

Wildcat Brook

Wild and Scenic River Study
Jackson, New Hampshire



DRAFT REPORT

February, 1988

North Atlantic Regional Office
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Park Service

This report was prepared pursuant to Public Law 90-542, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended. Publication of the findings and conclusions herein should not be construed as representing either the approval or disapproval of the Secretary of the Interior. The purpose of this report is to provide the information and alternatives for further consideration by the National Park Service, the Secretary of the Interior, and other federal and state agencies. This report also serves as an Interim Report to Congress as called for in the Public Law.

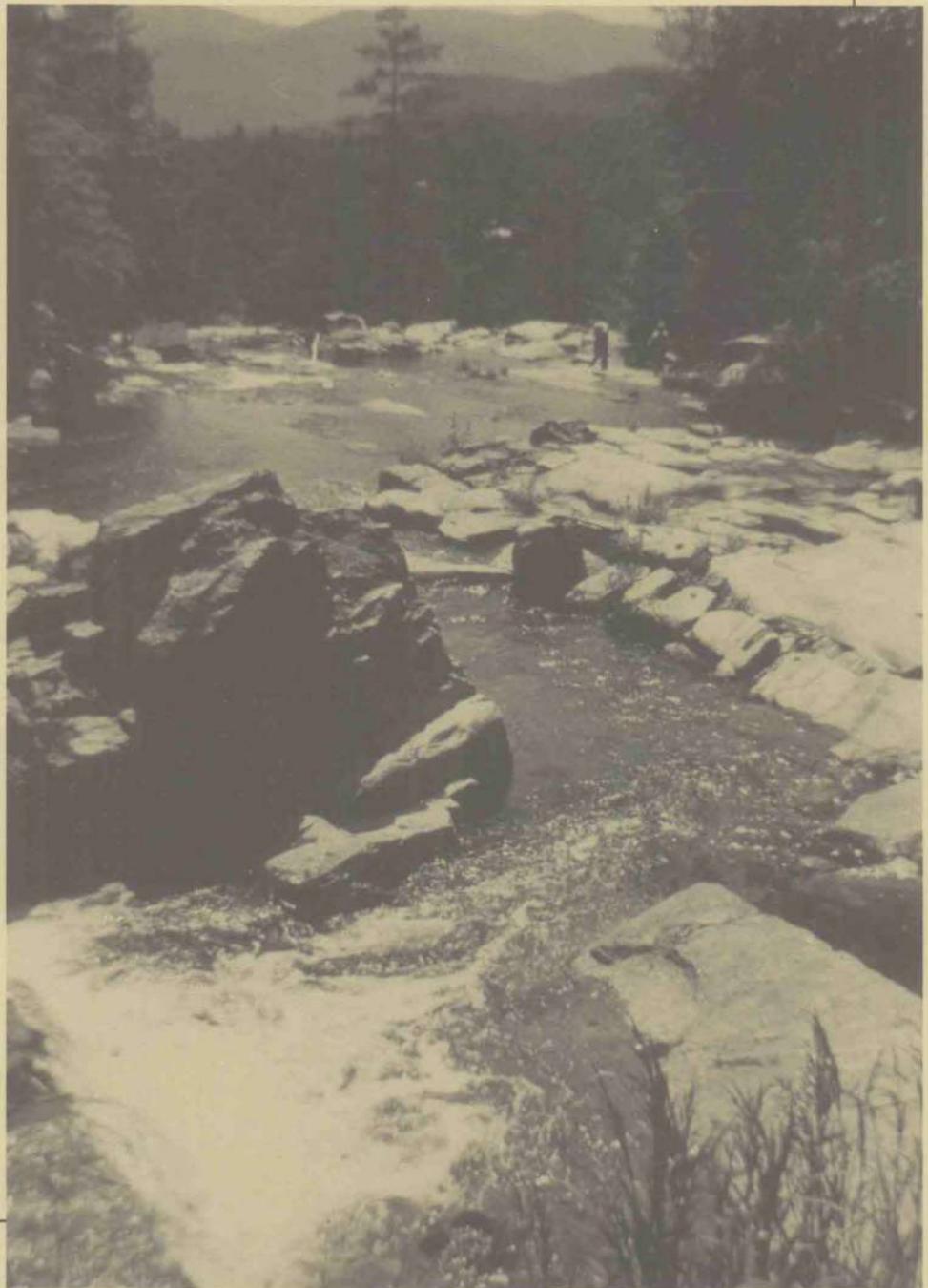
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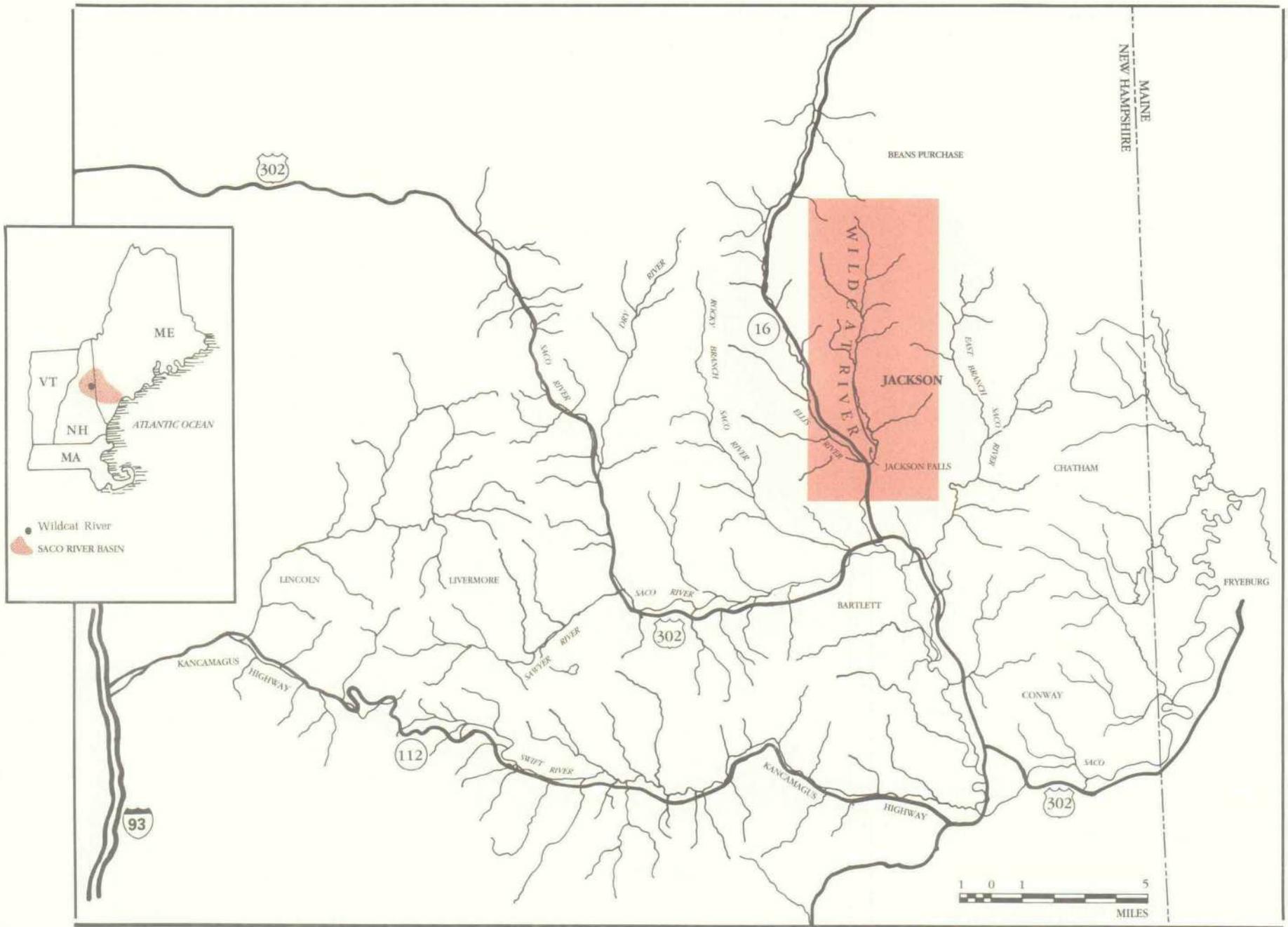
The Wildcat River in Jackson, New Hampshire is often popularly identified as "Wildcat Brook" in publications, maps and the media. Except where otherwise noted, this Draft Report also refers to the main stem of the river as Wildcat Brook.

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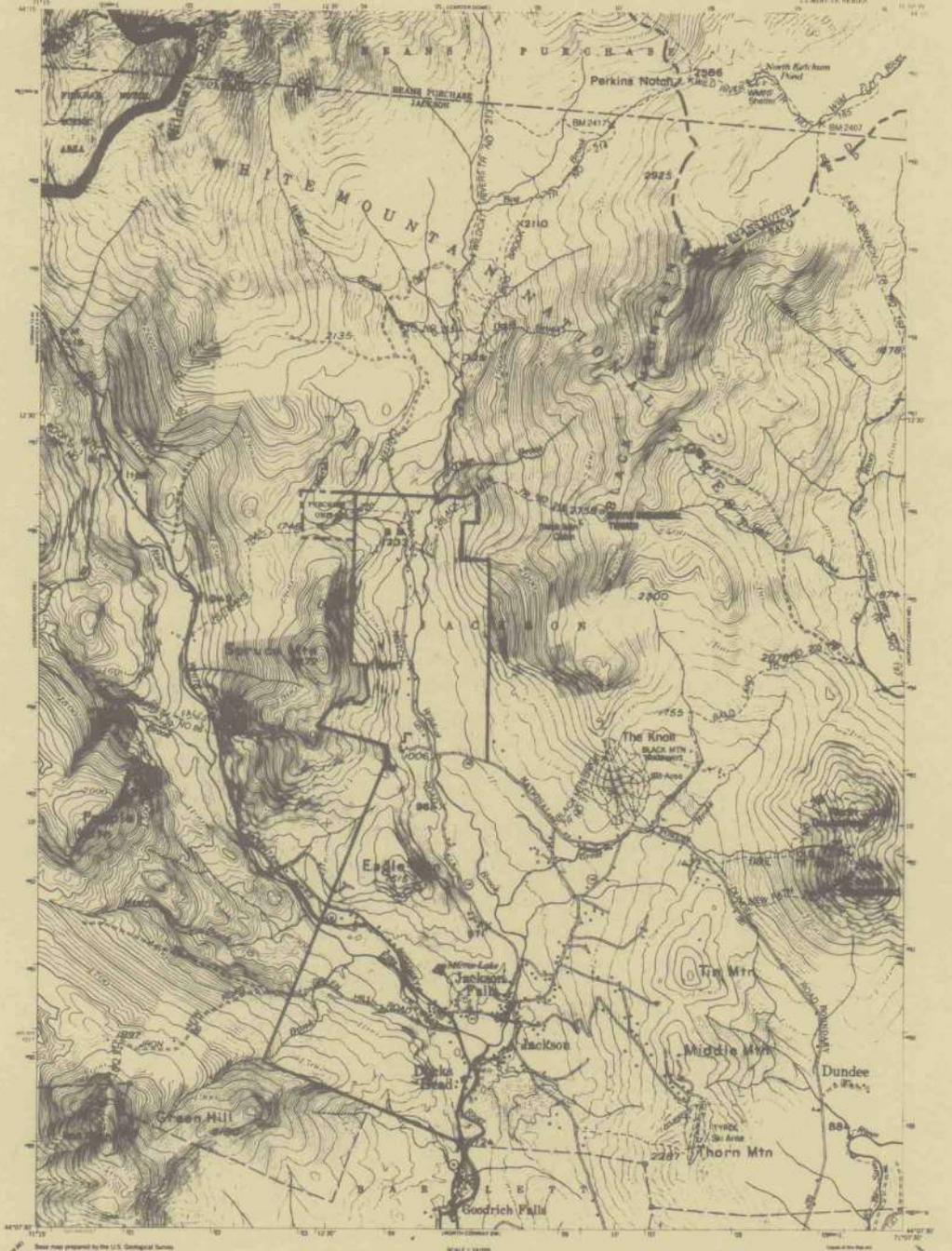
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Summary of Findings

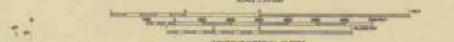




Orientation Map



Base map prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey
Reliance: 1927 State Geological Survey
25,000-foot grid based on New Hampshire
meridian system
1900-scale Universal Transverse Mercator
grid, zone 18
Revised and edited by the GPO in 1962 using 1954
aerial photography. Field checked in 1955.
DTG 5508 (2-12-55)
Modifications in 1955: base map by Geographical
Service Center from 1:50,000 aerial photography
and 1952 collection guide furnished by the Eastern Region



CONTOUR INTERVAL, 50 FEET
BASED ON MEAN SEA LEVEL

LEGEND	
	National Forest Boundary
	Purchase Land Boundary
	National Forest Lane
	Road, Location Approximate
	Trail, Location Approximate
	Primary Highway
	Secondary Highway
	Unimproved Light Road
	Unimproved Dirt
	Trail
	Interstate Highway
	U.S. Highway
	State Highway
	Forest Road
	Forest Trail



NORTH CONWAY SW, N.H.-ME
SHEET'S SURVEY'S 1
1962

I. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

In 1982 the National Park Service published the Nationwide Rivers Inventory, which systematically identified and evaluated rivers that would meet the minimum criteria for further study and/or potential inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Wildcat Brook is listed on the inventory as part of the Saco River - White Mountain River System.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states that to be eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, a river or river segment must be free-flowing, and the related adjacent land area must possess one or more outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural or other similar values. A congressionally authorized study of Wildcat Brook was conducted by the National Park Service to determine whether the river met the eligibility criteria for inclusion in the national system and, if eligible, to suggest the appropriate classification for future management based upon the existing conditions of the river area.

