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# Baxter State Park Annual Operating Report For the Year 2017

To the Baxter State Park Authority

December 2018



Photo (taken from the Freezeout Trail) courtesy of BSP Volunteer Dennis Tefft



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# **DIRECTOR'S SUMMARY**

2017 was a very good year for Baxter State Park. For me, as Director, it marked the final year of my 30+ years with Baxter State Park. The Park has been, in all respects, a wonderful place to work. Serving the

People of Maine as Director of this great Park has been a privilege, and one of the highlights of my life. Working with the outstanding staff of this Park has been a pleasure and a gift - I have met so many people whom I have come to respect and admire.

As I write this, a handful of days before I retire, I know the Park will be protected into the future, due to the thoughtful genius of Percival Baxter and the remarkably durable landscape and administrative structure he left us. I look forward to continuing to enjoy the Park as a visitor for as long as I am able.

Thank you, Governor Baxter.



#### **Administration**

The Baxter State Park Authority has now remained unchanged since 2012, when Janet Mills replaced Bill Schneider as Attorney General. The stability, combined with this Authority's commitment to their responsibility as trustees, has allowed the Park to accomplish many important initiatives, including the Trautmann Trail Improvement Initiative, addressing increased AT use, adding solar power to the Togue Pond Gatehouse, establishing a replacement process for infrastructure in the Park, as well as many other actions that will benefit the Park into the future.

# **Advisory Committees**

The BSP Advisory Committee continued it's long service to Baxter State Park in 2017. There were no changes to the membership of the committee in order to allow the committee to provide continuity in the transition to a new Director in 2017. The Committee met many times during 2017, including in Park volunteering May 6 (Roadside Litter Pick-Up) and October 6 (staining the Togue Pond Ranger Camp). Meeting agendas and minutes are, of course, available for viewing on the Park website. This committee provides a great service to the Park in providing active and honest feedback from the perspective of Park visitors on developing Park policies and programs.

The BSP Research Committee assists the Park in reviewing and consideration the potential benefits and impacts of proposed research in the Park, met on May 9 in Augusta. The Park had a fairly high number of research proposals to be considered and the experience of the committee was extremely helpful working with the researchers to clarify the input and outcomes of the projects and weight the appropriateness and benefits to Baxter State Park. This year, the meeting was led by acting Park Naturalist Steve Dunham. Following the meeting, number of research projects were conducted successfully in the Park this year, all administered successfully by Steve Dunham.

The BSP Investment Committee continued it's critical function of providing an expert liaison between the Baxter State Park Authority and the managers of the Baxter Endowment, Bank of New York - Mellon. The committee, led most capably by Brian Noyes, changed membership slightly in 2017. Chris Nelson departed the committee due to time constraints after many years of outstanding service. His chair was filled by Scott Kenney.

The Scientific Forest Management Area Advisory Committee also continued to provide excellent advice and guidance in the complex task of conducting exemplary long-term forest management in the SFMA. Resource Manager Eben Sypitkowski has assembled a premier group of advisors and experts to

assist him. See the Resource Manager's section for a complete report, but I did attend the fall field tour spending the day in the south end of the SFMA and taking some time to recognize the efforts of SFMA Committee member Gordon Mott before touring some stands to discuss present concerns and future management of this important part of the Park.

I have been fortunate over the years to meet and come to know many outstanding Maine people who have agreed to serve on the Park Advisory Committees. Committee members volunteer their time to consider Park issues and offer their advice, counsel and guidance as the Director and senior team work to develop policies and programs for consideration by the Baxter State Park Authority. Committee members range from long-time Park visitors to experts in a specific field of natural resource management, and sometimes, both. The willingness of committee members to provide their time and thought on behalf of Baxter Park will always be an inspiration to me and a reflection on the quality of Maine people.

# **Trail Guide Revision**

After an almost year long delay, we re-focused our attention on completing the 8th edition of *Katahdin, A Guide to Baxter State Park.* This important 2-part volume provides information on the history and current policies and facts pertinent to visiting and staying in the Park coupled with a complete guide to the Park's hiking trails. The unexpected departure of Jean Hoekwater due to an injury in early 2016 delayed our work on this. In 2017, we determined to forge on without Jean and complete the work. The 8th edition was distributed for sale in the fall. At our current rate of trail change, we will likely need a 9th edition in another 5 years.

# **AT Management**

Our efforts to address the difference in use models (limited use on Katahdin for BSP, unlimited use model on the AT for the ATC) between Baxter State Park and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy continued in 2017. After efforts to for a joint solution proved fruitless, the Baxter State Park Authority approved a Hiker Permit System for AT Hikers hiking the northernmost 5 miles of the Hunt Trail (AT) from Katahdin Stream Campground to Baxter Peak.

