Maine Environment





SUMMER 2006

Did Plum Creek Really Listen?

What NRCM Found in the Company's Revised Proposal for Moosehead

By Douglas Rooks

In a recent newspaper profile of the Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM), a state conservation leader said NRCM's most important accomplishment is its "perseverance," adding, "They've

out for a very long time." That certainly sums up NRCM's commitment to making the facts known about Seattle-

based Plum Creek's concept plan,

been doing this year-in and year-

a mammoth, 1,000-plus page proposal for second-home and recreational development in the Moosehead Lake region.

When Plum Creek submitted its original plan last year to the Land Use Regulation Committee (LURC), proposing 975 house lots, campgrounds, and resorts scattered through its vast landholdings, NRCM made the facts known. Public reaction to the pro-

posal was largely negative. The number of subdivisions on remote ponds and undeveloped shorelines, plus the lack of permanent conservation, were sticking points for many, including local residents, who denounced the proposal as a "recipe for sprawl" that would spoil Moosehead's most precious assets.

In March 2006, Plum Creek announced its revised proposal



Prong Pond is one of the most beloved areas of the region, with its pristine feel and proximity to Greenville.

"Plum Creek didn't even bother to hold one public meeting in Rockwood to get feedback on [the company's] plans," said John Willard, of Rockwood. "Plum Creek calls

that listening?"

the character of the region and are among the most important destinations for nature-based tourism."

print.

remains in the second, including the staggering 975 house

- Continued on page 4

for the region. The \$5 billion com-

pany hired law firms and PR com-

panies and rolled out an extensive

television ad campaign with the

claim, "You spoke. We listened." NRCM staff took more than a

month to carefully read through

every page of the proposal. At a

June 21 press conference at the State House, NRCM unveiled the fine

"Plum Creek's proposal reveals

that the company did not listen well enough

to the concerns of thousands of citizens

who spoke out on this issue," said NRCM

Executive Director Brownie Carson. "The

op Lily Bay, Prong Pond, Upper Indian

Pond, western Brassua Lake, and Big W

Township. These are places that help define

company still seeks to subdivide and devel-

Still the Same

Some 90 percent of the development from the first proposal



Montana to Maine: Learn from Our Plum Creek Mistakes

By Bruce Farling

On behalf of conservation-oriented Montanans, I apologize to the people of Maine. We are in part responsible for sending you the Curse of Plum Creek. That's right, the guys who want to develop critical forest lands around your favored recreational waters are the same guys who are peddling land for development around some of our cherished places.

In order to wrestle some of these lands from the timber-liquidation company turned real-estate development trust, we have paid Plum Creek millions upon millions of dollars for conservation easements or for flat-out purchases of key lands where the company's development plans threatened grizzly bears, bull trout (a rare native char), native cutthroat trout, nesting loons (which are uncommon in Montana) and many other species, to say nothing of long-standing recreational traditions.

We have given the company endless sacks of cash from

- Continued on page 4

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Township, expressed concerns about Plum Creek's "revised" proposal at a June press conference.

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STAFF NEWS

Welcome, New Staff



Mathew Scease, Major Gifts Director

NRCM welcomes back Matt Scease! Earlier in his career, Matt was our grants associate. He has also worked as a fundraiser, organizer, and writer for political and environmental groups in Maine. He comes back to us from the Friends of Casco Bay, based in South Portland, where he was development director. Matt graduated magna cum laude

from Bowdoin College, having studied philosophy, English, and history. A Maine native, Matt grew up in Waldoboro and Manchester. He and his wife, Maureen Drouin, live in Hallowell.



Dylan Voorhees, Energy Project Director

Dylan earned a B.A. from Columbia University and a Master's in public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, where he concentrated in environmental and energy policy. He has worked on wind power for the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs in

Massachusetts and on sustainable land use for the Vermont Forum on Sprawl. Previously, Dylan taught eighth grade, and at one time even harbored serious ambitions to become a professional archaeologist. Dylan lives with his wife and daughter in Augusta, commuting to work by bicycle, and gets 100 percent of his electricity from clean, renewable energy sources.

Thank you, Chris and Flavia



Chris Aslin joined NRCM for June and July as a summer intern, helping to develop strategies to boost energy efficiency in Maine. Chris is working to complete a dual law and environmental studies degree program at Vermont Law School and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, with a focus on energy regulation and economics.



Flavia Chen is a senior at Bowdoin College majoring in environmental studies and history. She came to NRCM as a summer intern through the Psi Upsilon Environmental Internship Program. At NRCM, Flavia helped with research on several issues, including green energy in Maine and electronic waste (e-waste) recycling.

Fond Farewells



Jennifer Puser Andersen left NRCM in June to accept a position for a Portland-based organization, closer to her home on Peaks Island. As outreach coordinator for our energy work, Jennifer has proven knowledgeable on the issues and enthusiastic about creative ways to engage the public. She—and her wonderful sense of humor—will be greatly missed.



Jon Hinck moved on from NRCM this past spring to work for a law firm in Portland—and to run as Democratic challenger for legislative district 18 in Portland. In his role as toxics project leader, Jon was instrumental in getting many bills passed in the Maine Legislature to protect Maine families and our environment from toxic threats. Best of luck Jon!

PROTECTED

WASHINGTON WATCH:

Speaking for the Future • Defending the Endangered Species Act

In early June, I spooked a Bald Eagle while pulling my kayak up to Crow's Island in Frenchman's Bay. I stared in awe at the white head and massive wings flapping powerfully just overhead. I had never been that close to one before.

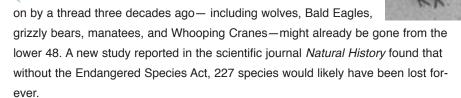
As I paddled back to Great Cranberry Island, I felt a profound sense of gratitude. I might never have had that experience if not for the Endangered Species Act (ESA), enacted over 30 years ago. Polls show nearly 90 percent of Americans support it. Yet now the ESA is under attack from special interests, with help from their pals in Congress, who want to develop the critical habitat necessary for species recovery.

Last year, House Resources Committee Chairman Richard Pombo (R-CA) passed legislation through the House that would, by 2015, virtually eliminate most of the existing protections for threatened and endangered species.

