
Every Acre Counts:
The Newfound Watershed
Master Plan
August 30, 2007

Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction
- Participant Introductions –
  "Who's who in the watershed?"
- The Beginning - 2006 Brainstorming Results and Draft Vision
- Overview of the Watershed Master Plan Process
- Project Status Update
- Facilitated Discussion –
  Your Goals for the Watershed
- Next Steps – How to Be Involved

2006 Watershed Visioning

Question 1 - What do you value most?

- Water quality
- Natural habitat
- Quality of life

2006 Watershed Visioning

Question 2 – What concerns you most?

- Primary concerns focused on water quality.
- Impacts to open space and natural habitat from deforestation and development.
- Impacts to lake quality and appearance from inadequate management of shore land buffers.

2006 Watershed Visioning

Question 3 – What ideas do you have to address your concerns?

- Standardize regulations across the watershed.
- Regulate and enforce development.
- Expand outreach, coordinate information, increase public education.
- Obtain conservation easements on strategic parcels of land.

Draft Watershed Vision

In the year 2050, we envision a watershed where quality of life and economic vitality are fostered by stewardship and sustainable use of the watershed's natural resources, land uses and development are balanced with conservation, and maintaining water quality is central to the efforts of the nine watershed communities.

In order to reach this vision the following actions must be accomplished throughout the watershed:

Newfound Watershed Master Plan Outline

Where are we now? *(Baseline and historical data)*

- Background of the Plan and Process
  - What is a Watershed?
  - What is a Watershed Master Plan?
  - How the Newfound Watershed Master Plan was born
  - Acknowledge broad engagement etc. ("now" is final Plan in 2009)
- Physical Setting of the Newfound Watershed
  - Water resources (surface water, ground water uses / demand…)
  - Including key Watershed Maps
- Previous Studies in the Watershed
- Watershed Population and Housing Demographics
- Existing Planning and Land Use Regulatory Analysis *(and Regulation Matrix)*
  - What Current Master Plans Envision
- Social Survey
  - Survey Design and Process (explain scope, purpose etc.)
  - Key Findings (Phase I and Phase II?)
- Water Quality Data
  - Overview of sampling programs (sets context…)
  - Summary of Findings
- Oral History Project Overview and Results

Newfound Watershed Master Plan Outline

Where are we going? (Issues and concerns)

- Watershed Demographic Trends and Growth Projections
- Land Use Trends in the Watershed
- Economics of conservation v. development
- Value of water (May ’07 report)
- Water Quality Data – Threats and Projections
- Education and Outreach
  - Environmental Science & Policy Curriculum for Public Schools
  - Public workshops and presentations
  - Collaboration with local government
  - Communication Plan (use of survey, feedback etc.)

Newfound Watershed Master Plan Outline

Where do we want to be? *(What was said)*

- Watershed Vision
- Water Quality Objectives
- Public Process Findings
- Social Surveys – Key Findings
- Future Land Use Objectives

How do we get there? *(Implementation)*

- Implementation Actions (*by topic – for town level and regional actions*)

Appendix

- Survey Data
- Water Quality Data
- Oral Histories
- Map Resources
- References and Additional Resources Available

Project Status Update

- Key Demographic and Growth Related Findings
- Plymouth State Tasks and Resident Opinions Survey
- Curriculum Development

Plymouth State University

Watershed Survey

The survey is underway!

•A sample of residents/property owners should look to receive one soon

Oral history project

•Dr. Blaine and PSU Students will begin this project soon.

Public Relations & Communications

•Developed several articles for the local paper.

•Drafted a communications plan, and written press releases about the project. Planning a media event for the spring and working on web site and publications.

Newfound Area School District

- District and Student Involvement
- Curriculum Development

Demographic and Growth Assessment

- Population Figures and Other Demographic Data
- Housing Inventory
- Residential Development Trends
- Employment
- Transportation

Watershed Land Area and Population by Community - 2005

Town	% of Watershed	Acres (63,150 total)	Population in Watershed	% of Watershed Population
Alexandria	35.8	22,616	1030	23%
Bridgewater	8.4	5297	597	13%
Bristol	11.4	7212	1975	45%
Danbury	1.4	859	2	.05%
Dorchester	0 (rounding)	16	0	0%
Groton	18.0	11369	248	6%
Hebron	19.2	12151	539	12%
Orange	3.4	2141	12	.3%
Plymouth	2.4	1490	26	.6%

Five of the Watershed communities (Alexandria, Bridgewater, Bristol, Groton, and Hebron) account for 93% of the Watershed area and 99% of the population in the Watershed.

