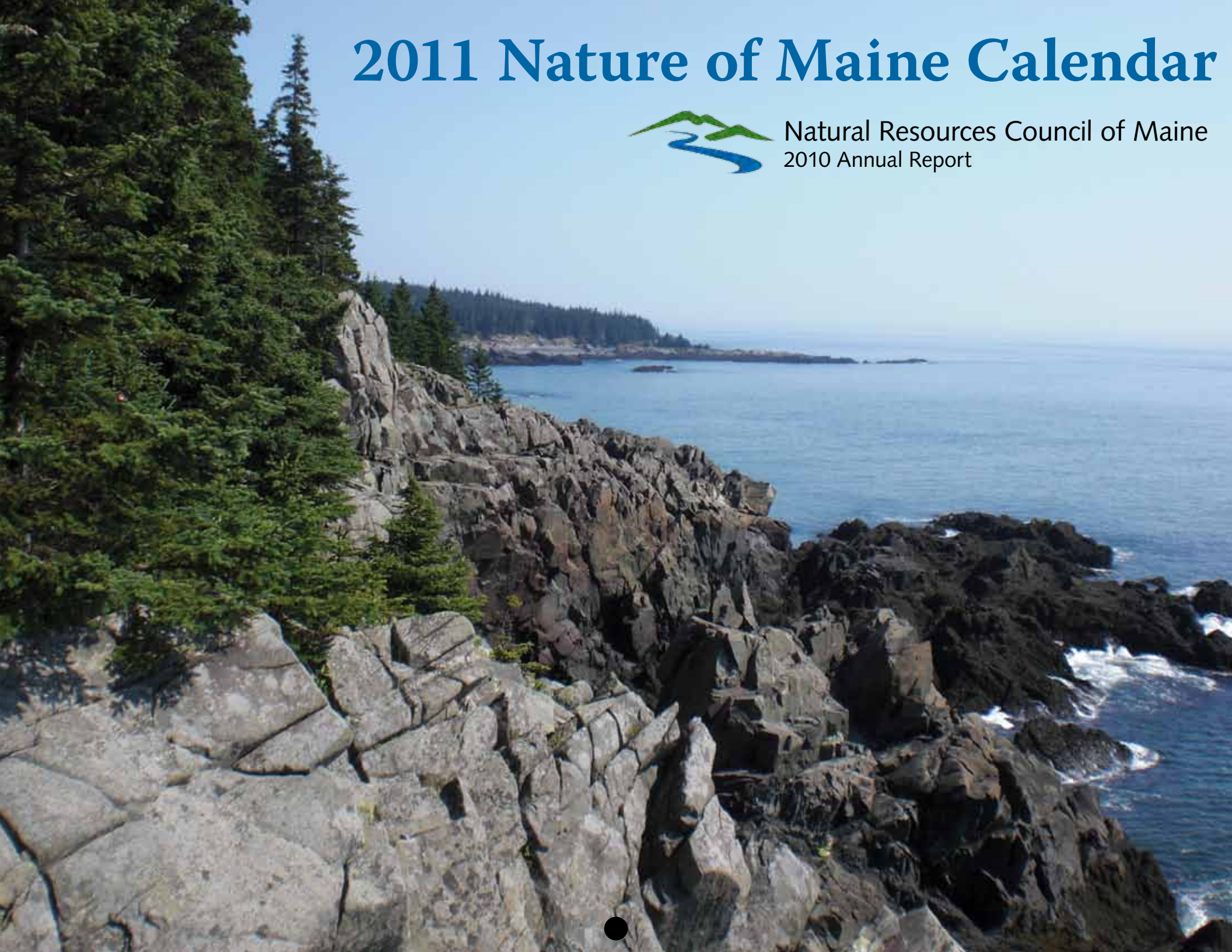


# 2011 Nature of Maine Calendar



Natural Resources Council of Maine  
2010 Annual Report



# Partnering for Protections

Over the past year, the Natural Resources Council of Maine continued to work with many partners to protect Maine's environment. These partnerships spurred effective new policy initiatives to address climate change, eliminate toxic chemicals from common consumer products, restore Maine rivers, and protect our forests. These initiatives drew on a diverse mix of conservation groups, small business owners, and professional associations with whom we found common ground.