For example, the Pombo bill attempts to limit protection of species' habitat to those areas needed to provide survival of the species (excluding areas needed to aid recovery). It also would bar habitat protection on nearly all federal, state, and tribal lands covered by "species-management" plans; allow the Secretary of the Interior to overturn decisions made by federal biologists, and redefine what types of data can be used in making decisions about protecting species. The bill also could prevent certain types of individuals and organizations from appealing decisions that could harm species or their habitat.

If Pombo's version had been enacted in 1973, many species that were hanging

Protections provided by the Endangered Species Act allow Maine Audubon to bring together towns, private landowners, wildlife agencies, and others to locate, monitor, and erect fencing to protect Piping Plovers, an endangered species that nests on Maine beaches.



Here in our own state, Maine Audubon's program to protect the endangered Piping Plover, a tiny shorebird that breeds on sandy beaches, has helped increase the number of breeding pairs from just 10 in 1981 to 58 pairs in 2002, thanks in part to protections afforded by the ESA.

Currently, there are before the Senate several companion bills. NRCM has been working with the Endangered Species Coalition to prevent ESA rollbacks from moving forward in the Senate. Thanks to the efforts of supporters like you, Maine's Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins have publicly pledged to defend the ESA. We applaud their commitment to our nation's heritage and will continue to work with their staff on ESA issues.

I want my five-year-old son to have the same experiences that I've had here in Maine—watching Bald Eagles soaring in the sky, Piping Plovers darting on a beach, and humpback whales gracing the ocean. The recovery of these species is a testament to the leaders who came before us who knew that once a species is gone, it's gone forever.

-Matt Prindiville, Federal Policy Advocate

Maine Environment

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Maine Environment is provided four times a year to more than 9,000 members and supporters of the Natural Resources Council of Maine. NRCM is a Maine-based nonprofit membership organization working to protect, conserve, and restore our land, air, wildlife, and water, now and for future generations. Membership starts at \$28/year.

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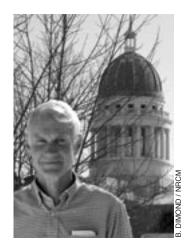
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The Selective Listening of Plum Creek

By now, those of you who live in Maine have probably seen the television commercials. The setting is the beautiful Moosehead Lake region, and the mantra, from Seattle-based Plum Creek, is, "You spoke. We listened." The phrase refers to the company's revised plan, announced this spring in response to Moosehead-area residents and thousands of others from across Maine and beyond who voiced concerns about Plum Creek's original plan submitted in 2005.



Did Plum Creek listen? Staff here at NRCM spent many weeks carefully combing through the

company's most recent plan to find out. Our response: The company practiced "selective listening." Although Plum Creek did make a few improvements, more than 90 percent of the development proposed in Plum Creek's first proposal remains in the same places.

This issue of *Maine Environment* details the specifics about what has changed in the plan and what remains the same. As you read through the articles, I encourage you to pay special attention to the voices of those who live in the region. The ads Plum Creek is peddling would have us all believe that Moosehead-area citizens are now pleased with the proposal, that Plum Creek "really listened." But big developments are still slotted for Brassua Lake, Prong Pond, and other remote and treasured places—some would be more than an hour's drive from municipal services. Fire and rescue, road maintenance, and other basic necessities would fall largely to Greenville, driving up property taxes for Greenville residents without broadening the tax base of that community. In fact, of the staggering 975 house lots proposed by Plum Creek, not one is proposed within the town of Greenville, where the company owns 8,000 acres.

And how has Plum Creek addressed concerns about the lack of permanent conservation in its first plan? The company is negotiating a separate "Conservation Framework," for which it will be paid \$25 million or more. Most people I speak with are startled to learn that Plum Creek will be paid full market value for the conservation. Although this land sale does have conservation value, it is a commercial transaction, one that Plum Creek is using to distract the public from its massive plans for development.

We so appreciate your support, our members and friends, as we continue our work to protect the wilderness character of the Moosehead Lake region. We will keep you informed as the situation evolves. I invite you to visit our website often at www.maineenvironment.org. There, you can also sign on to our Action Network to stay abreast of actions you can take to help protect Moosehead—and Maine—from the designs of a \$5 billion Seattle-based company whose financial interests are not in the best interests of the people of Maine.

- Brownie Carson, Executive Director

TALY Facts

The Associated Press reported that higher levels of carbon dioxide lead to larger and more noxious

poison ivy plants. In Duke University studies, poison ivy exposed to high levels of CO2 grew up to three times larger and produced a more allergenic form of urushiol, the substance that causes itching and rashes.





Earthcycle Packaging announced that kiwi fruit sold at some stores will now be protected by 100% compostable packaging. The package is made of coconut fibers left over from producing palm oil and is covered with a plastic-like material made of cellulose. The company says both materials are nontoxic and degrade in a compost pile in 90 days.

Candidates for the NRCM Board of Directors

Please join us for the Annual Meeting of the Membership

at Page Farm and Home Museum, University of Maine Campus in Orono Saturday, October 14, 2006.

For more information, see page 7.

NRCM's 2006 Annual Meeting will include an optional field trip to beautiful Orono Bog.



Candidates will be elected to the Board of

Directors by NRCM members at the Annual Meeting. Board members serve an initial term of one year and are reelected for two successive terms of three years each.

First Term

Diane Guethlen lives at Toe of the Boot on the northwest shore of Moosehead Lake (Somerset County). She and her husband Bob are involved in conservation activities on local and national levels and have worked within the state to protect the Allagash and to further land conservation. Diane brings a balanced approach to issues and represents a geographical area of critical importance to NRCM members.

Adam Lee lives in Cumberland (Cumberland County). Adam is the president of Lee Auto Mall, a family business. He splits his days between Lee Toyota in Topsham and the new Lee Cadillac-Chevrolet dealership in Augusta, with occasional circuit riding to the other dealerships. He is currently serving on the boards of Maine Audubon and Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) as well as serving on The Nature Conservancy's Corporate Conservation Council of Maine. Adam is a recipient of an NRCM Environmental Award in 2005 for his efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.