The Hiker Permit system requires AT Hikers to acquire a Permit Card prior to completing the hike. Permit Cards are free. The Permit Card system was introduced in 2016 and the number of permit cards available was unlimited. In 2017, after a careful examination of the 25 year trends in AT hiker use in the Park, a limit of 3,150 was set on the number of cards available. The requirement was also codified within the Park Rules and Regulations. When/if the number of permit cards was exhausted, the Long-Distance Hiker Shelter would close, as well as all AT Hiker registration and assistance activities at Katahdin Stream Campground. AT Hikers would still be able to complete their hike, but access to the Hunt Trail trailhead at Katahdin Stream would fall under the same limited use policies and procedures that all other resident and non-resident day visitors and campers were complying with.

In 2017, slightly over 3,000 AT Hiker Permit Cards were issued. This number did not breach the established threshold of 3,150 cards, but this limit will likely be reached in 2018 or 2019.

As with any change, this created some tension within the AT community. As the season wore on and the information became more widely disseminated and understood, the tension lessened. The effective and positive communication and cooperation of the ATC's Monson Visitor Center was an important component in the communication effort.

The work accomplished by the Park in recent years to engage the ATC in open and earnest conversation about the concerns of our different use models has been effective. Progress has been largely due to the sincere efforts of the regional NE ATC leadership. The work of the Friends of Baxter Park to organize a more continuing group discussion about AT issues in and near the Park, and to provide funding and effort toward effective outreach has also been very helpful. It is important that the Park continue the current issue into the future. If the AT Hiker Permit system is maintained and defended for 5 years, it will emerge as the defacto process in AT hiker management in the Park and may assist the ATC with overuse issues south of the Park.

# **Information Technology Changes**

We continued to work with Starfruit Solutions in 2017, completing some early phases of our IT structure changes, particularly in most Park work to the Google cloud platform and easing the pressure on our server system at the Park. Next steps include gaining Park controlled access to the internet to allow the Park to conduct most IT functions independently of other State Agencies. IT is a part of our personal and working lives and is constantly changing. It requires careful and knowledgeable consideration.

## Safety

At my request, the Park invited SafetyWorks to conduct a Park inspection to evaluate safety conditions in the Park. Chief Ranger Stewart Guay was assigned the project and accompanied SafetyWorks inspector Rich Wark through the Park in late September. The visit produced a number of issues, primarily centered around record keeping and training lapses. At years' end the Maintenance and Operations leaders were working hard with SafetyWorks to address the issues in a timely, reasonable and effective manner.

## **Operations**

Trail Relocations - Hiking Trail maintenance is one of the most important activities the Park engages in. Hiking trails are the heart of the Park and provide the backbone of visitor experience in the Park. The Baxter Park Wilderness Fund, established by Frank Trautmann, now provides enough additional perpetual income to the Park that we could establish the Trautmann Trail Improvement Initiative. This initiative has organized Park trail maintenance planning that includes a continuous plan for the relocation of heavily eroded and difficult to maintain trail sections. Often, but not always, these sections are fall line trails on steep slopes or long trail sections through boggy areas that require extensive bog bridging. The relocation of these trails to more manageable slope designs and higher and drier areas will reduce maintenance and improve the experience of hikers for generations.

Work proceeded in 2017 on relocation work on the Hunt Trail above and below Oh Joy Brook. The work was completed by a combination of MATC crews and MCC crews. The work below Oh Joy Brook is now nearing completion and the work above Oh Joy Brook is well underway and will likely need two more seasons to complete.

Relocation work also progressed on the Dudley re-route. This trail, closed in 2016 after an avalanche removed a portion of the trail at the junction with the Pamola Caves access trail, required a major relocation of about 1 mile in difficult terrain. Crews worked out of Chimney Pond. This effort will likely require 2 more seasons of work to complete, although it is likely the trail could be reopened in 2019.

Work was also done on the field exam and design of the North Brother relocation, which is next on the list for crew attention, likely in 2019.

Trail Specialists Theresa Therriault and Alex Bradley are to be commended for their work on active and planned relocations in the Park in 2017.

#### Infrastructure

Infrastructure work will be discussed in more detail in the Maintenance Supervisors section of this report, but major efforts included the expansion of vehicle storage space at the Park HQ Campus and the continuation of facilities improvement at Kidney Pond Campground including the completion of the Kidney Pond Ranger Camps, the removal of the "Cook Camp" and the former Kidney Pond Ranger Camp and Office and the start off construction on the new Kidney Pond Ranger Office.

