



Disc golf course at Nantucket State Forest's South Pasture. (See Appendix G for photo information.)

SECTION 13. NANTUCKET STATE FOREST

13.1. INTRODUCTION

Nantucket State Forest is located in the center of the town, and island, of Nantucket. (Figure 13.1) It was acquired from the Nantucket Civic League as two separate reforestation lots; the South Pasture parcel in 1913 and the North Pasture parcel in 1919 (Mason 2003). The South Pasture is accessed via Rugged Road, Ticcoma Way, and Lovers Lane; and the North Pasture via Polpis, Milestone, and Hinsdale roads.

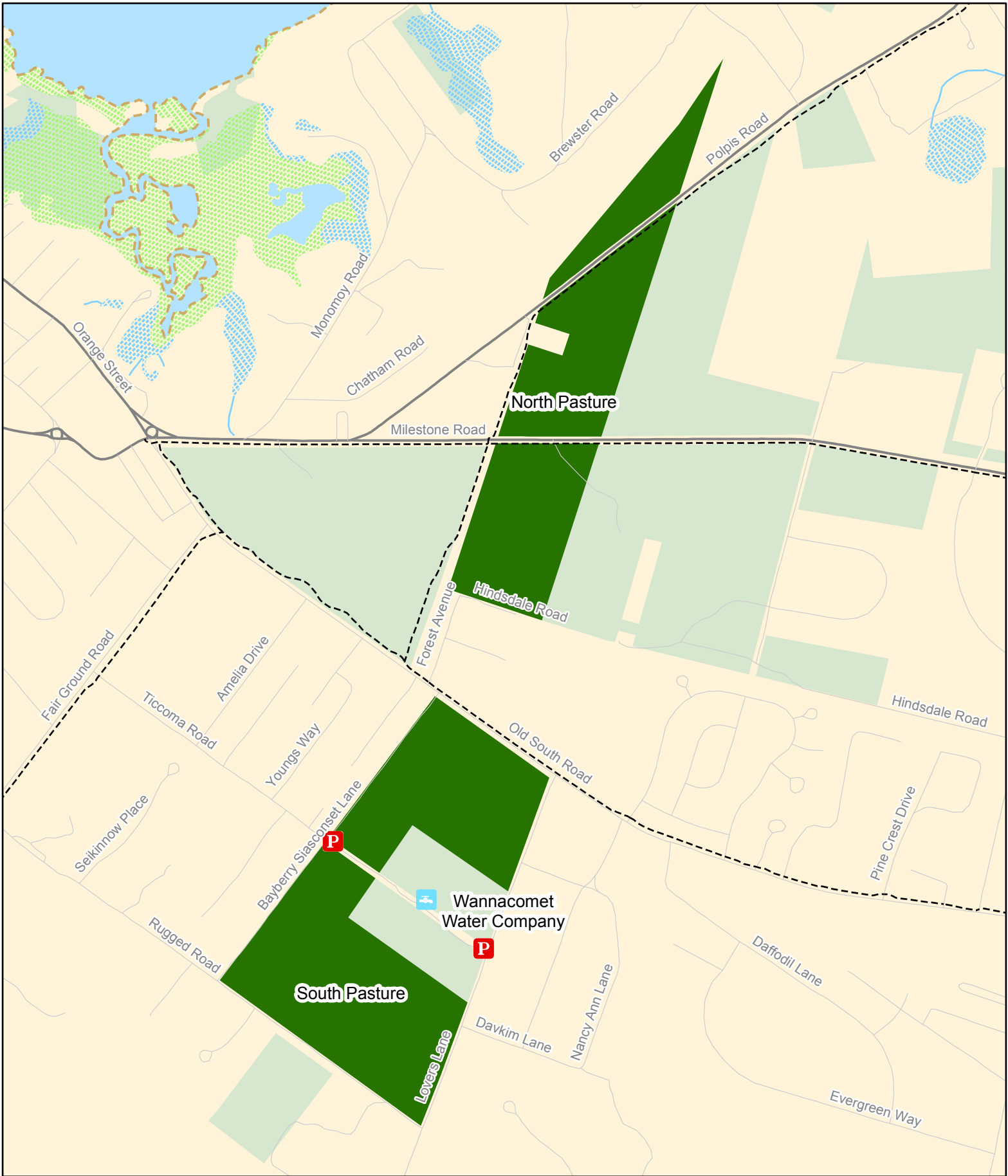
Forest management, including the establishment of pine plantations began in the late 1920s or early 1930s (Mason 2003). It was believed that softwoods would be economically viable to produce, and additional plantations were established in the 1950s or 1960s. However, storm and insect damage, disease, and weak local markets for the forest's wood made commercial forestry unfeasible. In 1980, consideration was given to converting the forest's pine plantations to hardwoods and red cedar in order to meet local demand for firewood, fence posts, and pilings. This was not done. Instead, forest management shifted toward passive recreation, forest aesthetics, the protection and enhancement of

wildlife habitat, and the protection of rare plants (Mason and McNamara 1980).

