

Conservation Planning for Woodland Pools



Photo by L. Heady

May 18, 2013 – CLC Workshop at Roeliff Jansen Library, Hillsdale

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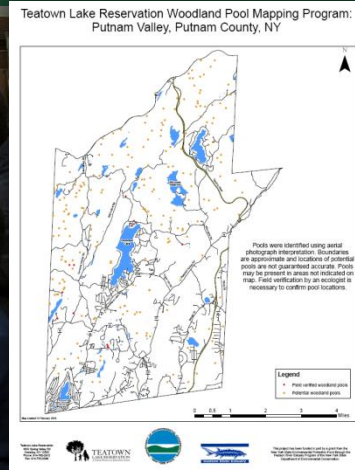


What can a municipality do to conserve woodland pools?

1.) Identify pool locations

- Knowledge of pool locations is the first step toward their conservation.
- Land trusts, environmental commissions (CACs), and citizen scientists are good groups to engage on site-scale or town-wide mapping projects.

Photos by L. Heady



What can a municipality do to conserve woodland pools?

2.) Educate your community

- Make pool locations available to landowners, project sponsors, County Planning Department, Planning Board, Open Space Commission, Code Enforcement Officer, and other town officials.
- Add pool data to town/county web-based map or web site.
- Demonstrate “best management strategies” on public lands with educational signage
- Provide learning opportunities through lectures, field trips, public access channel, trainings, brochures, etc.



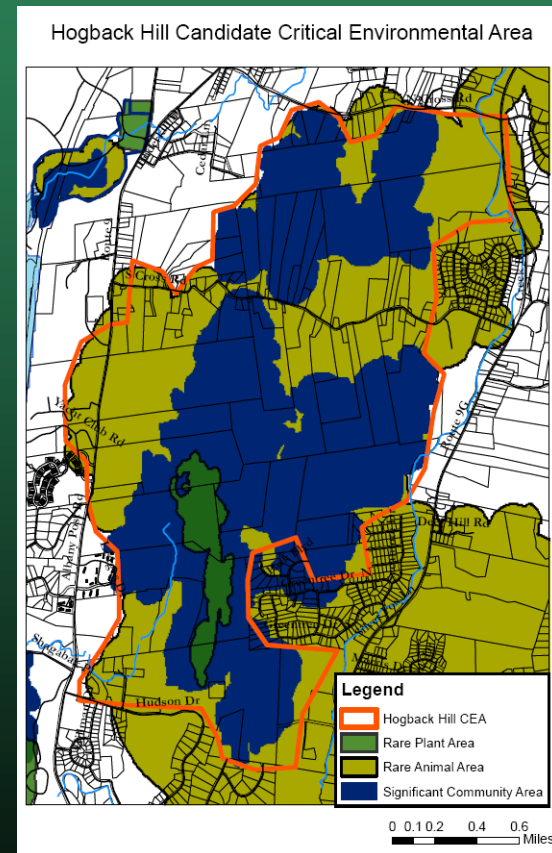
Photo by L. Heady

What can a municipality do to conserve woodland pools?

3.) Use pool locations for proactive planning

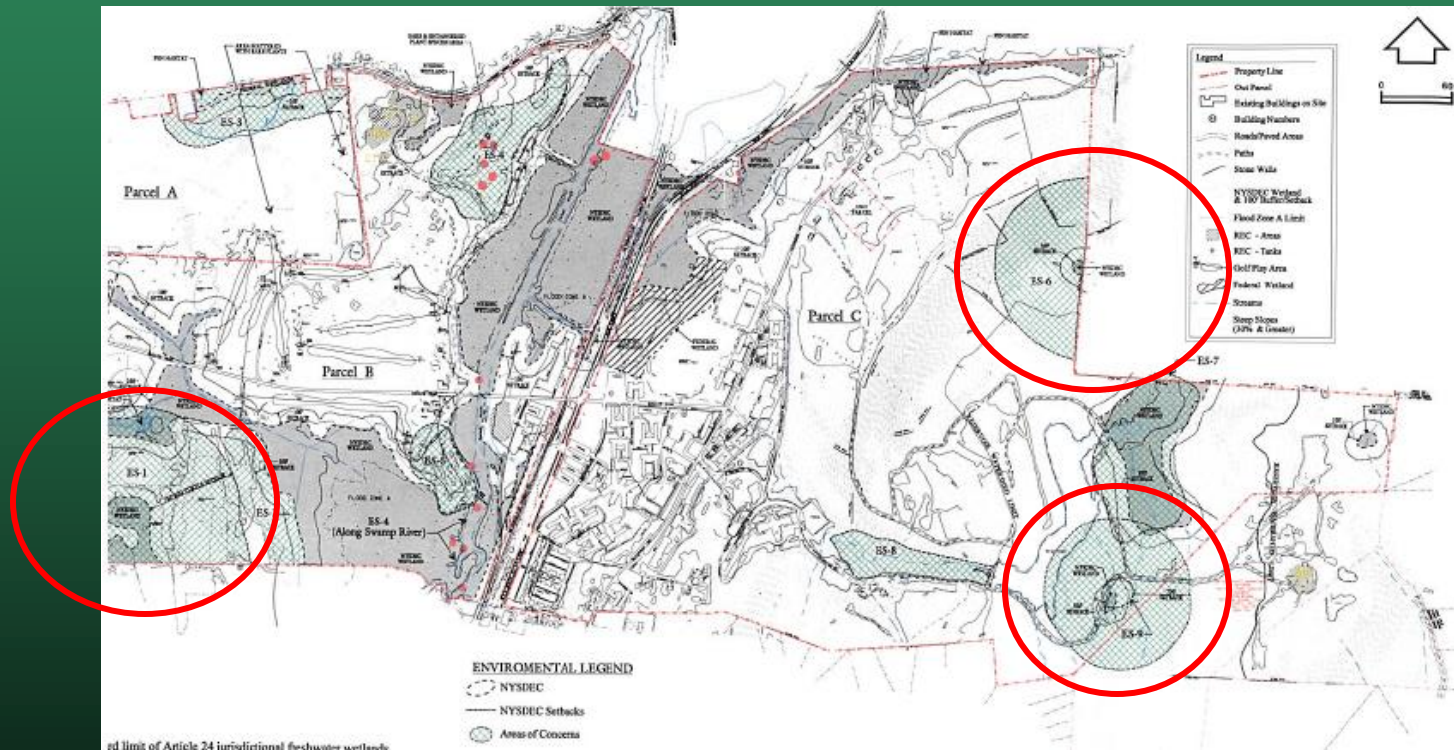
- Use pool locations to identify conservation priority areas for your Comprehensive Plan or Open Space Plan, or to create Critical Environmental Areas

CEA Map
from Town of
Hyde Park



What can a municipality do to conserve woodland pools?

3.) Use pool maps for proactive planning



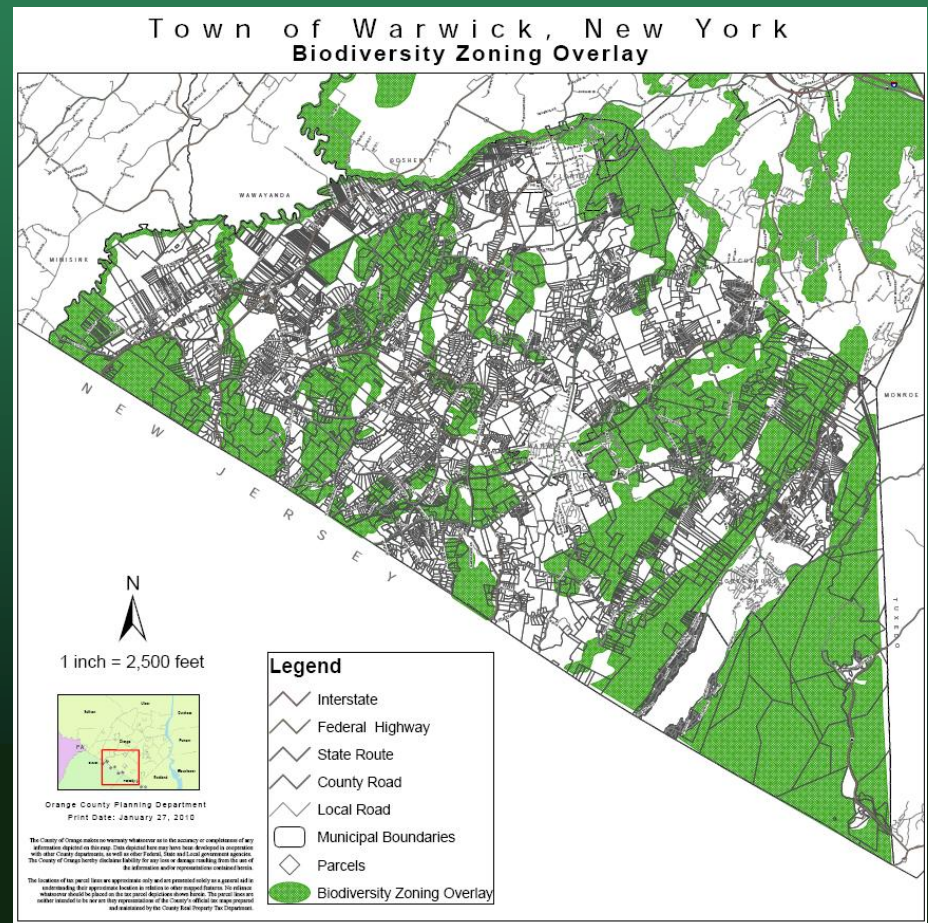
- Ask project sponsors to include pool locations on site maps and design project to avoid impacts to pool/forest complex

What can a municipality do to conserve woodland pools?

4.) Consider local protection of significant pools

- Include pools (with adjacent forest buffers) in your local water resource, wetland, or watercourse ordinance
- Create a conservation overlay district

Overlay Zoning Map
from Town of Warwick



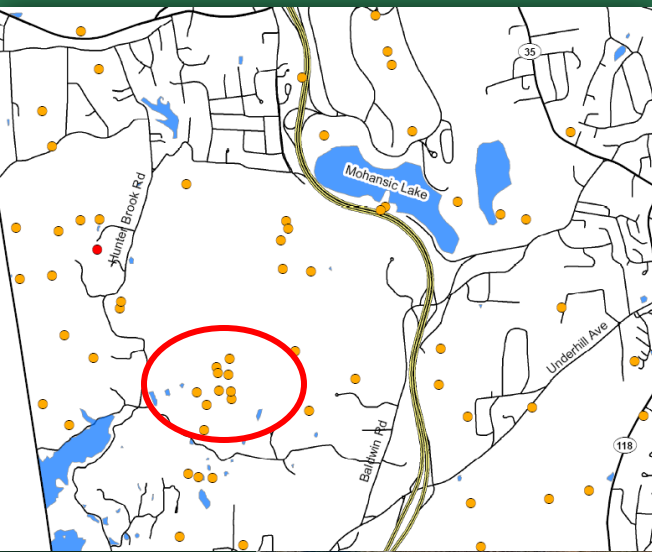
What can a municipality do to conserve woodland pools?

5.) During all levels of planning, give special consideration to woodland pools:

- a) in unfragmented forest blocks,
- b) adjacent to protected areas,
- c) within a cluster of pools, or
- d) known to provide breeding habitat.

5.) During all levels of planning, give special consideration to woodland pools:

a) in unfragmented forest blocks

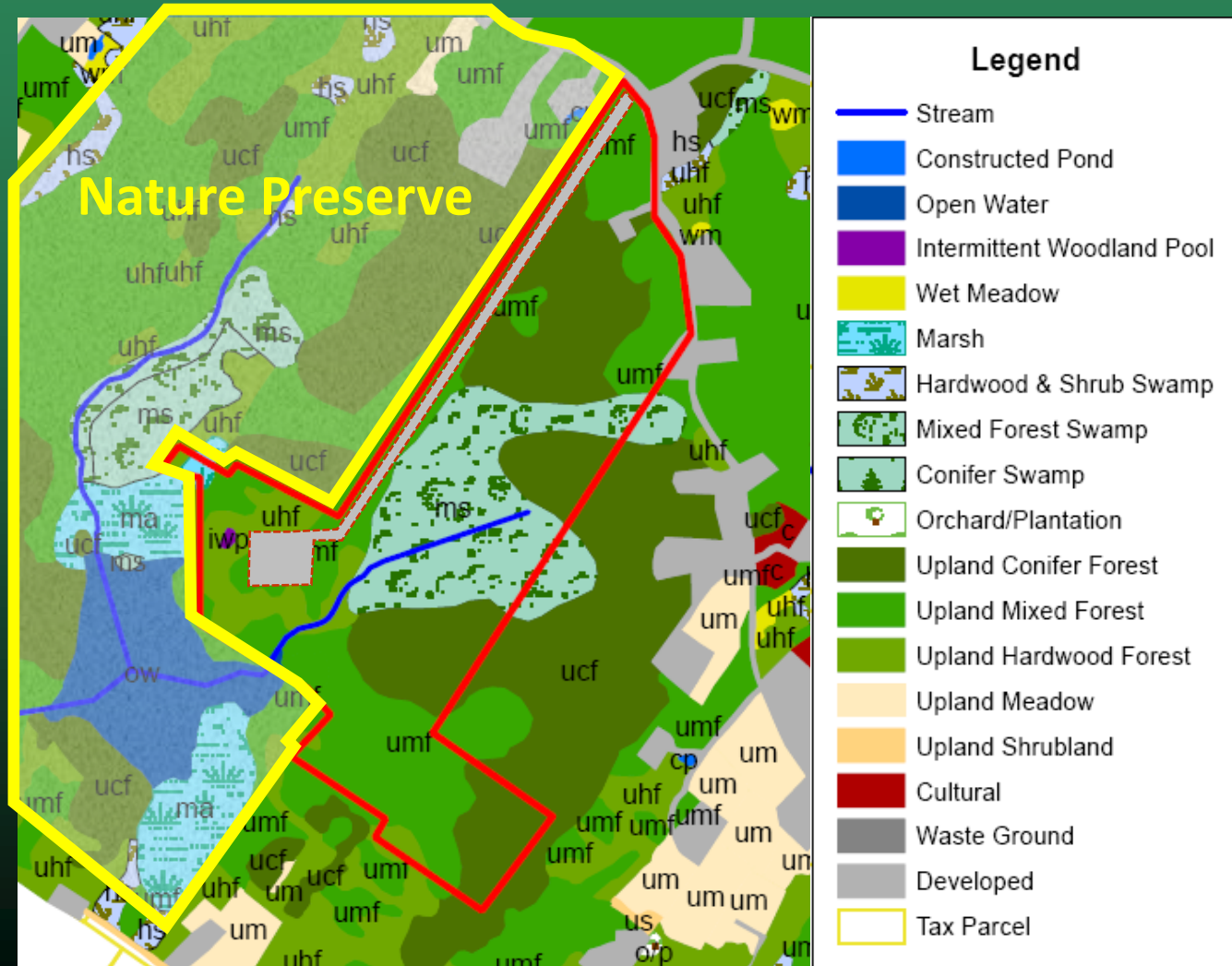


Map of pools
(above) created
by Teatown Lake
Reservation



5.) During all levels of planning, give special consideration to woodland pools:

b) adjacent to protected areas

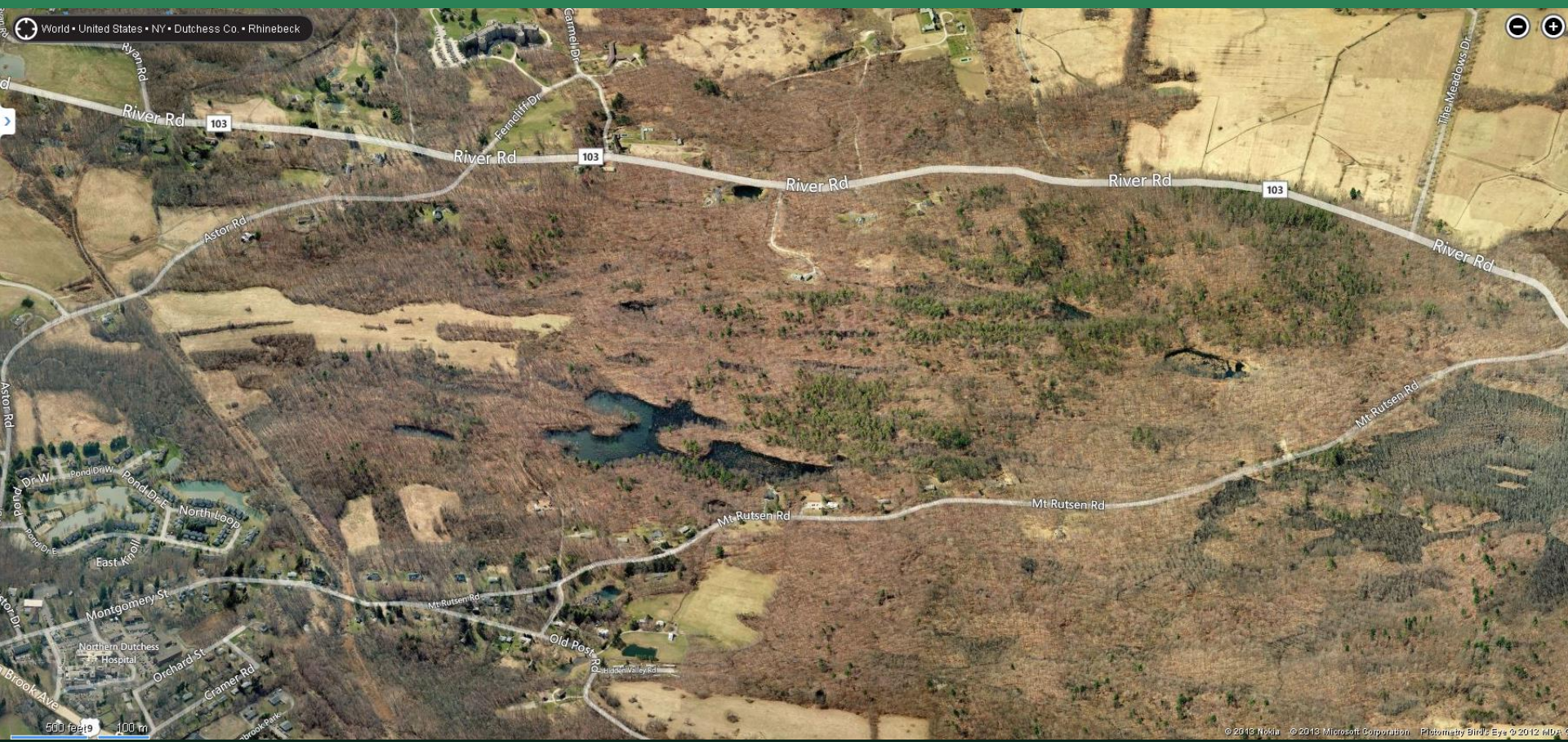


Map of habitats
created by
Hudsonia Ltd.



5.) During all levels of planning, give special consideration to woodland pools:

c) within a cluster of pools



5.) During all levels of planning, give special consideration to woodland pools:

d) known to provide breeding habitat



Wood frog tadpoles. Photo by L. Heady



L-R: egg masses of spotted salamander, Jefferson-blue spotted salamander, and wood frog. Photo by L. Heady



Spermatophore. Photo by Mike Rubbo.