In addition, significant work was completed on a comprehensive evaluation of all the rental cabins at Kidney Pond and Daicey Pond Campgrounds as part of a planning process for future work and budgeting to maintain these maintenance-heavy facilities in Baxter State Park. This work was done by the formidable team of Maintenance Supervisor Steve Bouchard and Park Ranger and Kidney Pond Supervisor David Loome.

#### Talks Etc.

Daigle - UMO - Presented as part of a series on Careers in Natural Resource Management.

Maine Woods Forever - I presented on the challenges of wilderness management in BSP.

Friends of Baxter State Park Annual Meeting - State of the Park address. I have given this presentation for each of my years as Director

BSP Evening Program - I presented my talk on fatalities in BSP.

Milo Kiwanis - Provided an update to the Kiwanis on the status of Baxter State Park Past, Present and Future

Penquis Valley High School - Responded to a request to present my talk on fatalities in BSP Restore - Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick. Provided an overview of Baxter State Park and possible future challenges.

DownEast Article - Downeast Magazine article on my career (published prior to my retirement announcement).

# **Parting Comments**

This will be my final submission to the Annual Report and to Forever Wild. By the time this issue goes to print, I will have retired after nearly 31 years of service to Baxter State Park and the People of Maine. The Authority is now busy searching for a Park Director and hopefully, they will be completing this process before the black flies get too fierce.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as Director of this Great Park and to work with such a dedicated, hard-working and caring staff. I don't have to tell the readers of Forever Wild that Maine is an

awesome State. Overwhelmingly, Maine people love and cherish their Park, and seeing and meeting so many people that have made so many cherished memories with friends and families in the Park has been one of the most rewarding elements of my career.

One of the primary reasons I have enjoyed my time at BSP so much is all the help and support I received from others over the years. There are so many people I should thank.

During my career I have worked with at least a half dozen different **Baxter State Park Authorities**. This triumvirate, created by Percival Baxter to serve as Trustees to his great Trust, have served as a sterling example of Maine's best public servants. They have addressed difficult and



L-R: Lauren Parker - Asst. AG, Jensen Bissell - Director, Janet Mills - AG, Doug Denico - Director ME Forest Service, Chandler Woodcock - Commissioner, IF&W

complex issues with deliberation, consideration and always as Trustees of the Park. Because of Percival Baxter's vision and foresight, the Authority will continue to serve this vital function in the years ahead.

The Park has been fortunate to have the guidance of four committees populated by dedicated volunteers serving the Park. For my years as Resource Manager, the **Scientific Forest Management Advisory Committee** provided steady guidance and the very best sounding board possible for a host of difficult issues. Many of these committee members became mentors for me in my forest management thinking and helped both me and the SFMA considerably. This committee continues to do this today for Eben Sypitkowski, the current Resource Manager. The **Baxter Park Research Committee** also fills a vital function in considering the wide array of research proposals that come before the Park every year. Research can be complex and logistically challenging, and some research can have impacts on the natural resources of the Park we are tasked to protect. The experience of the Research Committee has been invaluable in sorting out the "wheat from the chaff" and ensuring that research in the Park is productive, safe and respectful of Park resources.

Percival Baxter left an endowment to ensure the Park's financial independence. The importance of this independence cannot be overstated. While Baxter provided the endowment, ensuring it's care and safekeeping falls to us. The **Investment Committee** provides a critical function in assisting the Authority and the endowment manager Bank of New York - Mellon in ensuring that our grandchildren, and our grandchildren, have the same financial ability to protect and manage the Park as we do today. The Park is so fortunate to have this dedicated and very skilled group working on our behalf.

Over the years, the committee I've worked most with has been the **Baxter State Park Advisory Committee**. This committee of 15 volunteers provides experienced and varied perspectives on outdoor recreation, natural resource protection and the Park in particular. The support and advice provided by this group has improved Park policy and administration for decades. In addition to regular winter meetings, this group volunteers for projects in the Park each summer, often in combination with a hike to a mountain or pond in the Park. In addition to the advice they provide, many of the amazing people I have worked with on the Park committees have provided a living example to me on how to model a life of value.

In addition to the Park committees, the Park has benefitted for years from an active **volunteer program**. I am strengthened by the knowledge that volunteerism is still alive and well in our culture and in Maine. Some of the most impressive people I have met during my career have been skilled, hardworking and selfless volunteers who just want to brighten the corner they are in.

Baxter Park also is gifted, literally and figuratively, by the cadre of **donors** who gift to the Park each year. Most of our donors leave smaller amounts, but these really add up. Some provide significant annual donations that provide us a wider range of options in our budget and the ability to plan ahead for long term wilderness protection and management.

