

BINGHAM WIND PROJECT USER SURVEYS

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FIRST WIND
BINGHAM WIND PROJECT USER SURVEYS
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FIRST WIND

BINGHAM WIND PROJECT USER SURVEYS

APRIL 2013

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This study examines the potential impacts of the proposed Bingham Wind Project on the use and enjoyment of resources by typical users at selected locations from which the proposed project would potentially be visible. There were three primary areas of investigation:

1. **Type of Use:** Determine who uses these resources, the type of activities users participate in, and how often the resource is being used or visited.
2. **User Expectations and Impact to Enjoyment:** Understand the user expectations of the resource and the impact the project may have on enjoyment.
3. **Likelihood to Return:** Determine the user's likelihood to return to the resource if the project were developed.

Addressing these topics required the use of intercept surveys to collect information from users of the resources. First Wind retained Kleinschmidt Associates (Kleinschmidt) to complete this study in 2012.

2.0 STUDY AREA DESCRIPTION

The study area for the Bingham Wind Project User Surveys encompassed an 8-mile radius around the proposed turbine locations (Figure 1). Geographically, the study area was located between the communities of Bingham and Abbot, Maine which are connected via Route 16. The area is primarily rural in nature, and is accessed by US Route 201 and Maine Routes 16, 151, and 154, as well as a multitude of tertiary and gravel roads. Some of the logging roads remain open during the winter months when logging operations are active. The Appalachian Trail is located along the northern edge of the study area.

The area's history is one of working commercial forest supporting traditional outdoor pursuits such as hunting (moose, bear, rabbit, deer) and fishing. In recent years, the area has transitioned to include the outdoor recreational sporting industry, serving snowmobilers and ATV riders. The study area is traversed by numerous ATV trails (Figure 1), which are open May 15 through the end of November, conditions permitting. With respect to snowmobiling, the area is surrounded by Interstate Snowmobile Trails, and local trails maintained by snowmobile clubs extend through the northern perimeter of the study area (Figure 1).

The network of gravel roads provides access and opportunity for camping at designated and undesignated campsites throughout the study area, much of which was accessible via passenger vehicle without 4-wheel drive in 2012. Designated campsites are open for use by the public for 14-day periods (Photo 1 and Photo 2).



PHOTO 1. SIGN AT CAMPSITE ON AUSTIN POND

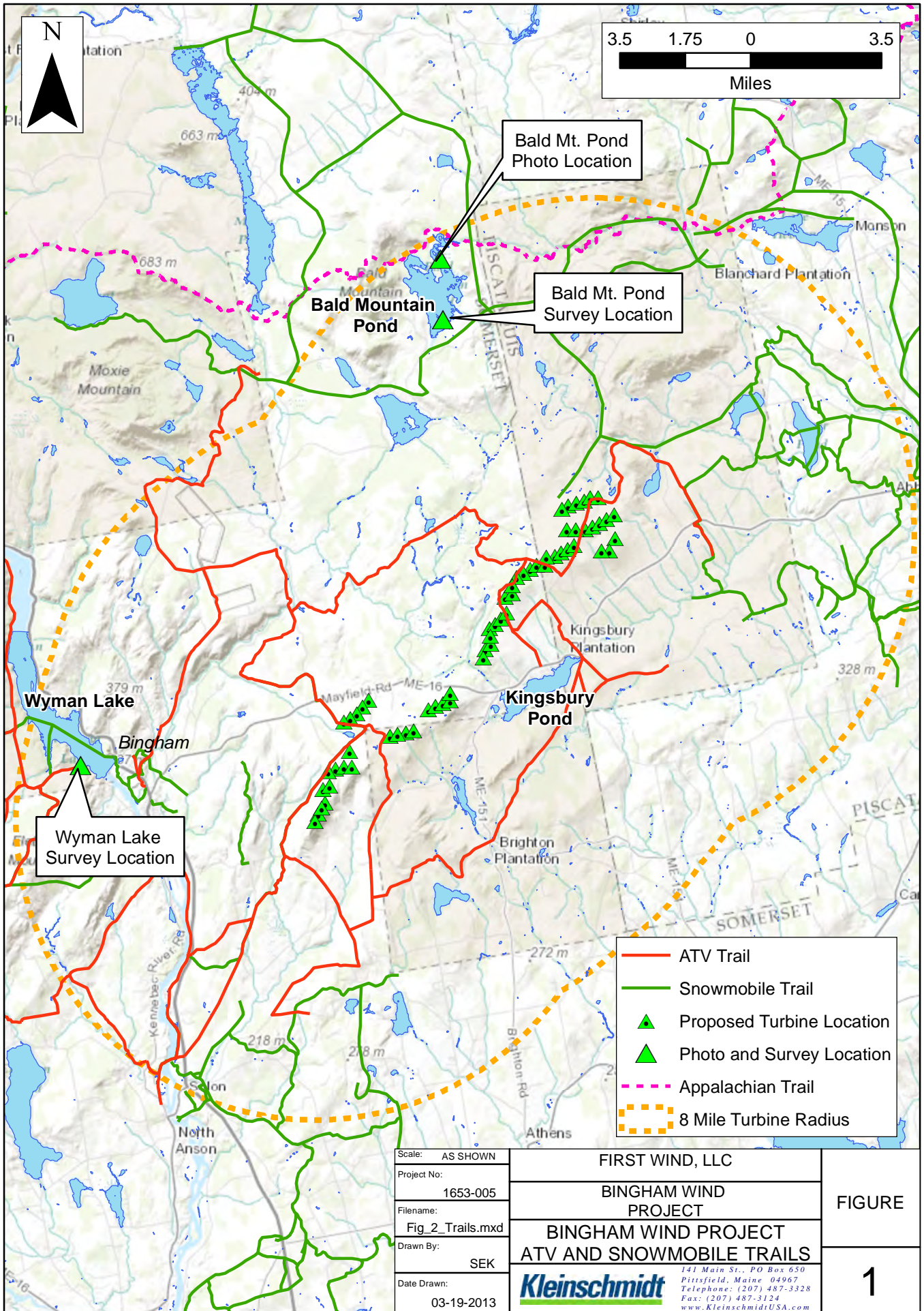


PHOTO 2. DESIGNATED CAMPSITE ON AUSTIN POND ON ROAD TO BALD MOUNTAIN POND

Based on the Visual Assessment conducted by LandWorks, there will be four sites with potential visibility of the Project that are identified as scenic resources of state or national significance pursuant to 35-A MRSA § 3451(9):

1. Bald Mountain Pond
2. Wyman Lake
3. Punchbowl Pond
4. Arnold Trail/Kennebec River

Surveys were conducted at Bald Mountain Pond and Wyman Lake. These two locations were chosen because they provide public access, are better known destinations in the area, and have potential visibility of the turbines. It was assumed there would be a high likelihood of intercepting recreationists at these locations because they provide easily accessible (i.e., via passenger vehicle) boat launches. The interview location on Bald Mountain Pond is the only boat access point to the Pond. In addition to the boat launch at the Wyman Lake interview location, swimming and picnic facilities are also available.



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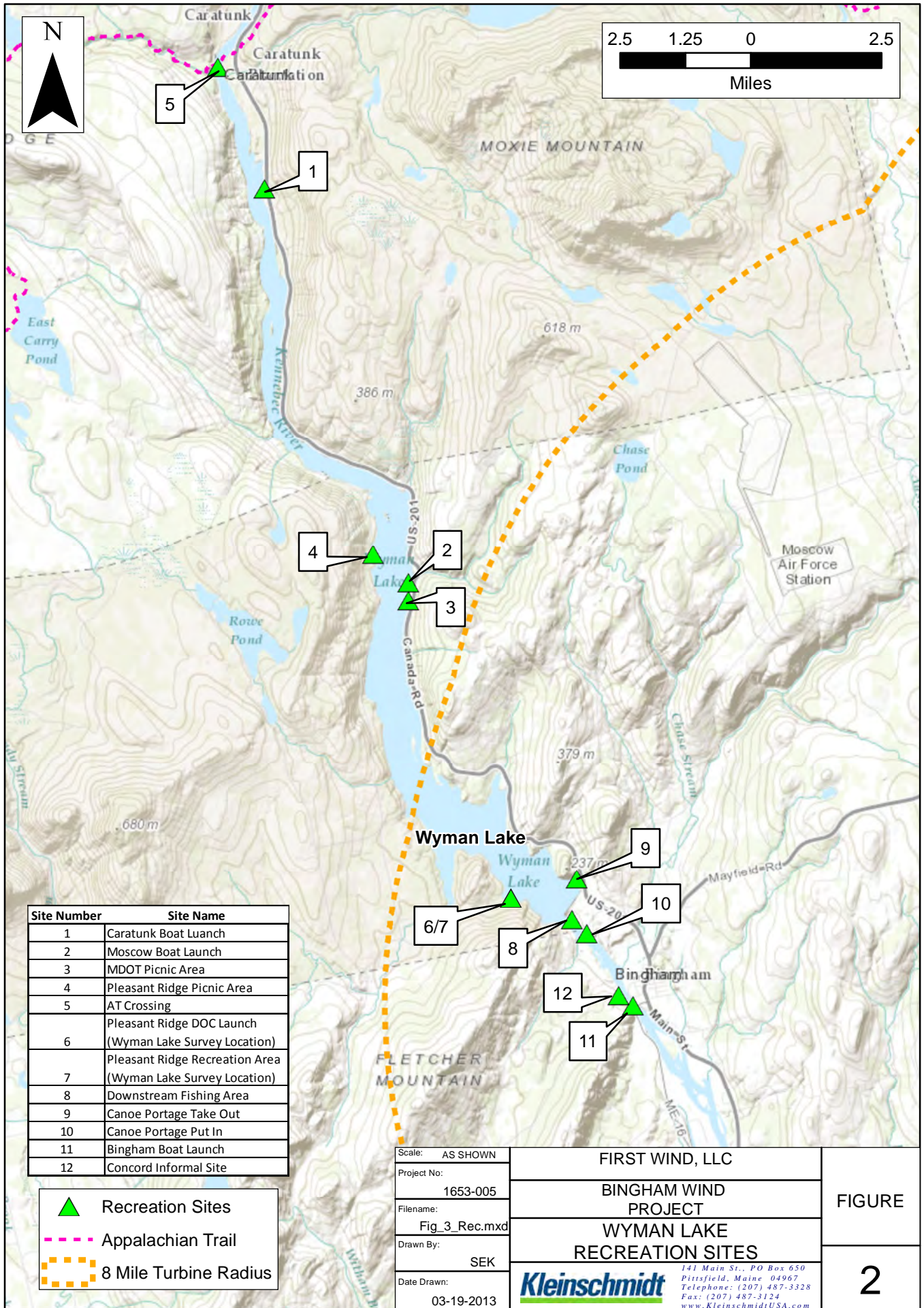
BINGHAM WIND PROJECT

**BINGHAM WIND PROJECT
ATV AND SNOWMOBILE TRAILS**

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FIGURE

1



Site Number	Site Name
1	Caratunk Boat Launch
2	Moscow Boat Launch
3	MDOT Picnic Area
4	Pleasant Ridge Picnic Area
5	AT Crossing
6	Pleasant Ridge DOC Launch (Wyman Lake Survey Location)
7	Pleasant Ridge Recreation Area (Wyman Lake Survey Location)
8	Downstream Fishing Area
9	Canoe Portage Take Out
10	Canoe Portage Put In
11	Bingham Boat Launch
12	Concord Informal Site

- ▲ Recreation Sites
- - - Appalachian Trail
- - - 8 Mile Turbine Radius

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FIGURE
 2

2.1 BALD MOUNTAIN POND

Bald Mountain Pond is located in Bald Mountain Township, northeast of Bingham, ME. The Pond is 1,146 acres in size, with a perimeter of approximately 20 miles (lakesofmaine.org, 2012). The average lake depth is 18 feet with a maximum depth of 62 feet. The northern part of the Pond lies within the Maine Public Reserve Land system, on which an Appalachian Trail shelter is available for use on a first come-first served basis. The shelter is accessible from the Pond or via an access path from the Appalachian Trail. In the late summer of 2012, the northeastern arm of the Pond was too shallow to paddle and required the user to get out of the canoe and drag it in places (personal conversation, Alan Haberstock, Kleinschmidt 2012). In addition, boulders are spread throughout the shallow northern portion of the Pond (lakesofmaine.org, 2012) making navigation and access difficult. Thus, it is likely that many people who participate in water-based activities (i.e., fishing, motorboating, canoeing, kayaking) will recreate in the southern and central portions of Bald Mountain Pond. There is a gravel-surfaced boat launch at the southern shore which provides the only available boat access to the Pond. The launch area also serves as a small camping area that can accommodate multiple parties, and as a place for boat storage (Photo 3 and Photo 4). In 2012, the Pond was accessible using passenger vehicles without 4-wheel drive. In fact, a 30-foot camper trailer was observed at the site during this study. There are no cabins or homes evident around the shoreline. Slopes on the eastern shoreline had been recently logged.



PHOTO 3. CAMPING AT BALD MOUNTAIN POND BOAT LAUNCH



**PHOTO 4. BOATS STORED AT BALD MOUNTAIN POND
BOAT LAUNCH**

Bald Mountain Pond supports a cold-water fishery and is reported to be a fishing destination for anglers seeking trout, particularly right after ice-out in the spring (Rick Clowry, Game Warden, September 7, 2012). Fishing is open during the open-water season through September 30, and closed during the winter months.

2.2 WYMAN LAKE

Wyman Lake was created in 1930 when construction of Wyman dam on the Kennebec River was completed. The Lake is long and narrow, extending parallel to the north/south US Route 201 in Moscow/Pleasant Ridge Plantation to the northwest of Bingham, ME. The lake is part of Wyman Hydroelectric Project.

