

Every Acre Counts: the Newfound Watershed Master Plan



Known for its clean water and beautiful surrounding scenery, Newfound Lake is one of New Hampshire's crown jewels. Due to an increase in development in the region, an effort to maintain the quality of Newfound Lake is underway. Maintaining the quality of the lake is a proactive step that is more cost effective than restoration. A team of partners is working to develop a plan to manage the watershed for the long-term benefit of residents and visitors. When completed in 2009, *Every Acre Counts: the Newfound Watershed Master Plan* will

provide a comprehensive analysis of the Newfound Lake Region environment and create a "tool kit" of methods to maintain and improve environmental quality for the future. This project is one of the largest of its type in New Hampshire and a model for other projects in state and region.

Partners:

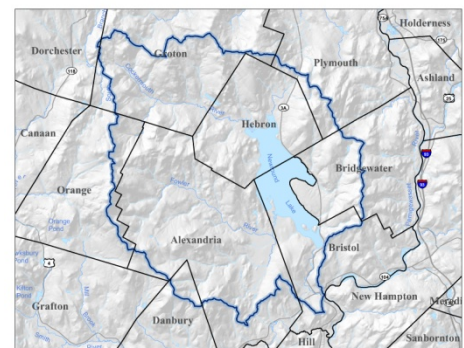
- Plymouth State University's Center for the Environment
- Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA)
- University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension
- Newfound Area School District
- New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- Jeffrey H. Taylor & Associates

Funding:

- Project cost \$307,000
- Funded by project partners and a Watershed Assistance and Restoration Grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (\$184,000)

Newfound Lake Watershed

- Watershed is geographical boundary and crosses town lines
- 63,150 acres
- Includes portions of Bristol, Bridgewater, Dorchester, Hebron, Alexandria, Groton, Orange, Danbury, and Plymouth
- 68% of watershed developable, 12% is conserved, 10% developed
- Bristol most populated and developed
- 2,500 feet vertical relief Mt. Cardigan to lake



- Approximately 5,000 residents and 10,000+ visitors
- Population has grown 132% since 1970
- Substantial natural resources
- Forests – high value habitat, forestry, recreation

Newfound Lake

- 4,451 acres, 3rd largest lake in NH
- 2 ½ miles wide, 6 miles long
- Maximum depth of 183 feet
- NHDES Class A
- Steep and Flashy: 1” rain ~ 1’ lake rise
- Major tributaries are Fowler and Cockermouth Rivers; outlet is Newfound River in Bristol which flows into the Pemigewasset River