Lastly, I must mention the support and assistance provided by the **Friends of Baxter State Park**. The evolution of the relationship between Baxter State Park and the Friends of Baxter State Park has been a wonderful thing to be a part of. The emergence of the Friends as an important and enduring part of the Park's planning and administration bodes well for the future of the Park and the protection of the Park's wilderness and forest.

I owe so much to the Park for providing me the opportunity to meet and work with such great people. Any success I have had in my time at the Park is due, in large part, to the people I have had the privilege to know, work with, and learn from.

Thank you all so much and I hope to see you on the trail.

# **OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS & OVERVIEW**

# **Chief Ranger Overview**

Baxter State Park Operations is comprised of Maintenance Personnel, Trail Specialists, and Rangers at all capacities, as well as related contracted services. Essentially, Park Operations personnel are 47 strong during the busy summer season, and shrink to 10 in the dead of winter. This team tackles emergencies, special projects, general park and trail maintenance, public relations and safety, and provide the resources necessary to ensure the preservation and protection of Baxter State Park.

The winter of 2016-2017 saw a return to more winter-like conditions than the previous year. Rangers were able to establish and maintain snowmobile trails to haul supplies and equipment into remote locations.

# **2017 Maintenance Report**

#### **Headquarter Renovations**

The compound behind the main garage was expanded. The project began in early summer when
chainsaw training was held and rangers put their skills to the test removing trees. Contractor
Adam Qualey continued with and finished the ground work, and other contractors completed
fencing.

# Togue Pond Gate and Matagamon Gate Projects

- Matagamon gatehouse had new solar batteries installed in January
- Finishing touches were put on the Togue Pond gatehouse solar system later in the year.

# Bridge/Culvert Repairs/Replacements

- The Trout Brook Farm footbridge project saw contractors extending the steel I-beams and anchoring them to the bedrock that had been exposed by heavy equipment, followed by backfilling.
- Culvert replacement and ditching occurred at the base of Abol hill to mitigate water runoff issues.

#### Camps and other structures

- A new camp was purchased from Mini Hill Barns and set up on the north end of the SFMA.
- The aging Kidney Pond Ranger camp/office was removed and the Park Carpenter along with help from Supervisory Rangers, and the Senior Field Supervisor, constructed and closed in the shell of the new office.
- Lowes subcontractors stripped and reshingled the Trout Brook Farm CRI camp
- Contractors reshingled the Abol Field Camp
- Contractors jacked up and leveled the Trout Brook Farm pole barn
- Kidney Pond Volunteer Cabin improvements were made that included the removal of bunks and wooden lockers, interior/exterior painting/staining, the camp was jacked up and leveled, then a shower, cookstove and refrigerator were added
- Paving contractors completed additions to the driveway in the front and back of the storehouse and by the electric car charging station
- The maintenance team, and Rangers hauled new solar system batteries and panels to Chimney Pond that were installed later in the winter.
- Other solar improvements were made at Togue Ranger camp, Katahdin Stream, and Abol campgrounds

- Togue Beach, Abol and Roaring Brook campground outhouse vault covers were replaced and fitted with new composite risers moving away from the previous stainless steel risers
- Two lean-tos were removed and replaced at Katahdin Stream as part of a plan to replace the four "stick-built" smaller versions in the lower campground
- An outhouse kit was hauled to Billfish Pond campsite to replace the aging structure there
- Sill log work and new porch framing was completed on Cabin 10 at Kidney Pond, as well as at Cabins 2 and 9 at Daicey Pond campground
- Prep work was done to the North Branch camp floors and bunks prior to the trial period as a group camping site
- A new compost bin was hauled and set up at Katahdin Stream Falls
- A new bear line system was installed at Katahdin Stream campground
- College of the Atlantic volunteers stained the three main buildings at Togue Ranger Camp
- Volunteers installed solar panels, batteries, and LED lighting in the new Nesowadnehunk Field bunkhouse
- Volunteers and staff completed structural repairs to the Halfway Brook shelter on the north end of the SFMA
- New canoes were hauled into Wassataquoik Lake and Lower Fowler Ponds and damaged canoes were hauled out

#### Service areas/Gravel Screened

- Wood debris piles were burned and areas cleaned up at Nesowadnehunk, East Branch, and Rum pits in November and December
- No gravel was screened in 2017

# **Road Graveling**

• Spot graveling was done by maintenance staff in areas identified as needing attention

#### **Equipment Purchases**

- A New Holland Powerstar diesel tractor was purchased to replace the old Ford farm tractor
- New Woods Brush Hog attachment was purchased replacing the worn out brush hog
- New 900 Ski Doo snowmobile was purchased replacing the 800 models being phased out
- New 4 stroke outboard motors for the rescue boats at Kidney and Daicey Pond campgrounds

#### **Training**

Baxter State Park continues to offer a wide variety of training for all of its employees. The following list in no way reflects all of the trainings completed, nor does it imply that all staff participated in the training listed. It is a sampling of the training offered to staff who play various roles within and for the organization.

