

January 11, 2011

Dear NRCM Member,

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Lisa Pohlmann as executive director of the Natural Resources Council of Maine. Lisa currently serves as NRCM's deputy director. She assumes her new responsibilities at the end of January, when Brownie Carson steps down after twenty-seven years of exceptional service to NRCM and Maine's environment.

The Board of Directors reached our decision after an exhaustive nationwide search. It is a testament to the professionalism, expertise, and commitment of NRCM's staff that an internal candidate emerged as our final choice. Lisa's leadership style, willingness to take on tough issues, commitment to protecting the state's natural resources, and deep understanding of the role of the environment in our economic, social, and cultural life in Maine make her the ideal leader at this time.

Lisa has been part of the NRCM team for the past ten years. She served on the board of directors for seven years, including two years as board president. During her tenure, NRCM worked to protect the natural character of Moosehead Lake from oversized, inappropriately sited development and to restore access for wild Atlantic salmon and ten other species of native fish to a 1,000-mile stretch of the Penobscot watershed.

Lisa stepped smoothly into the position of deputy director for the organization in 2008. In that role, she proved highly adept at day-to-day management, quickly earning the respect of staff and board alike.

Lisa most recently led NRCM's efforts to improve federal climate and energy policies. Through her coalition leadership, hundreds of Maine businesses, workers, health professionals, sportsmen, faith leaders, and veterans spoke out on the need for the nation to move toward a clean energy future. She also works closely with the National Wildlife Federation, with which NRCM is affiliated, on climate change and other federal legislation that affects Maine.

Prior to her move to NRCM, Lisa served for nearly thirteen years as associate director of the Maine Center for Economic Policy, where she worked

to promote sustainable economic development, conducting research, building coalitions, and advocating before the Legislature on many issues. Earlier, she headed New Hope for Women in Rockland, which advocates for victims of domestic and dating abuse and provides educational resources to assist communities in creating a safer and healthier future.

In addition to her professional experience, Lisa holds a master's degree in Public Policy from the Muskie School, where she is working on a doctorate.

Lisa has had a lifelong love of the outdoors, and regularly kayaks, hikes, skis, and camps across Maine. She frequents Maine's state parks and public lands, with favorites being Lily Bay, Camden Hills, and Cobscook Bay State Parks, and she has paddled the Allagash, Moose, and Narraguagus Rivers, among many others.

Lisa will rise to the challenge of leading NRCM after Brownie steps down, and she is backed by an extraordinary staff, a committed board, and 12,000 members and activists who understand NRCM's essential role in protecting Maine's environment.

Thank you very much for your support over the years and during this important transition for NRCM.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. M. Houston", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William M. Houston
President
Board of Directors