Rondi Nelson of Yarmouth (Cumberland County) is vice president of Spinnaker Trust in Portland, managing trust and investment client accounts, and owner-operator of Camp Skoglund, a summer resort on Echo Lake in Mount Vernon (Kennebec County). She is enthusiastic about Maine's environment and resources and about NRCM's role in protecting them. She is especially interested in becoming more involved thanks to NRCM's work to preserve the Moosehead region.

Shoshana Zuboff lives in Nobleboro (Lincoln County). She is the Charles Edward Wilson Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School (retired), where she joined the faculty in 1981. One of the first tenured women at the Harvard Business School, she earned her Ph.D. in social psychology from Harvard University and her B.A. in philosophy from the University of Chicago. She is the author of several books, the latest being *The Support Economy: Why Corporations Are Failing Individuals* and the *Next Episode of Capitalism*, published by Viking in October 2002 and co-authored with her husband, former Chief Executive James Maxmin. She lives on a farm with her husband and two children. Shoshana has been active in Our Town, a group fighting a "big box" store that would affect several Maine communities, and became interested in NRCM due to her concern over Plum Creek's development proposal.

Second Term

Dan Amory, Portland (Cumberland County) • Lisa Faires, Palermo (Waldo County)

Bill Houston, Kingfield (Franklin County) • Cynthia Hyde, South Hope (Knox County)

Tony Owens, Cape Elizabeth (Cumberland County)

Third Term

Eleanor Kinney, Bremen (Lincoln County) • Tony Marple, Whitefield (Lincoln County)

Tip of the Day

Be Old-Fashioned. Phones with a cord use much less energy than cordless phones.

They're harder to lose in the sofa, too! For a "Tip of the Day" every day,

visit our website at www.maineenvironment.org.

Comments? Suggestions?

Do you have comments or suggestions about our newsletter? We want to know what you think! Although we don't have room to run comments in our newsletter, we may publish them online. Send your comments to Editor, *Maine Environment*, Natural Resources Council of Maine, 3 Wade Street, Augusta, ME 04330 or email them to allison@nrcm.org.

Montana to Maine–Learn from our Plum Creek Mistakes - Continued from page 1

state fishing and hunting license revenues, federal earmarks, public agency budgets, bridge-loans provided by land trusts and other private dollars so that we can pay inflated prices in order to protect key tracts. And still, we have protected only a small fraction of the company's extensive holdings here. Many of these lands Congress gave to the company's railroad forebears for a song as part of a corruption-riddled land grant giveaway in the 19th century. But that's another story.

Some of the cash we have given Plum Creek has helped finance the company's acquisitions in other states, such as in Maine. And now, you too are faced with dealing with the company at gunpoint. Here's some advice: Avoid repeating our mistakes. Implement sound land-use planning and zoning so that you can mute the worst impacts posed by the company's development schemes. Do not give the company huge tax breaks that help it subsidize the development, which we continue to do. And don't let the company get away with public relations blitzkriegs claiming it is green merely because it has been willing to sell—at top dollar lands and easements for conservation.

None of Plum Creek's real estate dealings in my state are illegal. It is doing, albeit with more skill, exactly what other land developers do. And that's the company's right, a right for which I don't begrudge it. But as many of its employees, local government, colleagues in the timber industry, agency staffers, landtrusts, and others will tell you: It is a cold, cash-first, soulless corporation bent on maximizing quarterly returns in the finest tradition-but now sporting a three-piece lookof the railroad, copper, and timber robber barons who milked my state for a century.

Good luck, Maine.

Bruce Farling is a leading Montana conservationist and "knows Plum Creek's lands intimately."



Plum Creek's revised plan still calls for development in inappropriate places on and near Moosehead Lake.

Did Plum Creek Listen? - Continued from page 1

lots. The company moved one of the resorts closer to Greenville and removed proposed development from a few remote ponds and along the Moose River. Carson doubts whether LURC would have approved those lots, based on their remoteness and the fact that the Moose River hosts two endangered species. Although these changes are a step in the right direction, concerns remain, and NRCM isn't the only one that has them.

At the June press conference, Carson was joined by Maine Audubon Executive Director Kevin Carley. "We have significant concerns that improvements in the plan are not adequate to balance sweeping development and permanent conservation in a region where people are deeply dependent on woods, waters, and wildlife for their livelihood, their recreation, and their way of life," said Carley.

NRCM took into account the voices of these people, who said, over and over again at LURC's public scoping sessions and in other meetings, that development should be near Greenville and Rockwood. To show that the local concerns could be addressed without saying no to development, NRCM worked with a land use planner to produce A Vision for the Moosehead Lake Region. (See Maine Environment, Spring 2006, or www.maineenvrionment.org.) But Plum Creek ignored these voices when it went "back to the drawing board" to revise its plan.

Local Concerns

"We were excited that Plum Creek said it would move the development near to existing towns, but instead they have proposed 35 houselots on the remote northern shores of Moosehead Lake, an hour from the closest town," said Diane Guethlen, who lives in Tomhegan Township on the northwest side of Moosehead.

"Plum Creek didn't even bother to hold one public meeting in Rockwood to get feedback on its plans," said John Willard, of Rockwood, referring to the massive development slotted for Brassua Lake. "The company proposed 319 house lots in 22 subdivisions within five miles of here. Plum Creek calls that listening?"

Willard owns The Birches, the largest nature-based tourism business in the area. He and Guethlen were among several Moosehead area residents who voiced concerns at the June press conference.

Pete Didisheim, NRCM's advocacy director, said that the Lily Bay subdivision, with 16 shorefront and 148 backlots-the equivalent of a new town but with no plan for public services-is another glaring example of poorly planned development.

But problems extend even to some of the smaller subdivisions as well, such as the 51 lots around Prong Pond. "Prong Pond is more accessible, and it's closer to Greenville, yet it has the feel of a remote area," Didisheim said. "It's used by many area guides, because it's a prime area for watching moose and for casting a fishing line. The recreational values of a place like Prong Pond are something the community wants to hold on to."

Diano Circo, North Woods policy advocate for NRCM, spends a great deal of time in the Moosehead area meeting with groups and individuals there. "People don't want to see the wilderness experience compromised by extending development into the places they consider remote," he said.

