

2014 NATURE OF MAINE CALENDAR



Natural Resources Council of Maine
2013 Annual Report



Going the Distance for Maine's Environment



NRCM Executive Director Lisa Pohlmann at the Veazie Dam

The Natural Resources Council of Maine is both a sprinter and a long distance runner. We move quickly to face unexpected threats and take advantage of new opportunities. We also stay the course, go the distance—sometimes for a decade or more—as projects progress over time or minds slowly change on a policy issue.

Our campaign to restore the Kennebec River is a great example of going the distance. Removal of the Edwards Dam took more than 10 years. A decade later we succeeded in sparking removal of the Fort Halifax Dam from the mouth of an important tributary. Today, about 3 million alewives return to the Kennebec to spawn. Sturgeon, Bald Eagles, and Osprey are frequent sights along the river, and Maine people enjoy the Kennebec as a great place to fish, paddle, and watch for wildlife.

This past June, I stood on the banks of the St. Croix River and linked arms with others there to celebrate the return of alewives to this watershed along the Maine–New Brunswick border. Since 1995, alewives had been blocked from their ancestral breeding grounds by a misguided law passed by the Maine Legislature. NRCM worked for more than a decade to overturn that law, and that day finally arrived.

More than a decade ago, NRCM became a founding member of the Penobscot River Restoration Project and took on the daunting task of helping to restore fish passage to more than 1,000 miles of habitat, which had been blocked for 200 years. In 2012, we and our partners removed the Great Works Dam. This summer, we celebrated as the Veazie Dam was breached. In the next few years, a new bypass around the Howland Dam and improved fish passage at Milford will complete this historic project.

Sound science guides our direction, as does listening to the concerns of Maine people. This year, we worked side-by-side with people who live along the Portland-

Taking Stock



To “take stock” has always seemed to me a quintessential New England phrase. Every time I invoke the expression I feel more deeply rooted in the places and traditions I value here in Maine. Anticipating my departure after eight years of board service, the last two as board president, taking stock seems in order. These eight years have seen four very different legislatures, two dramatically different governors, increased focus on renewable energy

and efficiency, North Woods conservation challenges and opportunities, the emergence of tar sands threats to Maine, big steps for Penobscot River restoration, St. Croix alewife restoration, long overdue work getting toxics out of consumer products, and much more. The complexity of the issues we face is daunting, the time table unpredictable, and the outcome uncertain. Fortunately, NRCM staff members are nimble, and their intelligence is surpassed only by their commitment to the task at hand: protecting the nature of Maine. NRCM members have provided the robust financial support that has allowed us to continue our mission despite some challenging economic times.

As I take stock of what I have learned these past eight years, it includes the unique opportunity Maine’s citizen legislature presents for individuals to make a profound difference in the law-making process. I took an 11-year-old neighbor to testify at a hearing about removing toxic BPA from children’s food packaging. It was a nerve-wracking experience for this 5th grader, but her testimony helped convince the committee to vote “ought to pass”—12-0!

Advocacy is an essential tool if we are to succeed in passing beneficial laws and stopping harmful proposals. I am convinced that no one brings the level of professionalism and commitment to advocacy better than NRCM. You, our members, are part of a winning team. Thank you on behalf of myself and my fellow board members, for your encouragement and support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Owens". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tony Owens
NRCM Board President

to-Montreal pipeline, to combat efforts to transport Canadian tar sands oil through Maine. Town after town passed ordinances to stop the unsafe transport of tar sands oil through their communities. There is still a long distance to go as we play our part in an international effort to keep tar sands in the ground.

Sometimes going the distance is quite literal. We spent much of the 2013 legislative session crisscrossing the state to speak with Maine people about a new threat: changes to Maine laws that could allow open-pit mineral mining and highly toxic mining run-off to pollute rivers and groundwater for centuries.

Other times, it means persisting against repeated attacks on time-honored environmental protections. This year we again defended the billboard ban that keeps Maine's roadways scenic. Once more, we faced down attempts to weaken laws safeguarding habitat for frogs, turtles, birds, and other wildlife. We helped defeat a bill that would have allowed the state to sell public lands. We also worked on three bills to combat yet another version of an East-West highway proposal—a massive project that would carve up remote areas and wildlife habitat in our North Woods. And after years of pressure, we successfully led the charge for greater investments in energy efficiency so we spend less money—and do less damage to the environment—when we heat and power our homes and businesses.

For more than 50 years, NRCM has gone the distance to protect Maine's land, air, water, and wildlife, providing an unmatched level of expertise for Maine's environmental protections. With 21 staff members, including six full-time staff members at the State House, and 16,000 members and supporters, we monitor every legislative proposal, make sure current laws are being properly implemented by state agencies, and lead major conservation and restoration initiatives. In the past year alone, we worked on dozens of bills, providing expert testimony, working with legislators, and educating and engaging our members.

Your support is vital to this effort. NRCM members attended rallies, came to the State House to testify, and contacted local and congressional representatives. Your membership also helped us to stay strong.

Our work makes a tremendous difference to our state, no matter how long it takes. Thank you for going the distance with us so we can protect the place we call home.



Lisa Pohlmann
Executive Director

Join the Conversation

NRCM's Facebook Wall is an active and lively place—a great way to stay informed, connect with others who care about Maine's environment, and share your thoughts on news and current affairs relating to our work. We'd love for you to be part of the conversation. Find us on Facebook and "Like" us today!

