

Improve and Evaluate Concession Services

Improve Horse and Carriage Concession Services at Wildwood Stables. The stable operation will be improved to provide safe and sanitary facilities that support equestrian use of the carriage road system by both concession patrons and people bringing their own horses. The size and scale of new facilities will be compatible with currently existing structures. Provisions for additional visitor contact and interpretation will be incorporated into the upgraded facilities. Most concession employees will be housed off site; on-site employee housing will be limited to the number of caretakers that are necessary and appropriate. Provisions will be made to separate campers from their horses.

The concessionaire will continue to offer carriage rides and perhaps rent saddle horses. The concessionaire will be required to equip carriages and hay wagons with metal wheels, to impose weight limits, to pick up horse manure, and to maintain the road surface used by the concession operation.

Improve the Efficiency of the Jordan Pond House Restaurant. Restaurant kitchen facilities will be expanded to improve the efficiency of the traditional tea and popover service. Gift shop and food service operations will continue at present levels in support of traditional services.

Evaluate Gift Shop Operations within the Park. The necessity of gift shops at Thunder Hole and Cadillac Mountain has been questioned because of the abundance and proximity of gift shops outside the park and because, in part, of the congestion at Cadillac Mountain summit and Thunder Hole. The gift shops will be evaluated through the concession planning process prior to issuing a fact sheet for new concession contracts in 1996. If it is determined they are unnecessary or inappropriate, they will be phased out.

LAND PROTECTION

Monitor Development Activities on Inholdings

The National Park Service will work closely with local governments to monitor proposed development activities on privately held land within the 1986 legislated boundary to ensure that park resources are not damaged. Activities will be studied for compliance with the park's land protection plan.

Continue Conservation Easement Program

The Park Service will actively monitor and enforce the conservation easements held by the park. The Park Service will continue to cooperate with landowners and land trusts to protect lands of value to Acadia National Park, pursuant to the 1986 boundary legislation (PL 99-420) and the land protection plan.

Survey and Mark the Park Boundary

A comprehensive boundary survey will be conducted and parklands will be clearly marked.

DEVELOPMENT

Reflect Acadia's Architectural Tradition in All New Facilities

New facilities will reflect the architectural principles evident in traditional park structures at Acadia, such as the carriage road gate lodges and the Thunder Hole ranger station (see illustrations on p. 18). New facilities will be characterized by steeply pitched roofs and rustic native materials, including unpainted wood and rough-cut granite. In general the following elements of new constructions will be compatible with traditional Acadia park structures: height; overall building proportions and scale; placement of openings within the facade; materials, textures, and color; exterior detailing and ornamentation; and roof shapes. Rehabilitation and replacement of existing structures will also conform to the park's traditional style.

