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# The Bulletin: Prepared for the Employees of the Maine Department of Conservation, January 1989

Maine Department of Conservation

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# THE BULLETIN

Prepared for the Employees of the Maine Department of Conservation  
January 1989

## Commissioner's Column

Last month you received the winter 1988-89 edition of "A Report on Maine Forests Parks and Lands," the department's new semiannual newsletter. This was only the second edition of "Forests Parks and Lands" and was extremely well done. We've had a number of positive comments about it.

When we planned the newsletter, we decided to use articles written by employees. In the first two editions, more than 35 of you have contributed. Perhaps this mix of writing styles and perspective is one of the reasons "Forests Parks and Lands" has been so well received.

A year ago, the Bureau Directors and the Commissioner's staff worked to develop a strategic vision for DOC. The purpose of the vision is to serve as both a goal to strive for and a guide to how to get there. Since then, we have already made excellent progress toward achieving many of those elements in a very short time. Of course they are not targets to hit once and then ignore. The vision statements are goals for each of us to strive for in all of our work everyday.

The newsletter is one of the many visible elements of our effort to reach the vision. The newsletter satisfies a number of elements of that vision. It provides an opportunity to communicate within the department and between bureaus. It gives us an opportunity to communicate with our constituencies outside the department, both in and outside of government. It provides an opportunity to showcase the many excellent programs we have going. It gives individuals an opportunity to contribute to personal development as well as to the success of the department.

It is my hope that the newsletter can do a great deal to bring our department closer together as we go forward in achieving leadership in natural resource management in the state.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Tom Morrison as Director of the Bureau of Public Lands. Tom is a strong administrator with great knowledge of natural resource management. His insight will be invaluable to both the management of Public Lands and the department's involvement in statewide resource policy matters. Tom has many years of experience in the department. He began in 1979 on the Spruce Budworm Woodlot Management Program, joined the Bureau of Public Lands as Resource Administrator in 1984, then became Director of Insect and Disease Management in the Maine Forest Service in June of 1988.

Will Harris has been named Acting Director of the Administrative Services Division. Janet Waldron is leaving to become Deputy Secretary of State. Janet will head up a team in charge of reviewing the State Department's policies, procedures, finances, and positions. Janet made key contributions to this department at a critical time when the state is in the process of upgrading its computer systems for personnel and payroll functions. A complex challenge which she handled effectively. We will miss her.

As the new year begins, I wish all of you and your families well. I look forward to working together with all of you in 1989.

**Ed Meadows, Commissioner**

## MAINE STREET '90

This fall Governor McKernan kicked off "Maine Street '90", a new initiative aimed at developing and strengthening community pride through the State.

"Maine Street '90" is a celebration of community pride, spirit and enthusiasm. It is designed to kindle an excitement in Mainers of our State's rich heritage and encourage them to demonstrate this pride and enthusiasm through meaningful programs.

Designed to touch every resident of Maine, the cornerstone of "Maine Street '90" will be individual community involvement. Communities will be encouraged to explore their heritage, inventory their assets and strengths, develop plans for the future, and organize events and community projects for 1990.

"Maine Street '90" is established as a nonprofit corporation with private sector support and funding.

Materials appropriate to informing and inspiring Maine people will be developed and distributed, ranging from printed materials and messages to video for both group and broadcast presentations.

Through a public/private partnership touching every citizen of Maine, the program will:

- renew our collective sense of State and community pride
- remind residents of Maine's assets,
- reinforce the leadership and community development skills evident in Maine communities, and
- raise the awareness of Maine's positive business climates; and
- make Maine pride and character visible beyond State boundaries

Governor McKernan has asked all State Departments to become involved in "Maine Street '90" and each department has appointed a special coordinator. In addition to participating in their own community activities, State employees are urged to suggest special projects in their departments to be a part of "Maine Street '90."

The department is involved in the following ongoing programs which fit in with the Maine Street '90 theme: Fort Halifax - reconstruction and archeological work (Friends of Ft. Halifax, citizens' group in Winslow); Montpelier - repair and other work on replica of General Knox's mansion (Friends of Montpelier, citizens' group in Thomaston); and the National Tree City Program facilitated by the Maine Forest Service where communities develop programs to enhance the quality of trees in their respective communities. The Bureau of Public Lands has recently adopted a somewhat unique management plan for its public parcel at Pineland. This plan is designed to meet local (timber, recreation, wildlife, scenic) needs rather than statewide needs. Some implementation of this plan could coincide with Maine Street '90.

We welcome your ideas and involvement in the Maine Street '90 effort. If you have suggestions on how the department can be involved, please talk within your program area and send your recommendations to me.

**Sue Bell, Deputy Commissioner**



#### NEW REGIONAL OFFICE

The Bureau of Parks and Recreation will be moving one of its regional offices from Bolton Hill in Augusta to Rockland by the middle of February 1989.

The new location will mean a change of scenery for Regional Supervisor Wentworth "Wimpy" Burnham and Regional Secretary Linda LaCroix as they move their offices to a state office building, which also houses the Maine Department of Labor, on Park Street in Rockland. According to Wimpy, two state park regions will soon be combined and the new office will be more centrally located to the larger region's fifteen staffed parks and historic sites. The new office will also be more readily identifiable as a state park regional headquarters and will better serve the public as a place where information can be obtained about the Bureau and Department.

The combining of two regions within the Bureau continues an organizational strategy developed three years ago. In the new organization, a regional supervisor and assistant regional supervisor are in charge of a larger region and have more flexibility to specialize in administrative and/or field-oriented operations and maintenance tasks while maintaining a general understanding of all the region's needs.