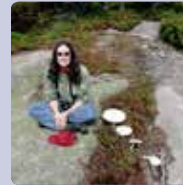
From our Wall:



Jeanne Brooks, Harpswell

(following our post about rescinding of funding for East-West highway study)

"This is the very best news I've heard in long, long time!! Thank you so much for all you do."



Leda Beth Gray, Blue Hill

(on slide show post of the Washington, D.C., rally)

"I'm so proud of NRCM for organizing members to go to D.C."



Barbara Herrgesell, Sanford

"Congratulations to the staff! A lot was accomplished under a tough regime. Nature lovers are lucky to have NRCM working for us. Good luck in the new year."



Donald Simoneau, Fayette

"Glad to have NRCM looking out for us."

More Ways to Stay Informed

Join our Action Network to receive news about Maine's environment as it happens and to learn what you can do take action to protect it.
http://nrcm.kintera.org/Action_Network_signup



Follow us on Twitter! Search for "NRCMenvironment."



Subscribe to our news feed! www.nrcm.org



Subscribe to our YouTube channel! NRCMenvironment

EVENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT



NRCM

▲ **Truth about Mining** Ramsey Hart of MiningWatch Canada gave the keynote address, "Mining for Metals: Big Promises, Harsh Realities," at our 2012 annual meeting. Ramsey helped our members understand the threat that poorly regulated mining poses in Maine since JD Irving, a huge Canadian conglomerate, pushed a law to weaken Maine's mining regulations through the Legislature in 2012. Ramsey shared his research on mining pollution including threats to local economies, lands, and water resources. "Mining companies often make big promises in terms of environmental protection and economic development, but the realities are often contaminated waterways, hundreds of millions of tons of toxic waste left behind, and communities that lose resilience," said Hart. "It's good to know that NRCM is standing up for Maine's environment and the citizens of Maine." NRCM's watersheds expert Nick Bennett shared the stage after the presentation to help answer questions.



MAINE RUNNING PHOTOS

▲ **Dipping and Dashing** About 200 people participated in the 2012 Polar Bear Dip & Dash, held annually on December 31 at Portland's East End Beach. Participants take part in a 5K road race, plunge into icy Casco Bay, or do both! The event raised \$15,000 for NRCM's work on climate change. Thank you to all of our participants, business sponsors, and all those who came to cheer at the beach. Join us again this year!



KATHLEEN HESBETINE

▼ **Rachel's Run** In September, NRCM launched "Rachel's Run," a 5k run along the Kennebec Rail Trail from Augusta to Hallowell. Named in honor of toxics pioneer Rachel Carson, the event also included kids' activities, art display, and more. The event, held again this year, raises funds for and awareness of NRCM's work reducing toxic pollution.



NRCM

▲ **NRCM to Obama: Climate Action Now** In February, NRCM's Emmie Theberge and Todd Martin and dozens of NRCM members climbed onto a bus at midnight and rode to Washington, D.C., as part of the historic Forward on Climate rally. They joined hundreds of other Mainers, and tens of thousands of people from across the nation to march on Washington for climate action and to speak out against the Keystone XL pipeline.



NRCM



BOCMEUN/NRCM

▲ **"No Tar Sands"** In January, NRCM helped organize the largest protest yet in the Northeast against tar sands. Fourteen hundred people carried signs and marched across Portland to rally at the Maine State Pier, where NRCM's Dylan Voorhees addressed the crowd. We were there to oppose an emerging proposal to send dirty tar sands oil through the 236-mile long, 62-year-old Exxon/Enbridge pipeline across parts of Canada, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.



▲ St. Croix Alewives Run Free On June 5, 2013, the Passamaquoddy Tribe hosted a special event to mark the return of alewives to their traditional spawning habitat following legislation reopening the St. Croix River, where access had been blocked for decades. The celebration was held in honor of all of the tribes, federal and state agencies, and conservation groups, including NRCM, that helped make this restoration a reality.



▲ Canadian Tar Sands and Maine NRCM invited Melina Laboucan-Massimo, a member of the indigenous Cree community in northern Alberta, to Portland in April to alert Maine about the social, health, and environmental impacts that tar sands extraction has had on her community and others throughout Canada, the U.S., and around the globe. She described one of the largest oil spills in recent history, which took place just five miles from her home. Penobscot Chief Kirk Francis presented the opening welcome, and NRCM's energy expert, Dylan Voorhees, provided the Maine perspective.



▲ Penobscot River Freed after 200 Years Former NRCM board member Cynthia Hyde (left) and NRCM member Eliza Bailey joined us on the bank of the Penobscot River July 22, 2013, to witness the historic breaching of the Veazie Dam. When removal is complete, the Penobscot will reconnect to the Atlantic Ocean for the first time in nearly 200 years. This is the second major step in the restoration of Maine's largest river, following removal of the Great Works Dam in 2012. NRCM is proud to be a founding member of the Penobscot River Restoration Project.



▲ Enjoying Maine's Outdoors Enjoying snowshoeing and cross-country skiing at Hidden Valley Nature Center in Jefferson has become a regular event for NRCM staff and members.