Truth and Conservation

NRCM points out that Plum Creek has hardly been forthcoming with the facts about the conservation in its plan. The "30-year buffer" zone in the proposal, for example, would give Plum Creek the option for even more development at the end of the 30 years.

As for the much-talked about "Conservation Framework," "It's a sales deal, and it is outside of the scope of the proposal," say Carson, explaining that Plum Creek would be paid full market value for almost 400,000 acres of land. Although putting this tract into conservation would be a good thing, people are often surprised to learn that Plum Creek would be paid some \$25 million for it. The company is also demanding every piece of development be approved by LURC before it will move ahead with the conservation.

"Hundreds of exclusive vacation and retirement homes are not likely to bring an infusion of kids to the schools and boost the local infrastructure, as Plum Creek's TV ads suggests," says Carson. "The area has seen 1,500 new homes over the last 15 years, yet school attendance has dropped."

"Plum Creek needs to hear—and understand—that people in Maine don't want another Lake Winnipesaukee," said Carson. "For those who want developed lakes, we already have them. Moosehead has always meant something

To stay up with the latest on the Plum Creek, visit www.maineenvironment.org.

Douglas Rooks writes for a variety of national, regional, and Maine publications. He lives in West Gardiner.

Diane Guethlen and John Willard weren't the only Moosehead region residents who spoke out at the June 21 press conference at the State House. Here's what other local citizens had to say, in their own words:

"Traditional guiding businesses depend on the existence of quiet, undeveloped places, and they are becoming rarer every year. If Plum Creek's development plans are approved, traditional guiding services like ours will be one step closer to extinction."

> - Kevin Slater, Newry, co-owner of Mahoosuc Guide Services



resident of Newry



Ruth McLaughlin resident of Greenville

Plum Creek's



Jim Glavine, resident of Beaver Cove

Moosehead Region Citizens Voice Concerns about Revised Proposal

"I wish Plum Creek had listened to the many people who had hoped they would move some of their development plans into the town limits of Greenville. Plum Creek owns 8,000 acres in Greenville, some of which would be quite desirable to build upon. This would provide some tax relief to the town, which will shoulder the cost of providing services to the new housing developments."

> - Ruth McLaughlin, Greenville, owner of the Blair Hill Inn

"Plum Creek has proposed putting 51 houses on the shores of Prong Pond, a lovely, pristine pond that visitors and residents use daily for paddling, fishing, and moosewatching. If Plum Creek puts 51 house lots on Prong Pond, our area would lose a prized 'wild-feeling' experience that does not require specialized equipment or abilities."

> - Jim Glavine, Beaver Cove (see page 6)

e-Waste "Landfilling" Ban Now in Effect

Studies estimate that 315 to 600 million computers in the U.S. will soon be obsolete and contain more than 1.2 billion pounds of lead.



Maine takes another step forward, with NRCM's help

On July 1st, Maine became the third state in the nation to prohibit the landfilling or incineration of old computers and television sets. This important step in the implementation of Maine's electronic waste (e-waste) recycling law means that toxic e-waste will no longer be headed to landfills or incinerators where it can release poisons into Maine's environment. The landfill ban will encourage municipalities to opt in to Maine's e-waste recycling program, which will save towns money and lower drop-off costs for citizens. In many towns, drop-off fees have fallen from \$15-20 to \$2-8.

NRCM worked with key stakeholders and the Maine Legislature to address this critically important issue. Discarded computers and other consumer electronics are the fastest growing portion of the waste stream. Studies estimate that 315 to 600 million desktop and laptop computers in the U.S. will soon be obsolete. They contain a total of more than 1.2 billion pounds of lead.

Maine's e-waste recycling law created a program that shares the responsibility for safe disposal and recycling among consumers, municipalities, and manufacturers. Like our work to address toxic pollution from mercury-containing products, NRCM advocated that manufacturers share the costs of disposing of toxic products when the products reach the end of their usefulness. "Extended producer responsibility" (EPR) holds that manufacturers should be responsible for their products throughout the product's life-cycle. It provides companies with financial incentives to collect, recycle, and remanufacture old products into new ones and to use less toxic materials in the development of new products. EPR has become the basis for the European Union's electronics manufacturing and solid waste disposal and recycling industries.

In 2004, Maine became the first state in the nation to pass extended producer responsibility legislation to address toxic e-waste. Since then, Washington State has passed similar legislation and more than 20 others have EPR legislation pending.

—Matt Prindiville, Toxics Project Outreach Coordinator

Who's Up for the Challenge?







Matt Loosigian Sue Edv

Rebecca Rockefeller

On Earth Day 2006, NRCM kicked off the Maine Global Warming Challenge, with the goal of reducing Maine's global warming pollution by 600,000 pounds by Earth Day 2007. We're already three-quarters of the way there, thanks to participants like these Brunswick area residents.

"Matt Loosigian

Children's musician and educator Matt Loosigian's fledgling business, EarthJams, has been looking for something like NRCM's Maine Global Warming Challenge to explain the issue of global warming to children. Matt likes that the challenge could be used in the classroom as a supplemental lesson to his musical entertainment about the environment. The subject matter in his programs is, "Show kids what they can do to improve the immediate world around them." Matt believes the Challenge can easily be adapted for children of different ages, and that through simple things like changing the lightbulbs they use at home, kids can have a positive impact on reducing global warming. In fact, through EarthJams, Matt is working to bring a free CFL to all 210,000 Maine students. This simple act would stop 126 million pounds of CO2 from warming the atmosphere and save Maine families at least \$10.5 million.

Sue Edwards

Soon after Sue Edwards came to NRCM's member-invitation event with renowned author Bill McKibben, she signed up for our Maine Global Warming Challenge. Already active in Brunswick's recycling committee, Sue understands from growing up in the Depression that we should "eat it up, wear it out, make it do, do without." This ethic, which inspires her work on recycling issues, extends naturally to the problem of global warming. She and her husband Bud decided to trade in their cars for a fuelefficient hybrid Prius to reduce their dependency on fossil fuels. They also have pledged to wash their clothes in cold water and have committed to use a collapsible wooden clothes dryer instead of the electric model. Sue acknowledges, "Not everybody can afford a Prius, but everyone can take some of these simple steps to reduce their impact.

