



A. Description of Process

See Section 2B, Planning Process and Public Participation, for a description of the planning process. The process was driven by the following concerns, expressed by the citizens, related to growth.

- Stifling seasonal traffic congestion on Route 6 and within the Central Village makes intra-town travel virtually impossible.
- Increased taxes - stemming, in part, from increased growth demands on the town's infrastructure - allegedly threaten the ability of some long-time residents to meet their tax obligations.
- Subtle changes in the town's character perhaps due to an ever expanding tourist season.
- Lack of comprehensive town-wide fresh water resources planning makes protection of vital future well-head locations, via zoning changes, difficult.
- Ponds jeopardized by seasonal overuse.
- The threat of strip development on Route 6.

B. Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals

Wellfleet is a town which relies highly on tourism for its income. The tourists come here to experience the open beaches, the unspoiled woods, and the fishing, to name a few of the characteristics of the town which depend on adequate open space for their existence. Therefore, it is of primary concern, not only to the "conservationists" among us, but also to members of the business community to protect and preserve the fragile natural resources of the town.

Unfortunately, not only are the natural resources of the town of primary importance in maintaining an economic base, they also are unusually fragile, as the entire Cape is sand, and its plants will not withstand even the foot traffic that those in a more stable environment would.

Although nearly two thirds of the land area of the town is National Seashore, and hence is kept open, the remaining third of the town is becoming heavily developed and is quickly approaching buildout (see Section 3). The townspeople are becoming increasingly aware of the need to protect what little space is left. This is being done through the use of conservation restrictions, and also by the acquisition of desirable lots of land for conservation.

It should be the goal of each Wellfleet resident and visitor to protect the town's fragile resources, on land, on the shore, and in the Bay, and to enhance the opportunities for healthful recreation for young and old, resident or visitor, alike.