Downeast Lakes LAND TRUST *Traditions*

Downeast Lakes Land Trust Newsletter

Summer 2004 Volume 1, Issue 2

DOWNEAST LAKES FORESTRY PARTNERSHIP RECEIVES MAJOR AWARDS– FUNDRAISING AT $11 MILLION!

We are excited to announce that as of June 15, 2004 the Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership has reached $11 million toward our goal of $31.5 million. This ambitious project includes the 27,080-acre Farm Cove Community Forest that will be owned by the Downeast Lakes Land Trust and a 312,000-acre conservation easement to be held by the New England Forestry Foundation.

The combined efforts of DLLT, NEFF, and consultants, along with our Leadership Committee, Trust Directors, and many volunteers have made this success possible. Thanks to the generous support of numerous individuals and foundations, plus state and federal grants, we have reached the one-third mark.

As we enter the summer fundraising season here in Grand Lake Stream, it is essential that everyone who loves the Downeast Lakes, be it year-round or summer residents and visitors, demonstrate their commitment to the project by making a significant contribution that will enable us to protect these lands and waters forever. Spread the word to your family and friends and ask for their support. We need your help now!

COMMUNITY BASED FOREST PROJECT ACHIEVES BROAD SUPPORT

What is unique about the Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership compared to other conservation projects? No other large conservation project in Maine's North Woods or the entire Northern Forest, stretching from Maine to the Adirondacks, has a solid local constituency. In the Downeast Lakes region of Maine, people's work has been their source of intimate connection with place. Excitement about the project has generated diverse and broad support, locally, nationally, and across the Canadian border.

Domtar Industries, owner and operator of the pulp and paper mill at Baileyville, has endorsed this project because managers and employees believe its completion will help protect hundreds of mill jobs. The Passamaquoddy Tribe, an adjacent landowner with similar conservation goals, supports the project wholeheartedly. The Princeton Rod and Gun Club, the Grand Lake Snowmobile Club, and the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine are strongly behind this project because it assures continued public access to these lands.

Conservation groups—the National Wildlife Federation, the Northern Forest Alliance, the Nature Conservancy, the Maine Audubon Society, and the Nature Trust of New Brunswick—endorse the partnership because it will protect some of Maine's most ecologically valuable lands and provide continuous wildlife habitat on more than a million acres across an international boundary.

All three local legislators have lent their support. Governor Baldacci, Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins, and Representative Mike Michaud

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT:
PUBLIC ACCESS ASSURED

There has been a long history of unrestricted public access in Washington County Maine across private forestland. Overall, the public has shown respect for private property and acted responsibly, contributing to the lack of "no trespassing" signs and gates on commercial forestland. Unfortunately, this is changing all around us as land is sold to developers, forest liquidators, and kingdom buyers. The Trust established an ad hoc committee on public access issues this past winter that developed plans and policies to assure public access to these lands for future generations. Traditional recreational activities are linked to access, economic stability, and growth. The Downeast Lakes Land Trust is committed to protecting the public's ability to access these lands.

As always, your ideas and suggestions are welcome. The Land Trust's new office, located across from the Pine Tree Store, is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. You may reach us by phone at 207-796-2100, or by email at downeastlakes@panax.com.

Sincerely, Stephen Schaefer, President

Special Place:
A Birdwatcher's Paradise

Maine's Downeast Lakes region contains some of the most pristine boreal habitat in the lower 48 states.

It provides breeding grounds for over 130 species of birds associated with the vast boreal forests of Canada and Alaska, including a remarkable 23 species of nesting wood warblers. Following are just some of the types of birds that use Downeast Lakes habitat at one time or another during the year (in number of distinct species):

Bitterns and herons	6
Blackbirds	6
Ducks and geese	15
Falcons, hawks and eagles	13
Finches	9
Flycatchers	8
Gulls and terns	5
Jays and crows	4
New World sparrows	13
Owls	4
Rails and allies	3
Sandpipers	8
Thrushes	8
Vireos	4
Woodpeckers	6
Wood warblers	23

DOWNEAST LAKES LAND TRUST

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SAVE THIS DATE . . .