The 1980s and 1990s saw a municipal presence in the forest. In 1980, the Town of Nantucket and the DEM entered into a joint management agreement for the forest, allowing municipal departments to help implement the 1980 management plan (Mason and McNamara 1980). In 1991, municipal bike paths were extended through the forest. Five years later, 17.07 acres were sold to the town for the creation of a public water supply system; this was the first change in the size of the forest since acquisition of the North Pasture parcel.

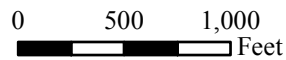
In 2010, the forest once again underwent a major transformation when construction began on an 18-hole disc golf course. The course, which opened in 2012, covers nearly all of the South Pasture and adjacent municipal water supply land. Disc golf is perhaps the most popular and best known recreational activity in the forest, and has become emblematic of Nantucket State Forest.

Nantucket State Forest's physical, political, and regulatory attributes are summarized below. (Table 13.1.1)



Nantucket State Forest

Figure 13.1.



Geographic information provided by MassGIS and DCR GIS.

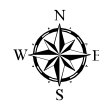


Table 13.1.1. Physical, political, and regulatory settings of Nantucket State Forest.

| Setting | Name or Metric |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Location: | Nantucket |
| Area (acres)^a: | 117.91 |
| Perimeter (miles)^a: | 4.67 |
| Landscape Designation(s)^b: | Parkland |
| Legislative Districts: | |
| House | Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket |
| Senate | Cape and Islands |
| Regulatory Designations: | Priority Habitat |

a. Calculated using a Geographic Information System (GIS).

b. For a summary of the DCR's landscape designations, see <http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/ld/ld-factsheet-final.pdf>.

Associated Properties. There are operational connections between Nantucket State Forest and DCR properties on Martha's Vineyard. The Forest and Park Supervisor III at Correllus is responsible for the management and operation of Nantucket State Forest. They are also responsible for Correllus (Section 10), Sylvia (Section 11), South Beach (Section 12), and assisting Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry personnel with the management of the West Tisbury Fire Tower property (Section 15).

13.2. NATURAL RESOURCES

Physical Features

The forest is located atop a glacial outwash plain. Elevations range from 29 to 48 feet for the South Pasture, to approximately 40 to 50 feet for the North Pasture.

Water Resources

Nantucket State Forest is entirely uplands; there are no surficial water resources. (Table 13.2.1)

Table 13.2.1. Water resources of Nantucket State Forest.

| Water Resource | Name or Metric |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Watershed: | Islands |
| Aquifer: | Nantucket SSA |
| Lens | N/A |
| Rivers and Streams (miles) | 0.00 |
| Vernal Pools | |
| Certified (#) | 0 |
| Potential (#) | 0 |
| Wetlands (acres) | 0.00 |
| Lakes and Ponds (acres) | 0.00 |

The absence of water resources, combined with the forest's location more than 2,200 feet from the ocean, result in low susceptibility to flooding, storm surge, and sea level rise. There are no predicted impacts. (Table 13.2.2)

Table 13.2.2. Potential impacts of flooding, hurricane inundation, and sea level rise to Nantucket State Forest.

| Type of Impact | Acres | % |
|-------------------------------|-------|------|
| Flooding: | | |
| 100-year Storm | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 500-year Storm ^a | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Hurricane Inundation: | | |
| Category 1 Storm | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Category 2 Storm ^b | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Category 3 Storm ^b | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Category 4 Storm ^b | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Sea Level Rise | 0.00 | 0.00 |

a. Cumulative value; includes 100-year storm impacts.

b. Cumulative value; includes impacts of all lower category storms.