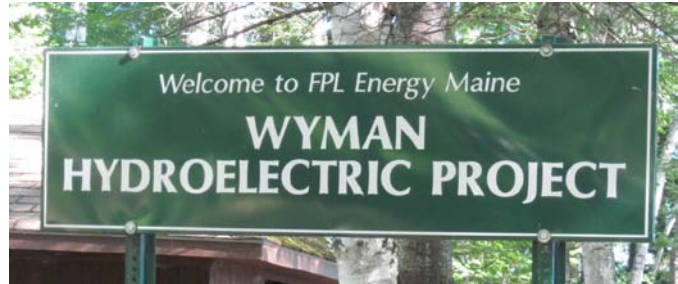


PHOTO 5. SIGN AT THE PLEASANT RIDGE RECREATION AREA

During September, 2012, the Project was owned and operated by FPL Energy Maine Hydro (FPL Energy or licensee). The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licenses the project as Project Number 2329. The Project has an authorized capacity of 83,700 KW, but is being upgraded to 88 MW. Wyman Lake has a mean depth of 68 feet and a maximum depth of 140 feet (lakesofmaine.org, 2012). At a normal full pond elevation of 485 feet above mean sea level, the reservoir is 3,240 acres (TRC Engineering, 2009).

Water levels at Wyman Lake are controlled under its federal operating license. The flow from downstream hydroelectric projects is managed to maintain a relatively uniform outflow from the Wyman Project in order to support sufficient water levels for recreation and critical habitats. The Wyman Hydroelectric Project is a weekly cycling facility which means that the overall flow is controlled on a weekly schedule (FPL Energy, August 8, 2011). A minimum flow release of 1,200 cfs is required.

The Wyman Hydroelectric Project is operated in compliance with criteria set forth in its license which include guidelines on management of water levels and flow, public access to the lake, and a 200-foot buffer zone around the lake's perimeter. FPL Energy maintains arrangements with other entities whereby the licensee provides public access facilities which are then maintained by others (FERC Environmental Inspection Report, August 10, 2011).

Seasonal and year-round residences populate the shoreline. Public access to the lake and downstream areas in Bingham is provided for hiking, picnicking, camping, and scenic viewing at the following locations (Figure 2, TRC Engineering, 2009):

1. Caratunk Boat Launch
2. Moscow Boat Launch
3. MDOT Picnic Area
4. Pleasant Ridge Picnic Area
5. Appalachian Trail Crossing
6. Pleasant Ridge DOC Boat Launch
7. Pleasant Ridge Recreation Area

8. Downstream Fishing Area
9. Canoe Portage (take-out, trail and put-in)
10. Bingham Boat Launch
11. Concord Informal Site

The Pleasant Ridge DOC Boat Launch and Recreation Area are adjacent to one another and are the interview site used for the current study.

The lake was historically used for log drives until they were discontinued in 1978. Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife now manages it as a cold-water fishery. In 2012, it was stocked with brook trout, splake and landlocked salmon (<http://www.maine.gov/>, accessed December 11, 2012). The lake is open year round for fishing. In 2002, FPL Energy estimated the project supported almost 69,000 daytime recreation days, and another 700 overnights from public access areas (TRC Engineering, 2009). Recreation use for 2008 was reported to be approximately 77,000 recreation days, and nighttime use was estimated to be 4,300 recreation days.

Recreational usage at the Wyman Project was highest in summer (62%), followed by spring (19%), then fall (13%), and was lowest in winter (6%). In 2008, the major recreation activities included boating, fishing, picnicking, camping, and sightseeing (TRC Engineering, 2009). These recreation use estimates are for the entire Wyman Project, and thus, represent the use at all eleven sites listed above. The recreational use numbers specifically for the Pleasant Ridge DOC Boat Launch and Recreation Area are not known.



PHOTO 6. WYMAN LAKE BOAT LAUNCH

3.0 SURVEY METHODS

3.1 SURVEY DESIGN

Interviews were designed to be completed with individuals recreating at the Pleasant Ridge DOC Boat Launch and Recreation Area on Wyman Lake and at the Bald Mountain Pond Boat Launch to collect opinions on the proposed Bingham Wind Project. The Wyman Lake site was selected because it has potential visibility of the project. Also, there is a boat launch and picnic area making it a likely location to intercept recreationists. The Bald Mountain Pond Boat Launch was selected because it was the most likely location on the Pond to intercept users, but there is no project visibility from this site. Questions were similar to previous surveys conducted near proposed wind farms implemented across Maine to allow regulators to observe similarities and/or differences between the proposed project and others that have been undertaken in Maine. Copies of the questionnaires used at Wyman Lake and Bald Mountain Pond are provided in Attachment A and Attachment B, respectively. There were six primary areas of investigation.

1. Respondent Characteristics

- Residency
- Age group
- Home/camp ownership/rental on lakes

2. Trip Characteristics

- Whether this is the first trip to the lake
- Recreation activities
- Primary reason for visiting the lake
- Group size (interviewer observation)

3. Scenic Values

- Places in Maine with high and low scenic qualities
- Rating of current view
- Rating of simulated view

4. Quality of Experience

- Effect of wind farm on enjoyment

5. Repeat Visitation

- Likelihood to return
- Effect of wind farm on likelihood to return

6. Importance of Wind Power Development

Information on respondent and trip characteristics was collected to aid our understanding of who uses the lakes and how. A 7-point Likert-type scale was used for all questions which required rating the scenic value, enjoyment of experience, likelihood of returning, and importance of wind power.

3.2 SAMPLE FRAME

The sampling plan for surveys was designed to maximize encounters with recreationists during the month of September, 2012. The survey effort included weekends, weekdays and holidays to account for the different levels of outdoor recreation that occurs over different day types. In cases of poor weather, surveying was suspended and rescheduled. Previous studies determined that recreation use at the Wyman Project is highest in summer (TRC Engineering, 2009); thus the surveys discussed here were conducted right after the peak recreation season. Surveying did occur over the Labor Day Weekend when use is expected to be relatively high compared to non-holiday weekends. As discussed in section 4.0, the highest number of people on a single day was observed at both interview sites on the Saturday of Labor Day Weekend. Thus, it can be assumed that surveys were conducted on a high use weekend. At both Wyman Lake and Bald Mountain Pond, interviews occurred on 6 of the 25 available days between September 1-25, 2012 and were equally divided between weekdays, weekends, and holidays (Table 1). Both sites were interviewed on the same day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Travel time between the lakes is approximately one hour.

TABLE 1. SAMPLE FRAME FOR INTERCEPT SURVEYS AT WYMAN LAKE AND BALD MOUNTAIN POND, SEPTEMBER 1-25, 2012

	Total Available				Sample			
	Weekdays	Weekend	Holiday	Total	Weekdays ^a	Weekend ^b	Holiday ^c	Total
Wyman Lake	16	6	3	25	2	2	2	6
Bald Mountain Pond	16	6	3	25	2	2	2	6

^aSaturday, September 8 and Saturday, September 15

^bFriday, September 21 and Tuesday, September 25

^cSaturday, September 1 and Sunday, September 2 of Labor Day Weekend

3.3 IMPLEMENTATION

Interviews were conducted as access surveys, a type of on-site survey commonly used to sample recreational fisheries (Pollock, Jones and Brown, 1994). In this type of survey, interviews are completed at access points where recreators enter or exit the lake. This method of surveying has an advantage over mail and telephone surveys because it avoids issues of recall bias, or lack of addresses or valid phone numbers. It also allows use of photographs and simulations, which was identified by Palmer (2011) as an important component of surveys intended to gage the impact of a wind project on recreational uses. However, there are some biases in this method. Malvestuto (1983) demonstrated that anglers interviewed using this method have higher mean trip lengths than all anglers in a fishery. Thus, results are thought to be subject to a length-of-stay bias, as the probability of intercepting an angler is proportional to the duration of their trip (Robson, 1961, 1991; Lucas, 1963; Brown, 1971). It is anticipated that the same can be inferred for this study, with the exception that respondents will not be limited to anglers. Logically, this could affect study results, as individuals who spend more time on or near the water are more likely to be intercepted and interviewed than individuals who spend less time on the water. By extension, it may be true for other recreators who are avid about their sport. For example, boaters who spend

more time on the water are more likely to be intercepted and interviewed than those who spend less time on the water.

Interviewers were stationed at each boat launch for the duration of their interviewing period. Interviews were conducted using paper surveys.

Ratings of current and simulated views were accomplished as follows. At the appropriate time in the survey, respondents were handed a photograph showing a view from the lake on which the interview was occurring, and asked to rate the view. One view per lake was used. In other words, all respondents on the same lake reviewed the same photograph. After rating the current view, the photograph was retrieved and respondents were handed a simulation to rate. Each time, respondents were asked to hold the photograph (or simulation) 19 inches from their face. Photographs and photographic simulations for each lake are provided as Attachment C.

Photographs, photographic simulations and viewing distances were provided by LandWorks. Photographs and simulations were printed in color, in 11 by 17-inch format and laminated. The photographs and photographic simulations used in the surveys were taken from areas on the lakes with public access and determined by LandWorks to have the greatest number of turbines potentially visible within 8 miles (personal communication with Natalie Steen of LandWorks, September, 2012), and are not necessarily from the location where the intercept surveys occurred.

After the first day of interviewing, it was apparent that respondents found it difficult to see the turbines in the simulations. Almost all respondents on the first day asked for the turbines to be pointed out to them. This occurred at both sites. Because of this, interviewers were instructed that if asked for this information, they were to tell respondents that they would point out the turbines at the conclusion of the survey, but not during the survey.

FIGURE 3

STARTING THE SURVEY

Introduce yourself to the respondent, briefly explain that you are conducting interviews to gather information on their recreational experience today, and ask if he or she minds if you ask them a few questions about their day.

The approach is important for a successful survey. When approaching people:

- Start with Hello and a SMILE
- Provide a greeting such as “How are you today?”, “Did you catch any fish?”, “Hot out here today”, etc.
- Politely ask if they have a few minutes.
- Explain you are conducting a survey.
- State that the survey will take 5 to 10 minutes.
- If it’s your first few surveys, it’s okay to tell them that, and that you’re just learning. Typically, people are very patient with that.

It is important to keep a record of the number of people approached, the number interviewed, and the number who refused. If someone refuses to participate, cannot participate due to a language barrier or is not of legal age, you will record that on the survey form and move on.

FIGURE 4

THE INTERVIEW

When someone agrees to be interviewed, proceed to the interview. Take your time and ask each question as it is written and in the order in which it is written.

At all times, remember that it is your job to ask questions and collect information for Kleinschmidt. It is not your job to answer questions about our client. You will be provided with a package of Kleinschmidt business cards. If someone should ask you questions that you cannot answer, or are uncomfortable answering, simply hand out a business card and tell them they are welcome to call if they have any questions or comments regarding the study. You will also be provided with responses to Frequently Asked Questions, which you may use to respond to questions.

Likewise, it is not your job to police people's behavior. If you observe distasteful behavior, someone breaking fishing regulations, etc., make a note of it in your journal and move on. If necessary, we will see that appropriate individuals are informed.

CONCLUDING THE INTERVIEW

At the end of the survey, please thank the respondent for his or her time. Check to make sure your paperwork is in order before moving to the next interview.

In the event that there was a group of individuals, one person was randomly selected to participate in an interview. Individuals were eligible to complete one interview during the course of the study. Individuals encountered more than once were thanked for their input but did not complete a second survey.

Interviewers received instruction on interviewing techniques, advised of who was eligible to participate, and provided guidance on the concept of "random" selection (Figures 4 through 6). They were also asked to refrain from divulging the survey sponsor until after the survey was completed. A copy of the interview manual is provided in Attachment D.

Interviewers were instructed as follows:

1. Interview people who appear 18 years old or older.
2. Select one person per group on shore, within 200 feet of the lake. You will select the person in the group to interview. Do not allow them to self-select a representative.
3. If there are so many parties present that you cannot interview them all, you will randomly select every n^{th} person or group, depending on the density of users. If you can interview everyone, do it!
4. Conduct the interview.
5. Interviewers maintained a count of people at the launches during each visit.

Upon completion of data collection, survey data were cleaned and analyzed using IBM SPSS Statistics, Version 19.

FIGURE 5

INTERVIEWING TIPS

Matters of Form, Delivery and Style

- **Read each question exactly as it is written and in the order in which it appears in the questionnaire.** Surveys only work if everyone is asked the same question in the same manner. Therefore, please read the question exactly as it is written with no substitutions, additions or deletions.
- **Ask each respondent every appropriate question.** Do not skip questions because an answer was given earlier and you “know” the response. If that is the case, you may preface your question with a phrase such as “I know we’ve talked about this...” or “I know you just mentioned this, but I need to ask each question as it appears in the questionnaire...”
- **Avoid leading the respondent toward an answer.** Remain neutral in your questioning. The quality of your delivery – your style – can affect the quality of the information you collect. Emphasize underlined word to enhance the meaning. Keep your tone neutral and avoid voice inflections that might bias results.
- **Read slowly.** Take your time and make sure the respondent understands the question. Read the entire question before accepting a response. Remember that although you may have read a question many times, the respondent is hearing it for the very first time.
- **Use standard feedback phrases** such as “thank you” and “I see” for acceptable responses. This helps “train” the respondent to know what an acceptable response is. If you need a more complete response to a question, you may need to probe for additional information. Use cues such as “Could you tell me more about that?” or “Which would be closer to the way you feel?” If an answer is different from what you expect, do not remind the respondent of an earlier remark or try to force consistency. Record the responses given.
- You should not use phrases such as “good” or “right” that imply a correct answer.
- If a respondent refuses to answer an individual question, please mark refused and proceed to the next question.
- For open ended questions, it is very important that you take the time to record the exact answer verbatim of the respondent. Do not abbreviate or edit responses. Repeat the response back to the respondent to make sure that what you recorded is accurate and acceptable to the respondent. If you do not understand a respondent’s reply to an open-ended question, please ask them if they could tell you what they have in mind, what their thoughts are, or what they mean by that. If their answer is incomplete, please follow up with probing questions like “Could you please elaborate on that?” or “Would you tell me more about your thoughts on that?” If the respondent responds, “I don’t know” to an open-ended question, follow up with, “What are your thoughts?”, “What are your expectations?” Again, the goal is to provide as much general direction and information as necessary without unduly influencing the responses to the survey. If there is not enough space on the paper to record a complete response, you may paraphrase the response and ask the respondent if that accurately reflects his or her comment. It is not okay, however, to paraphrase the questions.

