

Conceptual Framework for a New National Park and National Recreation Area

Key Elements for Federal Legislation

This conceptual framework is the product of hundreds of conversations with stakeholders and interested parties in the Katahdin Region and across Maine. It lists the fundamental elements that Elliotsville Plantation, Inc. (EPI) is committed to incorporating into legislation to create a new National Park and National Recreation Area on up to 150,000 acres east of Baxter State Park. These elements have been reviewed and endorsed by businesses listed at the end of this document, who urge Maine's congressional delegation to support these provisions as part of federal legislation to create the National Park and National Recreation Area.

(1) Size: The National Park and National Recreation Area would be roughly equal in size and could not be expanded to more than approximately 150,000 acres absent passage of future legislation by Congress.

(2) Cost: Elliotsville Plantation, Inc. (EPI) would donate its lands for the National Park and National Recreation Area. In addition, a \$40 million endowment would be established to pay for operations and maintenance costs, \$20 million of which would be donated directly by EPI and the remainder of which EPI would raise.

(3) National Park: Lands on the west side of the East Branch of the Penobscot River would be managed as a National Park by the U.S. National Park Service. Recreational opportunities would include boating, bicycling, camping, cross-country skiing, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, snowshoeing, swimming and other sports and activities.

- **Entrances, Visitor Center and Scenic Drives:** Entrances to the National Park could be located in Sherman, Patten, Mt. Chase, Medway, Stacyville, East Millinocket or Millinocket.
- **Scenic Drives:** A scenic loop road would highlight scenic vistas, interpretive sites, trailheads, and other attributes of the property of interest.

(4) National Recreation Area: Lands on the east side of the East Branch of the Penobscot River would be managed by the U.S. National Park Service as a National Recreation Area. Recreation opportunities in the National Recreation Area would include hunting and snowmobiling as well as most activities taking place in the National Park.

(5) Hunting: Hunting would be allowed in the National Recreation Area according to the laws of the State of Maine and hunting activities would be managed in cooperation with Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. All tags and licenses would be handled by the State. Seasons would be posted on the National Park Service website and at kiosks and other physical locations.

(6) Snowmobile Trails: The law establishing the National Park and National Recreation Area would permanently guarantee access on a north-south route and an east-west route, generally along the routes followed by the existing ITS 85 (from Millinocket to Matagamon), the existing

ITS 83 (from Medway to Sherman Station) and the existing Club Trail 114 (from the intersection with ITS 85 to Shin Pond). The trails would be groomed.

(7) Forestry Matters:

- **Clean Air Act:** Neither the National Park nor the National Recreation Area would be considered a Class I Airshed under the Clean Air Act. Additionally, timber, milling or manufacturing operations would be exempt from any additional Clean Air Act requirements due to the existence of the National Park and National Recreation Area.
- **Timber Cutting:** The National Park Service would have no authority over timber harvesting outside the boundary of the National Park and National Recreation Area. Federal agencies would be prohibited from asserting a “buffer” of any kind around the Park or National Recreation Area lands.
- **North Woods Forestry Heritage:** Any management plans for the National Park and the National Recreation Area would honor and educate the public about the rich cultural logging heritage of the North Maine Woods, among other topics, at the visitor center(s) and other interpretation sites. Interpretive signage would herald the history and heritage of the Maine forest products industry and its importance to the cultural and economic development of the region, including "green" building benefits of utilizing wood as a building material.
- **Require Local Timber be Utilized for Park Infrastructure:** To the extent possible, infrastructure (including visitor's center(s), entrance huts, etc.) would be required under law to be built utilizing timber harvested in the region and milled locally.

(8) Preference for Maine-Based Concessionaires, Outfitters and Guides: The National Park Service would be required to give preference to Maine-based companies for concession, outfitter and guide contracts and permits.

(9) Advisory Input: Communication and input between the National Park Service and Maine citizens, including residents of the Katahdin region, will be a critical component when preparing a general management plan.

We the undersigned businesses support federal legislation for a National Park and National Recreation Area that incorporates the elements listed above:

Signed:

Linscott’s Auto Body

Clint Linscott, East Millinocket

Two Rivers Canoe & Tackle

Lowell Davis, Medway

Crandall’s Hardware

Katie Crandall, East Millinocket

Nicatou Outfitters

Galen Hale, Medway

5 Lakes Lodge

Rick LeVasseur, Indian Purchase

LeVasseur Hardware

Stephen Cullen, Millinocket

Jason Campbell, MD
Jason Campbell, Millinocket

Ice Fish Inn
Sean & Catie Clark, Millinocket

The Wreath Factory
Jerri Cohen, Millinocket

North Woods Real Estate
Daniel Corcoran, Millinocket

Baxter Park Inn
Anne & Tim Darling, Millinocket

Central Street Market
Anne & Tim Darling, Millinocket

North Light Gallery
Marsha Donahue, Millinocket

Katahdin Friends, LLC
Gail Fanjoy, Millinocket

Lamson Funeral Home
Chip Lamson, Millinocket

Larry's Wood Products
Larry MacArthur, Millinocket

Thyme & Moss Publishing
Georgia Manzo, Millinocket

Katahdin Cabins
Michael & Nicole Mohoff, Millinocket

Moose Prints Gallery
Anita Mueller, Millinocket

Mark Picard Wildlife Photography
Mark Picard, Millinocket

New England Outdoors Center
Matthew Polstein, T1 R8

Twin Pine Camps, LLC
Matthew Polstein, T1 R8

Appalachian Trail Café
Jaime Renaud, Millinocket

AT Lodge/Oleman's Gear Shop
Paul Renaud, Millinocket

The Young House Bed & Breakfast
Michelle Schumacher, Millinocket

On the Edge Vacation Rentals
Dennis Smith, Millinocket

Oscar's Tea Room/Wilbur's Antiques
Dennis Smith, Millinocket

Wilderness Edge Campground
Anna Hallett, Millinocket

Shin Pond Village
Terry Hill, Shin Pond

Red Moose Gift Shop
Rhonda Brophy, Patten

Sherman Wood Works
Joe Pratt, Sherman

The Charles Inn
Connie Boivin, Bangor

Bangor Travel Services
Cindy Hardy, Bangor

Bahaar Pakistani Restaurant
Khan Farzana, Bangor

Rose Bike
Jim Rose, Orono

Back Country Excursions, LLC
Clifford Krolick, Parsonsfield

Sebasco Estates
Bob Smith, Sebasco Estates