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## **Appendix G Areas of Concern for Land Conservation**

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## Areas of Concern for Land Conservation

Primary areas for land conservation involve areas of critical environmental concern. These would include areas abutting the Wellfleet harbor, areas abutting marshlands, areas contiguous with already designated conservation lands and such other areas which may fall within the criteria below.

### Criteria for Land Acquisition

1. ACEC lands - Rate these as to whether they are high, medium or low interest depending on their size, shape, adjacency to other conservation lands.
2. Land that protects aquifers
3. Promotion and preservation of shell fishing and fishing industries
4. Rare species habitats
5. Scenic views including scenic byways, and preservation of some of the rural character of the town
6. Historic preservation
7. Special and. unique vegetation
8. Land bordering Route 6 to provide a greenbelt border to the highway
9. Land that diminishes development near ocean, bay, ponds
10. Passive recreation areas
11. Land for active recreation
12. Land that provides potential public access for ocean, bay, ponds

The Wellfleet Open Space Committee has on file a listing of parcels which fall under one or more of the above criteria. Land with the highest match to the above criteria will be given priority for acquisition. In addition the Wellfleet Open Space Committee will have an ongoing review program in order to keep abreast of changing needs and changing acquisition possibilities.

**Critical Areas for Open Space Acquisition:****1. Duck Creek and Mayo Creek Shoreline.**

This is the traditional social and commercial heart of the maritime community. Wellfleet Center is where it is because of the historic focus on Duck and Mayo Creeks for marine foods, transportation, etc. This area is still the main attraction in terms of the Town's aesthetic appeal to both residents and visitors, production of shellfish, recreational boating and finfishing. However, views and access are blocked by many non-water-dependent uses.

**2. Lands (including wetlands) which are candidates for tidal restoration.**

Most of these, with the exception of the Thimas Bog in South Wellfleet, are identified in the CCCommission's inventory of tide-restricted wetlands. Head of Mayo Creek is a good example of one that has already been protected by WCT and LB acquisition. Others include:

- Doane's Creek marsh (between Route 6, Pole Dike, Coles Neck and the Library).
- Gull Pond Road swamp and bog between Route 6 and CCNS boundary
- Mill Creek including the CYCC and other private properties east to Hamblin Farm.
- Thimas Bog (South Wellfleet, immediately south of Lt. Island Road)
- Mayo Creek landward of Commercial Street and seaward of Chequesset Neck Road including filled wetland behind the Mayo barrier beach.

**3. Upland parcels landward of fringing salt marshes Town-wide on the bayside.**

The objective is to obtain public ownership or conservation easement to allow marshes to migrate landward with sea-level rise.

Uplands surrounding:

- Fox Island Marsh
- The Run
- Drummer Cove