

# **The Bolton Lakes Watershed Conservation Alliance**

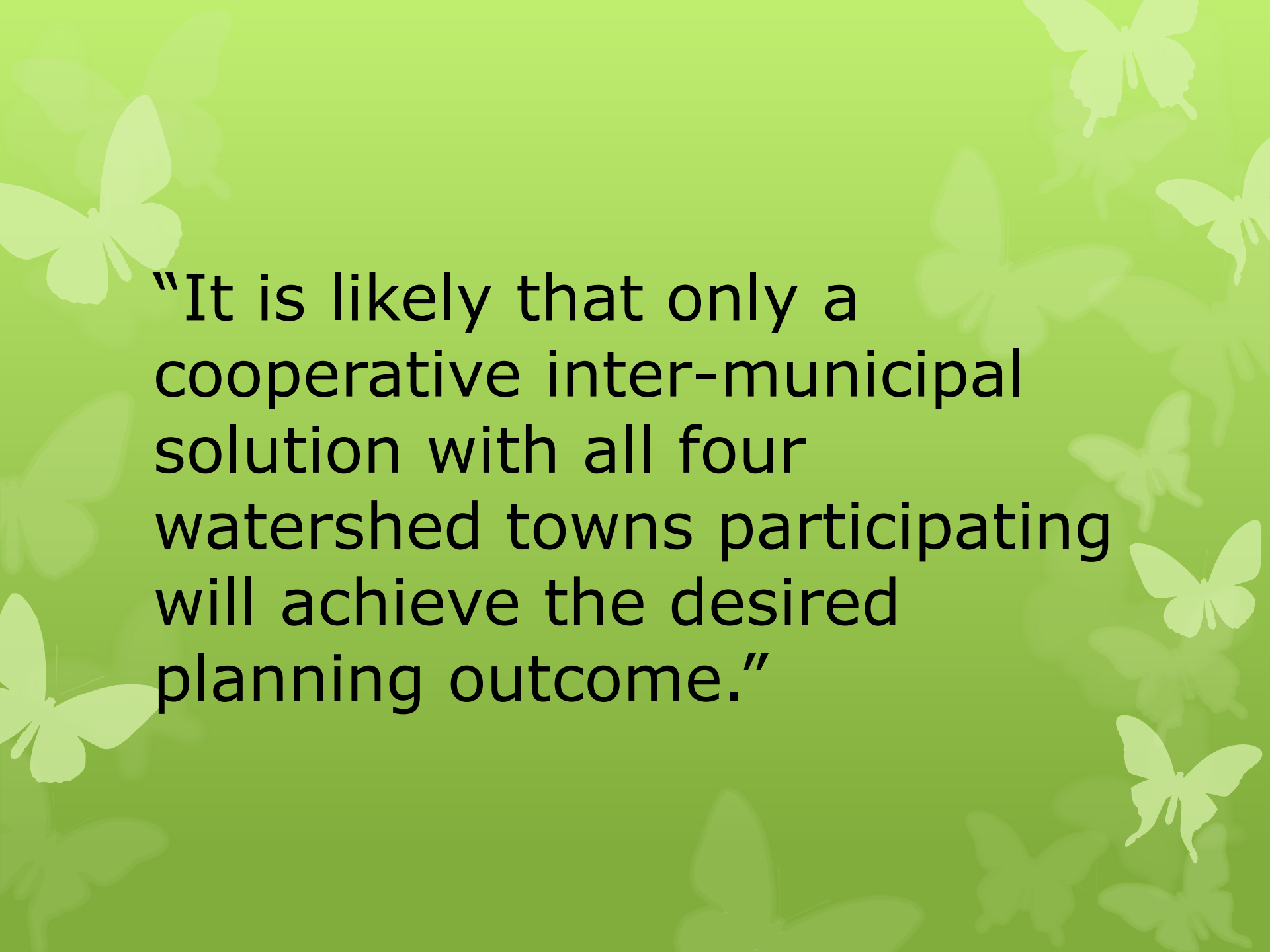
**Background**

**Purpose**

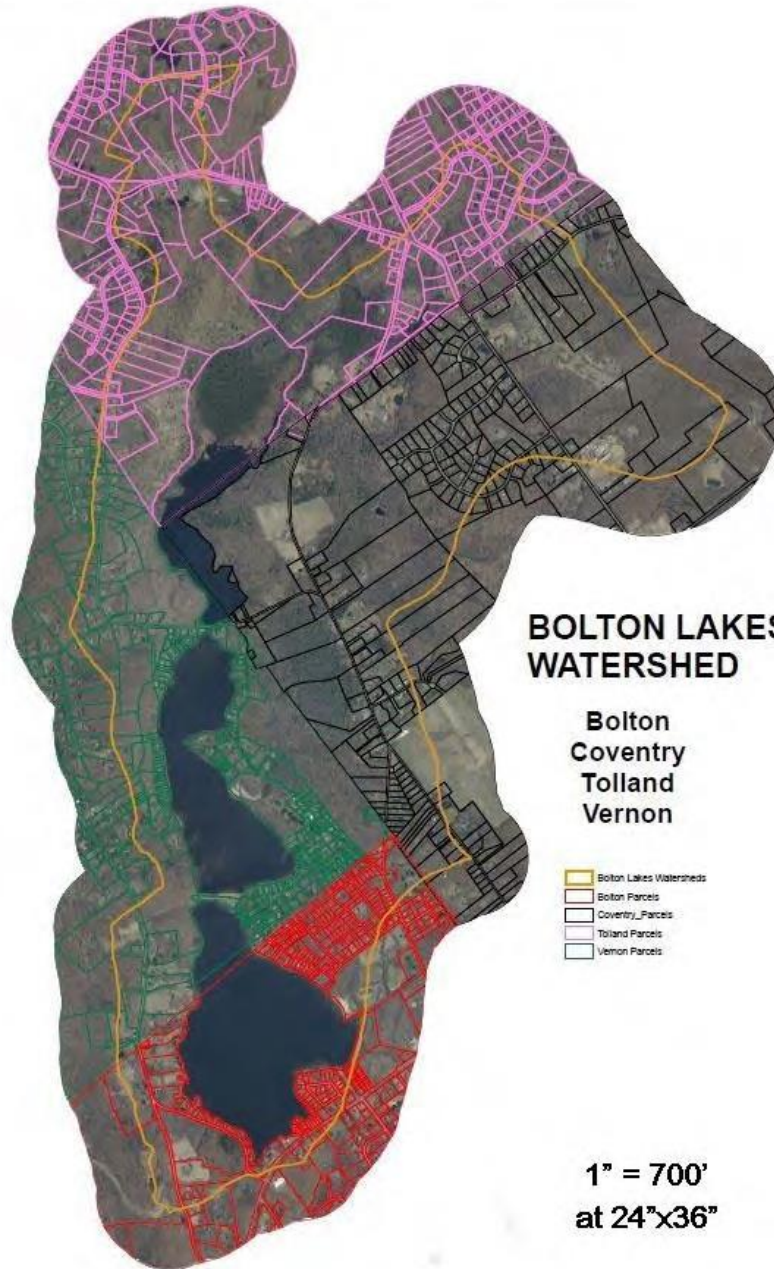
**Goals**

**Activities**

**ERT Recommendations**



“It is likely that only a cooperative inter-municipal solution with all four watershed towns participating will achieve the desired planning outcome.”



## BOLTON LAKES WATERSHED

Bolton  
Coventry  
Tolland  
Vernon

- Bolton Lakes Watersheds
- Bolton Parcels
- Coventry Parcels
- Tolland Parcels
- Vernon Parcels

1" = 700'  
at 24"x36"



**Atlantic White Cedar Forest**



**Upper  
&  
Middle  
Bolton Lake  
May, 2004**

**WE ALL LIVE  
DOWNSTREAM!**

**RP for BCC**

# **Purpose**

Bring together the Conservation Commissions of the four watershed towns, related organizations and residents to consider and carry out, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Connecticut Environment Review Team Bolton Lakes Watershed Report.





## Bolton Lake, Lower

Bolton, CT



Connecticut Department of  
Energy &  
Environmental Protection

This map shows lake depth. It is intended for general informational purposes only. Lake boundary contour lines may not align well with other features on the map. Please refer to the Boating or Angler's Guide for current boating regulations. Map date: September 2011.

Lake acreage: 174.64

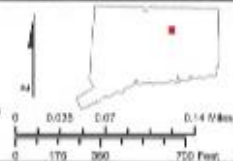
— Lake depth (ft)

--- Trail

● Dam

DEEP car top/carry-in launch

DEEP moored launch







## Bolton Lake, Middle

Vernon, CT



Connecticut Department of  
Energy &  
Environmental Protection

This map shows lake depth. It is intended for general informational purposes only. Lake bathymetry contour lines may not align well with other features on the map. Please refer to the Boating or Angler's Guide for current boating regulations. Map date September 2011.