Clarifying Questions for Respondents

- Sometimes a respondent will ask you for additional information or clarification of a question. If an individual needs clarification because he or she did not accurately hear the question, please repeat it. If an individual still has trouble hearing you or understanding the question, you may show them the survey and allow them to read the question for themselves. If the individual asks you to repeat the question or response options, even if they are only questioning part of it, please repeat the entire question and list of response options to them.
- If there are items that are confusing to the individual or they do not understand the question, please provide limited additional information and guidance. We do not want to influence the individual’s response but want to provide enough information to the individual to be able to accurately respond to the question. For example, the question “On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being light, 3 being moderate, and 5 being heavy, how would you rate the crowdedness at this recreation site today?” may cause confusion for larger recreation sites. If an individual is confused about whether you mean the site as a whole, or the area that they spent most of their time, you could repeat the question and add “Overall” as a preface.

4.0 RESULTS

Almost all of the observed recreation users were intercepted. At Bald Mountain Pond, 7 of the 8 eligible parties were interviewed. One party was missed because the interviewer was in the middle of conducting an interview. At Wyman Lake, 16 of the 20 eligible groups were intercepted. Four groups were missed because the interviewer was conducting an interview or because the recreationist was only at the site for a short time (i.e., minutes). Therefore, the relatively low number of completed interviews (16 at Wyman Lake and 7 at Bald Mountain Pond, Table 2) reflects the use level of the resources during September 2012 and is not the result of an inability to intercept users or of people refusing to take the survey.

TABLE 2. RESPONSE RATE FOR THE WYMAN LAKE AND BALD MOUNTAIN POND SURVEYS

	Wyman Lake		Bald Mountain Pond		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Surveys Completed	16	94%	7	100%	23	88%
People Approached	18		9		27	
Refusals	1		0		1	
Repeat	1		2		3	

In total, 76 people were observed throughout the study with the majority (45) at Wyman Lake (Table 3). The highest number of people at Bald Mountain Pond was observed over Labor Day Weekend with 16 and 10 people on Saturday, September 1 and Sunday, September 2, respectively. On the remaining four survey days, 0-2 people were observed at Bald Mountain Pond suggesting that this site receives greater use over holidays. The greatest number of people (13 people) at Wyman Lake was also observed on Saturday, September 1 followed by 11 people on Saturday, September 15. On the two weekdays when surveys were conducted at Wyman Lake, 7-8 people were observed. On one of the weekend days when surveying occurred, zero people were observed at Wyman Lake. On average, 8 people per day were observed at Wyman Lake and 5 people per day were observed at Bald Mountain Pond (Table 3). The average group size was 2 at Wyman Lake and 3 at Bald Mountain Pond. The majority of people (>70%) were over the age of 45. All of the respondents at Bald Mountain Pond were year-round Maine residents. Two-thirds of the respondents at Wyman Lake were Maine residents while the remaining one-third were nonresidents (Table 3). None of the respondents owned or rented property at Wyman Lake or Bald Mountain Pond.

Most respondents (65%) reported they had visited the interview site before (Table 3) and, on average, had been visiting for 20 years (median=15 years) and made multiple visits per year (average of 8 trips per year, median of 5 trips per year). It was the first visit to Wyman Lake for 5 of the 16 respondents, and it was the first visit for 3 of the 7 respondents at Bald Mountain Pond.

The primary recreation activities in which people reported participating at Wyman Lake were fishing, kayaking, viewing the scenery, and observing nature/wildlife (~20-25% each, Table 4). Other activities people participated in included camping, relaxing, picnicking, canoeing, and swimming/sunbathing (Table 4, Figure 6). The activities participated in during September 2012

at Wyman Lake are consistent with the major activities in which people participated in both 2002 and 2008 (TRC Engineering, 2009).

At Bald Mountain Pond, fishing was the primary activity of approximately 70% of respondents (Table 4, Figure 6). Other activities in which people participated included kayaking, camping, viewing scenery, observing nature and wildlife, swimming, relaxing, and canoeing.

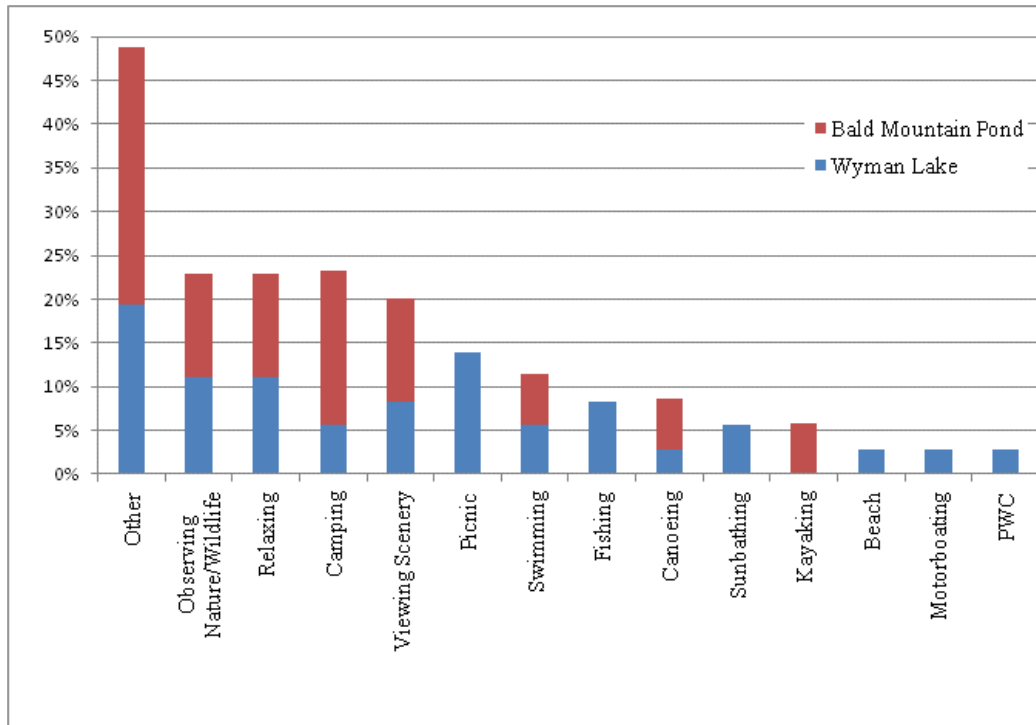
TABLE 3. RESPONDENT CHARACTERISTICS

Respondent Characteristics	Wyman Lake		Bald Mountain Pond		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People						
Average Per Day	8		5		6	
Median Per Day	8		2		7	
Average Group Size	2		3		2	
Total	45		31		76	
Age						
18-24	1	7%	1	14%	2	10%
25-34	2	14%	0	0%	2	10%
35-44	1	7%	0	0%	1	5%
45-54	4	29%	3	43%	7	33%
55-64	3	21%	3	43%	6	29%
65 or older	3	21%	0	0%	3	14%
Total	14	~100%	7	100%	21	~100%
Residency						
Year-Round Maine Resident	10	67%	7	100%	17	77%
Nonresident	5	33%	0	0%	5	23%
Total	15	100%	7	100%	22	100%
Gender						
Male	11	69%	3	43%	14	61%
Female	5	31%	4	57%	9	39%
Total	16	100%	7	100%	23	100%
First Visit to Site						
No	11	69%	4	57%	15	65%
Yes	5	31%	3	43%	8	35%
Total	16		7		23	

TABLE 4. RESPONDENT PRIMARY ACTIVITY

Primary Activity	Wyman Lake		Bald Mountain Pond		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Fishing	4	25%	5	71%	9	39%
Kayaking	4	25%	1	14%	5	22%
Viewing the Scenery	3	19%	0	0%	3	13%
Observing Nature/Wildlife	3	19%	0	0%	3	13%
Swimming	2	13%	0	0%	2	9%
Camping	0	0%	1	14%	1	4%
Total	16	100%	7	100%	23	100%

FIGURE 6. OTHER ACTIVITIES IN WHICH PEOPLE REPORTED PARTICIPATING



Bald Mountain Pond Other includes hiking, looking for mushrooms, and retrieving camping equipment. Wyman Lake Other includes hiking, looking for mushrooms, walking, playing with dog, and photography.

4.1 SCENIC VALUE

Before respondents were asked to rate the scenic value of the view at the interview location, they were asked to identify places in Maine they feel have “High Scenic Value” and “Low Scenic Value”. The Moosehead Lake Area (26%) and Acadia National Park (17%) were common sites identified as having a “High Scenic Value” (Table 5). The reasons respondents gave for why Moosehead Lake and the surrounding area are highly scenic include the mountains, the relationship between the mountains and the surrounding landscape, and that ‘it is beautiful’. The reasons why Acadia was rated as highly scenic are the ocean and the different resources in the surrounding area. Other locations that respondents said have a “High Scenic Value” include mountains (e.g., Mount Katahdin, mountains in Western Maine), peaks, Bald Mountain Pond and the surrounding area, Houston Brook Falls, Lubec, and Franklin County.

Twenty-three percent of respondents said that cities, including Lewiston/Auburn and Portland, have a “Low Scenic Value” because of the development, traffic, and congestion (Table 6). Respondents also indicated that logging roads, areas which were clear cut, homes, and a paper mill have a “Low Scenic Value”. Thirty-two percent of respondents said there was no place in Maine with a “Low Scenic Value”.

TABLE 5. PLACES IN MAINE RATED AS HAVING A HIGH SCENIC VALUE AND EXPLANATION FOR THE RATING- WYMAN LAKE AND BALD MOUNTAIN POND COMBINED

Highly Scenic Places in Maine	Characteristics That Make Places Have High Scenic Value										Total	Percent of Total
	Mountains	Ocean	It is beautiful	Panoramic views, high views, unobstructed view	Shape/lay of lake & mountains	All different areas you can enjoy	Moosehead-mountains meet water	Good-sized waterfall	Coastal environment	Other ^a		
Mt. Katahdin lookout point on I-95	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4%
Moosehead Lake Area (including Canada Falls, Ragged Lake, Big Eddy)	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	6	26%
Houston Brook Falls	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4%
No place	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	9%
Sourdnahunk Lake	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4%
Mt. Katahdin	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	9%
Bald Mt., Bald Mt. Pond, Moxie Pond, Pierce Pond Area	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4%
Mts. in Western Maine (including Saddleback, Bigelow)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4%
Lubec	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	4%
5 mile marker on logging roads	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4%
Peaks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4%
Acadia and surrounding area (including Mount Desert Island, Megunticook)	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	17%
Franklin Country	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	4%
Total	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	5	23	100%
Percent of Total	17%	13%	13%	9%	9%	4%	4%	4%	4%	22%	100%	

^aOther includes activities for kids, ledges, because I live there, and no place.

TABLE 6. PLACES IN MAINE RATED AS HAVING A LOW SCENIC VALUE AND EXPLANATION FOR THE RATING- WYMAN LAKE AND BALD MOUNTAIN POND COMBINED

Low Scenic Places in Maine	Characteristics That Make Places Have Low Scenic Value											Total	Percent of Total	
	City, overdevelopment, traffic, buildings	Crowded, too many people, congested	Nothing for tourists	Too many camps	Logging roads a mess	Massive clear cuts near water	Trash/clutter	Smoke	Unnatural	Do not go there	Because the pavement is awful			No Place
Lewiston and Auburn Area	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	9%
Cities	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	9%
Portland	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5%
China Lake	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5%
Logging Roads and Clear Cuts	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	9%
Sebago Lake	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5%
My House	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5%
No Place or None	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	32%
Rt. 1 Before Bar Harbor	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5%
Homes On The Way Up This Road	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	5%
Paper mill in Fairfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	5%
Athens	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	5%
Windmills As Seen From Bigelows	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	5%
Total	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	22	100%
Percent of Total	18%	9%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	32%	100%	

All respondents rated the current view as having “Typical” to “High Scenic Value” (Table 7). More specifically, at Wyman Lake, 27% of the respondents (4 people) rated the current view as having a “Typical Scenic Value” and 74% (11 people) rated it as having “High Scenic Value”. The majority of respondents (78% or 11 people) at Wyman Lake rated the simulated view as having “Typical” or “High Scenic Value”, whereas 21% of respondents rated the simulated view as having “Low Scenic Value” (Table 8). At Bald Mountain Pond, all respondents (100%) rated the current view as having “High Scenic Value”. Seventy-two percent of respondents rated the simulated view as having “High Scenic Value”, while 14% (1 person) said the simulated view has “Typical Scenic Value”, and 14% (1 person) said it has “Low Scenic Value”. At both sites, 29% of respondents rated the simulated condition view as having the “Highest Scenic Value”. Overall, 62% of respondents said the simulated view has a “High Scenic Value”, 19% said it has a “Typical Scenic Value”, and 20% said it has “Low Scenic Value” (Table 8).

TABLE 7. SCENIC VALUE RATINGS UNDER CURRENT CONDITIONS

Rating	Wyman Lake		Bald Mountain Pond		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1 Lowest Scenic Value	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
2	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
3	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
4 Typical Scenic Value	4	27%	0	0%	4	18%
5	3	20%	2	29%	5	23%
6	4	27%	2	29%	6	27%
7 Highest Scenic Value	4	27%	3	43%	7	32%
Total	15	100%	7	100%	22	100%

TABLE 8. SCENIC VALUE RATINGS UNDER SIMULATED CONDITIONS

Rating	Wyman Lake		Bald Mountain Pond		Total	
	Number ^a	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1 Lowest Scenic Value	1	7%	1	14%	2	10%
2	1	7%	0	0%	1	5%
3	1	7%	0	0%	1	5%
4 Typical Scenic Value	3	21%	1	14%	4	19%
5	1	7%	2	29%	3	14%
6	3	21%	1	14%	4	19%
7 Highest Scenic Value	4	29%	2	29%	6	29%
Total	14	~100%	7	100%	21	~100%

^a One respondent withdrew from the survey at this point to tend to an injured child.

Total percentages may not add to 100% because of rounding.

