

Town of Alton, NH Scenic Resource Inventory



December 2008

Why develop an SRI?

- Development pressures around lakes, rivers, and ridgelines.
- The Scenic Resource Inventory identifies areas of high priority scenic resources for conservation or special protection through land use planning.

Community Description

- Lakes, Rivers, Wetlands
- Mountain vistas
- Agricultural lands
- Five village centers
- Recreation – hiking, boating, snow sports
- Winter vistas

Process

- Scenic Resource Committee
 - Fieldwork, Photo Documentation
- Advisory Consultants
 - Research, facilitation, mapping/analysis, photo documentation, report writing
- Existing Map & Data Resources
- Public Outreach

Viewshed Analysis

- Delineating SRI High Visibility Areas
 - 60 potential viewpoints
 - 12+ valuable viewsheds
 - Documented of 41 sites
 - Mapped each location – GPS, topography, cone of vision (80 degrees)
- Co-occurrence Analysis
 - Number of times view is seen = areas of highest visibility are darkest in color

SRI Applications

- Coordinate with other town planning efforts
- Protect high priority viewsheds through programmatic and land use planning
- Protect areas adjacent to conservation lands
- Develop ordinances
 - conservation subdivision, telecommunications, dark skies, steep slope and ridgeline protection, agricultural preservation
- Greater shoreline setbacks
- Regional cooperation among towns
- Expand the scenic resource inventory

Products

- Alton Scenic Resource Inventory Report
- Base Viewshed Map
- Viewshed & Conservation Lands
- Photo Documentation of Viewpoints & Viewsheds

Viewshed Map Overview