Rare Species

State-listed Species

Nine state-listed species are known from the state forest. (Table 13.2.3)

Table 13.2.3. State-listed species of Nantucket State Forest, as identified by the NHESP.

| Species ^{a, b} | Type ^c | MESA ^d |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Barrens buckmoth | I | SC |
| Barrens daggermoth | I | T |
| Chain dot geometer | I | SC |
| Coastal swamp metarranthus | I | SC |
| Long-eared owl | B | SC |
| Melsheimer's sack bearer | I | T |
| Pink sawfly moth | I | SC |
| Sandplain heterocampa | I | T |
| Waxed sawfly moth | I | SC |

a. Presented alphabetically, by common name.

b. Fact sheets are available at:
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dfw/natural-heritage/species-information-and-conservation/ mesa-list/list-of-rare-species-in-massachusetts.html>.

c. Types of state-listed species include: B = Bird; and I = Insect.

d. Status of species listed under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA): E = Endangered, SC = Special Concern; and T = Threatened.

Priority Habitat

Approximately one-third of the forest (36.24%) has been designated Priority Habitat under MESA. This includes the southern end of South Pasture, all of North Pasture between Hinsdale and Milestone roads, and a small portion of the North Pasture north of Milestone Road.

Vegetation

There have been no comprehensive surveys of the flora of Nantucket State Forest.

The forest's vegetation is a mixture of native and non-native species that reflects its management history. Plantations of non-native white, Scots, and red pine were established in the 1920s and 1930s (Mason 2003). Japanese black pine, Scots pine, and larch were planted in the 1960s. Many of these non-native pines are now dead or dying, creating a fire hazard. The 1970s saw experimental plantings of hardwood species, such as sycamore maple. The more natural areas of the forest are dominated by pitch pine and black oak, with an understory of scrub oak, viburnums, black huckleberry, and lowbush blueberry (Mason 2003, Freeman 2012). The creation of a disc golf course in 2011, and its subsequent maintenance, has further modified the forest's vegetation.

Invasive Species

Only two invasive plants have been documented (Table 13.2.4); other invasives are likely. In 1983, 100 black locust and 100 Norway maples were planted in the forest (Mason 1983), the status of these invasive trees is undetermined at this time. Two potentially invasive plants, a honeysuckle and an olive, have also been observed.

Table 13.2.4. Known invasive and likely invasive plants of Nantucket State Forest.

| Species ^a | Status ^b |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Oriental bittersweet | I |
| Sycamore maple | I |

a. From Mason. (2003); presented alphabetically, by common name.

b. Plants are classified as being either Invasive (I) or Likely Invasive (L) according to MIPAG (2005).

Natural Communities

There have been no formal surveys of natural communities. Only one community type has been identified; it is uncommon in Massachusetts. (Table 13.2.5)

Table 13.2.5. Known natural communities of Nantucket State Forest.

| Community Type ^a | System ^b | State Rank ^c | Source ^d |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Pitch Pine-Scrub Oak | T | S2 | 1 |

a. Classified according to Swain and Kearsley (2011).

b. E = Estuarine, P = Palustrine, T = Terrestrial.

c. The NHESP ranks communities from most rare (S1) to the most common (S5).

d. Information contained in this table was obtained from:
 1. Mason (2003).

Forests

Nantucket State Forest is 81.58% forested. See Vegetation, above, for additional information.

Wildlife

No formal surveys have been conducted; however, information is available on the forest's birds. As of March 2015, eBird (<http://www.ebird.org>) reported 52 species.

13.3. CULTURAL RESOURCES

This section describes the known and potential cultural resource areas, including pre-Contact and post-Contact archaeological resources, and historic landscapes, buildings, structures, and objects. An overview of significant events in the history of Nantucket State Forest is presented in Table 13.3.1. The forest's cultural resources are identified in Table 13.3.2

Archaeological Resources

The Massachusetts Historical Commission's Historic Inventory of Nantucket has not been completed. The summary/assessment below is based on archaeological surveys undertaken in the area of the forest.

For a landform as small as Nantucket there are a remarkably high number of pre-Contact sites. Over 150 sites have been discovered by collectors and professional archaeologists. For most of these sites little more than location is known, but it is apparent from the collections that people were here from Early Archaic times (ca 9,000 years ago) right up until present. Sites tend to be clustered around the coastal fringes of the island and around the margins of many ponds; some are burials, many are isolated artifacts found within areas of poor integrity.