Salamander larvae. Photo by L. Heady

Planning Scenarios



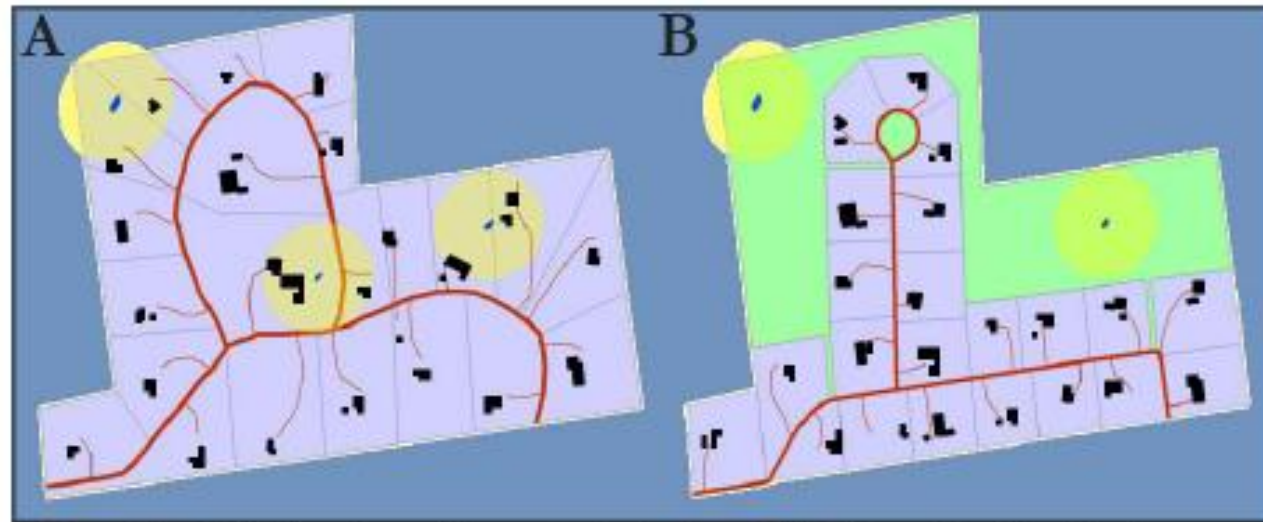
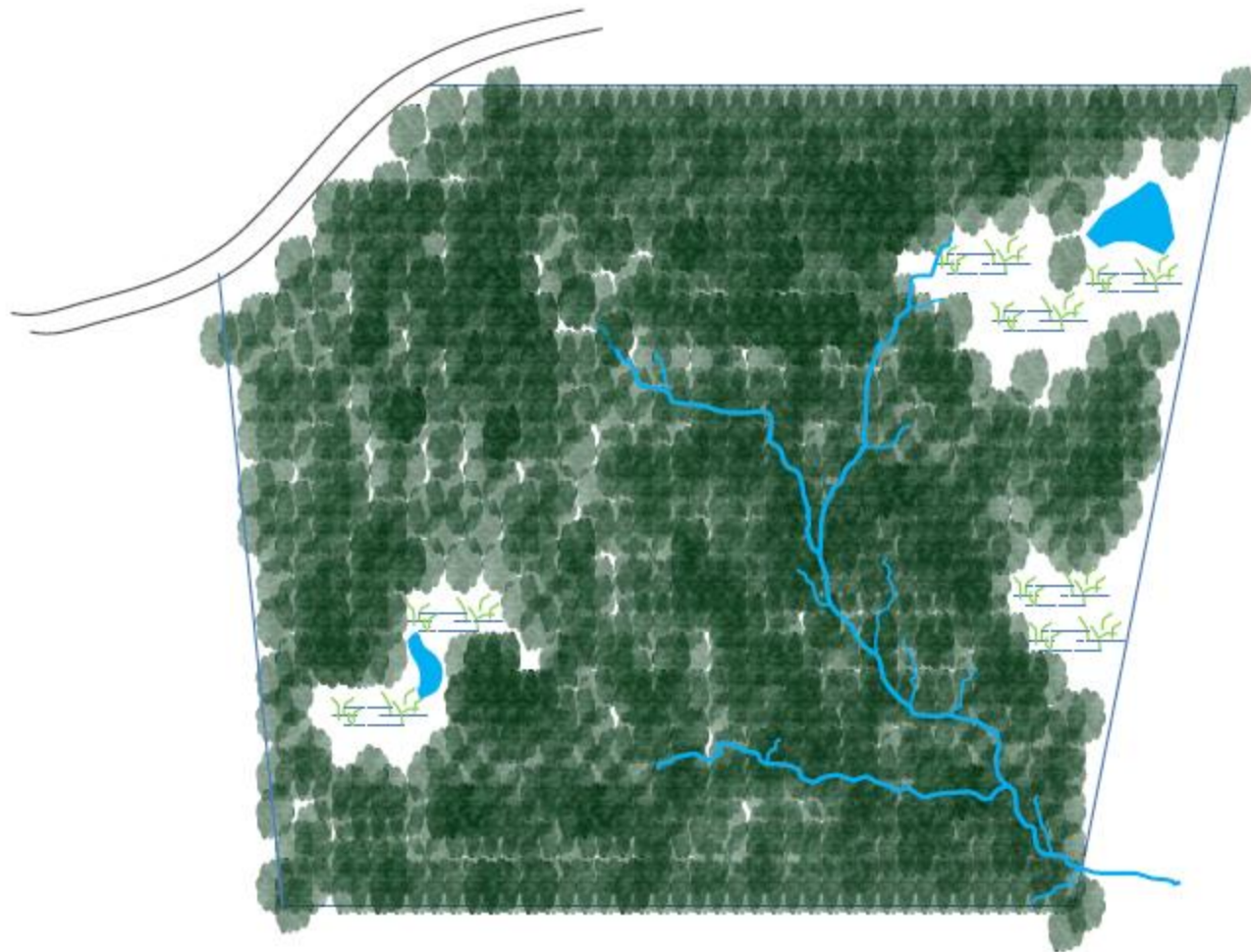
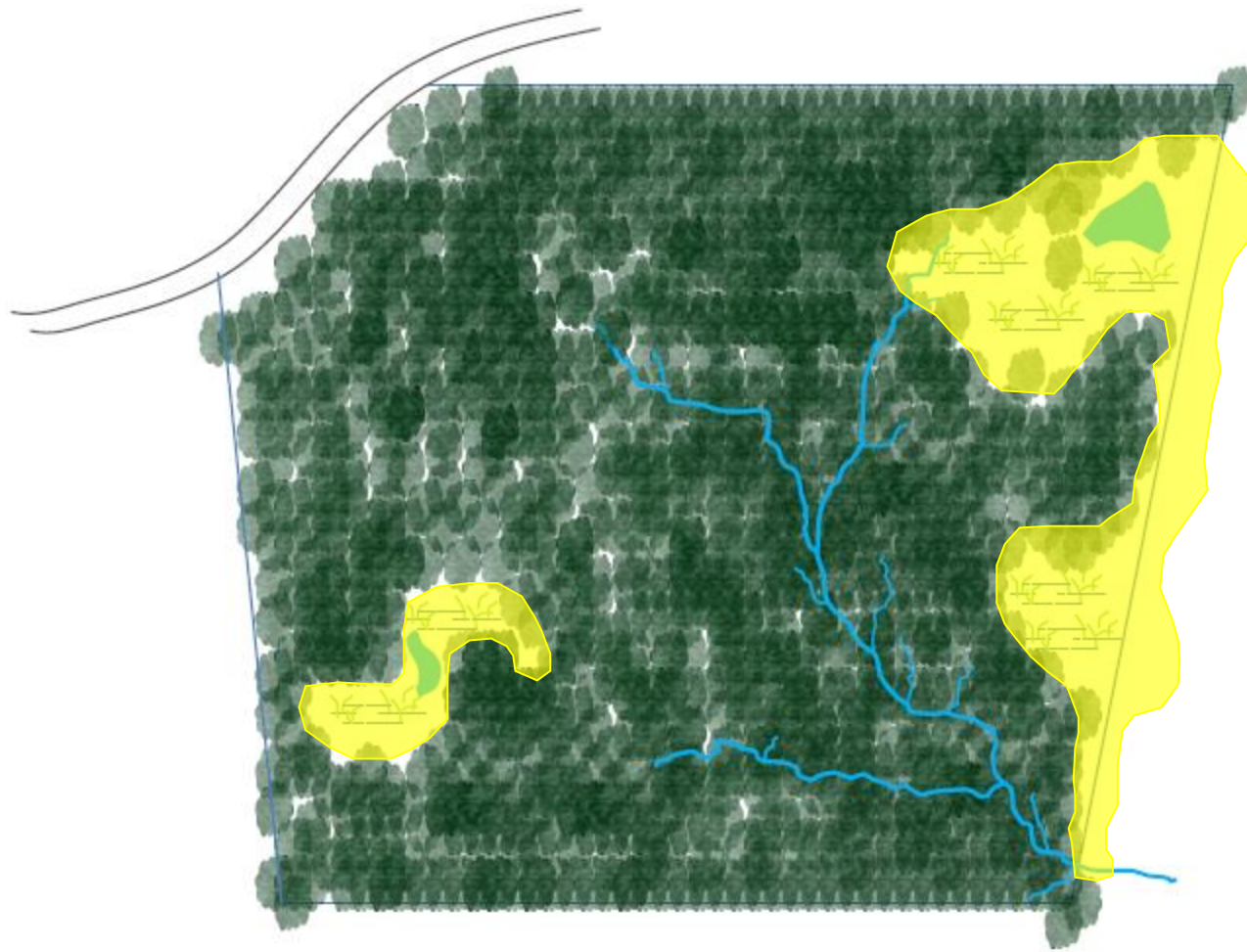
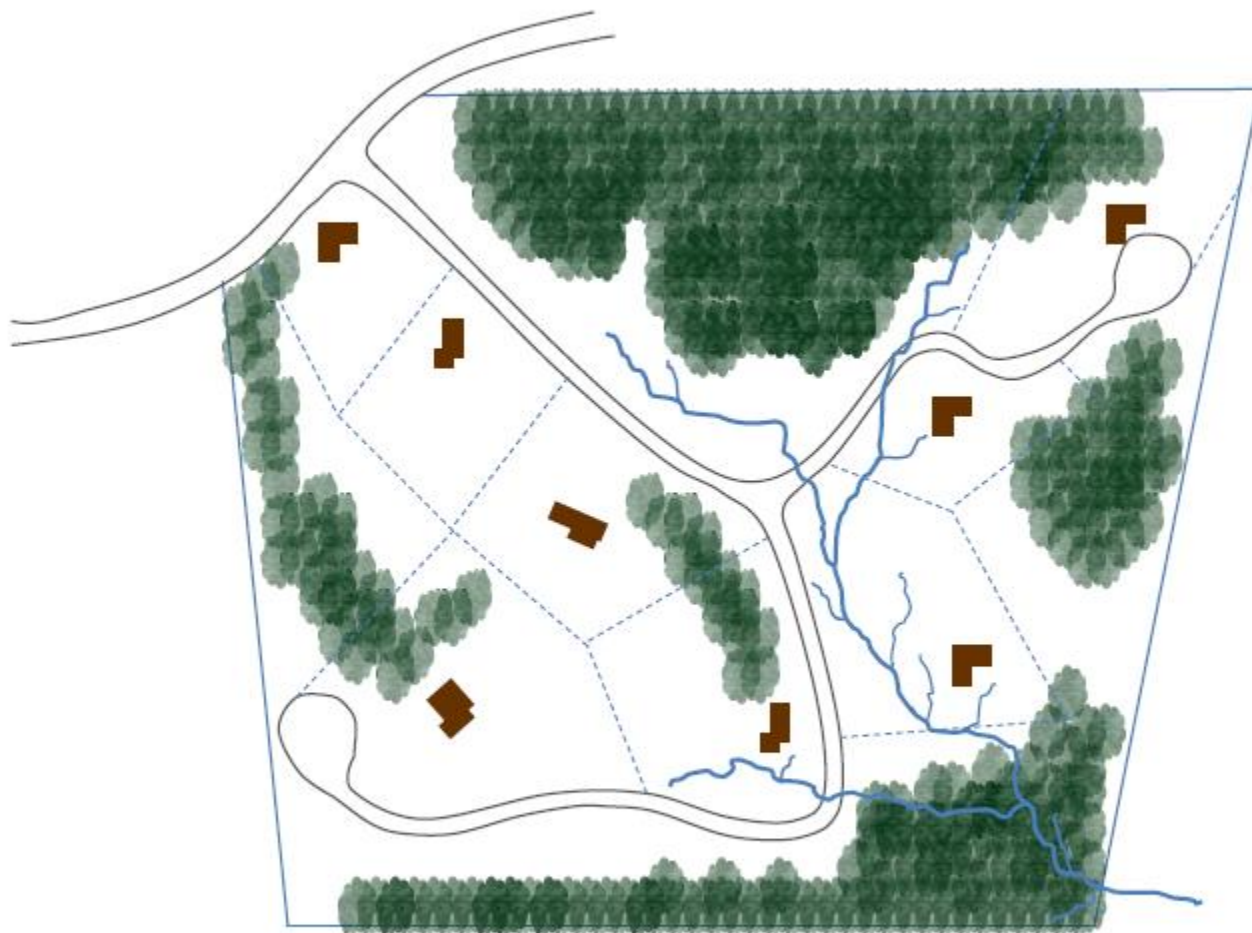