- Maine Criminal Justice Academy Phase I and II
- Mountain Weather given by Caribou National Weather Service staff
- Mental Health First Aid Training administered by NAMI ME
- Maine Forest Service Fire Truck/Tanker training
- Maine Forest Service Short Haul training
- Maine Army National Guard Blackhawk and Lakota training
- inReach Spot GPS training
- Intro to Search and Rescue training
- Maine Forest Service Forest Intro to Fire Suppression training
- MEMIC sponsored chainsaw training
- Wilderness First Responder
- Wilderness First Aid
- Wilderness Advanced First Aid
- Firearms training and qualifications with handguns and shotguns
- Crisis Intervention Team training sponsored by NAMI ME

- Power tool training
- Appalachian Trail training and visit to Monson AT Visitor Center etc..
- Reservation system training
- AED and CPR training

#### **Search and Rescue**

2017 saw a lower total number of search and rescue missions than the previous year, but a dramatic increase in fatalities; four during 2017. These were the first since 2007. There were only two air supported missions. One was a short haul off the Abol trail (broken ankle), and the other was a recovery mission also completed by Maine Forest Service.

Two BSP Rangers assisted various other agencies and volunteers with the search of a third grade student who wandered off into the woods near Katahdin Elementary School in Stacyville . This successful mission occurred on the cold night of March 10th.

Date	Age	Gender	Location	Event	Air Evac/Type
			Abol Trail (near Abol		, , , , ,
2/5/2017	57	M	Pond)	Unattended Fatality	No
2/17/2017	50+	M	Daicey Pond	Possible kidney stones	No
2/18/2017	68	М	Abol Slide, above treeline	Fall off slide, icy, Fatality	No
2/23/2017	31	F	Hamlin Ridge	Puncture, upper, inside calf muscle.	No
3/14/2017	25	M	Entrance to Bear Line	Stick in eye	
3/18/2017	25	M	Hamlin Ridge	Right Knee Injury	No
5/17/17	25	M	Nesowadnehunk Stream	caught in hydraulic gap, Drowning/Fatality	No
5/18/17	61	M	Daicey Pond	Fish hook stuck in left hand-middle finger	No
6/5/2017			Katahdin Stream	Car Breakdown, pp required blankets, wrecker retrieved car	No
6/8/2017	34	M	Abol Trail	Lost, tired and thirsty when found	No
6/12/2017	?	M&F	Abol Slide	Got off trail and ended up on Abol Slide, cramping, fatigue	No
6/12/2017	29	M	Daicey Pond	Late stages heat exhaustion/dehydration	No
6/20/2017	18	F	Chimney Pond Campground	Mild to severe dehydration and fatigue	No
6/23/2017	36	М	Hunt Trail	Late on Hunt Trail,	No
6/25/2017	14	F	Hunt Trail	Fell, scraped hand on rocks	No
6/26/2017	42	F	Abol Trail	Exhaustion	No
6/30/2017	21	M	Chimney Pd campground	Vomiting, dehydration, headache, fever	No
7/7/2017	55	M	Saddle Trail/CP Campground	Exhausted, cold, wet, overextended on trail	No
7/12/2017	?	F	South Br. Pd LT4	Burn injury (hot water)	No
7/15/2017	?	F	Chimney Pond Campground	Fatigue, wrist injury	No