4.2 ENJOYMENT OF VISIT AND REPEAT VISITATION

At Wyman Lake, 73% of respondents (11 people) said the wind turbines would have “No Effect” (40%) or a “Positive Effect” (33%) on the enjoyment of their visit, and 26% of respondents (4 people) said the project would have a “Negative Effect” on the enjoyment of their visit (Table 9). At Bald Mountain Pond, 57% and 43% of respondents said the wind farm would have “No Effect” or a “Negative Effect” on the enjoyment of their visit, respectively. Four of the respondents (26%) at Wyman Lake and 2 of the respondents (29%) at Bald Mountain Pond said the wind turbines would have “No Effect” on the enjoyment of their visit because the turbines were so far away that they could hardly be seen (Table 10). Two other respondents at Wyman Lake said the turbines would not affect their enjoyment because they would not impact the activity in which they were participating. Other reasons given for why the proposed wind farm would have a positive effect on enjoyment at Wyman Lake included that the turbines are interesting to look at, that the respondent supports wind power, and because wind power benefits the respondent professionally.

TABLE 9. EFFECT OF PROPOSED WIND FARM ON ENJOYMENT OF VISIT

Rating	Wyman Lake		Bald Mountain Pond		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1 Very Negative Effect	2	13%	2	29%	4	18%
2	2	13%	0	0%	2	9%
3	0	0%	1	14%	1	5%
4 No Effect	6	40%	4	57%	10	45%
5	2	13%	0	0%	2	9%
6	2	13%	0	0%	2	9%
7 Very Positive Effect	1	7%	0	0%	1	5%
Total	15	100%	7	100%	22	100%

TABLE 10. RATING OF EFFECT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON ENJOYMENT OF VISIT AND REASON FOR RATING

Reason For Rating	Very Negative Effect 1	2	3	No Effect 4	5	6	Very Positive Effect 7	Total	Percent of Total
WYMAN LAKE									
Interesting to see/more to see	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	7%
So far away/can hardly see them. These days, it is common to see wind farms.	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	13%
Unnatural, takes away from nature	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	13%
Wind power benefits respondent professionally	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	13%
Would not affect activity	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	13%
Support wind power	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	13%
You can hardly see it	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	13%
Support alternative energy, but not if it takes away from nature	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	13%
Total	2	2	0	6	2	2	1	15	100%
Percent of Total	13%	13%	0%	40%	13%	13%	7%	100%	
BALD MOUNTAIN POND									
Unnatural, takes away from nature	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	14%
You can hardly see it	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	29%
Not effective energy source; will become obsolete so why put them in nature	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	14%
Juxtaposition with nature otherwise unspoiled is a negative thing	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	14%
As long as off in distance and not right where we are, do not care	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	14%
If do not chop down trees- want to see more, like wilderness	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	14%
Total	2	0	1	4	0	0	0	7	100%
Percent of Total	29%	0%	14%	57%	0%	0%	0%	100%	

Before respondents were provided with information about the proposed wind project, the majority (81% at Wyman Lake and 100% at Bald Mountain Pond) said they were “Likely” to return to the site in the future (Table 11). When asked how the presence of the wind turbines would affect their likelihood of returning, approximately half of the respondents stated the wind farm would have “No Effect” (Table 12). The reasons respondents gave for why the wind turbines would not affect their likelihood of returning to Wyman Lake include the turbines do not affect their activity or diminish their experience, being used to seeing wind turbines, supporting wind power, there are good resources in the area, and having family in the area (Table 13). Three respondents at Bald Mountain Pond indicated the turbines would have “No Effect” because they might not notice the turbines and that if the turbines are not noticeable, then they won’t disturb the scenery. Twenty percent of respondents stated they would be “Unlikely” to return if the wind farm was present mainly because the turbines are unnatural and ruin the wilderness and natural beauty. Thirty percent of respondents said they would be “Likely” to return under the simulated conditions because wind turbines are ‘cool looking’, the turbines won’t affect their activity, they support wind power, they like the pond/area, and that the turbines do not impact their decision to return.

TABLE 11. LIKELIHOOD OF VISITING SITE IN THE FUTURE UNDER CURRENT CONDITIONS

Rating	Wyman Lake		Bald Mountain Pond		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1 Very Unlikely	1	6%	0	0%	1	4%
2	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
3	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
4 Neither Unlikely Nor Likely	2	13%	0	0%	2	9%
5	1	6%	0	0%	1	4%
6	1	6%	1	14%	2	9%
7 Very Likely	11	69%	6	86%	17	74%
Total	16	100%	7	100%	23	100%

TABLE 12. EFFECT OF WIND TURBINES ON LIKELIHOOD OF VISITING SITE IN THE FUTURE

Rating	Wyman Lake		Bald Mountain Pond		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1 Very Unlikely to Visit	1	7%	0	0%	1	5%
2	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
3	2	13%	1	20%	3	15%
4 No Effect	7	47%	3	60%	10	50%
5	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
6	2	13%	0	0%	2	10%
7 Very Likely to Visit	3	20%	1	20%	4	20%
Total	15	100%	5	100%	20	100%

TABLE 13. RATING OF LIKELIHOOD FOR RETURNING UNDER SIMULATED CONDITIONS AND REASON FOR RATING

Reason for Rating	Very Unlikely to Visit 1	2	3	No Effect 4	5	6	Very Likely to Visit 7	Total	Percent of Total
WYMAN LAKE									
Does not affect enjoyment or diminish experience	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	7%
It would ruin wilderness and natural beauty; unnatural	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	7%
They are awesome and cool looking	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7%
Would not affect activity	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	13%
Support wind power	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	13%
Used to seeing turbines. Does not bother me much	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	7%
Like the pond/area	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7%
Does not have much impact on decision	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7%
There are so many good things around-trade offs	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	7%
Would come back anyway	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	7%
Family in area	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	7%
Aware of them, but would not keep me from coming back	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	7%
Put wind mills where there is a lot of development	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7%
Total	1	0	2	7	0	2	3	15	100%
Percent of Total	7%	0%	13%	47%	0%	13%	20%	100%	
BALD MOUNTAIN POND									
It would ruin wilderness and natural beauty; unnatural	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	20%
Like the pond/area	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	20%
Might not notice them/hard to see	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	40%
If not noticeable, would not disturb scenic nature	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	20%
Total	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	5	100%
Percent of Total	0%	0%	20%	60%	0%	0%	20%	100%	

4.3 IMPORTANCE OF WIND POWER IN MAINE

At Wyman Lake, 58% of respondents stated that wind power development is “Important” for Maine, and 33% rated wind power as having “Neutral Importance” (Table 14). Six of the seven respondents at Bald Mountain Pond said wind power is “Important” for Maine. The reasons provided for why wind power was rated as “Neutral” to “Very Important” were generally related to supporting alternative energy and updating technology but with concerns about whether wind power is efficient enough (Table 15).

TABLE 14. RATING OF HOW IMPORTANT WIND POWER IS FOR MAINE

Rating	Wyman Lake		Bald Mountain Pond		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1 Very Unimportant	0	0%	1	17%	1	6%
2	1	8%	0	0%	1	6%
3	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
4 Neutral Importance	4	33%	0	0%	4	22%
5	0	0%	2	33%	2	11%
6	1	8%	1	17%	2	11%
7 Very Important	6	50%	2	33%	8	44%
Total	12	100%	6	100%	18	100%

TABLE 15. RATING OF THE IMPORTANCE OF WIND POWER IN MAINE AND REASON FOR RATING

Reason for Rating	Very Unimportant 1	2	3	Neutral Importance 4	5	6	Very Important 7	Total	Percent of Total
WYMAN LAKE									
Good to have alternatives to oil	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	18%
Because we need to update technology and get away from fossil fuels	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	9%
Good for jobs/economy	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	9%
Got hydroelectric power right here which might be enough for Maine-might not need wind power	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	9%
Support wind power	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	9%
It is too expensive and not efficient enough	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	9%
Important for entire country	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	9%
Alternative power- would be nice if sold in-state instead of MA	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	9%
Do not know enough about it to have a full opinion	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	18%
Total	0	0	0	4	0	1	6	11	100%
Percent of Total	0%	0%	0%	36%	0%	9%	55%	100%	
BALD MOUNTAIN POND									
Good to have alternatives to oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	17%
It is too expensive and not efficient enough	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	17%
Cannot see them here, but we need something	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	17%
It is important, but in the right areas	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	17%
Beneficial- will not have much, losing impact across country, PTC expiring	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	17%
Think if we encourage production/technology in it, will eventually result in smaller wind farms	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	17%
Total	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	6	100%
Percent of Total	17%	0%	0%	0%	33%	17%	33%	100%	

5.0 DISCUSSION

Intercept surveys were completed with users at two locations (the Pleasant Ridge DOC Boat Launch and Recreation Area on Wyman Lake and the Bald Mountain Pond Boat Launch) within an 8-mile radius of the proposed Bingham Wind Farm. These locations were chosen because they are scenic resources of state or national significance pursuant to 35-A MRSA § 3451(9), have potential visibility of the wind turbines, and provide public access to the water bodies. Interviews were conducted at the Bald Mountain Pond Boat Launch, even though there is no potential visibility of the turbines at this location, because this is the only public access site to the Pond and because the area in the Pond with visibility is very shallow and not accessible to motorized boats. Thus, this site had the greatest likelihood of intercepting users of Bald Mountain Pond. The results should be considered qualitative because of the relatively low number of surveys completed (16 at Wyman Lake and 7 at Bald Mountain Pond). Thus, a general discussion of the results and user perceptions is presented.

Approximately three-quarters of the respondents were permanent residents of Maine. The majority (65%) of respondents had visited the site where the interview was occurring before and had been visiting the site for approximately 20 years on average. This suggests that Wyman Lake and Bald Mountain Pond routinely experience both repeat and first-time visitation.

The results of these surveys likely reflect the common user groups at both locations at this time of year because (1) almost all of the eligible user groups were interviewed at both sites and (2) the major activities respondents participated in were consistent with previous reports. The major activities participated in at Wyman Lake were fishing, kayaking, viewing scenery, and observing nature/wildlife. Similarly, the dominant activities in which people participated in at the entire Wyman Project in both 2002 and 2008 were fishing, boating, and sightseeing (TRC Engineering, 2009). Furthermore, users participate in a wider range of activities at Wyman Lake than at Bald Mountain Pond, which is mostly used for fishing (Jared Herrick, Game Warden, September 10, 2012). The survey results are consistent with this; the primary activity of ~70% of respondents at Bald Mountain Pond was fishing, whereas the primary activities at Wyman Lake were each participated in by ~20-25% of respondents (Table 4). Moreover, respondents indicated they engaged in a larger number of activities at Wyman Lake (i.e., picnicking, swimming, sunbathing, motorboating, using personal watercraft) (Figure 7). The consistency between the distribution of activities at both survey sites with previous reports suggests that the survey results reflect typical users.

It is difficult to identify the turbines in the simulations. Several respondents (4 at Wyman Lake, 3 at Bald Mountain Pond) indicated that the proposed wind project would have “No Effect” or a “Positive Effect” on their enjoyment of their visit because the wind turbines would be far off in the distance or can hardly be seen. Furthermore, several respondents at both interview sites had to ask where the turbines were located in the simulations because they were so difficult to see.

Despite the low visibility of the turbines in the simulations, there were respondents at both Wyman Lake and Bald Mountain Pond who rated the simulated conditions photograph as having a “Low Scenic Value” and/or said the proposed wind farm would have a “Negative Effect” on their enjoyment of their visit. A possible explanation is that respondents may have inherently

been influenced by the idea of the wind farm rather than the aesthetics at the interview site or location of the simulation.

Respondents indicated that mountainous and oceanic regions in Maine have a “High Scenic Value”. All respondents at both Wyman Lake and Bald Mountain Pond rated the current view as having a “Typical” to “High Scenic Value”. The majority of respondents (~80%) rated the simulated conditions as having a “Typical” to “High Scenic Value”. Sixty-eight percent of respondents said the proposed project would have “No Effect” (45%) or a “Positive Effect” (23%) on their enjoyment of their visit. Furthermore, the majority of respondents (~80%) stated the wind farm would have “No Effect” on their likelihood of returning or would be “Very Likely to Visit” if the wind project was developed. These results suggest that most users who visit Wyman Lake and/or Bald Mountain Pond will still visit these sites if the wind turbines are visible, still expect to have enjoyable experiences, and still consider the sites to have a high scenic value.

6.0 REFERENCES

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Attachment A
Wyman Lake Questionnaire

DATE _____	TIME _____	SURVEY NUMBER _____
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1. **Is this your first visit to Wyman Lake? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)**

- 1 YES → SKIP TO Q8
- 2 NO

- 9 REFUSED

2. **How many years have you come to the lake? (PROMPT: If you cannot recall exactly, please give us your best estimate.) (SELECT THE FIRST OPTION OR FILL IN A NUMBER. DO NOT ACCEPT A RANGE OF NUMBERS.)**

- 1 THIS IS MY FIRST YEAR
_____ YEARS

- 99 REFUSED

3. **Do own a home or a camp on this lake? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)**

- 1 YES, own home
- 2 YES, own camp
- 3 NO → SKIP TO Q5

- 9 REFUSED

4. **How many weeks or months do you typically spend here during the year? (FILL IN THE BLANK)**

- _____ WEEKS OR _____ MONTHS

- 99 REFUSED

5. **Do rent a home or a camp on this lake? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)**

- 1 YES, rent home
- 2 YES, rent camp
- 3 NO → SKIP TO Q7

- 9 REFUSED

6. **How many weeks or months do you typically spend there during the year? (FILL IN THE BLANK)**

- _____ WEEKS OR _____ MONTHS

- 99 REFUSED

7. During the past year, how many times have you visited Wyman Lake? If you cannot recall exactly, please give us your best estimate. (FILL IN THE BLANK)

_____ Trips

99 REFUSED

8. What is your primary recreation activity here today? (CIRCLE ONE NUMBER, OR FILL IN "OTHER")

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Beach going / using the beach | 10. Observing wildlife or nature |
| 2. Camping | 11. Personal watercraft |
| 3. Canoeing | 12. Picnicking |
| 4. Driving an ATV | 13. Relaxing |
| 5. Enjoying the scenery / scenic viewing | 14. Stargazing /enjoying the night sky |
| 6. Fishing | 15. Staying at a camp |
| 7. Kayaking | 16. Staying at a lodge |
| 8. Motor boating | 17. Sunbathing |
| 9. Nature study | 18. Swimming |
| 19. Other? _____ | |

99 REFUSED

9. What other activities did you participate in here today? (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Beach going / using the beach | 10. Observing wildlife or nature |
| 2. Camping | 11. Personal watercraft |
| 3. Canoeing | 12. Picnicking |
| 4. Driving an ATV | 13. Relaxing |
| 5. Enjoying the scenery / scenic viewing | 14. Stargazing /enjoying the night sky |
| 6. Fishing | 15. Staying at a camp |
| 7. Kayaking | 16. Staying at a lodge |
| 8. Motor boating | 17. Sunbathing |
| 9. Nature study | 18. Swimming |
| 19. Other? _____ | |

99 REFUSED

10. Approximately how long do you intend to visit this site today? (RECORD RESPONSE)

_____ HOURS _____ MINUTES

99 REFUSED

10a. How many people are here with you today? (RECORD RESPONSE)

_____ NUMBER OF PEOPLE (_____ ADULTS AND _____ CHILDREN)

99 REFUSED

11. On a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 is very unlikely, 7 is very likely, and 4 is neither unlikely nor likely, how likely is it that you will visit Wyman Lake in the future? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

VERY UNLIKELY			NEITHER UNLIKELY NOR LIKELY			VERY LIKELY	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

12. Now I'd like to ask you to think of an outdoor place in Maine that you would rate as having very high scenic quality or outstanding views and which—on a scale of 1 to 7—you would rate as a 7 for the highest scenic quality. What place are you thinking about? (RECORD RESPONSE)

99 REFUSED

13. What is it about this place that makes it highly scenic? (RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

14. Next, can you think of an outdoor place in Maine that you would rate as having a very low scenic quality or views which—on a scale of 1 to 7—you would rate as a 1 for the lowest scenic quality. What place are you thinking about? (RECORD RESPONSE)

99 REFUSED

15. What is it about this place that gives it a low scenic value? (RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

16. I am going to show you a photograph taken from the picnic area [point to location] , and I would like you to rate the scenic value of the view depicted in the photograph. If you hold the photograph 19 inches from your face, it will make everything the in the photograph the same size that it would be if you were looking at it from where the photograph was taken.