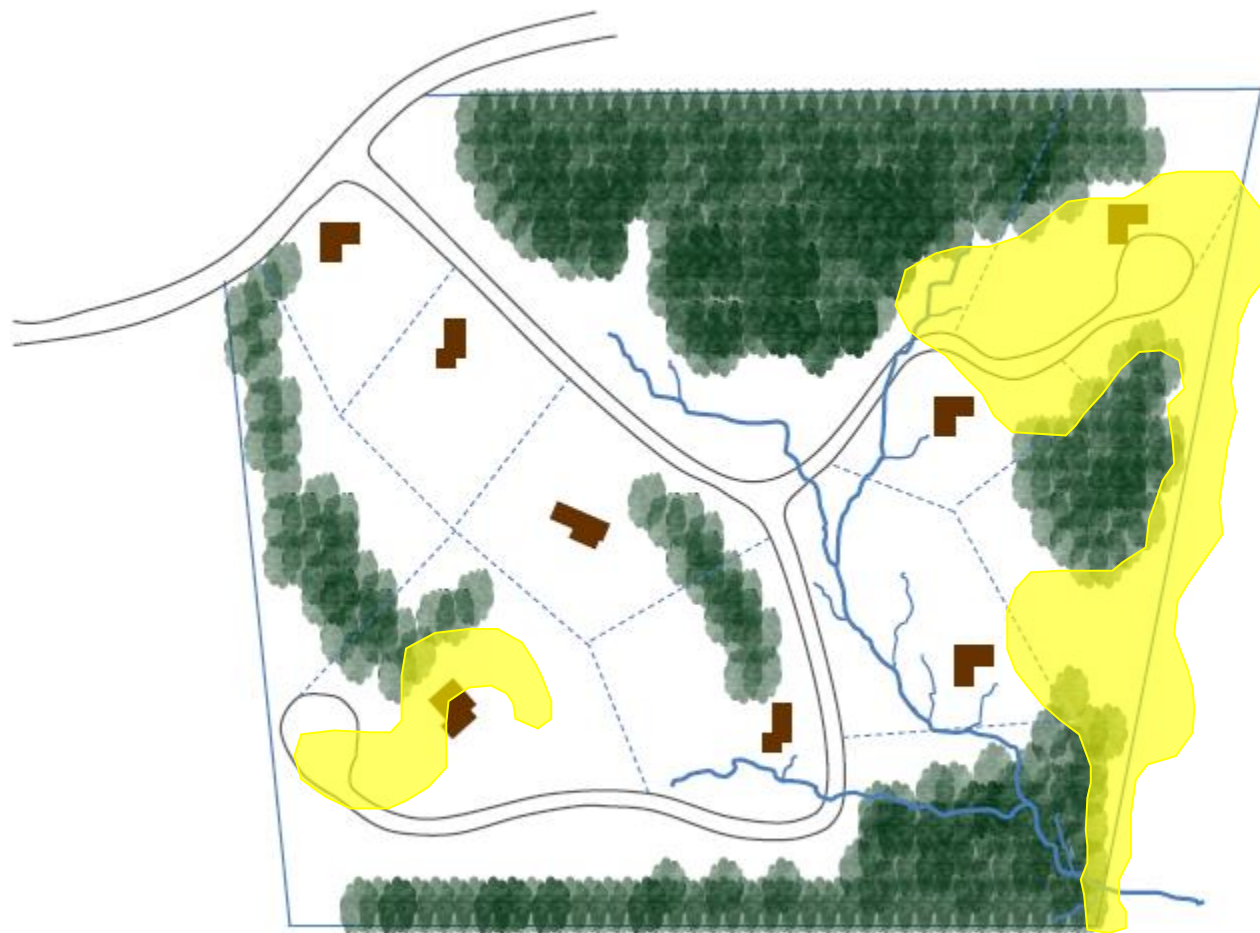
Figure 34: Subdivision plan variations. A) Sample plan with Significant Vernal Pool locations depicted on map. B) Alternative plan with the same number of house lots, shorter road distance, shared open space, and conservation of two vernal pools.

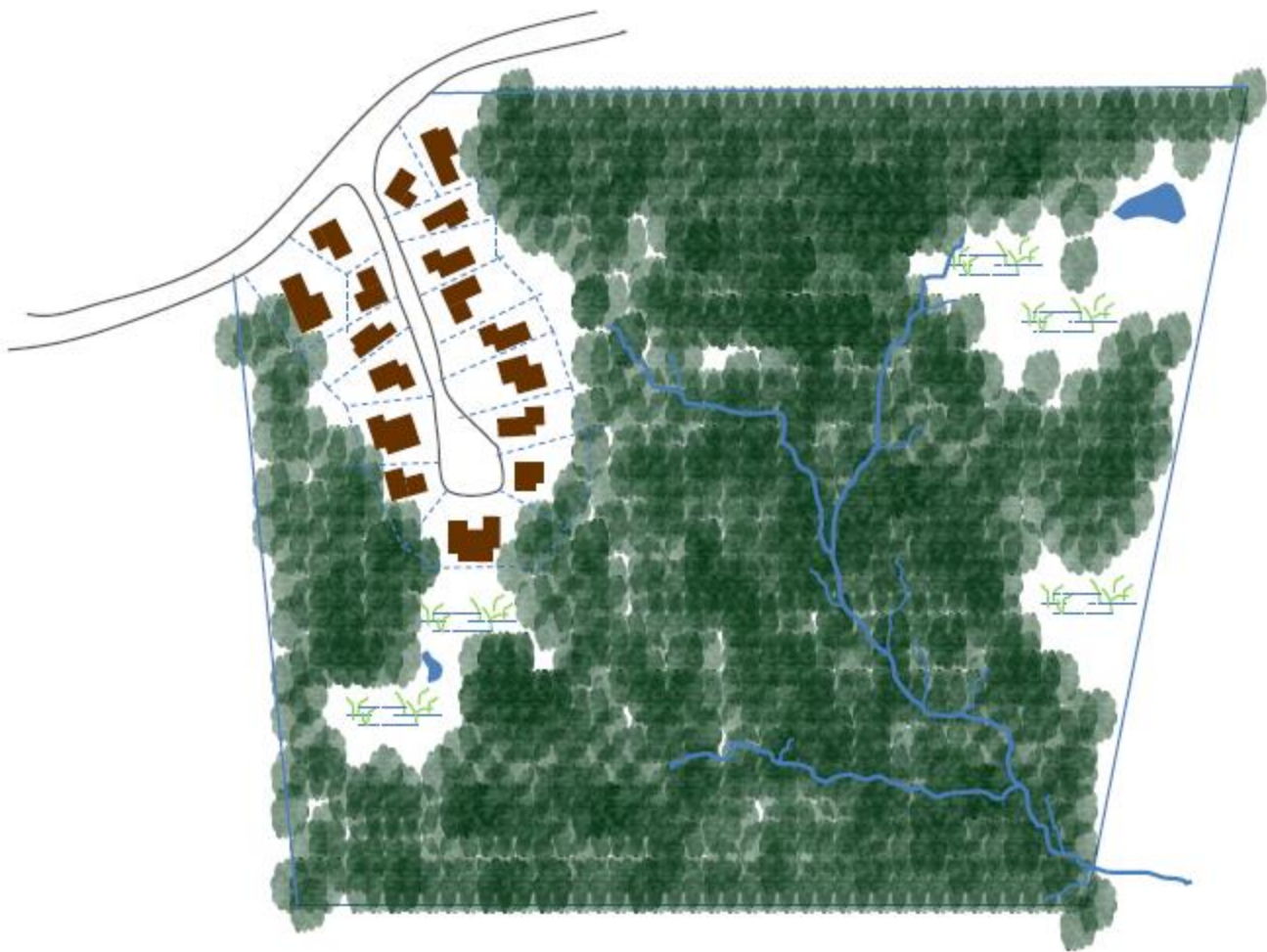
Example of how vernal pool locations can be used to shape a subdivision plan (B). From “Maine Municipal Guide to Mapping and Conserving Vernal Pool Resources” (Morgan & Calhoun 2012)

