

# Proposed Ordinance Change: Increase the Buffer for Four Priority Wetlands

The naturally vegetated Wetland Buffer helps protect valuable wetland functions, such as flood and erosion control, filtration of sediments and pollutants, wildlife habitat, replenishment of underlying ground water, a variety of recreational opportunities, and scenic vistas.



# Zoning Amendment Warrant Article Language:

"... This amendment adds a new section to the Wetland Conservation Ordinance that prioritizes four of Milton's significant wetlands that have both particularly valuable functions and a higher risk of degradation. Accordingly, those four high-value wetlands, prioritized by the Conservation Commission from the fifteen significant Milton wetlands of the 2005 Blue Moon Significant Wetlands Study and identified by number on the Priority Wetland Areas Map, would be provided increased protection with a 50-ft naturally vegetated Wetland Buffer, where the rest of Milton's wetland areas continue to have a 25-ft naturally vegetated Wetland buffer:"

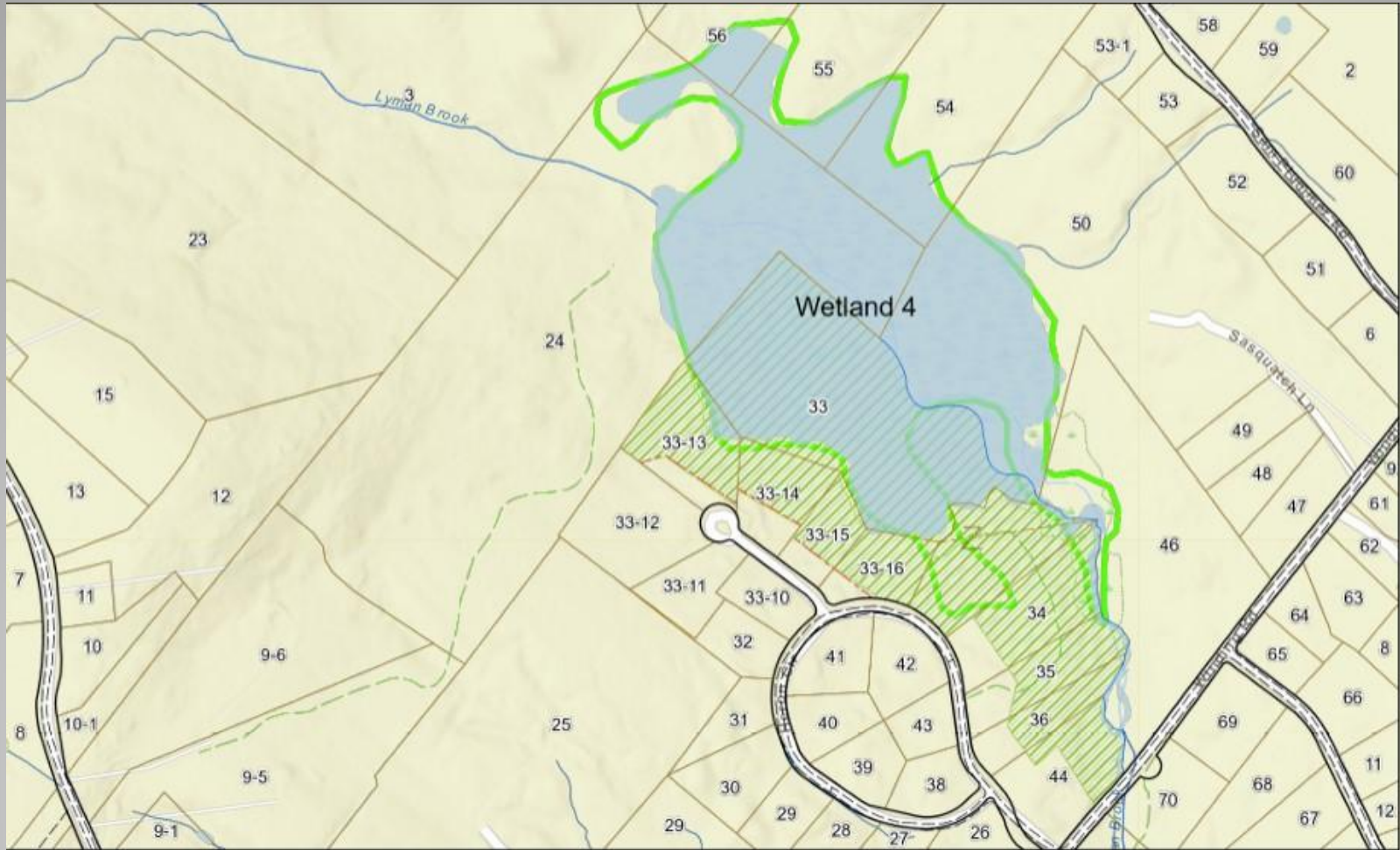
**#4-Lyman Brook Heron Rookery    #7-Fish Pond    #13-Miller Pond**  
**#8-Confluence of Miller Brook & Salmon Falls River and downstream**





