

Article 21

Wildlife Habitat and Biodiversity Study

"To see if the Town will vote to Authorize the Board of Selectmen to hire an accredited, independent, professional organization to conduct a wildlife habitat and biodiversity study as recommended by the Dover Master Plan of 2012, such study to focus on the effects of the potential development of the land known as Bay Colony railroad line or right of way within the town of Dover on the land and habitat abutting and surrounding said railroad line, or right of way; said study to be completed prior to the execution of any easement, leasehold, license or real property interest related to the aforementioned potential development; to see if the Town will raise and appropriate transfer from available funds, accept gifts or provide by any combination of these methods a sum of money for this purpose; or take any action relative thereto."

The Dover Master Plan Recommends a Wildlife Habitat and Biodiversity Study

The Dover Master Plan 2012

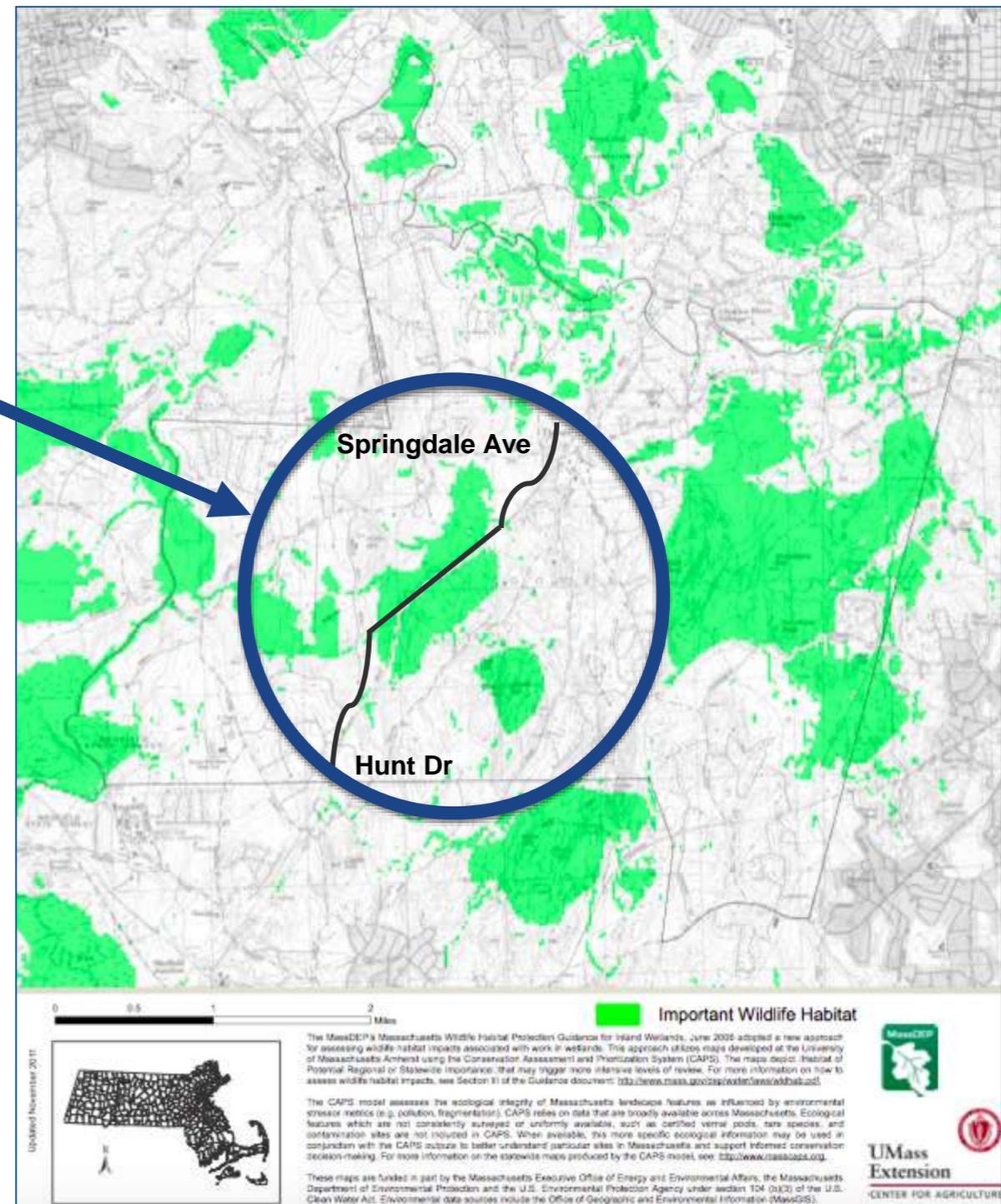
Natural and Cultural Resources

RECOMMENDATIONS	LEAD AGENCY	OTHER AGENCIES	RESOURCES
1. Institute biodiversity as a prime value of Town planning and management. Create an ecosystem map of Dover and a census of species diversity by using the State BioMap II, and Priority Habitats for Rare Species and Estimated Habitat of Rare Wetlands Wildlife maps as a base and adding specific local knowledge as it becomes available. Develop and implement strategies of habitat management to increase long-term biodiversity.	Conservation Commission	Board of Selectmen Planning Board	Funds for consultants, Staff Time