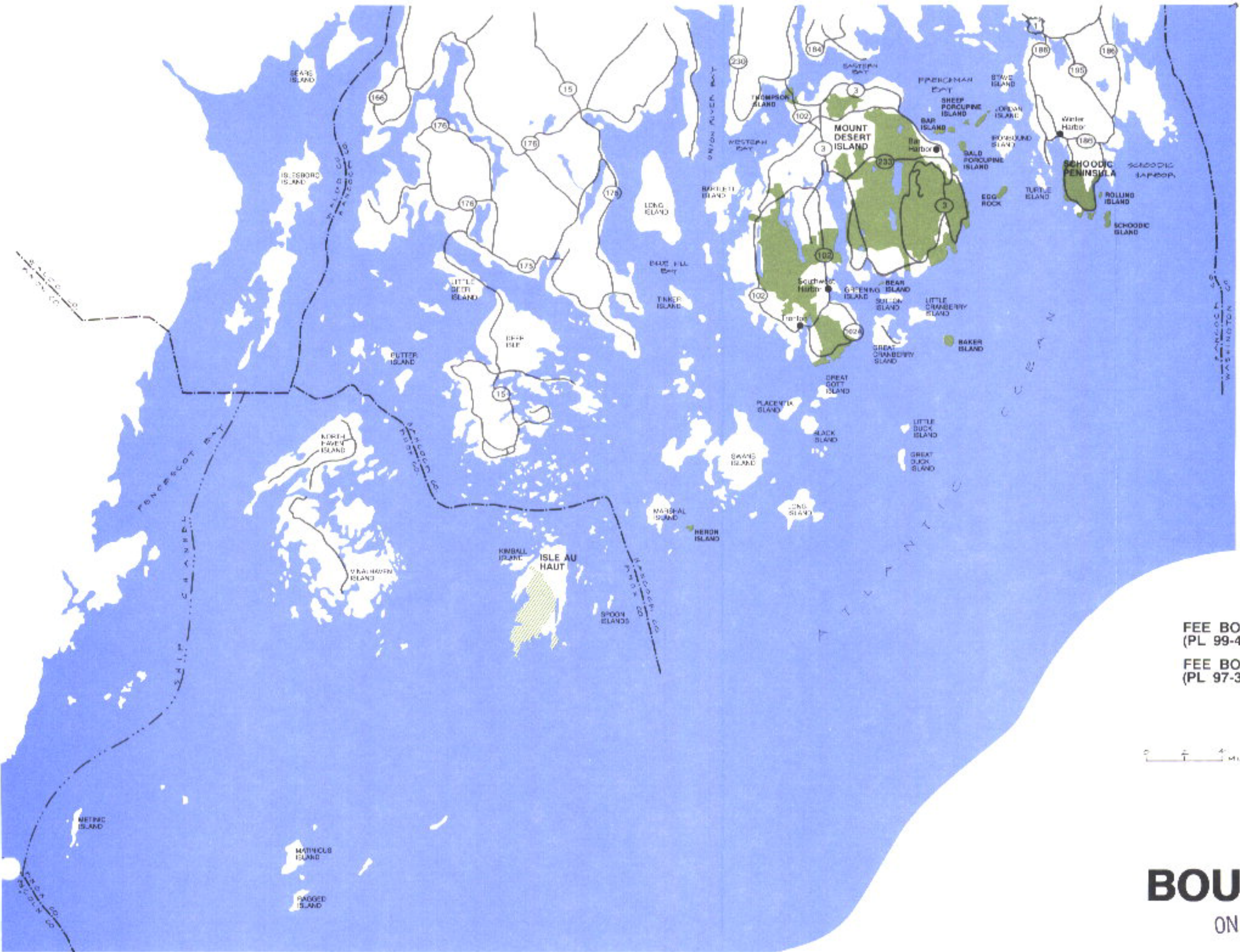
Follow the Principles of Sustainable Design

The principles of sustainable design will guide development at Acadia. Sustainable design recognizes that humans are an integral part of the natural world and that nature must be preserved and perpetuated if the human community is to survive. Furthermore, future technologies must maintain biological diversity and environmental integrity; contribute to the health of air, water, and soils; incorporate design and construction that reflect bioregional patterns, scales, and other conditions; and reduce the impact of human use. As development and retrofitting proceed at the park, the principles of sustainable design will be adhered to as much as possible in all areas, including the following: natural resources, cultural resources, site planning and design, architectural design, building ecology, interpretation, energy conservation, waste disposal, and facility maintenance and operation.

Provide Additional Access for Disabled Persons

Visitor and management facilities and transportation systems will be made as accessible as practicable to persons with visual, hearing, mobility, and mental impairments. Accessibility will be consistent with preserving park resources and providing a high-quality visitor experience. Concession facilities will be subject to the same accessibility standards as National Park Service facilities. Policies on accessibility are based on the 1968 Architectural Barriers Act (42 USC 4151 et seq.), the 1972 Rehabilitation Act (29 USC 701 et seq.), and National Park Service Special Directive 83-3.

Buildings and sites in developed areas will be designed or rehabilitated according to the 1984 Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (49 FR 31528) in order to provide full accessibility to disabled persons. Most administrative offices and interpretive and visitor service facilities, and some employee housing will be accessible. Undeveloped areas, such as those outside the immediate influence of buildings and roads, will not be modified nor will special facilities be



FEE BOUNDARY (PL 99-420) 

FEE BOUNDARY (PL 97-335) 

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BOUNDARY
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provided for the sole purpose of ensuring access to all segments of the population. Accessibility in threshold areas, such as scenic overlooks, nature trails, features of special interest, or wayside exhibits, will be determined based on the area's topography, the significance of the attraction, and the extent of existing or contemporary man-made modifications.