70/23/2017	52	F	Roaring Brook/Abol trails	Confused, went down wrong trail	oN
10/14/2017	09	M	Chimney Pond	Exhaustion	oN
10/13/2017	70	Ь	Saddle Trail	Dehydration, Fatigue	οN
10/4/5017	89	M	Hunt Trail, 100 yds down Summit	Broken finger	oN
10/3/5017	99	M	Chimney Pond Campground	Muscle fatigue, dehydration	οN
ZT0Z/T/0T	30	Ь	Bottom of Saddle Slide	Knee, wrist and head injury	oN
4/107/61/6	6T	M	DD 97\equiv Ridge	Dehydration	oN
7102/81/6	۷Þ	M	Knife Edge	Leg pain, shortness of breath	oN
4/10/501/	23	Ь	lis1T lodA	Knee Injury	oN
4/6/5012	SS	M	lis1T lodA	Slipped, foot injury	Yes, MFS Heli
ZT0Z/8/6	05	M	Katahdin/Hunt Trail	Sore Abdomen	oN
2T0Z/t/6	97	Ь	Saddle Slide - CP	Left wrist injury from fall	oN
2\707/7/6	6T	F	Saddle Trail	Stomach pain and vomiting	oN
/1/3517	خ	M	Trout Brook Farm	Injured foot with axe	oN
8/30/2017	75	M	Helon Taylor Trail	911 call - no flashlight, needed help	oN
8/30/2017	Ė	F	Nesowadnehunk Group Area 2	Vomiting blood (ulcer)	οN
2\707/87/8	7.5	M	slis1T lodA\funH	Late Party	oN
2\707/97/8	خ	Ь	Hamlin Ridge Trail	Sprained/Fractured Ankle	oN
2107/17/8	14	Ь	Chimney Pond Campground	Bee Sting	oN
2,102/81/8	0۷	M	Hunt Trail/KSC	Нуроthermia	oN
ZT0Z/8T/8	τ9	Ь	CP Campground	Rolled ankle while departing	oN
ZT0Z/9T/8	خ	M	Chimney Pond & Saddle Trail	Possible strain of hamstring ligament	oN
ZT0Z/bT/8	32	M	Katahdin Stream Parking Lot	Severe Abdominal pain lower right quad. after 13 hours on Mtn	οN
2,702/8/8	75	F	Chimney Pond Trail	hypothermic, unable to walk	oN
ZT0Z/L/8	02	F	Upper Abol Trail	fell - scraped arm and slight budd on head	oN
۷۲0۲/9/8	خ	M	Saddle Trail	Left ankle Injury	oN
ZT0Z/S/8	Kids ages 6 & 7	M-2, F-2	Descending Abol	Be-nighted on Mountain with two small children	οN
8/3/2017	τ9	M	Knife Edge /Saddle/Chimney	Be-nighted on mountain in Saddle Col.	oN
7/30/2017	09	M	Chimney Pond Trail	Found unresponsive - Fatality	Yes,MFS Heli
ZT0Z/ZZ/Z	73	F	Chimney Pond Trail	Vomiting, tired	oN
7/31/2017	35 &	M&F	Chimney Pond Trail	1507	oN
7/22/2017	77	M	Rocky Pond Trail	Bee sting	oN

# **Law Enforcement**

There were 27 law enforcement cases in 2017 as compared to 24 cases in 2016.

Law enforcement staff participated in the annual mandatory trainings as well as elective training. Staff represented BSP at the Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony in Augusta. Active and retired staff joined members of the Heath family to honor Ralph and his supreme sacrifice in attempting to save the life of another at the Ralph Heath Memorial Service at the cemetery in Sherman Mills.

	AC COURT CAS	ES		
DATE	CASE#	NAME	VIOLATION	DESCRIPTION
1/14/2017	2017-59-01	William Thayer	BSP Rule 4.1	Domestic Animal in Park
1/10/2017	2017-58-001	Guillaume Belanger	Separate Statute T2 R10	Operating Veh. on Snowmobile Trail
03/15/2017	2017-59-02	Ethan Czarnecki	BSP Rule 5.8	Operating snowmobile, unauthorized area
5/24/2017	2017-58-002	Thomas Hayden	BSP Rule 2.2	Hiking a closed trail
5/24/2017	2017-58-003	Monica Colman	BSP Rule 2.2	Hiking a closed trail
5/29/2017	2017-53-01	Brenton Lammers	Title 12 S 12501(1)	Fishing without a valid license.
6/11/2017	2017-53-02	Mackenzie Rae Peters	BSP Rule 1.2	Camping without a reservation
6/11/2017	2017-58-005	Anthony Thiffeault	BSP Rule 5.6	UAV on Trail
6/11/2017	2017-58-006	Adam Seamans	Title 29A, S 2412-A	Operating after suspension
6/11/2017	2017-58-007	Adam Seamans	Title 29A, S 351	Operating unregistered motor vehicle
7/1/2017	2017-56-02	John Butler & Brady Stebbins	BSP 2.2	Hiking a closed trail
7/3/2017	2017-58-008	Carl Miller	BSP Rule 4.1	No pets (dog)
8/5/2017	2017-58-009	Mitchell Raubeson	BSP Rule 4.1	No pets (cat)
9/2/2017	2017-56-7	Nyle Sockbeson	BSP Rule 5.3	Imp. Parking Motor Vehicle
9/2/2017	2017-58-013	Olivier LeMay	BSP Rule 2.2	Hiking a closed trail
9/16/2017	2017-58-014	John Coady	BSP Rule 2.2	No child under 6 allowed above treeline
9/25/2017	2017-58-015	Katherine Locke	BSP Rule 2.2	No Child under 6 allowed above treeline
9/28/2017	2017-58-016	Daniel White	Title 12, Section 12501	Fishing without a valid license.
9/30/2017	2017-56-9	Gilbert,Ireland, Perry (3)	BSP Rule 1.3	Failure to register upon entering Park
10/1/2017	2017-59-04	Ames Diehl/Chris Kenney	BSP Rule 1.2	Camping in authorized sites only
10/5/2017	2017-57-04	Guillaume Deramel & Alexander Poules	BSP Rule 1.2 &	Camping in authorized sites only

