

Appendix B Survey Highlights

Summary of Selected Questions From Public Opinion Surveys

Compiled by H. Dominie, Maine Land Use Regulation Commission

04/30/01

	Residents	Seasonal Residents	Visitors
Most valued attributes (in order of importance and with response rates)	<u>Maine Audubon*</u> (that make Rangeley attractive place to live) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lifestyle/quiet living (92%) 2. Natural beauty (83%) 3. Remoteness (22%) 4. Community (20%) 5. Outdoor activities (12%) <u>Town of Rangeley</u> (attractive features that are important) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lakes and ponds (100%) 2. Mountains (98%) 3. Wildlife (87%) 4. Forests (86%) 5. Rural scenes (76%) 	<u>Maine Audubon*</u> (that make Rangeley attractive place to live) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peace & quiet (51%) 2. Outdoor recreation (48%) 3. Natural beauty (44%) 4. Winter activities (30%) 5. Lakes (15%) <u>Town of Rangeley</u> (attractive features that are important) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lakes and ponds (98%) 2. Mountains (94%) 3. Forests (89%) 4. Wildlife (82%) 5. Rural scenes (74%) <u>Union Water Power Co.</u> (reasons for campowner purchase of property) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clean water lakes/river (87%) 2. Attractive scenery (77%) 3. Little to no development (69%) 	<u>Maine Audubon*</u> (that make Rangeley attractive for tourism) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Town character & location 2. Natural beauty of area 3. Lakes (summer); Outdoor recreation (fall) 4. Wildlife <u>Rangeley Chamber</u> (single most outstanding impression) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scenery (55%) 2. Wildlife (13%) 3. Peace & quiet (12%) 4. Lakes (9%) 5. Friendliness (8%) <u>Union Water Power Company</u> (factors important to decision to visit) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clean water (88%) 2. Light to no development (72%) 3. Attractive scenery (66%) 4. Enjoying company of group (53%) 5. Good wildlife viewing & fishing (52%)

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List of Surveys

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1. Rangeley Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce, 1990-91, Number of summer responses: about 734; number of winter responses: about 300
2. Union Water Power Co., Upper and Middle Dams Storage Project, 1998, Number of returned mail surveys: 471
3. Maine Audubon Society, Conservation Works Survey, 1998, Return rates: residents 22% (out of 1,100 mailed), seasonal residents 32% (out of 200 mailed), tourists: 318 sampled
4. Town of Rangeley, Comprehensive Plan Survey, 1986, Return rates: residents 33%, seasonal residents 25%

IN MOST CASES, ONLY THE TOP FIVE RESPONSES ARE INCLUDED. Open-ended questions, where respondents filled in their own responses, are signified with an asterisk. Responses are noted where they differed by season during which group was polled.

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Attributes that are undesirable	<p><u>Maine Audubon*</u> (for lifestyle)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to facilities (51%) 2. Local economy/low wages (50%) 3. Weather (18%) 4. High cost of living (17%) 5. Taxes (13%) 	<p><u>Maine Audubon*</u> (for lifestyle)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Weather (47%) 2. High Cost of Living (36%) 3. Crowds (27%) 4. Traffic/Noise (16%) Needs Amenities/Services (16%) <p><u>Union Water Power Co.*</u> Campowners who felt recreation activities of others detract from their experience (62% of total):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vehicular traffic, i.e. dust (44%) 2. Jet skis (22%) 3. Motor boat noise (5%) Seaplanes practicing (5%) 4. Other 	<p><u>Maine Audubon*</u> (for tourism)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. None (summer); Long trip, too remote (fall) 1. Motor noise on lakes (summer); Poor roads, traffic, no major access (fall) 2. Need more rainy day activities (summer); None (fall) 3. No variety in restaurants (summer); Too crowded (fall) 4. Long trip, too remote (summer); Need more rainy day activities (fall) 5. Decline in environment (summer/fall)
Changes needed for Rangeley area to be more desirable:	<p><u>Maine Audubon*</u> (place to live)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better paying jobs (25%) 2. Improve roads (9%) 3. Nothing (6%) Improve services (6%) Lower taxes (6%) 	<p><u>Maine Audubon*</u> (place to live)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not overdevelop (17%) 2. Nothing (14%) 3. More in-town amenities (10%) 4. Lower taxes (7%) 5. Improve Saddleback (5%) 	<p><u>Maine Audubon*</u> (recreation destination)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not change anything 2. More rainy day, indoor activities (summer); Control growth & commercialism (fall) 3. Improve dining options (summer); Advertise more (fall) 4. Do not allow motorized vehicles on lakes (summer); Outdoor recreation (fall) 5. Create & maintain trails (summer); Improve dining options (fall)

