The Maine Vernal Pool SAMP
(something for everyone)

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1. The Pools
2. The Policy (the challenge)
3. The People (the solution)
Spring: snowmelt and rainfall

Fall: fill with groundwater, reduced ET
Pool Characteristics

- Small (< 10,000 sq ft)
- No Permanent Inlet/Outlet
- Fishless
- Specialized breeding fauna
The Policy
Federal Regulation

State Regulation

750 feet

250 feet
Complex Life Histories

Baldwin et al 2006 JHerp
Research marching with policy development
Ghost pools?

Post breeding habitat
Challenges to Protecting Small Pools

- Hard to inventory
- Pool PLUS forest
- Private property
- No evident ecosystem services
The People
(The solution)
Wildlife, people, AND ecologically and economically sustainable communities
Turning Contention into Collaboration

Stakeholder solutions
A New Approach

- REQUIRES A DIFFERENT WAY OF LOOKING AT THE ISSUE
The Maine Vernal Pool SAMP

- Streamlines development in growth areas
- Remunerates rural land owners
- Provides increased predictability for developers
- Supports municipal goals for growth and rural areas
- Completes strategic conservation at the landscape scale
Understanding Multiple Frames of View
And Multiple Perspectives of the Same Thing
What is the Maine Vernal Pool SAMP?

- An alternate mitigation technique
- Approved for use by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Maine DEP in September, 2016
Growth Zone
Rural Zone
The Cast of Characters

Leading roles:

- Federal and state regulating agencies
- State planner
- Developers and real estate professionals
- Municipal planners and economic development staff
- Ecologist, biologists: federal, state, umaine
The Cast of Characters

Supporting roles:
• UMaine natural resource economists
• Land trusts
What is a Vernal Pool?

- Regulating agency
- Developer
- Municipality
- Ecologist

- Statutory responsibility
- Regulated resource
- Depends where it’s located
- Unique wetland habitat
Who’s Right?

EVERYONE!
How Does the Maine VP SAMP Work?

Municipality
How Does the Maine VP SAMP Work?

Municipality

IFW
How Does the Maine VP SAMP Work?

DEP Corps

Municipality

IFW
How Does the Maine VP SAMP Work?

DEP

Municipality

IFW

Applicant

Corps
How Does the Maine VP SAMP Work?

- DEP
- Applicant
- Municipality
- IFW
- Corps
- 3rd Party
How Does the Maine VP SAMP Work?
For More Information

- Where to find the Maine VP SAMP:
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