1. The Wild and Scenic River Study for Wildcat Brook found that 20.15 miles of Wildcat Brook and its major headwater tributaries were eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The areas found eligible were:

<u>Stream Name</u>	<u>Segment Description</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Wildcat Brook (aka Wildcat River)	From the headwaters in Carter Notch to the confluence with the Ellis River.	9.05
Little Wildcat Brook (aka Wildcat Brook)	From the headwaters on Wildcat Mountain to the confluence with Wildcat Brook.	2.83
Bog Brook	From the headwaters near Perkins Notch to the confluence with Wildcat Brook.	1.58
Davis Brook	From the headwaters to the confluence with Wildcat Brook	1.14
Marsh Brook	From the headwaters to the confluence with Wildcat Brook.	2.50
Great Brook	From the headwaters near Bald Land Trail to the confluence with Wildcat Brook.	3.05
		<hr/> 20.15

2. Of the 20.15 miles studied, 14.51 miles of Wildcat Brook and its principal tributaries are eligible and suitable for addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System under the provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, under the administration of the Secretary of Agriculture. These segments of the Wildcat Brook include:

<u>Stream Name</u>	<u>Segment Description</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Wildcat Brook	From the headwaters in Carter Notch to the confluence with the Ellis River.	9.05
Little Wildcat Brook	From the headwaters on Wildcat Mountain to the confluence with Wildcat Brook.	2.83
Bog Brook	From the headwaters near Perkins Notch to the confluence with Wildcat Brook.	1.58
Great Brook	From the Route 16B bridge at Whitney's Pond to the confluence with Wildcat Brook.	1.05
		14.51

Davis Brook, Marsh Brook and a segment of Great Brook were excluded from the recommended list of eligible and suitable river segments. Davis Brook was found to be an inaccessible minor tributary that is located entirely within the boundaries of the White Mountain National Forest (WMNF). Marsh Brook was also found to be an inaccessible minor tributary with some segments located within the boundaries of the WMNF. The U.S. Forest Service has stated that their Land Management Plan adequately protects these streams under current management practices. The headwaters of Great Brook were omitted from the Town of Jackson's River Conservation District.

Section 2(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states that eligible rivers shall be classified as one of the following:

WILD RIVER AREAS: those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.

SCENIC RIVER AREAS: those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

RECREATIONAL RIVER AREAS: those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

Wildcat Brook and its major tributaries have been evaluated and divided into three different units based upon the patterns of land use, landforms and vegetation. The river areas are identified as the Headwaters area, the Intervale area and the Jackson Falls area.

3. **The attributes of Wildcat Brook, its major tributaries and its immediate environment meet the criteria for the following classifications:**

Headwaters Area:	Scenic Classification
Intervale Area:	Scenic Classification
Jackson Falls Area:	Recreational Classification

The following three charts describe the characteristics of Wildcat Brook and its major tributaries in relationship to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Guidelines and Criteria for Classification of River Areas.

HEADWATERS AREA (from the headwaters north of the Coos-Carroll County border to the intersection with Hutman's Trail) includes:

Little Wildcat Brook (from the headwaters to its confluence with Wildcat Brook)

Bog Brook (from the headwaters to its confluence with Wildcat Brook)

ATTRIBUTE	EXISTING CHARACTERISTICS AND CONDITIONS
Water Resource Development	Wildcat Brook, Little Wildcat Brook and Bog Brook are free of impoundments.
Shoreline Development	The headwaters area is largely primitive and undeveloped, with no substantial evidence of human activity. The area is virtually free of structures, livestock grazing and hay production. The area is completely within the White Mountain National Forest. There is evidence of past timber harvesting, but the forested areas appear natural from the streambanks. Some areas are used for forest management.
Accessibility	The area is generally inaccessible except by trail. Carter Notch Road is within the stream area, inconspicuously paralleling Wildcat Brook.
Water Quality	The water quality of the area meets or exceeds all federal and state standards for conservation, recreation and other uses.

APPROPRIATE CLASSIFICATION: SCENIC.

INTERVALE AREA (from the Hutman's Trail intersection with the Valley Crossroad Bridge above Jackson Falls) includes:

Great Brook (from the Route 16B Bridge at Whitney's Pond to its confluence with Wildcat Brook).

ATTRIBUTE	EXISTING CHARACTERISTICS AND CONDITIONS
Water Resource Development	Wildcat Brook and Great Brook are free of impoundments.
Shoreline Development	The area is largely undeveloped but not primitive. There is evidence of human activity. Small clusters of residential buildings, as well as dispersed dwellings and agricultural buildings, are found in the area. Some areas are used for pasture land and forest management.
Accessibility	The area is accessible by Carter Notch Road, which parallels Wildcat Brook throughout this area. Five Mile Circuit Road (Route 16B) crosses the brook.
Water Quality	The water quality of the area meets or exceeds all federal and state standards for conservation, recreation and other uses.

APPROPRIATE CLASSIFICATION: SCENIC

JACKSON FALLS AREA (from the Valley Crossroad Bridge above Jackson Falls to the confluence with the Ellis River).

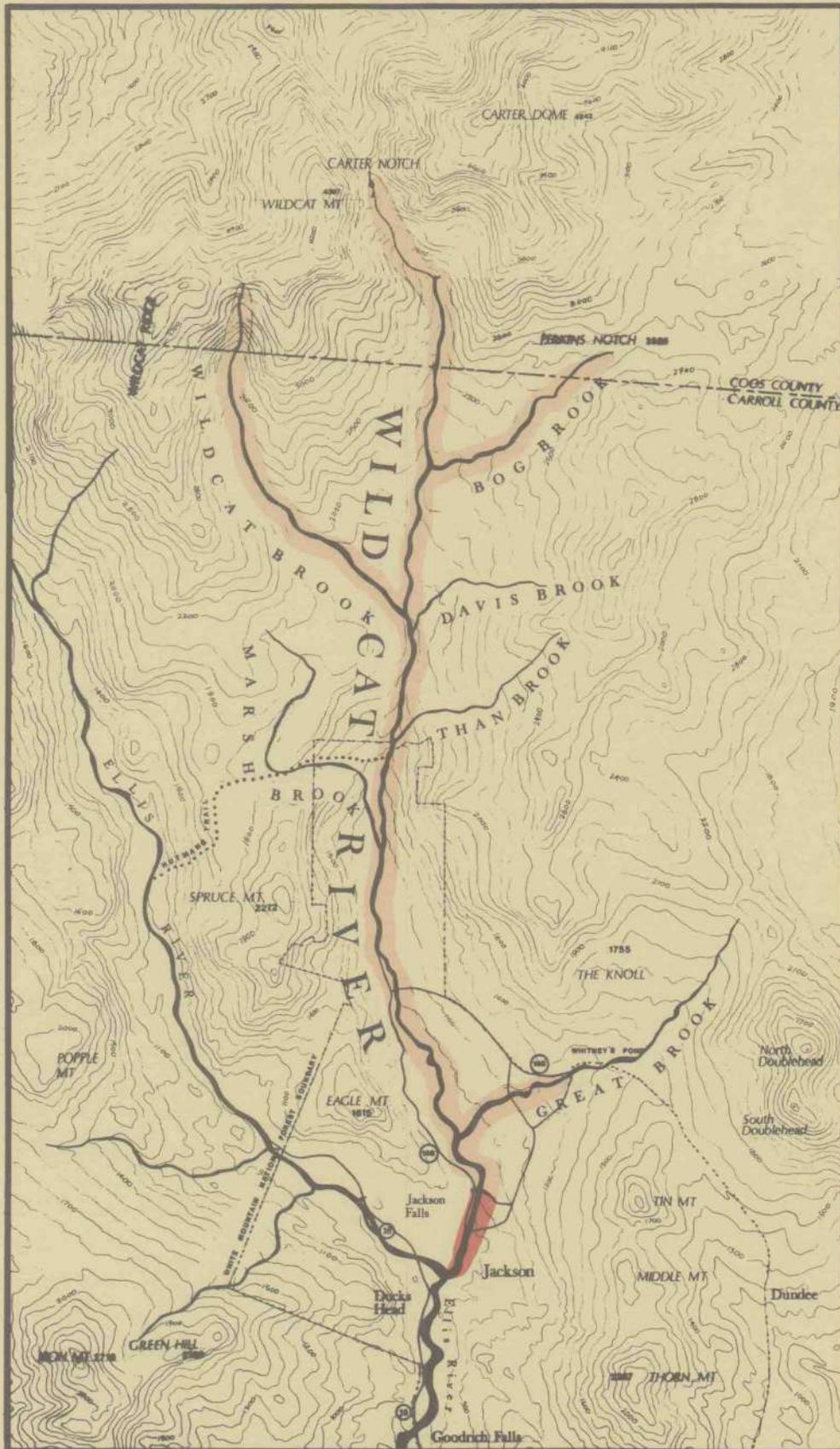
ATTRIBUTE	EXISTING CHARACTERISTICS AND CONDITIONS
Water Resource Development	Wildcat Brook is free of impoundments.
Shoreline Development	The area around Jackson Falls and the center of the Town of Jackson is developed and represents substantial evidence of human activity. The area includes residential and commercial development.
Accessibility	The area is accessible by Carter Notch Road, New Hampshire Route 16 and other community roads and bridge crossings.
Water Quality	The water quality of the area meets or exceeds all federal and state standards for conservation, recreation and other uses.

APPROPRIATE CLASSIFICATION: RECREATIONAL



Classification Map

- RECREATIONAL
- SCENIC



4. The River Conservation Plan, written and adopted by the Town of Jackson, is consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the national interest in conserving the outstandingly remarkable values of Wildcat Brook. The plan represents an action agenda for river management and protection that adequately meets the land-use and water quality criteria for nondegradation and enhancement of river segments recommended for scenic and recreational classification.

The Wildcat Brook Conservation Plan encompasses a variety of conservation actions, including conservation easements, land-use ordinances and riverbank restoration activities, which will insure that the river's values will be protected and enhanced over time. The River Conservation Plan has been prepared following the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Final Revised Guidelines for Eligibility, Classification and Management of River Areas, published in the Federal Register.

The major actions that comprise the River Conservation Plan have already been implemented by the Town of Jackson, and the plan is currently guiding the management and protection of the brook outside the boundary of the White Mountain National Forest.

The River Conservation Plan has three key components:

a. Conservation Easement Program and Land Protection

The Town of Jackson has received, mostly through donations, approximately 466 acres of Town-owned lands within the river corridor for recreational use. In addition, the Town has developed an effective conservation easement program in order to protect and preserve the quality of lands adjacent to Wildcat Brook. River corridor landowners have donated conservation easements to the Town of Jackson and the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF), for 431 acres of land in the Wildcat Brook watershed, restricting new development in perpetuity. These lands include several riverfront farms identified by the study as having high conservation value. In addition, SPNHF has purchased 214 acres along Wildcat Brook, including approximately 1000 feet of river frontage, for conservation purposes.

b. Zoning Amendments and Land Use Controls

The Town has, in force, duly adopted zoning ordinances to further protect the Wildcat Brook corridor. A River Conservation District has been established, in which future building on the flood plains of Wildcat Brook and other major river bodies of Jackson is prohibited and building set-back requirements for new construction near the river are increased. A Soils-Based Minimum Lot Size Law has been adopted, basing building density on the capacity of soils to assimilate sewage effluent from subsurface septic systems. There are many areas of Jackson where soils have minimal assimilation ability because of steep slopes, shallow depth to bedrock, or level of water table. This zoning amendment reduces the density of development in these areas. These ordinances will prevent degradation of significant river values, including water quality, and help insure the consistency of new land

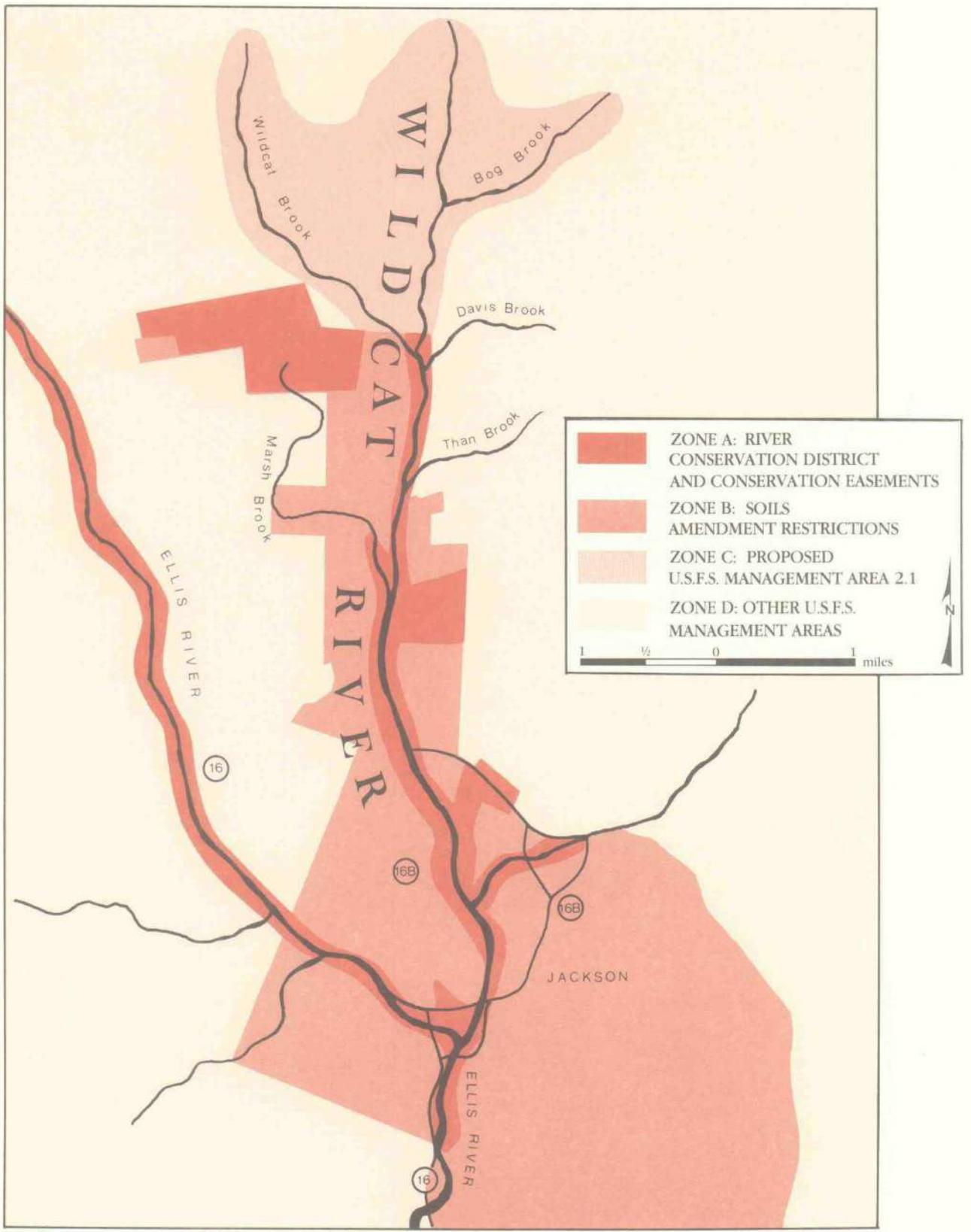
uses with the River Conservation Plan and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

c. Riverfront Restoration

The Town of Jackson and the Jackson Conservation Commission have initiated a Management Plan for Jackson Falls and a Riverfront Restoration Program to improve the safety and aesthetics of the town center and the Jackson Falls area, to encourage wider use of the lower Falls, and to address long-term management concerns. The town and the Conservation Commission have begun working on various restoration projects. Plans have been developed to remove man-made hazards and debris, re-build stone work along the riverbanks, blaze and cut a new trail along the falls, and re-plant streambank vegetation near the village center.

