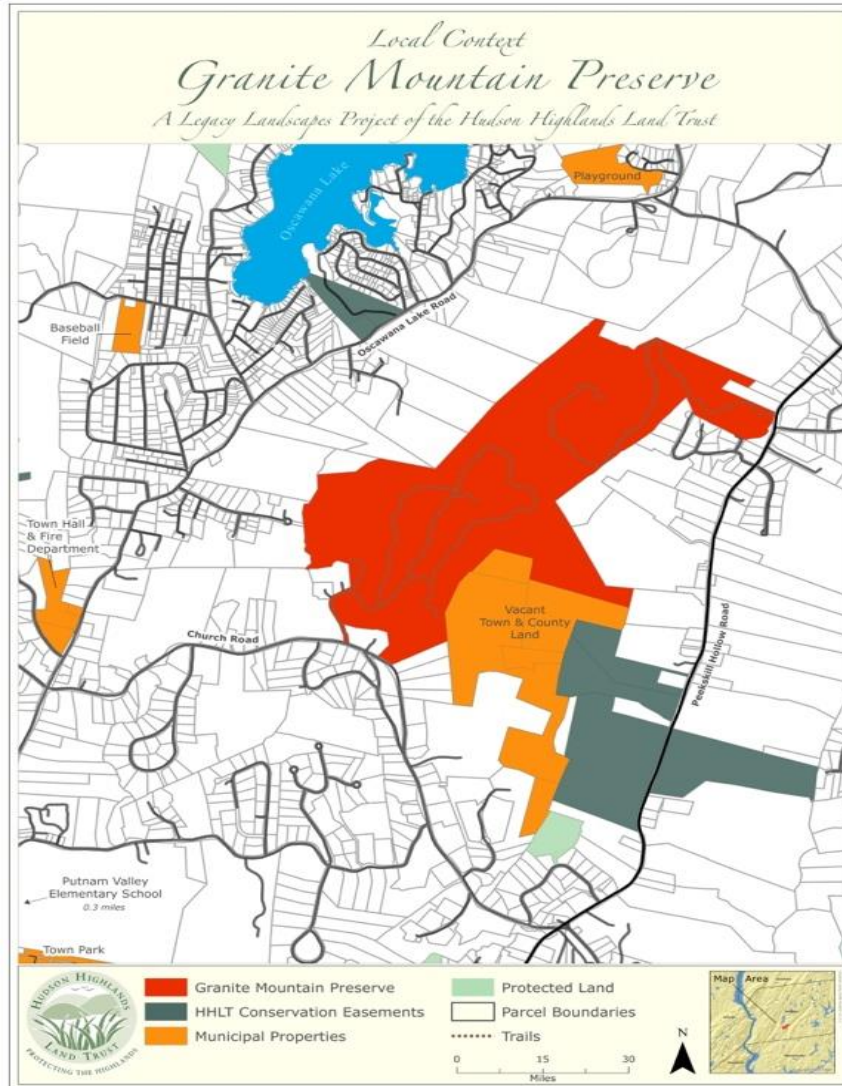




Granite Mountain Preserve Putnam Valley Community Meeting February 19th 2017



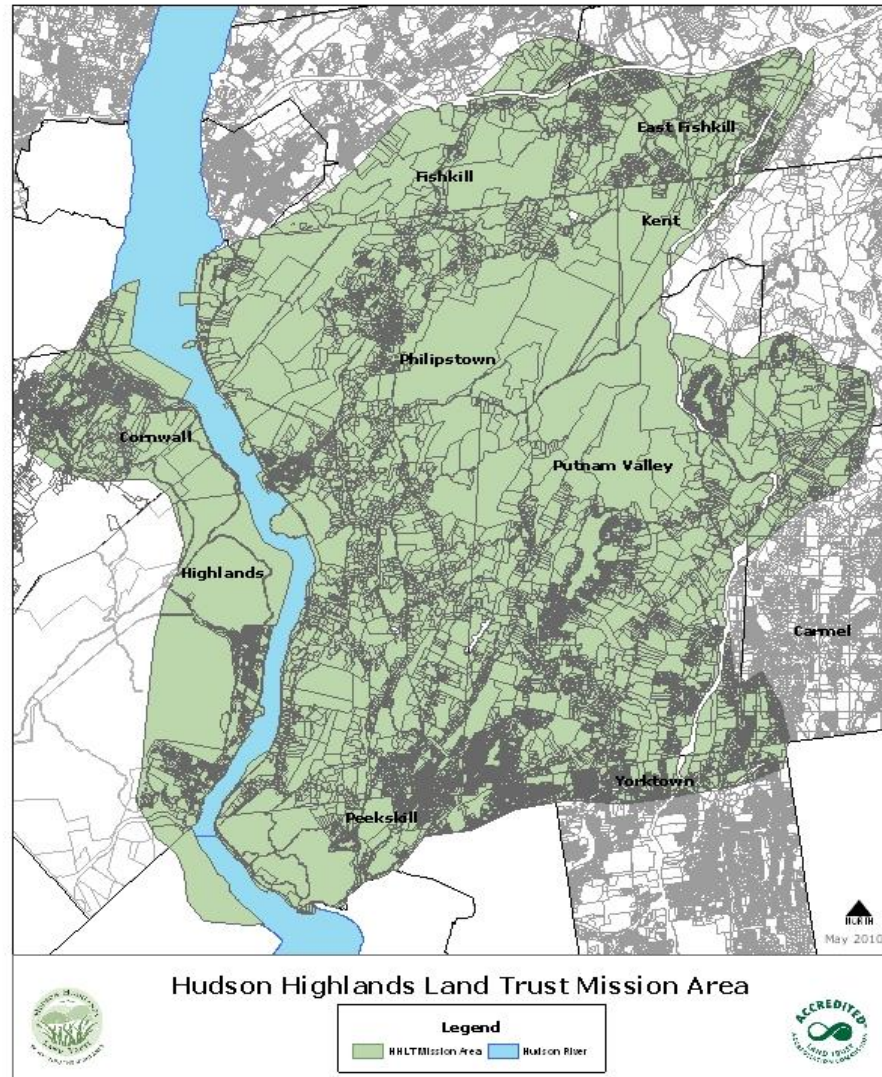
Granite Mountain Preserve



- 358-acres (marked in red) between Oscawana Lake, Church, Tinker Hill & Peekskill Hollow Roads
- Close to many PV residents, Municipal Center, Schools
- Two 900+ foot peaks, wetlands, streams, diverse forest, trail network
- Managed by Hudson Highlands Land Trust