On a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 is the lowest scenic value in Maine, and 7 is the highest scenic value in Maine, how would you rate this view? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

LOWEST SCENIC VALUE			NEUTRAL SCENIC VALUE			HIGHEST SCENIC VALUE	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

17. Recently, a wind farm was proposed to be developed near here. A wind farm is a group of wind turbines that capture energy from the wind to generate electricity. This photograph shows how the same view would look if a wind farm was developed. How would you rate the scenic value of this view using the same 7-point scale where 1 is the lowest and 7 is the highest scenic value? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

LOWEST SCENIC VALUE			TYPICAL SCENIC VALUE			HIGHEST SCENIC VALUE	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

18. Now I'd like you to think about how your enjoyment of visiting the lake would be affected if you were to see the proposed wind project during your visit today. On a scale of 1-7, where a 1 is a very negative effect, a 4 means that it would not change your enjoyment at all, and a 7 is a very positive effect on your enjoyment, how would the visibility of the wind project effect your enjoyment? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

VERY NEGATIVE EFFECT			NO EFFECT			VERY POSITIVE EFFECT	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

19. Why do you say that? (RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

20. Now I'd like you to think about your trip here today. Imagine the proposed wind project was built. On a scale of 1 to 7, where a 1 means you are very unlikely to return, a 4 means the change in view would have no effect on your return, and a 7 means you are very likely to return, how would the presence of the wind turbines effect your likelihood to return to Wyman Lake? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

VERY UNLIKELY TO VISIT			NO EFFECT			VERY LIKELY TO VISIT	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

21. Why is that? (RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

22. Thinking about wind power development in general, please rate how important it is for Maine, on a scale of 1 to 7, where a 1 means wind power is generally very unimportant and a 7 means it is generally very important. (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

SKIP Q22&23 IF RESPONDENT NOT A MAINE RESIDENT AND CHECK BOX

VERY UNIMPORTANT			NO EFFECT			VERY IMPORTANT	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

23. Why do you feel that way? (IF RESPONSE FITS INTO CATEGORY BELOW, CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CATEGORY. OTHERWISE, RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

24. Are you...? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

- 1 A YEAR-ROUND RESIDENT OF MAINE
- 2 PART TIME RESIDENT OF MAINE
- 3 VISITOR TO MAINE

- 9 REFUSED

25 What is the zip code of your primary residence? (RECORD RESPONSE)

9 9 9 9 9 REFUSED

26. Please tell me the number that best represents your age group. (HAND CARD TO RESPONDENT. SELECT ONE NUMBER)

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

- 9 REFUSED

Those are all the questions that I have for you today. Thank you very much for your time and enjoy your visit to the lake!

27. DO NOT READ: Respondent is:

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

Attachment B

Bald Mountain Pond Questionnaire

DATE _____	TIME _____	SURVEY NUMBER _____
------------	------------	---------------------

1. Is this your first visit to Bald Mountain Pond? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

- 1 YES → SKIP TO Q8
- 2 NO

- 9 REFUSED

2. How many years have you come to the pond? (PROMPT: If you cannot recall exactly, please give us your best estimate.) (SELECT THE FIRST OPTION OR FILL IN A NUMBER. DO NOT ACCEPT A RANGE OF NUMBERS.)

- 1 THIS IS MY FIRST YEAR
_____ YEARS

- 99 REFUSED

7. During the past year, how many times have you visited Bald Mountain Pond? If you cannot recall exactly, please give us your best estimate. (FILL IN THE BLANK)

- _____ TRIPS

- 99 REFUSED

8. What is your primary recreation activity here today? (CIRCLE ONE NUMBER, OR FILL IN "OTHER")

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beach going / using the beach 2. Camping 3. Canoeing 4. Driving an ATV 5. Enjoying the scenery / scenic viewing 6. Fishing 7. Kayaking 8. Motor boating 9. Nature study 19. Other? _____ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Observing wildlife or nature 11. Personal watercraft 12. Picnicking 13. Relaxing 14. Stargazing /enjoying the night sky 15. Staying at a camp 16. Staying at a lodge 17. Sunbathing 18. Swimming |
|--|--|

- 99 REFUSED

9. What other activities did you participate in here today? (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Beach going / using the beach | 10. Observing wildlife or nature |
| 2. Camping | 11. Personal watercraft |
| 3. Canoeing | 12. Picnicking |
| 4. Driving an ATV | 13. Relaxing |
| 5. Enjoying the scenery / scenic viewing | 14. Stargazing /enjoying the night sky |
| 6. Fishing | 15. Staying at a camp |
| 7. Kayaking | 16. Staying at a lodge |
| 8. Motor boating | 17. Sunbathing |
| 9. Nature study | 18. Swimming |
| 19. Other? _____ | |

99 REFUSED

10. Approximately how long do you intend to visit this site today? (RECORD RESPONSE)

DAY TRIPPERS	_____ HOURS	_____ MINUTES
CAMPERS	_____ HOURS	_____ MINUTES
WHAT DAY ARE YOU LEAVING? _____		

99 REFUSED

10a. How many people are here with you today? (RECORD RESPONSE)

_____ NUMBER OF PEOPLE (_____ ADULTS AND _____ CHILDREN)

99 REFUSED

INTERVIEWER: WAS RESPONDENT IN A BOAT ON THE LAKE TODAY?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO → SKIP TO Q11

10b. I'm going to hand you a map. To the best of your ability, please show us the route you have taken on the lake today by drawing directly on the map. Start where you launched your boat and draw the route you took to get to the location where we are now. Use an "x" to indicate places where you may have stopped for a period of time to take a break or go ashore. (HAND RESPONDENT MAP AND BLACK MARKER. WHEN YOU COMPLETE THE INTERVIEW, RECORD THE SURVEY ID AND DATE ON THE MAP.) PUT X ON MAP WHERE SPEND MOST OF TIME.

11. On a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 is very unlikely, 7 is very likely, and 4 is neither unlikely nor likely, how likely is it that you will visit Bald Mountain Pond in the future? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

VERY UNLIKELY			NEITHER UNLIKELY NOR LIKELY			VERY LIKELY	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

12. Now I'd like to ask you to think of an outdoor place in Maine that you would rate as having very high scenic quality or outstanding views and which—on a scale of 1 to 7—you would rate as a 7 for the highest scenic quality. What place are you thinking about? (RECORD RESPONSE)

99 REFUSED

13. What is it about this place that makes it highly scenic? (IF RESPONSE FITS INTO CATEGORY BELOW, CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CATEGORY. OTHERWISE, RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

14. Next, can you think of an outdoor place in Maine that you would rate as having a very low scenic quality or views which—on a scale of 1 to 7—you would rate as a 1 for the lowest scenic quality. What place are you thinking about? (RECORD RESPONSE)

99 REFUSED

15. What is it about this place that gives it a low scenic value? (IF RESPONSE FITS INTO CATEGORY BELOW, CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CATEGORY. OTHERWISE, RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

16. I am going to show you a photograph taken from this point in the lake [point to location on map], and I would like you to rate the scenic value of the view depicted in the photographs. If you hold the photograph 19 inches from your face, it will make everything the in the photograph the same size that it would be if you were looking at it from where the photograph was taken.

On a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 is the lowest scenic value in Maine, and 7 is the highest scenic value in Maine, how would you rate this view? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

LOWEST SCENIC VALUE			TYPICAL SCENIC VALUE			HIGHEST SCENIC VALUE	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

17. Recently, a wind farm was proposed to be developed near here. A wind farm is a group of wind turbines that capture energy from the wind to generate electricity. This photograph shows how the same view would look if a wind farm was developed. How would you rate the scenic value of this view using the same 7-point scale where 1 is the lowest and 7 is the highest scenic value? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

LOWEST SCENIC VALUE			TYPICAL SCENIC VALUE			HIGHEST SCENIC VALUE	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

18. Now I'd like you to think about how your enjoyment of visiting the lake would be affected if you were to see the proposed wind project during your visit today. On a scale of 1-7, where a 1 is a very negative effect, a 4 means that it would not change your enjoyment at all, and a 7 is a very positive effect on your enjoyment, how would the visibility of the wind project effect your enjoyment? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

VERY NEGATIVE EFFECT			NO EFFECT			VERY POSITIVE EFFECT	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

19. Why do you say that? (IF RESPONSE FITS INTO CATEGORY BELOW, CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CATEGORY. OTHERWISE, RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

20. Now I'd like you to think about your trip here today. Imagine the proposed wind project was built. On a scale of 1 to 7, where a 1 means you are very unlikely to return, a 4 means the change in view would have no effect on your return, and a 7 means you are very likely to return, how would the presence of the wind turbines effect your likelihood to return to Bald Mountain Pond? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

VERY UNLIKELY TO VISIT			NO EFFECT			VERY LIKELY TO VISIT	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

21. Why is that? (IF RESPONSE FITS INTO CATEGORY BELOW, CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CATEGORY. OTHERWISE, RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

22. Thinking about wind power development in general, please rate how important it is for Maine, on a scale of 1 to 7, where a 1 means wind power is generally very unimportant and a 7 means it is generally very important. (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

SKIP Q22&23 IF RESPONDENT NOT A MAINE RESIDENT AND CHECK BOX

VERY UNIMPOR TANT			NO EFFECT			VERY IMPORTA NT	REFUSED
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9

23. Why do you feel that way? (IF RESPONSE FITS INTO CATEGORY BELOW, CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE CATEGORY. OTHERWISE, RECORD RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

99 REFUSED

24. Are you...? (SELECT ONE NUMBER)

- 1 A YEAR-ROUND RESIDENT OF MAINE
- 2 PART TIME RESIDENT OF MAINE
- 3 VISITOR TO MAINE

- 9 REFUSED

25. What is the zip code of your primary residence? (RECORD RESPONSE)

9 9 9 9 9 REFUSED

26. Please tell me the number that best represents your age group. (HAND CARD TO RESPONDENT. SELECT ONE NUMBER)

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

- 9 REFUSED

Those are all the questions that I have for you today. Thank you very much for your time and enjoy your visit to the lake!

27. DO NOT READ: Respondent is:

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

Attachment C

Wyman Lake and Bald Mountain Pond Photographs and Simulations

VISUAL SIMULATION FROM WYMAN LAKE

Bingham Wind Project

8/29/12

LandWorks

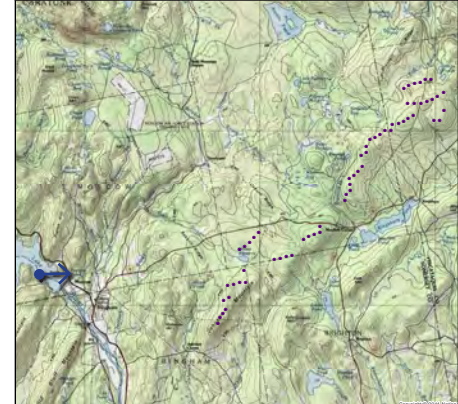
Prepared by LandWorks, Middlebury, VT



Existing Conditions Photograph



View Location Map



Simulation Information

Turbine Information	Model: Siemens 3.0 113
	Hub height: 326'-6" (99.5 m)
	Rotor diameter: 370'-8" (113 m)
Photograph Information	Date and time: 8/25/12; 11:44 am
	Location: On Wyman Lake at small picnic area near the public boat launch; 45.074° N, 69.920° W
	Camera elevation above sea level: 490' (149.4 m)
	Focal length (35mm equivalent): 56mm
	Simulation viewing distance: 18" (45.7 cm)
	Distance to nearest visible turbine: 6.62 miles (10.65 km)
Technical Information	Software: VectorWorks 2008; ArcGis 3D Analyst; Google SketchUp Pro 8; Adobe Photoshop CS5
	Digital elevation data source: http://www.megis.maine.gov/catalog