▲ Citizen Action Day People headed to the State House to meet with their legislators, urging them to support bills that protect Maine's environment as part of our annual Citizen Action Day, held in April. Executive Director Lisa Pohlmann welcomed the crowd and NRCM's issue experts briefed them on the top environmental issues facing the Legislature. L to R: Lisa Pohlmann; Becca Bloch, MD; Maddie Irish; Christine Irish, MD; Eva Abbott.

BOONIE/NRCM

SUSAN MACKENZIE

GWARK/NRCM

AWELLS/NRCM

Board of Directors

Tony Owens, MD, *President*, Cape Elizabeth
Kate Rush, *Vice President*, Newport
Lois Winter, *Secretary*, Portland
Christopher A. Bond, *Treasurer*, Cape Elizabeth
Elisa Boxer, Scarborough
Victoria M. Devlin, South Freeport
Marion Freeman, Freeport
Maroulla S. Gleaton, MD, Palermo
Jeanne Gulnick, Peaks Island

Patricia Hager, Norridgewock²
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George Lapointe, Hallowell
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W. Kent Olson, Southwest Harbor
Jeff Pidot, Brunswick
Russell B. Pierce, Jr., Portland²
Kathleen A. Remmel, Portland
R. Stewart Strawbridge, South Portland
Thomas Tietenberg, Waterville

1 Completed Service, Fall 2012
2 Elected, Fall 2012

National Advisory Board

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The Honorable Robert O. Blake, District of Columbia
Gilbert Butler, New York
Leonard W. Cotton, South Carolina
Leon A. Gorman, Maine
Barbarina Heyerdahl, Vermont
Brigitte L. Kingsbury, Maine
Lincoln F. Ladd, Maine
Adam Lee, 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
Anna Marie Thron, Maine
Clinton B. Townsend, Maine
Charles O. Verrill, Jr., District of Columbia
Edward Z. Walworth, MD, Maine

Staff

Nick Bennett, Staff Scientist and
Watersheds Project Director
Judy Berk, Advocacy Communications Director
Leslie Burhoe, Executive Assistant
Beth Comeau, Public Affairs Coordinator
Leisa Dennett, Advocacy Assistant and IT Coordinator
Pete Didisheim, Senior Director, Advocacy
Eliza Donoghue, North Woods Policy Advocate and
Outreach Coordinator
Carrie Dunbar, Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper
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
Todd Martin, Grassroots Outreach Coordinator
Lisa Pohlmann, Executive Director
Mathew Scease, Major Gifts Director
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



Back row from left to right: Kathy Thompson, Todd Martin, Joyce Gracie, Lisa Pohlmann, Abby King, Leslie Burhoe, Dylan Voorhees, Beth Comeau

Front row from left to right: Mathew Scease, Gretta Wark, Judy Berk, Pete Didisheim, Allison Wells, Carrie Dunbar

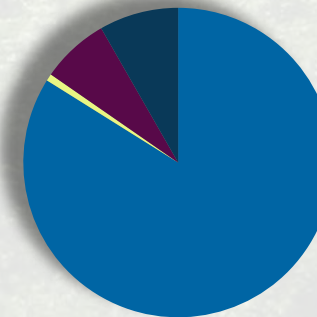
NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL OF MAINE

Statement of Activities

For the fiscal year ending March 31	FY 2013	FY 2012
Operating Revenue, Gains, & Other Support		
Contributions, membership gifts, and grants received	\$1,863,903	\$1,743,022
Events, merchandise, and other revenues	\$16,273	\$23,461
In-kind contributions	\$157,321	\$103,282
Investment appropriated for operations	\$184,000	\$184,200
Total Operating Revenue, Gains, & Other Support	\$2,221,497	\$2,053,965
Operating Expenses		
Program Services		
Clean air and energy	\$291,487	\$204,382
Toxics and pollution prevention	\$96,096	\$61,676
North Woods	\$169,469	\$210,776
Watersheds	\$275,860	\$131,726
Lobbying	\$59,573	\$105,766
General advocacy	\$319,933	\$368,939
Communications	\$554,299	\$595,170
Total Program Services	\$1,766,717	\$1,678,435
Supporting Services		
Management and general	\$116,983	\$111,431
Development and fundraising	\$270,659	\$281,103
Total Supporting Services	\$387,642	\$392,534
Total Operating Expenses	\$2,154,359	\$2,070,969
Change in Net Assets from Operations	\$67,138	\$(17,004)
Non-operating Income		
Brownie Carson Citizen Engagement Fund	\$-	\$36,390
Bequests and other gifts to Board-Designated Fund	\$117,505	\$183,326
Change in value of gift annuities	\$1,371	\$4,285
Change in gift value of future interest	\$(105,437)	\$23,568
Net investment income gains (losses)	\$80,002	\$(192,200)
Total Non-operating Income	\$93,441	\$55,369
Total Change in Net Assets	\$160,579	\$38,365
Net Assets		
Beginning balance	\$6,206,235	\$6,167,870
Ending balance	\$6,366,814	\$6,206,235