5. Given the current pattern of land ownership along the Wildcat, the actions taken by the Town of Jackson and private individuals and organizations in conjunction with the adopted River Conservation Plan, there is no need for any additional federal acquisition associated with proposed designation beyond the boundary of the White Mountain National Forest.

This finding is consistent with the intent of Senate Committee Report 98-420, which accompanied the study authorization, and Section 6(b) and (c) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. More than 60% of the designated river segments are within the White Mountain National Forest. Non-federal lands along Wildcat Brook are all located within the Town of Jackson and are covered by the zoning ordinances previously described.



River Resource Protection Map

Background



II. BACKGROUND AND STATUS OF THE STUDY

Introduction

THE RIVER: Wildcat Brook is one of many headwater tributaries of the Saco River and the centerpiece of the Town of Jackson, New Hampshire, a resort community for more than a century. From its headwaters above the Carter Lakes, the river gains volume and momentum as it flows south through the White Mountain National Forest, over Jackson Falls, and through the Town of Jackson, before entering the Ellis River just north of Duck's Head. Wildcat Brook and its major tributaries possess outstanding scenic values related to a high diversity of distinctive landforms and land uses, and vegetative, geologic and cultural resource features. It is for these reasons that Wildcat Brook was listed on the 1982 Nationwide Rivers Inventory as a river deserving study for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

THE CONCERN: In 1983 a Massachusetts power company submitted an application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for a preliminary permit to study the feasibility of installing a 366 kilowatt hydropower plant at Jackson Falls. Local government officials, river abutters, the Jackson Conservation Commission, the Jackson Resort Association, State conservation groups and interested citizens became concerned about the effect that the project would have on the resource values of Wildcat Brook and the falls, and the effect it would have on the local economy, which is heavily dependent on tourism.

THE RESPONSE: On June 19, 1984 Congress passed legislation for a study of the Wildcat Brook for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This placed a six year moratorium on all federally initiated or licensed water resource development activities that might have a direct and adverse impact on the character of Wildcat Brook and its surrounding lands. The National Park Service (NPS) was requested to conduct the study.

Wild and Scenic River Study

In Section 1(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (P.L. 90-542) Congress states that:

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

In addition to the recognition of outstanding values, designation of a river to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System protects it from federally licensed or assisted dams, diversions, or other water projects that would significantly change the river's character.

The two purposes of a wild and scenic river study are to determine if a river is eligible for inclusion in the National System based on the presence of one or more “outstandingly remarkable” values and a free-flowing condition, and to determine if the river is suitable for such designation. Suitability may depend on several factors, including the degree of private, local or state interest in managing the river to protect its special values. A river must be both eligible and suitable before it can be proposed for designation and inclusion in the national system.

Section 4(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act specifies that a study report be prepared to accompany proposals and recommendations submitted by the President to Congress for potential additions to the National Wild and Scenic System. Reports must set forth:

1. the area included within the report;
2. the characteristics which do or do not make the river a worthy addition to the system;
3. the current status of landownership and use in the area;
4. the reasonably foreseeable potential uses of land and water which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System;
5. the federal agency responsible for administering the area, should it be added to the system;
6. the extent to which it is proposed that such administration, including costs thereof, be shared by state and local agencies; and
7. the estimated cost to the United States of acquiring necessary lands and interests in land and of administering the area, should it be added to the system.

Wild and Scenic River Study Agreements

In August 1985 NPS and the Town of Jackson entered into a Cooperative Agreement to prepare a River Conservation Plan — a municipal “action plan” for conserving the existing character and resource values of the river and its principal tributaries. This cooperative agreement responded to the intent of the Senate Committee Report accompanying the study authorization (Congressional Record S 6513, May 24, 1984) that the study assess the feasibility of wild and scenic designation for the Wildcat based on a strategy of state and local river conservation actions and private landowner initiatives.

In September 1985 NPS and the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) entered into a Cooperative Agreement to:

1. assess public attitudes toward future resource conservation options;
2. survey and analyze public use of Jackson Falls;
3. develop recommendations for rehabilitation and long-term management strategies for sites of concentrated public use in the area of Jackson Falls, as part of the River Conservation Plan.

A third Cooperative Agreement was entered into by the NPS, the Town of Jackson and the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF) to promote a Conservation Easement Program to protect private land along the Wildcat. The overall goal of the agreement was to develop long-term strategies for the protection of critical lands along Wildcat Brook and to develop a land protection program as part of the Conservation Plan. The three parties conducted public workshops with riverfront landowners on alternative land protection measures, identified properties having high conservation interest, and developed guidelines and priorities for obtaining future conservation easements. SPNHF and the Town of Jackson have been responsible for negotiating, accepting and holding all new conservation easements for the Town. To date, 431 acres of land in the Wildcat Brook watershed have been protected by conservation easements. In late 1987, the SPNHF also helped a local land trust, the Wildcat River Trust, secure ownership of 214 acres of land along Wildcat Brook. SPNHF recently acquired the land and will hold title until the Trust has raised sufficient funds to purchase it. At that time, the deed will be transferred to the Trust with conservation restrictions permanently attached.

Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee - Activities

The Town of Jackson, through its appointed project advisory committee — the Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee (WBAC) — and with assistance from the NPS, AMC, SPNHF and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), incorporated many of the cooperative agreement activities into a comprehensive River Conservation Plan for the Wildcat Brook. Among these activities were a number of surveys, including:

1. a Resource Assessment to determine the eligibility of Wildcat Brook for wild and scenic designation;
2. a Resident/Landowner Survey to determine local support for wild and scenic designation;
3. a Visitor Use Survey to determine a profile of users, future use levels and impacts of wild and scenic designation;
4. an Evaluation of Existing Conservation Protections to determine the best means of conserving the character and values of the river corridor; and
5. an Evaluation of a range of Conservation Strategies in addition to possible wild and scenic designation.

During the development of the River Conservation Plan, the Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee developed and encouraged citizen participation through the use of land-owner/resident and user surveys, public meetings and workshops, radio announcements and newspaper articles, and through the assistance of various conservation, recreational and business organizations.

Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee - Results

The Resident/Landowner Survey determined that more than 90% of the townspeople felt that it was important to preserve the scenic qualities, open space, free-flowing rivers, rural atmosphere and air and water quality of Jackson and that the Town should take specific actions to preserve these qualities, especially as they related to Wildcat Brook.

The WBAC evaluated the effectiveness of existing conservation measures and concluded that the protection of river-abutting properties by the covenants of conservation easements were a positive and perpetual means of conserving the character and values of the river corridor.

A subsequent evaluation of the Town's existing zoning and subdivision regulations revealed shortcomings relative to the protection of the natural resources and led to the Town's drafting a floodplain bylaw that eliminates future building in the floodplains of Wildcat Brook and other major river bodies of Jackson, and increases building setbacks in the river corridor outside the floodplain.

Concurrently, a citizens group drafted a zoning amendment to establish a new basis for minimum lot sizes based upon soil characteristics and their ability to assimilate waste water effluent.

Both zoning amendments were voted into law at the March 1987 Town Meeting. There was also a unanimous vote in favor of the Town's pursuing Wild and Scenic designation for the Wildcat.

Following the actions of Town Meeting, the River Conservation Plan was completed in the summer of 1987 and is summarized in Section IV of this Draft Report.

The following section is a chronology of events during the Wildcat Brook Wild and Scenic River Study.

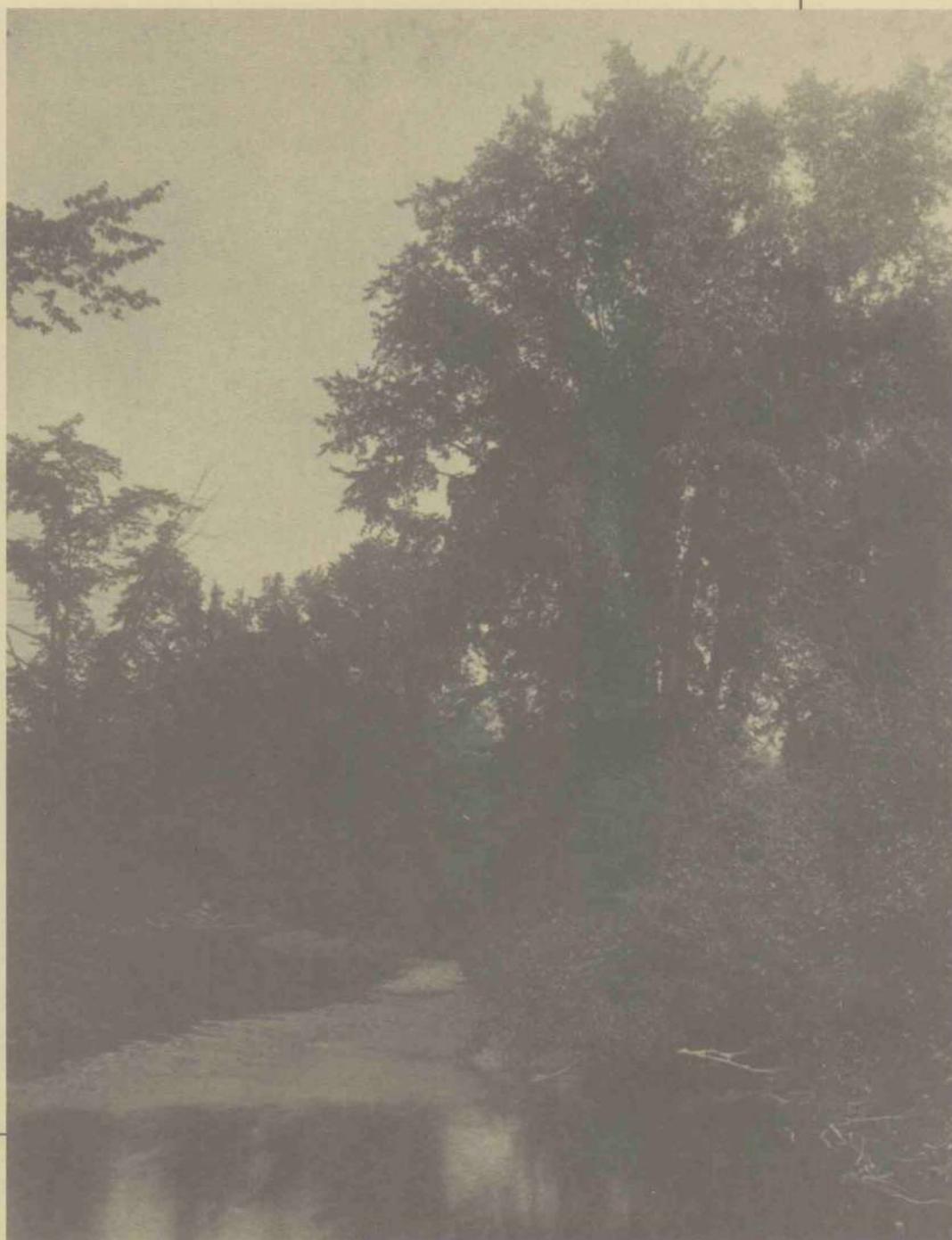


Chronology

1983. Jackson Falls Hydroelectric Power Company submits an application to FERC for a preliminary permit to study the feasibility of a 366 kilowatt hydropower installation at Jackson Falls.
- Local government officials, business and conservation groups, and citizens and state conservation groups appeal; permit is not rescinded by FERC.
- June 1984. The New Hampshire Wilderness Act includes provisions to study Wildcat Brook for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
- August 1985. Memorandum of Agreement is signed by the National Park Service, Town of Jackson, U.S. Forest Service and State of New Hampshire to establish a cooperative working agreement for guiding the Wild and Scenic River Study.
- August 1985. NPS and Town of Jackson enter into a cooperative agreement to prepare a River Conservation Plan for Wildcat Brook.
- Town of Jackson Board of Selectmen appoint the Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee (WBAC) to oversee the preparation of the River Conservation Plan and to coordinate public involvement in the study process.
- September 1985. NPS and Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) enter into a cooperative agreement to assess local attitudes toward river conservation, to survey and analyze public use of Jackson Falls and prepare management recommendations for the area, and to assess the effects of wild and scenic designation on patterns of use and local socio-economic development.
- Fall, Winter, Spring 1985-86. Visitor Use Survey finds that 80% of the users of Wildcat Brook are non-residents and that recreational use of the river is concentrated around Jackson Falls.
- January 1986. Resident/Landowner Survey finds that 94% of residents and landowners believe that the town's rural character and scenic qualities are important to the economic health of Jackson and that it is important to preserve the scenic qualities, open space, free-flowing rivers, rural atmosphere, and air and water quality of the town.

February 1986.	WBAC, NPS and local citizens conduct public workshops on riverbank restoration and the role of Wildcat Brook in preserving the character of Jackson Center.
June 1986.	NPS releases finding that Wildcat Brook is eligible for Wild and Scenic designation.
September 1986.	NPS, the Town of Jackson and the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF) enter into a cooperative agreement to facilitate the development of a conservation easement program as part of a land protection strategy for Wildcat Brook.
December 1986.	Conservation easements totaling 86 acres are donated to Town of Jackson/SPNHF.
March 1987.	<p>Vote is taken at Town Meeting to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) initiate proceedings leading to the designation of the Wildcat Brook as a Wild and Scenic River; 2) adopt a River Conservation District zoning amendment prohibiting future building in the floodplains of all major river bodies in Jackson and increasing building setbacks in the river corridor; 3) adopt a soils-based zoning amendment which establishes a new basis for determining minimum lot sizes throughout the Town of Jackson.
July 1987.	WBAC completes River Conservation Plan.
December 1987.	<p>SPNHF acquires 214 acres along the Wildcat.</p> <p>NPS completes Draft Wild and Scenic Report.</p>

Resource Assessment



III. RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

A. Study Area Description

1. Community Description

The Town of Jackson, New Hampshire has a population of 650 people and is located in the southeastern portion of the White Mountains (Appendix, Maps). The elevation of the town ranges from 760 feet in the village to 3850 feet in the surrounding mountains. The total acreage within the incorporated boundaries of the town is 43,776 acres (68.4 square miles), of which more than 70 percent are part of the White Mountain National Forest under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service. Four mountain ridges running north and south are divided by the drainage courses of the Wildcat Brook, Great Brook, and the Ellis River. Carter Notch and Mount Washington (6288 feet), the Northeast's tallest mountain, dominate most views in the area.