Passed in the final weeks of the 2010 legislative session, "An Act to Provide for the Responsible Recycling of Consumer Products" established a first-in-the-nation framework to identify and recommend products for manufacturer-funded collection and recycling programs. The goal is to divert these products from landfills and incinerators and get them into recycling operations where they can be broken down and turned into new products. This significantly reduces toxic pollution and promotes the sustainable use of materials. When the business community opposed the



Matt Prindiville (right), NRCM's toxics project leader, with, L to R, Chris Jackson, Maine Chamber of Commerce, bill sponsor Rep. Melissa Innes (D-Yarmouth), and Governor John Baldacci at the signing of the first-in-nation product stewardship bill.

original bill, NRCM listened to their concerns. Working with the bill's sponsor, Rep. Melissa Innes (D-Yarmouth), we carefully shaped a revised approach that ultimately led to NRCM and the Maine State Chamber of Commerce standing side-

by-side during the bill's signing ceremony in the Governor's office. This was a landmark victory and positions Maine as the leader on product stewardship initiatives in the United States.

We also were able to reach common ground with Maine's oil dealers on legislation to reduce air pollution by requiring cleaner fuels for home heating and industrial use. These fuels cause health problems, such as asthma, and reduced visibility along our coast, including Acadia National Park.

Our coast will also benefit from NRCM's work to restore the alewife population to the St. Croix River, which borders Canada. We teamed up with forty-eight groups in all, including The Maine Lobstermen's Association and the Alewife Harvesters of Maine, to petition the International Joint Commission (IJC) to restore



NRCM continues to work hard for restoration of native alewives to the St. Croix watershed. Alewives are important for Maine's fisheries and ecological health.

St. Croix alewives. The river once teemed with millions of alewives, but the run was decimated when the Maine Legislature blocked alewife passage in 1995 due to unsupported fears that alewives hurt smallmouth bass populations. Alewives are native to Maine, spawning in our lakes and returning to the ocean, all the while providing food for other fish, birds, and ocean creatures. Although the IJC answered our petition, their response did not go far enough, quickly enough. NRCM and our allies will continue to push for a better plan and to ensure swift and effective alewife restoration in the St. Croix.

As part of our work to protect Maine's North Woods, the largest remaining forest in the East, NRCM served on the steering committee of Keeping Maine's Forests (KMF). KMF is a cooperative



JOHN MILNE

Although there is still much more work to be done, NRCM helped make important gains in Maine's North Woods over the past year.

effort among conservation nonprofits, state agencies, landowners, and the Maine Forest Products Council to secure federal support for initiatives to help protect an intact Maine forest for the benefit of current and future generations. KMF has proposed pilot conservation projects designed to prevent forest fragmentation and loss of wildlife habitat,

maintain the tradition of public access for recreation, and sustain the economy of northern and rural Maine communities. The nine-month process was challenging for all parties, but culminated in a proposal that the state recently presented to the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Interior for endorsement and funding.

Partnering with traditional and non-traditional allies contributed greatly to our successes this year, but we never lost sight of the fact that you, our members, are our most important partners. When the chemical industry hired a small army of lobbyists in a last-ditch effort to block an important bill to reduce toxic pollution, you called your elected officials to remind them that *your voice*, not a hired gun's, was the one to listen to. We asked you to contact your legislators throughout the legislative session, and these requests resulted in thousands of communications that played a huge role in our victories.

NRCM helped secure the support of hundreds of business leaders who signed an April 2010 letter to Senators Snowe and Collins, calling for strong energy and climate legislation. A few days after a press conference about that letter, images of oil-soaked pelicans in the Gulf of Mexico became a sad and daily reminder that our federal energy policy remains in the grip of the oil, gas, and coal industries. We know that NRCM members will continue to press for meaningful



ALLISON WELLS/NRCM

NRCM Deputy Director Lisa Pohlmann at a press conference with members of Maine's business community. More than 500 Maine businesses signed onto a letter to Senator Collins and Senator Snowe calling for climate change legislation.

clean energy legislation as Congress wrestles with the most important environmental issue of our time.