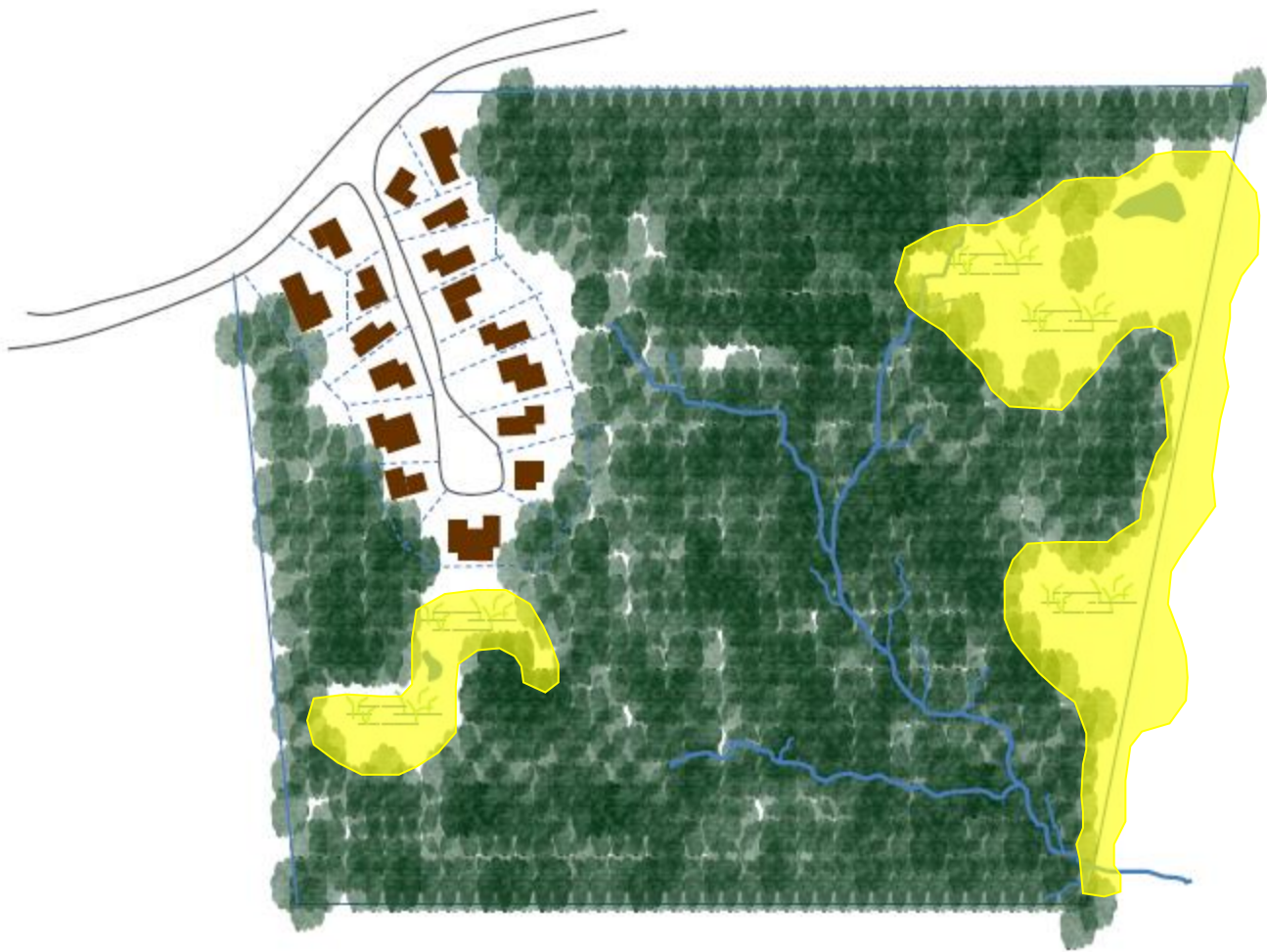


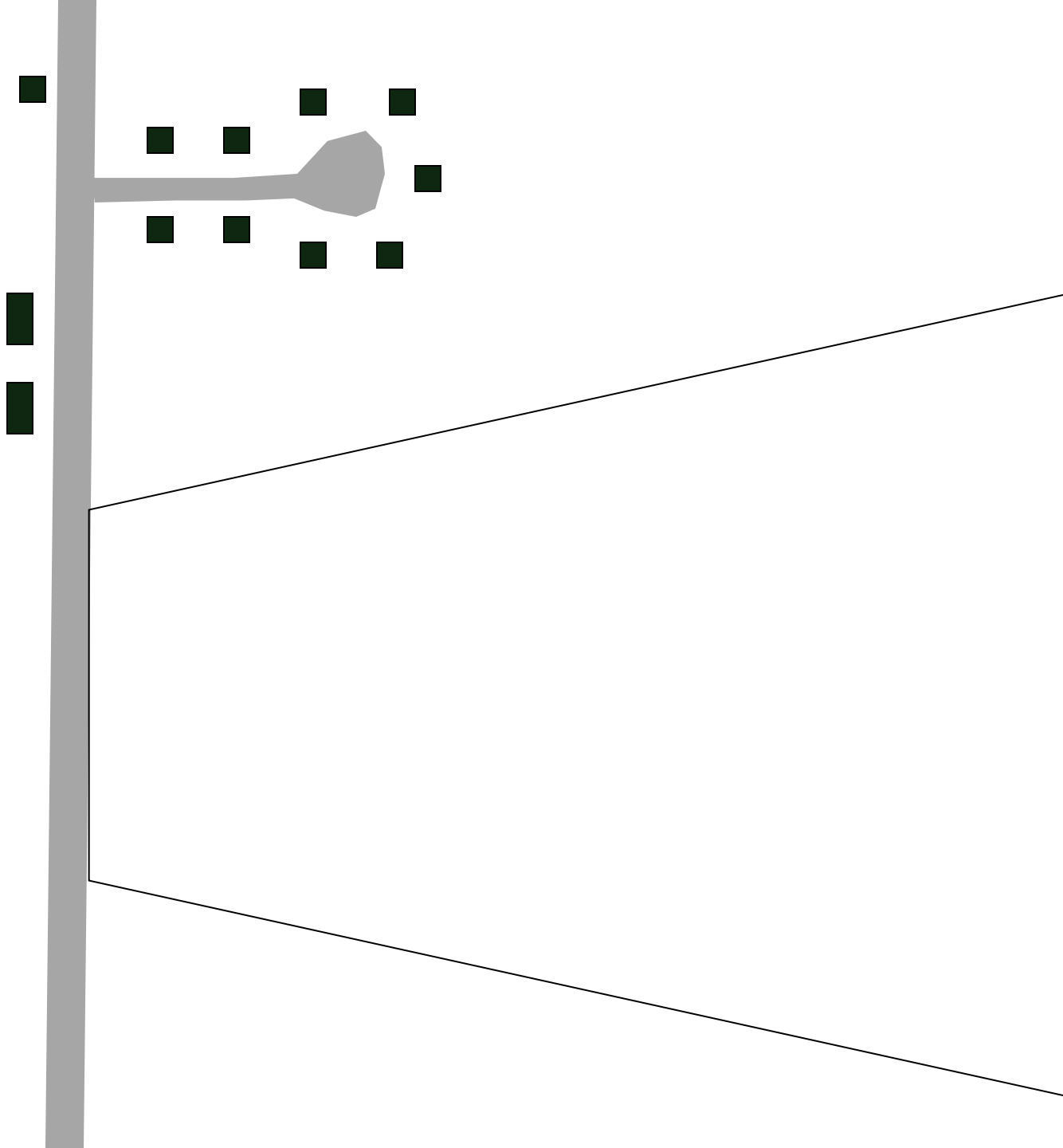


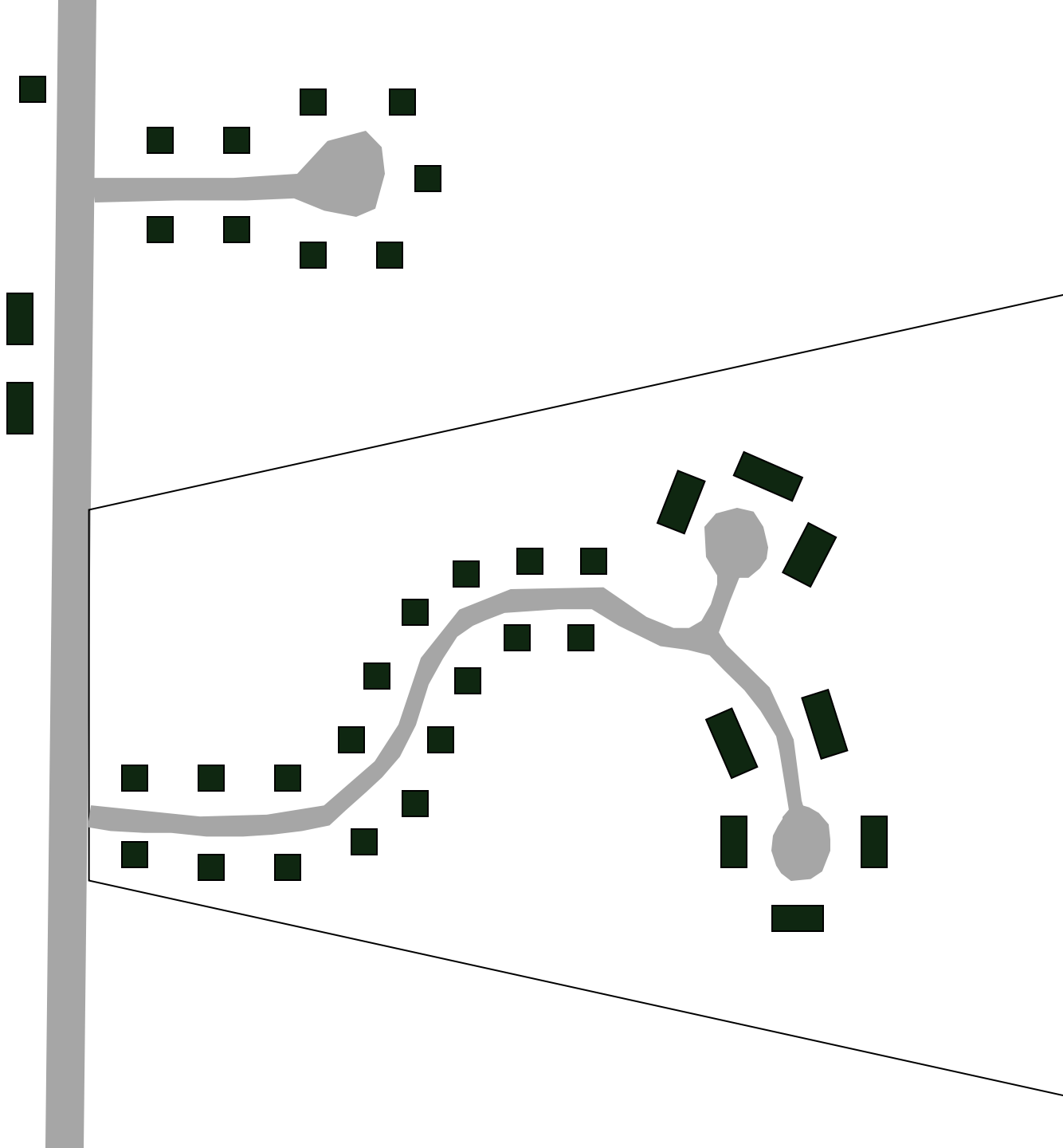


