

Landowner Engagement Across Connected Urban, Suburban, and Rural Landscapes

Panelists:

Lisa Hayden

Ed Hood

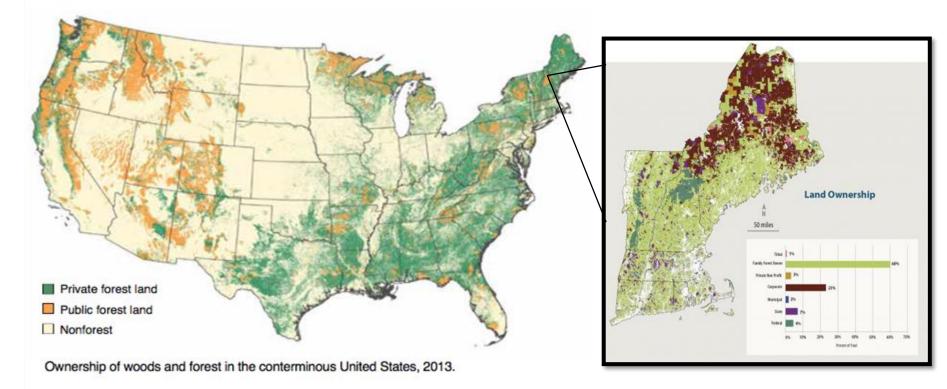
Colin Novick

Kara Hartigan Whelan

Moderator:

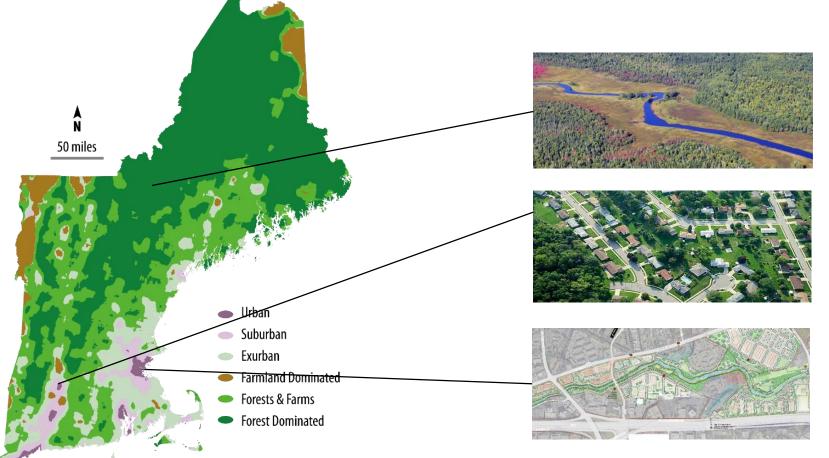
Hallie Schwab

## Land Ownership Trends



Data: USDA Forest Service, 2013; Wildlands and Woodlands, Farmlands and Communities, 2017

## Landowner Engagement in Every Landscape



Data: Wildlands and Woodlands, Farmlands and Communities, 2017

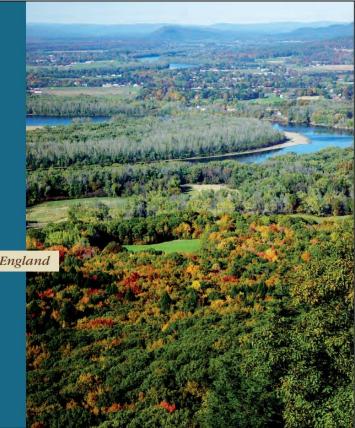
### Wildlands and Woodlands



Farmlands and Communities

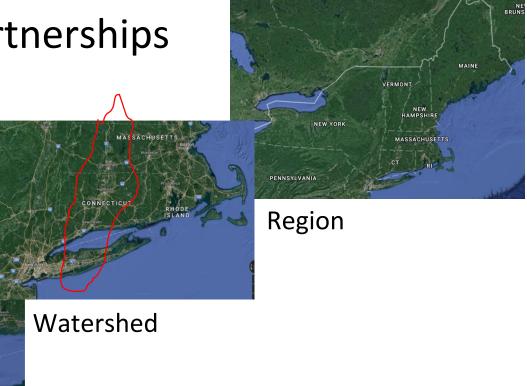
Broadening the Vision for New England





*"a diverse landscape* with well-managed forests and farmlands, intact wildlands, and thriving communities, with rural villages linked to suburban and urban centers through conserved lands"