Transportation systems will have a sufficient number of fully accessible vehicles to provide effective services to disabled persons. Until the transportation system has been made fully accessible, a separate accessible vehicle will be provided or disabled persons will be allowed to drive their own vehicles on motor roadways that are otherwise restricted. Prohibitions on motorized vehicles will not apply to wheelchairs used by disabled persons. Water transportation systems will be as accessible to disabled persons as the area being served by the systems. Every effort will be made to provide full access to scenic cruise vessels.

Emphasis will be placed on ensuring that disabled persons enjoy experiences and opportunities with other visitors to the greatest extent possible. Separate facilities for the disabled are not a substitute for full accessibility to park facilities but may be allowed where the need for specialized services is clearly demonstrated.

Provide Park Development Only in Specific Areas on Mount Desert Island

Except for those facilities described in table 1, no additional development will be permitted in the park. Existing facilities currently in use will be repaired or replaced as needed. Unpaved roads will not be paved, widened, or upgraded.

Pursue Cooperative Housing

Working cooperatively with island communities and seasonal businesses, the National Park Service will strive to provide affordable housing on private land for use by seasonal employees. Until adequate community housing is available, acquired inholdings with suitable residential structures will be used temporarily for park housing or administration. The Park Service will comply with the same restrictions on the use or expansion of inholdings that apply to private landowners. Temporary use of acquired structures will help the Park Service meet its immediate needs for additional seasonal housing without disturbing currently undeveloped lands.

TABLE 1: DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

Facility	Description of Activity
<u>Interpretive Facilities</u>	
• Gateway and visitor center	A new park gateway/entrance station and year-round visitor center will be constructed at Hulls Cove adjacent to the existing parking lot. The center will provide adequate space for both interpretation and orientation functions and overcome existing mechanical problems. A critical function of the center will be to provide information on visitor activity options, parking, and an alternate transportation system. Accessible restroom facilities will be available year round.
<u>Carriage Road and Trail Systems</u>	
• Carriage roads and trails	The historic carriage road and trail systems will be rehabilitated as described in the "Resource Preservation" section.
• Crossing at Bubble Pond	The hazardous on-grade crossing of the carriage road and the Park Loop Road at Bubble Pond will be eliminated through construction of a bridge or underpass. The new construction will be designed with appropriate granite facing to harmonize with the other carriage road bridges.
• Wildwood Stables connector	The approach to the carriage road system at Wildwood Stables will be rebuilt and the old route abandoned. Rerouting the approach will reduce the grade and improve safety.
• Paradise Hill connector	The trail connecting the visitor center to the carriage road at Paradise Hill will be rerouted and the old trail obliterated. Rerouting this trail will reduce the grade and make the trail safer for skiers and bicyclists.
• Trail links	New trails into the park may be constructed subject to the completion of a comprehensive trail study if environmentally acceptable routes can be designed. For instance, a route from Bar Harbor and Sieur de Monts to the Eagle Lake carriage road may be constructed along one of two routes proposed by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Also possible is a trail from Mount Desert Island High School to the carriage roads over Youngs Mountain.
<u>Campgrounds and Picnic Areas</u>	
• Blackwoods and Seawall campgrounds	Soil compaction and drainage problems will be addressed at specific sites as necessary. The placement of camping equipment at each site will be clearly designated. The rustic appearance of park campsites will be retained by not paving any sites except those designated for disabled visitors. A portion of Blackwoods campground will be improved to accommodate existing use of RVs up to 35 feet long. Specific roadways and campsites will be redesigned to prevent damage to vegetation by these vehicles and to ease site access. To avoid enlarging the area disturbed by the campgrounds, the total number of RV campsites might be reduced.
• Pretty Marsh picnic area	The historic picnic shelters will be repaired in keeping with their original design specifications, and the sites will be made level.