VISUAL SIMULATION FROM BALD MOUNTAIN POND

Bingham Wind Project

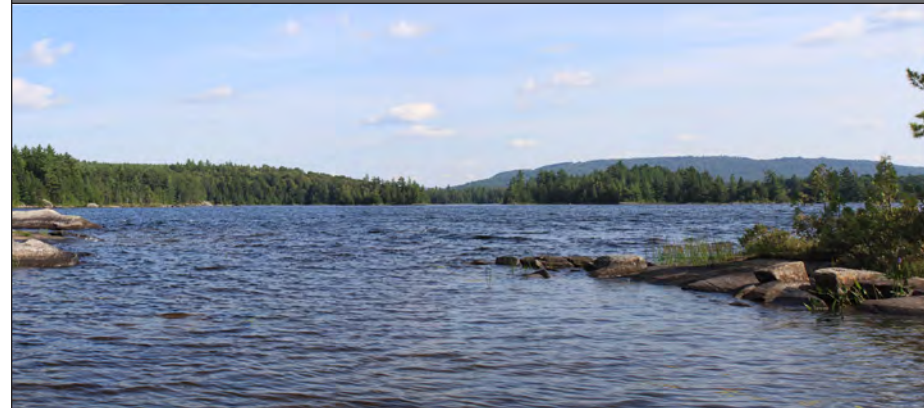
8/29/12

LandWorks

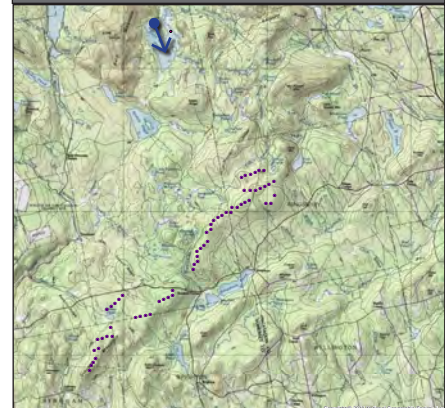
Prepared by LandWorks, Middlebury, VT



Existing Conditions Photograph



View Location Map



Simulation Information

Turbine Information	Model: Siemens 3.0 113
	Hub height: 326'-6" (99.5 m)
	Rotor diameter: 370'-8" (113 m)
Photograph Information	Date and time: 8/25/12; 3:39 pm
	Location: Edge of Bald Mountain Pond near Appalachian Trail shelter; 45.271° N, 69.745° W
	Camera elevation above sea level: 1215' (370.3 m)
	Focal length (35mm equivalent): 56mm
	Simulation viewing distance: 18" (45.7 cm)
	Distance to nearest visible turbine: 7.14 miles (11.49 km)
Technical Information	Software: VectorWorks 2008; ArcGis 3D Analyst; Google SketchUp Pro 7; Adobe Photoshop CS3
	Digital elevation data source: http://www.megis.maine.gov/catalog

Attachment D
Interviewer Manual

INTERVIEW MANUAL

SURVEY AT BALD MOUNTAIN POND AND WYMAN LAKE

Prepared by:

Kleinschmidt

141 Main Street
Pittsfield, ME 04967
www.KleinschmidtUSA.com

August 2012

INTERVIEW MANUAL

SURVEY AT BALD MOUNTAIN POND AND WYMAN LAKE

Prepared by:

Kleinschmidt

141 Main Street
Pittsfield, ME 04967
www.KleinschmidtUSA.com

August 2012

INTERVIEWER MANUAL
SURVEY AT BALD MOUNTAIN POND AND WYMAN LAKE

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INTERVIEWER MANUAL

SURVEY AT BALD MOUNTAIN POND AND WYMAN LAKE

1.0 STUDY SPONSORSHIP AND PURPOSE

Kleinschmidt Associates (Kleinschmidt) is a nationally recognized consulting firm specializing in engineering and water resources. Kleinschmidt was contracted to assess people's responses to the presence of wind turbines near Bald Mountain Pond, and Wyman Lake.

Your role is to help us collect information by completing surveys with people at the Bald Mountain Pond Boat Launch and Wyman Lake Boat Launch. The survey asks for information about peoples' thoughts and experiences in the area and opinions of whether the presence of wind turbines change influences their decisions to visit the area or their opinions of the views.

2.0 STUDY ADMINISTRATION

You will be working with Marty Phillips, who is the Technical Lead for this study. It is your responsibility to show up for all scheduled work. If it is impossible for personal reasons or because of circumstances beyond your control for you to work on any given day, please call Marty as soon as possible in advance of the scheduled work shift. If she cannot be reached, leave a message. Marty's contact information is:

Work Number (Direct Line): 207.416.1281
Cell Phone Number: 207.314.1936
Email Address: Marty.Phillips@KleinschmidtUSA.com

In the event that Marty cannot be reached, please call Alan Haberstock, Project Manager.

Work Number (Direct Line): 207.416.1248
Cell Phone Number: 207.399.0385
Email Address: Alan.Haberstock@KleinschmidtUSA.com

If neither Marty nor Alan can be reached, please call Kleinschmidt's direct line at 207.487.3328 and our receptionist will direct your call.

3.0 WORK SITE

You will be working at the Bald Mountain Pond and Wyman Lake boat launches.

4.0 SCHEDULE

A work schedule is provided in Appendix A. Unless other accommodations are made, you will be expected to work the hours recorded. The study will run from August 31 through October 1, 2012 and will involve week days, weekends and one holiday – Labor Day. The schedule may be modified from time to time. If you, or the Technical Lead, determine that work should be suspended due to weather, it may be suspended for a period of time until conditions become acceptable. This could result in a change in schedule. Because you are working independently, the decision to suspend work may fall upon you. You will be expected to contact the office whenever this situation occurs, so that we may modify the schedule.

In general, you will work approximately 4.5-hour shifts, with 4 hours remaining on-site and up to 15 minutes for checking-in and managing data.

5.0 INTERVIEWS

Interviewing people is your primary job responsibility. You will interview people who are concluding their day and are exiting the site. This may include people out to boat, swim, camp, or just to visit the area. We are uncertain of how many people you will encounter, but hope to achieve a minimum of five completed interviews daily. Ideally, you will complete many more.

1. For each party that you approach to interview:
 - a. Randomly select a person from within the party if there are multiple people.
 - b. Conduct the interview.
2. At the conclusion of each interviewing period, review the materials collected, make sure that handwriting is clear on any paperwork and that ID numbers are recorded at the top of any paperwork. Complete the Daily Summary Sheet provided (Appendix B).
3. Store completed paperwork in an envelope marked “COMPLETES”, date it, and store in your file box.

5.1 WHO SHOULD YOU INTERVIEW?

Respondents should be 18 years old or older. If a person is not clearly 18 years old or older, please ask if he, or she, is 18 or older. If they are less than 18 years of age, thank them for their time and wish them a nice day. This is for your protection! Do not interview people who you believe to be minors.

One person per group. You will select the person in the group to interview. Do not allow them to self-select a representative. On one day, select people from right to left, working your way from one end to another. For example, if there are three groups and each group has three

people, interview the person farthest to your left for your first interview. On the second interview, select the person in the middle, and on the third interview, select the person farthest to the right. The next day, reverse the order. Do not allow them to self-select a representative.

IF there are so many groups present that you cannot interview them all, you will randomly select every nth person or group, depending on the density of users. If you can interview everyone, do it!

5.2 THE APPROACH

Approaching a boat in which people are actively recreating (paddling, motoring, fishing, etc.) takes some finesse. You must realize that you are interrupting someone else's privacy and leisure time.

- Establish contact in as courteous manner as possible.
- Try to gain their trust in the beginning.
- Speak loudly and clearly.
- Once the person has agreed to the survey, move out of the line of traffic at the launch, if necessary.

Introduce yourself to the respondent, briefly explain that you are conducting interviews to gather information on their recreational experience today, and ask if he or she minds if you ask them a few questions about their day. The approach is important for a successful survey. When approaching people:

- Start with Hello and a SMILE.
- Provide a greeting such as "How are you today?", "Did you catch any fish?", "Hot out here today", etc.
- Politely ask if they have a few minutes.
- Explain you are conducting a survey.
- State that the survey will take 5 to 10 minutes.
- If it's your first few surveys, it's okay to tell them that, and that you're just learning. Typically, people are very patient with that.

It is very important to keep a record of the number of people approached, the number interviewed, and the number who refused. If someone refuses to participate, cannot participate due to a language barrier or is not of legal age, you will record that and move on.

5.3 THE INTERVIEW

When someone agrees to be interviewed, proceed to the interview. Take your time and ask each question as it is written and in the order in which it is written.

Some interviews may be completed on paper, while others will be completed using a laptop computer called a Toughbook. A copy of the survey is provided in Appendix C.

At all times, remember that it is your job to ask questions and collect information for Kleinschmidt. It is not your job to answer questions about our client. You will be provided with a package of Kleinschmidt business cards. If someone should ask you questions that you cannot answer, or are uncomfortable answering, simply hand out a business card and tell them they are welcome to call if they have any questions or comments regarding the study.

You will also be provided with responses to Frequently Asked Questions (Appendix D), which you may use to respond to questions.

Likewise, it is not your job to police people's behavior. If you observe distasteful behavior, someone breaking fishing regulations, etc., make a note of it in your journal and move on. If necessary, we will see that appropriate individuals are informed.

5.4 CONCLUDING THE INTERVIEW

At the end of the survey, please thank the respondent for his or her time. Check to make sure that your survey is **SAVED** on the computer and your paperwork is in order before moving to the next interview.

At the end of your shift, check your work and make sure it is complete. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR HANDWRITING IS CLEAR.** If we cannot read your handwriting, the form is not valid. After reviewing your work, initial the bottom of the form.

5.5 CHECKING-IN IS MANDATORY!

You are **REQUIRED** to check in with the Technical Lead twice daily: Once when you head out to the site and again at the conclusion of your shift.

This serves as a safety precaution. If you have not checked-in within 2 hours of the scheduled check-in time, we will call your emergency contact number and inform them that you have not checked in.

6.0 INTERVIEWING TIPS

Matters of Form, Delivery and Style

- **Read each question exactly as it is written and in the order in which it appears in the questionnaire.** Surveys only work if everyone is asked the same question in the same manner. Therefore please read the question exactly as it is written with no substitutions, additions or deletions.
- **Ask each respondent every appropriate question.** Do not skip questions because an answer was given earlier and you “know” the response. If that is the case, you may preface your question with a phrase such as “I know we’ve talked about this…” or “I know you just mentioned this, but I need to ask each question as it appears in the questionnaire…”

- Avoid leading the respondent toward an answer. Remain neutral in your questioning. The quality of your delivery – your style – can affect the quality of the information you collect. Emphasize underlined word to enhance the meaning. Keep your tone neutral and avoid voice inflections that might bias results.
- Read slowly. Take your time and make sure the respondent understands the question. Read the entire question before accepting a response. Remember that although you may have read a question many times, the respondent is hearing it for the very first time.
- Use standard feedback phrases such as “thank you” and “I see” for acceptable responses. This helps “train” the respondent to know what an acceptable response is. If you need a more complete response to a question, you may need to probe for additional information. Use cues such as “Could you tell me more about that?” or “Which would be closer to the way you feel?” If an answer is different from what you expect, do not remind the respondent of an earlier remark or try to force consistency. Record the responses given.
- You should not use phrases such as “good” or “right” that imply a correct answer.
- If a respondent refuses to answer an individual question, please mark refused and proceed to the next question.
- For open ended questions, it is very important that you take the time to record the exact answer verbatim of the respondent. Do not abbreviate or edit responses. Repeat the response back to the respondent to make sure that what you recorded is accurate and acceptable to the respondent. If you do not understand a respondent’s reply to an open-ended question, please ask them if they could tell you what they have in mind, what their thoughts are, or what they mean by that. If their answer is incomplete, please follow up with probing questions like “Could you please elaborate on that?” or “Would you tell me more about your thoughts on that?” If the respondent responds, “I don’t know” to an open-ended question, follow up with, “What are your thoughts?”, “What are your expectations?” Again, the goal is to provide as much general direction and information as necessary without unduly influencing the responses to the survey. If there is not enough space in the computer to record a complete response, you may paraphrase the response and ask the respondent if that accurately reflects his or her comment. It is not okay, however, to paraphrase the questions.

Clarifying Questions for Respondents

- Sometimes a respondent will ask you for additional information or clarification of a question. If an individual needs clarification because he or she did not accurately hear the question, please repeat it. If an individual still has trouble hearing you or understanding the question, you may show them the survey and allow them to read the question for themselves. If the individual asks you to repeat the question or response options, even if they are only questioning part of it, please repeat the entire question and list of response options to them.
- If there are items that are confusing to the individual or they do not understand the question, please provide limited additional information and guidance. We do not want to influence the individual’s response but want to provide enough information to the individual to be able to accurately respond to the question. For example, the question “On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being light, 3 being moderate, and 5 being heavy, how would you rate the crowdedness at this recreation site today?” may cause confusion for larger recreation sites. If an individual is confused about whether you mean the site as a whole,

or the area that they spent most of their time, you could repeat the question and add “Overall” as a preface.

Appendix E contains some ideas for standard probes and clarifications, neutral ways of asking questions, and examples of positive feedback.

7.0 CONFIDENTIALITY

All materials and the information you learn on this project is **confidential**. You should never discuss data or information with anyone other than project team members.

8.0 MEDIA STATEMENTS

Occasionally our projects make the headlines and newscasts and it is important for all employees to understand our position as consultants and how to handle members of the press when approached with questions about our clients and projects. The following will provide you guidance if you should find yourself in this situation. All employees must follow these guidelines unless otherwise directed by the Project Manager, Alan Haberstock.

8.1 STATEMENT

"We appreciate your interest in this project. We are, as I'm sure you can appreciate, not at liberty to discuss this project with the media. We would, however, be happy to forward your request to our client."

8.2 GUIDELINES

- Try to be positive and never sound defensive.
- Never talk to reporters without explicit permission from your Project Manager. Often in large corporations the protocol for dealing with the media is taken very seriously. You can cause problems for your client contact if you give their name to a reporter, who will see them as a lead for a story and will dog them mercilessly at the office, at home, etc. Also, do not act as an intermediary between the media and the client. If necessary get a name and phone number and pass it on to your Field Supervisor. He will make sure the inquiry is forwarded to the correct person. Do not offer to get back to the reporter yourself.
- Always promptly report any calls from the media to your immediate supervisor. It is also good practice to make a note of exactly what the reporter asked for and what you said.
- Never give a reporter the name of anyone on the other side of an issue to contact or offer any suggestions as to others they could call. This includes agency representatives, NGOs, national issue experts, etc. (regardless of how favorable you think they may be to our clients' causes).