You are invited to our second annual meeting and picnic for Board of Directors, Advisory Board members, and supporters on Saturday, July 24 from
12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. in Grand Lake Stream on the east side of the dam. Lunch will be served from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m..

❑Yes, I would like to attend.
_____ Number of people for lunch.
❑Vegetarian option.

Name _____

Phone _____

This was a very popular event last year and for that reason we must go to a reservations basis this year. Seating is limited! Please contact:
Elisa Sousa, PO Box 75, Grand Lake Stream, ME 04637 Phone: 207-796-2100 Email: esousadllt@panax.com

Susan Morse, a nationally known wildlife ecologist and tracker, will lead two walks on Saturday. Susan has graciously donated her expertise in support of our project. Both walks meet at the east side of the dam in Grand Lake Stream (picnic site). Morning walk 8-11 a.m.; afternoon walk 2-5 p.m. Pre-registration for the walks is required.

❑Yes! I would like to join one of the walks.

#_____on walk

❑8-11 a.m.
❑2-5 p.m.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The summer and fall of 2003 were significant for the DLLT's fundraising effort. Individuals, foundations, government representatives, and journalists toured the Downeast Lakes thanks to the tremendous effort of our volunteers. A large percentage of the money raised to date is attributable to people visiting the area, seeing the project first-hand, and realizing the vastness and diversity of the spectacular resource that needs to be protected. Visitors have recognized that this community-incubated and driven project will protect the natural resources and economic well-being of the region.

We are pleased to announce that the Forest Management Plan for the 27,080 acres, contracted with Seven Islands Land Company and written by John McNulty, and the two-year Ecological Inventory and Ecological Reserve Plan by ecologists Norm Famous, Janet McMahon, and hardworking interns were completed this year. These important documents are crucial to responsible stewardship and underpin our successful fundraising efforts.

Land Trust committees focusing on Economic Planning, Ecological Reserve and Special Management Areas, Education, Events, Forestry, Public Access, and Trails have been busily formulating policies for managing the Farm Cove Community Forest and planning ways to encourage economic growth in the community. We appreciate all the volunteers involved in this important planning process.

Building on our "supporters campaign," DLLT/Leadership Committee members are doing an excellent job gathering endorsements from community members, sporting lodges, and businesses. The Grand Lake Stream Guides' Association has been particularly involved in fundraising efforts, providing lake tours, contributing generously, and hosting a successful Guide's Supper this winter with the Trust.

With a February 2005 deadline for exercising the sales option on the fee and easement approaching, it is essential that fundraising this summer is well organized and successful. Leadership members, Directors, and Advisory Board members are planning a productive season of tours and events. I ask that you help us meet our goal by your personal donation and by asking family or friends that share your passion for this project and broader conservation goals to support our efforts.

Everyone's gift is significant in helping us reach our goal.

I look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting,
Best Regards, Stephen Keith, Executive Director

FUNDRAISING!

The end-of-year fundraising appeal from our membership tallied $78,000. Many thanks for your continued support.

David Tobey and Lee Whitely with DLFP fundraising sign.

ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE FARM COVE COMMUNITY FOREST –

QLF AND DLLT SPONSOR SUMMER INTERN AND ECONOMIC STUDY

by Pete Borden, Chair Economic Planning Committee

This summer the Downeast Lakes Land Trust is partnering with the Quebec-Labrador Foundation's Atlantic Center for the Environment to study the potential economic impact on the community of the Farm Cove purchase and the 312,000 acre easement. The Economic Planning Committee will host intern Kevin Anderson, who holds a Masters Degree in Regional Planning from Cornell University. During Kevin's twelve week residency, he and committee members will conduct research primarily in two areas, tourism and recreation, and forest products and services.