## Scaling Up Through Partnerships





Municipality

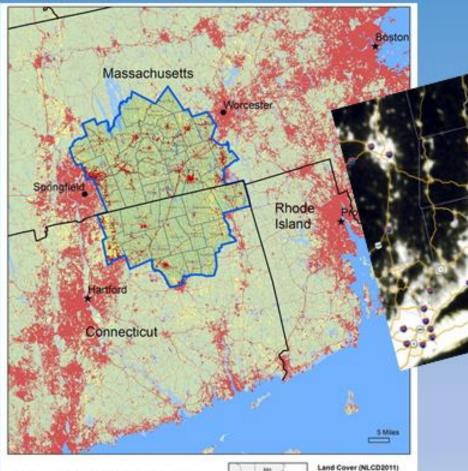


#### MassConn Sustainable Forest Partnership

- 38 Towns in Ct. and Ma.
- 760,000 acres
- 76% of the region, 581,000 acres, is forested
- 23% is currently protected (177,000 acres)

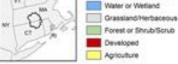
#### Long-term Conservation Goals:

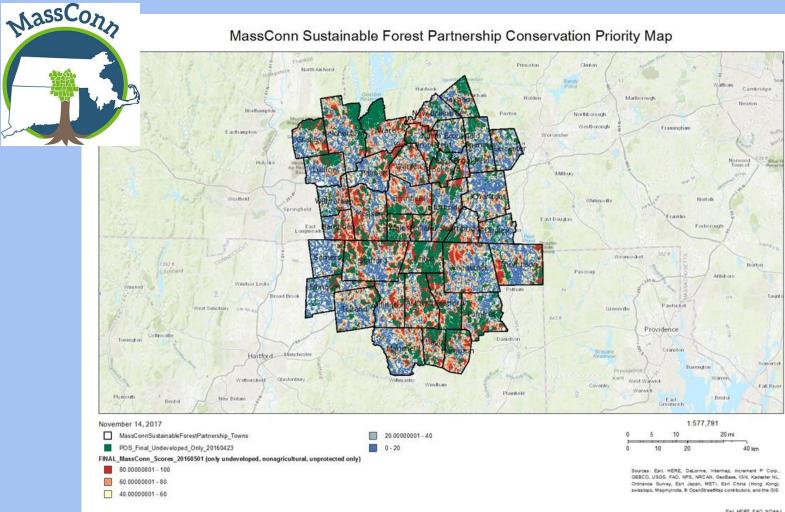
 80,000 acres of new conservation land – which with current conservation land, would be 256,000 acres, or 33% of the region.

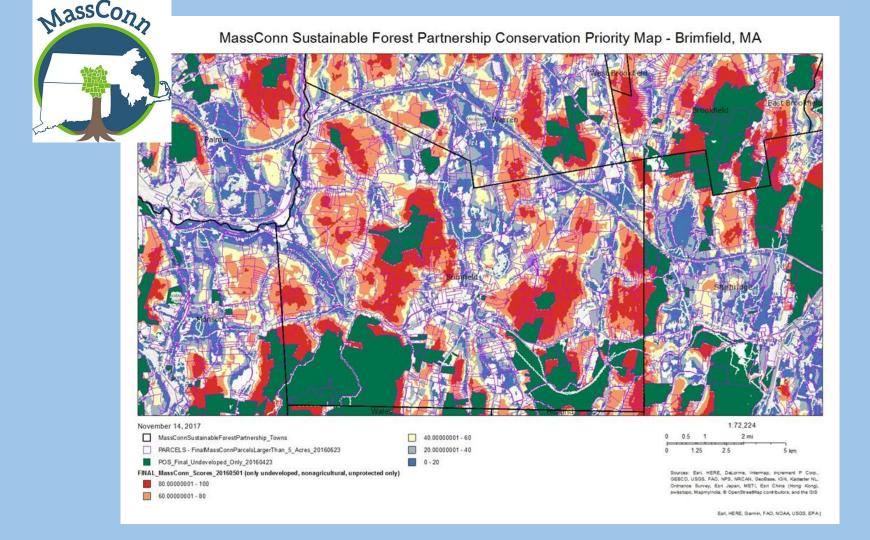


#### MassConn Sustainable Forest Partnership

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# My Massconn Woods: Engaging owners in decisions about their land







American Forest Foundation

Four campaigns - 2014-2015

Easements & management

- "Touched" all 2,500 landowners owning 10+ acres in 10town pilot region at least once
- >220 landowners representing nearly 10,000 acres responded to 1 or more offers



### Wildlife Conservation Society grant 2016-17

How do we incorporate climate change into stewardship?