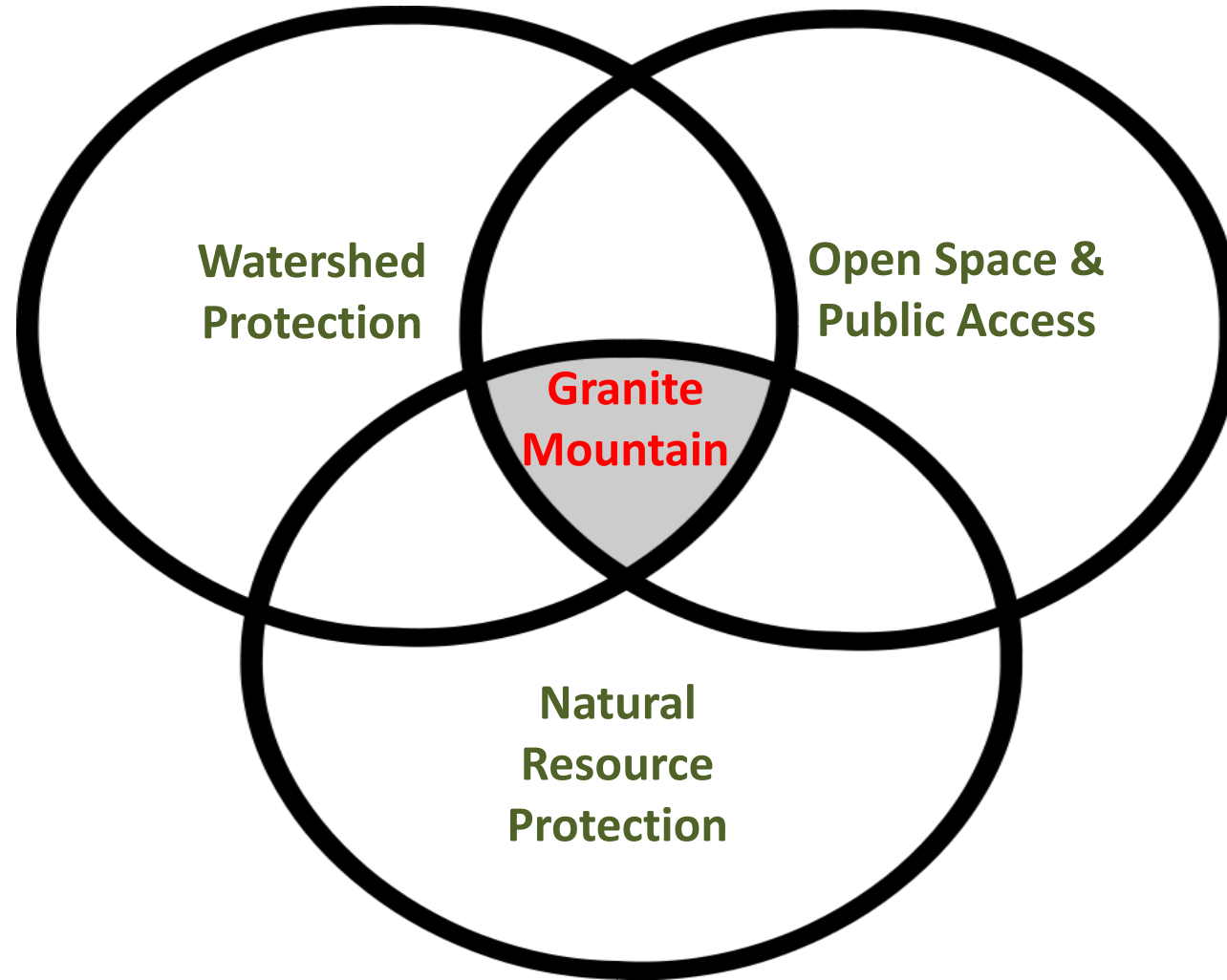
Hudson Highlands Land Trust



- Community-based land trust with a mission to protect the *“natural resources, rural character and scenic beauty of the Hudson Highlands”*
- Land conservation through:
 - Conservation agreements
 - Outright land acquisition
 - Partnering with municipalities on land use planning
 - Community/landowner education
- Conservation agreements on almost 2,500 acres
- Granite Mountain is our first preserve
- Conservation “Mission Area” shown in the map on the left



Preservation of Granite Mountain meets many Community Goals





Why Granite Mountain Preserve? Community Preference

The 2007 Putnam Valley Comprehensive Plan stated:

- *“The majority of the Town’s population lives in the southerly half of Town where only 3% of the Town’s open space exists. There is currently no strategy for obtaining additional open space.”*
- *“there are no established, publicly accessible, recreational trails in the southern half of Town.”*
- *“Unfragmented tracts of land and natural resources contribute to the quality of life in Putnam Valley.”*
- Granite Mountain was specifically mentioned as a property of *“significant interest”* in terms of permanent protection.



Why Granite Mountain Preserve? HHLT Conservation Priority

Granite Mountain is a HHLT High Priority “Legacy Landscape”:

- Legacy Landscapes are the collection of parcels in HHLT’s mission area, that HHLT ranks as a **priority for conservation**
- Granite Mountain is a high priority Legacy Landscape due to its many favorable characteristics: scenic values, water features, biodiversity, topographical and geological diversity, Peekskill Hollowbrook watershed
- Plus – It was “at-risk” for development and had been identified as a community priority for preservation

Natural Resource Protection





Granite Mountain Preserve: What's Next?

Next Steps for 2017:

- Management plan
- Infrastructure improvements for access and safety
- Trail work and trail maps
- Partner with Town and County
- Partner with Community:
 - Volunteer days starting in Spring 2017
 - Formation of Granite Mountain Volunteer group