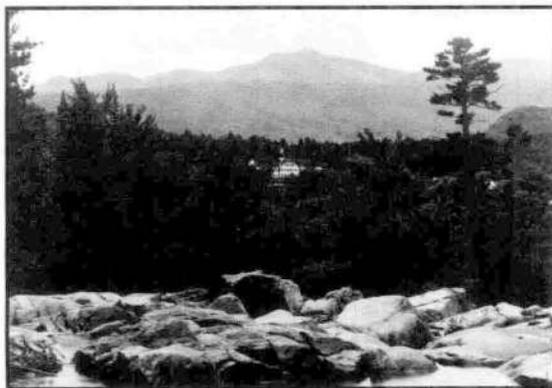
2. Outstandingly remarkable features

Outstandingly remarkable features of the Wildcat Brook corridor include the Jackson Falls area, the village area, scenic vistas of private and National Forest lands, the Carter Notch/Wildcat Brook headwaters area, an extensive hiking and skiing trail system, and riparian areas and wetlands that are characterized by the free-flowing nature of Wildcat Brook and its high water quality and resource values.





- a. Jackson Falls, a spectacular cascade within view of the village center, is the centerpiece of the Town of Jackson. The falls spill over granite ledges and drop 165 feet within two-fifths of a mile, and are characterized by deep pools and changing flow patterns of water. Because of the attractiveness and accessibility of the falls, the Jackson Falls site is the most heavily used area in the Wildcat corridor.
- b. Jackson Village is an excellent example of a 19th century resort community. Many of the turn-of-the-century hotels and inns are still operating and have architectural significance. A distinctive feature of the village area is the expanse of open space. Town-owned Memorial Park lies on the east bank of Wildcat Brook above its confluence with the Ellis River, and marks the site of the first settlement in the area (1778). The town also holds a 4.9-acre recreation easement on the west bank of the Falls.
- c. Scenic vistas of both private and National Forest lands are easily accessed by roads in the lower two-thirds of the Wildcat corridor. These lands are characterized by a variety of development and uses, which include residential use, forest, open fields, pasture land, and golf courses. This area retains much of its original pattern of open space and rural character.





- d. The Carter Notch/Wildcat headwaters area lies entirely within the boundaries of the White Mountain National Forest. The mountains and forest lands surround Jackson on three sides and provide a scenic backdrop to the community and to the river.
- e. A well-developed system of hiking and ski trails radiates from Jackson Village and parallels Wildcat Brook and its tributaries. The Jackson Ski Touring Foundation maintains approximately 125 kilometers of trails that cross private, municipal and federal lands. The majority of these trails are within the Wildcat Brook corridor and afford a first-hand experience of the visual qualities of the area. Other trails are maintained by the Appalachian Mountain Club, the U.S. Forest Service, the Jackson Conservation Commission or private sources.

The connecting fibre of these special areas is the river itself. Its free-flowing nature, its high water quality, and the value of its scenic, cultural, historical and recreational resources combine to create an outstandingly remarkable river corridor.

B. The Nationwide Rivers Inventory

In 1982 the National Park Service published the Nationwide Rivers Inventory. It evaluated and identified rivers and river segments that appeared to meet the minimum criteria for further study and/or potential inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Wildcat Brook is listed on the inventory as part of the Saco River-White Mountain System. This river "system," which comprises approximately 163 miles of undeveloped, free-flowing rivers, was identified as significant due to its natural condition, a general lack of artificial river impoundments and consistent high quality hydrologic and ecologic resources. The inventory identified 22 of these river systems in the northeastern United States. The Saco River system is the largest of those identified.

Included on the inventory and within the Saco River system are the following rivers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Segment Description</u>	<u>Miles</u>
<u>Saco River</u> (including)	NH/ME State line to headwaters	42
Swift River	Confluence with the Saco River to headwaters	42
East Branch of the Saco River	Confluence with the Saco River to headwaters	21
Ellis River	Confluence with the Saco River to headwaters	13
Wildcat Brook	Confluence with the Ellis River to headwaters	15*
Sawyer River	Confluence with the Saco River to headwaters	8
Rocky Branch of the Saco River	Confluence with the Saco River to headwaters	12
Dry River	Confluence with the Saco River to headwaters	10

Information prepared during the inventory was used to prepare this resource assessment, as well as site visits, research into published sources, aerial photographic analysis and interviews with local and regional experts on the resource values of the Wildcat.

C. Regional Setting

Located in Carroll and Coos Counties, New Hampshire, the Wildcat Brook area is approximately 1700 square miles. The rugged terrain in this region is comprised of high mountain peaks reaching elevations of more than 5000 feet. Mount Washington, at the northern rim of the Saco basin, is the highest peak in the Northeast and rises 6288 feet.

The mainstem of the Wildcat starts above the Carter Lakes, which are two lakes created by a natural dam in Carter Notch. The stream flows to the lower lake and through a boulder field. It then flows south through the White Mountain National Forest, over Jackson Falls and through the Town of Jackson before entering the Ellis River just above Duck's Head. The upper 4.5 miles of Wildcat Brook, and portions of Little Wildcat and Bog Brooks, are within the National Forest boundary. The remainder of the brook, as well as Davis, Great and Marsh Brooks, are in private landownership, with the exception of a portion of Jackson Falls, which is in municipal ownership.

*The mileage of the main stem has since been determined to be 9.05 miles.

D. River Values

Wildcat Brook, and its related tributaries, form a sub-basin within the Saco River basin. The sub-basin is characterized by over 20 miles of free-flowing rivers and streams, minimal river corridor development, and consistent hydrologic and ecologic resource quality. These river values are consistent with the "Classification Criteria for Wild, Scenic and Recreational River Areas" described in the "Final Revised Guidelines for Eligibility, Classification and Management of River Areas."

As a portion of a larger undeveloped, free-flowing hydrologic unit — the Saco River-White Mountain system — the Wildcat Brook area is part of the best remaining example of a river ecosystem in New Hampshire.

E. Physiography and Geology

The United States is divided into 25 natural regions called physiographic provinces. Each province is grouped into between 1 and 10 sub-divisions, which have distinctive individual physical characteristics, distinguished by a particular geologic structure.

The Wildcat Brook area is within the White Mountain physiographic section of the New England physiographic province. No rivers in the White Mountain section are currently represented in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The 1500 foot contour level marks the boundary of a plateau from which the White Mountains emerge. The Presidential Range of the White Mountains is the dominant mountain group and is comprised largely of intrusive igneous rocks, which are largely granite and mica/schist.

New Hampshire's White Mountains show the effects of continental and mountain glaciation on granitic and metamorphic bedrock. Deep, narrow V-shaped valleys with U-shaped notches at their heads, low conical peaks in rows, steep ravines, often with waterfalls, and relatively level boulder fields (known as "lawns") at high elevations are all characteristic of this physiographic section. The valley of the Wildcat, with Carter Notch at its head, exemplifies these landforms. At an elevation of 3388 feet, the notch is the low point in the ridge connecting Mount Wildcat and Carter Dome. Close to Carter Notch is a boulder field known as "the ramparts," which are rocks that have split and fallen from the face of Carter Dome due to weathering and glacial action.

The major geologic feature of the Wildcat's lower reaches is Jackson Falls, where the river drops 165 feet in about two-fifths of a mile and makes a broad cascade over granitic ledges. The falls are wider than the typical White Mountain waterfall, and have a "stair-step" configuration rather than the typical narrow flume.

F. Hydrology

Although no specific data are available for the stream flow characteristics of the Wildcat, the estimated flows show a range from 4 to 1650 cfs, with nearly 35 cfs being reached or exceeded at least half the time. Even the river's low summer flows are adequate to sustain water-based recreation around the deep pools of the falls. The Wildcat can be characterized as a typical "immature" headwater stream: glacially formed, shallow, clear and turbulent. Limited water quality sampling data indicate that its productivity is extremely

low, indicating the absence of any upstream discharges that would enrich it (except possibly for limited and diffuse septic tank seepage). It meets the state standards for Class B waters (considered potentially suitable for primary contact recreation), and may meet those for Class A waters (considered potentially acceptable for water supply uses after disinfection).

G. Vegetation

The Carter Notch area possesses unusual vegetation. Patches of alpine tundra are found near the ramparts, where the dominant vegetation consists of dwarf conifers (known as krumholz). There are flowers in the area that are usually found only at elevations at least a thousand feet higher in the White Mountains.

The vegetation of the Wildcat's lower reaches is typical mixed northern hardwood forest, with maple, birch and beech predominating. The Showy Lady's Slipper (Cypripedium reginae), a rare plant in New Hampshire, has been found along the Wildcat River Trail. The habitat of this plant is wetlands and forest; Storks and Crowe (1978) report only one other New Hampshire station where it has been sighted. Trillium, with a rare triple layer of petals in the blossom, were also observed along the Wildcat River Trail in 1985.

H. Fishery

In the 19th century the Wildcat was known as an excellent trout stream, with a native trout population documented by Adelbert Fernald in the publication entitled "Early Historical Facts of Jackson, New Hampshire and Its Centennial, July 4, 1878." Today, the area is stocked by the New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game with brook trout, Salvelinus fontinalis.

I. Wildlife

Tracks of the pine marten, a threatened species in New Hampshire, were found near Doublehead Mountain in 1977-78. The Carter Notch area is known to have been a travel route of the Canada lynx in the past. Although there has been no recent documentation of this endangered state species, the area still provides a suitable habitat because the immature softwood stands support the snowshoe hare on which the lynx feeds.

The rock vole, a proposed threatened species in New Hampshire, has been sighted near Ducks Head Mountain, near the confluence of the Wildcat and the Ellis Rivers, and may be found elsewhere in the watershed. Its habitat consists of rocky slopes at high elevations, usually near water. The spruce grouse, Canachites canadensis, is an unusual species also found in the area.

J. Recreation

Recreational use of the river is concentrated around the falls, where the primary activity is swimming. The falls are very popular during the summer months; a survey by the Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee showed 1238 visitors during July and August of 1985. (It is likely that actual visitation figures were higher, since the survey was left for visitors to fill out themselves.) Other major activities reported were walking, picnicking, fishing, sunbathing and photography.

Above the falls, recreational use includes cross-country skiing on private lands bordering the river in winter and fishing and hiking on the trails paralleling Wildcat Brook and Bog Brook in summer. Because of the steep topography, many of the trails in the area follow the drainage divides of the Wildcat watershed and the stream channels. According to the Forest Service, trails in the National Forest are used by 200-1500 people per season. The Jackson Ski Touring Foundation, a private organization that maintains ski trails and monitors use, reported over 20,000 user-days in the 1984 winter season on the trails south of the National Forest.



K. Scenic Resources

The Wildcat Brook and its major tributaries have outstanding scenic values related to highly diverse natural, physical and man-made features. The headwaters area lies at the base of the Presidential Range and offers sweeping views of Mount Washington, Carter Dome, Carter Notch and Pinkham Notch. This mountain range is identified by the U.S. Geological Survey as being scarce (based on frequency of occurrence) within the northeastern United States. The headwaters area has been assessed by the Forest Service, in their Land and Resource Management Plan for the White Mountain National Forest, as visually "distinctive." The topographic elevations within the brook area vary considerably, ranging in elevation from 745 feet at Jackson Village to 3380 feet at Carter Notch. This contrast in topographic relief provides expansive views of the Wildcat watershed from the ridgelines, which are the locations of many of the hiking and ski trails.

The portion of the Wildcat from Hutman's Trail to above the Jackson Falls area provides a different type of scenery, also of high visual quality, because of the topographic enclosure of the open fields, forests, meadows and pastures by the surrounding mountains.

Within the Jackson Falls area the scenery and visual quality are characterized by the presence of the falls with their rocky shoreline and changing flow patterns, by architecturally significant buildings, and by the Valley Cross Road Bridge. Each of these features offers strong appeal to residents and visitors.

L. Historic Resources

Jackson Village is an excellent example of a 19th century resort community. The village grew up around the picturesque scenery of the falls, and was known as a center for landscape painters of the White Mountains (Kilbourne, 1916). The complex of 19th century resort hotels and residences that make up the village include a number of architecturally significant buildings. Two of the village's largest hotels, the Eagle Mountain House and Wentworth Hall and Cottages, are listed in New Hampshire Architecture: An Illustrated Guide (Tolles, 1979). Wentworth Hall, built in 1883, supposedly as a reproduction of an "English manorial hall," exhibits characteristics of the Queen Anne style: varied wall colors and textures, polygonal turrets, elaborate chimneys, bay windows and intersecting roofs. Smaller summer boarding-houses also proliferated in the village and were built around the "Triangle" of roads centered on Great Brook. The Inn at Jackson and the Inn at Thorn Hill were designed by the well-known 19th century architect Stanford White.

Just above Jackson Falls, on Route 16B, is the Valley Cross Road Bridge (also known as the Fairview Bridge), a Pratt pony truss steel-framed bridge that was originally built in the village center around 1910 and moved to its present location in the 1930s. The bridge was recently restored and the original arches were preserved.





A 19th century guidebook, Ticknor's White Mountains (1876), depicts Jackson's tourist economy and scenic attractions:

Over 500 tourists sojourn at this hamlet during parts of every summer, resulting in an annual profit to the inhabitants of \$25,000. Pleasant views of Tin, Thorn, Moat, and Iron Mts. are obtained from this point. The Jackson Falls are in the village, and are visible from the highway bridge over the Wild-Cat Brook. The stream is precipitated over a dark ledge in white and glistening bands, and falls into quiet pools below. These falls are very attractive in seasons of high water, and are easily approached on either side. Along the upper course of the brook are favorite resorts of the artists and trout-fishers who visit Jackson in summer.

The falls were the focus of recreational activity in the 19th century as they are today. The remains of "such elaborate facilities as the tiers of roadwalks, stairs, and decks of Wentworth Hall's solarium at beautiful Jackson Falls" (Saco River Steering Committee, 1977) are still visible around the falls. According to 19th century guidebooks and more recent accounts of the resort era, an extensive network of foot trails paralleled the Wildcat and its tributaries. Hiking up the valley to scenic overlooks was a favorite visitor activity, as was trout fishing in the brook.

M. Land Use

The lands adjacent to Wildcat Brook and its major tributaries are characterized by a variety of uses. The Wildcat Brook corridor (those land areas which drain runoff directly into the brook) is, for the most part, undeveloped and in forest, open fields, horse pastures and golf courses.

The uppermost portion of the Wildcat, as well as the 1.58 miles of Bog Brook and the 1.14 miles of Davis Brook, are paralleled only by foot and ski trails that run through the steeply upland terrain and dense forests. Marsh Brook, although not directly in the headwaters area, also possesses these same characteristics. In the past, forestry was the basis of the area's economy. Although forestry is still significant to the local economy, it has diminished in importance since the forestry industry in northern Maine has proved more prosperous. Today, it is the recreational use of forest resources, lakes and rivers that primarily support the watershed area and the region.