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Recreational qualities needed to maintain area as desirable place:	<u>Maine Audubon*</u> 1. Natural beauty (30%) 2. Trails (27%) 3. Water quality (26%) 4. Snow sports (22%) 5. Environmental quality (15%); Keep development out (15%)	<u>Maine Audubon*</u> 1. Environmental quality (42%) 2. Access to land & lakes (35%) 3. Snowmobile trails (23%) Hiking trails (23%) 4. Stop shore development (13%)	
Recreational activities to develop:	<u>Maine Audubon*</u> 1. Indoor activities for adults & children (60%) 2. More trails (33%) 3. Improve Saddleback Mt. (25%) 4. Nothing (13%) 5. Improve tourist accommodations (5%), More restaurants (5%)	<u>Maine Audubon*</u> 1. Indoor activities for adults & children (24%) 2. Organized games (16%) Nothing (16%) 3. Improve Saddleback (12%) Create bicycle lanes (12%)	<u>Maine Audubon*</u> 1. Do not change anything 2. More guided tours 3. Create & maintain trails 4. More flat hiking (summer) Local environmental guides (fall) 5. Shuttle to AT (summer); More equipment rental (fall) <u>Union Water Power*</u> (changes in kind of recreation facilities) Winter: No change (82%) 1. Trail-related (43%) 2. Keep area same as it is (13%) Summer: 1. Keep area pristine/no new business (5%) 2. Everything is OK, no changes (4%)

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Does Rangeley need additional economic development?	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> Yes 71%	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> Yes 48%	
Type of Economic Development to Encourage:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recreation & tourism (54%) 2. Industrial (49) 3. Commercial/retail (41%) 4. Forest products industry (27%) 5. Other (9%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recreation & tourism (62%) 2. Forest products industry (36%) 3. Commercial/retail (31%) 4. Industrial (28%) 5. Other (14%) 	
Location of commercial development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appropriate in some areas (64%) 2. Not appropriate in Rangeley (20%) 3. Appropriate for Rangeley (16%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appropriate in some areas (63%) 2. Not appropriate in Rangeley (20%) 3. Appropriate for Rangeley (17%) 	
Has Rangeley changed in character during last ten years?	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> Yes 90% for better 52% for worse 96%	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> Yes 67% for better 31% for worse 25%	
Does Rangeley need stronger land use regulations to guide development?	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 82% yes	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 77% yes	
Would it be reasonable to adopt development guidelines to maintain town character?	89% yes	91% yes	
Do you favor restricting certain activities in areas important to wildlife?	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 84% yes	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 85% yes	

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Are multi-family units or condominiums appropriate for Rangeley?	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 1. No (46%) 2. In some areas (46%) 3. Yes (8%)	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 1. No (54%) 2. In some areas (37%) 3. Yes (9%)	
Attributes that make Rangeley (visually) unattractive	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 1. Junk (74%) 2. Run down buildings (70%) 3. Lakeshore development (64%) 4. Clear-cuts (53%) 5. Signs (25%)	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 1. Lakeshore development (64%) 2. Junk (58%) 3. Clear-cuts (57%) 4. Run-down buildings (52%)	
Should building appearance, in regard to economic development, be regulated?	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 77% yes. If so, where? 1. Townwide (67%) 2. Village areas (48%) 3. Lakeshore (25%) 4. Other (8%)	<u>Town of Rangeley</u> 78% yes. If so, where? 1. Townwide (59%) 2. Village areas (52%) 3. Lakeshore (28%) 4. Other (7%)	

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