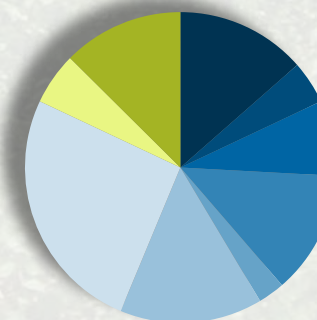
Statement of Financial Position

for the fiscal year ending March 31	FY 2013	FY 2012
Assets		
Total current assets	\$936,791	\$778,397
Net property and equipment	\$583,017	\$620,945
Investments	\$4,792,675	\$4,647,722
Other assets	\$203,819	\$296,756
Total Assets	\$6,516,302	\$6,343,820
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Total Liabilities	\$149,488	\$137,585
Net Assets		
Unrestricted net assets	\$5,677,269	\$5,551,863
Temporarily restricted net assets	\$504,545	\$469,372
Permanently restricted net assets	\$185,000	\$185,000
Total Net Assets	\$6,366,814	\$6,206,235
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$6,516,302	\$6,343,820



Operating Revenue, Gains, & Other Support

- 84% Contributions, membership gifts, and grants received
- 1% Events, merchandise, and other revenues
- 7% In-kind contributions
- 8% Investment appropriated for operations



Operating Expenses

Program Services 82%

- 13% Clean air and energy
- 4% Toxics and pollution prevention
- 8% North Woods
- 13% Watersheds
- 3% Lobbying
- 15% General advocacy
- 26% Communications

Supporting Services 18%

- 5% Management and general
- 13% Development and fundraising

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.



JANUARY 2014

View from Katahdin Lake looking west to Mount Katahdin, Baxter State Park,
by NRCM staff member Cathy Johnson

Looking out at Mt. Blue, by NRCM staff member Gabby Rigaud
Flagstaff Lake, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM member Sam Horine
Black-capped Chickadee, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM member Tony Nazar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Natural Resources Council of Maine www.nrcm.org			1 New Moon ● New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7 First Quarter ◐	8	9	10	11
12 1995: Wolves reintroduced into Yellowstone. 2013: Residents of Casco become the first to approve a resolution in opposition to a tar sands pipeline in Maine.	13	14	15 Full Moon ○ Wolf Moon (Old, Moon After Yule)	16	17	18 2006: Maine's e-waste law goes into effect. NRCM led efforts to pass this law.
19	20	21	22	23	24 Last Quarter ◑	25
26	27	28	29	30 New Moon ●	31	
					Chinese New Year (Horse)	

Protecting Maine's North Woods

NRCM led efforts to stop three bills that would have harmed Maine's North Woods. One would have weakened the Land Use Planning Commission's land use rules so dramatically that enforcement of all of its state environmental regulations would have been meaningless. A second bill would have authorized selling off some of Maine's public reserved lands to a private business, setting a terrible precedent. The third bill would have diverted income from harvesting timber on reserved lands for unrelated purposes. NRCM's expertise and perseverance in watchdogging these under-our public the-radar attacks on Maine's North Woods protections were key to our success in defeating these bad ideas.



DECEMBER 2013

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FEBRUARY 2014

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28		



FEBRUARY 2014

Allagash Lake, by NRCM member Dean Bennett

Norway Lake, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM supporter Ellen Veazey
 Pine marten, Stratton Brook, Carrabassett Valley, by NRCM staff member Pete Didisheim

Number Four Mountain, Maine's North Woods, by NRCM member Wendy Weiger

Maple tree in winter, Aroostook County, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM supporter Laura Chase

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Groundhog Day	3	4	5	6 First Quarter ☾	7	8 2008: NRCM and partners win U.S. court battle to clean up power plant mercury, overturning EPA's weak mercury rules
9	10	11	12	13	14 Full Moon ☽ Snow Moon (Hunger) Valentine's Day	15
16	17 2004: U.S. District Court upholds Maine's automobile switch law, enacted in 2002. NRCM helped pass this law. Presidents' Day Washington's Birthday	18	19	20	21	22 Last Quarter ☾
23	24	25	26	27	28	

Keeping the Allagash Special

Protecting the Allagash is the issue upon which NRCM was founded in 1959, and our protection efforts for this one-of-a-kind place—Maine's only Wilderness Waterway—continue today. The Allagash, and also Baxter State Park, like wilderness areas around the country, limit the group size for recreating as an important tool to help protect the wilderness quality of these special areas. Research shows that larger groups are much louder than the same number of people but in smaller groups, have a greater adverse impact on camping and picnic sites, and are more likely to frighten wildlife (including moose) that visitors come to see. In 2013, NRCM successfully led the effort to retain the group size limit on the Allagash, keeping in place protections that have kept it so special.



JANUARY 2014

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MARCH 2014

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MARCH 2014

Beech Hill Preserve, Rockport, protected by Coastal Mountains Land Trust, with support from Land for Maine's Future, by NRCM staff member Judy Berk

Muscongus Bay, by NRCM member Steve Cartwright

Upper Dam, Rangeley, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM supporter Nick Mills
 Sysladobsis Lake, Lakeville, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM supporter Andrew Marshall