#### ALSO NOTED

Herb Hartman, Department co-ordinator of the recent Maine State Employees Combined Charitable Appeal, reports that the Department donated \$7,276.30, exceeding its goal by 8%. The Department's contributions were part of an unprecedented \$181,000. donation by state employees to the 1988 United Way campaign.

Special thanks are due to Herb and the Department's Bureau co-ordinators for the successful appeal: Judy Andrews, Mike Foley, Andrea Perron, Leigh Hoar, Donna McLaughlin, and Marie Drew. \* \* \* A paper on the origin of Maine's salt marshes has just been published by Marine Geologist Joseph Kelley in the Journal of Coastal Research. \* \* \* State Geologist Walter Anderson and Hydrogeologist John Williams attended the quarterly meeting of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Forum, which was held January 11-13 in San Diego, California. The meeting was hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy. \* \* \* Steve Curtis, Bureau of Parks and Recreation, helped plan the program and made a presentation at the Northeast Regional Parks Conference recently held in North Conway, New Hampshire. Additional Bureau staff members Tom Skolfield, John Scott, Ken Wiley, Ron Hunt, and Tom Cieslinski also attended the conference where particular sessions of interest included maintenance management programs, training, and the preparation of training materials. \* \* \* Richard Skinner, Bureau of Parks and Recreation, recently received an award from the nationwide State Organization for Boating Access for his work as chairman of the Small Craft Ramp and Access Task Force. \* \* \* Scott Ramsay and Jim Mangin will be speaking about the Bureau of Parks and Recreation's snowmobile program to over 500 club representatives at four regional information meetings cosponsored by the Bureau's Division of Off-Road Vehicles and the Maine Snowmobile Association. \* \* \* Steve Oliveri, BPL, reminds Harlow Building residents to use energy saving window quilts and shutters. \* \* \* The Maine Conservation Corps is reviewing proposals for projects for 1989. Approximately 5 projects will be selected for spring and 20 for the summer. In February the search for project team leaders will begin. Team leaders will supervise teams of 3 to 6 corpsmembers on labor intensive outdoor conservation projects: contact Ken Spalding at 289-4931. \* \* \* SERVE/Maine is preparing a listing of volunteer and intern opportunities with public natural resource agencies throughout the state and will soon be recruiting volunteers and interns: contact Libbey Seigars at 289-4948. \* \* \* After eight working days, Bureau of Parks and Recreation staff have processed over 600 reservations for campsites in state parks next summer. This total, netting over \$50,000. in income, far exceeds the number of campsite reservations processed during the entire month of January last year. Lin Gosselin, Judie Bridges, Elaine Pepler, and Sally Doyle have been helped in their reservations-related work this year by volunteer Daphne Rea. Once again, the staff has found Sebago Lake State Park to be the most popular

among people making campsite reservations and already a large number of the campsites there have been reserved for July and August.

According to Lin Gosselin, the increase in reservations so far this year can be attributed to a number of factors. The process has been streamlined, with a refined computer program developed by Jim Rea. In addition, more public information and familiarity with the reservation system has meant more mail-in reservations and fewer phone-in questions, thus expediting the reservation procedure.

#### PERSONNEL NEWS

Beginning with this issue of the Bulletin, we will have a regular feature on personnel news. We will discuss changes in employee benefits, programs available to employees, and employee changes within the department.

The first piece of news is that with this paycheck you all should have received the 3 percent general salary increase. If you did not receive a raise, please notify Marie Plourd at 289-2211 as soon as possible. This raise is the third and final salary increase under our current negotiated contract. The contract expires July, 1, 1989, and MSEA and the State are already beginning the process of negotiating another contract.

An additional feature of the Personnel News column will be a question and answer section. If you have any questions regarding personnel rules, employee benefits, or related matters (and which are of general concern to DOC employees), please put them in writing and send them to Will Harris. We may not answer all questions in print, but we will make sure that all questions are answered.

##### Retired

Dale Boyce: Forest Ranger II 12/20/88

##### To Other Agencies/Position Changes

Janet Waldron: Director of Administrative Services to Deputy Secretary of State

Ronda Moore: LURC to DEP (Permanent Environmental Services Specialist II- ESS-II)

James Rogers: LURC to DEP (Promoted ESS-III)

Lisa Sirois: Administrative Services to Fire Control (Promoted Clerk Typist III)

Lillian Hanning: Transfer to Accounting from Payroll

Leslie Wiles: From BPL to MFS (Forest Fire Training Coordinator)

Judy Andrews: From MFS to to Administrative Services (Promoted Clerk IV)

Tom Morrison: From MFS to BPL (Appointed Director)

Diane Hankinson: Promoted GIS Coordinator

Patricia Seaward: From MGS to DEP (Oil and Hazardous Waste Bureau)

##### New Hires

David Allen: LURC, ESS-II

Lynn Picardi: LURC, ESS-II

Frederick Griffith: LURC, Planning and Research Associate

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Rhonda Young: LURC, Clerk Typist II

Tammy Harkins: LURC, Word Processing Operator

Tom Wood: LURC, Resource Administrator

Amy Frescola: LURC, ESS-II (starts 1/17)

Don Cote: LURC, ESS-II (Promotion, starts 1/23)

THE BULLETIN is prepared for the employees of the Maine Department of Conservation. It will be distributed with paychecks each month to keep you informed about our department.