

City of Portsmouth



Bellamy Reservoir Conservation Easement Purchase

Portsmouth City Council

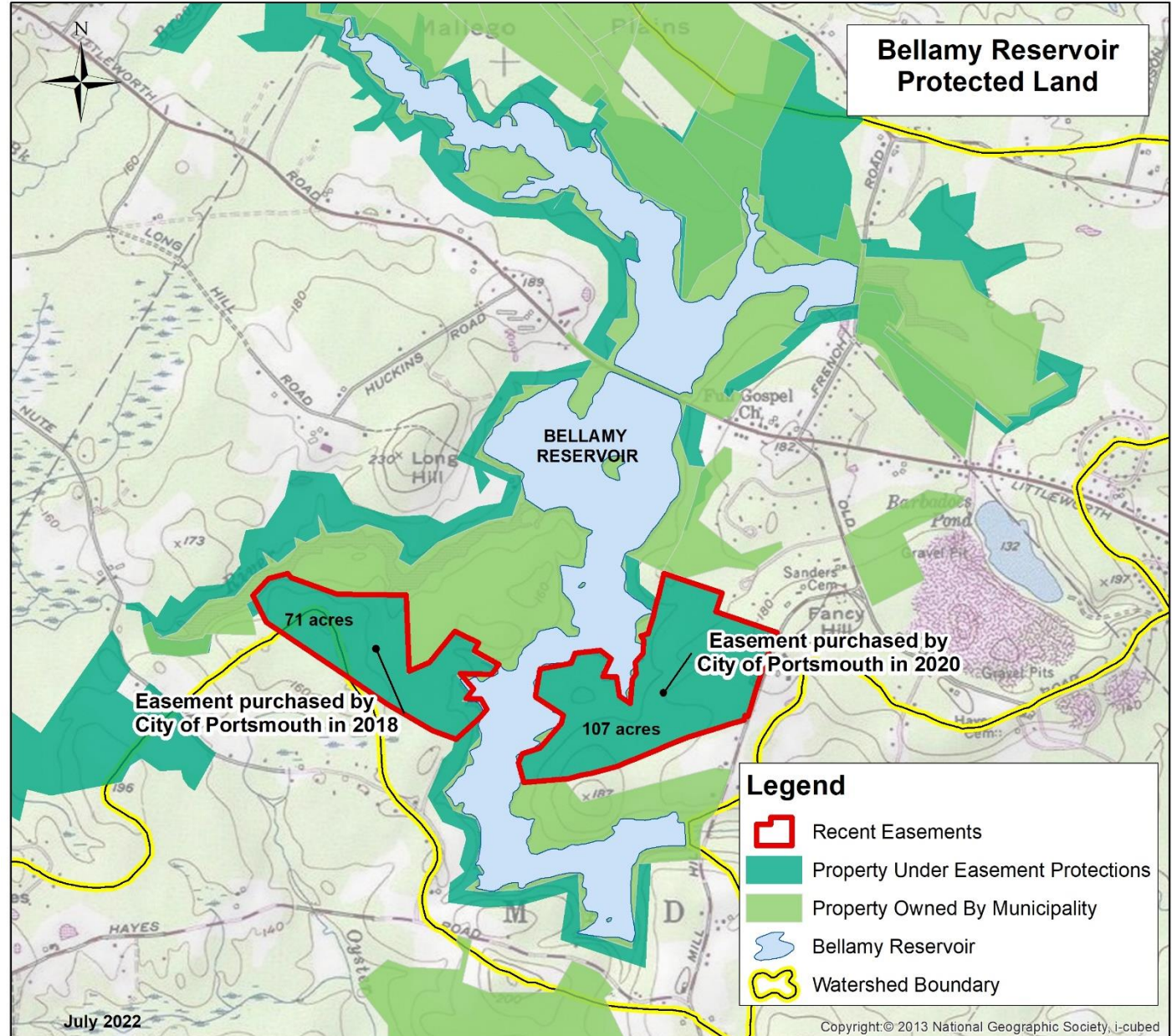
Public Hearing

July 10, 2023

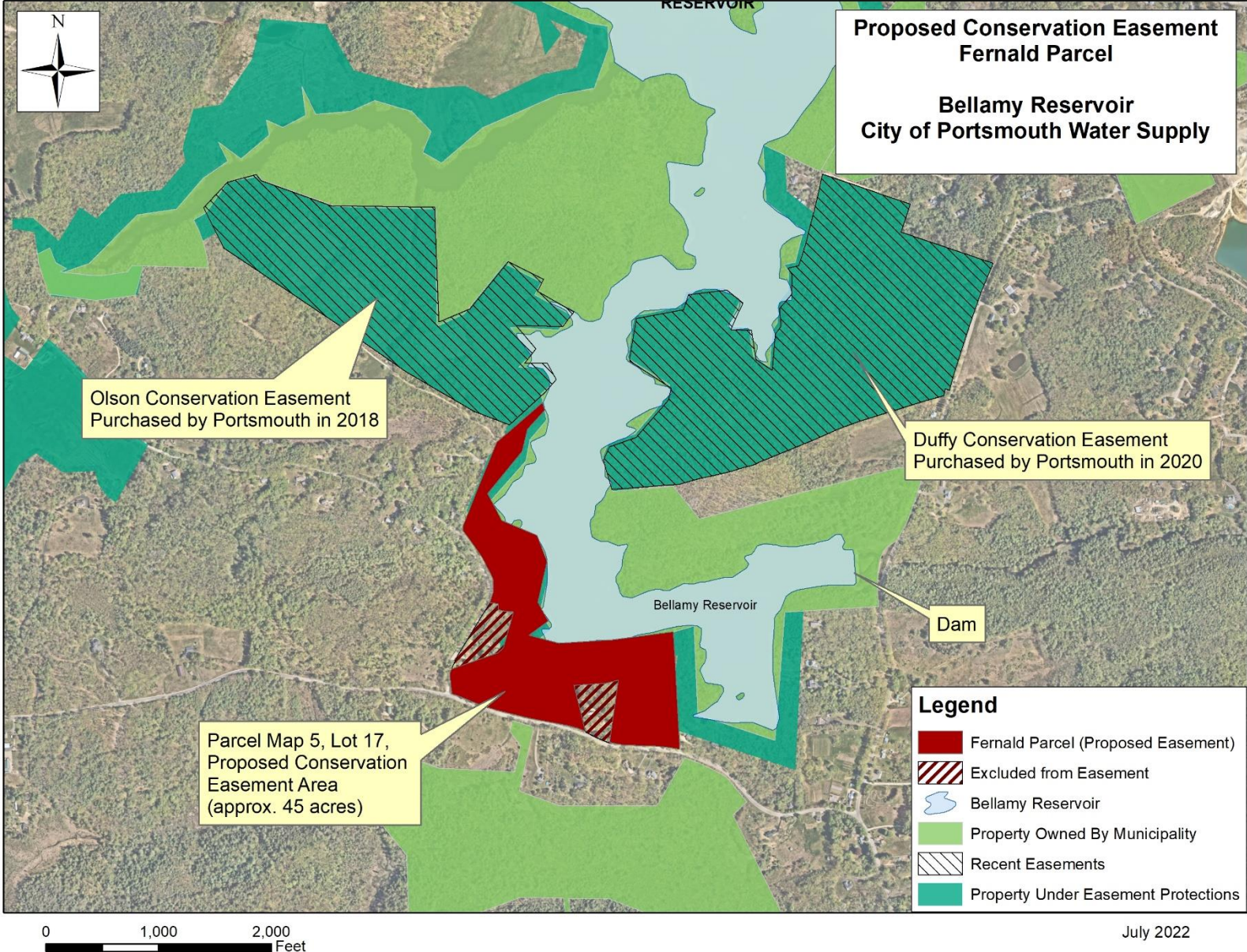
Source Water Protection – Bellamy Reservoir

Threats From:

- Nutrients (Phosphorus)
 - Harmful Algal Blooms
- Chemicals
 - Emerging Contaminants
 - Petroleum
 - Pesticides & Herbicides
- Physical
 - Erosion & Sedimentation
- Biological
 - Bacteria
 - Viruses