Total Population by Town and by Watershed - 2005

Towns	Town Population 2005	Watershed Area Population 2005	% of Town Population in Watershed
Alexandria	1,472	1030	70%
Bridgewater	1,029	597	58%
Bristol	3,185	1975	62%
Danbury	1,179	2	0.20%
Dorchester	382	0	0%
Groton	496	248	50%
Hebron	539	539	100%
Orange	311	12	4%
Plymouth	6,387	26	0.40%
Total	*14,980*	*4,429*	

The Watershed population is 29% of the total nine town population.

Population Change of Nine Town Area 1970-2005

Towns	1970	2005	% Change 1970 - 2005
Alexandria	466	1,472	216%
Bridgewater	398	1,029	159%
Bristol	1,670	3,185	91%
Danbury	489	1,179	141%
Dorchester	141	382	171%
Groton	120	496	313%
Hebron	234	539	130%
Orange	103	311	202%
Plymouth	4,225	6,387	51%
Total	7,846	*14,980*	91%

In the 35 years from 1970 to 2005 the nine town region the Newfound Watershed is located within nearly doubled in year-round population, and as of 2007 likely exceeds 15,000 persons.

Population Change of the Watershed 1970-2005

	Population of Watershed		
Watershed Area	**1970**	**2005**	**% Change 1970 - 2005**
Alexandria	326	1030	215%
Bridgewater	231	597	158%
Bristol	1035	1975	91%
Danbury	1	2	100%
Dorchester	0	0	0%
Groton	60	248	313%
Hebron	234	539	130%
Orange	4	12	200%
Plymouth	17	26	53%
Total	*1,908*	*4,429*	132%

Land Use Implications:

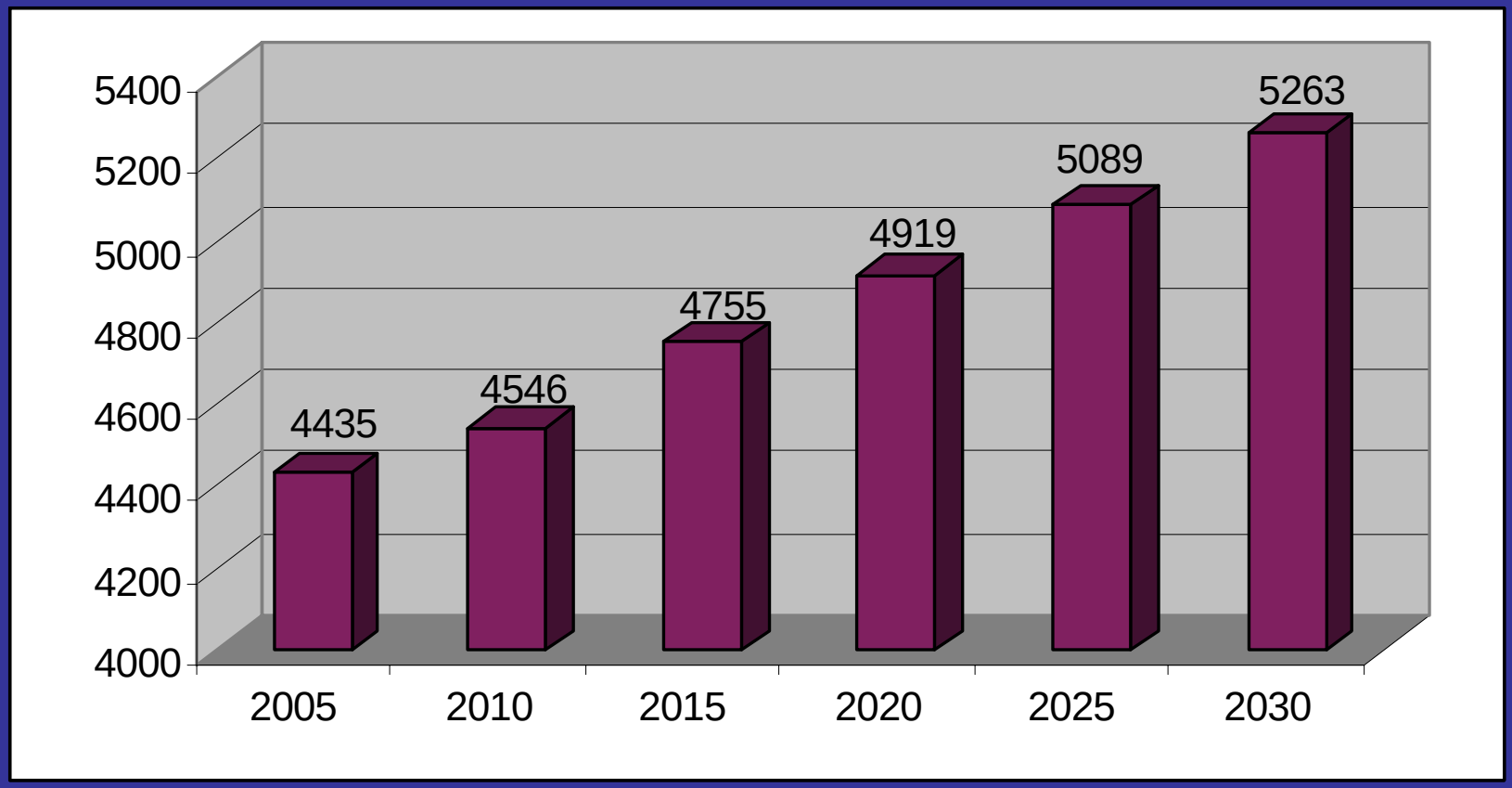
Year-round and seasonal population growth create increasing pressure on the community and natural resources within the Watershed. However, increasing population also creates opportunities for increased economic opportunity. There is a need to balance these and other issues to protect the long-term health and sustainability of the Watershed for generations to come.