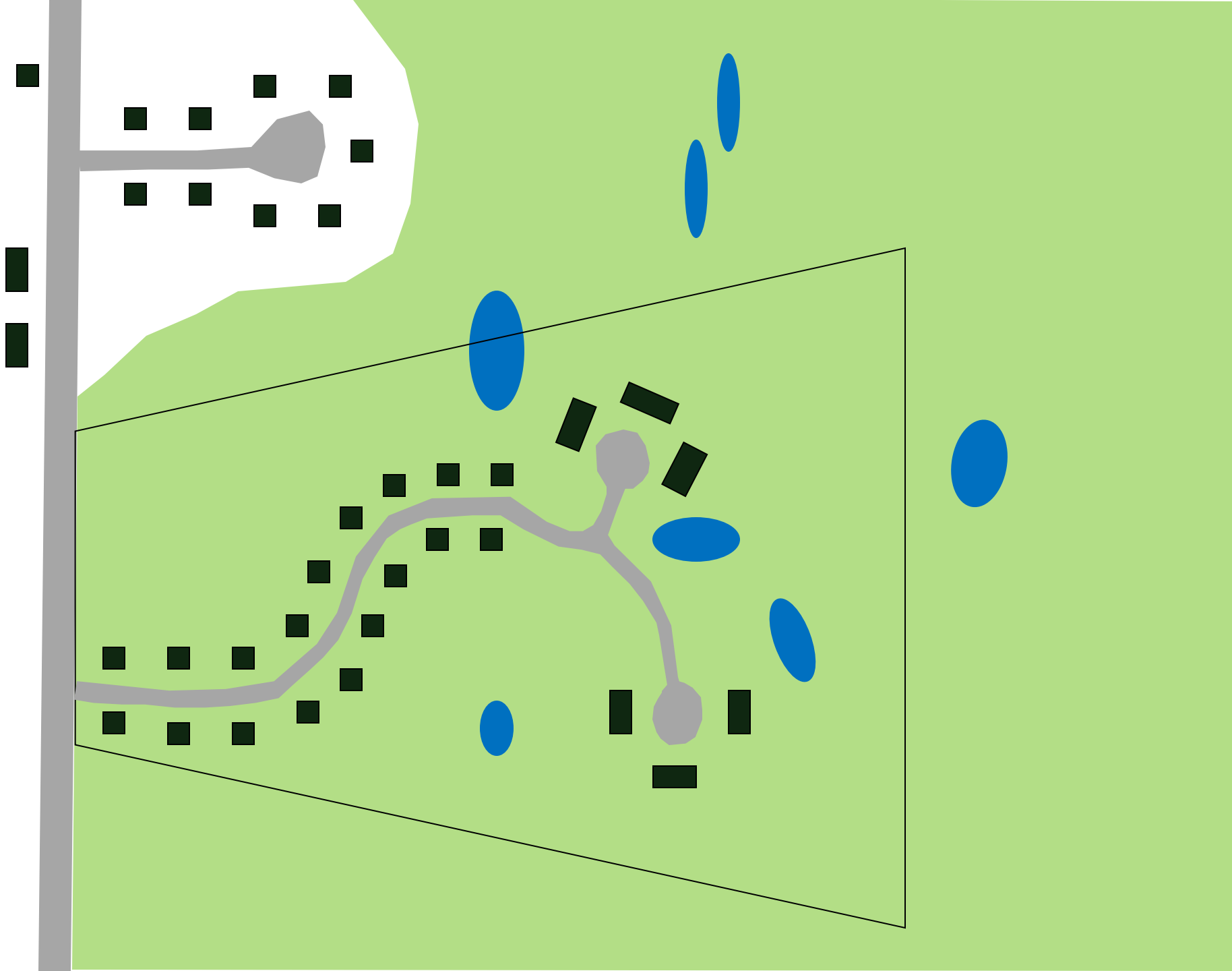


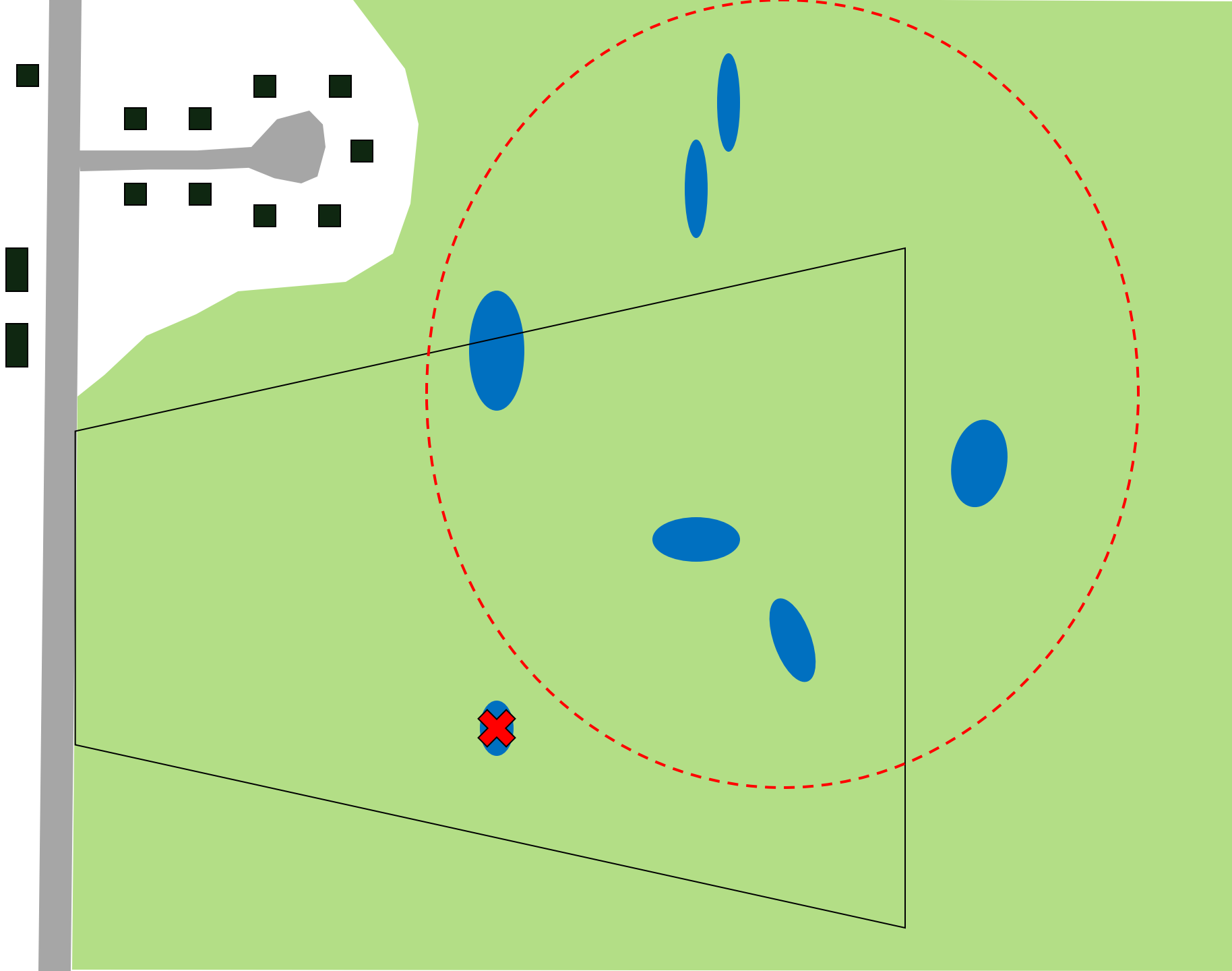