Lake acreage: 121.41

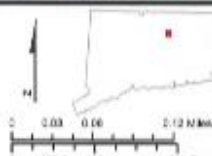
— Lake depth (ft)

— Tail

● Dam

DEEP car top/over-in launch

DEEP trailered launch







## Bolton Lake, Upper

Vernon, CT



Connecticut Department of  
Energy &  
Environmental Protection

This map shows lake depth. It is intended for general informational purposes only. Lake boundary contour lines may not align well with other features on the map. Please refer to the Boater's or Angler's Guide for current boating regulations. Map date September, 2011.

Lake acreage: 50.33

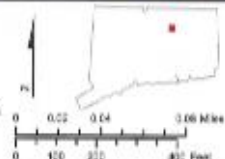
— Lake depth (ft)

--- Trail

● Dam

DEEP car top/carry-in launch

DEEP trailer launch





# Goals

- Understand the science behind lake draw-downs
- Foster research on the rare stand of Atlantic White Cedar
- Conserve more watershed land
- Understand the relevance of municipal regulatory processes to watershed management
- Support the GIS assessment and analysis of the watershed
- Investigate and conserve important natural resources, including vernal pools
- Focus on source reduction of pollutants
- Promote maintenance and restoration of natural watershed drainage patterns
- Promote the design and installation of lake shoreline buffers
- Promote volunteer and professional monitoring of natural resources, including water quality

# Activities

- Held monthly public meetings
- Met with resource experts to discuss resource conditions and opportunities for protection and management
- Conducted tours of unique watershed properties
- Networked with property owners
- Reviewed ERT report



# **Bolton Lakes Watershed An Update**

**Bolton, Vernon, Tolland & Coventry**



## **Eastern Connecticut Environmental Review Team Report**

**Eastern Connecticut  
Resource Conservation & Development Area Inc.**

# ERT Recommendations – Investigation/Problem Identification

1. Fully assess the Bolton Lakes watershed boundaries
2. Determine upland contributions of nutrients and altered hydrology
3. Conduct professional and volunteer monitoring of water quality and vegetation
4. Monitor the outfall of Bolton Lake for coliform bacteria
5. Identify illicit discharges
6. Inventory storm water discharges
7. Conduct a lakeshore vegetated buffer assessment
8. Identify preserved land parcels