Near the intersection of Hutman's Trail and Carter Notch Road, a small cluster of houses appears just above a point where the Wildcat flows from the upland headwaters area to a wider valley bottom. The flatter floodplain topography is characterized by more open fields and a series of scattered houses along Carter Notch Road that parallels the brook. The Wildcat throughout this segment is enclosed, to the west side of the brook, by the steep topography of Spruce, Eagle, Black, Doublehead, Tin and Thorn Mountains.

As the Wildcat flows south, it swings out and around the ridgeline of Eagle Mountain and toward Jackson Falls and the town center. As the gradient of Wildcat Brook increases approaching the falls, the land becomes more developed. Jackson retains not only many of its original hotels and residences, but also its original pattern of open space. This open space around the Wildcat and the village center enhances the character of the rural landscape and the variety of views toward the surrounding mountains.

The Great Brook area, which enters the Wildcat above Jackson Falls, is characterized as old and working farmland, paralleled for a short distance on one side by a paved road.

Below Jackson Falls the Wildcat is crossed and paralleled by New Hampshire Route 16A before it enters a wide, open floodplain area where it meets the Ellis River.

N. Land Ownership

Property along the Wildcat in the town center includes a retail business, an inn, a hotel-restaurant-golf course-condominium complex, a private tennis club, and the municipal facilities of a town park, library and Town Hall.

Continuing upstream, there are 54 residential properties (ranging in size from less than an acre to over 200 acres), another golf course, a ski club, and the town landfill. Forty-two of the residential properties have residences.



Fewer than half are occupied year-round; the rest are vacation homes. Of the 12 lots without houses, 2 contain water supplies for nearby tourist establishments, 6 are small house lots, and 4 are large undeveloped lots (22 to 185 acres in size).

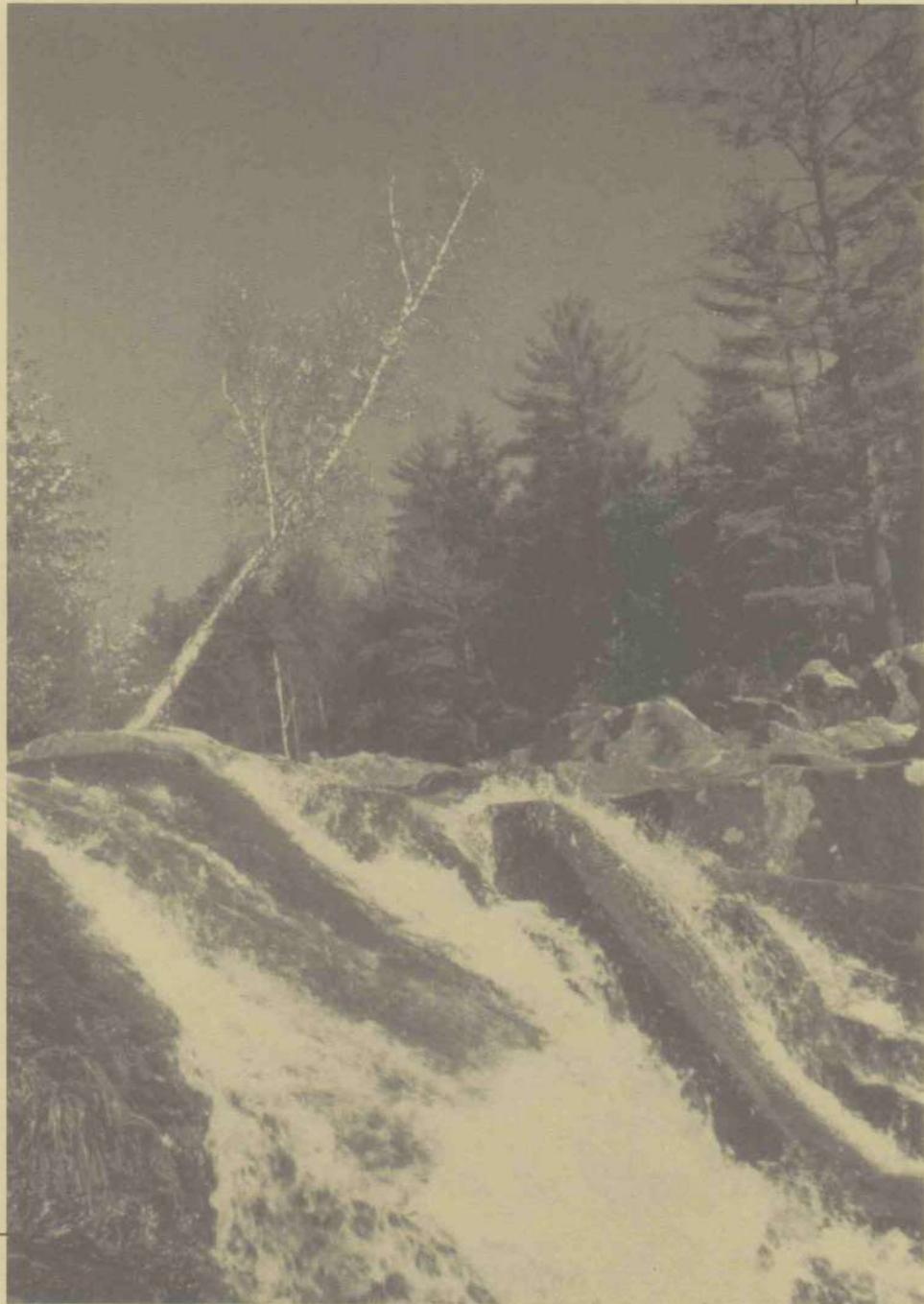
Great Brook has 9 riparian properties between the Route 16B bridge and its confluence with the Wildcat. Two of the properties also have frontage along the Wildcat, one of which has a conservation easement. The other 7 properties include an inn, a condominium development on 34 acres, and 5 residential properties — all 25 acres or less.

On the Wildcat there are 19 riparian lots larger than 20 acres, with little or no development. Of these, 4 lots have conservation easements. The remaining 14 lots total about 1351 acres.

TABLE 1. RIVER FRONTAGE OF RIPARIAN PROPERTIES

Property owner	Approximate feet of frontage				
	< 200	200-499	500-999	1000-1999	> 2000
Federal					
White Mountain National Forest					1
Municipal					
Jackson Town Hall			1		
Jackson Town Park			1		
Jackson Town Landfill		1			
Jackson Town Library		1			
Commercial					
Retail—Jack Frost Shop			1		
Hotel/Restaurant					
The Village House		1			
Wentworth Resort (including easement to Jackson)					1
Recreational					
Wentworth Resort Golf Course			1		
Jackson Tennis Club		1			
Eagle Mountain Golf Course					1
Private organizations					
Wentworth Resort Condominiums		1			
Drifters Ski Club			1		
Residential (61 properties)					
Lots < 10 acres	15	14	9		
Lots 10-20 acres			2	2	
Lots 20-50 acres	1	1	2	2	1
Lots 50-100 acres		1		4	1
Lots > 100 acres		1	1	2	2

River Conservation Plan



IV. RIVER CONSERVATION PLAN

The River Conservation Plan for Wildcat Brook was prepared by the Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee (WBAC), through a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service. The following is a synopsis of the Town of Jackson's report. The first section describes the steps taken to develop the plan, while the second section describes the working components of the final River Conservation Plan.

A. Steps taken to develop a river conservation plan

1. Plan of Work

The first step in the evolution of the River Conservation Plan was the development of a Plan of Work (Appendix E), which served as a guide to identify key issues, evaluate conservation strategies, and prepare and execute the various components necessary to the preparation of the final River Conservation Plan.

2. Resource Assessment/Eligibility Study

Concurrent with the preparation of the Plan of Work, the National Park Service conducted a resource assessment (Appendix D) of the Wildcat Brook corridor to determine the river's eligibility as a candidate for potential inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The resource assessment divided the river corridor into three segments: headwaters, intervale, and Jackson Falls. All segments studied were found to be eligible for wild and scenic designation.

3. Resident/Landowner Survey

Following the eligibility determination, the question of suitability for designation was examined. Since suitability is, for the most part, contingent upon local support for river protection, a survey (Appendix F) was conducted by the WBAC to gauge local attitudes and concerns toward river and land conservation.

In February 1986, the WBAC mailed an eight-page survey to all residents and landowners of Jackson to learn how they characterized their town, what they valued most, how they used the land in the Wildcat Brook watershed, and how they would react to river and land conservation efforts.

Of a total of 530 (49%) respondents, 493 were property owners in Jackson, including 72 abutters to Wildcat Brook and 27 abutters to Great Brook. Forty-four percent of the respondents were voters in Jackson.

In describing Jackson, at least 95% of the respondents cited scenic qualities, recreational opportunities, nearness to streams and mountains, clean water, wooded areas, hiking/walking and cross-country skiing as being characteristic of the town.

At least 94% of the respondents believed that the town's rural character, small-town atmosphere, scenic qualities, tranquility, and cross-country skiing were

important to the economic health of the town. Alpine skiing and hiking were also rated very highly. The activities considered least important to the town's economic health were development generally and hydropower development specifically.

Ninety-seven percent of the respondents said it was important to preserve the scenic qualities, open space, free-flowing rivers, rural atmosphere, and air and water quality of Jackson. At least 90% felt that Jackson should take action to conserve its forests, floodplains and wetlands, scenic quality and water quality. Eighty-six percent stated they would be willing to vote to allocate some of their town taxes for conserving those features. More than 80% supported local control of land use, the prohibition of hydropower development, and the limitation of development in some areas in order to preserve the town's most valued characteristics.

4. Visitor Use Survey

The WBAC then evaluated the advantages and disadvantages to the Town of Jackson of pursuing wild and scenic designation for Wildcat Brook. This evaluation consisted of a literature search for impacts following designation of other rivers, and two user surveys.

Information from other areas (Appendix H) indicated that wild and scenic designation itself does not appear to increase use levels. Since there is no obligation to promote a river following designation, local interests play a major role in determining the extent of increases in visitation to their area. Jackson Falls has been continuously promoted as an attraction since the first inns opened in Jackson in the mid-1800s. General population and recreation trends indicated that the use of the falls and visitation to Jackson would increase naturally, regardless of designation.

Surveys of the users of the river resources (Appendix G) were taken in the fall, winter and summer of 1986 to provide a profile of users and data from which to extrapolate future use levels. The surveys found that 80% of the users of Wildcat Brook were non-residents (from 25+ miles away) and that the area receiving the highest use was the Jackson Falls/Village area.

5. Evaluation of Existing Protections

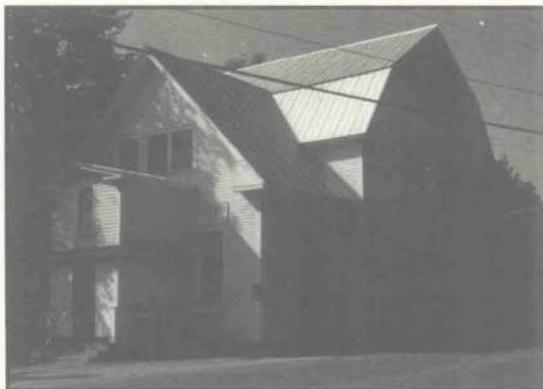
The major portion of the Wildcat lies within the jurisdiction of one local government, the Town of Jackson. The WBAC found that more than 70% of the incorporated town land (30,931 acres of a total of 43,776 acres) is in the White Mountain National Forest, which is under the management of the U.S. Forest Service. The main stem of Wildcat Brook is 9 miles long; approximately 4.5 miles of the river and the major tributaries are within the boundaries of the National Forest. This large amount of National Forest land in Jackson has been instrumental in preserving the rural character of the Town by keeping development in check. The remaining lands are in municipal or private ownership. Because of this land ownership pattern, the Congressional Committees that wrote the original

study legislation declared that "Federal land acquisition will not be necessary to protect the river," and that the development of a protection strategy should be a "partnership" of Federal, state, local and private interests, which would "enjoy the greatest likelihood of success in protecting the river."

The WBAC evaluated existing federal, state and local ordinances to determine their effectiveness in protecting the natural resources of the Wildcat Brook corridor.

a. Land and Resource Management Plan of the White Mountain National Forest

In April 1986, the U.S. Forest Service released its Land and Resource Management Plan for the White Mountain National Forest (Appendix C), which outlined future activities and management plans in the Wildcat Brook watershed. The plan defines Visual Quality Objectives (VQO) for the Wildcat watershed through various classifications. The result of these classifications is that most of the land along the Wildcat and its tributaries is given a VQO classification of "modification" or "partial retention." (See Appendix I: "Forest Management Activities in the Wildcat Brook Wild and Scenic River Study Area") The upper watershed of the Wildcat is currently in a 3.1 Management Area (MA). The first goal within this MA is to "provide large volumes of high quality hardwood sawtimber on a sustained yield basis and other timber products through intensive timber management practices." However, according to Appendix I of the Forest Plan, which lists criteria for sensitivity level determination, "Formally designated National and State Scenic Rivers are placed in sensitivity level 1 (VII-I-5)." In most cases, this action would result in upgrading the VQO's for the area beside the brook. That is, the watershed area would be upgraded to a 2.1 MA, which emphasizes protecting and enhancing visual quality.



b. Municipal and Private Protections

The WBAC also evaluated the effectiveness of existing protections of municipal lands and private lands subject to municipal jurisdiction (Appendix J).

1) Town-owned lands/easement properties

The WBAC determined that there were approximately 466 acres of town-owned lands in Jackson. Of this total, 450 acres, known as Prospect Farm, were given to the town by a former resident for use as a recreation area. In 1984, the town was granted a perpetual easement to 4.9 acres of land on the west bank of Jackson Falls, which was also to be managed for recreation. The town had purchased 5 acres of open land surrounding the Jackson School and 1 acre of river-abutting land adjacent to Town Hall.

An additional 345 acres were being protected under the terms of conservation easements, developed and administered by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF). The development rights of these lands have been deeded to SPNHF and/or the Jackson Conservation Commission and no longer have development potential. The development and promotion of a conservation easement program was recognized as a viable component of a River Conservation Plan because it would protect certain river corridor lands in perpetuity.

2) Existing zoning/subdivision regulations

An examination of the Jackson Community (Master) Plan (Appendix P) and the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations (Appendix Q) revealed a discrepancy between the documents. The Community Plan stated the goals of preserving open space and unique topographic features, of protecting the rural atmosphere of the town during growth, and of identifying and protecting the most valuable ecological features in the community; however, the plan could only serve as a guide for the development of legally binding ordinances. The Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations were found to fall somewhat short of supporting these goals. They lacked standards and guidelines and were inadequate in preserving the existing rural character of the community and in protecting the high water quality of the rivers flowing through Jackson — including the Ellis River, which serves as the drinking water supply for the town.