10/5/2017	2017-57-04	Guillame Deramel	BSP Rule 4.3	Fire by permit only
10/22/2017	2017-56-10	Nelson Acevedo	BSP Rule 5.6	Using Unmanned Aerial Veh
12/15/2017	2017-57-06	Marden Cooper	Title 12, Section 903	Operating Snowmobile on closed trail
12/21/2017	?	Fulron? Bourque	Title 12, Section 903	Illegal Camping
12/21/2017	?	Patrick Guimond	Title 12, Section 903	Illegal Camping
12/21/2017	?	Jeremie Richard	Title 12, Section 903	Illegal Camping
12/21/2017	?	Christian Guimond	Title 12, Section 903	Illegal Camping

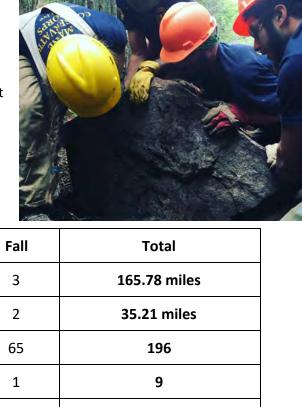
#### **2017 Trail Maintenance**

With 72 weeks of contracted Maine Conservation Crew trail crews, over 1200 trail volunteer hours, and contributions of work from the Baxter State Park Youth Crew and the Maine Appalachian Trail Crew, the 2017 trail maintenance season was very productive.

#### **Trail Crews**

Baxter State Park contracted team leaders and seven crews from the Maine Conservation Corps, for a total of seventy-two weeks of trail work in 2017. The summer projects consisted of the Dudley, Abol and Hunt relocations, as well as parkwide blowdown patrols. Beginning in the summer and going on through much of the fall was the replacement of the Katahdin Stream West Branch Bridge (more on that below). The fall season also consisted of continued work on the Dudley and Hunt relocations, as well as some general south end trail maintenance: bog bridging, step stone installation, etc. The chart below breaks down the work completed by the Maine Conservation Corps teams in 2017:

Task



162.78	3	165.78 miles
33.21	2	35.21 miles
131	65	196
8	1	9
167	2	169
4		4
	6	6
9	1	10
60	8	68 feet
10		10 miles
	33.21 131 8 167 4 9	33.21 2 131 65 8 1 167 2 4 6 9 1 60 8

Summer

Cairns Constructed/Rehabilitated	86		86
Sidehilling (feet)	215	150	350 feet
Naturalization (sq. feet)		250	250 sq. feet
Retaining Wall Constructed	2	6	8
Riprap/Armoring Structure	13	3	16
Turnpike	2	2	4
New Trail Cleared (miles)	.5		.5 miles
New Sign Installed (#)	1		1
New Signpost Installed (#)	1		1
Trail Resurfacing (miles)		.5	.5 miles
Timber Bridge		1	1

2017 marked the first year of the **Baxter State Park Youth Crew!** This program is sponsored by the Friends of Baxter State Park, and provides a job training and service learning opportunity for high school students who reside in the Katahdin Region. These students work with adult leaders on trail projects in Baxter State Park, earning an hourly wage. High Schoolers enrolled in one of the following schools are eligible for the Youth Crew experience: Stearns High School, Schenck High School, Katahdin High School, Southern Aroostook High School, and Mattanawcook Academy. Homeschool students who reside in any of those districts are eligible as well.

The 2017 Youth Crew spent two weeks working on the Katahdin Lake area trails, focusing specifically on corridor definition, trail blazing, and installation of stepping stones. The group also had an orientation program with BSP Trails staff, a presentation from Park ranger staff, and ended the week with a group hike in the Park. The first year of the

program was a great success, and we are looking forward to the addition of a North End crew in 2018!

