



JANE SWIFT
GOVERNOR

BOB DURAND
SECRETARY

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114-2119

Tel. (617) 626-1000

Fax (617) 626-1181

<http://www.magnet.state.ma.us/envir>

ACEC Nominations Accepted for Full Review by EOEA

On March 25, 2002 two nominations for Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) were submitted to Environmental Affairs Secretary Bob Durand. Sixty-six Massachusetts citizens nominated the proposed Petapawag ACEC, whose suggested boundary covers 25,902 acres in Ayer, Dunstable, Groton, Pepperell and Tyngsboro. The adjacent proposed Squannassit ACEC, nominated by 126 citizens, spans 37,494 acres in Ashby, Ayer, Groton, Harvard, Lancaster, Lunenburg, Pepperell, Shirley, and Townsend.

Secretary Bob Durand has accepted both the Squannassit and Petapawag nominations for concurrent, public review. Local public information meetings will be held in May and June to present details about the two nominations and the ACEC Program, administered by the Department of Environmental Management. Please see the schedule of public meetings below for details about meeting locations and dates.

Information about the ACEC nominations, including an interactive map of the proposed Petapawag and Squannassit ACECs and the Squannassit and Petapawag Nomination Reports and Appendices, is available at the nominators' web site, www.squannassit.org. Copies of the nomination and maps showing the proposed boundaries have been distributed to the Boards of Selectmen of the eleven communities, and may be examined at town halls and public libraries. Information about the ACEC Program is also available at www.state.ma.us/dem/programs/acec.

Please contact Jennifer Lappin at (617) 626-1498 or Jennifer.Lappin@state.ma.us for more information about the nomination reviews.

RECEIVED

APR 16 2002

MEPA

ACEC Public Information Meeting Schedule for the Squannassit and Petapawag ACEC Nominations

| Town | Date | Time | Location |
|-----------|--------------------|----------------|---|
| Harvard | Tuesday, May 7 | 7:30 P.M. | Selectmen's Meeting Harvard Town Library Meeting Room 7 Fairbanks Street, Harvard |
| Lunenburg | Wednesday, May 8 | 7:00 P.M. | Lunenburg Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room 17 Main Street, Lunenburg |
| Shirley | Tuesday, May 14 | 7:00 P.M. | Shirley Town Offices 7 Keady Way, Shirley |
| Ayer | TBA | 6:30-8:00 P.M. | Ayer Public Library 26 East Main Street, Ayer |
| Pepperell | Monday, May 20 | 7:00 P.M. | Varnum Brook Middle School Auditorium 10 Hollis Street, Pepperell |
| Groton | Wednesday, May 22 | 7:00 P.M. | Groton Dunstable Middle School Cafeteria 344 Main Street, Groton |
| Townsend | Thursday, May 30 | 7:00 P.M. | Townsend Memorial Hall 272 Main Street, Townsend |
| Tyngsboro | Tuesday, June 4 | 7:00 P.M. | Tyngsboro Town Hall 25 Bryants Lane, Tyngsboro |
| Ashby | Thursday, June 6 | 7:00 P.M. | Ashby Public Library Main Street, Ashby |
| Dunstable | Wednesday, June 12 | 7:00 P.M. | Dunstable Town Hall 511 Main Street, Dunstable |

For questions, please contact Jennifer Lappin at the ACEC Program,
Department of Environmental Management (617)-626-1498