



Priority Lands Project

Conservation Zones

- sites earmarked for conservation
- in most cases native species are dominant

Rank:

- Vegetated with shrubby or small trees.
- Maturing woods or woody fringe with most trees \geq 1ft diameter.
- Mature system: woods with many trees >1 ft diameter, or emergent wetlands (salt marsh or fresh).
- Exceptional example of mature ecosystem

Restoration Zone

- Potential site for restoration
- In vegetated areas exotic species are dominant

Rank:

- Paved or barren – no vegetation
- Partially vegetated with grass or shrubs
- Completely, or almost completely, vegetated with grass, shrubs, or trees

Scenic or Recreation Zone

- Significant unprotected lands

Rank:

- Mowed grass, may have shrubs, beside highway – no safe access
- Vegetated (green) patch in city neighborhood
- Vital scenic or recreational value – contributes to character or identity of neighborhood

Woonasquatucket Zone

- Significant unprotected lands

Rank:

- Vegetated green patch in neighborhood
- Vegetated lands near river
- Riverbank vegetation – contributes to character or identity of neighborhood and retains some habitat value

Evaluation

Rank:

- Photointerpretation (2003 and 1997 RIGIS orthophotos)
- “Windshield survey” looking from outside in (1 and 2)
- Site visit (1, 2, and 3)

Linkage

- Habitat and greenway linkage

Rank:

0. Isolated land
1. Land within 100 ft of other identified links or the waterfront
2. Land that meets at least one of the following criteria:
 - a. A “central link:” identified links separated by no more than 100 ft from two other links, or one link and the waterfront, or a link that has a perimeter more than $\frac{1}{2}$ way surrounded by land identified as a link
 - A link within 100 ft of recognized conservation or recreational land (SCORP lands, private preserves, land trust holdings), a link within 100 ft. of adjacent links that connect it to recognized conservation or recreational land
3. A central link (defined in 2a) that forms part of a habitat corridor or potential greenway containing recognized conservation or recreational lands