As always, if you have any questions about this, please talk with your Field Supervisor.

9.0 PERSONAL PRESENTATION

How you present yourself is very important, both in terms of your demeanor and your appearance. Please avoid clothing with logos, which may influence people's perceptions of our work. You will be provided with a name tag, which should be worn at all times. Remember to always be respectful and courteous to the people you come into contact with. You are a representative of Kleinschmidt, and by extension, of our client. We would like you to make a good impression.

10.0 TRAVEL TIME, TIME SHEETS

Timesheets were provided in your HR package. Please complete them and, using the addressed, stamped envelopes, mail them to Marty each Friday. Timesheets will be approved after review of completed counts and surveys.

11.0 PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Periodically, you may be monitored by a Kleinschmidt representative or our client during the course of your work. You may be observed at any time without prior knowledge. This is a standard practice to assist you in performing interviews by providing you with feedback as well as to assure our client that we monitor for quality control purposes.

12.0 SAFETY

Your safety is the number one goal and should not be compromised for any reason while conducting field studies. It is expected that you use your best judgment in all safety matters. If you are concerned for your safety, leave the site and make note of it in your journal when you can. Use your best judgment about individuals you encounter. Likewise, in severe or unsafe weather, we expect that you will suspend work and take cover.

GET OFF THE WATER IF YOU SEE LIGHTENING.

You will not have access to telephones during your work, and there may be no cell phone coverage. In the event of an emergency, call 911 for help and follow up with your Technical Lead as soon as you can.

A letter has been provided to the Maine Game Wardens advising them of this study and alerting them to the fact that you will be working at the Bald Mountain Pond and Wyman Lake. If local law enforcement should stop to ask you any questions, please feel free to show them the letter (Appendix F) and to provide them with Marty's business card.

It is important that employees at every level demonstrate a personal commitment to continuous safety improvement, resulting in a zero injury work-related illness culture and observe the following safety principles:

- Safety begins at the top.
- Injuries and work-related illnesses are preventable.
- Identifying and minimizing safety and health risks are priorities.
- Personal ownership for safety and looking out for others are essential.
- Openness, feedback and trust are keys to safety.
- Safety is good business and a critical aspect of a high performance organization.

To help insure that all field data collected for the Project is done so in a safe and sensible manner some guidelines have been developed. You are expected to review, become familiar with, and follow Kleinschmidt's Safety Procedure (Appendix G).

APPENDIX A
WORK SCHEDULE

In Progress
(to be inserted when finalized)

APPENDIX B

DAILY SUMMARY SHEET

DAILY SUMMARY SHEET

Please complete one daily summary sheet per survey day. This information is used to help us calculate survey response rates, keep track of our surveys, and estimate overall recreational use. It is important!

_____ Today's date

_____ Today's arrival time

_____ Today's arrival temperature

_____ Today's arrival weather

_____ Location

_____ No. of adults observed

_____ No. of children observed

_____ Total number of people observed

_____ No. of people who were asked to take the interview

_____ No. of people who refused the interview

_____ No. of people who have already filled out this survey (repeat customers)

_____ Number of surveys completed today

_____ Today's departure time

_____ Today's departure temperature

_____ Today's departure weather

*****NOTES, GENERAL OBSERVATIONS*****

APPENDIX C

SURVEY

APPENDIX D

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

RESPONSES TO COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE STUDY

Q. Who is Kleinschmidt Associates?

A. Kleinschmidt is an engineering and environmental consulting firm specializing in water resource projects.

Q. Why are you asking me these questions?

A. We are interested in learning how the turbines affect your enjoyment of the area.

Q. Who is sponsoring this study?

A. First Wind is sponsoring this study.

Q. Do I have to answer every question?

A. We would like you to please try to answer every question. It is important that we get a picture of everyone's opinions.

Q. What if I think of something else that I'd like to add to my responses?

A. If you think of anything else, please let us know. We will record your comments and will share them with First Wind.

Q. When will this study be completed?

A. The study will be completed in September of 2012.

Q. Will the results be available to the public?

A. All results will be provided to First Wind.

Q. What if I need more information?

A. If you have any questions about this study, please call Marty Phillips of Kleinschmidt Associates at (207) 487-3328.

APPENDIX E

ASKING QUESTIONS IN A NEUTRAL MANNER

USING QUESTIONS EFFECTIVELY

QUESTIONS are listening tools used when we want to collect new information or clarify information that has already been offered. Different types of questions can be used to either control or guide a conversation, depending upon what the questioner wants to accomplish. The two types of questions we will examine are CLOSED and OPEN questions.

CLOSED QUESTIONS are questions that ask for short answers, just a few words.

- they obtain specific information
- they control the conversation
- they don't encourage the other to talk or disclose
- they show less respect or value for the other
- they may lead you to miss important information

OPEN QUESTIONS are questions which ask for longer, more involved answers.

- they encourage the other to talk and disclose
- they are perceived as showing more respect or value for the other
- they guide the conversation without controlling it
- they give you more time to think
- they may result in too much talk or rambling

All questions have a "stem", the phrase that identifies it as a question. Some typical "stems" are:

CLOSED

Where...?
When...?
Who...?
How many...?

OPEN

Could you...?
Would you...?
How...?
Why...? ***

Evaluate Your Questioning Patterns:

Both types of questions have their advantages, and both have disadvantages if overused or used inappropriately. Effective questioners will often mixed closed and open questions together into a lively conversation or interview to maximize the advantages of both types.

REFLECTING CONTENT - PARAPHRASING

After you have initially created a communication bond with another person, you need to 1) continue to show the other person that you are listening and paying attention, and 2) check out what we think we are hearing in order to make sure our perceptions are accurate. We can accomplish both of these outcomes by reflecting the content of what the other person is telling us, which is also called PARAPHRASING.

Paraphrasing is most often used in situations when understanding is important, such as counseling, problem-solving, and business conversations. It's done much less often during casual conversation.

Paraphrasing another's statements does not necessarily state or imply that we agree with them; only that we are listening and attempting to verify our understanding of his or her point of view.

Paraphrasing has several benefits:

- it shows the other person that you are really listening.
- it checks out what you are hearing for accuracy.
- it often corrects miscommunication (errors, false assumptions) immediately, before they compound.
- it helps you remember what was said.
- it often stops needless repetition.
- people deeply appreciate feeling heard and valued.

HOW DO YOU PARAPHRASE:

1) Start the paraphrase with an opening stem:

- " It sounds like what you are saying is..."
- " So what I'm hearing you say is..."

2) Repeat in your own words what you heard the other say. Do not add anything to it, embellish it, or interpret it. Only repeat what the other has said.

3) End the paraphrase with a closing stem that asks for confirmation:

- "...is that right?"
- "...is that close?"

Paraphrasing is often misused by adding your own information or perspective it, which runs the risk of completely changing the direction of the conversation. Think of yourself as a mirror and reflect back only what the other person has said.

Yes, I see. Uh-huh.

Yes, I understand that you feel quite strongly about this matter. But we really do need the information.

If all else fails, call for a supervisor or wait for the opportunity to say something to this effect:

I think I can understand your feelings, and your not wanting to complete the interview. But, thank you very much anyway. Goodbye.

6. **When you hang up.**

- a. Record the time and enter the termination code for this interview.
- b. Make any corrections you need to for this interview.

7. **When you are done for the day.** Check out with the supervisor, explaining any call-backs that need special attention.

Do not take anything home with you. All questionnaires, codebooks, etc., must remain in the office.

8. **After you have left.** We have an obligation to respondents to keep their interviews confidential. We feel very strongly that this obligation should be honored. Therefore, please do not tell anyone the substance of any interview or part of an interview, no matter how fascinating or interesting it was. Also, please avoid giving your own summary of findings. Just because 90 percent of your respondents feel a certain way does not mean that 90 percent of everyone else feels the same way. Confidentiality is essential. If you want a copy of results from this survey, let the supervisor know, and we will be sure you get them just as soon as they are available.

Appendix 8.B

The Basics of Proper Interviewing*

Main Points

1. Read each question exactly as it is written and in the order in which it appears in the questionnaire.
2. Read slowly.
3. Use standard feedback phrases for acceptable responses. Examples are "Thank you. That's important information" and "I see."
4. Use standard cues or probes to help the respondent give more complete answers to

questions. Examples are "Could you tell me more about that?" and "Which would be closer to the way you feel?"

Two Types of Questions

1. **Close-ended or precoded questions** with predetermined response categories from which the respondent must choose.
2. **Open-ended questions** that ask the respondent to express reasons and feelings in his or her own words.

*Adapted from interviewer training materials used at the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center, Washington State University.

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Question Wording

1. Surveys work only if everyone gets the same stimulus. Therefore, read questions exactly as they are worded in the questionnaire. Read questions with no additions, deletions, or substitutions.
2. Often you will find questions that contain parentheses. An example is "How well do you think your (husband/wife) understands you?" Make a choice from parentheses based on what you have learned about the respondent from the household listing and other questions.
3. Read the entire question before accepting the respondent's answer.

Question Order

1. Ask each respondent every appropriate question.
2. Don't skip a question because the answer was given earlier or because you "know" the answer.
3. In those situations in which the respondent has already provided information that probably answers the next question, you may preface the question with some combination of the following phrases:

"I know we've talked about this," or "I know you just mentioned this, but I need to ask each question as it appears in the questionnaire."

"You have already touched on this, but let me ask you . . ."

"You've told me something about this, and this next question asks . . ."

4. Avoid directive reference to past responses.

- As an interviewer, you must not "direct" the respondent toward an answer.
- Do not assume that an "answer" you received in passing is the correct answer to a specific question at a particular point in the interview. Do not direct the respondent by mentioning an earlier answer.
- If an answer is different from the one you expect, do not remind the respondent of an earlier remark or try to force consistency.

Style

1. The quality of your delivery—your *style*—also affects the quality of the information you collect. Emphasize underlined words to enhance meaning and to be consistent with the other interviewers. Keep your tone neutral, and avoid voice inflections that might bias results.
2. Use a pleasant tone of voice that conveys assurance, interest, and a professional manner.
3. Read at a slow pace. Remember that although you may have read these questions many times, the respondent is hearing them for the first time. He or she needs time to understand the questions and to decide on the answers.

Question Clarification

Sometimes respondents ask for additional information. When this happens, your response is called a **CLARIFICATION**. There are three kinds of clarifications:

1. Accurate repetition of the entire question, or part of the question.

2. Use of clarifications or definitions that are specified on the definitions sheet.
3. Use of the phrase, "Whatever _____ [Insert the word or phrase about which the respondent asked.] means to you," or "Whatever you think of as _____."

Points to Remember

1. If you have any doubt that the respondent has heard the entire question, repeat *all* of it.
2. Upon request, repeat or clarify the item to which the respondent has referred.
3. When asked to repeat only one of several response options, repeat all the options given in the question.
4. Only give definitions specifically allowed in your interviewer's manual.

Examples of Standard Probes and Clarifications

1. Whatever _____ means to you.
2. Whatever you think of as _____.
3. What do you mean?
4. How do you mean?
5. Would you tell me more about your thinking on that?
6. Would you tell me what you have in mind?
7. What do you think?
8. What do you expect?
9. Which would be closer to the way you feel?
10. Are there any other reasons why you feel that way?

Examples of Special Probes

1. Would that be *good* times or *bad* times?

2. Would that be *favorable* or *unfavorable*?

Examples of Neutral Ways to Preface a Probe

1. Overall . . .
2. Generally speaking . . .
3. Well, in general, . . .
4. In the country as a whole . . .
5. Yes, but . . .
6. Of course no one knows for sure . . .
7. Of course there are no right or wrong answers . . .
8. We all hope, but . . .
9. We're just interested in what you think . . .
10. Let me repeat the question. . . .

Pausing or Repeating a Question

Thoughtful answers are more complete and more accurate. Give the respondent time to think by reading the question slowly and pausing as appropriate. As you gain experience, you will learn how long a pause should be. Keep in mind that the respondent has never heard the questions before, so a pause that seems long to you might be just right for the respondent.

Don't rush your respondents—pausing is another way of indicating that you expect thoughtful answers.

1. Repeat the entire question if the respondent's reply indicates that they didn't understand it, or if they need more time to think about their response.
2. If the respondent has clearly eliminated a response option, you do not have to include it in the repetition.

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3. Repeat the entire question unless you are sure that only one part of it was misunderstood.

Open-ended Responses

After listening to a respondent's answer to an open-ended question, repeat the response that you have written down. Make sure your words are acceptable to the respondent.

Ways to Probe for Answers on Open-ended Questions

1. When you cannot understand the respondent's reply:
 - "What do you mean?" or "Could you tell me what you mean by that?"
 - "Would you tell me more about your thinking on that?" or "Would you tell me what you have in mind?"
2. When the respondent gives an incomplete answer:
 - "Would you tell me more about your thinking on that?" or "Would you tell me what you have in mind?"
3. When the respondent responds with a tentative "I don't know" or "I hope so":
 - "What do you think?" or "What do you expect?"
4. When the respondent has narrowed the choices to two or to a range between two:
 - "Which would be closer?" or "Which would be closer to the way you feel?"
5. When an open-ended question asks why:
 - "Are there any other reasons you feel that way?" *Use only once!*

What is Feedback?

Feedback consists of statements or actions that indicate to the respondent that he or she is doing a good job.

1. Effective interviewers give feedback only for acceptable performance, not "good" content.
2. Give short feedback phrases for short, one- or two-word responses (usually for close-ended questions).
3. Longer, more thoughtful answers deserve longer feedback (usually for open-ended questions).
4. A brief pause followed by a feedback phrase makes the feedback more powerful.
5. Specific study information and interviewer task-related comments also act as feedback because they motivate the respondent.
6. Telephone interviewers should give feedback for acceptable respondent performance from 30 to 50 percent of the time.

Examples of Positive Feedback

1. Short
 - I see. . . .
 - Uh-huh/Um-hmm.
 - Uh-huh/Um-hmm, I see.
 - Thank you.
 - Thanks.
2. Long
 - That's useful/helpful information.
 - It's useful to get your ideas on this.
 - Thanks, it's important to get your opinion on that.
 - I see, that's helpful to know.

