

## LCHIP GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

### CONSERVATION PURPOSES

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**Conservation Purposes:** Multiple values may be selected as both Primary and Secondary Conservation Purposes. The conservation goals should be supported by the description of conservation attributes and significance provided.

Pro-tip:

- Typically, no more than 2 primary and 2 secondary purposes should be selected
- A Conservation Purpose should be identified as either a primary purpose, or a secondary purpose, but not both.
- One or more Conservation Purposes listed may not be applicable to a particular project. It is exceedingly rare that more than 4 Conservation Purposes are appropriately assigned to an individual project.

The descriptions below, although not exhaustive, describe the types of resources found in each category.

#### Agriculture

Protect important agricultural soils as identified by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) classification system; protect active farmland or land well-suited for long-term production of agricultural products based on parcel size, access, slope, aspect, water for irrigation, microclimate or other factors.

#### Drinking Water

Protect NHDES Drinking Water and Ground Water Trust Fund-designated “Eligible Water Supply Land,” which includes Wellhead Protection Areas (WHPA) and Hydrologic Areas of Concern (HAC). This data is available on the NHDES OneStop Data Mapper with proper credentials obtained from NHDES. *\*For land overlying high-transmissivity aquifers but not otherwise classified as “eligible”, enter “Aquifer Recharge Area” and the corresponding acreage in the row labeled “other.”*

#### Ecological

Protect important wildlife habitat, exemplary natural communities, rare or endangered species; create a contiguous block of conservation land greater than 500 acres; protection of the property will assist in sustaining natural ecological functions and/or resilience at a meaningful level. Protect

land containing or abutting a great pond, high-quality or headwater stream, river, wetlands or floodplain.

#### Working Forest

Protect productive forest soils classified as Group 1 A-C; protect land well-suited for long-term production of forest products based on parcel size, access, slope, species composition, microclimate etc.

#### Historical/Cultural

Protect a highly significant historical resource or cultural asset or natural feature that is a defining representation of local heritage as identified in a community's Master Plan or other municipal planning document.

#### Education/Recreation

Expand or establish public outdoor recreation areas, improve public access to trails (foot, snowmobile or other) or surface waters for recreation; build connectivity and accessibility between existing areas or create transportation corridors connecting community destinations. Support diverse uses and users; protect "green space" for underserved populations or near public schools or community centers.

#### Scenic/Aesthetic

Preserve a scenic or iconic view from designated scenic byways or state highways, iconic landscapes illustrative of local or state heritage; "green space" in town or city centers, or land that uniquely defines a community.

#### Other

Protect important resource values not intuitively included above. Identify and describe.