The conclusions of this evaluation suggested the development of zoning and land-use regulations that would give the local Planning Board specific guidelines for development in the river corridor that would reflect the consensus of the landowners and residents of the town and be compatible with the spirit of wild and scenic designation. These efforts were to be considered as components of a River Conservation Plan.

A citizens' group found that the town's existing one- and two-acre zoning system did not adequately prevent water degradation or control the growth or density of new housing development. The citizens' group initiated the development of a soils-based system, in which housing density would be determined by the soil's capacity to assimilate sewage effluent. An article to this effect was placed on the Town Warrant at Town Meeting, March 1987 (Appendix L).

3) Floodplain Regulations

Lands not protected by conservation easements were subject to the pressures of housing development. The existing floodplain regulations were inadequate in protecting the scenic and environmental integrity of riparian lands. The development and implementation of a comprehensive Floodplain Ordinance was recognized as a major goal in the evolution of a River Conservation Plan. The WBAC developed a River Conservation District Ordinance (Appendix K), which — after legal review and a public hearing process — was placed on the Town Warrant at Town Meeting, March 1987.

c. Current Use Program

The State of New Hampshire has a Current Use Program (Appendix M), which allows local jurisdictions to reduce real estate tax assessments on qualifying properties that are maintained in a relatively undeveloped state (woodlands, farms, fields, etc.) for a set period of time. Properties removed from this program are subject to a significant penalty based on the reduced tax rate and the full development potential of the property. The Current Use Program has helped maintain the current pattern of land use in the Wildcat Brook watershed by allowing some of the older homesteads and farms to remain intact. In 1986 there were 4232 acres of private property registered in this program. Although properties may be removed for development purposes in the future, the tax abatement appeared to provide sufficient incentive to keep lands in the program. The WBAC determined that the Current Use Program had merit and should be promoted as a component of a River Conservation Plan.

The WBAC revealed that the total amount of private and municipal lands protected under these various categories was in excess of 5000 acres.

B. Final River Conservation Plan

1. Goals and Objectives

The Town of Jackson's River Conservation Plan serves as a river corridor management plan. It provides guidelines for actions or policies to accomplish the following goals and objectives, while remaining sensitive to the concerns, rights and privileges of local residents and landowners.

- a. Prevent hydropower development at Jackson Falls and at other sites in the Wildcat Brook corridor and preserve the river's free-flowing quality under the provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

- b. Protect the existing natural, scenic and rural character of the river corridor through a balance of development and good environmental practices.
- c. Provide for the conservation and enhancement of Wildcat corridor resources including, but not limited to, the high water quality of the town's rivers and streams, and scenic, cultural, historical and recreational resources.

2. Corridor Definition

The Wildcat River Management Corridor was defined by the Town of Jackson as an area that would be subject to the provisions of the River Conservation Plan and wild and scenic designation. The corridor includes all of the following river segments in their entirety unless otherwise noted:

- Wildcat Brook (a.k.a. Wildcat River or the main stem of Wildcat Brook), originating at the height of land in Carter Notch
- Little Wildcat Brook (a.k.a. Wildcat Brook), originating below the gondola terminal on Wildcat Mountain
- Bog Brook
- Davis Brook and its main tributary to the north (unnamed)
- Than Brook
- Marsh Brook outside the White Mountain National Forest
- Great Brook from the Route 16B bridge at Whitney's Pond to its confluence with Wildcat Brook.

The width of the River Management Corridor was determined by the extent of those riparian properties described on the River Resource Protection Map, and by the Forest Management Guidelines of the White Mountain National Forest Plan, subject to modifications to be proposed and developed through a consistency agreement between the U.S. Forest Service and the Town of Jackson.

3. Components of the Plan

a. Conservation Easement Program

The Town of Jackson, the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF), and the National Park Service entered into a 5-year cooperative agreement in September 1986 to develop and promote a Conservation Easement Program in the Wildcat Brook corridor. This program identifies riparian properties having high development potential and encourages these landowners to deed their development rights to SPNHF and/or the Jackson Conservation Commission, or to donate their land to the Town of Jackson, thereby helping to preserve the natural resources of the river corridor.

Prior to the start of the program, there were approximately 466 acres of town-owned lands in Jackson and 345 acres in the Wildcat Brook watershed protected under the covenants of conservation easements. An additional 86 acres were added to the program in 1986, and 214 acres were added in 1987. The town has

identified additional prospective doners, who may place easements on their properties in 1988.

b. Floodplain Law

A 1987 local floodplain law (Appendix K) established a River Conservation District, designed to protect public health and welfare. The district consists of the 100-year floodplains of Wildcat Brook and the other major river bodies of Jackson, as delineated by Federal Flood Insurance Rate Maps (Appendix, Maps). The law specifies a 75-foot minimum setback from the rivers for building construction, prohibits permanent construction in the floodplain, and specifies low intensity uses in this area.

c. Soils-Based Zoning Ordinance

A 1987 soils-based zoning ordinance replaced the arbitrary one- and two-acre zoning districts in the Town of Jackson. The town does not have central sewage treatment facilities and relies solely on the performance of individual septic systems. There are many areas in Jackson where soils have minimal ability to assimilate sewage due to steep slopes, permeability, or level of water table. The new ordinance defines lot size by the soil's ability to handle septic discharges and, as such, protects the town's water quality and public health and welfare by promoting lower density development.

d. Riverfront Restoration

The Town of Jackson and the Jackson Conservation Commission have initiated a Management Plan for Jackson Falls and a Riverfront Restoration Plan to improve the safety and aesthetics of the town center and the Jackson Falls area, to encourage wider use of the lower falls, and to address long-term management concerns. The town and the Conservation Commission have begun working on various restoration projects. Plans have been developed to remove man-made hazards and debris, re-build stone work along the riverbanks, blaze and cut a new trail along the falls, and landscape the village center along the river.

e. Current Use Program

An effective river protection measure in Jackson has been individual subscription to the state's Current Use Program, in which land is assessed according to its current use rather than according to its full development potential. The State of New Hampshire provides guidelines for eligibility to participate in the program. The Board of Selectmen has the authority to decide whether individual properties qualify; also, they can place a discretionary easement on properties that do not qualify by size but have recreational significance.

f. Support for Wild and Scenic Designation

The Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee prepared and submitted an article at the March 1987 Town Meeting. This article stated that the Town of Jackson would

initiate proceedings leading to the designation of Wildcat Brook as a wild and scenic river in accordance with the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (P.L. 90-542). The initiative was passed by unanimous vote by the townspeople. The vote established consensus and support for continuing the wild and scenic study process.

g. Consistency Agreements

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requires a consistent management policy for wild and scenic designated rivers. Federal, state and local agencies are required to act with regard to a designated protected river in a manner that furthers the values for which the river has been designated. The WBAC determined a need for the following consistency agreements.

1) Federal Consistency Agreement

The headwaters of Wildcat Brook are located entirely on federal lands. To best ensure the long-term success of the River Conservation Plan, the WBAC recommends that the Town of Jackson and the U.S. Forest Service form a mutually acceptable management strategy. The U.S. Forest Service has indicated a willingness to consider modifications to the White Mountain National Forest Plan if Wildcat Brook receives wild and scenic designation.

2) State Consistency Agreement

The State of New Hampshire has certain jurisdictional responsibilities within the Wildcat Brook corridor. Of particular importance is the state's role in septic approval, large subdivision approval, water quality monitoring, timber harvesting regulation, dredge and fill activity approval, and Department of Transportation activities. While the Governor's Council on Resources and Development has agreed to provide cooperation and assistance to the town, the WBAC recommends that there be a formal Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Jackson and the various state agencies that have influence on the Wildcat corridor activities.

3) County Consistency Agreement

In June 1986, the Town of Jackson and the Carroll County Conservation District signed a Memorandum of Understanding (Appendix N) to promote interest in conserving soil, water and related natural resources, and in preventing soil erosion, floodwater and sediment damages.

h. Establishment of a Local Management Agency

Given the current pattern of landownership along the Wildcat and the local actions taken by the townspeople of Jackson to preserve river resources, there is no need for additional federal acquisition or management of the Wildcat

corridor outside the boundary of the White Mountain National Forest. The WBAC determined the need for a responsible, local agency to provide long-term management of the river corridor. This agency, to be called the Wildcat River Commission, will be a major component of the River Conservation Plan. The Commission will be composed of the following members:

- Board of Selectmen - 1 member
- Conservation Commission - 1 member
- U.S. Forest Service - 1 member
- State of New Hampshire - 1 member
- Jackson citizens - 3 members, including at least 2 riparian landowners who will be appointed by the Selectmen.

The Commission will meet at least quarterly, with an annual open meeting and other meetings held as necessary.

The responsibilities of the Commission will be as follows:

- 1) Oversee compliance with wild and scenic designation provisions, the River Conservation District ordinance and other pertinent local, state and federal regulations; oversee compliance with the development and evaluation of projects and programs relating to the goals and objectives of the River Conservation Plan; and monitor the effectiveness of the existing regulations.
- 2) Plan for the long-term sustainability of the River Conservation Plan by maintaining an appropriate degree of involvement through a local, state and federal network of consultants.
- 3) Develop consistency agreements with federal, state and county agencies through Memoranda of Understanding.
- 4) Build local support for conservation through education and training programs. Encourage community involvement in program operations through volunteer activities.
- 5) Implement the Jackson Falls Management Plan and the Jackson Village Demonstration Plan. These plans were developed in response to concerns of the WBAC, the residents of Jackson and visitors. The objectives of the plans are to:
 - a) make Jackson Village and Wildcat Brook more attractive for visitors and residents;
 - b) encourage walking in the village and along the brook;
 - c) improve parking areas near the top of the falls; and
 - d) address long-term management concerns, including long-term funding and future maintenance requirements.

- 6) **Generate support for an annual program budget, and develop a financial strategy to identify sources of revenue and assistance to implement elements of the River Conservation Plan.**
- 7) **Contract for the services of a part-time resource management specialist to handle administrative duties of the Wildcat River Commission.**
- 8) **Prepare necessary reports to the Board of Selectmen, the State of New Hampshire, the U.S Forest Service, the National Park Service and the U.S. Congress.**
- 9) **Support and subscribe to programs or initiatives directed to the purchase of lands and/or development rights to lands within the river corridor that would be supportive of the goals and objectives of the River Conservation Plan.**

There are several programs on the state and federal level that may provide financial support for the purchase of development rights of prime agricultural lands or lands with other significant natural, cultural or recreational values. Two examples are the Trust for New Hampshire Lands program, administered by the SPNHF, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which is a state/federal matching funds program directed toward recreational development. The recognition of possible candidate lands in the Wildcat Brook corridor will be an ongoing activity under the Conservation Easement Program and for the Wildcat River Commission.

Steps from path to Valley Cross Road Bridge

New granite slab bench

Sign informing visitors of parking at Town Hall

Relocated Picnic table

Handicap parking space with ramped access to Brook path

6' wide path along parking for safe and convenient access and unloading

New fence keeps visitors on path - prevents erosion and compaction of soil

Steps from parking area as needed

Dam is retained

New picnic table

Ledge modified for wheelchair access into water

New granite slab bench

Sign informing visitors of parking at Town Hall

Handicap parking space with ramped access to Brook path

6' wide path along parking allows safe and convenient access and unloading

New fence keeps visitors on path - prevents erosion and compaction of soil

Road runoff is piped under path to eliminate wetness in this area

Steps from parking area as needed

Guard rail is extended for control to new parking area with
cor-ten steel or timbers used as horizontal pieces

New granite overlook with period bench

Cribbing in areas of sandy soil

New path along falls with steps as needed

New pedestrian bridge over the Wildcat
with granite spot walls at either end

Existing trail regraded and
drained as needed

Breach in dam stabilized

New picnic area

New trees for screening

Interpretive signs where needed,
welcoming visitors - explaining
remains of old structures

Path continues along west bank

Path follows steps to parking, Town Hall, and continuation to Memorial Park

A Restoration Plan for the Banks of the Wildcat

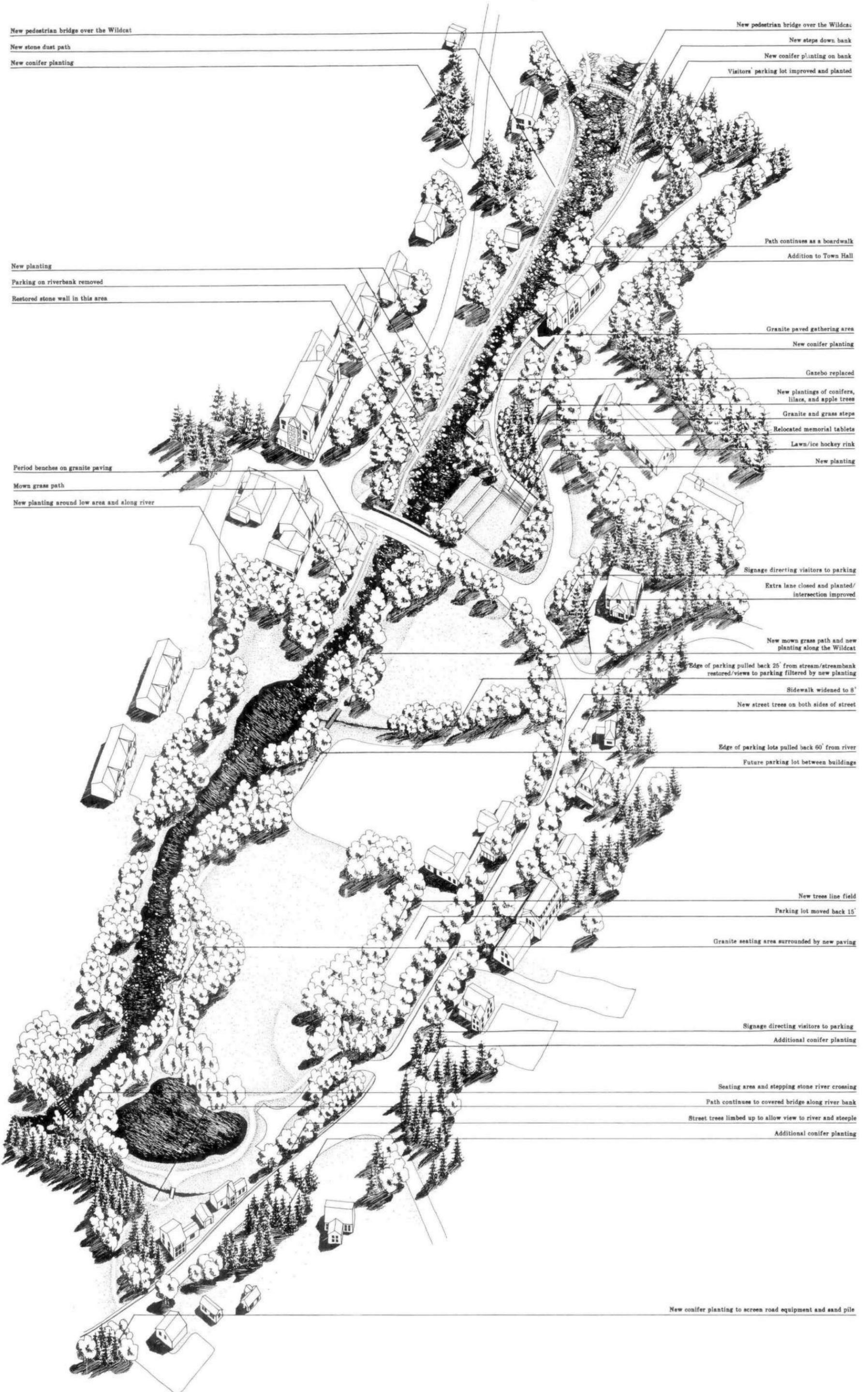
VILLAGE OF JACKSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