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1 New Moon ●		
2 2013: Residents of Waterford approve a resolution in opposition to a tar sands pipeline in Maine.	3	4 Mardi Gras	5 Ash Wednesday	6	7	8 First Quarter ◐	
9 Daylight Savings Time Begins	10	11	12	13 1986: NRCM and allies defeat plans for "Big A" dam and protect West Branch of Penobscot River	14	15 Purim begins at sunset	
16 Full Moon ○ Worm Moon (Crust, Crow, Sap, Lenten) 2010: Gov. Baldacci signs new Comprehensive Land Use Plan for Maine's North Woods	17 2010: Gov. Baldacci signs first-in-the-nation product stewardship bill into law St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring Equinox	21	22	
23 Last Quarter ◑ Maine Maple Sunday	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30 New Moon ●	31	Defeating Attempts to Weaken Safeguards During the 2013 legislative session, NRCM faced down 10 bills that would have had a negative impact on Maine's environment and scenic beauty. These included attacks on Maine's billboard ban, and safeguards for vernal pools and waterfowl and wading bird habitat. We also stopped two "takings" bills similar to ones we helped defeat in previous years, held off efforts to repeal Maine's energy efficiency building code, and halted legislation that would have created loopholes in Maine's shoreland zoning law. Maine's most valuable asset is our environment, and for more than 50 years, NRCM has been successful in keeping safeguards in place that protect it.			FEBRUARY 2014 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28		APRIL 2014 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30



APRIL 2014

View of the Bubbles from Jordan Pond, Acadia National Park, and Snowshoe Hare (below), by NRCM member David Small

American bullfrog, Spencer Pond, Greenville, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM member Dyanna Czeck

Atlantic Puffins, Machias Seal Island by NRCM supporter Jon K. Boone

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 April Fool's Day	2	3	4	5 2010: Gov. John Baldacci signs a bill to improve air quality at Acadia National Park and other areas. 2013: Raymond Board of Selectmen unanimously passes a resolution in opposition to a tar sands pipeline in Maine.
6 2010: Gov. Baldacci signs bill closing loophole in in 2007 Decca bill.	7 First Quarter ☾	8	9	10	11	12
13 Palm Sunday	14 2006: Gov. John Baldacci signs thermostat recycling law and mercury button cell battery ban Passover begins at sunset	15 Full Moon ☉ Pink Moon (Egg, Fish, Sprouting Grass)	16	17	18 Good Friday	19
20 Easter Sunday	21 Patriots' Day	22 Last Quarter ☾ Earth Day	23 2013: A bill to allow alewives to return to the St. Croix River after 22 years becomes law without Governor LePage's signature. Administrative Professionals' Day	24	25 2011: BPA ban becomes law without Governor LePage's signature Arbor Day	26
27	28	29 New Moon ●	30			 www.nrcm.org

Safeguarding Clean Air, Protecting Wildlife

Pollution from power plants and other industrial facilities in states upwind of Maine has a big impact on our air quality. This is why, time and again, NRCM stands up to attempts to weaken the EPA and its authority to regulate pollution. Maine's high asthma rates point to this need, as does a 2013 scientific report NRCM helped release showing that climate change could devastate some of Maine's most loved birds—puffins, Bicknell's Thrush, even robins and hummingbirds. Maine's congressional delegation needs to know that Maine people expect them to protect the air we breathe and to take meaningful steps to curb climate change. No group is more effective than NRCM at mobilizing Maine people to make their voices heard on issues affecting the health and beauty of our environment, whether here in Maine or at the national level.

MARCH 2014

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MAY 2014

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MAY 2014

Common Loon feeding chick, by NRCM supporters Daniel Poleschook Jr. & Virginia R. Poleschook

Lynch Cove, looking across Long Pond to the Kennebec Highlands, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM supporter Kerry Oliver

Pushaw Lake, Old Town, by NRCM staff member Stacie Haines

Houston Brook Falls, Pleasant Ridge Plantation, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM member Sam Horine

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 Natural Resources Council of Maine www.nrcm.org		1 May Day	2	3
4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 First Quarter ☾	7 Bear Awareness Week	8	9	10 International Migratory Bird Day
11 1966: Maine Legislature passes Allagash Wilderness Waterway statute Mother's Day	12	13	14 Full Moon ☽ Flower Moon (Milk, Corn Planting) Commute Another Way Week	15	16	17 Armed Forces Day
18	19	20	21 Last Quarter ☾ 2008: Gov. Baldacci signs into law the Kid-safe Products bill, which NRCM was instrumental in getting passed	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28 New Moon ●	29	30	31

Reducing Toxics in Consumer Products

For more than a decade, NRCM has succeeded in efforts to reduce toxic chemicals in consumer products, and we built on that success in 2013. In response to our expertise and our work with others, the Legislature unanimously approved new rules to phase out the toxic chemical bisphenol-A (BPA) in infant formula packaging and baby food packaging. These rules, unsigned by the governor but passed into law, were initiated through a petition supported by NRCM and signed by 800 Maine moms and citizens concerned about the harmful effects of BPA.



