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

Maine Department of Conservation

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# Maine Department of Conservation Employee News and Information November 1994

## BULLETIN

FORESTRY

GEOLOGY

LAND USE REGULATION

PARKS AND RECREATION

PUBLIC LANDS

### Commissioner's Column

By mid-November approximately fifty DOC employees will have completed the three-day TQM mid-manager training program. The course provided basic instructions on process management and experience in using the tools of continuous process improvement. I participated in the program myself because I believe it is important to continually seek new ways to improve our programs. It was an enjoyable and worthwhile experience, providing new ways in which we can work together to meet the challenge of providing quality service. Of particular interest was the comment from one participant from another department who said, "I have worked in state government for 20 years and this program is the first time in a long time when I recall employees from different departments working together to share ideas and address common problems in this way." Sharing ideas and learning new techniques for effective service—that is what makes the TQM effort worth pursuing.

David Boulter, director of LURC, has left DOC to become the director of the legislature's Office of Policy and Legal Analysis. In five years at LURC, David was effective in helping achieve much success and was a well-respected member of the department's management team. We will miss his insight and guidance.

Bill Galbraith, LURC's Enforcement Division supervisor will serve as acting director. With several years experience at LURC, Bill will be able to lead LURC through an effective transition.

John Picher has been named the new director of engineering & realty. This is a vital position for our department—to bring effective oversight to our more than \$75 million worth of facilities, as well as supervising the scores of leases, agreements and other property management arrangements for which we are responsible. We look forward to working with John to develop an updated plan for how best to meet our property management needs.

Please join me with best wishes and your support to Bill and John.

**Ed Meadows**

### News About The DOC Quality Process

• The members of the Land Use Regulation Commission Total Quality Management Council, who will serve for one year, are:

David Allender, development review supervisor  
Charles Corliss, enforcement investigator, Old Town office  
Don Cote, enforcement investigator, Presque Isle office  
Caroline Eliot, chief planner  
William Galbraith, acting director  
Thomas Holtz, project analyst  
Donna McLaughlin, supervisor of office services  
David Mercier, resource administrator  
Henry Nichols, chief planner  
Fred Todd, Planning Division manager  
Scott Whitney, project analyst

• Administrative Services Division employees begin the quality process tomorrow during a meeting at the Arboretum. All Administrative Services Division and Commissioner's Office employees have been invited to participate as members of the Administrative Services Quality Council.

Administrative Services/Commissioner's Office telephones will be covered during the morning meeting and calls for service, information and assistance will be returned in the afternoon.

• Twelve Forest Service staff are attending the Maine Quality Management Council mid-manager (Team Leader Workshop) training in October and November. The concepts learned will be used during early December meetings to plan the Forest Service's next quality process steps. TQM awareness training and other items from the Team Leader Training will be part of bureau and division winter and spring meetings.

### Maine State Employees Combined Charitable Appeal

Gale Ross, DOC's MSECCA campaign coordinator, says that as of October 25, ninety-five percent of the department's total 1994 goal of \$4,905 had been pledged. The Bureau of Parks & Recreation, the Maine Geological Survey and LURC exceeded their bureau goals. Each bureau continues to hold weekly drawings for prizes. On November 9 and December 15, separate drawings for an AM/FM radio/cassette/recorder for all employees who have donated will be held. With seven weeks left in the campaign, why not take a moment to help those who are less fortunate.

Please return your communications survey to the PAT

### DOC People

#### Transferred

William Hamilton to Assistant District Forest Ranger in Lee  
Les Thornton to District Forest Ranger in Jefferson  
Doug Getchell to District Forest Ranger in Jonesboro  
Jay Bernard to Forest Ranger II in Weld

#### Promoted

Andrew Mendes to Regional Forest Ranger, Southern Region

#### Reemployed

Rita Brann, acting capacity Clerk Stenographer III, in the Commissioner's Office

#### Retired

Ken Wiley, State Park Regional Supervisor, Western Region

### Conservation Notes

Ancyl Thurston of the MFS received an award in October from the Resource Conservation and Development Council of Washington and Hancock Counties for educating landowners about Tree Growth Tax Law changes and tax options available to land owners.

Heart attack victim **Jon Armstrong** of South Carolina sent thanks to pilot **Otis Gray** and other Maine Forest Service staff for "heroic efforts in helping me on the Appalachian Trail" this summer.

**Tom Holz** spoke to Oakland Junior High School students about LURC during career day.

**Don Ouellette, Merle Ring, Tom Driscoll, Melissa Boardman, Jeanne Knobil** (all MFS); **Gail Tunstead** and **Steve Swatling** (BPL) attended the annual Project Learning Tree training at Tim Pond Wilderness Camps.

**Gordon Moore** spoke to forest rangers about LURC during the Maine Forest Service Ranger Academy.

BPR's Adopt-a-Trail program is alive and well at Wolfe's Neck Woods State Park. Park Manager **Andy Hutchinson** reported that all of the park's five miles of trails have now been adopted by individuals, a couple, and a family. The most recent volunteer agreed to adopt the wheelchair accessible path and the North Loop Trail after working with Andy on a shore clean-up during Coastweek.

LURC Planning staff conducted seven public meetings state-wide on the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.



## Conservation Notes continued

In a letter to Forest Service Director **Sue Bell**, Maine Publicity Bureau Executive Director **Jim Thompson** expressed thanks to Fire Control staff for their help with 1994 fall foliage reports.

"Please tell Maine Forest Service staff members that folks here at Maine Publicity Bureau deeply appreciate their efforts to provide timely information about Maine's autumn foliage.

Tens of thousands of travelers stopped at our (MPB) information centers across the state to learn where color was at its peak. And our telephone counselors fielded 13,225 foliage inquiries from out-of-state callers. In fact, during one period in early October we averaged more than 700 telephone calls a day from people asking about Maine's foliage.