Four pre-Contact sites have been recorded within the Nantucket State Forest, however many additional

sites abut or are in close proximity, and five systematic archaeological surveys have been conducted within portions of the forest. In the South Pasture an intensive locational archaeological survey was undertaken in 2009 in advance of building the disc golf course. This survey uncovered no significant intact sites because of previous agricultural land-use and associated history of cultivation.

Because the occupation of Nantucket spans over 9,000 years, there is no doubt that the forest was traversed or frequented by Native Americans during that time. The forest is considered to have moderate to high archaeological sensitivity. Except for areas that have been developed or disturbed, there are few places on Nantucket that would not meet this threshold of sensitivity.

Historic Resources

Access to Nantucket Sound fisheries has drawn settlers to Nantucket from pre-Contact through the 20th century; however poor soils made the island a less than ideal location for agricultural development. The area comprising Nantucket State Forest was used for centuries as pastureland, and no permanent evidence remains of human activity except for the trees planted in the 20th century.

Table 13.3.1. Significant events in the history of Nantucket State Forest.

| Year(s) | Events |
|-------------|--|
| 1913 | South Pasture parcel acquired. |
| 1919 | North Pasture parcel acquired. |
| 1920s-1930s | White, Scots, and red pines planted. This was followed in the 1960s by plantings of Japanese black pine, larch, and additional Scots pine. Experimental planting of hardwoods follows in the late 1970s. |
| 1955 | Legislature directs the Division of Forests and Parks to remove fire hazards from, and replant trees in, Nantucket State Forest. (Chapter 319 of the Acts of 1955) |
| 1980 | DEM assigns the care of Nantucket State Forest to the Town of Nantucket on an annual renewable basis. After several years, this assignment is not renewed. |
| 1991 | Agreement to expand municipal bike paths through forest is formalized. |
| 1992 | Legislature authorizes conveyance of a portion of Nantucket State Forest to the Town of Nantucket for public water supply purposes. In return, the town is to provide at least one hydrant for fire suppression purposes and provide necessary pipe and hook-up equipment to provide management and recreation facilities within the forest with potable water free of cost. (Chapter 355 of the Acts of 1992) |
| 1996 | Approximately 17 acres of forest sold to the Town of Nantucket for water supply purposes. |
| 2009 | Nantucket Disc Golf, Inc. is established. |

Table 13.3.2. Cultural resources of Nantucket State Forest.

| Resource | Type ^a | Date ^b | Condition ^c | Integrity ^d | In Use ^e | Utilities ^f | MHC # ^g | Guidance ^h |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Nantucket Historic Landmark District | NRHD | 17 th -20 th c. | - | - | - | - | NAN.D | - |
| Nantucket Local Historic District | LHD | 17 th -20 th c. | - | - | - | - | NAN.C | - |
| Additional Resourcesⁱ | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Mr. Hall's summer cottage</i> | AR | - | - | U | - | - | - | I |

- Resource types include the following: AR = Archaeological; BU = Building; LA = Landscape; LHD = Local Historic District; NRHD = National Register Historic District; OB = Object; and ST = Structure.
- Date of construction provided, when known.
- Preliminary condition assessment using the building system and equipment condition codes as used in the Massachusetts Capital Asset management Information System (CAMIS). The following codes are used: 1 = Excellent-easily restorable to like new condition; 2 = Good-routine maintenance required; 3 = Adequate-some corrective and preventative maintenance required; 4 = Fair-excessive corrective maintenance and repair required; 5 = Poor-renovation needed; and 6 = Fail.
- Integrity is a relative assessment of the condition of a resource's retention of its historic character-defining features; H = High; L = Low; M = Medium; and U = Unknown.
- Use categories include: N = building is not in use; S = building is used on a seasonal basis; and Y = building is used year-round.
- The following codes are used to identify utilities associated with buildings: E = Electric; H = Heat; I = Internet; S = Septic system; T = Telephone; W = Water; and W(S) = Water is available on a seasonal basis. This information is included for all buildings.
- Massachusetts Historical Commission inventory number.
- The following guidance is offered for the ongoing maintenance of these cultural resources:
 - Refer to Historic Landscapes - Built Features BMP (DCR n.d.g).
- Documented through the 1984/1985 Cultural Resources Evaluation Project but not yet field verified or confirmed.

Buildings

There are no historic buildings, landscapes, objects or structures located within Nantucket State Forest. Only modern disc golf course related objects (i.e., signs, benches, baskets, and tee boxes) are present.