...Help foresters talk with landowners...



## Equipping foresters for the conversation...

Keeping Your Woods Healthy Through the Years Ahead

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#### **Considerations for Your Woodlot**

The following are general recommendations to keep your woods healthy and able to adapt to changes into the future. While all of these actions are important, the checked recommendations are most applicable to your woods and your situation. To learn more, consult our fact sheet, consider working with a professional to implement these practices on the ground or visit our website at http://www.asscornwoods.org/.

Top Forest Stressors to Keep an Eye Os	Extreme Weather Vulnerabilities		
Protect water and soils on your land			
Improve ability of your trees to resist bugs and disease			

Manage damage to young trees from excessive deer browsing

Prepare for big weather events by promoting strong, healthy trees is your woodlot

Respond quickly after big disturbance events to help your woods bounce back

Promote a diversity of tree species

Promote a diversity of tree sizes

Protect rare or sensitive plant & animal communities



Harvest & Habitat Walks at Norcross Sanctuary

Folded Hills Forest 40-acre management site August 2016



Whaleback Ridge Forest 20-acre harvest site May 2016

# Considerations for Your Woodlot



Forester Recommended:

Remove invasives, replace with natives (protect soil, H2O)

Thin, release crop/mast trees (prepare for weather; promote strong trees)



## Visit Follow-Up - Supporting Actions on the Land



- Forester completed 8-hour adaptation workbook
- Climate planning incorporated into management plan

 Applying to NRCS for invasives treatment, habitat practices

## 2016 – Free Forester Visit Offers



 Direct mail to 613 MA, 424 CT owners of 30+ acres across 38 towns

 Also offered "free" forester visits at MassConn events and Woodland Ambassador workshops



Extreme Weather



Healthy Woods

•40 parcel visits conducted by 6 trained consulting foresters

•Engaging landowners owning ~3,000 acres

Goal: 500 acres under climateinformed management



## Tools are Available to RCPs

Climate messaging
Parcel-level forest adaptation

http://www.forestadaptation.org/massconn

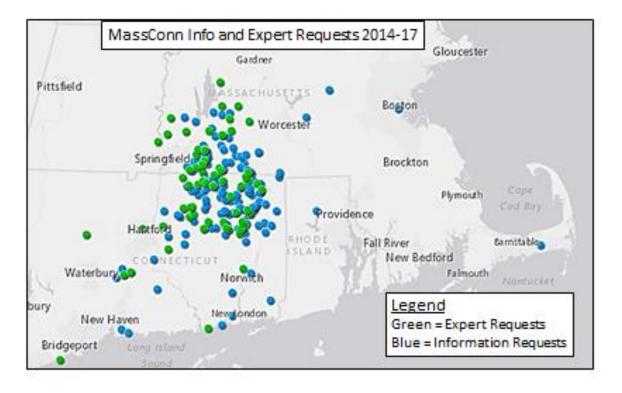




Forest Planning and Practices for New England and New York

Weekly webinar sessions January 15 - March 2, 2018 Adaptationworkbook.org

## MassConn Hand-raisers (by mailing address)



Reaching Out Proactively

- Define strategy/outcomes (Call to action)

-Get to know your audience (ask them)

-Maps & data (tailor your mailing list)

-Hone your message

-Tracking engagement/ needs over time; following up

-Evaluate, refine









1. Increase the pace of land protection so that XX% of our priority wildlife habitats, parks, trails, gardens, and farms are linked to others by 2060.