From baseline measures of current economic activity such as jobs, income, and, available beds, scenarios will be explored based on the opportunities created by the Community Forest and easement. For instance, pristine shorelines, protected wildlife habitat, clean water, and open, undeveloped forest space should encourage growth and development of the community's traditional tourism industry. The secure environment would also harbor the related development of eco-tourism and recreation, which fits nicely with our great depth of resource in Maine guides. In the forest products and services area, low-impact, sustainable forest management and green certification will create well planned harvesting with high levels of quality timber. This should provide opportunity for local businesses and jobs where the emphasis should be on value added activity. The committee is not content with doing traditional economic research– it wants to present the community with an array of actionable plans so they can seize the wonderful opportunities afforded by this project. It is truly an investment in a community as well as a rescue of a resource.

COMMUNITY BASED FOREST PROJECT ACHIEVES BROAD SUPPORT

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signed on as honorary co-chairs of the campaign because they believe, as Governor Baldacci articulated in announcing his Maine Woods Legacy, that the project embodies "the joint economic development/resource conservation approach" best suited for Maine.

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Co-honorary Chairs
Senator Olympia J. Snowe
Governor John E. Baldacci
Senator Susan M. Collins
Congressman Michael Michaud

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Founder, Camp Kieve
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Retired Nurse
Member, DLFP Committee

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Novelist, Poet, and College Professor
Advisory Board, Downeast Lakes Land Trust

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Board, Downeast Lakes Land Trust

David C. Tobey
Registered Maine Guide
Board, Downeast Lakes Land Trust

Lee Whitely
Fourth Lake Rusticator
Board, Downeast Lakes Land Trust

EDUCATION, ART, AND A SUCCESSFUL WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

The presence of the Downeast Lakes Land Trust has brought a growing array of educational as well as creative arts programs for all ages to the area. Of particular interest is a new wintertime speaker series in which prominent foresters and ecologists from Maine and beyond address community members on such topics as riparian protection, ecological reserves, biodiversity, wildlife habitat management, and value-added wood products.

This winter's lecture series, hosted by DLLT and co-sponsored by Sweet Water Trust from January through April 2004, was well attended and educational for all. Speakers included Mark Anderson from The Nature Conservancy, on "Forest Ecology"; Mac Hunter, Libra Professor of Conservation Biology at the University of Maine, Orono on, "Of Salmon and salamanders: Conserving Shorelands in a Forested Landscape"; Randy Cross, Bear Biologist with Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on, "Importance of Habitat: Black Bear Research in Maine"; Chris Krauss for Sugarwood Gallery on, "Enlivening the Local Economy: Value Added Wood Products and the Success of the Sugarwood Gallery"; Jensen Bissell, Forester for Baxter State Park on, "Baxter's State Park's 27,000 Acre Scientific Forest Management Area"; Sue Morse, a Forester and Wildlife Biologist of Keeping Track, gave a Guided Forest Tour of the Community Forest; and Gary Donovan Northern Region Wildlife Program Manager for International Paper on, "International Paper Company's Riparian Management Standards."

These sessions contribute to a common local knowledge base that can then be applied to community forest

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UPDATES

Kim Battista, a Grand Lake Stream resident and a zoology major at the University of Maine at Orono will conduct a fourth year of loon monitoring in the project area. Local guides will play a major role in the monitoring program, funded by a grant from the North Cape Oil Spill Settlement and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Kim will also be training volunteers on various lakes to facilitate monitoring in future years.

Amos Eno, Executive Director of NEFF, and **Frank Reed**, Consultant and Project Director, are continuing their successful efforts to obtain support for the project.

Norm Famous, DLLT field ecologist, brought the Josselyn Botanical Society to Grand Lake Stream for their annual outing, stimulating enthusiastic response for the project. The group toured the proposed Ecological Reserve at Fourth Machias Lake.

Leslie Hudson, grantwriter, has done an exceptional job collaborating with Steve Keith to write over 50 foundation grants during the past 14 months with on-going success. Thank you, Leslie!