APRIL 2014

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JUNE 2014

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JUNE 2014

St. Croix River in Woodland, by NRCM staff member Beth Comeau

Alewives, Damariscotta Mills, by NRCM staff member Lisa Pohlmann

Kennebec River, Augusta, by NRCM staff member Allison Childs Wells

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 2003: Gov. John Baldacci signs bill to stop liquidation harvesting 2013: Legislature approves new rules to phase out toxic BPA in infant formula and baby food packaging.	5 First Quarter ☾ United Nations World Environment Day	6	7 National Trails Day
8 2011: E-waste expansion bill becomes law without Governor LePage's signature	9	10	11 2012: NRCM and Penobscot River Restoration Trust partners begin removal of the Great Works Dam 2013: Residents of Harrison and Bridgton approve resolutions in opposition to a tar sands pipeline in Maine	12 2007: NRCM and Alliance for a Clean and Healthy Maine release <i>Body of Evidence: A Study of Pollution in Maine People</i>	13 Full Moon ☉ Strawberry Moon (Rose)	14 2007: Gov. Baldacci signs bill banning toxic Deca in consumer products Flag Day
15 Father's Day	16	17	18	19 Last Quarter ☾	20	21 Summer Solstice
22 2001: Maine's Board of Environmental Protection votes in support of a clean-up plan for Wyman Station power plant in Yarmouth	23	24	25 NRCM established on this day in 1959	26 2013: NRCM helps win a veto override of the omnibus energy bill that will provide big increases in funding for energy efficiency	27 New Moon ●	28 2013: An Act To Protect Maine's Loons by Banning Lead Sinkers and Jigs becomes law without Governor LePage's signature Ramadan begins
29 2013: Residents of Otisfield approve a resolution in opposition to a tar sands pipeline in Maine 2013: Maine's paint recycling bill becomes law without the governor's signature. NRCM led efforts.	30			 www.nrcm.org		

Restoring Alewives to the St. Croix
NRCM worked successfully to overturn a 1995 law blocking native alewife passage in the St. Croix River. Alewives are an essential food source for cod and other fish as well as for many species of birds and mammals. In the late 1980s, more than 2.6 million alewives swam up the St. Croix. As a result of the law, fewer than 1,000 of these fish returned to the river just a few years later. This was an ecological disaster, and NRCM worked for more than a decade to fix it. In the coming years, we expect a strong recovery for the St. Croix alewife population, just as we have seen in the Kennebec River and its tributary, the Sebasticook, where approximately 3 million alewives returned last year.

MAY 2014										JULY 2014						
				1	2	3						1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10				6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17				13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24				20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31				27	28	29	30	31		




JULY 2014

East Branch of the Penobscot River, by NRCM member Jon Luoma

Penobscot Joe Dana in a traditional birch bark canoe in the Penobscot River watching the breaching of the Veazie Dam. Photo by B.Comeau/NRCM.

Penobscot River in Bradley, just above the site where the Great Works Dam was removed in 2012, by NRCM staff member Judy Berk

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 1999: Edwards Dam on the Kennebec River in Augusta is removed, celebrated around the world	2	3	4 Independence Day	5 First Quarter ☾
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Full Moon ☽ Buck Moon (Thunder, Hay)
13 1977: Gov. James Longley signs bill to remove roadside advertising billboards in Maine	14	15	16	17 2008: Fort Halifax Dam removed after eight years of work by NRCM and Kennebec Coalition.	18 Last Quarter ☾	19 1970: State-protected Allagash River becomes federally designated wild and scenic river
20	21	22 2013: NRCM and Penobscot River Restoration Trust partners begin removal of the Veazie Dam	23	24	25	26 New Moon ●
27 Ramadan ends	28	29	30	31		 www.nrcm.org

Reconnecting the Penobscot to the Sea

July 22, 2013 made history as the day the Penobscot River was connected to the sea for the first time in nearly two centuries, with the breaching of the Veazie Dam. This follows removal of the Great Works Dam in 2012. The project will bypass a third, and fish passage will be improved at other dams, vastly improving access to 1,000 miles of habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon and 10 other sea-run fish species, while maintaining energy production in the watershed. Connecting the Penobscot River to the Atlantic Ocean will provide huge benefits for fish, birds, and other wildlife. Cultural, recreational, and economic opportunities will receive a tremendous boost as well. For more than 50 years, NRCM has led efforts to protect and restore Maine's Penobscot River Restoration Project and are proud to be part of what is quite possibly the largest dam removal

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JUNE 2014							AUGUST 2014						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7							
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30						24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						







AUGUST 2014

Sebago Lake, Standish, by NRCM supporter Kathleen Heseltine

South Portland tar sands rally at Bug Light, by BComeau/NRCM

Crooked River, Harrison, by NRCM member Bart Hague

Casco Bay, by NRCM staff member Beth Comeau

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 Natural Resources Council of Maine www.nrcm.org			1	2
3 First Quarter ☾	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Full Moon ☽ Sturgeon Moon (Red, Green Corn, Grain)	11 2000: Maine Department of Conservation's Bureau of Parks and Lands designates 13 tracts of land totalling 68,974 acres as the state's first ecological reserves.	12	13	14	15	16
17 Last Quarter ☾	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 New Moon ●	26	27	28	29	30

31

Keeping Dirty Tar Sands Oil Out of Maine
 Tar sands oil is extracted from huge, destructive open-pit mines in Alberta, Canada. It's far more carbon-intensive than conventional crude oil, and much harder, and more expensive, to clean up. ExxonMobil, Enbridge, and other oil giants want to pump tar sands oil through a 62-year-old pipeline from Montreal to Portland, to be exported by tanker. This poses serious risks to Maine, including Sebago Lake, the drinking water supply for one in seven Mainers. This proposal also threatens salmon habitat in the Crooked River and clean air over Casco Bay in South Portland. NRCM continues to engage people throughout Maine to stop the tar sands project, including working side by side with people who live in towns along the pipeline and are speaking out for the protection of their natural resources and health of their communities.