- It's important to find out what people think about this.
 - That's useful for our research.
3. Interviewer task-related comments
- Let me get that down.
 - I need to write it all down.
 - I want to make sure I have it right (REPEAT ANSWER).

- We have touched on this before, but I need to ask every question in the order that it appears in the questionnaire.

Feedback phrases and neutral probes may be used in any combination. For more information, see the Survey Research Center's *General Interviewing Techniques*, cited in the reference list at the end of this book.

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APPENDIX F

LETTER TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT



August 30, 2012

VIA USPS

Lt. Kevin Adam
Maine Warden Service
PO Box 551
Greenville, ME 04441

Kleinschmidt Recreation Study

Dear Lt. Adam:

Kleinschmidt Associates (Kleinschmidt) will be conducting surveys with recreationists at the Bald Mountain Pond Boat Launch and the top of Bald Mountain in Bald Mountain Twp, and the Wyman Lake Boat Launch in Moscow as part of a study to learn the opinions of people using these resources. We wanted to let you know as a courtesy that we will be there in case you receive any questions from the public.

Our study begins September 1 and may extend through October 1. We will be working during daylight hours, from approximately 6:00 am to 8:00 pm.

If you have any questions or comments about the study, please feel free to contact me, or Alan Haberstock, our Project Manager, at 207.487.3328.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

KLEINSCHMIDT ASSOCIATES

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcia L. Phillips".

Marty Phillips
Technical Study Lead

MLP:KLJ

cc: Alan Haberstock, Kleinschmidt

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August 30, 2012

VIA USPS

Sheriff Barry Delong
Somerset County
131 East Madison Road
Madison, ME 04958

Kleinschmidt Recreation Study

Dear Sheriff Delong:

Kleinschmidt Associates (Kleinschmidt) will be conducting surveys with recreationists at the Bald Mountain Pond Boat Launch and the top of Bald Mountain in Bald Mountain Twp, and the Wyman Lake Boat Launch in Moscow as part of a study to learn the opinions of people using these resources. We wanted to let you know as a courtesy that we will be there in case you receive any questions from the public.

Our study begins September 1 and may extend through October 1. We will be working during daylight hours, from approximately 6:00 am to 8:00 pm.

If you have any questions or comments about the study, please feel free to contact me, or Alan Haberstock, our Project Manager, at 207.487.3328.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

KLEINSCHMIDT ASSOCIATES

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marty Phillips".

Marty Phillips
Technical Study Lead

MLP:KLJ

cc: Alan Haberstock, Kleinschmidt

\\Eagle\Jobs\1653\005\Docs\001 Letter to Somerset County Sheriff.docx

APPENDIX G
SAFETY PROCEDURES

KLEINSCHMIDT SAFETY PROCEDURES PERTINENT TO THE BASKAHEGAN SURVEY

LYME DISEASE PREVENTION

The best prevention of this disease is the vaccination in combination with preventive measures while in high exposure areas. When spending time outdoors, make these **easy precautions** part of your routine:

- Wear enclosed shoes and light-colored clothing with a tight weave to spot ticks easily. Duct tape around the top of boots with pants tucked inside or pants tucked inside socks helps ensure that ticks stay on clothing for longer periods before finding exposed skin.
- Scan clothes and any exposed skin frequently for ticks while outdoors. If you tuck long pants into socks and shirts into pants, be aware that ticks will climb upward in search of exposed skin. This means they may climb to hidden areas of the head and neck if not intercepted first.
- Stay on cleared, well-traveled trails.
- Use insect repellent containing DEET (Diethyl-meta-toluamide) on skin and clothes if you intend to go off-trail or into overgrown areas.
- Avoid sitting directly on the ground or on stone walls.
- Keep long hair tied back.
- Upon returning home, clothes can be spun in the dryer for 20 minutes to kill any unseen ticks. A shower and shampoo may help to dislodge crawling ticks, but is only somewhat effective.
- Do a final, full-body tick-check at the end of each day before and after a shower. Keep in mind that nymph deer ticks are the size of poppy seeds; adult deer ticks are the size of sesame seeds. Frequent tick checks should be followed by a systematic, whole-body examination each night before going to bed. Performed consistently, this ritual is perhaps the single most effective current method for prevention of Lyme disease.

If you do find a tick attached to your skin, there is no need to panic. Not all ticks are infected, and studies of infected deer ticks have shown that they begin transmitting Lyme disease an average of 36 to 48 hours after attachment. Therefore, your chances of contracting Lyme disease are greatly reduced if you remove a tick within the first 24 hours. Remember, too, that the vast majority of early Lyme disease cases are easily treated and cured.

To remove a tick, follow these steps:

- 1) Using a pair of pointed precision tweezers, grasp the tick by the head or mouthparts right where they enter the skin. **DO NOT** grasp the tick by the body.
- 2) Without jerking, pull firmly and steadily directly outward. **DO NOT** twist the tick out or apply petroleum jelly, a hot match, alcohol or any other irritant to the tick in an attempt to get it to back out. These methods can backfire and even increase the chances of the tick transmitting the disease.

- 3) Place the tick in a vial or jar of alcohol to kill it.
- 4) Clean the bite wound with disinfectant.

Then, **monitor the site of the bite** for the appearance of a rash beginning 3 to 30 days after the bite. At the same time, learn about the other early symptoms of Lyme disease and watch to see if they appear in about the same timeframe. If a rash or other early symptoms develop, see a physician immediately.

APPENDIX H
SITE INFORMATION

Bald Mountain Pond

Bald Mountain Twp

MAPS: Maine Atlas, Map 31

USGS Quadrangle, Bald Mountain Pond

AREA AND MAXIMUM DEPTH: 1,152 acres, 62 feet

HABITAT TYPE: deep, clear pond; forested hillsides

FISH: brook and blueback trout

FRIENDS OF BALD MOUNTAIN POND: pond preservation effort,
www.mainetoys.com/Links/BMP_home/BMP_home.html

EXPECT TO SEE: loon, moose

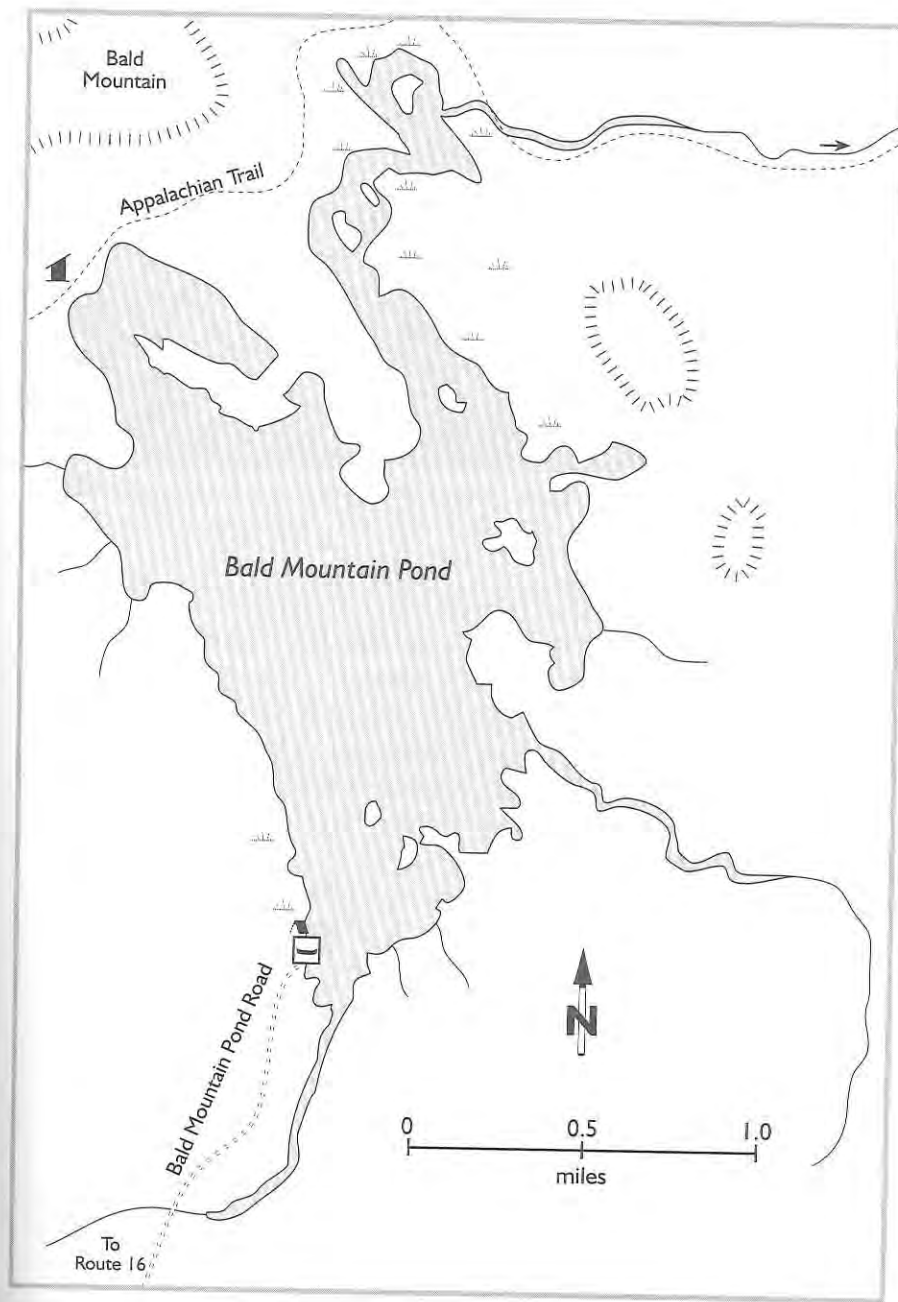
TAKE NOTE: no personal watercraft; fire permits, Maine Forest Service, 207-827-1800

GETTING THERE

From Bingham, at the junction of Routes 16 and 201, go east on Route 16 for 5.4 miles (5.4 miles), and turn left onto Townline Road. Go 2.8 miles (8.2 miles), and turn right onto Deadwater Road. Go 0.1 mile (8.3 miles), and take the left fork. Go 2.1 miles (10.4 miles), and take the right fork. Go 1.9 miles (12.3 miles), and turn diagonally right onto Bald Mountain Pond Road. Go 5.7 miles (18.0 miles), circling around Austin Pond, and take the right fork. Go 2.1 miles (20.1 miles) straight to the access.

The Appalachian Trail skirts Bald Mountain Pond's northern shore, part of the Maine Public Reserve Land system. A wild place in a beautiful setting, aptly named Bald Mountain dominates the western skyline. Unfortunately, the Plum Creek timber company owns most of the surrounding land and has built several new roads and clear-cut some of the area. The Friends of Bald Mountain Pond has mounted a preservation effort. The pond also draws large crowds on summer weekends—although fewer people camp here than at nearby Austin Pond. A visit here would be more satisfying during the week or after Labor Day.

When we paddled out on the last Sunday in July at 6:30 A.M., the resident loons and we made the only ripples on the placid surface for





A cow moose seeks relief from a buzzing horde of biting flies at the north end of Bald Mountain Pond.

the first hour and a half after sunrise, while the weekend partiers slept in. The only noise, other than an occasional loon call, came from the large population of white-throated sparrows, with their “Old Sam Peabody, Peabody, Peabody” call. We saw lots of wildlife, including a cow moose in the northeast cove, submerged to her nostrils, trying to escape a huge cloud of biting flies. Several of these tenacious flies broke off from the pack and annoyed us for about a half hour after our encounter with the moose.

Heavily forested islands enhance the picturesque nature of Bald Mountain Pond. Hundreds of granite boulders dimple the surface in places; unfortunately for boat hulls, many of these rocks hide out barely submerged. Go cautiously when paddling near shore and when exploring the many inlets. The boulder-strewn northern inlet comprises one of the most scenic areas, making paddling up there well worthwhile.

White and red pine, cedar, balsam fir, and spruce grow right down to the water, and a fair number of yellow birch, maples, and white birch appear in and among the conifers. Fragrant waterlilies abound in the coves and shallower parts. Bird species include ring-billed gull, red-breasted merganser, loon, black duck, belted kingfisher, and double-crested cormorant.

Because of the many coves and inlets dotting the shoreline, it takes several hours to explore fully this wonderful place. Paddle out early to maximize wildlife viewing, and come during the week to avoid the weekend camping parties.

Indian Pond

Big Moose Twp, Indian Stream Twp, and Sapling Twp

MAPS: Maine Atlas, Map 40

USGS Quadrangles, Indian Pond North and Indian Pond South

AREA AND MAXIMUM DEPTH: 3,746 acres, 118 feet

HABITAT TYPE: large, deep pond

FISH: lake trout, brook trout, salmon, smallmouth bass

INDIAN POND CAMPGROUND: 800-371-7774

EXPECT TO SEE: loon, bald eagle, osprey, moose, beaver

TAKE NOTE: wind from the south can cause treacherous conditions; fire permits, Maine Forest Service, 207-827-1800

GETTING THERE

There are three access points. The easiest, by far, is the southern access.

Southern Access: From Bingham, go north on Route 201, and turn right onto Lake Moxie Road at The Forks. Go 5.3 miles (5.3 miles), and turn left onto Indian Pond Road. Go 7.9 miles (13.2 miles) to Indian Pond Campground and the access.

Northeast Access: The access road had a ditch across it when we visited; with road repairs, this would be a relatively easy access. Check the *Maine Atlas* for directions.

West Outlet: High clearance vehicle necessary. From Rockwood, go south on Route 6. Just after leaving town and 0.2 mile before the bridge over West Outlet, turn right onto Milligan Farm Road. Go 4.8 miles (4.8 miles), turn left, and go 2.8 miles (7.6 miles) to the access.

Indian Pond, large and very scenic, truly is the country of the pointed firs. Little development intrudes on the shoreline, and the few boats plying the water have 35 miles of shoreline and nearly six square miles of surface to share. This wildlife paradise sports healthy populations of deer, moose, bear, coyote, fox, beaver, osprey, eagle, loon, and fish. One must be wary of winds, but it still represents a great opportunity for a two-to-four-day family trip.