

- B. Maintain and enhance water resources for public water supplies, recreation, fisheries, wildlife habitats and aesthetics.

Actions to implement Policy A

- A.1. Educate businesses and the public about water quality and conservation issues, perhaps in collaborative efforts with:
 - a. government agencies, schools, and community groups to educate the public about water quality and quantity, and what individuals can do to protect our water resources; and
 - b. the State of Vermont and the U. S. Department of Agriculture to inform farmers and other landowners about programs to compensate them for steps to improve water quality and conservation.
- A.2. Support the emergency management efforts of the town and state to limit potential adverse impacts on water resources from spills and other activities.

Actions to implement Policy B

- B.1. In its decision making, at a minimum, the Town should support state and federal standards for the protection of both the quality and quantity of surface and groundwater supplies that pass through Randolph, including the water management typing at the highest applicable level.
- B.2. The Randolph Land Use Regulations should continue to include the Conservation Overlay District which should be amended so that:
 - a. land development which may significantly affect source protection areas of public supplies is strictly limited or conditioned, depending upon the level of threat; and
 - b. adverse impacts to water quality or quantity are minimized through proper siting and conditions on development.
- B.3. Randolph should continue to be involved in Basin 9 planning to maintain and improve the water quality of the White River.

GOALS – FLORA AND FAUNA

- I. Minimize the spread of invasive species.**
- II. Maintain and enhance wildlife habitat through informed decision-making and public education.**

Policies

- A. Support education on the impacts of invasive species and ways to minimize its spread. *(supports Goal I)*
- B. Plan for and promote development patterns that leave ample natural and open spaces for native plants, animals, and the resources they depend on to survive and to thrive. *(supports Goal II)*
- C. Support the conservation and stewardship of areas within the town that provide large contiguous forests, connecting habitat for wildlife, or significant natural communities of flora or fauna; and encourage the restoration of any such areas that have been degraded. *(supports Goal II)*

Actions to implement Policy A

- A.1. The Town Forests’ management plans should consider address invasive species and control thereof.
- A.2. The Town Highway Department should revise its roadside mowing operations to consider measures to reduce the spread of invasive species.

RANDOLPH TOWN PLAN

Approved – September 25, 2019

Action to implement Policy B

- B.1. Identify the necessary corridors or connections that wildlife require to travel within and between Randolph and neighboring towns.

Action to implement Policy C

- C.1. Educate landowners and the public on policies and practices that provide for long-term protection of wildlife habitat in Randolph.

GOALS – FOREST BLOCKS AND HABITAT CONNECTORS

- I. To maintain or enhance the natural diversity, population, and migratory routes of wildlife, including natural predators, in proper balance.**
- II. To provide the community with access to quality forestland for recreational use on town land and by supporting conservation acquisition activity by conservation groups.**
- III. To support a productive forest products industry within Randolph and the broader region.**

Policies

- A. Encourage long-term protection of major habitats through such things as conservation easements, land purchases, leases and other incentives. *(supports Goal I)*
- B. Protect deer wintering areas from developments and other uses that adversely impact the resources without rendering a parcel undevelopable. *(supports Goal I)*
- C. New subdivision and construction shall take reasonable steps to avoid disruption or loss of major identified wildlife corridor crossings and minimize forest fragmentation. *(supports Goals I and II)*
- D. Encourage entrepreneurship in forestry activities, including those which add value to Randolph's forestry products. *(supports Goal III)*

Actions to implement Policy A

- A.1. Encourage owners of necessary wildlife habitat for threatened species to contact the State for assistance in developing a management plan for these sites.
- A.2. Forestry management plans shall be kept up-to-date in order to properly manage Randolph's town forests and floodplain forests.
- A.3. Encourage landowners to maintain or improve the natural diversity, population, and migratory routes of wildlife habitat areas.
- A.4. Encourage the protection of upland forests to reduce erosion and increase flood resilience.

Actions to implement Policy B

- B.1. Encourage sport and subsistence hunting of ecologically-sound intensities to provide continued success of the species and endangered or threatened wildlife.
- B.2. When possible, minimize fragmentation of deer habitat.

Actions to implement Policy C

- C.1. Maintain provisions for conservation subdivisions in the Land Use Regulations.
- C.2. Encourage landowners with larger forestland parcels to reduce the fragmentation of their forestlands.

Actions to implement Policy D

- D.1. Consider implementing buffer strips on streambanks and shorelines for forestry activities to prevent erosion.
- D.2. Consider creating a forest land conservation program to encourage more forest products.