

As part of the Middlesex Fells Resource Management Plan Process, the public has been provided the opportunity to submit comments via mail to the Massachusetts Office of Public Collaboration. Below are comments received from the public between March 24, 2011 and March 31, 2011, in the order received. Email addresses and contact information has been redacted to prevent unsolicited contact. We encourage the public to review these comments to gain a better understanding of different information and points of view on the management of the Fells.

February-March 2011

Middlesex Fells PMP Comments
c/o MA Office of Public Collaboration
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd., M-1-627
Boston, MA 02125

To whom it may concern,

I support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group (attached).

Chapter 92, Section 33 of the General Laws of Massachusetts defines Reservation as "open space for exercise and recreation".

Please respect the tradition and history of recreation at the Fells and make recreation a priority in the Management Principle and Goals.

Sincerely yours,



Jennifer Rousseau

name



Somerville, MA 02144

city, state, zip



Cc: Fells Dog Owner Group

Proposal to prioritize recreation in the Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan

Note: Changes to the language of the DCR's Draft Management Principle and Goals, dated February 8, 2011, are indicated in underline/roman type.

Management Principle:

Through the creative use of state management resources, partnerships and volunteer stewardship, support sustainable quality opportunities for diverse types of responsible recreation that depend upon and enhance the cultural and ecological resources of the Middlesex Fells Reservation.

Management Goals

- **Help users have great recreational experiences at the Fells**
Provide the public with diverse and sustainable quality recreational opportunities in a natural setting including hiking/ walking, mountain biking, running, skiing and others, all with or without dogs. Provide the public with sustainable opportunities to experience and interact with the beauty and wonder of nature at the Fells. Manage these diverse recreational uses to provide quality user experiences, reduce conflicts and encourage mutual respect. Develop education programs that contribute to positive user experiences and promote resource protection. Keep regulations current with responsible usage.
- **Preserve the distinct historic and scenic qualities of the reservation**
The Reservation's historic structures, archeological resources and scenic landscapes represent important connections to both our past and future. Manage these resources to stabilize and protect them from damage or degradation.
- **Protect the quality of water resources**
Wetlands and water resources at the Middlesex Fells Reservation provide clean drinking water, aquatic habitats and water-based recreation. Manage the

reservation to ensure that water quality of wetlands, streams, vernal pools, ponds and reservoirs is protected.

- **Protect and enhance habitats for rare species, natural communities, native plants and wildlife**
Manage the natural vegetation communities of the Fells, including vernal pools and ridge top habitats, to enhance the quality of these communities and protect habitat for native plant and animals. Monitor and protect the habitats for the state-listed rare plants and animals in the Fells.
- **Work with diverse partners and volunteers to achieve these management goals**
Diverse partner organizations and individual volunteers represent a wealth of experience, knowledge and energy. With DCR standards and oversight, continue to partner with organizations and individuals to utilize these resources for the long-term stewardship of the Middlesex Fells.

February-March 2011

Middlesex Fells RMP Comments
c/o MA Office of Public Collaboration
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd., M-1-627
Boston, MA 02125

To whom it may concern,

I support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group (attached).

Chapter 92, Section 33 of the General Laws of Massachusetts defines Reservation as "open space for exercise and recreation".

Please respect the tradition and history of recreation at the Fells and make recreation a priority in the Management Principle and Goals.

Sincerely yours,



[Redacted address]

number and street

Somerville, MA 02143

city, state, zip

e-mail (optional)

Cc: Fells Dog Owner Group

March 16, 2011

Middlesex Fells RMP Comments
c/o MA Office of Public Collaboration
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd., M-1-627
Boston, MA 02125

Re: Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Resource Management Plan

To Whom it May Concern:

In 1882, speaking of the Middlesex Fells, Elizur Wright declared:

"The forests are of the air, and **really belong to the whole people**, to all who breathe, as the air does. . . . Surely at least some of the forests should be the common property of some power or authority that is likely to live as long as trees do and be made the most of, **for the benefit of great cities and populous towns.**"

A decade later in its initial report the Metropolitan Parks Commission suggested that:

"The whole, in its natural wild state, could now be secured and set aside as **a public reservation, park and pleasure ground, secure to all future generations.** . . ."