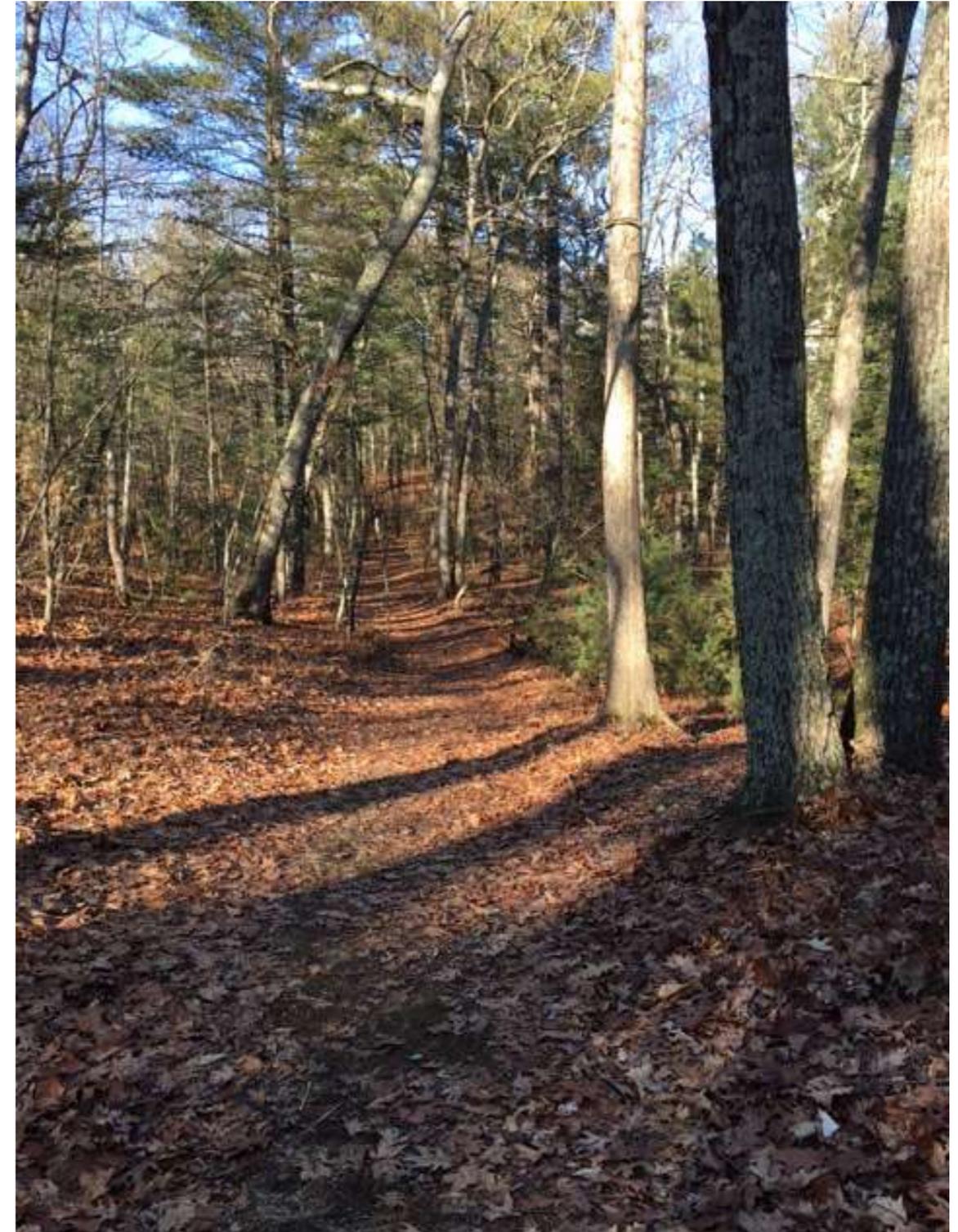
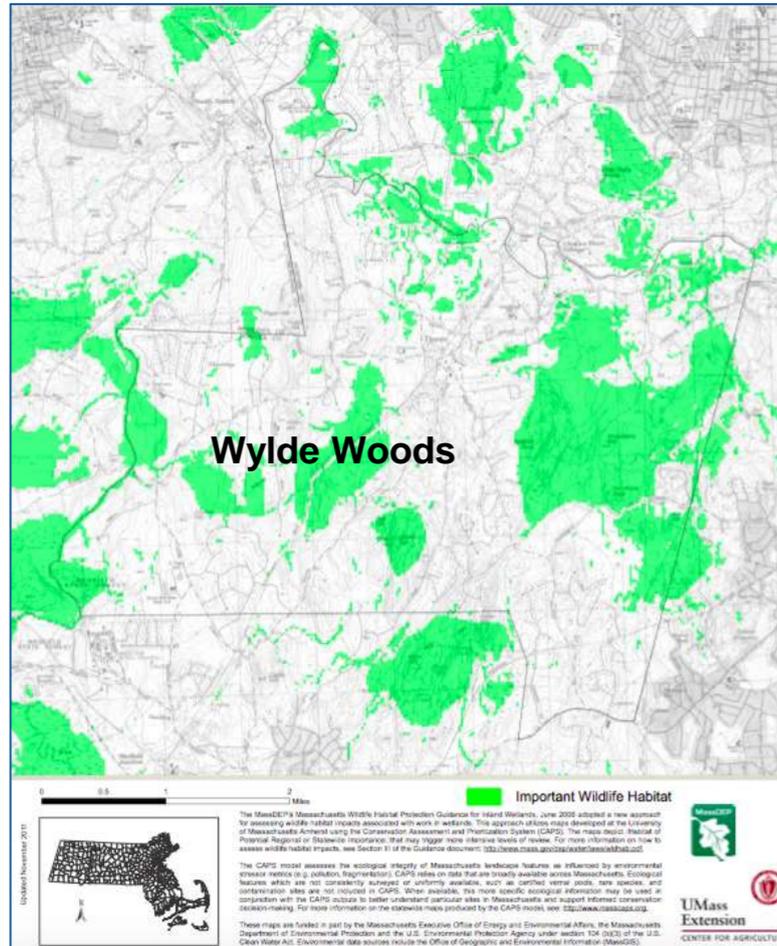
...and the town completed a similar study for 46 Springdale Avenue and that study identified the rail bed as a significant wildlife corridor

Important Wildlife Habitat Map From UMASS

This area has significant natural resources and connects to other critical habitats



Wylde Woods



- Purchased for \$4.3 M
- 62 Acres
- Rare Species

Contrary to popular belief, nature has already started to reclaim the trail





**Before this happens... it is best to study
the natural resources in the area**

How is the study conducted?

- During the due diligence phase
There will be 7 field visits
during the growing season
- Final reports of inventory and
impact results and a full
presentation to the Town at the
conclusion



Vote Yes