The forest is located entirely within the Nantucket Historic District, which is both a National Register District and a locally designated district. Review of any projects by the MHC and the Nantucket Historic Districts Commission should be coordinated through the OCR.

13.4. RECREATION RESOURCES

The South Pasture is home to the Nantucket Disc Golf Course. This course is located on both DCR and Wannacomet Water Company land to both the north and south of Ticcoma Way. It is used year-round, weather permitting, and is promoted as "always open, always free." The Nantucket Disc Golf Open, held each June, attracts approximately 75 professional and amateur players and has a purse of \$5,000.

Municipal bike paths run on, and adjacent to, the North Pasture. Approximately 2,800 feet of paved bike path (i.e., Polpis Bike Path and Milestone Connector) is located in the forest. An additional 750 feet of bike path abuts the forest (i.e., Milestone Bike Path).



Portions of the island's municipal bike path pass through the forest. (See Appendix G for photo information.)

The following authorized recreational activities are known to occur in the forest:

- Bicycling, mountain
- Bicycling, street (bike path only)
- Disc golf (18 holes)
- Dog walking
- Geocaching (1 cache as of March 2015)
- Hiking/walking
- Hunting
- In-line skating (Bike path only)
- Nature study
- Walking/running



A disc golfer tees off at Nantucket State Forest. (See Appendix G for photo information.)

13.5. INFRASTRUCTURE

The forest has little infrastructure.

Property Boundary

The North Pasture property is bounded on the west and south by roads; on the east by protected open space; and on the north by residential properties. The South Pasture is bounded by public and private roads. Both sections have government inholdings; the U.S. Government in the North Pasture and the Wannacomet Water Company in the South Pasture.

Buildings and Structures

There are no non-historic buildings or structures.

Roads

There are no internal park roads. (Table 13.5.1) However, a private driveway for Nantucket Islands Land Bank's Holdgate Fields and Trails property passes through the North Pasture. In addition, two municipal roads (i.e., Milestone and Polpis) pass through the North Pasture. Ticcoma Way, a municipal road passes through the South Pasture; it is gated at each end.

Table 13.5.1. Condition and length of roads at Nantucket State Forest.^a

| Road Condition | Paved (Miles) | Unpaved (Miles) |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Good | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Fair | 0.00 | 0.04 |
| Poor | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | 0.00 | 0.04 |

a. Based on field assessment; all distances calculated using GIS.

Parking

Two parking lots are located off Ticcoma Way. (Table 13.5.2) They are not in the state forest, but are located within the road's right of way. The western lot is unimproved and located beside an entry gate; it is used primarily by dog walkers. The eastern lot is constructed of maintained gravel; it is surrounded by a formal split-rail fence. The eastern lot it is the main parking area for forest visitors and is used primarily by disc golfers.

Table 13.5.2. Number of public parking spaces, by location and type, adjacent to Nantucket State Forest.

| Location | HP | Other | Total |
|--------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Ticoma Way – West ^a | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Ticoma Way – East ^a | 0 | 17 | 17 |
| Total | 0 | 20 | 20 |

a. Number of spaces based on the number of potential nine-foot wide spaces.

A 16-bike bicycle rack is located on Wannacomet Water Company property north of Ticcoma Way. It was placed there by Nantucket Disc Golf, Inc. (NDGI).

Trails

Nantucket State Forest lacks a formal trail system, but trails are present in some portions of the park. A segment of Nantucket Islands Land Bank's Milestone Trail extends from land bank property westward into the North Pasture. A series of trails are present in the South Pasture, nearly all are associated with the disc golf course. The condition and extent of the forest's trails are identified in Table 13.5.3.

Table 13.5.3. Condition and length of official trails at Nantucket State Forest.^a

| Trail Condition | Length (Miles) |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Good | 1.66 |
| Fair | 0.29 |
| Poor | 0.00 |
| Total | 1.95 |

a. Trails between disc golf course holes were not included in this assessment.

Kiosks and Signs

There are no kiosks. A kiosk for the Nantucket Disc Golf Course is located in the Ticcoma Way – East parking lot, off DCR property.

Iron Ranger

There is no iron ranger.

Memorials and Markers

There are no known memorials or markers in the forest. An engraved stone marker for the Nantucket Disc Golf Course is located at the entrance to the Ticcoma Way – East parking lot, off DCR property.

13.6. INTERPRETATION

No interpretive programming is offered at Nantucket State Forest.