TABLE 1: DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY (cont.)

Facility	Description of Activity
<u>Concession Facilities</u>	
• Wildwood Stables	<p>Limited improvements will be made at Wildwood Stables. A new barn compatible in size and scale with the existing barn will be constructed. The barns will provide stalls for a limited number of visitors' horses and for horses used by the concessionaire. A new ticket sales and reception area will be constructed and new, separate restrooms will accommodate visitors and campers. Camping facilities for visiting equestrians who bring their own horses will be upgraded. Employee housing will be limited to that necessary to accommodate the appropriate caretakers.</p>
• Jordan Pond House	<p>The Jordan Pond House kitchen facilities will be expanded to allow more efficient operation. Overall restaurant capacity will not increase.</p>
<u>Miscellaneous Visitor Facilities</u>	
• Bathhouses	<p>The existing bathhouses and restrooms at Echo Lake and Sand beaches will be replaced or rehabilitated.</p>
• Permanent restrooms	<p>Permanent restrooms will be constructed at Wildwood Stables, Eagle Lake, Lake Wood, the Acadia Mountain parking area, Pretty Marsh picnic area, and Thunder Hole. In order to minimize impacts, these new restrooms will be small, self-contained, or pump-out facilities. Other restroom sites may be considered to correct sanitation and health problems.</p>
	<p>Restrooms at important staging areas for wintertime park users will be winterized. The restrooms at Sieur de Monts will be converted to year-round facilities. The new visitor center at Hulls Cove will provide restrooms for snowmobilers and skiers, and the new restrooms near Eagle Lake will be available throughout the year. The restrooms on Cadillac Mountain summit may be retrofitted to extend use into the spring and fall.</p>
• Eagle Lake parking	<p>An additional parking area will be built at Eagle Lake. A significant wetland prevents expansion of the existing lot; therefore, additional parking will be constructed west of the existing lot on the south side of State Route 233. The lot will be carefully situated to screen it from the Park Loop Road and Cadillac Mountain. A trail connecting this parking area to the carriage road system will be constructed.</p>
<u>Administrative Facilities</u>	
• Sand Beach fee-control station	<p>The temporary fee station at Sand Beach will be replaced with a new facility in the same location. The new structure will follow the park's architectural style, be vandal resistant, and provide temperature control. To reduce nighttime light pollution, pole-mounted, high-intensity floodlights will be replaced by less intense lights located on the buildings themselves.</p>

TABLE 1: DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY (cont.)

Facility	Description of Activity
• Islesford Historical Museum	An addition will be constructed at Islesford Historical Museum on Little Cranberry Island to store museum artifacts. Moving artifacts to the climate-controlled addition will provide sufficient work space in the museum for a curator, a museum technician, and museum attendants.
• Park headquarters	Additional office, storage, and work space will be constructed at park headquarters to serve all park divisions. An artifact storage facility also will be built to offer secure storage for the park's artifacts housed on Mount Desert Island and to provide sufficient work space for cultural resources staff. The maintenance facilities at park headquarters will be replaced.
• Schoodic ranger office	An office and storage area will be added to the Schoodic ranger residence.
• Baker Island	The Baker Island lightkeeper's house will be adapted for reuse. For instance, caretakers, probably volunteer, may live in the house to provide on-site interpretation, protection, and maintenance services. Other associated structures will be stabilized.
• Employee RV sites	Additional RV sites will be provided for the Park Service's seasonal employees and volunteers who arrive for work with their own campers.
• Employee housing	Additional park housing will be constructed at Blackwoods and Seawall campgrounds to replace trailers and at Harden farm.

MANAGEMENT ZONING CONCEPT

Use and management of lands and waters in Acadia National Park will be guided by management zoning based on resource values. The park has been divided into four zones with a number of subzones. The management emphasis for each of these areas is described below and summarized in table 2. The lands and waters included in each zone are shown on the management zoning map and listed in table 2 as well. After completing the resource studies called for in the *General Management Plan*, the appropriateness of including certain areas in the various zones may be reevaluated and minor changes made. The following section describes the zones and subzones that will guide the management of Acadia National Park.

