



**Kennebec Land Trust**  
**PERKINS WOODS**  
**ANDROSCOGGIN LAKE, WAYNE**  
14 Acres Donated by John and Pat Perkins  
Protected, 2001

**Welcome to KLT's Perkins Woods property! We hope you will enjoy your hike on the blue blazed loop trail that starts at the KLT sign and registration box by the large bedrock outcrop on the shoreline.**

This fourteen acre conservation property includes 2700 feet of lake and wetland frontage, several small cove beaches, and a woodland with an impressive old growth stand of northern hardwoods, white pines, and eastern hemlocks. The property's undeveloped shoreline and old growth stand have significant natural values and contribute to the visual beauty of Androscoggin Lake.



The Perkins woodland features large red oak, sugar maple, white ash, white pine, and eastern hemlock trees. Some parts of the forest have an open park like structure, with very little tree, shrub or herbaceous understory. The tall straight trees, without lower branches, suggest that they were established and matured in a closed forest. The pre-settlement forest at this site was likely cleared sometime after early farmers arrived in Wayne in the later part of the 1700's. Today's mature conifer-mixed hardwood forest would have re-established in the mid-1800's.

In August 2003, two trees were cored in the mature forest stand - a white pine and an eastern hemlock. The cores indicated that these trees, representative of the older growth stand, were between 130 and 150 years old.

Since the Perkins Woods property has large glacial erratics and uneven topography, this conservation land was likely used as part of a farm woodlot or wooded pasture, rather than for cropland or hayfields. An unusually short thirty foot stone wall might mark the extent of clearing from the west, where the land looks more suitable for hay fields, cultivated crops or orchards. These stonewalls are a vivid reminder of the farming era that defined Wayne and the region from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## Shoreline

The bedrock at the Perkins Woods is an intrusive igneous rock known as hornblende gabbro. These coarse grained rocks, which are well exposed along the property shoreline, weather into black sand beaches. Nearby Norris and Lothrop Islands have extensive gabbro beaches.



The vegetation along the shoreline includes ericaceous shrubs such as blueberry, cranberry and rhodora.

Three tree species -- white oak, pitch pine, and tupelo are of particular ecological interest since they are uncommon in the region.

**Access** to the Perkins KLT parcel is by boat from the lake. Visitors should avoid any landings near the shoreline if they see nesting ospreys, especially in the late spring and early summer. There are several cobble beaches that can be used as landings. In the spring when lake water levels are high, it is harder to land on the heavily vegetated, rocky shoreline.

In making a conservation donation to the KLT, the landowners expressed the desire for the property to remain forever wild. Camping and fires are not permitted.

The KLT volunteer stewards for this site are Wayne residents, Jane and Stan Davis.

### Trees

white ash (*Fraxinus americana*)  
brown ash (*Fraxinus nigra*)  
American basswood (*Tilia americana*)  
American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*)  
paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*)  
American elm (*Ulmus americana*)  
eastern hop hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*)  
red maple (*Acer rubrum*)  
silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*)  
sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)  
red oak (*Quercus rubra*)  
\*white oak (*Quercus alba*)  
\*tupelo or blackgum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)  
northern white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*)  
balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*)  
eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)  
\*pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*)

red pine (*Pinus resinosa*)  
white pine (*Pinus strobus*)

