiple priority benefits to our community's water resources.
- In intercepting stormwater and removing pollutants, conserving and protecting riparian buffers is recommended – 50m for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order streams and associated wetlands, 100m for 3<sup>rd</sup>+ order streams and wetlands, and 200m for tidal wetlands (after mapping a projected 2m vertical rise to account for sea level rise projections).
- Prioritize the conservation of large, low, flat areas for flood storage, as well as potential salt marsh migration pathways to safeguard the protection that salt marshes provide people and property.
- Protecting lands that deliver sustainable, abundant, and clean water is a critically important and cost-effective way of supporting Dover's vibrant and resilient community, while providing other natural resource values, such as wildlife habitat and recreation.
- Data layers are viewable on the [NH Coastal Viewer](#) tool under Environment and Conservation > Land Conservation Plan > Water Resource Conservation Focus Areas

## Suggested Uses:

The associated map-based data layers, viewable on the NH Coastal Viewer, offer a valuable tool to identify areas that offer the greatest benefit to coastal water resources, providing a way to evaluate the effectiveness of existing conservation lands, as well as lands for potential future conservation or development. Additionally, the report explains the significance of three priority benefits of public water supply, pollutant attenuation, flood storage, as well as how to support and protect them. The data and information in this report can be used to prioritize areas to conserve.



# Sample of the Data available on the NH Coastal Viewer



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**Photo Credits:** Abigail Lyon

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