JULY 2014					SEPTEMBER 2014								
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31	28	29	30						



SEPTEMBER 2014

Stonington, by NRCM staff member Emmie Theberge

Bluff Head, Bagaduce River, Sedgwick, by NRCM member Ann Flewelling
 Dodge Point Public Reserved Land, Newcastle, by NRCM staff member Allison Childs Wells
 Readfield, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM supporter Jeremy Smith

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day	2 First Quarter ☾	3	4	5	6
7 Grandparents' Day	8 Full Moon ☽ Corn Moon	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Last Quarter ☾	16 2009: NRCM documentary film "Protecting the Nature of Maine" premieres in Portland	17	18	19 1990: Maine Wilderness Act ensures highest level of protection for land surrounding Caribou and Speckled mountains.	20
21	22	23 Autumnal Equinox	24 New Moon ● Sea Otter Awareness Week	25 2008: First U.S. auction of carbon credits to change the way the U.S. fights global warming. NRCM helped pass this measure.	26	27
28	29	30				

Energized for Efficiency

One of the most significant energy bills of the past 20 years became law when the 2013 House and Senate overrode a veto by Governor LePage. NRCM staffers spent many long days and nights working with legislators as they pieced together a comprehensive energy bill from nine different bills. The final bill will result in lower energy costs for Maine homeowners and businesses as a result of increased funding for efficiency programs. The bill also takes politics out of efficiency investments and will cut climate-changing pollution by reducing the carbon pollution cap for power plants under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) by 45 percent. The bill is another example of NRCM's bipartisan efforts for the good of Maine's environment and people.

AUGUST 2014

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
							31

OCTOBER 2014



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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		



OCTOBER 2014

Coos Canyon, Byron, by NRCM member Tony Nazar

Sunlit marsh, Wilson Lake, Wilton, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM member Nancy Prince
 Skowhegan backyard, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM supporter Mira Mette

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 Natural Resources Council of Maine www.nrcm.org	1 First Quarter ☾	2	3 Yom Kippur begins at sunset	4
5	6 2003: NRCM, Penobscot Nation, American Rivers, Trout Unlimited, Maine Audubon, and Atlantic Salmon Federation announce Penobscot River Restoration Project	7	8 Full Moon ☽ Harvest Moon Sukkot begins at sunset	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Last Quarter ☾	16	17	18 1972: Written by Maine Senator Edmund Muskie, Congress approves Federal Water Pollution Control Act, known as the Clean Water Act when amended in 1977
	Columbus Day	Refuge Awareness Week & Wolf Awareness Week				
19	20	21	22	23 New Moon ●	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 First Quarter ☾	31 Halloween	

Calling a Halt to an Inappropriate Highway

The idea of an East-West highway across Maine has been proposed and dismissed many times over the past 50 years. NRCM has opposed it each time. The most recent concept—a 220-mile highway and energy corridor—would fragment the North Woods, damage rivers and wetlands, destroy wildlife habitat, and undermine Maine's outdoor recreation economy. In 2013, we stood with conservation groups and more than 175 small businesses located on existing east-west routes that would suffer economically due to traffic rerouting. This opposition was key to the Legislature rescinding \$300,000 in public funds previously authorized to conduct a financial feasibility study. We will continue working with Maine people to halt, once and for all, this inappropriate project.

SEPTEMBER 2014

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 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
 21 22 23 24 25 26 27
 28 29 30

NOVEMBER 2014


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 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
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NOVEMBER 2014

View of Tumbledown Mountain from Little Jackson, by NRCM member Linda Woods

Blue Hill Bay, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM member Kristen Lindquist
 Bass Harbor marsh, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM member Richard Bailor
 Shore Road, York, by NRCM staff member Allison Childs Wells

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				 <p>Natural Resources Council of Maine www.nrcm.org</p>		1
<p>2</p> <p>1976: Maine voters approve "Bottle Bill"</p> <p>1999: Land for Maine's Future program receives \$50 million bond</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time ends</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1987: Maine voters approve \$35 million Land for Maine's Future bond</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Election Day</p>	<p>5</p> <p>1991: Maine voters support Sensible Transportation Policy Act, granting input from conservation groups on transportation issues</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Full Moon ☉ Beaver Moon (Frosty)</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>2005: Maine citizens approve \$12 million Land for Maine's Future bond</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Veterans Day</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Last Quarter ☾</p>	<p>15</p> <p>1990: The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 become law, sponsored by Maine Senator George Mitchell</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>New Moon ●</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>First Quarter ☽</p>

30

Building on Maine's Recycling Programs
 NRCM worked hard for a law establishing a program to collect and recycle leftover household paint. Starting in 2015, Maine people will have a safe, convenient way to dispose of leftover paint, which frequently contains toxic substances and poses a serious threat to people and to our land, air, water, and wildlife. The program, which will save towns and taxpayers costs associated with household hazardous waste cleanup events, could result in the reuse and recycling of more than 300,000 gallons of paint each year. This builds on Maine's other product recycling programs that are helping keep toxic materials out of landfills. It's also a good example of NRCM's commitment to working across party lines and with industry willing to take meaningful actions to protect Maine people and our environment.