13.7. MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Staffing

DCR Personnel

The Forest and Parks Supervisor III at Correllus is responsible for the management of Nantucket State Forest.

Partnerships and Volunteers

NDGI is responsible for maintaining the disc golf course. As of November 2014, NDGI has a paid, part-time (10 hours/week) employee on site to maintain the course.

Town of Nantucket municipal personnel are responsible for maintaining the municipal bike path that runs through the forest.

Public Safety

The Nantucket Fire Department provides fire response and emergency services. Law enforcement is provided by the Massachusetts Environmental Police, Nantucket Police Department, and the Massachusetts State Police.

Funding

Conservation Trust Fund

There are no Conservation Trust Funds.

Retained Revenue

This property does not generate retained revenues.

Other Revenues

NDGI is a non-profit organization that raises funds through donations and tournament and mini-tournament fees. A portion of the fees go to course upkeep.

13.8. MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Management of DCR properties is guided by a variety of regulations, policies, BMPs (e.g., Table 13.3.2), legal agreements, and institutional knowledge. This section describes those practices unique to the management of Nantucket State Forest.

Legal agreements unique to the forest are presented in Table 13.8.1.

Table 13.8.1. Key legal agreements for Nantucket State Forest.

| Party and Subject of Agreement | Type^a | Expiration Date^b |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Town of Nantucket Assigned care of Nantucket State Forest to the town on an annual renewable basis. | A | 1980 |
| Town of Nantucket Amendment #1- Allowed construction of a paved 8-foot wide municipal bike path in the state forest. | A | 1991 |
| Town of Nantucket Amendment #2- Allowed construction of a paved 10-foot wide municipal bike path in the state forest. | A | 2004 |
| Nantucket Disc Golf, Inc. Development and maintenance of a disc golf course. | U | 2011 |

a. Agreement types include: A: Memorandum of Agreement; and U=Memorandum of Understanding.

b. Year that agreement expires. Permanent agreements are indicated by an expiration date of "None."

The Town of Nantucket is responsible for providing "the necessary hook-up equipment to provide management and recreational facilities within Nantucket State Forest with potable water free of cost." (Chapter 355 of the Acts of 1992) This has been provided by the Wannacomet Water Company.

Key park management documents are identified in Table 13.8.2.

Table 13.8.2. Key management and guidance documents for Nantucket State Forest.

| Author and Document | Year |
|--|-------------------|
| Gannett Fleming, Inc. Environmental Audit Report: Nantucket State Forest, Nantucket, Massachusetts. | 1998 ^j |
| Mason, A. Forest Management Plan for the Nantucket State Forest. | 2003 |
| Rassman, J. RE: Proposed restoration project on Nantucket State Forest. | 2006 ^b |
| French, T. W. File # 06-16393; Project name: Restoration of Nantucket State Forest. | 2006 |
| Department of Conservation and Recreation, and Nantucket Disc Golf, Inc. Construction & Maintenance Guidelines for Nantucket Disc Golf (NDG) Course. | 2011 ^a |
| Freeman, R. South Pasture, Nantucket State Forest Habitat Management Plan. NHESP Tracking No. 09-27018. | 2012 |

Annual Maintenance

No DCR annual maintenance schedule is available for this park.

Natural Resources

Water Resources

Due to the absence of surficial water resources, there are no management or maintenance activities for this park.

Rare Species

The disc golf course is managed by NDGI in accordance with the terms of an NHESP approved Habitat Management Plan (HMP; Freeman 2012).

Invasive Species

Under the terms of the Construction and Maintenance Guidelines, invasive honeysuckles are to be removed by NDGI (DCR and NDGI 2011^a). Small honeysuckles are to be hand pulled, and larger plants are to be cut and their stumps treated with a 25% glyphosate solution.

Vegetation

A management plan exists for the forest (Mason 2003); its objectives are passive recreation, vegetation management, prevention of uncontrolled forest fires, and aesthetics. Active forest management is largely restricted to fire prevention, removal of storm damaged trees, and maintenance of the disc golf course.

In 2006, approximately 10 acres of “low quality pitch pine” in the North Pasture was cleared to create savannah-open woodland conditions (Rassman 2006b). In approving this project, the NHESP placed two conditions on the DCR’s activities. First, that the DCR provide the NHESP a written description of “activities planned to meet management goals” on an annual basis (French 2006). Second, that the DCR supply the NHESP with copies of any reports generated by the project, including all monitoring results (French 2006). These conditions remain in effect.