## **Wetland #4: Lyman Brook Wetland - the 'Heron Rookery'**

**-- flows into Salmon Falls River/Spaulding Pond**



## **Wetland #4 Location:**

**next to Rookery Rd and Heron Circle off Winding Rd in region between Sam Plummer Rd and Governors Rd**



# Wetland #4 Functions:

- Provides flood and erosion control
- Habitat for fish, birds, mammals, turtles, amphibians and aquatic organisms
- Filters out sediments and pollutants
- Offers recreational opportunities and scenic vistas





## **Wetland #7: 'Fish Pond'**

**-- water flows directly into Townhouse Pond**





## **Wetland #7 Location:**

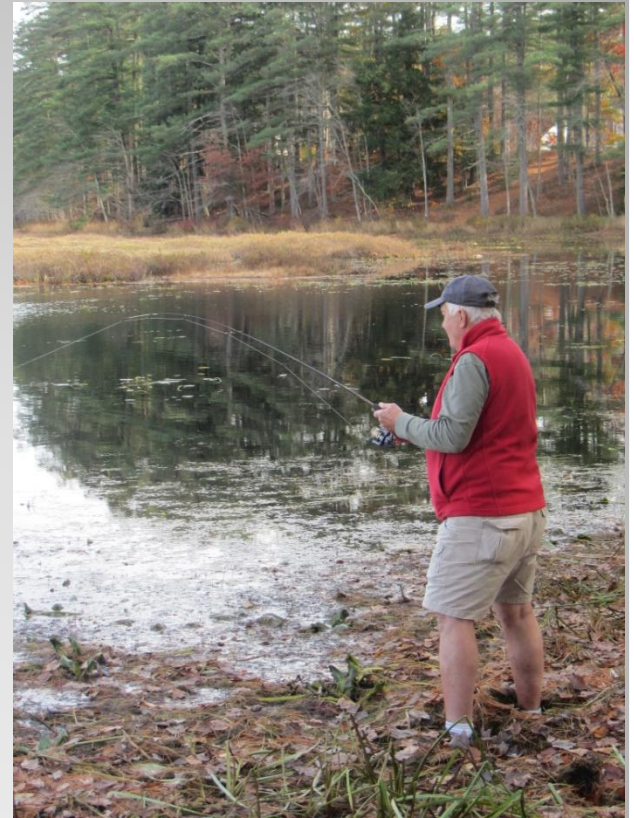
**on northeast side of Townhouse Road off White Mountain Highway**

# Wetland #7 Functions:

- 'Urban Wetland' – accessible to many with high visibility
- Protects drinking water and ground water supplies



- Appreciated for scenic beauty
- Provides flood and erosion control
- Used for recreation







## **Wetland #8: Confluence of Miller Brook & Salmon Falls River (and downstream)**

**2 miles along Salmon Falls River -- flows into Great Bay**





## **Wetland #8 Location:**

**along Maine state boundary/Salmon Falls River from Miller Brook in Milton Mills to upper Northeast Pond**



# Wetland #8 Functions:

- Greenways corridor and wildlife habitat along river
- Protects underlying groundwater and aquifer
- Offers recreation and scenic vistas