There is strength in numbers. NRCM succeeds because so many citizens like you believe in, and push for, effective state and national environmental policies and conservation programs. The health of our families, our state, and our planet depend on it. Thank you for standing with us.



Bill Houston  
NRCM Board President



Brownie Carson  
NRCM Executive Director

# Working Statewide to Protect Maine's Environment

As a statewide environmental advocacy organization, NRCM focuses on public policies and laws that protect people and the environment across Maine. We also focus on specific projects that set precedents for future changes. This past year, for example, the work we and our coalition partners are doing to improve fish passage on the Penobscot, St. Croix, and other rivers has and will continue to redefine how Maine can restore the health of our rivers while respecting the importance of our rivers to the culture and economy of the state.

Through your memberships and gifts, NRCM supporters touch every corner of the state and create results that will benefit us all, today and for generations to come.

## Statewide Initiatives

**Reducing Threats Caused by Toxic Chemicals** by prioritizing and phasing out their use in consumer products, and by creating a "product stewardship" program for safe collection and recycling of items containing toxic chemicals.

**Creating a More Energy-Efficient Maine** by working with Efficiency Maine Trust on a three-year plan toward a more energy-independent future that will also save Maine people money.

**Moving Maine Toward a Renewable Energy Future** by supporting proposed wind projects on land and off-shore that are well-sited to minimize environmental impacts.

**Boosting Fisheries** by helping pass a bill requiring new culverts be built to allow fish and other creatures to pass through.

**Appealing Approval of Plum Creek's** massive development plan for Moosehead Lake, a decision we believe is illegal and allows too much development and in the wrong places.

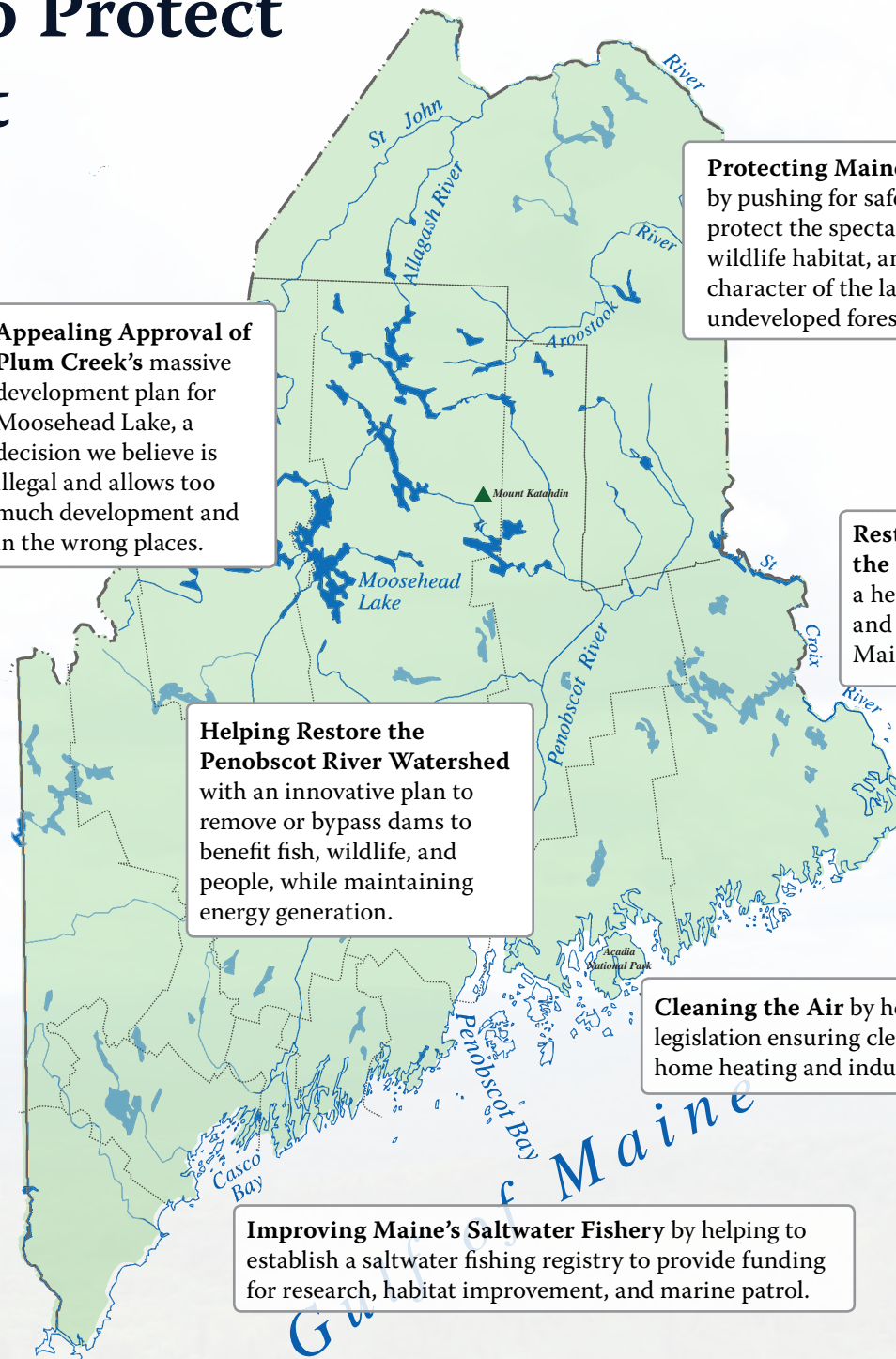
**Helping Restore the Penobscot River Watershed** with an innovative plan to remove or bypass dams to benefit fish, wildlife, and people, while maintaining energy generation.