Today the Middlesex Fells is part of the Urban Parks District, established to create and preserve "open spaces for exercise and recreation" pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) Chapter 92, Section 33:

The division of urban parks and recreation, hereinafter referred to as the division, may maintain and make available to the inhabitants of Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Braintree, Brookline, Cambridge, Canton, Chelsea, Dedham, Dover, Everett, Hingham, Hull, Lynn, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Milton, Nahant, Needham, Newton, Quincy, Revere, Saugus, Somerville, Stoneham, Swampscott, Wakefield, Waltham, Watertown, Wellesley, Weston, Westwood, Weymouth, Winchester and Winthrop, which shall constitute the urban parks district, **open spaces for exercise and recreation, in this chapter called reservations** and, for the purposes set forth in this section, the powers of the division shall extend to, and be exercised in, said district.

It is in keeping with the intentions of Wright, of the Metropolitan Parks Commission and of the MGL, that, in the recent Forest Futures Visioning Process (FFVP), the Middlesex

Fells has been classified as a "Parkland": Parklands are "areas where the primary ecosystem service objectives are provision of public recreational opportunities...."

The Fells Dog Owner Group therefore respectfully proposes that the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan Draft Management Principle and Goals respect these traditions and this history and prioritize the maintenance of the Middlesex Fells Reservation as an "open space for exercise and recreation". Attached are our proposed revisions to the DCR's draft Management Principle and Goals (changes indicated in underlined roman type).

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michele Biscoe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michele Biscoe
Co-founder
Fells Dog Owner Group

Proposal to prioritize recreation in the Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan

Note: Changes to the language of the DCR's Draft Management Principle and Goals, dated February 9, 2011, are indicated in underlined roman type.

Management Principle:

Through the creative use of state management resources, partnerships and volunteer stewardship, support sustainable quality opportunities for diverse types of responsible recreation that depend upon and enhance the cultural and ecological resources at the Middlesex Fells Reservation.

Management Goals

- **Help users have great recreational experiences at the Fells**

Provide the public with diverse and sustainable quality recreational opportunities in a natural setting including hiking / walking, mountain biking, running, skiing and others, all with or without dogs. Provide the public with sustainable opportunities to experience and interact with the beauty and wonder of nature at the Fells. Manage these diverse recreational uses to provide quality user experiences, reduce conflicts and encourage mutual respect. Develop education programs that contribute to positive user experiences and promote resource protection. Keep regulations current with responsible usage.


- ***Preserve the distinct historic and scenic qualities of the reservation** The Reservation's historic structures, archaeological resources and scenic landscapes represent important connections to both our past and future. Manage these resources to stabilize and protect them from damage or degradation.*

- ***Protect the quality of water resources** Wetlands and water resources at the Middlesex Fells Reservation provide clean drinking water, aquatic habitats and water-based recreation. Manage the*



reservation to ensure that water quality of wetlands, streams, vernal pools, ponds and reservoirs is protected.

- ***Protect and enhance habitats for rare species, natural communities, native plants and wildlife*** *Manage the natural vegetation communities of the Fells, including vernal pools and ridge top communities, to enhance the quality of these communities and protect habitats for native plants and animals. Monitor and protect the habitats for the state-listed rare plants and animals in the Fells.*

- ***Work with diverse partners and volunteers to achieve these management goals*** *Diverse partner organizations and individual volunteers represent a wealth of experience, knowledge and energy. With DCR standards and oversight, continue to partner with organizations and individuals to utilize these resources for the long-term stewardship of the Middlesex Fells.*




Dear Dept of
Conservation;




Please keep the
Middlesex Falls
in a natural
state as a
Refuge for our
dwindling wild
animal population.
These animals
are stressed and
have no where
to go. The Falls
Remains one of
the only undisturbed
areas.

Sincerely,



Judy Tancer
(Wakefield Mass)



Anita D. McClellan

[REDACTED]
Cambridge, MA 02138
[REDACTED]

March 25, 2011

Comments, Middlesex Fells RMP
c/o MA Office of Public Collaboration
U MA-Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., M-1-627
Boston, MA 02125 MiddlesexFellsRMP@umb.edu; rmp.comments@state.ma.us

To Whom It May Concern:

I support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group. Chapter 92, Section 33, of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts defines *Reservation* as "open space for exercise and recreation."