# Land Conservation

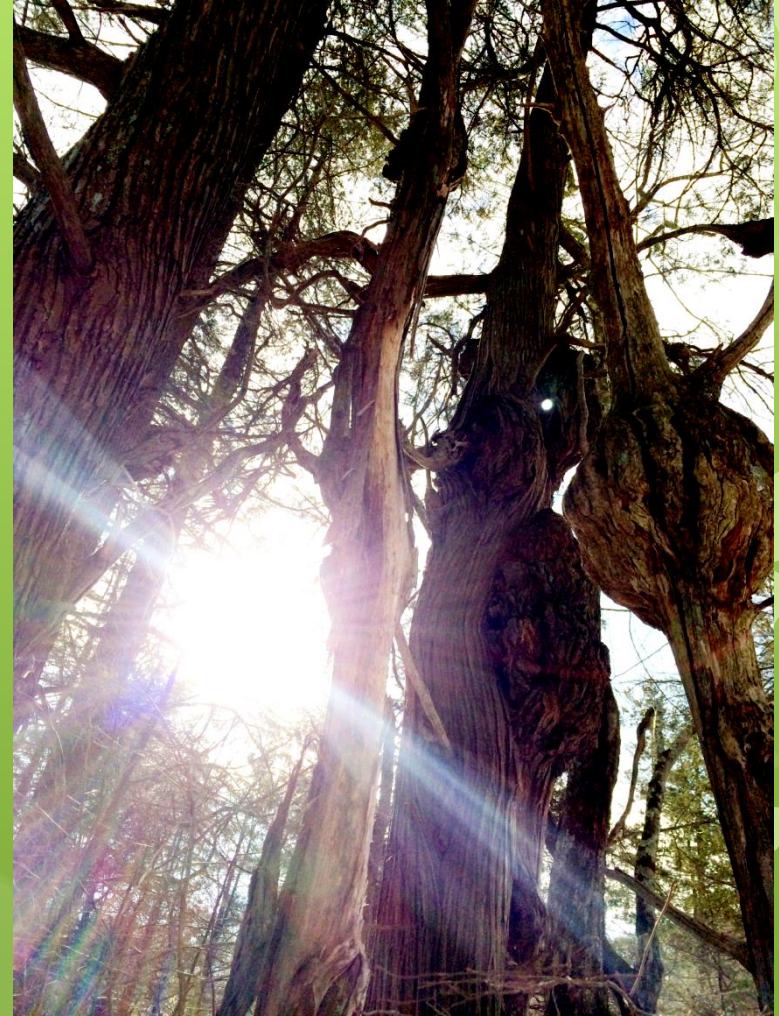
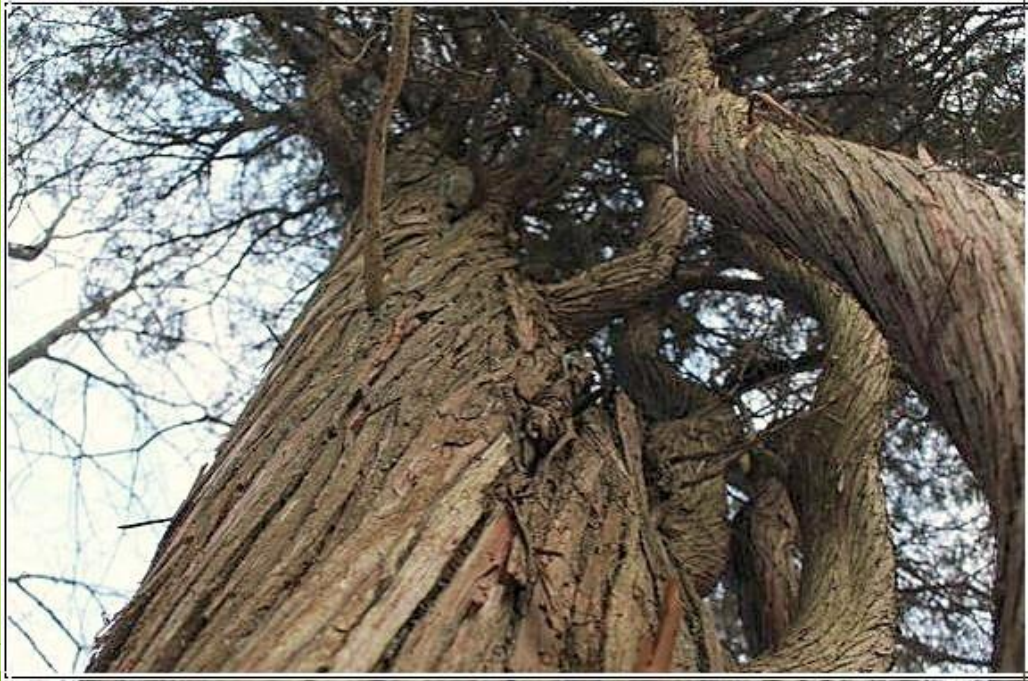


# ERT Recommendations – Environmental Conservation

1. Management of Atlantic White Cedar swamps, including the maintenance of constant water level in Upper Bolton Lake



# Atlantic White Cedar



# ERT Recommendations – Environmental Conservation

1. Management of Atlantic White Cedar swamps, including the maintenance of constant water level in Upper Bolton Lake
2. Develop a watershed-scale open space mapping project
3. Advocate to replace existing culvert between Upper and Middle lakes with a more functional water control device