1. Valley Cross Road Bridge to the Base of the Falls

The National Park Service
The Jackson Conservation Commission

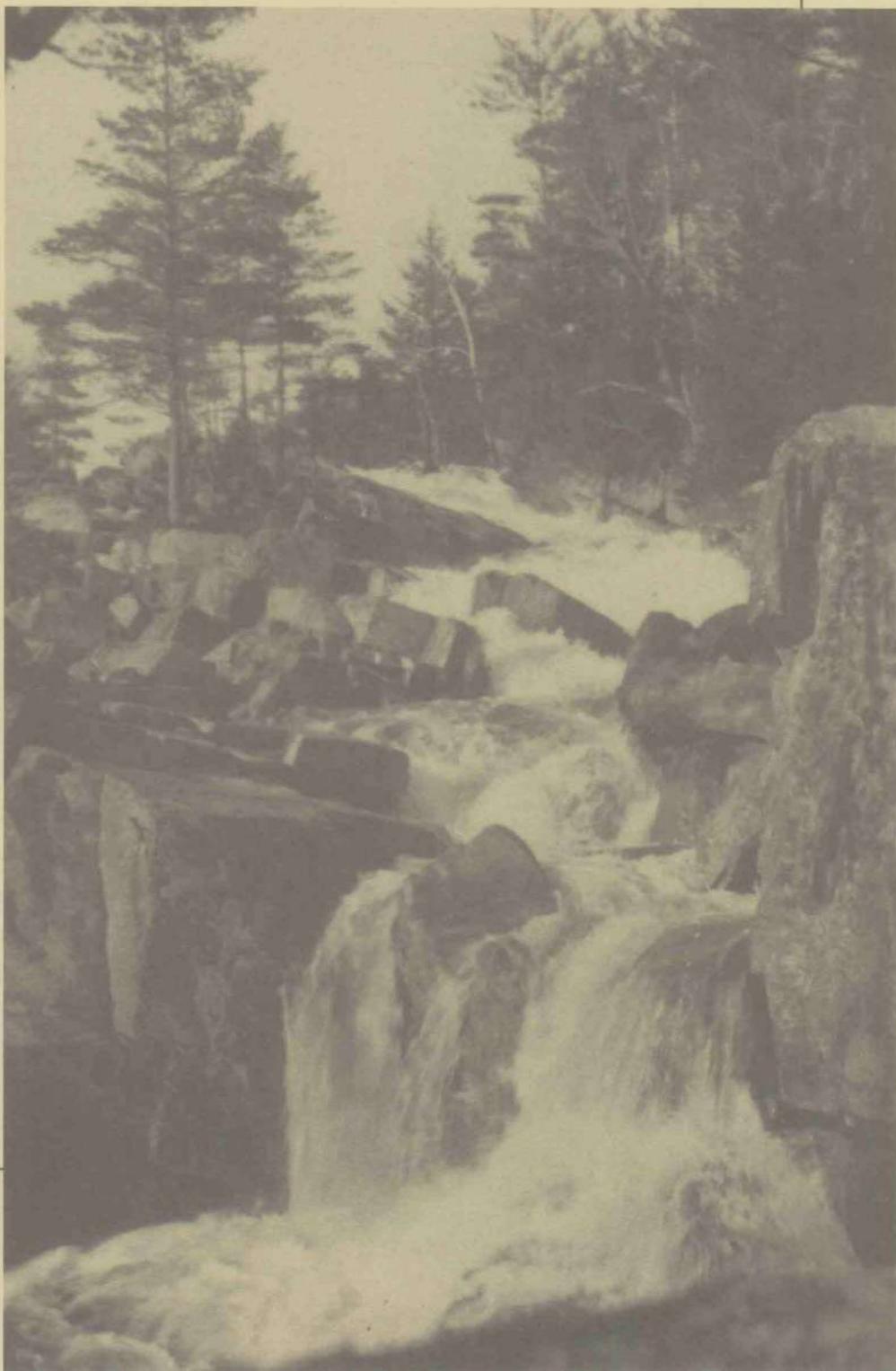
Spring, 1987





2. The Base of the Falls to Memorial Park

Alternatives for River Protection



V. ALTERNATIVES FOR RIVER PROTECTION

The following section discusses alternative protective measures for the Wildcat and the consequences of each alternative.

Alternative A. Wild and Scenic Designation

Under this alternative, Wildcat Brook would be designated under Section 2(a)(i) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, administered by the Secretary of Agriculture and jointly managed by the Secretary and Town of Jackson, New Hampshire under the provisions of Section 10(e) of the Act. Under Section 10(e), the administering federal agency, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), would enter into a written cooperative agreement with the Town of Jackson and the State of New Hampshire for local government participation in the administration of the river. The agreement would provide local government management of river segments outside the White Mountain National Forest boundary, under the provisions of the locally adopted and implemented Wildcat Brook River Conservation Plan, and provide for local public involvement and participation in the planning and management of designated segments of the Wildcat Brook within the National Forest boundary.

Given the current pattern of land ownership along the Wildcat, the actions taken by the Town of Jackson and private individuals and organizations in conjunction with the adopted River Conservation Plan, there is no need for any additional federal acquisition associated with proposed designation beyond the boundary of the White Mountain National Forest.

Forest Management Plan

The Forest Management Plan identifies 11 types of management areas and provides direction for management of a variety of resources within each of them. A management area (MA) is defined as "the grouping of land areas allocated to similar management goals such as 2.1 and 3.1 which stress vegetation management" (p. VI-6).

The Wildcat Brook watershed includes sections of four management areas: 2.1, 3.1, 6.1 and 6.2. Goals of a 2.1 MA emphasize visual quality and roaded natural recreation opportunities. It also "provide(s) moderate amounts of high quality sawtimber and other timber projects on a sustained yield basis" (p. III-30). It is generally found in areas near roads and in other areas that are visually sensitive.

Most of Wildcat Brook and its tributaries falls within MA 3.1, a category that emphasizes even-aged management of hardwoods to provide high quality sawtimber and cordwood. This MA has a visual quality management objective of modification, which means that management activities may be apparent on the landscape.

The land in the watershed located in MA 6.1 is limited to the ridgetops on Spruce Mountain and Black Mountain. The general direction for this MA is to "emphasize a semi-primitive non-motorized recreational experience in a predominantly

natural or natural-appearing environment” (p. III-47). Timber harvest operations are generally limited to salvage and other disease and insect control measures.

MA 6.2 predominates along the higher ridges bordering the watershed, including Wildcat Mountain and Carter Dome. There is no timber management in this area.

The USFS has discussed reclassifying approximately 1600 acres of the headwaters area, between Little Wildcat Brook and Bog Brook, from a 3.1 Management Area to a 2.1 Management Area. Other Forest Service management issues regarding wild and scenic designation would be addressed through a cooperative agreement between the Town of Jackson and the USFS.

Advisory Commission

An advisory commission, known as the Wildcat River Commission, would assist the Secretary with the cooperative management and protection of Wildcat Brook. The Commission would have representation from the USFS, State of New Hampshire and the Town of Jackson. The Commission’s responsibilities are outlined in the River Conservation Plan.

Cost of Proposed Designation

The Wildcat River Commission would require a minimum level of annual support (including clerical and resource management assistance) to carry out its duties. The USFS, the State of New Hampshire and the Town of Jackson would enter into a cooperative agreement to provide for the Commission such support as necessary to insure the functioning of the Commission and the continued implementation of the River Conservation Plan. Costs associated with designation are estimated as follows:

1. Capital costs to enhance natural features and prevent degradation and overuse of the Jackson Falls area - \$150,000.
2. Recurring costs are those annual operating expenses of the Wildcat River Commission, including the services of a part-time Resource Specialist - \$15,000 per year.

Potential funding sources may include a combination of Town of Jackson appropriations, private funding or federal appropriations. Due to the large degree of public concern for the Wildcat, serious consideration should be given to the formation of a “Friends of Wildcat Brook” organization — a private, non-profit coalition of interested citizens — to fundraise, manage and direct river restoration projects.

Five-Year Evaluation Report and Compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

In order to insure that the actions of the Town of Jackson remain consistent with

the provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Wildcat River Commission would be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the River Conservation Plan and for submitting a post-designation Evaluation Report at five-year intervals to the Secretary, for transmittal to Congress within 120 days.

If the Wildcat River Commission identifies a proposed land use change and/or development that could have a potential direct and adverse effect on Wildcat Brook, the Commission would be encouraged to use existing federal, state or local laws or private sector actions to alleviate the adverse impact. If these actions are not successful, the Commission would request the assistance of the Secretary, and the Secretary would request the advice and recommendations of the appropriate Congressional Subcommittees.

Alternative B. No Action

This alternative relies on local and state actions and the existing Forest Service plan to protect and manage open space, scenery, water quality, soils and vegetation in the Wildcat Brook corridor. These actions include local zoning ordinances, a conservation easement program, local management of town lands beside the river, the state's Current Use Program and the USFS Land and Resource Management Plan for the White Mountain National Forest.

Management of timber harvest in the National Forest Lands in the upper watershed would continue as described in the Forest Service's plan, which calls for cutting about 6 million board feet of timber by 1995. Timber harvest and road construction operations would be guided by the Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines, which are designed to protect natural resources to promote a long-term healthy environment in the Forest. The Forest Service would continue to send environmental assessments for individual timber sales to the town.

Alternative C. State Protection

This option calls for protection of the river corridor under a state program in addition to the local and Forest Service measures listed above.

There were unsuccessful attempts in the 1970's to develop a statewide rivers program in New Hampshire. In 1985, a group of citizens and conservation organizations with an interest in rivers joined to form the New Hampshire Rivers Campaign. As a result of their efforts, Chapter 190 was passed in 1986 authorizing the Council on Resources and Development (CORD) to set up a process for nominating lakes and rivers deserving protection. In May, 1987, the draft procedures for such nomination and the protections that would be accorded designated rivers and lakes were issued by the Office of State Planning (OSP). OSP's guidelines included a multi-step process of citizen initiative, hearings, reviews by CORD, and legislative action. As of this writing, the Campaign has commented that the procedure is far too complex and cumbersome and is working to have it simplified.

The Campaign is developing a legislative proposal that will include special protections and management plans for selected New Hampshire rivers. The best of these laws in other states are developed based on a legislative or executive policy statement and a resource assessment. They provide for a balance between hydropower and resource conservation.

ECPA provides that no federal subsidies or incentives will be provided for proposed hydropower projects on state protected waterways. This provision makes state river protection programs effective at preventing hydropower construction as most recent projects, including the proposal for Wildcat Brook, depend on these subsidies for economic viability.

It is uncertain, however, when New Hampshire will develop such a program. Considering this uncertainty, this analysis does not attempt to describe which agency would administer a state river protection program.

CONSEQUENCES OF EACH ALTERNATIVE

The consequences of each river protection alternative affect hydropower development, timber harvest, scenic resources, the conservation easement program, recreational resources, and maintenance and improvement programs in the Wildcat watershed.

Alternative A. Wild and Scenic Designation

This alternative calls for protection of the river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, in addition to the Town of Jackson's River Conservation Plan and the Forest Service's White Mountain National Forest Land and Resources Management Plan. Consequences of wild and scenic designation follow.

1. Hydropower development
The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits the construction of any federally assisted or licensed water resource project (including hydropower development) that would have a "direct and adverse effect" on the values of a designated river. Alternative A would eliminate any hydropower development on Wildcat Brook, thereby eliminating the availability of power generated by such a facility.
2. Scenic Resources
Wild and scenic designation would help preserve the scenic beauty of the falls area by prohibiting hydropower development at Jackson Falls. Hydropower development would divert most of the water from the falls, lessening their attractiveness, and would intrude on the largely natural appearance of the area.
3. Timber Harvest
Wild and scenic designation would require modification of the timber harvest plans in the upper watershed of the Wildcat. This would reduce the timber available for harvest by the Forest Service, with a resultant loss of revenue. While the current Forest plan calls for timber harvesting near trails and tributaries, it also specifies upgrading the visual quality in the area of a wild and scenic

designated river. The Forest Service would consider additional modifications of its plan if the Wildcat were so designated.

4. Conservation Easement Program

The Town of Jackson's conservation easement program provides strong land and river protection by preserving open space along the river. Unlike zoning ordinances, the program is not affected by the political process. However, it is voluntary. Wild and scenic designation would be an incentive for the town to continue this program and for additional landowners to become involved.

5. Recreational Resources

Jackson Falls is a popular area for swimming, picnicking and walking. These activities would decrease or be eliminated without the water flow of the falls. Wild and scenic designation would protect recreational resources by prohibiting water resource projects that would adversely decrease this flow. As noted in the reference to Timber Harvest, the Forest plan for the upper watershed would be modified upon wild and scenic designation of the Wildcat. These modifications would maintain a high quality hiking experience in the area by preventing slash and clear cutting near trails.

6. Maintenance and Improvement Programs

Wild and scenic designation would increase town awareness of and pride in the river corridor and its natural resources. This pride will be critical for continuing improvement and maintenance programs for the recreation area beside the falls and along the river corridor in the village. These programs will require continued interest by the townspeople if fundraising efforts and volunteer work days are to be effective.

Alternative B. No Action

This alternative relies on the Town of Jackson's zoning ordinances and voluntary conservation easement program and the Forest Service's White Mountain National Forest Plan to protect Wildcat Brook and its associated resources. Consequences of the No-Action alternative are discussed below.