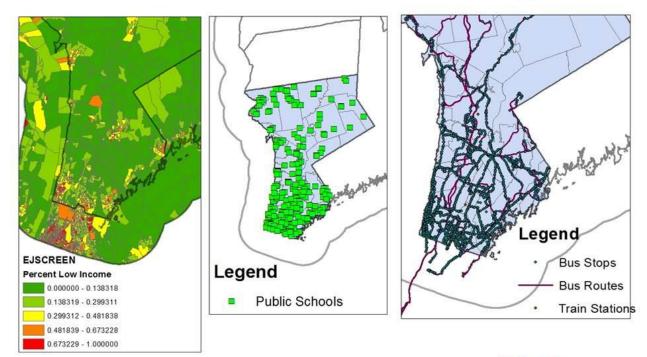
2. Make it easy for municipalities and community groups to conserve and steward land together.

3. Engage landowners to take stewardship and land protection actions.

4. Improve the knowledge and capacity of H2HRCP members so they can achieve their shared mission.

#### 4 GOALS

### H2H CURRENT PROJECT: Urban Co-occurence Modeling

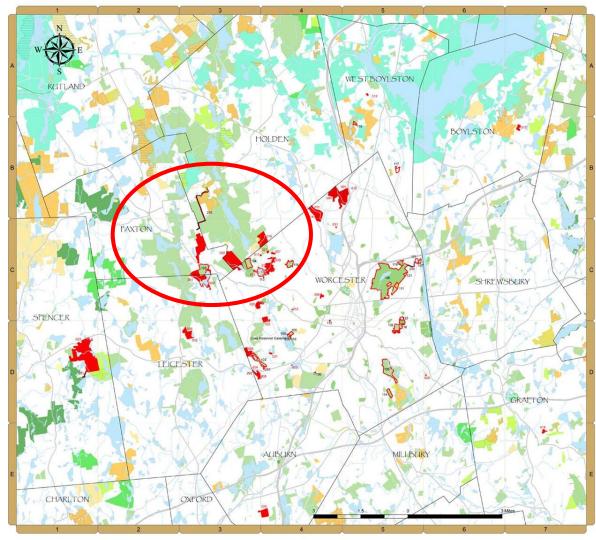






### **CONTEXT: Greater Worcester Land Trust**

Founded:	1987				
Staff:	1.5 FTE				
Board:	11 (Twice Monthly)				
Membership:	275				
Annual Budget:	\$120,000				
Towns:	9				
Fee: 1125.5ac CE: 911.6ac Easement: 14.4ac Pass Through: 467ac					



#### **GWLT Property Holdings**

Fee Owned 001 - (C3 -1990) Southwick Pond [113.77 ac.] 002 - (C3 - 1991) Cascades West [122.99 ac.] 003 - (D4 - 1992) Curtis Pond [0.10 ac.] 004 - (B4 - 1995) BovenziBrattle [0.1765 ac.] 005 - (B4/5 - 1995) Lindberg Parcel [36.80 ac.] 006 - (D3 - 1996) Marois 28 [28.20 ac.] 007 - (C4 - 1997) Brigham Road [2.53 ac] 008 - (D3 - 1998) Kettle Brook (14.36 ac.) 009 - (C4 - 1999) Prospect Hill [3.90 ac.] 010 - (B4/5 - 2004) Bovenzi Park [83.80 ac.] 011 - (B4/C4 - 2000) Sargent's Brook [5.0 ac.] 012 - (C4 - 2004) South Flagg Preserve [0.16 ac.] 013 - (C3 - 2005) Cascading Waters (2.74 ac.) 014 - (B4 - 2005) Nick's Woods [59.76 ac.] 015 - (C3/4 - 2006) Tory Fort Lane [0.60 ac.] 016 - (E7 - 2007) Old North Street Orchard [4.27 ac.] 017 - (B7 - 2008) Elmer's Seat Pleasant Hill [7.25 ac.] 018 - (A5 - 2008) Pine Glen [1.06 ac.] 019 - (C3/4 - 2009) KinneyWoods (52.65 ac.) 020 - (C3 - 2010) Southwick Brook [4.61 ac.] 021 - (D4 - 2010) Sherer Trail [1.21 ac.] 022 - (C/D4 - 2012) Tetasset Ridge [17.30 ac.] 023 - (D1 - 2012) Sibley Farm [325.0 ac.1 024 - (D3 - 2012) KettleBrook Overlook [0.21 ac.] 025 - (C3/4 - 2013) Fowler Brook - South Fork (12.71 ac.) 026 - (D3 - 2013) Frank Cooke Forest [27.26 ac.] 027 - (C4 - 2013) Brigham Road (Law) [1.56 ac.] 028 - (E3/4 - 2013) Granger Woods [29.5 ac.] 029 - (D6 - 2014) Kenugke Pumipsquehtu [0.29 ac.] 030 - (C4 - 2014) Cook's Brook [15.34 ac.] 031 - (C4 - 2014) Roosevelt Oak (0.27 ac.) 032 - (D3 - 2014) Ganley [10.0 ac.] 033 - (C4 - 2015) Donker Farm [23.82 ac.]