I am a Cambridge resident, a frequent user with my young children of the Fells, who actively supports off-leash recreation for well-behaved dogs in public spaces. To be well-behaved, children and adolescents need not be obliged throughout their visit to hold an adult's hand. To be well-behaved, a family dog need not be permanently leashed. All just need a temperament that is friendly, patient, confident, gentle, and positively mindful of fellow users and appropriate escort.

Like children and teenagers, be they under close supervision of adults or not, who behave appropriately in public spaces--from parks to streets, restaurants, schools, museums, cinemas, libraries--domestic animals bring added pleasure and diversity to public-space adult users.

I have been participating in the city of Cambridge's mediated process to help Cambridge determine feasible regulations for Fresh Pond Reservation. <http://cbuilding.org/freshpond> -- Ona Ferguson, Senior Associate, Consensus Building Institute: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. On March 13, 2011, at Meeting 5 the users' group (open to the public and designated uses represented by participants) worked together to develop recommendations on key questions about user regulations to be determined with suggestions for formal enforcement. Small groups shared outcomes with the group at large. The City intends that this collaborative work will lead to recommendations for new and improved policies, regulations, and/or education for consideration by the Water Board, City Manager and City Council. There could be very simple new guidelines, or recommendations for different types of signage, or other solutions yet to be imagined. The City is eagerly awaiting input from the many people who utilize and benefit from Fresh Pond Reservation.

If you would like to receive email updates on this Cambridge project, please contact Meredith Sciarrio at msciarrio@cbuilding.org or 617-844-1137. The next meeting is Tuesday, May 10, 6:15--9:00 pm, at the West Cambridge/Russell Youth Center, 680 Huron Ave, Cambridge. Middlesex Fells RMP, please attend to watch this complementary park-user process unfold.

Sincerely,



February-March 2011

Middlesex Fells RMP Comments
c/o MA Office of Public Collaboration
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd., M-1-627
Boston, MA 02125

To whom it may concern,

I support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group (attached).

Chapter 92, Section 33 of the General Laws of Massachusetts defines Reservation as "open space for exercise and recreation".

Please respect the tradition and history of recreation at the Fells and make recreation a priority in the Management Principle and Goals.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Roy
name

[REDACTED]
number and street

Somerville, MA 02145
city, state, zip

e-mail (optional)

Cc: Fells Dog Owner Group

February-March 2011

Middlesex Fells RMP Comments
c/o MA Office of Public Collaboration
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd., M-1-627
Boston, MA 02125

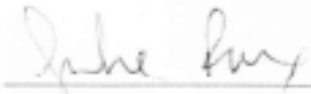
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I support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group (attached).

Chapter 92, Section 33 of the General Laws of Massachusetts defines Reservation as "open space for exercise and recreation".

Please respect the tradition and history of recreation at the Fells and make recreation a priority in the Management Principle and Goals.

Sincerely yours,


name


address

Somerville, MA 02145
city, state, zip

e-mail (optional)

Cc: Fells Dog Owner Group

February-March 2011

Middlesex Fells RMP Comments
c/o MA Office of Public Collaboration
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd., M-1-627
Boston, MA 02125

To whom it may concern,

I support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group (attached).

Chapter 92, Section 33 of the General Laws of Massachusetts defines Reservation as "open space for exercise and recreation".

Please respect the tradition and history of recreation at the Fells and make recreation a priority in the Management Principle and Goals.

Sincerely yours,


name



Medford MA 02155
city, state, zip

e-mail (optional)

Cc: Fells Dog Owner Group

We support recreation in the Fells. We support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group

Please print clearly!

| Name | Address City, State, Zip | Phone number | E-mail Address | Join Fells DOG |
|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Courtney Smith | — | — | [REDACTED] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| PHOTO | — | — | — | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wylie Katz | — | — | — | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jason Gerrard | [REDACTED] Stoughton, MA | — | — | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jennifer Sutherland | [REDACTED] Salem, MA | — | — | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bryan Caravan | — | — | [REDACTED] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Scott & Tracy Siegel | Salem, MA | — | — | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Justin Trembore | [REDACTED] Charlston, MA | — | [REDACTED] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| David DeBella | [REDACTED] Winchester, MA | — | — | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| WILLIAM LANG | [REDACTED] Winchester, MA | — | [REDACTED] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Please be a responsible dog owner - always clean up after your dog!

