

5-15-1985

DOC News, May 15, 1985

Maine Department of Conservation

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Maine Department of Conservation, "DOC News, May 15, 1985" (1985). *Conservation Newsletters*. 122.
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DOC NEWS

Volume IV - Number 10
May 15, 1985

IN SEARCH OF BLUE HERON NESTS

The Critical Areas Program of the Maine State Planning Office, in cooperation with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, is continuing its search for inland great blue heron nesting sites in Maine. If you are flying over or passing through wooded areas near wetlands, look for large nests in tall trees in groups. The long-legged herons are unmistakable. The location (marked on a map with direction), number of nests, years observed and current activity of the rookery would be appreciated. Please write: Naomi Edelson, Critical Areas Program, State Planning Office, 184 State Street, Station # 38, Augusta, Maine 04333, or call Steve Oliveri at the Maine Forest Service (289-2791).

BRUSHSAW TRAINING

Maine Conservation Corps' newest program, brushsaw training, began on Monday under the direction of Mark Michaels in Jackman. At the first training session, 6 unemployed people were trained to use brushsaws to thin overstocked spruce and fir stands. Forest landowners will then hire these people to do thinning work for them.

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PARKING FEES INCREASE

After May 20, the price for parking violations in the State House area will be quite costly. Parking in a handicapped area will cost \$5.00; parking in a legislative or reserved area or in a travel lane will be \$4.00; parking in a car pool area, outside agency area, overtime parking, improper parking, no parking and all other violations will carry a \$3.00 fee. All fees not paid within 72 hours of date of issue will increase fee to \$5.00. It will definitely be worth it to walk the extra steps required to park legally.

OVERHEAD TEAM CALLED OUT

Several members of the Maine Forest Service Fire Control Overhead Team were called out to the Sunken Stream Fire in Edmunds on Tuesday, April 30. The fire burned approximately 1,000 acres of forest land in the Moosehorn Wildlife Refuge, Champion International land and a private landowner's property. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

THANK YOU NOTE

George Bourassa and Dick Morse would like to thank all Fire Control Division staff who, because of extremely dry conditions and high fire occurrence, were required to work on scheduled days off. Between April 15 and May 6, many worked as long as 20 days without any time off. The people involved included staff in Augusta and in all the regions and included staff at all levels in the Division. George says that "throughout it all you kept up your morale and did your jobs. You all did credit to yourselves and the organization."

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PUBLIC AUCTION - The State of Maine Surplus Property auction will be held on Saturday, June 1 at 10:00 a.m. in the State Office Building Parking lot. Items available will include pick-ups, trucks, sedans, police cruisers, station wagons, backhoe/loaders, snowmobiles, office equipment and chain saws. All items are sold on an "as is, where is" basis and may be inspected on Friday, May 31 from 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. and June 1 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Franklin Sargent has been in charge of placing any DOC items in the auction.

DIRECTORY UPDATE - The telephone number for the Department of Defense and Veterans Services, Central Administration, should be changed from 622-9331 or 289-3187 to 289-4070 in the Maine Government Directory recently published by Weil and Firth, Inc.

BRIEFLY STATED - Herb Hartman attended the Northeastern State Park Director's Meeting in Hampton Beach, New Hampshire on May 8 & 9 - Sheila MacDonald participated by leading a tour of Fort McClary...Melanie Lanctot, MGS, gave a presentation on her research on radon in the domestic environment at a Conference on Indoor Air Quality at the Augusta Civic Center recently. The conference was sponsored by the Maine Lung Association...Mike Gallagher Community Parks and Recreation Division, attended an American Coaching Effectiveness Program for 2 days at UMO. This training will allow COPARC to work with communities in training volunteer coaches for children's sports programs..Tom Cieslinski has been elected as Northeast Regional Board Member of National Association of State Recreation Planners...

EARLY RETIREMENT - Several employees have inquired about a bill being heard by the 112th Legislature that would make early retirement less attractive. L.D. 1274, An Act to End Subsidized Early Retirement, if enacted, would end subsidized early retirement and replace it with actuarial equivalents. The effect of this change would be to substantially reduce early retirement benefits. The law, as proposed, would take effect January 1, 1986. The Maine State Retirement System is developing comparison examples which we will share with you in a future DOC NEWS.

BABY TALK - Dennis and Anne Doiron became parents for the second time on April 21. Gregory weighed 9 pounds, 4 ounces. Dennis and Anne also have a little girl, Katie...David Thomas Percy was born on April 26 weighing in at 9 pounds, 3½ ounces. Proud parents are David and Tracy Percy. David is an AWW Ranger at Chamberlain Bridge and Tracy is the Park Receptionist. Congratulations to both families!

ARBOR WEEK - Arbor Week will be observed next week, May 19 - 25. The Maine Forest Service will be participating in several different activities and ceremonies.