**Protecting Maine's North Woods** by pushing for safeguards that protect the spectacular beauty, wildlife habitat, and remote character of the largest remaining undeveloped forest in the East.

**Restoring Alewives to the St. Croix River** for a healthier watershed and stronger Gulf of Maine fishery.

**Cleaning the Air** by helping pass legislation ensuring cleaner fuels for home heating and industrial use.

**Improving Maine's Saltwater Fishery** by helping to establish a saltwater fishing registry to provide funding for research, habitat improvement, and marine patrol.



# Celebrating 50 Years Protecting Maine's Environment

In 2009, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the founding of NRCM with more than 50 events, held throughout the state. Many of these took place during the latter half of our fiscal year 2010. Paddles, hikes, bird walks, and much more, including showings of our movie, "Protecting the Nature of Maine: 50 Years of the Natural Resources Council of Maine," all marked NRCM's extraordinary history. These events also provided wonderful opportunities to meet with you, our supporters who have been, and will continue to be, crucial to NRCM's victories. As we commemorated our past, we never stopped looking to the future and the challenges and opportunities that await. We look forward to our ongoing work with you in our efforts to protect the nature of Maine, today and for generations to come.



PAUL GLAZEBROOK

A group of NRCM members joined our staff for a scenic, four-day canoe trip down the Penobscot's West Branch, led by Maine guides Garrett and Alexandra Conover.



ALLISON WELLS/NRCM

NRCM staff and members celebrated Rachel Carson's birthday by hosting a bird walk at Laudholm Farm in Wells with bird expert Derek Lovitch, followed by a screening of the movie "A Sense of Wonder" about the final year of Carson's life. Nearly 100 people turned out for this special event.



SARAH HALE KRULL/NRCM

Members and staff celebrated the return of the alewives with a visit to the Damariscotta Mills fish ladder.



LESLIE HAROUN

Thanks to all who braved the cold with us—and helped us raise funds—in support of our work to raise awareness about the need to reduce global warming pollution. Thanks to you, our Polar Plunge was a big success!



LILY PIEL

Our first Art of Local Foods event was held in Rockport in October and promoted locally produced food and beverages. The sold-out crowd enjoyed great music, conversation, and delicious food provided by area farmers and restaurants.



ALLISON WELLS/NRCM

Dozens of paddlers celebrated NRCM's 50th—and the 10th anniversary of the removal of the Edwards Dam in Augusta—with a paddle down the Kennebec River from Sidney to Augusta.



