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## **Conservation Plan**

Source: [Mount A to the Sea Coalition](#)

This is an excerpt from the plan. For a full report, go to our website at [http://www.mtatosea.org/mta2c\\_conservation\\_plan.pdf](http://www.mtatosea.org/mta2c_conservation_plan.pdf) to review the Plan in its entirety.

## Conservation Plan Synthesis

This document is a combination of two separate conservation plans developed by working groups of MtA2C partners with extensive community input. The northern plan that includes the Mt. Agamenticus and Tatnic Hills was coordinated by staff at the Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and is available at [www.tnc.org](http://www.tnc.org). The southern plan, coordinated by Mark Ward, Ecological Consultant, includes York Pond, the York River, Brave Boat Harbor and Gerrish Island. It is available from Roger Cole, Mt. Agamenticus to the Sea Conservation Initiative Coordinator, at [MntAtoSea@comcast.net](mailto:MntAtoSea@comcast.net).

In this merged and condensed document, sections of each plan have been combined to include:

- The broad vision
- The purpose of the plan
- The methodology used
- Tables of conservation values, threats and goals
- Specific recommendations for towns, land trusts, water districts, land owners, state and federal agencies and others.

## The Vision

The shared vision of the MtA2C is to protect a network of priority conservation lands from Mt. Agamenticus through the marshes, fields and forests buffering the York River and Brave Boat Harbor estuary to the largely undeveloped forest interior and coastline of Gerrish Island.

## Purpose

The purpose of the plan is to guide and focus conservation efforts throughout the MtA2C area through 2008, building on more than 30 years of conservation work on and around Mt. Agamenticus and Braveboat Harbor. The plan was developed with support and input from over 80 organizations, individuals and municipalities, so that the final document reflects a community vision for the future of the focus area.

## Methodology

The plan follows the 5-S Framework for Site Conservation, developed by The Nature Conservancy, which involves the identification of: 1) systems (conservation targets), 2) stresses, 3) sources of stress (threats), 4) strategies, and 5) measures of success. The plan was developed using a planning process in which a group of core conservation values (systems/targets) are identified. The major threats (stresses) to these targets are evaluated and strategies to reduce the threats and achieve conservation goals are developed. Conservation goals set minimum standards that must be achieved if efforts are to be deemed a success.