Natural Zone

The natural zone includes lands and waters that will be managed to conserve and protect natural resources and ecological processes and provide for their use and enjoyment by the public.

Development in the natural zone will be limited to facilities that have no adverse effect on scenic quality and natural processes, are essential for management, and enhance appreciation of natural resources. Examples of typical facilities include trails, signs, and trailside information displays. There will be no picnic areas, toilet facilities, or campsites. This zone



- CULTURAL ZONE
- DEVELOPED ZONE
- SPECIAL USE ZONE
- NATURAL ZONE

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MANAGEMENT ZONES

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will be roadless, and public access will be restricted to foot traffic only. The primary use of this zone will be by the day hiker.

The park will attempt to maintain the components and processes of naturally evolving ecosystems, including the natural abundance, diversity, and ecological integrity of native plants and animals. Maintaining natural diversity is especially important. Species diversity contributes to visitors' aesthetic enjoyment of park wildlife, plants, and scenery; it is the basis of the park's scientific value as an outdoor laboratory; and it is critical to maintaining native gene pools and evolutionary processes. Therefore, those species and habitats identified as fragile, threatened, or otherwise significant (e.g., endangered species, Maine critical areas, wetlands, and other resources in the protected natural area) will be closely monitored and protected. Common species and habitats will not be neglected, for they too play an important role in maintaining biological diversity and ecological integrity. Prescribed fire, natural fire, or other means may be used to perpetuate park habitats, especially fire-dependent ecosystems.

Natural Environment. This subzone comprises the majority of parkland and park waters. Environmentally compatible recreational activities and interpretation will be accommodated in this subzone. Naturalness will be emphasized but some human alterations or intrusions might be evident. The subzone will include outstanding geological or ecological features with unusual intrinsic value or uniqueness — such as shorelines and mountain summits — that will be managed to provide opportunities for public appreciation and interpretation.

Protected Natural Area. This subzone provides for the perpetuation of geological or ecological values with minimal or no human intrusion. These lands and waters will be set aside for strict protection because of their fragility or ecological significance. Public access and fire suppression activities may be restricted.

Cultural Zone

The cultural zone includes areas that will be managed for the preservation, protection, and interpretation of cultural resources and their settings and for their use and enjoyment by the public.

Cultural resources that are key to the purposes of the park will be included in this zone. In most cases the boundary of the zone will coincide with the boundary of a property listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Cultural resources other than those key to the purposes of the park, including properties listed or eligible for listing on the national register, will be designated as part of the zone that best reflects the primary management emphasis of their location in the park.

Development in the cultural zone must be compatible with the preservation and interpretation of cultural values. Whenever possible, new construction will be avoided and historic structures will be used for purposes compatible with their preservation and public appreciation. New structures, landscape features, and utilities will be constructed in the cultural zone only if (1) existing structures and improvements do not meet essential management needs, and (2) new construction is designed and situated to preserve the integrity and character of the area.

Preservation. This subzone will include sites, structures, ethnographic resources, objects, and landscapes that are important because of their aesthetic value or their association with persons, events, or periods in human history and will be managed for preservation and interpretation.

Site-specific planning will determine which treatments will best provide for the preservation and public enjoyment of particular resources in this subzone. No treatment project will be undertaken unless supported by an approved proposal, plan, or report appropriate to the proposed action. The significance of the resource, its condition, its interpretive value, its research potential, and the availability of data will all be weighed in determining the appropriate treatment. Park staff will strive to protect and preserve all resources of the preservation subzone in their existing conditions until planning decisions are made.

Preservation/Adaptive Use. In this subzone significant historic structures may be modified and used for leasing, for public activities, or for administrative activities and functions that permit perpetuating the characteristics that qualify these resources for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

All uses of historic structures will be subject to preservation and public safety requirements. No administrative or public use will be permitted if it threatens the stability or character of a structure, the museum objects within it, or the safety of its users, or if such use entails alterations that significantly compromise the building's integrity. Structural additions will harmonize with but be readily distinguishable from the older work and will not intrude upon the historic scene. Other additions, such as security equipment, heating, and air conditioning, will meet the National Park Service requirements for rehabilitation.