Thank you for the assistance provided by you and your staff. Without the Maine Forest Service, we couldn't do our job, and autumn in Maine would not be as enjoyable for visitors," Thompson wrote.

Forest Rangers **John Leavitt** and **Jeff Courlier** took part in two MFS PSA's on timber theft and wildland arson.

The Fire Control Division has received a \$5,000 grant for its new Wildland Arson Program from the National Association of State Foresters. Arson was Maine's leading cause of fire in 1994.

Fire Control Supervisor **Tom Parent** was recognized by the Air National Guard for outstanding cooperation in supporting Forest Service personnel involvement in Guard activities. Parent's name was submitted by MFS Aircraft Mechanic **Ray Hitchborn** of Old Town. Parent, along with other supervisors, flew to Fort Sam Houston and toured military facilities there.

**Don Ouellette, Charlene Donahue** and **Jeanne Knobil** led students through hands-on science exhibitions at the Navy sponsored Mainely-Green Science Day Expo in October at Merrymeeting Bay. More than 1,000 4th and 7th grade students participated.

Forest Rangers **Mike Ricci, Bruce Reed** and **Gregg Hesslein** attended Firing Methods and Techniques training in September and will serve as instructors to all other forest rangers.

Forest Ranger **Gregg Hesslein** will serve as a fire behavior analyst on the Northeast Compact Incident Management Team. Gregg will attend advanced fire behavior training in New Jersey to prepare.

BPR's Boating Facilities Division, in cooperation with the DIF&W, have completed a draft Strategic Plan for Providing Public Access to Maine Waters for Boating and Fishing. BPR Director **Herb Hartman** and Boating Facilities Division Director **Richard Skinner** attended meetings in Portland, Bangor and Presque Isle in October to hear comments on the plan. More than fifty people discussed access to high value fisheries, access to Sebago Lake, volunteer possibilities for boat site maintenance, funding options to provide more boat access, and priorities for repairing old sites vs acquiring new sites. The meetings also indicated that the needs for additional access lay in central and southern Maine rather than in northern Maine. Additional comments are due by Nov. 4.

BPL's regional offices are on the CC MAIL system. Regional secretaries are listed in the mail list as "BPL Regions."

State parks hope to welcome more German tourists as a result of a visit by German tourism executives. Park Manager **Andy Hutchinson** said that the visitors were pleased with Wolfe's Neck Woods and that he had learned to say "osprey" in German. **Gordon Bell**, manager at Camden Hills State Park, reported that the group also enjoyed the view from Mt. Battie.

Volunteers from the U.S., Germany, France and Spain under the leadership of BPR's **Jarvis Johnson** and **Wimpy Burnam** (retired) worked for three weeks at Central Region state parks and historic sites this summer according to Reg. Supervisor **Tim Hall**.

**Ralph Knoll** attended the National Society of American Foresters Conference (SAF) in Alaska. Ralph oversaw the New England Chapter's booth in preparation for the 1994 National SAF conference in Maine.

**Steve Oliveri** and **Carol DiBello** attended the 13th Annual International Submerged Lands Conference in British Columbia.

**Steve Spencer** attended the New England Appalachian Trail Manager's meeting on backcountry trail and recreation management.

**Gordon Bell** reports heavy weekend trail use during October at Camden Hills State Park.

Regional Park Supervisor **Bill Cleaves** says BPR service awards were presented to Boy Scouts **John Carbone** and **James Melvin** for work at the Fort Kent Blockhouse.

Park Manager **Matt LaRoche** and AWW Region Secretary **Sue Caverly** staffed a booth at the recent Millinocket Fin and Feather Club's Fall Sportsmans Show. Matt and Sue used this opportunity for public contact and education to talk about volunteer opportunities in the Allagash Wilderness Waterway and Penobscot Corridor, donations, purchase of loon license plates, and the state park campsite reservation system.

Forest Rangers **Joe Mints, Shane Nichols, Joel Davis** and **Matt Gomes** graduated from the Forest Ranger Academy in October. The rangers will also attend an eight-week law enforcement academy.

Almost 900 children came for the Children's Water Festival at Orono in October designed to educate children on the sources uses and threats to water supplies. **Frank Appleby** and **Scott Thompson** presented a shortened version of BPR's "Earth Day is Every Day" program originally developed by Interpretive Specialist **Patty Bailey**. **Gail Tunstead** represented Project Learning Tree.

A Fire Control public service announcement produced by WGME TV was selected by the greater Portland Ad Club as the best in its class during the recent Broderson Awards ceremony. The PSA was shot in Gulf Hagas and shows the devastating effects of a careless smoker according to **Jim Downie**.

The DOC softball team had another fun-filled, injury free season with a 10-4 winning record according to Manager **Donna McLaughlin**. Donna says spirit, team building and spiritual bonding allowed the team to play very well. There were numerous outstanding and daring catches by outfielders, several exquisitely executed double plays by infielders and some unbelievable home runs by several power hitters such as **Lisa Sirols** who hit a game winning home run! Each bureau within the department provided players as well as a couple of former DOC employees that return each year. Players included: **John Poisson**, Geology; **Steve Oliveri**, Public Lands; **Melissa Boardman, Lisa Sirols, Tom Doak, Celeste Ross** and **Sam Squires**, Forestry; **Doug Wheeler**, Administrative Services; **Shippen Bright**, Commissioner's Office; **Ron Hunt**, Parks; **David Mercier, Scott Whitney** and **Donna McLaughlin**, LURC; **Mike Day**, DEP (former LURC) and **Melanie Lanctot**, Division of Health Engineering (former MGS) as well as a few family members and friends. **Melissa Boardman** is the team's 1995 manager.