# Culvert between Upper and Middle Bolton Lakes



# ERT Recommendations – Environmental Conservation

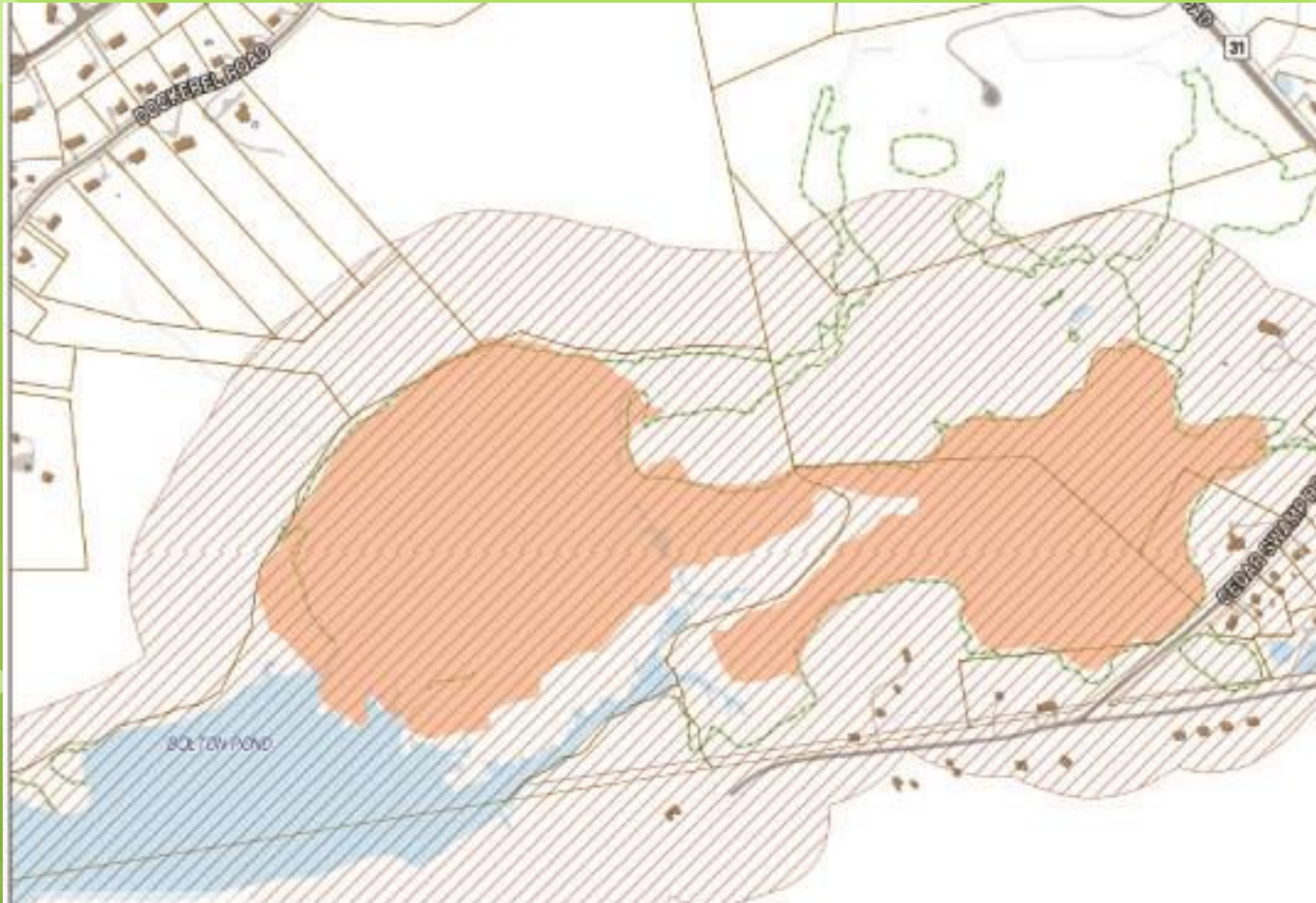
1. Management of Atlantic White Cedar swamps, including the maintenance of constant water level in Upper Bolton Lake
2. Develop a watershed-scale open space mapping project
3. Advocate to replace existing culvert between Upper and Middle lakes with a more functional water control device
4. Seek inter-town consistency in land use regulatory procedures affecting watershed resources

# ERT Recommendations – Environmental Quality

1. Implement LID design strategies
2. Properly implement erosion and sediment controls
3. Provide education and outreach to landowners regarding source reduction of pollutants
4. Promote acceptable alternatives to turf lawns, garden fertilizers and pesticides
5. Retain and promote native emergent vegetation along the edge of the lakes
6. Promote the establishment of an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination program
7. Prioritize remedial measures to address storm water discharges
8. Restore as much forest cover to the watershed as possible



# Natural Resource Protection



# ERT Recommendations – Planning Tools/Strategies

1. Collaborate with watershed and lake organizations and regional planning organizations
2. Utilize existing available resource information
3. Explore funding opportunities and mechanisms to assist with implementation of recommendations.
4. Pursue EPA-Compliant Watershed Management Plan