1. Hydropower development

The Public Utilities Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 has been modified by the Electric Consumers Protection Act (ECPA) to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to give equal consideration to environmental and recreational factors as well as power production when evaluating new projects. However, there is no guarantee that hydropower development would not occur under this alternative. The advantage of constructing a 366-kilowatt hydroelectric facility at Jackson Falls would be the power generated by the plant.

2. Scenic Resources

A No-Action alternative allows the possibility of a hydropower plant being constructed at Jackson Falls. Should such a project be built, it would reduce the water flow of Jackson Falls during the seasons of high visitation and would result in more visible manmade structures than currently exist. These changes would decrease the scenic appeal of this tourist area.

3. Timber Harvest
Under this alternative, the Forest Service would pursue its plans for timber harvest in the upper watershed. Timber cuts near trails and tributaries and exposure to view of clearcuts and slash would result in a diminished experience for hikers in this area.
4. Conservation Easement Program
As previously noted, the easement program relies on voluntary participation. Absence of wild and scenic designation would remove the incentive for additional landowners to participate in the program, possibly resulting in fewer new easements and in more development in the river corridor.
5. Recreational Resources
Assuming the construction of a hydropower plant, there would be a reduction of much of the water flow to the pools below the impoundment, and the reduction of available swimming spots at Jackson Falls. The structural components of a plant would also make the area less attractive for walking, picnicking, and other forms of recreation now enjoyed there.
6. Maintenance and Improvement Programs
It would be difficult for the town to maintain interest in the Jackson Falls area if it were made less attractive and its recreational potential were reduced by a hydro-power facility. This situation would make it difficult to find funds and volunteers to improve or maintain the area beside the falls. At the same time, it is unlikely that all use of the area would cease; in fact, it may increase as the seasonal and year-round populations of Jackson increase. Continued use will diminish the natural resources of the area unless routine maintenance is performed.

Alternative C. State Protection

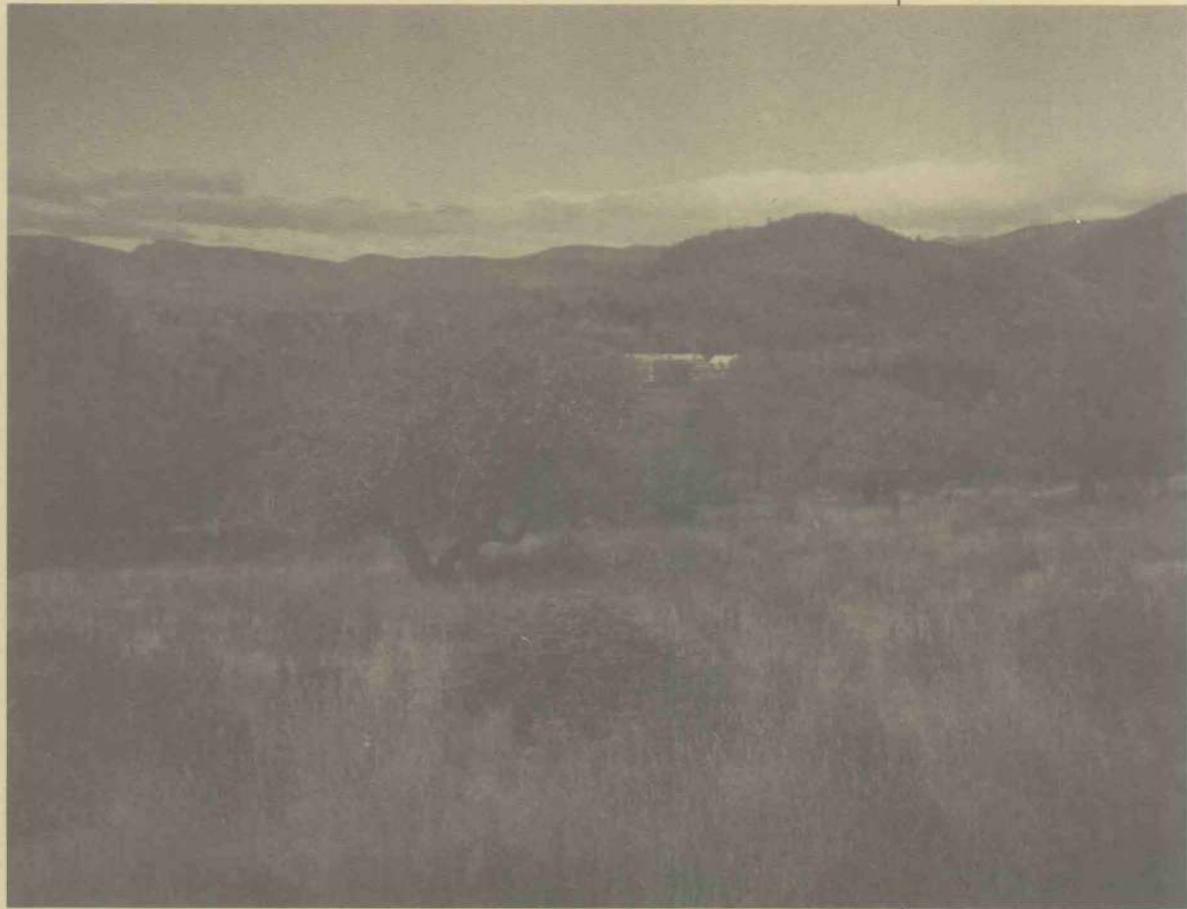
This alternative adds a state rivers protection program to existing local and Forest Service protection measures. An effective state program does not exist at this time, and it is uncertain whether one will be developed in the near future. Given the uncertainties of a state program being realized, and assuming the construction of a hydropower plant, the effects on scenic resources, the conservation easement program, recreational resources, and maintenance and improvement programs would be identical to the No-Action alternative.

1. Hydropower development
ECPA provides that no federal subsidies or incentives will be made available for hydropower projects on rivers designated by states as "protected waterways." A state program would yield strong protection under this act because most recent hydropower projects, including the one proposed for the Wildcat, rely on these subsidies for economic viability in the current economic climate. While it is unlikely that a project would be developed on the Wildcat under a state protection program, ECPA does not provide absolute protection, nor has the act been tested in the courts.

2. Timber Harvest

The Forest Service would be under no obligation to modify timber harvest plans for the upper watershed under a state protection plan. Timber harvest, as called for in the Forest Plan, would result in approximately 6 million board-feet of timber by 1995 and in additional revenues for the Forest Service, but also in a diminishment of scenic and recreation quality of the area.

Appendices



VI. APPENDICES

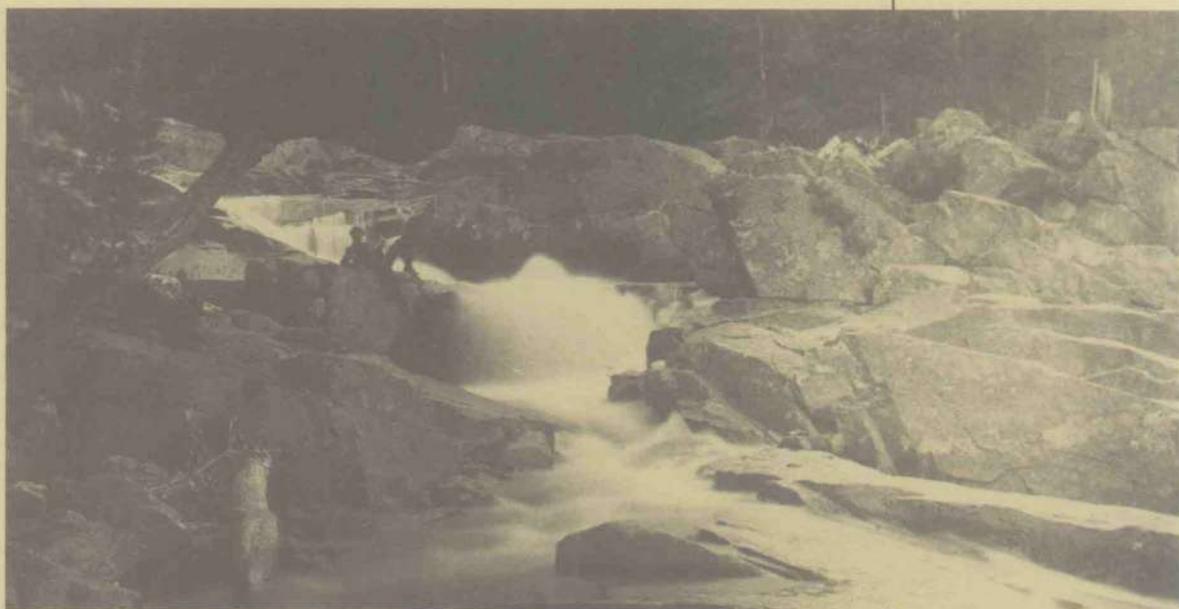
Appendix, Maps

1. Orientation Map, prepared by the National Park Service, North Atlantic Regional Office (NPS/NARO), 15 State Street, Boston, MA 02109, and included in this report.
2. Classification Map, prepared by NPS/NARO and included in this report.
3. U.S.G.S. Map, Wildcat Brook, prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey and available through the Forest Supervisors Headquarters, White Mountain National Forest, Federal Building, 719 Main, Laconia, NH 03246.
4. River Resource Protection Map, prepared by NPS/NARO and included in this report.
5. Flood Insurance Rate Map for the Town of Jackson, NH, prepared by and available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Insurance Administration.

- Appendix A. JACKSON FALLS RESTORATION PLAN, prepared by the Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee (WBAC) and available through NPS/NARO.
- Appendix B. JACKSON VILLAGE DEMONSTRATION PLAN (ILLUSTRATION), prepared by NPS/NARO and included in this report.
- Appendix C. LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN, WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST, prepared by and available through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Eastern Region, P.O. Box 638, Laconia, NH 03247.
- Appendix D. A DETERMINATION OF THE ELIGIBILITY AND CLASSIFICATION OF WILDCAT BROOK FOR POTENTIAL INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL WILD & SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM, prepared by the National Park Service, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, Philadelphia, PA and available through NPS/NARO.
- Appendix E. PLAN OF WORK, prepared by the Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee (WBAC) through a cooperative agreement between the Town of Jackson, NH and NPS and available through NPS/NARO.
- Appendix F. JACKSON RESIDENT AND LANDOWNER SURVEY, prepared by the AMC through a cooperative agreement between the AMC and NPS and available through NPS/NARO.

- Appendix G. SURVEY OF VISITORS TO WILDCAT BROOK, JACKSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE, prepared by the AMC through a cooperative agreement between the AMC and NPS and available through NPS/NARO.
- Appendix H. PROJECTED EFFECTS OF WILD & SCENIC DESIGNATION ON VISITATION TO JACKSON, NH, prepared by the AMC through a cooperative agreement between the AMC and NPS and available through NPS/NARO.
- Appendix I. FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE WILDCAT BROOK WILD & SCENIC RIVER STUDY AREA, prepared by the AMC through a cooperative agreement between the AMC, Town of Jackson and NPS and available through NPS/NARO.
- Appendix J. EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING CONSERVATION MEASURES AFFECTING WILDCAT BROOK, prepared by the WBAC through a cooperative agreement between the Town of Jackson, NH and NPS and available through NPS/NARO.
- Appendix K. RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ORDINANCE, prepared by and available through the Town of Jackson, Office of the Selectmen, P.O. Box 268, Jackson, NH 03846.
- Appendix L. SOILS ZONING AMENDMENT, prepared by and available through the Town of Jackson, Office of the Selectmen.
- Appendix M. CURRENT USE PROGRAM, prepared by the Current Use Advisory Board and available through the Department of Revenue Administration, 61 South Spring Street, P.O. Box 457, Concord, NH 03301.
- Appendix N. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CARROLL COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND THE TOWN OF JACKSON, CARROLL COUNTY, NH, available through NPS/NARO.
- Appendix O. WBAC ADMINISTRATIVE/MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL FOR WILDCAT BROOK, prepared by the WBAC and available through NPS/NARO.
- Appendix P. JACKSON COMMUNITY (MASTER) PLAN, prepared by and available through the Town of Jackson, Office of the Selectmen.
- Appendix Q. ZONING ORDINANCE AND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS, prepared by and available through the Town of Jackson, Office of the Selectmen.

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Park Service. 1982. A Greenway Strategy for Weems Creek. Philadel-
phia, PA: National Park Service, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office.

Study Participants



VIII. STUDY PARTICIPANTS

Principals

- Rolf Diamant, Study Coordinator, Landscape Architect
North Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service
- Linda Neal, Editor, Landscape Architect
North Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service
- Phil Huffman, Outdoor Recreation Planner
North Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service
- Deirdre Gibson, Landscape Architect
North Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service,
- J. Glenn Eugster, Chief, Division of Park & Resource Planning
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service
- John Haubert, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Office of Planning and Special
Studies, Washington Office, National Park Service
- Carl Gebhardt, Planner, U.S. Forest Service, Laconia, New Hampshire
- Burnham Martin, Assistant Research Director, Appalachian Mountain Club,
Gorham, New Hampshire
- Drew Parkin, Environmental Consultant, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- Suzanne Birchard, Land Protection Specialist, Society for the Protection of
New Hampshire Forests, Conway, New Hampshire
- George Bordash, Resource Management Specialist, Executive Committee
Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee, Jackson, New Hampshire
- Roger French, Executive Committee, Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee,
Jackson, New Hampshire
- Sarah Kimball, Executive Committee, Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee,
Jackson, New Hampshire

Contributors

Wildcat Brook Advisory Committee:

**Richard Anderson
Anne Bordash
George Bordash
Alex M. Burgess, Jr.
Rachel Doucette
Peter Kelly
Roger French
Sarah Kimball
Susan Lunt
Quentin Mack (USFS)
Frederick Perry
Rita Thompson (USFS)
Lorraine Tilney**

Board of Selectmen, Town of Jackson, New Hampshire:

**Ross L. Heald
Lorraine Tilney
Peter Kelly**

Michael Hathaway, Forest Supervisor, U.S. Forest Service, Laconia, New Hampshire

American Rivers, Washington, D.C.:

**Chris Brown
Kevin Coyle
Suzi Wilkins**

**Sarah Thorne, Land Protection Specialist, Society for the Protection of
New Hampshire Forests, Conway, New Hampshire**

**Dave Hartman, Senior Planner, Office of State Planning
Concord, New Hampshire**

**Ken Kimble, Research Director, Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, New Hampshire**

**Terry Savage, Chief, Department of Planning and Design
North Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service**

**Christine Amell Richards, Graphic Designer, Richards Design & Production,
Portland, Maine**

**Matthew Lynaugh, Graphic Designer, Department of Planning and Design,
North Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service.**