### Shrubs and woody plants

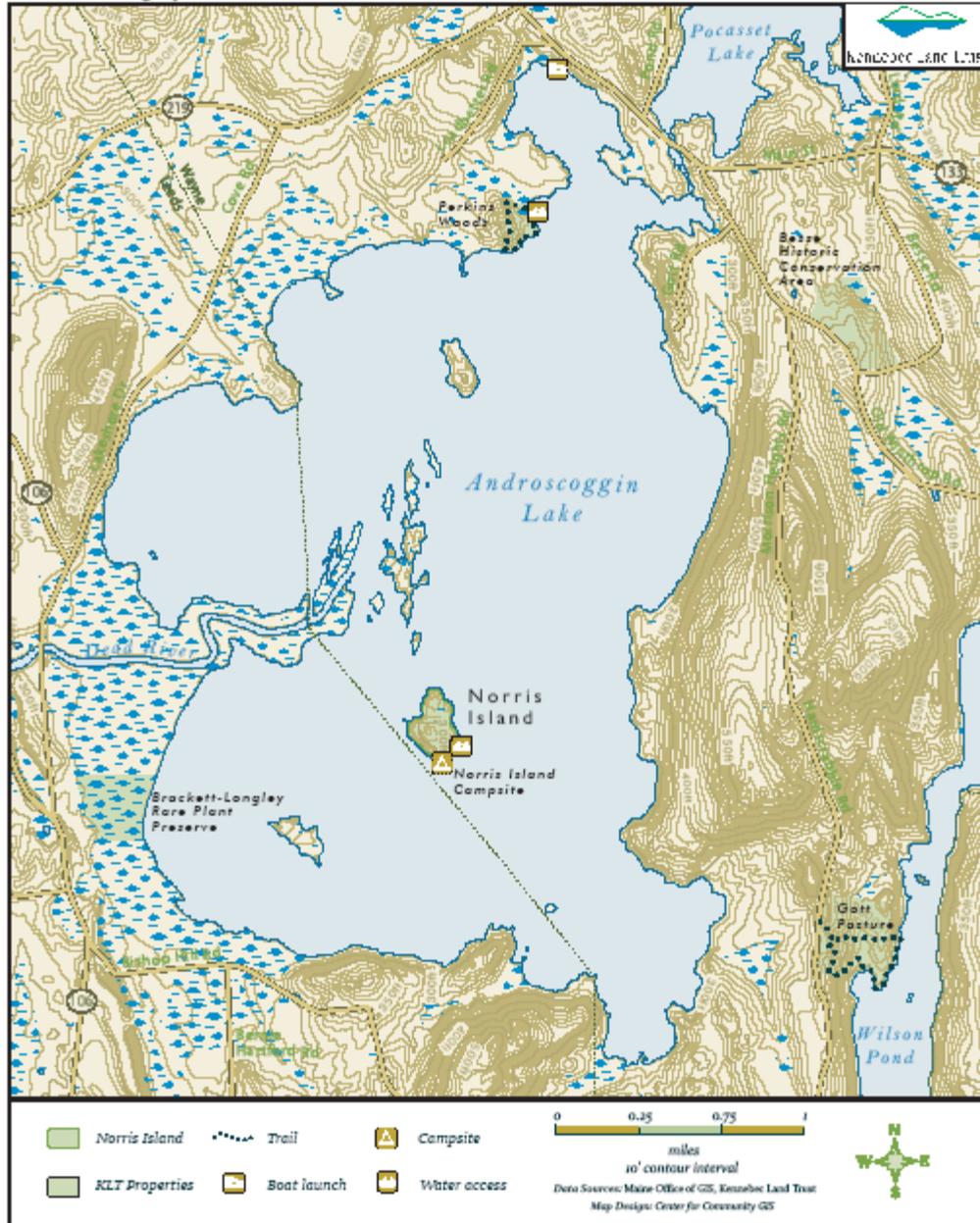
common alder (*Alnus serrulata*)  
beaked hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta*)  
blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*)  
large cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon*)  
dogwood (*Cornus* spp)  
meadowsweet (*Spirea alba*)  
maleberry (*Lyonia ligustrina*)  
rhodora (*Rhododendron canadense*)  
witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)

\* uncommon in this region of Maine

The **Kennebec Land Trust** is dedicated to protecting the natural features and working landscapes of the Kennebec River and Lakes Region. For more information contact us at our office in Winthrop, ME 134 Main Street; 207-377-2848 or check our website [www.tkl.org](http://www.tkl.org). **Please join us!**

# Norris Island, Wayne;

KLT Surrounding properties: Besse Historic Conservation Area, Gott Pasture, Brackett-Longley Rare Plant Preserve, and Perkins Woods



Norris Island ~ 27 acres ~ owned by Kennebec Land Trust