Other Demographic Data for the Watershed

- 48% of year-round residents are New Hampshire natives.
- The average age is 43 years old.
- Households in the Watershed are now smaller, and the number of single parent households and non-family households have increased.
- Overall, fewer watershed residents were considered to be living below the poverty level in 2000 than there were in 1990.

Watershed Population Projections 2005 - 2030

From 2005 to 2030 the Watershed population is expected to increase by 19%.



Estimated Number of Housing Units in the Watershed

Towns	Town Estimated Housing Units 2005	Watershed Area Estimated Housing Units 2005	% of Town Housing in Watershed	% of Watershed Housing Units
Alexandria	898	682	76%	18%
Bridgewater	921	682	74%	18%
Bristol	2,226	1,625	73%	43%
Danbury	670	2	0.30%	.05%
Dorchester	0	0	0%	0%
Groton	391	196	50%	5%
Hebron	583	583	100%	15%
Orange	143	7	5%	.2%
Plymouth	2,037	14	0.70%	.4%
Total	7,869	3,791		

The housing situation in the Watershed is fairly complex because of the high percentage of seasonal units (45%), and their conversion to year-round units.

Land Use Implications:

The diversity of housing unit types and levels of affordability are a concern within the Watershed as we look into the future. The location and pattern of residential development within the Watershed also has the potential to impact both the communities and the natural resources in negative ways.

Housing Units in the Watershed by Type

Type of Units	1990	% of Total	2000	% of Total	% Change
Total Units	3,352		3,433		1%
Single Family Units	2,544	75%	2,639	77%	4%
Multi-family Units	433	13%	530	15%	22%
Mobile Home & Other	375	11%	265	8%	-29%

According to the US Census the number of housing units in the Watershed only increased by 1% overall from 1990 to 2000.

Housing Units in the Watershed 1990-2000

Units by Tenure & Vacancy	1990	%	2000	%	% Change
Total Units	3,394		3,425		1%
Occupied Units	1,477	43%	1,873	55%	27%
Owner Occupied	1,121	76%	1,438	77%	28%
Renter Occupied	356	24%	435	23%	22%
Vacant Units	1,917	56%	1,553	45%	19%
Vacant For Sale	58	3%	31	2%	-46%
Vacant For Rent	76	4%	22	1%	-71%
Vacant Seasonal	1,659	87%	1,446	93%	-13%

From 1990 to 2000 the Watershed experienced a reduction in seasonal housing units overall, and an increase in year-round units.

