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# Maine Department of Conservation Employee News and Information Bulletin, September 1994

Maine Department of Conservation

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# Maine Department of Conservation Employee News and Information September 1994

# BULLETIN

FORESTRY

GEOLOGY

LAND USE REGULATION

PARKS AND RECREATION

PUBLIC LANDS

## Commissioner's Column

As you may have seen, the Sportsmen's Alliance of Maine and the Maine Audubon Society will conduct a petition drive to create a new instant lottery game to raise funds for the "Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund" (MOHF). The proceeds will be used to fund land management and conservation projects, wildlife habitat improvements, outdoor recreation and other conservation efforts by Maine natural resource agencies. SAM and MAS members will be collecting petition signatures at the polls this November. If the effort is successful it will give us the opportunity to apply for grants to supplement programs.

**Inland Fisheries & Wildlife**  
Commissioner Owen and I have participated in media briefings with fund proponents to speak on the need we have for adequate support for natural resource programs and department facilities. Obviously we don't see MOHF as the solution to all our needs but it could provide important supplemental help, enabling us to address needs for which funds would not otherwise be available.

One major newspaper has already editorialized against the plan because of their opposition to gambling, and because they believe—as we do—that natural resource programs should be adequately funded as part of the regular state budget. We certainly concur that the MOHF is not a substitute for General Fund support but it does provide an opportunity to enhance programs.

It is encouraging that these groups have formed an important partnership to support natural resource initiatives. Over the last few months, as a result of our efforts, there is increased attention and developing momentum regarding the importance of natural resources to Maine's economy and quality of life. The petition drive for the MOHF is one more opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of natural resources.

Speaking of positive attention, Fire Control employees and other Maine firefighters who assisted on western fires have gained valuable training and earned positive recognition for themselves, the DOC and the entire state of Maine.

I appreciated the opportunity to visit so many of you this summer and see first hand your work challenges and accomplishments. Thank you for a safe and productive season.

**Ed Meadows**

## Conservation Quality

### Management Council Adopts Values

One of the first steps towards full implementation of total quality management in state government was the adoption of vision and values by the State Quality Management Council. The department's Quality Management Council has now also adopted statements expressing vision and values. As bureau councils are formed, they too will discuss these important subjects. An organization's vision and values provide the foundation for total quality management and offer practical and useful guidance. State government's commitment to total quality ensures a continuing discussion of shared vision and values.

### Values

We in the Department of Conservation take pride in the quality of our work through the productivity, creativity and excellence of our employees and programs.

To achieve our goals we value and foster continuous improvement of our work processes, teamwork, innovation and effectiveness.

*Conservation Quality Management Council, August 1994*

### Vision

The Department of Conservation, a valued leader for natural resource conservation.

**Valued.** We respect the needs and contributions of all those we serve. For our constituents, we provide responsive, professional and high-value service. For all Department of Conservation employees, we offer a challenging and results-oriented work place that supports personal and professional growth and recognizes and appreciates the contributions of each individual. For the people of the state of Maine and their elected representatives, we will operate the department in a manner that exemplifies the best of state government and which is worthy of their support.

**Leader.** We strive to be a progressive, knowledgeable and highly motivated agency. We anticipate and work to meet challenges facing Maine's natural resources. We seek opportunities to extend our service through innovative approaches, partnerships and balanced policies. We direct our attention and investments towards advancing the principles of conservation and stewardship in Maine.

**Conservation.** We believe the wise, careful and sustainable use of Maine's natural and cultural resources will assure a high quality of life for this and future generations. Therefore, we dedicate ourselves to our primary mission—the technical evaluation, conservation, management and protection of these resources.

*Conservation Quality Management Council, February 1994*

### BPR Names Fifteen To Quality Council

The Bureau of Parks and Recreation has announced the names of the bureau's Quality Council. The council hopes to hold its first meeting this month and begin work on a vision statement and values for the bureau. Also on the agenda of the department's first bureau quality council will be training and budget needs, council ground rules, and procedures for the establishment of process action teams.

To ensure that seasonal employees are represented on the council, the bureau will use contracts that enable representatives of seasonal employees to attend meetings when they are on layoff.

BPR Quality Council members are:

**Tom Cieslinski**, Chief Planner, Augusta

**Sarah Crosby**, Receptionist, Reid SP, Georgetown

**Steve Curtis**, Operations and Maintenance Director, Augusta

**Ron Cyr**, Engineering Tech.\*, Boating Facilities Division, Augusta

**Tim Hall**, Regional Supervisor, Thomaston

**Herb Hartman**, Bureau Director, Augusta

**Robert Hunt**, Manager, Rangeley Lake State Park

**Kim Lynch**, Ranger, Allagash Wilderness Waterway

**John Picher**, Mgr. Community Grants and Recreation, Augusta

**Dennis Preston**, Ranger, Cobscook Bay SP, Dennysville

**Scott Ramsay**, Supervisor, Off-Road Vehicle Division, Augusta

**Sue Roderick**, Secretary\*, Off-Road Vehicle Division, Augusta

**Richard Skinner**, Director, Boating Facilities Division, Augusta

**Gordeen Skolfield**, Manager\*, Range Ponds SP, Poland Spring

**Steve Vondell**, Ranger\*, Camden Hills SP

\*Union member elected representative

## Employee Recognition Week At The DOC

Nine Department of Conservation employees with a total of 240 years of service will receive awards tomorrow as part of 1994 Employee Recognition Week.