Please return completed form to: Fells Dog Owner Group, [REDACTED]

Boston, MA 02114

We support recreation in the Fells. We support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group

Please print clearly!

| Name | Address City, State, Zip | Phone number | E-mail Address | Join Fells DOG |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| MARK WRIGHT | [REDACTED] MIDDLESEX NH 03256 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jeff Munro | [REDACTED] Malden MA 02148 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Andy Maudo Munro | [REDACTED] Malden MA 02148 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Anthony Munro | [REDACTED] Malden, MA 02148 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Maiah Schedler | [REDACTED] Woburn MA 02155 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lindsay Vittori | [REDACTED] Malden MA 02155 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| PLACIN BAVIER | [REDACTED] MEDFORD MA, 02155 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| EJ Bergo | [REDACTED] Malden MA 02155 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Neil Porter | [REDACTED] Stoughton MA, 02060 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Kevin Tuttle | [REDACTED] Roslindale MA 02151 | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Please be a responsible dog owner - always clean up after your dog!

Please return completed form to: Falls Dog Owner Group, [REDACTED]

Boston, MA 02114

We support recreation in the Fells. We support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group

Please print clearly!

| Name | Address City, State, Zip | Phone number | E-mail Address | Join Fells DOG |
|------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Robert Long | [Redacted] Winchester, MA 02130 | | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D. Crasby | [Redacted] Stoughton, MA | | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sarah Smeigel | [Redacted] S. Boston, MA 02125 | | [Redacted] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Nathan Kelly | [Redacted] Stoughton, MA 02180 | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Verren Butler | [Redacted] 02130 STOURM | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Robert Bernabei | [Redacted] Weston, MA | | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ed Fethersell | [Redacted] Methuen, MA | | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rita Olenio | [Redacted] Weston, MA | | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Judy Fethersgill | [Redacted] Methuen, MA | | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| John Fraser | [Redacted] Stoughton, MA 02180 | | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please be a responsible dog owner - always clean up after your dog!

Please return completed form to: Fells Dog Owner Group, [Redacted]

Boston, MA 02114

We support recreation in the Fells. We support the changes to the Draft Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan proposed by the Fells Dog Owner Group

Please print clearly!

| Name | Address City, State, Zip | Phone number | E-mail Address | Join Fells DOG |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Linda McElaney | [Redacted] MA | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dennis McElaney | [Redacted] Stoughton | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Joel A Fenbors | [Redacted] BROOKLINE MA 02446 | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dottie Corbett | [Redacted] Malden MA 02148 | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dexter Cronin | [Redacted] Winchester | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Robin Vella | [Redacted] ANDOVER MA 01810 | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Eric McDermott | [Redacted] Melrose | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| BRIAN TOBIN | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| TAMARA DODD | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ted Smith | [Redacted] Hingham | [Redacted] | [Redacted] | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please be a responsible dog owner - always clean up after your dog!

Please return completed form to: Fells Dog Owner Group, [Redacted]

Boston, MA 02114

February-March 2011

Middlesex Fells RMP Comments
c/o MA Office of Public Collaboration
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd., M-1-627
Boston, MA 02125

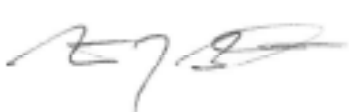
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Please respect the tradition and history of recreation at the Fells and make recreation a priority in the Management Principle and Goals.

Sincerely yours,



Nathan J. Blanchet Gritte J. Blanchet

name



number and street

Charlestown, MA 02129

city, state, zip

e-mail (optional)

Cc: Fells Dog Owner Group

Proposal to prioritize recreation in the Management Principle and Goals for the Middlesex Fells Reservation Resource Management Plan

Note: Changes to the language of the DCR's Draft Management Principle and Goals, dated February 9, 2011, are indicated in underlined roman type.

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reservation to ensure that water quality of wetlands, streams, vernal pools, ponds and reservoirs is protected.

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