MATT SCEASEN/NRCM

NRCM staff and supporters of all ages enjoyed a hike at a favorite local preserve, Vaughan Woods in Hallowell, led by naturalist Hank Tyler.



BETH DIMOND/NRCM

◀ Dan Reicher, Google's Director of Climate Change and Energy Initiatives, was the featured speaker at our annual meeting at the University of Southern Maine, Portland. Dan, here with NRCM Executive Director Brownie Carson, spoke on the topic, "Climate Change and Google's View of a Clean Energy Planet." Nearly 400 people attended the event.

## Board of Directors

**William Houston**, President, Kingfield  
**Tony Owens, MD**, Vice President, Cape Elizabeth  
**Kathleen A. Rimmel**, Secretary, Portland  
**Christopher A. Bond**, Treasurer, Cape Elizabeth  
**Sandra Armington**, Hallowell  
**Lisa Bisceglia**, Kittery Point<sup>2</sup>  
**Eileen D. Carey**, Presque Isle<sup>1</sup>  
**Edmund Cervone**, Hallowell  
**Victoria M. Devlin**, South Freeport<sup>1</sup>  
**Diane Guethlen**, Tomhegan Township<sup>2</sup>

**Maroulla S. Gleaton, MD**, Palermo<sup>1</sup>  
**Lani F.B. Graham, MD**, Portland  
**Henry R. Heyburn, Jr.**, Brunswick<sup>1</sup>  
**Cynthia D. Hyde**, Hope  
**Warren C. Kessler**, Manchester  
**Eleanor H. Kinney**, Bremen  
**Norton H. Lamb, Jr.**, New Gloucester<sup>1</sup>  
**Adam Lee**, Cumberland  
**Lynne Y. Lewis**, Portland  
**Anthony F. Marple**, Whitefield<sup>2</sup>

**Rondi Nelson**, Mount Vernon  
**W. Kent Olson**, Southwest Harbor  
**Sarah B. Rheault**, Camden  
**R. Stewart Strawbridge**, South Portland<sup>1</sup>  
**Thomas Tietenberg**, Waterville  
**Lois Ann D. Winter**, Portland<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Elected, Fall 2009

<sup>2</sup> Completed Service, Fall 2009

## National Advisory Board

**James G. Blaine**, Pennsylvania  
**The Honorable Robert O. Blake**, District of Columbia  
**Gilbert Butler**, New York  
**Leonard W. Cotton**, Connecticut  
**Leon A. Gorman**, Maine  
**Barbarina Heyerdahl**, Vermont  
**Brigitte L. Kingsbury**, Maine  
**Lincoln F. Ladd**, Maine

**Paul A. Liebow, MD**, Maine  
**Jane C. MacElree**, Pennsylvania  
**C. W. Eliot Paine**, Ohio  
**Ralph T. Perry**, Maine  
**The Honorable Chellie Pingree**, Maine  
**The Honorable Nathaniel P. Reed**, Florida  
**Marilyn Moss Rockefeller**, Maine  
**Wickham Skinner**, Maine

**Thomas E. Stegman**, Ohio  
**Mrs. Stuart C. Symington**, Maine  
**Anna Marie Thron**, Maine  
**Clinton B. Townsend**, Maine  
**Charles O. Verrill, Jr.**, District of Columbia  
**Edward Z. Walworth, MD**, Maine

## Staff

**Susan Barbay**, Executive Assistant  
**Nick Bennett**, Staff Scientist and Watersheds Project Director  
**Judy Berk**, Advocacy Communications Director  
**Leslie Burhoe**, Bookkeeper  
**Everett "Brownie" Carson**, Executive Director  
**Leisa Dennett**, Advocacy Assistant  
**Pete Didisheim**, Senior Director, Advocacy  
**Beth Dimond**, Public Affairs Coordinator  
**Bill Dowling**, Information Technology Director  
**Joyce Gracie**, Senior Development Assistant  
**Gabrielle Grunkemeyer Rigaud**, Grants Director  
**Stacie Haines**, Membership and Database Manager  
**Cathy Johnson**, Senior Staff Attorney and North Woods Project Director