The employees attained at least 25 years of service between July 1, 1993 and June 31, 1994. Governor McKernan will present the awards during a ceremony at the August Civic Center. Commissioner Meadows will also recognize the valued workers who are:

William G. Cleaves, State Park Regional Supervisor, 35 years; Richard S. Coffin, Engineering Technician IV, 30 years; Chester Gage, Forester I, 25 years; Clark A. Granger, Entomologist III, 25 years; Calvin Hafford, Regional Forest Ranger, 25 years; Jarvis J. Johnson, Maintenance Mechanic Supervisor, (BPR) 25 years; Delmar O. Nason, Forest Ranger II, 25 years; Donald E. Ouellette, Entomologist I, 25 years; Ruth H. Willette, Clerk Steno III (BPR) 25 years.

DOC is involved in other Employee Recognition Week activities scheduled for tomorrow:

- Parks, Public Lands and Geology will staff exhibits in Capital Park during the Augusta area employees picnic.

- State park passes are prizes at all employee picnic drawings.

- Mid-coast state employees are invited to a picnic at Camden Hills State Park. Tim Hall of BPR helped organize the event.

- Brian Murray of BPR helped organize the Presque Isle picnic.

- As part of employee recognition week, there will be a DOC picnic for Augusta-based employees on Friday, September 16 (rain date September 22). The picnic will be held on the lawn at the south end of the Harlow Building from 12:00-2:00. Bureau coordinators are: Pat Simard, BPL, 287-3061; Lin Gosselin, BPR, 287-3821; Donna McLaughlin, LURC 287-2631, Mike Foley, MGS, 287-2801; Jean Colfer, MFS, 287-2791; Gale Ross, Admin. 287-4900.

## MFS / Employees Praised

Theresa Hoffman, executive director of the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance says the Alliance has been "very much impressed with the swift response of both state and federal foresters in the search for reasons for the poor quality of ash available to Native American basketmakers.

In a letter, Hoffman said the alliance is pleased with the level of cooperation and caliber of research conducted by the Maine Forest Service on the Brown Ash Decline Project. MFS employees Henry Trial, Dave Struble, Mike Devine and Clark Granger were cited by Hoffman for work on the project.

## Conservation Notes

The Bureau of Parks and Recreation and the Maine Forest Service cooperatively sponsored a recent celebration of Smokey Bear's 50th birthday, complete with birthday cake, at Sebago Lake State Park. Park Manager **Mike Leighton** reported that over 300 people attended two parties for Smokey, one held at the park's day area and another at the campground. Forest Ranger **John Leavitt** helped organize the parties and attended to provide information about forestry and the Maine Forest Service. Sebago Lake State Park Lifeguard **David McCloskey** played the part of Smokey. In addition to helping coordinate the parties, Interpretive Ranger **Noelle Thurlow** told the story of Smokey to the park visitors in attendance.

**Henry Nichols** of the Land Use Regulation Commission gave a presentation on how LURC regulates wetlands within its jurisdiction to a task force developing a state wetland conservation plan.

**Woody Thompson** and **Tom Weddle** compared the sequence of glacial events in the Quebec border region at a field conference in the Jackman-St. George. The meeting was held to gather data for the Geological Survey's study of Maine's glacial history, which is a cooperative project with the University of Maine under the NSF-funded EPSCoR program.

LURC's **Fred Todd** attended the first meeting of the Great Ponds Task Force established by the Legislature to develop a management strategy.

**Jeannine LaPointe** and **Charles Corliss** of LURC completed several days of training related to their upcoming service on the Conservation Intradepartmental Communications Process Action Team.

All Bureau of Public Lands staff will attend the annual fall training session, September 19-21 at the Bigelow Lodge. The session's agenda includes TQM, workplace health and injury and computer training plus several other short workshops.

Former Forestry Commissioner **Austin Wilkins** presented Smokey Bear with an award during Forest Vision Days in Greenville for 50 years as the nation's number one fire prevention symbol. Austin, whose career spanned over 40 years, was presented a life-time achievement award by **Thomas Parent**, supervisor of Forest Fire Control Operations during Smokey's official birthday celebration on August 9 in Bar Harbor.

## DOC People Promotions

- **Scott Thompson**, to Park Manager II at Lamoine State Park from Park Manager I at Quoddy Head State Park

- **Don Mansius**, Northern Forest Lands Study Coordinator, to acting Assistant to the Commissioner

## Transfers

- **Liz Cody**, Clerk Typist III, to the Maine Forest Service, Division of Policy, Planning & Information from the Maine Waste Management Agency

## Conservation Notes continued

In July, Fire Control's Aroostook Waters District, with the help of **Calvin** and **Verley Hafford**, received third place for a fire prevention float in the Masardis Daze Parade, and a trophy for the best overall float in the Ashland Daze Parade.

Fire Control's East Branch District and Northern Region headquarters staff received third place for their float entry in the Annual Summerfest Parade in Island Falls in August. The float carried a four foot birthday cake topped with fifty candles along with Smokey and three firefighters.

In late August, the Maine Forest Service sent two more crews to assist with fire control efforts in Oregon. This makes the fifth full crew to help with western fires. A 13 member civilian crew also left last week and is being supervised by rangers from the White Mountain National Forest.

Fire Support Supervisor **Harry Doughty** is on his 3rd tour of fire duty this summer. Doughty has spent the last 4 weeks in Montana on 2 major fires and has served as operation section chief and air operations chief.

The College of the Atlantic and the "Eco/Eco Forum" are arranging a Maine Public Broadcasting Network debate by gubernatorial candidates on natural resource issues. The date to be announced.

A decades old tradition continues on September 14 when the Maine Forest Service begins weekly reports of Maine's "official" fall foliage information. The information, gathered by Fire Control Division people, is compiled by **Gale Ross** in the DOC Public Information Office. Gale will FAX the state-wide report on percent of coloration and leaf drop in seven regions to the Maine Publicity Bureau for use on their foliage hotline, 1/800/533-9595. This service to Maine residents and visitors helps support an important forest-based economic activity and is appreciated by Maine's tourism industry.