Developed Zone

The developed zone includes lands that will be managed to provide and maintain facilities serving park managers and visitors. It will include areas where park development or intensive use may substantially alter the natural environment or the setting for culturally significant resources. Impacts associated with such development will be mitigated to the greatest extent possible. There are no subzones within this zone.

The developed zone will encompass the facilities themselves and all associated lands directly modified as a result of their continuing management and use; the zone will be restricted to the smallest area necessary to accommodate required development and use. New development will be established only after considering alternative levels of use, facilities, services, and sites (including locations outside the park and locations outside areas with significant natural and cultural resources).

This zone will include land that supports educational and interpretive services to visitors, such as the visitor center; provides recreational opportunities to relatively large numbers of people, such as campgrounds; provides noninterpretive and nonrecreational services to park visitors, such as restaurants; supports administration and maintenance of park resources, such as utilities and housing; and provides for vehicular circulation within the park.

Special Use Zone

The special use zone will encompass uses carried out by other government agencies or private interests on lands within the legislated boundary. Park Service administrative control over the use of lands in this zone will be either lacking or secondary to that of another party.

Roads and Utilities. This subzone will include land managed primarily to provide transportation and utility services to areas outside the park. Examples include state and local road rights-of-way and pump houses for municipal water supplies.

Inholdings. Land and waters used for private purposes and identified for acquisition in the land protection plan are included in this subzone. They will be acquired as specified in the 1986 boundary legislation and then placed in another appropriate park zone.

TABLE 2: MANAGEMENT ZONING SUMMARY²

Zone/Subzone Management Emphasis	Park Areas
<u>Natural Zone</u>	
Manage land and waters to conserve and protect natural resources and ecological processes and provide for their use and enjoyment by the public.	
Natural Environment Subzone: Conserve natural resources and provide environmentally compatible interpretive and recreational activities in ways that do not adversely affect those resources and processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All areas of the park not classified in other zones or subzones
Protected Natural Area Subzone: Perpetuate geological or ecological values with minimal or no human intrusion. These lands and waters are set aside for strict protection because of unusual fragility or ecological significance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetlands: black spruce-tamarack swamp, salt marsh, freshwater marsh, shrub bog, sphagnum/sedge bog, floating vegetation, alder, red maple, cedar, and other wetlands • Coastal islands wholly owned by the Park Service; near Mount Desert – the islands of Bear, Thompson, Sheep Porcupine, Bar (Frenchman Bay), Bar (Somes Sound), the Hop, and Bald Porcupine; and near Schoodic Peninsula - the islands of Schoodic, Little Moose, and Pond • Freshwater islands: Rum (Long Pond) and no name (Eagle Lake) • Maine critical areas deemed worthy of special planning and management consideration by the Maine State Planning Office • Potential national natural landmarks • Habitats of federally and state-listed endangered and threatened species, including peregrine falcon and bald eagle nest sites

²Does not include park areas within the town of Isle au Haut.

TABLE 2: MANAGEMENT ZONING SUMMARY (cont.)

**Zone/Subzone
Management Emphasis**

Park Areas

- Habitats of Maine species of special concern, species of indeterminate status, and watch-listed species
- Significant wildlife habitats as defined in the Maine Natural Resources Protection Act, including habitats for deer, wading birds, shorebirds, colonial seabirds, and Atlantic salmon
- Species, habitats, and natural landscape features identified as rare, imperiled, or critically imperiled under the Maine natural heritage program
- Other important habitats identified by park staff

Cultural Zone

Manage areas to preserve, protect, and interpret cultural resources and their settings, and for their use and enjoyment by the public.

Preservation Subzone: Preserve and interpret historic sites, structures, ethnographic resources, objects, and landscapes that are important because of their aesthetic value or their association with persons, events, or periods in human history and that merit full communication of these values to the public.

