

OLNA Public Access Area Rules

- Public use is restricted to the designated public access area from 1 April through 30 November.
- Access to the fen/bog from the shoreline is prohibited.
- Motorboats must be anchored offshore, afloat.
- Canoes and kayaks are restricted to the designated landing area.
- The OLN is closed from sunset to sunrise.
- Damage to plants and historic resources is prohibited.
- Found historical artifacts must be conveyed to the DRED Natural Heritage Bureau.
- Digging is restricted to 12 inches and holes must be filled by sunset.
- The OLN has no bathroom facilities. The public must use marine toilets or return to land-based bathroom facilities.
- No fires and grills onshore.
- The OLN is a carry in/carry out area. DRED prohibits the disposal of garbage, sewage, trash, debris or any other refuse or waste material of any kind.
- Boats must maintain headway speed within 150 ft of swimmers, other boats and shore.
- Boat operators under the influence of liquor or a controlled drug will be prosecuted.
- DRED prohibits loud or unreasonable noises without the consent of persons within earshot.
- Organized or special events at the OLN require a permit from the Commissioner of DRED (on shore) or the Department of Safety (on water).

DRED will emphasize communication as the means to manage the OLN. However, Forest Rangers and Marine Patrol will issue warnings or summons as necessary to ensure compliance.

The OLN Working Group will periodically assess the success of the management plan, and develop additional mechanisms as necessary to ensure effective management of the area. DRED will end public access if recreation: 1) causes the loss of threatened and endangered plants or exemplary natural communities, or 2) prevents preservation of resources and reconstruction of the historical record, or 3) results in a dirty, unsafe environment.

For more information about the Ossipee Lake Natural Area please visit <http://www.nhdf.org/new-hampshire-state-lands/state-owned-reservations/ossipee-lake-natural-area.aspx>, or telephone the Division of Forests and Lands at 603.271.2214. In case of emergency, contact DRED Forest Protection at 603.271.2214 or Marine Patrol at 603.293.2037.



**State of New Hampshire
Department of Resources
and Economic Development**

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The Ossipee Lake Natural Area



A property managed by

**New Hampshire Department of
Resources and Economic Development**



The Ossipee Lake Natural Area

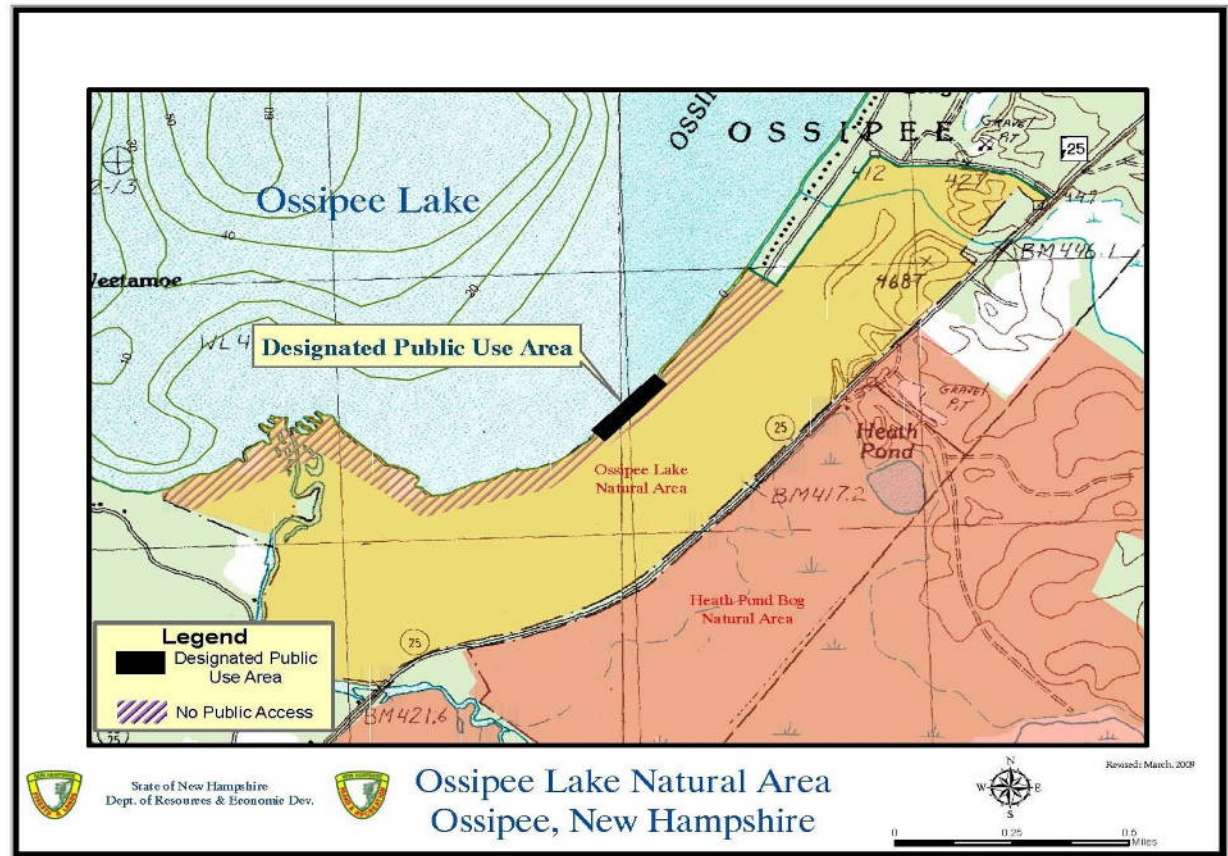
The Ossipee Lake Natural Area (OLNA), managed by the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED), occupies 400 acres east and west of the Pine River at the south end of Ossipee Lake. Approximately 80 percent of the property is a poor level fen/bog system, which is rare throughout its range. The OLNA shoreline is a sandy pond shore system, comprised of four rare and imperiled natural communities. Two of the communities are globally rare.

In addition, the OLNA is an important archaeological site containing prehistoric historical artifacts. These artifacts occur throughout the site, and are nonrenewable, fragile, and rare.

The OLNA shoreline is one of the few remaining undeveloped public areas on Ossipee Lake, and has been an important recreation site since the mid 1900s. However, unmanaged recreation has contributed to the loss of at least two rare plants and caused a significant reduction of the remaining plants and communities. Recreation can also damage historical resources.



State-threatened hairy hudsonia is extremely vulnerable to trampling.



Managing the OLNA

DRED initiated a deliberate and inclusive process for defining OLNA management. The centerpiece of the process is the OLNA Working Group – a commitment by state agencies, the Lakes Management Advisory Committee, the boating community, towns around the lake, and nongovernmental organizations to work together toward balancing protection of natural and historical resources with provision of public recreation.

Protection of Natural and Historical Resources

DRED has posted 'No Trespassing' signs indicating the parts of the OLNA closed to public use. The closed areas offer the best opportunity for protection and restoration of rare plants and exemplary natural communities. In addition, limiting public use of the OLNA enhances protection of historical resources.



The state-endangered fine grass-leaved goldenrod is one of the rare plant species that persists throughout the OLNA.

Public Access Area

DRED welcomes public recreation at the OLNA. The public access area is characterized by one thousand feet of contiguous shoreline, a broad sandy area, and extensive shallow near-shore water.