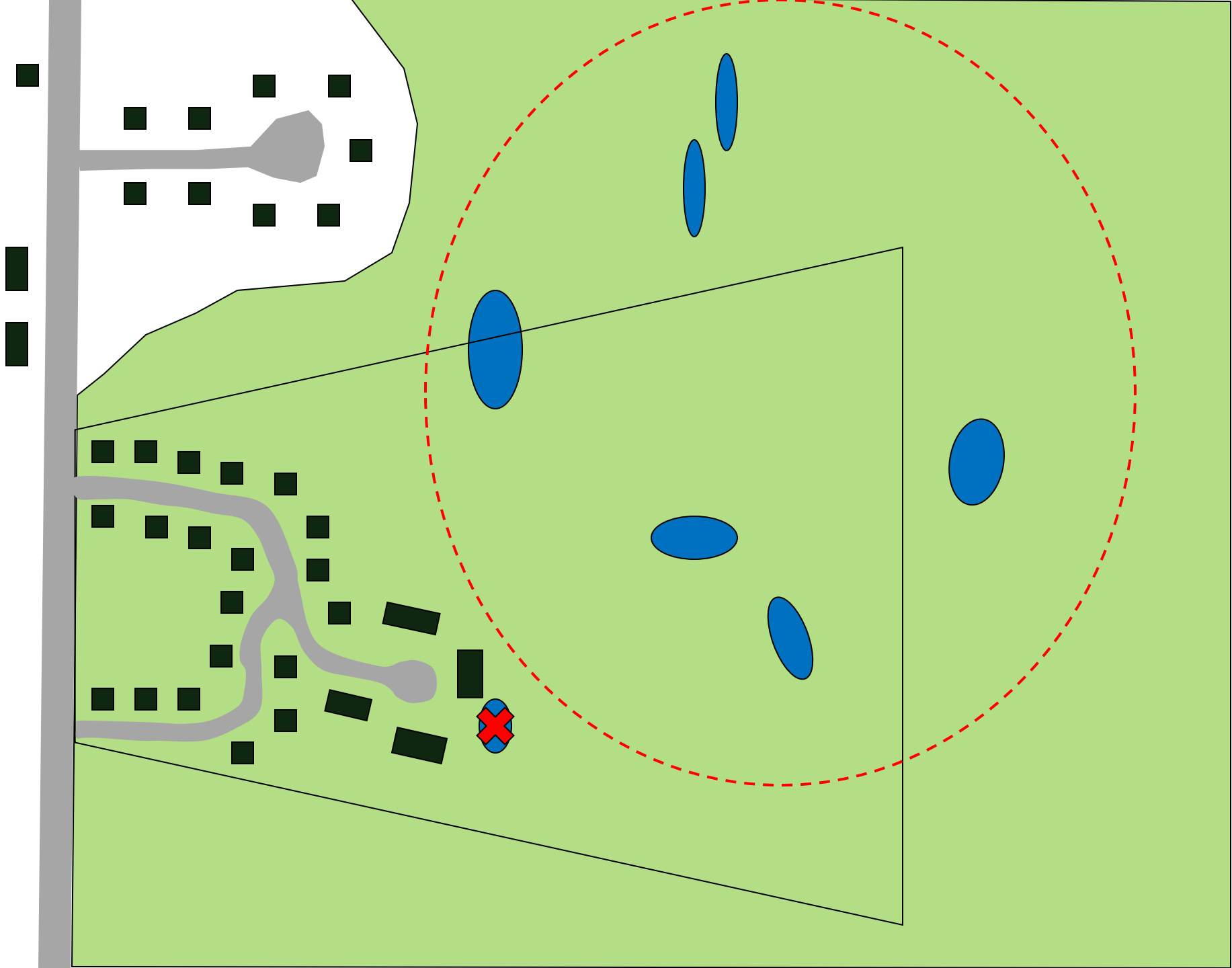












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