Employment in the Watershed

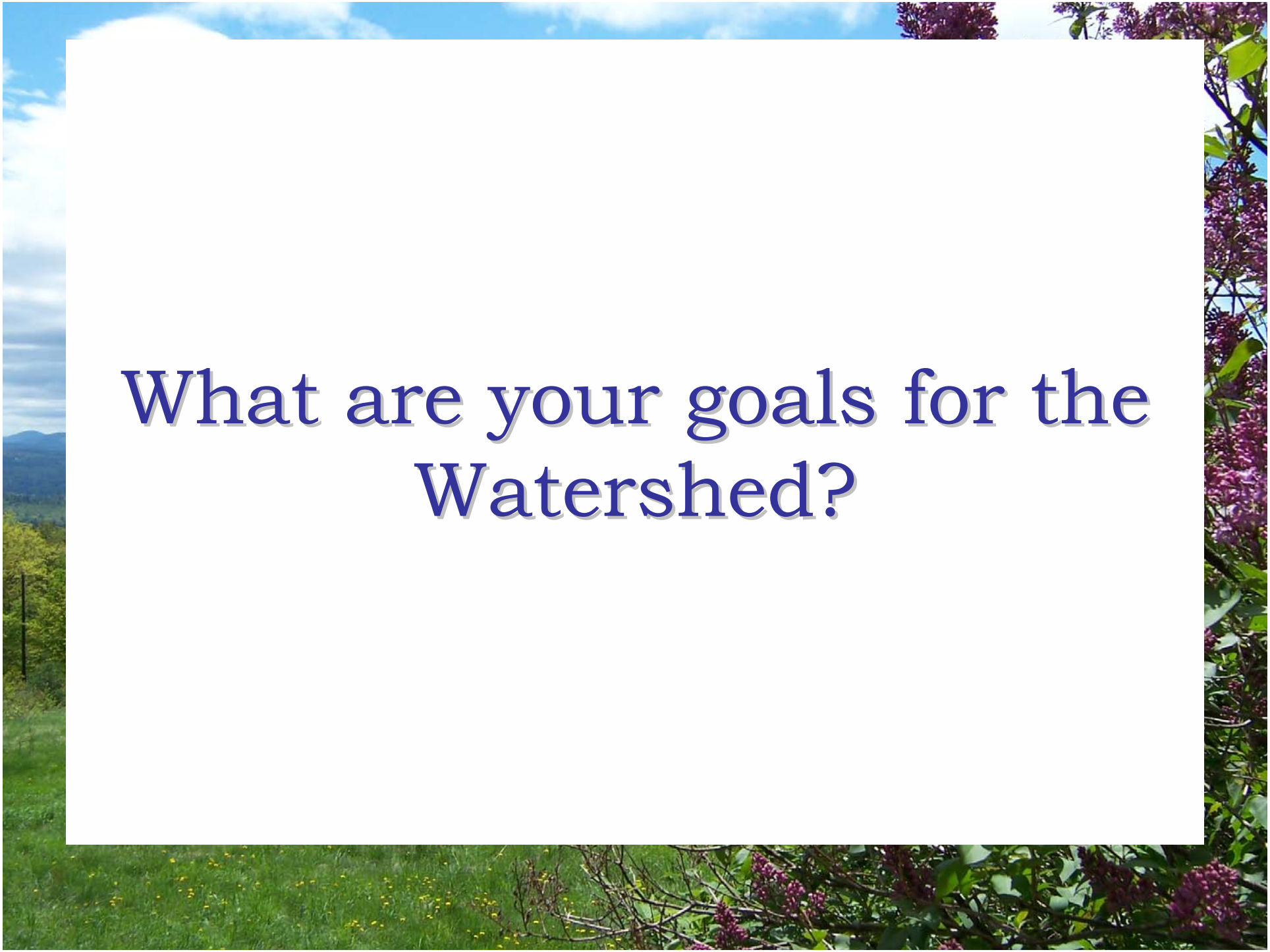
- The largest employers in the Watershed communities are generally located outside of the Watershed area.
- The unemployment rate in the Watershed (3.3%) has been lower than the state (3.4%), but higher than Grafton County (2.9%)

Mode of Travel for Watershed Workers

Mode of Travel	***Percent of Watershed Workers***	***Percent of New Hampshire Workers***	***Percent of U.S. Workers***
Drove alone (car/truck/van)	76%	82%	76%
Carpooled (car/truck/van)	14%	10%	12%
Public Transportation	1%	1%	5%
Walked	3%	3%	3%
Other means	1%	1%	1%
Worked at home	6%	4%	3%
Mean Travel Time to Work	27 minutes	25 minutes	26 minutes

CONCLUSION

- The Watershed's population is growing and changing
- The population is aging, living together in smaller numbers, and shifting toward more year-round residency
- The majority of the population and housing exists in the five communities of Alexandria, Bridgewater, Bristol, Groton and Hebron, but the four other Watershed communities contribute important upland areas.
- The majority of development within the Watershed is residential in nature, and this requires residents to travel outside of the Watershed for most services and employment opportunities.



What are your goals for the Watershed?

Next Steps

How to be Involved