Rebecca Rockefeller

Rebecca Rockefeller is on a zero-carbon diet. But that's all in a day's work for someone who demonstrates green power alternatives in Maine. In her job at Maine Green Power, Rebecca helped NRCM establish Step 3 of the Maine Global Warming Challenge (http://www.mainegreenpower.org/Guid e.htm), which allows people to invest in energy alternatives or purchase offsets to become completely climate pollutionneutral. Rebecca has always had a concern for the environment and first studied the problem of global warming in-depth during her college years. Ever since then, she has been working hard to change the politics and policy around the global warming issue and at encouraging individual actions to reduce pollution that make a big difference. While she says, "There is no panacea to breaking our fossil fuel dependence," Rebecca certainly leads by example.

Ryan Ewing is NRCM's Action Network Coordinator.

NRCM invites you to join us in reducing global warming pollution by 600,000 pounds by Earth Day 2007.

Learn more and sign up today at our website at www.maineenvironment.org.

NRCM in Action

"Global" Interest—Energy Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Andersen gave NRCM's global warming presentation to the Bagaduce Watershed Association in Penobscot. Attendees had great questions and ideas on ways to address the problem. Jennifer also was guest speaker at a training for high school students, offered by the Goldfarb Institute at Colby College. The students, who are studying energy, selected energy global warming projects to work on throughout the school year. Jennifer also presented to students at Bonney Eagle High School. Good news: "On the energy quiz I gave them, they all got the answers right," says Jennifer.

Presenting Plum Creek—Diano
Circo, North Woods policy advocate, has
been busily making the rounds with our
Plum Creek presentation showing the
harm the company's proposal would
have on the region. Groups to which
Diano recently presented include the
First Roach Pond Improvement
Association, Rippleffect Youth
Leadership Summit on Cow Island, and
the Penobscot Valley Chapter of Maine
Audubon at the Fields Pond Audubon
Center in Holden.

"Proclaming" Endangered **Species**—May 9 was Maine Endangered Species Day, thanks to a proclamation signed by Governor John Baldacci that was the result NRCM's work on the issue, as part of the Endangered Species Coalition. Matt Prindiville, federal policy advocate, took part in the effort, which reaffirms the importance the Endangered Species Act has played in protecting our treasured wildlife, and participated in the Coalition's celebration of the event in Portland. Maine is home to many high-profile endangered species protected under the Endangered Species Act, including Piping Plover, Canada lynx, and Atlantic salmon.



Maine is home to many species protected by the Endangered Species Act, such as Canada lynx.

Big Wins in Court for the Clean Water Act

★ Victory for the Presumpscot River

The U.S. Supreme Court gave the Clean Water Act a big victory on May 15 when it ruled against SD Warren Company (owned by SAPPI) in a case involving the company's dams on the Presumpscot River. SD Warren had argued that the State of Maine had no authority under the Clean Water Act to require the company to build fish passage facilities at the dams or to require them to mitigate their dams' harm through other measures, such as allowing a minimum amount of water to pass through dams to prevent rivers from drying up. In a resounding and unusual 9-0 decision, the court said that Maine (and by extension, all other states) does have the authority under the Clean Water Act to require dam owners to mitigate dams' harmful effects. This is good news for those working to restore species such as shad and Atlantic salmon in Maine's rivers.

★ Fighting for Flagstaff

A Maine Superior Court ruled against Florida Power and Light's (a large, national power company is known as "FPL") arguments that its dam operations on Flagstaff Lake should be able to remove the water from almost the entire lake. In November 2003, then-Commissioner Dawn Gallagher (who has since resigned) of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) issued an illegal license to FPL.

As a result of this terrible decision, NRCM joined with Maine Rivers and Trout Unlimited to appeal the Commissioner's decision to the Board of Environmental Protection (BEP), the citizens' board that oversees DEP. We won this appeal and the Commissioner's license was voided. FPL appealed this license to State Superior Court, and the judge recently decided this case against FPL. This is a big win for water quality in Maine, though FPL may decide to appeal this case to the Law Court (Maine's Supreme Court).

★ Androscoggin Update

On May 11, Maine's DEP proposed modifications to the waste discharge license for the International Paper (IP) mill in Jay, by far the largest polluter of the Androscoggin River. Although the proposed modifications are an improvement over the license DEP issued last fall, they still will allow IP to increase its pollution that reduces oxygen in the river, oxygen that fish and other aquatic creatures need to survive.

Regrettably, our federal Clean Water Act citizen suit against IP was dismissed in March on a technicality. Nonetheless, NRCM will continue to push to get the Androscoggin River cleaned up. IP recently announced the sale of the Jay mill to a new company. We hope that the mill's new owner will show a greater commitment to cleaning up its pollution and making the investments that will help the mill stay competitive in the global economy while improving conditions to the point that the Androscoggin River can finally meet state water quality rules and laws.

In our ongoing efforts to clean up the Androscoggin, NRCM will use all legal means, including pressing its pending administrative appeal of the fall 2005 waste discharge license, commenting on, and if necessary, appealing DEP's proposed modifications to the fall 2005 waste discharge license. The citizens of the Androscoggin—and Maine—deserve to have this river cleaned up. —Nick Bennett, Watersheds Project Leader

The Androscoggin
River in all its
beauty, far above
the IP mill in Jay,
the river's
largest polluter.



WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT...

Prong Pond

Among the many locations throughout the Moosehead Lake region slated for development in the Plum Creek proposal, Prong Pond in Beaver Cove is one that stands to suffer a significant loss of habitat and public recreational value if rezoning is approved. Prong Pond is a lovely, pristine pond easily accessible to visitors and residents who use it daily for paddling, fishing, and wildlife viewing. In the winter, it is a wonderful place for skiing and snowshoe trekking. A highly valued resource due to its ease of access and reliable water quality, the state maintains a public access, and the Maine



Prona Pond

Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife stocks the pond each spring and fall with substantial numbers of brook trout.

