

# Steep Slopes



Town of Bristol, NH  
Land Use Office  
Natural Resources Mapping

### Legend

- Municipal Boundaries
- Tax Parcels - 2017
- Newfound Lake Watershed
- Conservation & Public Lands
- Slopes 15% - 25%
- Slopes >25%

### Steep Slopes

Bristol has extensive areas of steep slopes and complex terrain that limit development opportunities in areas of the town. Slopes in excess of 25% gradient (a rise of one foot or more over a horizontal run of four feet) cover about 1,600 acres, or 15% of the town. As a rule of thumb in community planning, these steep slopes are inappropriate for development in terms of new roads and building sites due to cost and erosion hazard (see **Highly Erodible Soils** map).

A transitional area of slopes 15 to 25% is shown on the maps as a cautionary note; these areas require engineering assistance to fit development proposals to the terrain, especially in the higher end of the slope range. 15 to 25% slopes cover an additional 2,830 acres of land in Bristol. Combined with slopes >25%, they affect the development potential in about 40% of the town.

Note the "halo" effect of slopes 15 to 25% surrounding steep slopes >25%, extending across most of the town. This indicates consistently steep and complex topography in these areas.

Slope data is developed from a USGS digital elevation model with an elevation point every 30 feet on the ground.

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Mapping & Analysis by  
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