- Carroll homestead and associated vernacular landscape
- Elisha Gilley house and associated vernacular landscape on Baker Island
- Sieur de Monts springhouse and environs created by George Dorr
- Abbe Museum site
- Islesford Historical Museum
- Archeological sites
- Old Farm site
- Carriage road system and corridor, including roads, bridges, vistas, Jordan Pond gate lodge, Brown Mountain gate lodge, and associated gate lodge landscapes
- The Park Loop Road system comprising six segments: (1) Paradise Hill Road, (2) Kebo Mountain Road, (3) Ocean Drive, (4) Stanley Brook Road, (5) Lower Mountain Road, and (6) Cadillac Summit Road, including roads, bridges, and associated designed landscape
- Sargent Drive
- Hiking trail system
- Pretty Marsh picnic shelters

Preservation/Adaptive Use Subzone: Use, with necessary modifications, of historically significant structures for leasing, public activities, or administrative activities and functions that perpetuate the characteristics that qualify these resources for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

- Blue Duck Ship Store
- Storm Beach house
- Bear Island light station
- Baker Island light station
- Thunder Hole ranger station
- Seawall ranger station

TABLE 2: MANAGEMENT ZONING SUMMARY (cont.)

Developed Zone

Manage lands to provide and maintain facilities for educational and interpretive services; for recreational opportunities, such as campgrounds; for other visitor services, such as restaurants; for administration and maintenance of park resources; and for vehicular circulation in the park.

- Headquarters' administrative, maintenance, and housing complex
- Visitor center
- Thompson Island visitor station
- Sieur de Monts nature center
- Wild Gardens of Acadia
- Campgrounds, amphitheatres, and seasonal housing at Blackwoods and Seawall
- Picnic areas: Pretty Marsh (picnic shelters will be in the preservation subzone), Bear Brook, Thompson Island, Seawall, and Fabbri
- Sand Beach and Echo Lake bathhouses
- Swimming beaches at Echo Lake and Lake Wood (artificially created)
- Boat launches at Ike's Point, Otter Cove, Eagle Lake, Seal Cove Pond, and Jordan Pond
- Jordan Pond House restaurant, gift shop, and "tea lawn"
- Wildwood Stables barn, corrals, and camping area
- Park utilities
- Gift shop at Cadillac Mountain summit
- Restrooms associated with the above
- Parking areas for all of the above and other designated parking (the Park Loop Road parking is included in the cultural zone)
- Access roads: Duck Brook Road, Lurvey Spring Road, Marshall Brook fire road, Hio Road, road to Wonderland, Man O'War Brook Road, Sieur de Monts fire road, Lake Wood access road, Frazier Point fire road, Duck Harbor/Western Head fire road, Western Mountain fire road, Long Pond fire road, Schoodic Drive, Sand Beach bicycle trail, and Bar Island/Frenchman Bay access drive
- Seawall ranger residence
- Schoodic ranger residence and access road
- Sand Beach house and access road
- Other park housing: Harden farm, Sunset house, Hulls Cove house, and Somes Sound house, and others as acquired

Special Use Zone

Lands and waters within the legislated boundary where uses are carried out by other government agencies or private interests. (National Park Service administrative control over the use of lands in this zone is either lacking or secondary to that of another party.)

Roads and Utilities Subzone: Provide transportation and utility service to areas primarily outside the park.

- State and local road rights-of-way
- Municipal water supply pump stations and dams
- Utility rights-of-way

TABLE 2: MANAGEMENT ZONING SUMMARY (cont.)

Zone/Subzone Management Emphasis	Park Areas
Inholdings Subzone: Acquire private inholdings as available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="704 290 1351 459">• Great Ponds, including Eagle Lake, Jordan Pond, Bubble Pond, Long Pond, Echo Lake, Upper and Lower Hadlock ponds, Seal Cove Pond, Hodgdon Pond, Ripple Pond, Lake Wood, Witch Hole Pond, Hamilton Pond, Breakneck Ponds, Aunt Betty Pond, Somes Pond, the Tarn, Round Pond, and the Bowl<li data-bbox="704 491 1351 546">• Acquisition parcels specified in the Acadia land protection plan