Prong Pond is nearly surrounded by important wildlife and bird habitat areas, as identified by Maine Audubon and others, making it a prime location for both terrestrial and avian wildlife viewing. Loon families nest on Prong Pond, and Bald Eagles are regularly seen fishing the pond from their nest on nearby Mud Pond, less than three-quarters of a mile to the North

Few comparable locations exist in the Moosehead Lake region, where most water bodies are either more difficult to access or are much larger waters, making them less attractive for families and the elderly to enjoy. Within a five-minute drive of both Greenville and Lily Bay State Park, Prong Pond is considered an important component to the "suite" of nature-based tourism resources on the east side of Moosehead. Tourists and residents alike can enjoy wild-feeling experiences, without the need for specialized equipment or high levels of personal ability.



lim Glavine. Greenville area resident

IS THIS WHAT MAINE

Prong Pond is located within the town of Beaver Cove, where the recent Burnt Jacket LLC rezoning application was denied by the Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) for, among other reasons, "a lack of demonstrated need in the community." Clearly, the addition of over 30 new high-priced houses along the heavily wooded shores of this tiny pond would ruin its appeal and result in the tragic loss of an important resource in the Moosehead region.

Jim Glavine owns Beaver Cove Art, an online antiques and art business. He has served as selectman for the Town of Beaver Cove, as chairman of the Moosehead Lake Fisheries Focus Group, and on the advisory board for Businesses for the Northern Forest. He is founder and chairman of Friends of Moosehead and co-founder of the Moosehead Region Futures Committee. Jim lives in Beaver Cove on Moosehead Lake and serves on NRCM's board.

Brassua Lake

Brassua Lake in the Moosehead region is the most unspoiled body of water in the area. Here, there are many miles of magnificent wooded shoreline with opportunities to enjoy a feeling of remote Maine woods, only a short distance from Rockwood and Moosehead Lake. There are many loons, eagles,

moose, and deer in this area.



Brassua Lake

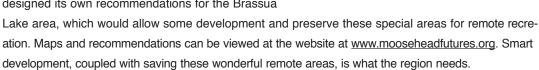
It is such a jewel for day-tripping and overnight canoeing and kayaking. If Plum Creek's plan for Brassua Lake is approved, miles of unspoiled shoreline would be cleared for houses and docks, and the increased boat traffic would forever destroy these special places, including the Tom Fletcher ponds and Rodrigas Pond. The Northern Forest Canoe Trail passes through this beautiful area, and for good reason.

To put 200 homes on the remote portions of this lake would decrease habitat for wildlife and increase traffic on

logging roads. Plum Creek's proposed development would take these remote places and change them forever.

There is room for limited development at the southern end of Brassua. This would preserve the special northern areas for generations to come. But the Moosehead Lake region needs to save areas like northern Brassua for the nature-based tourism that has and must continue to be the backbone of our economy. To simply carve out cookie-cutter house lots all over this beautiful lake would be a travesty.

The Moosehead Region Futures Committee has designed its own recommendations for the Brassua



John Willard lives in Rockwood. He owns The Birches, the largest nature-based tourism business in the area, offering wilderness trips since 1969. They employ many of the area's registered guides.

Save the date!

NRCM's 2006 Annual Meeting on October 14th

On Saturday, October 14, 2006, NRCM will hold its Annual Meeting at the Page Farm and Home Museum, which is in on the campus of the University of Maine, Orono. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. and run through 1:30 p.m., followed by an optional field trip through the beautiful Orono Bog.

Our theme for this year's meeting is "Extraordinary Places, Extraordinary People." Maine's environmental history is highlighted by extraordinarily bold vision-and the need for eternal vigilance. The meeting will include a photo-



Join us for the Annual Meeting and a field trip to the Orono Bog.

graphic journey of special places in Maine that were saved thanks to citizen action. Our program will include a panel that will reflect on the critical role that individuals can play in protecting natural areas. Winners of NRCM's 2006 Environmental Awards, including the People's Choice Award, will be announced during the meeting as well.

We encourage members to take advantage of what the Bangor area has to offer. Come early and start your day at the Orono Farmers Market, which opens at 8:00 a.m. in the Steam Boiler Parking Lot. End your day inspired, with a guided tour of the Orono Bog Boardwalk. Boardwalk founder and University of Maine Emeritus Professor of Biology and Quaternary Ron Davis will colead the walk with Dr. Jeffrey Wells, a leading conservation biologist, formerly of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and now Senior Scientist with the Boreal Songbird Initiative, and nationally known birder.

Watch your mailbox for your invitation. For more information on NRCM's 2006 Annual Meeting, please contact Lynn Faria at (800) 287-2345 ext. 227 or check our website at www.maineenvironment.org for updates.

-Lynn Faria, Membership Manager

Summer is Smog Season Take Precautions!

Are you active outdoors in the summertime? Do you have or do you work with children? Do you know someone with asthma?



A smog-free view of Acadia National Park.

NRCM encourages you to sign up to receive ozone smog alerts, delivered by email to your inbox for free.

Prevailing winds blow smog from big cities along the eastern seaboard, and from

midwestern coal-burning power plants, to Maine, where it combines with the air pollution we generate right here in our state. On ozone alert days, EPA recommends limiting vigorous outdoor activity. By signing up to receive ozone alerts, you'll know when you need to take precautions.

High smog levels can harm anyone, but those most at risk are children, seniors, asthma sufferers, and people who work or play actively outdoors. To sign up to receive ozone alerts, go to www.epa.gov/ne/aqi/ and click on "air quality alert sign up."

Every-day Tips to Reduce Air Pollution

- Conserve energy at home, at work, everywhere.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR label when buying home or office equipment.
- Carpool, use public transportation, bike, or walk whenever possible.
- Be careful not to spill gasoline, and tighten your gas cap securely.
- Keep car, boat, and other engines properly tuned.
- Be sure your tires are accurately inflated.
- Use environmentally safe paints and cleaning products.
- Mulch or compost leaves and yard waste.

Making a Gift for the Future

When Judy Berk and David Foley sat down with their attorney to plan their estate, the Northport couple knew just how they could have a lasting impact on the place they love: by including a bequest to NRCM in their will.

"We wanted to ensure that we provided for things that were important to us, even after we are gone," Judy says.