Willard Dyche, working out of the Yarmouth NEFF office, has set up an excellent website for NEFF and DLLT. Go to www.downeastlakes.org or www.newenglandforestry.org

Sally Mayer celebrated her birthday with a delightful lake tour and fundraising party last summer in support of the project. Thank you, Sally and Art!

Roxanne Miller, 2003 DLLT Field Biologist and interim office manager, has been hired by NEFF to work in their Yarmouth, Maine, office.

Roger Milligan and **Lee Whitely** have joined the Board of Directors and the Leadership Committee.

Sally Price has been hired as Development Director by NEFF, and is spending a majority of her time working on the DLFP fundraising campaign from the Yarmouth office. Welcome, Sally!

Elisa Sousa, a Grand Lake Stream resident, is the new DLLT Office Manager and invaluable addition to our team. She will also direct a program for children, the Nature Brigade, with Katie Vetack.

Ted Williams, environmental writer, published two articles supporting the project after visiting the area last summer – "Saving the North Woods, Nothing Like This Has Ever Been Attempted Anywhere..." in *Fly Rod and Reel* (Jan/Feb 2004) and "Seeing the Future Through the Trees" in *National Wildlife*, the magazine published by the National Wildlife Federation (Summer 2004). **Ben Brouwer** '02 DLLT intern, was a featured photographer in the National Wildlife article.

Our Mission

The mission of the Downeast Lakes Land Trust is to ensure the long-term economic and environmental well-being of the Downeast Lakes region through the conservation and exemplary management of its undeveloped forests and waters.

We need your help!

We have less than a year to complete the project. Please send your tax-deductible contribution to the Downeast Lakes Land Trust.

Enclosed is my gift of $_____ to support the Trust's conservation efforts.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, and Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email (optional): _____

Thank you for your support!

Downeast Lakes Land Trust
P.O. Box 75
Grand Lake Stream, ME
04637

GRAND LAKE STREAM SUMMER CALENDAR

July 13 -Aug. 17 The Nature Brigade, with Elisa Sousa and Katie Vetack.
DLLT sponsors weekly classes for children combining arts activities and outdoor education. Residents, guests, and visitors enjoy nature-based projects together. Ages 5-12; parents welcome. Tuesdays, 10-12 a.m.

July 23rd 9-12 noon Susan Morse forest walk departs from DLLT office
July 23rd 7- 8 p.m.. Susan Morse dinner at Weatherby's
(by reservation only: Elisa Sousa 796-2100: book by July 15th)
July 23rd 8:00 p.m. Susan Morse slideshow at Weatherby's
July24th 8-11 a.m. Susan Morse forest walk departs from Grand Lake Dam
July 24th 2-5 p.m. Susan Morse forest walk departs from Grand Lake Dam
July 25th 9-12 noon Susan Morse forest walk departs from DLLT office
July 24-25 12-2 p.m. DLLT Annual Picnic
July 24-25 10 -5 p.m. Grand Lake Stream Folk Art Festival. Fee.
July 28th 7:30 p.m. Historical Society Lecture: Arthur Wheaton
Aug. 3rd 7:30 p.m. 4th Annual Writers Series: Dances, Stories, and Poems about Place
New works by Wayne Curtis, Syd Lea, and Andrea Olsen. Donations to the DLLT.
Aug. 17 10-12 noon Nature Brigade – Art Exhibit and Open House.
All events held at the James Brite Schoolhouse unless noted.

EDUCATION, ART, AND A SUCCESSFUL WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

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management decisions. The lectures complement land trust meetings in which members work together to make informed forest management decisions, and build community capacity, social capital, and leadership skills. Local land ownership, too, is empowering, giving trust members the opportunity to practice good stewardship in the Community Forest.

This summer, by popular demand, the Trust again sponsors the Nature Brigade, an outdoor education program for children led by Elisa Sousa and Katie Vetack, as well as the Third Annual Summer Writers Series. Susan Morse of Keeping Track, will be conducting workshops and a slide presentation on the weekend of July 24th. Susan is a nationally recognized naturalist and habitat specialist with thirty years of experience tracking and interpreting wildlife uses of habitat.