No fertilizers are used in the forest.

In accordance with the HMP (Freeman 2012), vegetation in portions of South Pasture are to be managed as rare species habitat as mitigation for habitat alteration within the golf course’s fairways. To ensure that the management benefits rare species, host plants for state-listed Lepidoptera are to be monitored two and five years after treatment. This monitoring is performed by a consultant hired by NDGI.

NDGI maintains the playing condition of the course by mowing vegetation with a tractor-mounted cutting deck, in accordance with the HMP (Freeman 2012). The DCR’s Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry maintains fire breaks around the southern and eastern perimeter of South Pasture.

The town is responsible for vegetation maintenance along its bike paths in the forest.

Cultural Resources

The color of disc golf baskets, color and number of informational signs, color of tee pads, location of parking, presence of a kiosk, and trash policy for the disc golf course were finalized following Nantucket Historic District Commission review.

Recreation Resources

Under the second amendment to the 1985 agreement between the DCR and the Town of Nantucket, the town is “fully responsible for the funding, design, construction and any future reconstruction of said path along with the perpetual maintenance of the same, plus the remainder of the aforementioned 20 foot wide strip of land.”

The MOU for the creation and maintenance of the disc golf course establishes a variety of responsibilities for both parties (DEM and NDG 2011b). Highlights include: NDGI is responsible for maintaining the course; the DCR will ensure that forest management activities are coordinated with NDGI and minimize impacts to the course; and both parties agree to meet annually in April to review the annual workplan. Readers are directed to the original agreement for a full listing of each party’s responsibilities.

Associated with the MOU are formal construction and maintenance guidelines (DCR and NDGI 2011a). They identify “sensitive” plants to avoid cutting, provide guidance on the creation of brush piles, and identify poison ivy and deer ticks. This guidance is to be used by volunteers and NDGI hired staff when maintaining the course.

Infrastructure

Buildings and Structures

There are no DCR buildings to maintain. The MOU with NDGI specifically prohibits the construction of buildings (e.g., storage sheds).

Roads

There are no internal park roads to maintain.

Parking Areas

Existing parking is off state forest property; the DCR does not maintain these lots.

Trails

The DCR does not maintain trails within the forest.

Kiosks and Signs

NDGI is responsible for maintaining all signs associated with the disc golf course.

13.9. RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

This section provides recommendations for the near- and long-term management of Nantucket State Forest. Applied Land Stewardship Zoning recommendations provide general guidance for managing the forest; future activities and projects should be checked against these recommendations for consistency. Management recommendations for Nantucket State Forest are all high-priority, and should be addressed as soon as resources become available.

Applied Land Stewardship Zoning

The following Land Stewardship Zoning is recommended for Nantucket State Forest. Because the entire forest is recommended for inclusion in a single zone, there is no zoning map for this property.

Zone 1

- No sections of the forest have been designated Zone 1.

Zone 2

- All of the forest has been designated Zone 2.

Zone 3

- No sections of the forest have been designated Zone 3.

Significant Feature Overlay

There are no Significant Feature Overlays.

Management Recommendations

Three priority management recommendations were developed for Nantucket State Forest. (Table 13.9.1) For a recommendation to be considered priority it must address one or more of the following criteria:

- Regulatory compliance or compliance with legal agreements.
- Threats to the health and safety of park visitors and employees.
- The imminent loss of a natural, cultural, or recreation resource.

Additional maintenance and management needs observed during the preparation of this RMP, but not meeting one or more of the above criteria, are not included in this plan.

The following recommendations are of equal priority.

Table 13.9.1. Priority recommendations for Nantucket State Forest.

| Recommendation | Implementation ^a |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Remove remnant non-native conifer plantations to promote native vegetation and to decrease the risk of fire to the forest and abutting properties. | F, R |
| Continue working with NDGI to ensure that Habitat Management Plan for the disc golf course is fully implemented. | F, R, V |
| Provide the NHESP with annual written notification of “activities planned to meet management goals” for the savannah-open woodland project area in the North Pasture. | F, R |

- a. The following codes identify the party or parties responsible for implementing the recommendations: B = Bureau of Ranger Services; C = Contractor; E = Division of Engineering; F = Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry; L = Legal Services; O = Other; P = Bureau of Planning, Design & Resource Protection; R = Regional and district staff; U = Universal Access Program; V = Volunteer or partner; and X = Office of External Affairs and Partnerships.

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