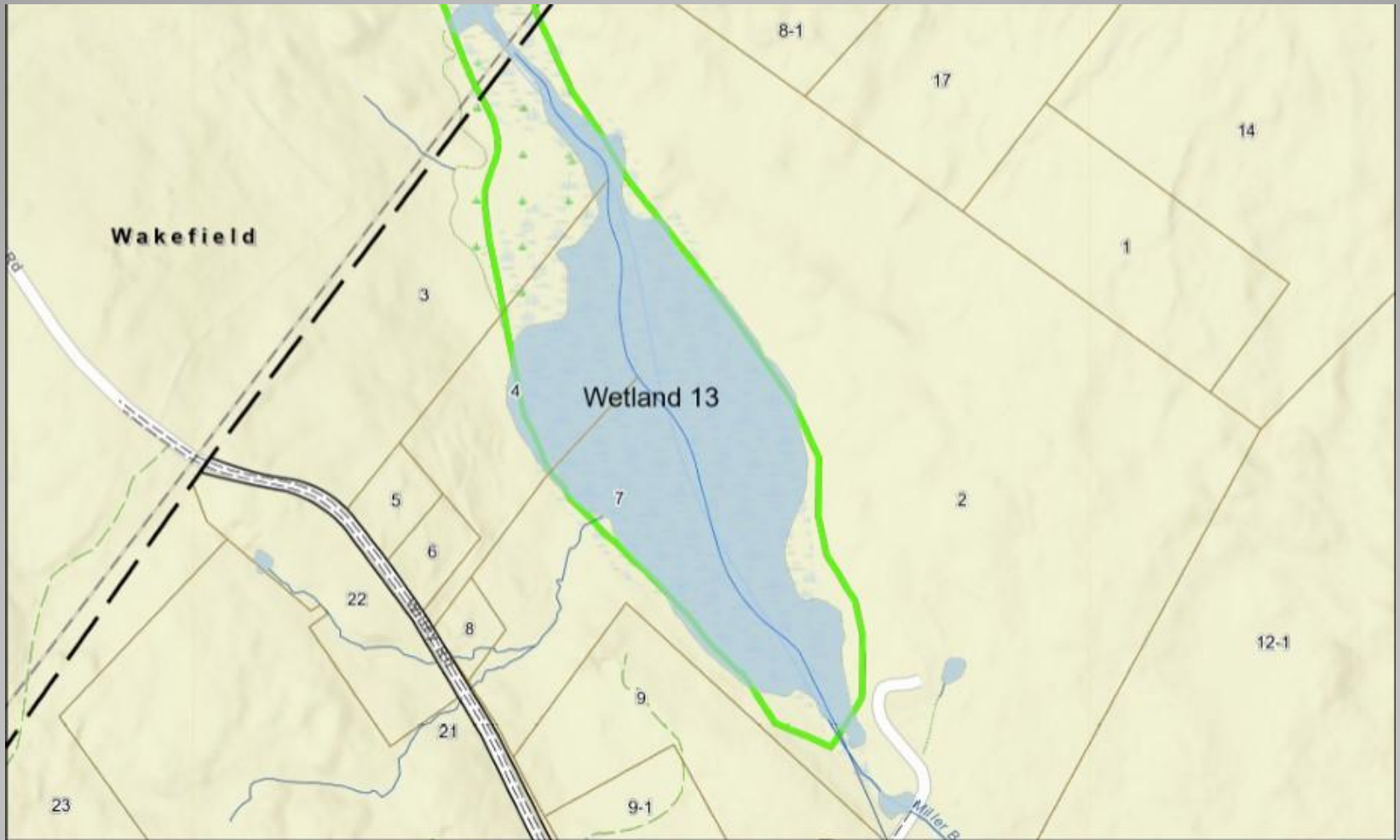




## **Wetland #13: Miller Pond**

**water flows into Miller Brook and Salmon Falls River**





## **Wetland #13 Location:**

**northeast side of Willey Rd in Milton Mills crossing town boundary with Wakefield**

# Wetland #13 Functions:

- Traps sediments and absorbs polluting nutrients
- Habitat for endangered Blandings turtles
- Flood and erosion control
- Historical interest (old dam) and scenic beauty





# **SUMMARIZE potential benefits of extra buffer protection for these four Priority Wetlands:**

- Help prevent road and property flooding
- Maintain water quality in Milton 3 Ponds, Salmon Falls River and Spaulding Pond
- Preserve wildlife habitat for fish, mammals, turtles, birds, and aquatic organisms
- Recreational opportunities (fishing, kayaking, nature photography, birdwatching) and scenic vistas
- Protect ground water supplies