Proposed Conservation Easement



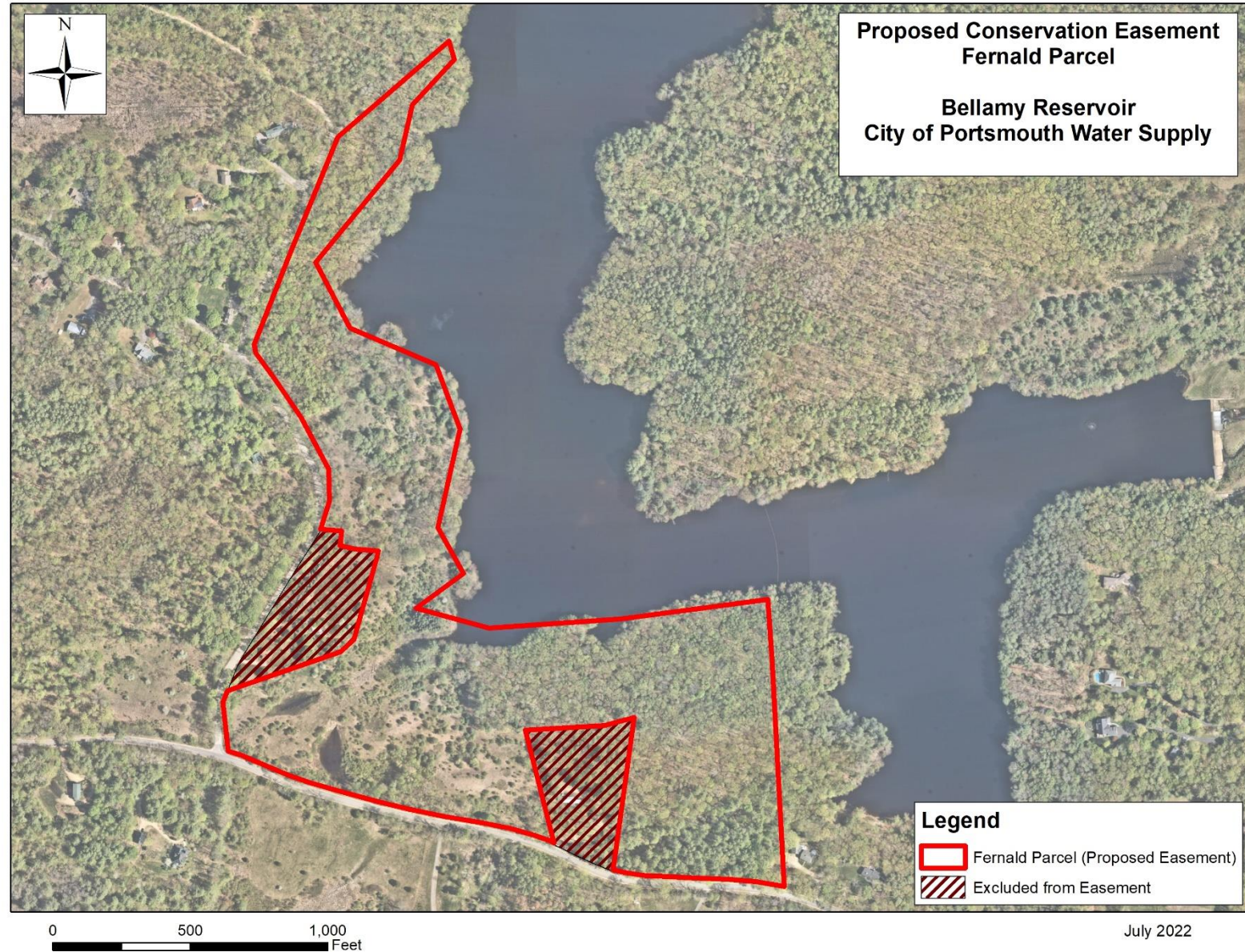
Property Features

- 3,900 feet of Shoreline
- 5,000 feet of Road Frontage
- Within 2,000 feet of Water Supply Intake