They both know how important Maine's environment is. A native of Bangor, David has seen enormous improvements in water quality during his lifetime, a result of the work of NRCM and many others. David testified before Maine's Board of Environmental Protection because, as an asthma sufferer, he is

"We hope NRCM will be around as long as it needs to be, defending our environment by watchdogging government and industry, and standing up for protecting the Maine we love for future generations."

keenly aware that the state needed to clean up the air pollution from Maine's dirtiest power plant, Wyman Station. David testified as a building designer about the need to outlaw the burning of toxic PVC materials and about the need for energy-efficient building standards.

Judy has worked for NRCM since 1991 and has been involved in every major public pronouncement of the organization during that time. She witnessed the removal of the Edwards dam as a major step toward restoring the Kennebec River. She collected signatures to put the



Judy Berk and David Foley, during a recent trip to New Zealand.

Clean Elections Law on the ballot. She has sat through many contentious hearings where industry giants, including computer makers, car makers, utility companies, chemical industry representatives, and paper mill executives fought to avoid cleaning up the pollution their companies were creating.

Making a bequest in your will is a simple way to leave a legacy that will protect Maine's environment for those that come after us. Judy and David say it was very easy: "We decided how we wanted to allocate our estate and wrote it up, and our lawver inserted the information into our wills.

Because we do not know what the value of our estate will ultimately be, we made a bequest for a percentage of its value."

"Maine's environment has nurtured both of us," says Judy. "It is not a frill—it is the founda--Mathew Scease, Major Gifts Director

For information on making a bequest to NRCM, contact Development Director Gretta Wark at (207) 622-3101, ext. 208, or gwark@nrcm.org. You can find sample bequest language posted on our website at www.maineenvironment.org.

Join NRCM's **PARTNERS** IN MAINE'S FUTURE

The monthly giving club for people who love Maine

BECOME ONE OF A SPECIAL GROUP OF PEOPLE safeguarding Maine's environment in a unique

,	For as little as \$5-\$25 per month, you can show your ongoing
_	Maine Maine. Become a Partner today!
☐ Yes, I want to invest in the	future of Maine!
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Address	
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Phone	Email
I agree to make a monthly contribut	tion of:
\$5 \$10* \$15 \$20) 🔲 \$25 Other \$
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Signature	Exp Date
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•	unt indicated from my checking account to the Natural Resources Council monthly receipt. To change my gift, I will contact NRCM.
IMPORTANT: Please enclose a check	k for your first month's contribution and account verification.
Signature	Date
* qualifies you for membership in the Land	dmark Society. At this level of support, you will receive quarterly

update reports from the executive director and invitations to special events.

Welcome, New Members!

New Members March 1, 2006 through June 30, 2006

John Adams Jonathan Allen Dorothy Allen Ms. Susan Allen Scott and Deborah Ammarell Erik Anthony V. Anita Bahr John Baldwin Genevieve Banger Jonathan and Rebecca Banks Richard Bard **Ruth Basile** Nancyjane Batten Edna Beers Ms. Ellen Belknap Roland Bellefleur Joan Bennett Betsey Bess Laura Billings Robert Bonanza Robert Bond Edward Bonenfant Michael Bourgal Angela Boyd Ms. Deborah Brautigam Charles Brine Robin Brooks Will Brooks Nancy Brown Celeste Brown Dr. Donald Brown Mary Beth Browning Heather Bruce Meredith Bruskin Ms. Alice Brzustowicz Hilary Budet Jane Burke Mary Burnham Lance Burpee Ms. Eva Butler Ms. Ann Carman Mr. Drew Caron James Cartier Arthur Casey Deborah Caye Christine Chapman **Dorothea Cherington Alvord Clements** Robert Cobb Chip and Lani Cochrane Phyllis Coelho Josiah Collins John Cotton John and Davilynn Cowperthwaite Ms. Debra Coyman William Cozetti Robert and Catherine Creamer Lori Cronk Robert Daly Lennie Davidson Nancy Bennett Davis Carl Davis Eileen Dawson Leland De Woody Helen Dehahn Chet DeLonge Glenda Derbyshire Mary Ellen Deschenes Mr. Andrew DesPres Donald Devoe Ronald Dobra Ms. Lynn Dombek Doris Downing John and Laurel Dube Louis and Eleanor Dudek Tyler Dudley Ada Duncan Ann Durkin Anne Eggers Charles Eichorn Deane Ellis Dr. & Mrs. Frederick Elsaesser Francis Emery Ms. Patricia Emery Ms. Margaret Engel Jill and John Ennis Jeb Enoch Robert Erickson Barbara Etzweiler Bob and Deva Fagan Joanne Fedorocko Michael and Marv F Harold and Arlene Fellman Thomas Fendler Mary Finnegan Jane Fitzpatrick Charles and Janet Flyzik Gary Fogg Stephanie Foote David Fowler Porter Fox Catherine Foxson Maria Freeman Elke Gebhard

Martha Goodale Raymond Goodrich Deborah Goodwin Potter Mr. John Gould Mr. Jonathan Grabowski Lauren Green Fred Greene Richmond Greene Susan Griffiths Marjorie Groth George Guerin Amy and Spike Haible Meredith Hall Devens Hamlen Robert Hanks Reginald and Pauline Hannaford Sandra Hanright Pauline Hansen Charles and Margaret Harvey Nancy Haskell Mary Haynes Maureen Heffernan Jonathan and Sherri Herland Robert and Bessie Hersom Andrew and Gisselle Hertler Steven Hildreth and Cristina Pedrero Amanda Hollander Toby Hollander Thomas and Sandra Hopkins Jeannette Horvath Warren and Carole Houlette Patricia Howe Mr. Bruno Hunt Mrs. Rachelle Hunt Raymond Hyslop Jeff Irish Pamela Jackson Melinda Jaques Richard Jewell Frank Jewett Vicki Johnson and Jean Wakem Paul and Wendy Johnson Ms. Margaret Johnson Jean Jordan Steve Joselow Clara Judkins Larry and Carol Kalajainen Cindy Kallet Fred Kaplan Andrea Keirstead David Keith and Stephen Simpson Dr. Robert Keller Charles Kendall Dale Knapp Frances and Philip Koch Anne Koch Cynthia Koch Otto Kratzenberg Norman Landry Philip Larson Grace Lashua William and Paula Laverty Kathleen Leggett Linda Leotsakos Leonid Livshits and Rebecca Green Patricia Lockwood Jerome and Stephanie Lombardi Robert Lorenz and Michael Savage Ms. Mary Lou Lowrie Deborah Luhrs Mr. Russ Maclin Glen MacWilliams Mary Maddox Alta Main Ms. Sarah Maloney Mr. Alfred L. Margolis Mrs. Margery L. Margolis Gertrude Maritato John and Jean Marr Mr. William R. Mason Mrs. Jennifer R. Mason Paul and Christine Mateosian Reed Mathews Clark McDermith Judith McKernan Robert and Patricia McNeill Alejandrina Metes Harry Miller Christine Mindur Brenda Mitchell and Debra Austin Mrs. Elinor Moore Marty Moore