**Toby Kilgore**, Grants Associate  
**Lisa Pohlmann**, Deputy Director  
**Matt Prindiville**, Clean Production Project Director and Legislative Coordinator  
**Mathew Scease**, Major Gifts Director  
**Steve Tatko**, North Woods Policy Advocate and Outreach Coordinator  
**Emmie Theberge**, Energy Outreach Coordinator  
**Kathy Thompson**, Senior Director, Finance and Administration  
**Dylan Voorhees**, Energy Project Director  
**Gretta Wark**, Senior Director, Development  
**Allison Childs Wells**, Senior Director, Public Affairs and Marketing



Party like its 1959. NRCM marked its 50th anniversary on June 25, 2009, with a party for more than 100 guests, including many who have served on the board of directors and the staff over the years. Board members from the early 60s to the current day turned out for the event, and former staff members enjoyed the trip down memory lane for this very special occasion. Shown here: current and former NRCM staff.

# Natural Resources Council of Maine

## Statement of Activities

For the fiscal year ending March 31

### Operating Revenue, Gains & Other Support

	FY 2010	FY 2009
Contributions, membership gifts and grants received	\$1,938,565	\$1,892,344
Events, merchandise and other revenues	22,225	24,578
In-kind contributions	116,044	120,646
Investment appropriated for operations	206,564	242,000

### Total Operating Revenue, Gains & Other Support

\$2,283,398 \$2,279,568

### Operating Expenses

Clean air and energy	\$267,063	\$265,723
Toxics and pollution prevention	\$91,559	\$93,418
North Woods	\$182,985	\$317,471
Watershed	\$166,114	\$177,813
Lobbying	\$42,066	\$30,060
General advocacy	\$214,970	\$293,848
Communications	\$507,196	\$494,211

Total Program Services \$1,471,953 \$1,672,544

### Supporting Services

Management and general	\$126,505	\$217,694
Development and fundraising	404,136	520,300

Total Supporting Services \$530,641 \$737,994

Total Operating Expenses \$2,002,594 \$2,410,538

Change in Net Assets from Operations \$280,804 \$(130,970)

## Non-operating Income

Capital Campaign income & bequests	\$48,920	\$164,763
Change in value of gift annuities	(20,924)	
Change in gift value of future interest	(991)	(34,367)
Capital campaign expenses	0	(66,685)
Investment income gains (losses)	778,554	(1,594,761)

Total Non-operating Income \$805,559 \$(1,531,050)

Total Change in Net Assets \$1,086,363 \$(1,662,020)

## Net Assets

Beginning balance	\$4,600,467	\$6,262,487
Ending balance	\$5,686,830	\$4,600,467

## Statement of Financial Position

For the fiscal year ending March 31

### Assets

	FY 2010	FY 2009
Total Current Assets	\$855,312	\$676,363
Net Property & Equipment	697,915	695,364
Investments	4,240,595	3,290,359
Other Assets	92,188	93,179
Total Assets	\$5,886,010	\$4,755,265

### Liabilities and Net Assets

Total Liabilities \$199,180 \$154,798

### Net Assets

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$5,373,081	\$4,300,438
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	128,749	115,029
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	185,000	185,000

Total Net Assets \$5,686,830 \$4,600,467

Total Liabilities And Net Assets \$5,886,010 \$4,755,265

## Notes to Financial Statements

The Natural Resources Council of Maine is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.



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Back cover photo: Avery Peak, in the Bigelow Range, overlooking Flagstaff Lake, by Pete Didisheim

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# Protecting the Nature of Maine

## Our Mission

The Natural Resources Council of Maine is our state's leading non-profit organization protecting, restoring, and conserving Maine's environment, today and for future generations.

We work to improve the quality of Maine's rivers, reduce poisonous chemicals threatening human and wildlife health, decrease air and climate-changing pollution, and conserve Maine lands, including our treasured North Woods. NRCM harnesses the power of science, the law, and the voices of more than 12,000 supporters from across Maine and beyond. Together, we are making a difference. Special thanks to all of our members.