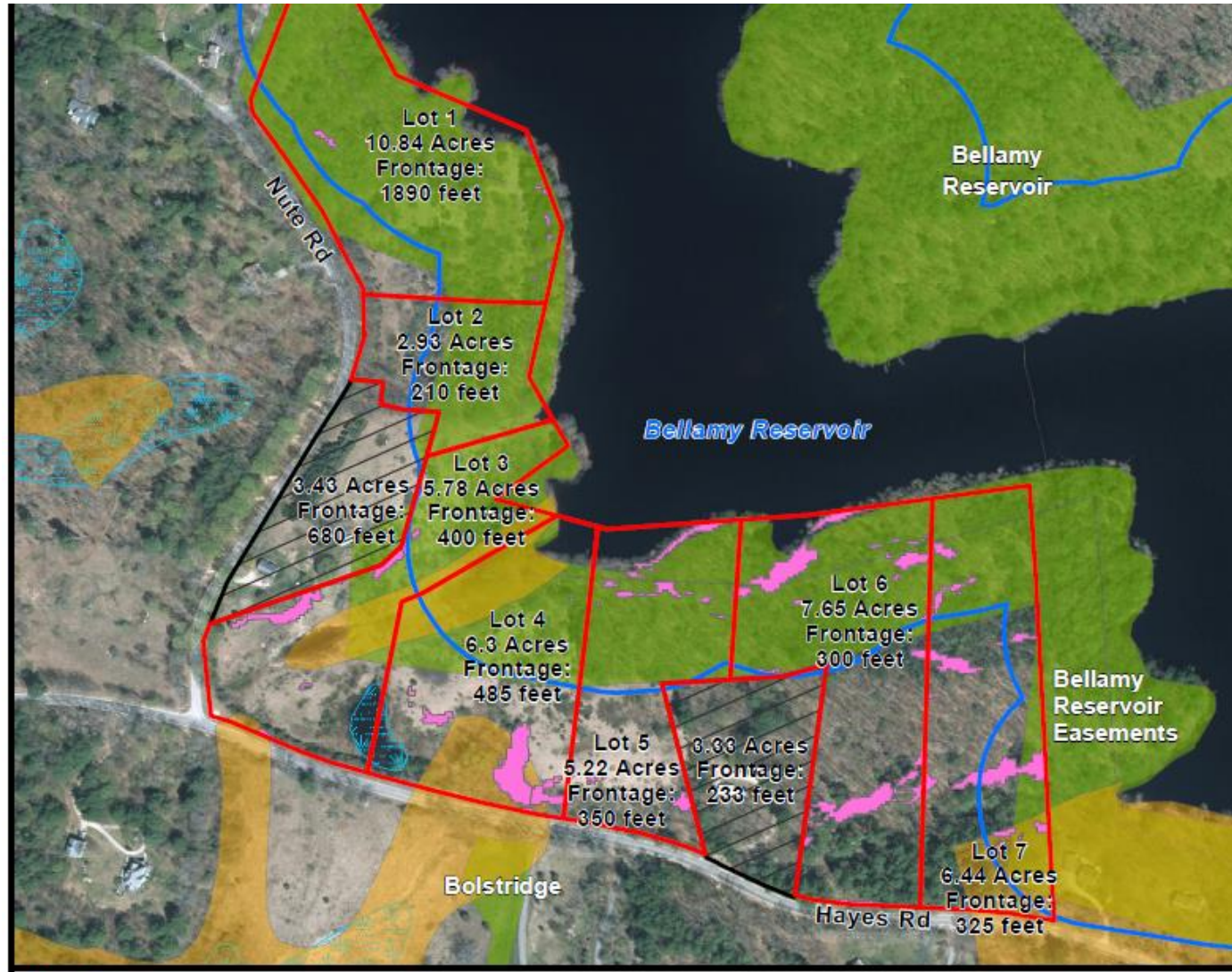


Conservation Easement

- 45-acre easement area
- 2 excluded areas for existing houses
- Provisions for the protection of the Bellamy Reservoir water quality
- No development



Assessment of Parcel's Development Potential: 7 Additional Buildable Lots



Appraised Value of Easement: \$1,435,000

- 7 house lots
- 5+ acre lots
- Access off Hayes Rd & Nute Road
- Upland Soils
- Reservoir Views



Support from the NH Department of Environmental Services



NHDES Source Water Protection Award – 2023

-Presented by Bob Scott, NHDES Commissioner

“Congratulations again to Portsmouth, which has been a leader in protecting its drinking water over the years. The Fernald conservation project, in my mind, was one of the best projects I’ve seen in NH to protect the shoreland area of a public water supply reservoir.”

-Pierce Rigrod, Supervisor, Source Water Protection Program, NHDES

Funding

- Grant Awarded from NH Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund
 - \$739,000
- Grant Awarded from NHDES Local Source Water Protection Grant
 - \$25,000
- Congressionally Directed Spending Request
 - Senator Shaheen's FY24 request includes \$714,000 for this project
- Water Enterprise Fund Net Position
 - As needed up to \$714,000

Council Authorization

Move to adopt the resolution authorizing a supplemental appropriation from the water fund unrestricted net position, a grant from the NH Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund, and a grant from NHDES Local Source Water Protection program for the purchase of a conservation easement on the Fernald property to protect the Bellamy Reservoir water quality.