Kathryn Nordstrom Philip Nyhus and Gail Carlson Mrs. M. Agnes O'Donnell Patricia Odwyer Mr. William Onofry Alex Owre and Ellen Tipper John and Michelle Palumbo George and Eleanor Patterson William and Cynthia Patterson Frank Perkins Arthur and Janet Perrin Kit Pfeiffer Randy Philbrook John and Jennifer Phillips Glenn and Lee Plyler Lloyd Pomber Elizabeth Poppen Barnaby and Susan Porter William and Helen Post Suzanne Preston David Puntel Mr. Victor Quinn Sigrid Rainoff Lawrence and Jeana Rakovan Mr. Michael Reuter Mrs. Lorraine Reuter Ms. Laura Swift Richardson Elise Richer Katherine Richman Nancy Rodgers Judith Rohweder Douglass Roland Ronald Ross Irene Rossignol Mr. Daniel Russell Mr. Stephen Russell Patricia Sandilands Celia Sawtelle Kathleen Scheiman Ernest Scheyder Edward and Elisabeth Schmidt Steven Schnebly James Schneidmuller Christine Schwartz Richard Sewell Waynette and Howard Shafer Steven Shaw Jannetta Shaw Mr. John Shelley Mrs. Josee Shelley Russell and Dale Sherburne Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Shiland Bill Shuman Barbara and P. Kelley Simpson Carol Slade Sally Smith Edward and Dawn Smith Charles and Julia Smith Michael Smith Joan Smith Ms. Cynthia Solari Edmund and Nancy Spaeth Gloria Sparks Ann St. Onge Elwood Stack Michael Starr Emma Storer Karen Svenson Elsie Tarr Katherine Thomas Barbara Thompson Beth Thompson and Len Westra Frank and Carol Tichy Michael and Dianne Traphagen Sandra Trostle Wayne and Priscilla Trudell Adam Turner Stephen Turner Catherine Turner Mr. John E. Ungemach Mrs. Rebecca K. Ungemach Nadine Varrin Bonita Versboncoeur James Walsh Thomas Watson James Webb Penny Weinstein Gigi Ford and Richard Welch Mr. George Wheelwright Pamela White and Michael Mrs. Dorothy White Linda Whitmore-Smithers Bernard Wideman and Mary Clark Mark and Susan Wild Ms. Lisa Williams Mr. Nicholas Witte James and Laurel Wolfrum Sarah Wolpow Gail Worster Dr. and Mrs. Mark H Worthing Stephen Zanichkowsky Janet Zappala Michael Zisser & Marsha Morton

Special Gifts in Honor of People or Events

Mothers' Day gift membership from Alan Sparks for Mrs. Gloria Sparks Gift from Dr. & Mrs. Stephen and Elaine Bank in honor of Michael Kahn's birthday

Gifts in memory of Alison Strekalovsky from:

John and Connie Robinson Cicely P. Russell Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Skidmore, Jr.

New members of PARTNERS IN MAINE'S FUTURE Program

Mr. C. Jonathan Mitschele Mr. Leslie Burhoe Mr. Peter Nutting Ms. Sallie C. Nealand Mr. Sven R. Peterson Ms. Nancy L. Brown Mrs. Thurley W. Briggs Ms. Althea Myrbeck



"The joys of being a parent!" by Tony Nazar, Wilton, Maine

Send Us Your

"My Maine This Week"

Do you have a photograph that shows your love for Maine? A poem? Short prose? We'd love to feature it on our new homepage feature, "My Maine This Week." Send your submissions to beth@nrcm.org. And visit our website often at www.maineenvironment.org to see the latest "My Maine This Week."



NRCM Executive Director Brownie Carson speaking at a members-only event prior to our Waterville screening of

Thanks for Joining Us at the Movies!

Thanks to all of our members and supporters who attended our sponsored screenings of "An Inconvenient Truth," the movie by Al Gore that critics hail for raising awareness of the urgency of the global warming issue.



Maine Gubernatorial Candidate Forum on the Environment

Thursday, October 12, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. **Eastland Ballroom, Portland**

Which candidate for governor will do the best job of protecting Maine's water, air, forests, and wildlife for future generations? You decide. On Thursday October 12 at 7:00 p.m. at Portland's Eastland Ballroom, the candidates will discuss their views on a wide range of environmental issues at a forum, Vote Environment: Choosing Maine's Next Governor. The event is free and open to the public. Vote Environment is hosted by the Natural Resources Council of Maine along with Maine Audubon, Maine Conservation Voters Education Fund, The Nature Conservancy, and Northern Forest Alliance. For more information, call NRCM Action Network Coordinator Ryan Ewing at (207) 622-3101 ext. 243.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

Colleen Moore

Derreth Morrison

Rebecca Murphy

Frederick Murphy

Mary Ann Nahf

Ann Nemrow

Marianne New

Arne Nilsen

Don and Martha Nabe

Frank Morin

John Morse

Norma Munn

Do you have thoughts you would like to share about any of our issues? About your love for Maine's environment? About why you support NRCM? We've created

"Share Your Thoughts" as a special place on our website for member voices. Send your thoughts to beth@nrcm.org. Please put "SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS" in the subject line.

James Gill

Margaret Glidden

Mr. Dan Goldthwait

Ms. Sandra Golonka

Carol Godfrey