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Androscoggin Land Trust

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ANDROSCOGGIN LAND TRUST

Hunting and Trapping Policy

The Androscoggin Land Trust (ALT) allows hunting on the properties that it owns, whenever possible. Note that this policy does not apply to lands on which ALT holds a conservation easement, since these lands are owned by other private parties who continue to exercise control over public uses, including hunting, consistent with the terms of the easement. Accordingly, the following policy provides guidance to the public on the issue of hunting on ALT fee-owned lands only.

Hunting

ALT recognizes that its fee-owned lands contribute to the overall quality of life for inhabitants of and visitors to our communities. ALT is committed to keeping its lands accessible to the public for traditional recreational activities including hunting, where appropriate. Hunting can help to maintain a healthy balance between a game species and the land's ability to support it; this in turn contributes to ecological diversity and helps native plant and animal communities thrive.

Therefore, ALT allows hunting on most of the lands that it owns. In accordance with Maine law, visitors to these properties may presume that hunting is permitted in the absence of boundary postings or other warnings that state otherwise. Hunters may not erect permanent shelters, blinds, tree stands or other structures on ALT-owned lands. Temporary shelters, blinds, and tree stands are allowed.

A small number of properties are closed to hunting, either because ALT has determined that this activity may pose a risk to public safety or out of respect for the wishes of the donor of the land. These parcels are identified with signs or other warnings advising visitors that hunting is not permitted.

Trapping

Many ALT properties have hiking trails and are visited by individuals and families of all ages. ALT believes that the use of traps may create a conflict on ALT lands with significant recreational use.

ALT will consider written requests to use traps on its properties on a case by case basis, notwithstanding any existing agreements. Permission may be granted only in writing. This policy includes trapping conducted for research or to control animals that pose a nuisance or threaten endangered species.

Adopted by Board: October 22, 2013

Amended: