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# What's Up, Doc? November 1996

Maine Department of Conservation

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# What's Up, DOC?



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Issue 11

A Newsletter for Department of Conservation Employees November 1996

## Commissioner's Column

I was in the field in September and October and was proud of the work and customer service that I saw. It also gave me a chance to see some areas where I can help bring resources to bear for seriously needed improvements. I visited Squaw Pan Unit with **Del Ramey**, Deboullie with **Vern Labbe**; Churchill Dam with **Russell Mount**; the Ranger Academy at Bigelow with **Leslie Wiles** and crew; fire fighter muster at Bolton Hill to send crews to western fire situations; Aroostook State Park with **Frank Appleby**; Sebec boat landing, and a brief visit to see the Old Town hangar and maintenance facilities with **John Knight**.

Finally, I toured the three phases of work planned for this year at Fort Knox with **Shelia McDonald** and **Mike Wilusz**. You should see what a fantastic job has been done! The work of DOC staff and volunteers is incredible. We have turned the corner on restoring the fort and we can all be proud. The Fort Knox roof is an excellent example of the Loon Plate at work, and the next phases will begin next year with bond money.

What a Department we are! Diverse, exciting and really full of pride and professional accomplishment. I saw our people creatively figuring ways to do better with less. I'm convinced 1996 is actually going to be a year of great accomplishment when we tally the numbers.

I believe value is added to the Department of Conservation's operations and services when we individually and collectively work to accomplish the following:

- \* Measurably improve our financial performance;
- \* Upgrade our employee development programs to enable every individual to

(continued on page 2)

## The Votes Are In On Questions 2 and 4.

This November Maine citizens directly impacted the future of our department when they cast their votes on Questions 2 and 4. These two questions will vastly affect our day-to-day operations here at Conservation.

Easily the most widely covered and complex issue facing voters, Question 2 asked voters to address the management future of Maine's forests. According to the November 7 edition of the *Portland Press Herald*, the tally was: 2A - 29%; 2B - 47%; and 2C- 23%. The Compact for Maine's Forests will go back to voters in the next general election because it was shy of its 50% goal, and we are not sure when the election will occur. There is a slim possibility that the Legislature will hold a special election; however, in all likelihood, the vote will take place next November.

In the meantime, the Forest Practices Act remains law. Chuck Gadzik and MFS division directors will meet to analyze the current situation at the bureau. "I want to thank everyone who has contributed and remain patient during this turbulent, and busy time," commented Chuck. "Jim Blanck and Don Mansius deserve special recognition for their support, experience and guidance."

What started out last February with a few speaking engagements ended in a hectic crescendo of debates, interviews and public hearings. Chuck deserves our recognition for running the marathon of his professional life!

The second issue facing DOC concerned park repairs: 59% of Maine voters supported Ballot Question 4 which asked voters to support a \$3 million bond to fund repairs at state parks and historic sites. "I am thrilled Question 4 passed!" remarked an elated Herb Hartman. "This signals a vote of confidence in the park system and a vote for tourism by the people of Maine." Instrumental in the passing of 4 was a coordinated educational and promotional effort made by Dave Hubley of the Allagash Alliance, George MacLeod of Friends of Fort Knox, Kim Wallace from Alpha One and Scott Tompkins of Associated Constructors of Maine.

The bond is divided three ways: Churchill Dam receives \$1.4 million of the bond funds. The Bureau of Parks and Lands, working in coordination with a consulting firm, will design, create specifications, and apply for permits to replace the dam; Fort Knox's first phase of construction was completed this fall, and it receives \$1 million of bond funds. These funds will help complete roof restoration and masonry work. The remaining \$600,000 funds construction work to provide access to state parks for people with disabilities.

An omnibus poll conducted in September indicated less than 43% of those questioned supported Ballot Question 4, while the other three bonds enjoyed over 50% voter support. Due to the effective, collaborative efforts of those involved, the bond passed. Congratulations!



play a meaningful role in our operations;

- \* Sharpen our customer focus by becoming an easier agency with which people do business;

- \* Achieve operational excellence by learning from each other even more effectively than we are doing now; and,

- \* Realize more benefits from teaming.

One other topic that I believe deserves unlimited attention is safety. Nothing we do as a organization is more important. Our tolerance for accidents must be zero, and we are required, as employees of the Department of Conservation, to do everything humanly possible to promote and maintain an absolutely safe workplace. There can be no compromise of this responsibility. The consequences can be extremely severe for you and your families when serious and tragic accidents occur.

Let us redouble our efforts and today commit to conclude this year on the strongest possible note. Only by learning from and working with one another can we achieve the highest possible performance in each area of our Department.

With your help we will accomplish the mission we have all set for the Department of Conservation, to benefit the citizens, landowners, and users of the State's natural resources by promoting and performing stewardship and ensuring responsible balanced use of Maine's land, forest, water, and mineral resources. The greatness of our accomplishment will be evident, not just within our state, but when measured against conservation or natural resource agencies throughout the nation.

I'd like to close with this thought from George Allen: Every morning in Africa, a gazelle wakes up. It knows it must run faster than the fastest lion or it will be killed.

Every morning a lion wakes up. It knows that it must outrun the slowest gazelle or it will starve to death.

So, it doesn't matter whether you are a lion or gazelle-- when the sun comes up -- you'd better be running.

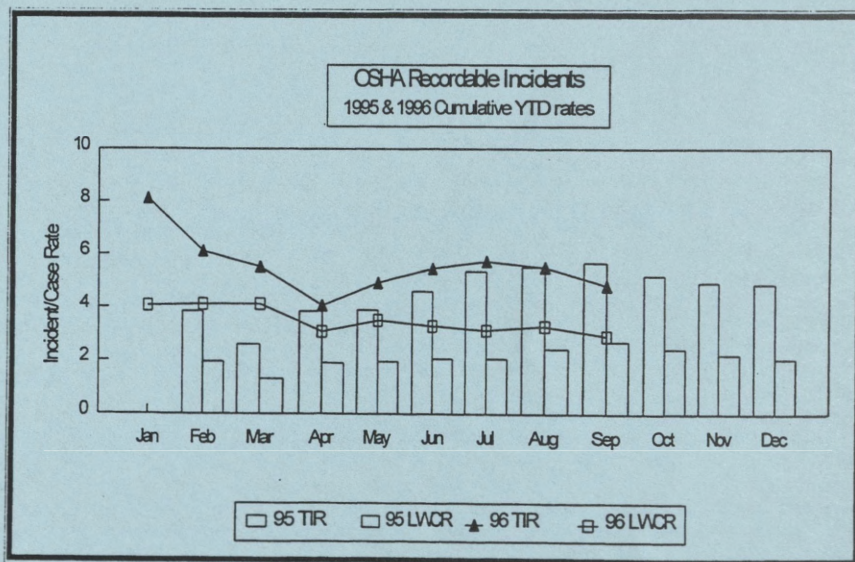
Regards,

*Ron*

## DOC UPDATES AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLAN

As part of a statewide initiative, DOC has updated and published our new Affirmative Action Plan, reaffirming the DOC commitment to Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action. The plan assigns responsibility to managers and supervisory personnel to be aware of and respond to potential discriminatory situations. The plan also reaffirms the right of all personnel to work in an environment that is free of intimidation and harassment regardless of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, physical or mental handicap.

The plan is available for your review from your bureau director, Ship Bright at 7.4904, or Deb Phillips at 7.4925.



## September Safety Report

- Deb Phillips

The Safety Report for September was a very good month for the Department, with no OSHA recordable injuries! A comparison to records for the same month indicates a reduction in TIR from 5.7 to 4.8. The LWCR last year was 2.7 compared to 2.9 for September of this year.





# TANGLEWOOD

4-H Camp and Learning Center

A Project of the Knox-Lincoln Extension Association and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension

October 12, 1996

Dear Mr. Struble,

Tanglewood 4-H camp and learning center completed their second weeklong science camp for girls in late August. Sixty girls from around the state participated. The teaching staff consisted of four residential teachers and two visiting scientists each day. We had a total of 10 women in the sciences that volunteered a day to work with a small group of girls. Each visiting scientist prepared a full day of hands-on activities that gave the girls real experiences in the visiting scientists' field.

The visiting scientists provided a very unique opportunity for the girls and this aspect of camp was a huge success. Based on evaluations from campers they were impressed and enlightened by there exposure to the visiting women.

I write this letter to you to let you know what a wonderful job Charlene Donahue did as one of our visiting scientists. She prepared some wonderful activities and field experiences that gave the girls a hands-on/ minds-on experience in entomology. The kids had only good things to say about their time spent with Charlene. She was a wonderful role model for our campers and a natural teacher.

We thank Charlene for giving her time to prepare and participate in our science camp. She's wonderful! We thank you for giving her the time to participate. I hope we can call on your office again.

Sincerely,

*Margo Murphy*

Margo Murphy, Girls Science Camp CO-Coordinator



ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE  
284 STATE STREET  
41 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0041

RAY B. OWEN, JR.  
COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Ron Lovaglio  
Dept. Of Conservation  
22 State House Station  
Harlow Building  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Ron,

The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Maine Conservation School would like to thank you for your supporting Maines' first *Becoming an Outdoors-Woman* program.

Your donations of a tote bag, coffee mugs, shirt, and brochures, which were used for a raffle items and door prizes, were greatly appreciated and helped to ensure a successful program in both 1996 and in future years. All proceeds received are to be reinvested back into the program. The variety of donations that we received helped to maintain enthusiasm as we weathered non-stop rain all weekend!

The *Becoming an Outdoors-Woman* program is a self supporting program and uses no tax dollars. The generosity from people such as yourself is important to both the success and the continuation of the program. Participants were so excited after this years program, that I plan to have two programs in 1997!

Thanks again for your help and support of the *Becoming an Outdoors-Woman* program!

Sincerely,

*Marilyn Tourtelotte*

Marilyn Tourtelotte  
BOW Program Coordinator  
Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

KUDOS!

Hon. Ronald B. Lovaglio  
Commissioner of Conservation  
Department of Conservation  
22 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0022

Dear Commissioner Lovaglio:

Over the years a very dear Dutch friend of our family, Ineke Quené, has visited with us at our place in Popham, most recently this past spring. Last year she, my wife and I bushwhacked around Campbell Island near the mouth of the Morse River in Popham. Ms. Quené, who is a professional botanist, made an inventory of plant life she observed at the time. She asked that we send it to you so that you may add it to the Department's file on the island's natural resources. The inventory is enclosed.

At the time, we were all concerned about the fate of the island which was then on the market for sale. That is the reason for Ms. Quené's notes on the bottom of side "2." She was delighted to learn that Maine now owns the island and will protect it from exploitation. It is, as I am sure you know, an unblemished portion of the beautiful coast and we are fortunate to have it so near our place and in such good hands.

On a related subject, may I note our family's and friends' appreciation of the splendid service the entire staff at Popham Beach State Park consistently performs on behalf of the public. For many years we have enjoyed the results of their highly professional, courteous and friendly stewardship of that beautiful park, and we are grateful for it.

With best wishes and appreciation for the excellent, important work of your Department, I am,

Sincerely yours,  
*Seymour I. Toll*

STT/db  
cc: Mr. Ineke Quené Boterenbrood  
2293 HE Vooracholen  
NETHERLANDS

LAW OFFICES  
TOLL, EBBY, LANGER & MARVIN  
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PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

12 September 1996

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SEP 16 1996  
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION



## Conservation Leads the Way! Procurement Card Pilot Program Update

It's light as a feather and makes vendors very happy. One hundred and nine employees from the Snowmobile Division to LURC have one and since it's introduction last December, it's making mince meat out of paperwork, reducing paperwork anywhere from 50-75%. DOC has the highest number of cards in use in state government and Barbara Kimball has great things to say about the Procurement card!

"Originally 80 cards were issued when we launched the pilot program in 1995 and once people found out how easy they were to use, our requests shot up to 109," remarked Barbara. "Vendors like the procurement card because they receive a consolidated bill. A.C.E. employees like the card because monthly invoice averages are reduced anywhere from 250 individual checks to one consolidated check cut to the bank!"

Call it Cyberspace checking! Barbara accesses our DOC purchase records that are sent from First Chicago to DAFS daily through the Internet. With the click of the mouse button, she downloads the information and her software transfers the encrypted files into daily totals. "The top three items employees purchase with the Procurement Card are office supplies, auto parts and building supplies," commented Barbara.

December marks the pilot program's first anniversary and according to Barbara, the state will look to seal a full fledged contract with a bank. Maine banks were contacted during the pilot stage, but none were capable of handling the volume, confidentiality and magnitude of the program.

It was the talk at October's Ranger Academy meeting according to Frances Gutherie of the Old Town office. "Jill French, Lisa Sirois and I were just talking about how that card makes our lives much easier. I can do the paperwork in one day and pay bills much quicker," said Frances. "There's no lapse in vendor payments and I don't have the vendor calls I use to get."

If anyone is interested in applying for a procurement card, see your supervisor for information.



"Department of Conservation employees are answering the call to help area charities in record numbers!" reports MSECCA Campaign Coordinator Gale Ross. To date, \$5,641 has been raised, exceeding DOC's \$5,500 target. With three weeks left in the campaign, contributions will add to the statewide goal of \$250,000.

Prize winners of the November 18 drawing include:

- ☺ Cindy Bertocci, Maine State Lottery T-shirt
- ☺ Sue Daniel, 5-day parking pass in the commissioner's space
- ☺ Tom Driscoll, Portland Pirates tickets
- ☺ Chester Gage, Maine State Lottery T-shirt
- ☺ Will Harris, \$5.00 gift certificate to Burnsies Sandwich Shop
- ☺ Peter Lammert, Portland SeaDogs tickets

DOC donated 1997 Season Park Passes to state agencies for their door prizes, and a statewide drawing for six people to have lunch with the Governor will be held mid-November. Gale is happy to add that contributions continue to roll in and the 1997 MSECCA Campaign officially ends November 22. Contact Gale for more information.

### Farewell, Dave Stewart

Dave Stewart started working for Insect and Disease Control when Harry S. Truman was president! Dave has been the backbone of the White Pine Blister Rust Program, responsible for millions of acres of pine, contributing to the Spruce Budworm project, and serving as a resource for the public and fellow state agency employees. Town officials, his clientele and co-workers will miss Dave and wish him well in retirement!



# Society of American Foresters

The SAF's site on the World Wide Web made it's debut at the 1996 convention: <http://www.safnet.org>

- 1996 Convention Update Provided by Commissioner Lovaglio

At the close of registration on Sunday, November 10, more than 1850 natural resource professionals joined the Society of American Foresters (SAF) National Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This is the second largest attendance since Spokane, Washington in 1989. Last year's convention in our own Portland, Maine, is now the third largest attendance. We were number two until today.

New Mexico has done a great job welcoming the SAF. The convention kicked off with Acoma Indian Dancers and a color guard from the Buffalo Soldiers Society of New Mexico, a group that honors African American soldiers that served in the Civil War. The SAF was joined by the Society of Mexican Professional Foresters and an eight-piece mariachi band.

The opening ceremonies highlight the theme of diversity in forests, people, and opportunities that is embodied in the history of the Southwest and the future for resource management professionals. John Sawhill, president and chief executive of The Nature Conservancy, delivered a comprehensive keynote address that stressed the need for the forestry profession to work in partnerships with other stakeholders. Sawhill challenged foresters to think beyond sustainable forestry. The operative word, according to Sawhill, is "compatible" forestry. He called sustainability a "slippery slope that I will not traverse." Compatible forestry, for Sawhill, is balancing the need to generate revenue without compromising our "innate conservation instinct."

The SAF also bid farewell to retiring USFS Chief Jack Ward Thomas. Thomas spoke about the difficulty of a natural resource agency trying to fulfill its mission with all the special interest groups, congress and the courts second guessing it. He said the result is organizational paralysis in an organization that is well known for its ability to get from point A to point B - as long as it knew where point B was.

University of Colorado historian Patricia Limerick illustrated Thomas's thesis and our changing perspectives by playing a game, "Astonish the Immigrant." She asked what would most amaze a 19th century pioneer. It would not be airplanes,

*(continued on back)*



faxes or TV's because they imagined time machines of sorts, but natural resource court cases where the trees, wolves and owls have real attorneys representing them in real court cases.

Limerick offered consolation for natural resource professionals that work at the disorienting intersection of old paradigms of mastery of nature and the new realities of collaborative management--"when shifting paradigms--remember to put in the clutch."

The convention theme of diversity found expressions in Sunday's session. Moderator Denise Meredith, of the BLM, recalled old agency maps that marked the Southwest as "vacant Land" and through song, story, and slides, USFS interpreter Rita Cantu presented the natural and cultural diversity of the Southwest. Her final song gave voice to "compatible" forest management--"to put back what we take for our grandchildren's sake." The song and stories of Cantu and Limerick were a very special, emotional, and unusual session. Cantu received a standing ovation and Limerick was called back for an unheard of encore as a speaker.

The Women in Natural Resources breakfast drew more than 80 women. The breakfast is a place to celebrate and focus on the increasing visibility of women in the profession but the participants also emphasized the importance of providing a place where all feel welcome.

I am attending several technical sessions and field trips, and one particularly interests me: Private forest management on a volcanic mountain. I'll keep you posted!

Regards,

Ron

Trivia:

The elevation of Albuquerque is 5,000 feet; New Mexico's highest elevation is 13,161 ft. New Mexico is 5 times the size of Maine, has about 1.3 million people and 112 state legislators. This compares to 184 legislators in Maine and about 1.25 million people.

New Mexico ranks 37th in population and Maine is 38th. The January low is 22 degrees for New Mexico and 11 degrees for Maine, but the July high is 92 in New Mexico and 79 degrees in Maine.