OCTOBER 2014							DECEMBER 2014						
	1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4	5	6	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		28	29	30	31			



DECEMBER 2014

University Forest, Old Town, by NRCM member Pam Wells

Eliot, a My Maine This Week photo by NRCM supporter Laura Pope
 NRCM Polar Dip & Dash, East End Beach, Portland, by NRCM staff member Leslie Burhoe
 Northern Cardinal, by NRCM member Terry Sprague

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Full Moon ☉ Cold Moon (Long Night, Moon Before Yule)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Last Quarter ☾	15	16 <small>1981: Congress withdraws funding for Dickey-Lincoln dam. NRCM helped lead effort that protected Allagash Village and the St. John River. Hanukkah begins at sunset</small>	17	18	19	20
21 New Moon ●	22	23	24	25	26	27
Winter Solstice			Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Kwanzaa begins	
28 First Quarter ☽	29	30	31 NRCM Polar Dip & Dash in Portland New Year's Eve		 www.nrcm.org	

Going the Distance

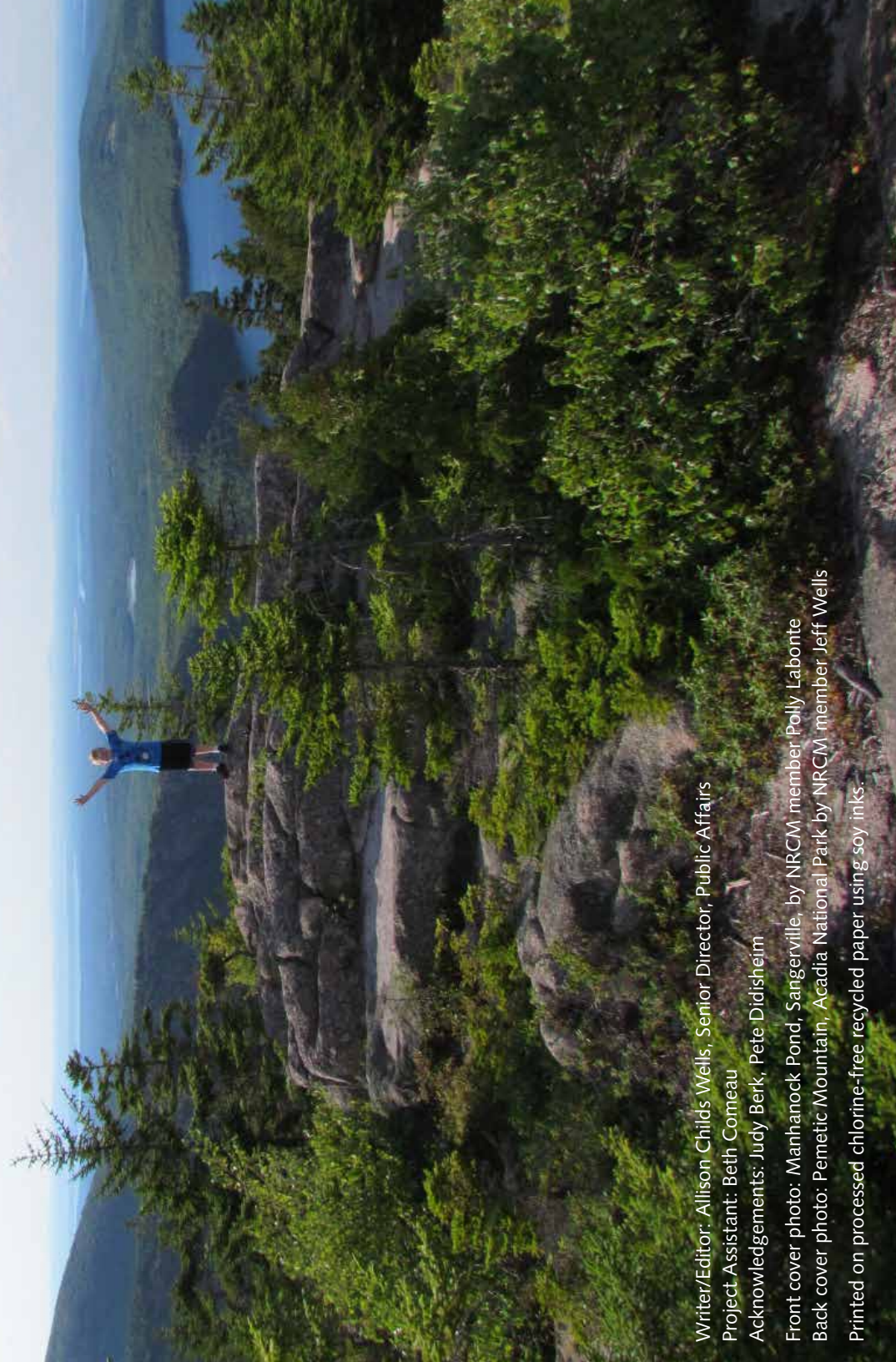
Beautiful lakes, rivers, and streams. Vast green forests. Moose, deer, eagles, and other wildlife so spectacular that people hope even for a glimpse. From pristine mountains and quiet ponds to the wild, rocky coast and sandy beaches, Maine is dearly loved for its natural beauty. No group is more effective at protecting it than the Natural Resources Council of Maine. For more than 50 years, we have been "going the distance." Removing obsolete dams blocking fish passage, fending off attacks on the same safeguards year after year—our success comes from the same determination upon which NRCM was built in 1959, by a handful of Maine citizens wanting to protect the Allagash River. Today, we proudly represent more than 16,000 NRCM supporters, Maine's 1.3 million residents, and millions of Maine enthusiasts who visit each year. With your support, we'll continue to go the distance.

NOVEMBER 2014	JANUARY 2015
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



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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 16,000 supporters from across Maine and beyond. Together, we are making a difference. Special thanks to all of our members.