Easements

200 - (D4 - 2004) Coes Reservoir Easement [0.023 ac.] 201 - (D1 - 2006) Candlewood MidState Easement [0.37 ac.] 202 - (D3 - 2008) Kettle Brook Easement I [0.02975 ac.] 203 - (D3 - 2008) Kettle Brook Easement II [0.607 ac.] 204 - (C5 - 2011) Sisters of ND East Side Easment [0.612 ac.] 205 - (B3/C3 - 2012) Asnebumskit Ridge Easement (1.91 ac.)

#### Conservation Restrictions 100 - (D4 - 1997) Ryan Ornamental [1.94 ac.]

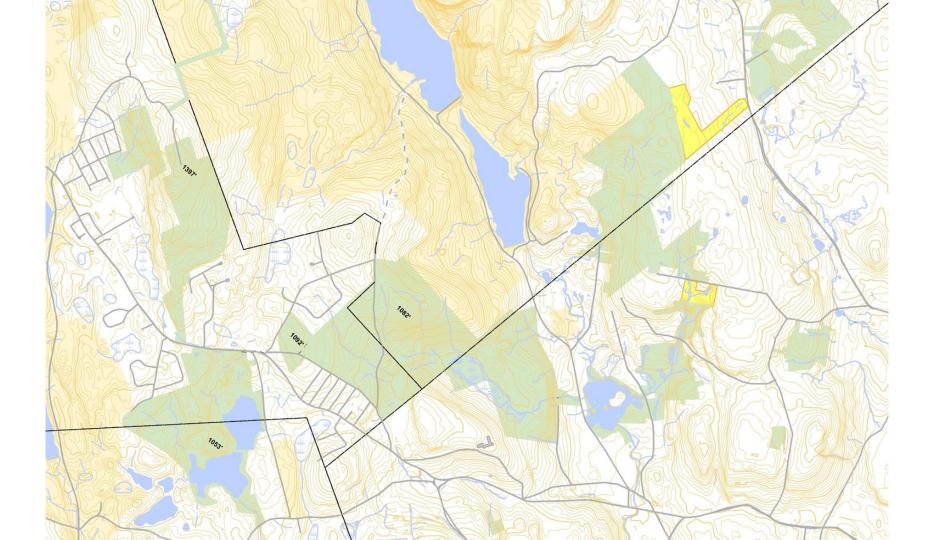
101 - (C5 - 1998) Coal Mine Brock I [7.30 ac.] 102 - (D5 - 2000) Crow Hill [29.0 ac.] 103 - (D3/D4 - 2000) Parson's Cider Mill [43.08 ac.] 104 - (C3 - 2001) Cascades East [30.86 ac.] 105 - (D5 - 2002) Broad Meadow Brook Savannah I80.0 ac.1 106 - (C5 - 2003) Green Hill Park [487.00 ac.] 107 - (C5 - 2003) Coal Mine Brook II [4.60 ac.] 108 - (D4 - 2004) Coes Reservoir Park [8.65 ac.] 109 - (D4 - 2004) Coes Reservoir Shoreline (2.95 ac.) 110 - (D4 - 2004) Coes Reservoir Shoreline II [0.24 ac.] 111 - (C5 - 2007) Green Hill Park DMH [9.62 ac.] 112 - (C4 - 2007) Pleasant & Winslow [0.56 ac.] 113 - (C3/C4 - 2007) Cook's Pond [33.00 ac.] 114 - (D5 - 2007) Ball Conservation Area [15.00 ac.] 115 - (C4 - 2009) Moreland Woods [21.00 ac.] 116 - (D5 - 2009) Crow Hill Savannah [8.4635 ac.] 117 - (B5 - 2009) Angell Brook [11.00 ac.] 118 - (B5 - 2011) Malden Brook [5.40 ac.] 119 - (D3 - 2011) Trinity Woods [12.85 ac.] 120 - (C3 - 2012) Muir Meadows [57.00 ac.] 121 - (C5 - 2013) Worcester Hospital Farm [4.635 ac.] 122 - (C5/D5 - 2014) Crow Hill North [13.7 ac.] Conserved Open Space GWLT Lands Conservation Restriction Fee Owned 001 Agricultural Preservation Restrictio Conservation Restriction 101 CR/APR Combination

