



EAST HADDAM LAND TRUST, INC.

The Patrell Property: a gem worth preserving

The Patrell Property is a 42-acre parcel that was part of a previously approved subdivision on Baker Road. The parcel is to be purchased as a cooperative effort of the Town of East Haddam, Town of Lyme, The Nature Conservancy, East Haddam Land Trust, and Lyme Land Conservation Trust. Our goal in this fundraising campaign is to raise \$27,500 for our share of the total amount.



The site contains over 3000 feet of frontage on the Eightmile River. The land is covered with a mix of oak hardwood forest and old fields. The terrain varies from a flat floodplain field area and gently sloped forest to steep mounding glacial forms that overlook the Eightmile River. The property has existing trails and paths for public access, including one paved trail, which would allow handicapped access to the Eightmile River.

The Eightmile River provides habitat for native brook trout and anadromous species (fish that live in the sea but spawn in fresh water) such as Blueback Herring, American Alewife, Sea Run Brown Trout, and Atlantic Salmon. The recent installation of fish ladders on the river and the recent removal of the Pizzini Dam from this site are helping to sustain the existing fish population and may assist in the reintroduction of other species. All of these fishery species are dependent upon the cool water that a forested river system provides, and which acquisition of this property will help to protect.





The Site Contains Over 3000 Feet of Frontage on the Eightmile River.

The parcel is in the lower third of the Eightmile River Watershed which has 80% forest cover. It is part of a green belt that runs from Hamburg Cove in Lyme through the Eightmile River Watershed and connects with the Salmon River Watershed. To the south on the East Branch of the Eightmile River is the State-owned Firestone parcel now named the Eightmile Wildlife Management Area (312 acres). To the north is over 4000 acres of additional forestland with very little fragmentation.

The Eightmile River Watershed is under consideration to become a "Wild & Scenic River" as designated by the federal government. The Towns of East Haddam, Lyme, and Salem, through overwhelming votes at town meetings, have petitioned for consideration of the entire watershed to be considered as a designated Wild and Scenic Area. The Towns have worked together since 1995 to achieve this goal of conservation management and protection. This bill has just passed the House of Representatives, and will likely be passed by Congress and signed into law by the President in the very near future.



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