Access Easement 201 Other Legal Interest DCR-State Parks & Recreation DCRS/DFG Department of Fish & Game DCR-Urban Parks & Recreation DCR-Water Supply Protection Department of Agricultural Resources Commonwealth of Massachusetts Municipal GWLT Land Trust Conservation Organization Public Non-Profit 08/31/2016 Non-Profit www.gwlt.org

Federal

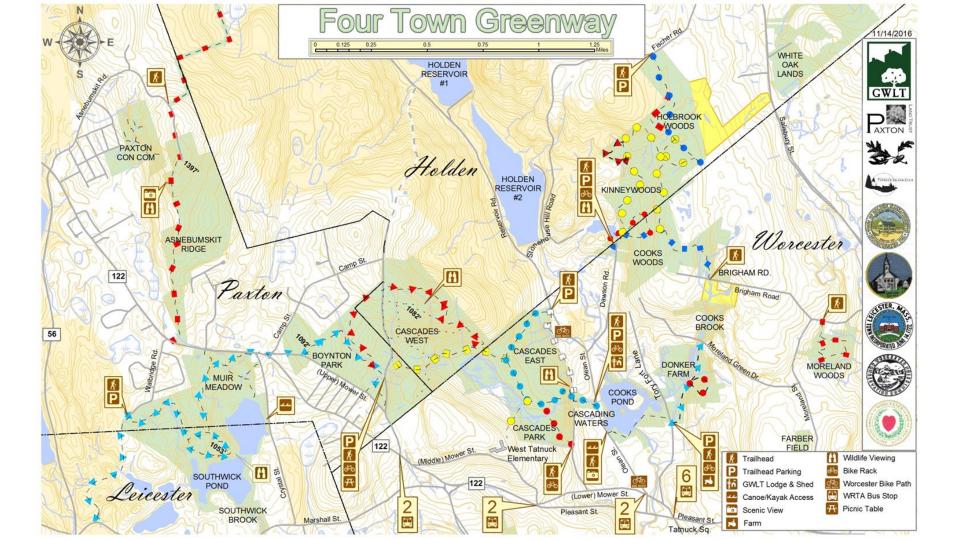
Private

Other



# Less Orthodox Tools

- Utility Corridors
- "Paper" Streets
- Side-yard & Rear-yard Setbacks
- Tax Title Properties
- Regulatory Zones (Wetland Setbacks)
- Demo
- Brownfields -> Greenfields (Groundworks)
- Highway Cow Tunnel & RxR Pedestrian Underpass
- Rail to Trail Conversion
- Permitting Process



# The Four Town Greenbelt

Acres	Name		Owner		CR Holder	
122.99	Cascades West		GWLT			
113.77	Southwick Pond		GWLT -		CR Worc. Resv.	
002.74	Cascading Waters	GWLT -	CR Worc. ConCom			
004.61	Southwick Brook		GWLT -		CR Leicester ConCom	
030.86	Cascades East		Worc. Con	Com -	CR GWLT	
033.00	Cook's Pond		Private -	CR Worc.	ConCom & GWLT	
057.00	Muir Meadow		Worc. Res	V	CR Paxton ConCom & GWLT	
114.67	Boynton Park	Worc. Parks				
070.70	Cascades Park	Worc. Parks				
057.23	Cook's Woods	Worc. ConCom				
052.65	KinneyWoods		GWLT -		CR WOLCS & Hold ConCom	
004.09	Brigham Road		GWLT			
015.34	Cook's Brook		GWLT -		CR Worc. ConCom	
023.82	Donker Farm		GWLT -		CR Worc. ConCom	
100.00	Asnebumskit Ridge	GWLT -		CR Worc.	Resv.	
0008.6	Donker Farm North	GWLT -		CR Worc.	ConCom	
110.6	Reservoir Transfers	Worc. Resy	V.			
<u>4.1</u>	<b>Reservoir Easements</b>	GWLT				
918.77 Tot	al					