This summer was the tenth year that the **Maine Trail Crew (MTC)** partnered with Baxter State Park to improve the Hunt Trail. This year, the group spent 665 hours working on the construction of several stone staircases (sixty-two steps total) on the lower section of the relocation. They also stabilized three root headwalls on the first mile of the trail, between Katahdin Stream Campground and Katahdin Stream Falls.

#### Relocation Efforts

Approximately eight tenths of a mile of the **Hunt Trail** is currently being relocated, due to major erosion and trenching issues in the current trail location. The Hunt Trail section relocation was brushed out in the fall of 2016. This summer and fall, two MCC teams and the Maine Appalachian Trail Crew contributed to rockwork



projects on the relocation. Stabilization and water delineation work on this trail will continue through 2018.









In early Spring 2016, a rock and debris slide caused a section of the **Dudley Trail** (above Pamola Caves) to be obliterated. The Dudley Trail was closed indefinitely, and Park staff collaborated to assess the damage and plan for a section relocation to bypass the damaged area of trail. In the Fall, the Maine Conservation Corps brushed out the new section. Trail crews completed many rock work stabilization projects in the summer and fall 2017 seasons, and work will continue through 2018. Much like the Abol relocation, this unavoidably quite steep ascent route requires many structures to hold the fragile soils, move water from the trail, and protect the integrity of the treadway for years to come.

After the slide in 2013, the Abol Trail stabilization efforts continued into 2016, with the relocation route opening to the public on July 1, 2016. The slide movement had resulted in many unstable rocks in and along the trail corridor. Remaining necessary stone structures were constructed during the summer of 2017, and the trail will periodically and continually be maintained with installation of additional staircases and waterbars as the trail wears over time. Many hikers have expressed how much they enjoy the new Abol Trail route.

#### Volunteers

This year, a new Adopt-A-Trail program was implemented at Baxter State Park. This allowed for dedicated Park volunteers to select a trail of their choice, and commit to maintaining the trail three separate times each year, with a commitment of two years. This program allows seasoned visitors the chance to establish some ownership of the maintenance of one of their favorite trails in the Park. All adopters had to attend a mandatory training day which took place on June 3, National Trails Day. This workshop focused on bog

bridging, corridor, and blazing maintenance.





Adopters worked on their trails throughout the season, reporting back on any trail issues, repairing cairns, maintaining corridor and blazing, as well as cleaning out waterbars. In 2017, ten trails were adopted, thirteen people participated in the program, and trail adoption selections ranged throughout the entire Park. Collectively, the trail adopters contributed over 300 hours of maintenance to Baxter State Park trails this season! This program is currently open to additional adopters in 2018. The following is a list of trails adopted in 2017:



South Turner Mountain Trail Marston Trail Mount OJI Trail Owl Trail Traveler Trail Burnt Mountain Trail Wassataquoik Lake Trail Katahdin Lake Trail Hamlin Ridge Trail Abol Trail



Seventh through ninth graders from **Overland Summers**, a summer camp based in Williamstown, Massachusetts, spent nine days over three trips in July working on the Abol Relocation with an MCC team. They hiked up to the

work site each day, camped at Abol Narrows, and collectively spent 432 hours working on the trail. They helped with quarrying for rock, moving rocks to the trail for construction of staircases, and maintaining tools.

Several members of the **Appalachian Mountain Club** made their annual volunteer trip to Baxter State Park in August. They spent 4 days cleaning and installing waterbars on the South Turner Mountain Trail, and they also completed a staircase. All together, the AMC volunteers spent 136 hours volunteering in the Park this year!

The Maine Appalachian Trail Club Maintainers spent a weekend in May working on the Appalachian Trail within BSP. They had a group of seventeen and camped at Katahdin Stream Campground. They removed blowdowns, cleaned waterbars, opened up the trail corridor, and repainted blazes. Several of these maintainers made other trips back to BSP throughout the summer and fall, focusing on bog bridging replacement, blowdown removal, and completion of trail blazing.

**Unity College** had two trips of volunteers come up to work in the North End of the Park. As part of their NOVA experience, all incoming students are required to participate in a trip. This group of eighteen spent 246 hours working on the Five Ponds Trail, installing stepping stones through a boggy area.

# Katahdin Stream West Branch Bridge Replacement

The Katahdin Stream West Branch bridge on the AT was replaced this year. This bridge was built using gabion abutments, which were filled with rock and stacked to level. The laminated stringers were built using dimensional hemlock and then bolted together. The 40 foot bridge span is extremely durable and will be around for many years to come! The Maine Conservation Corps completed the project in October.







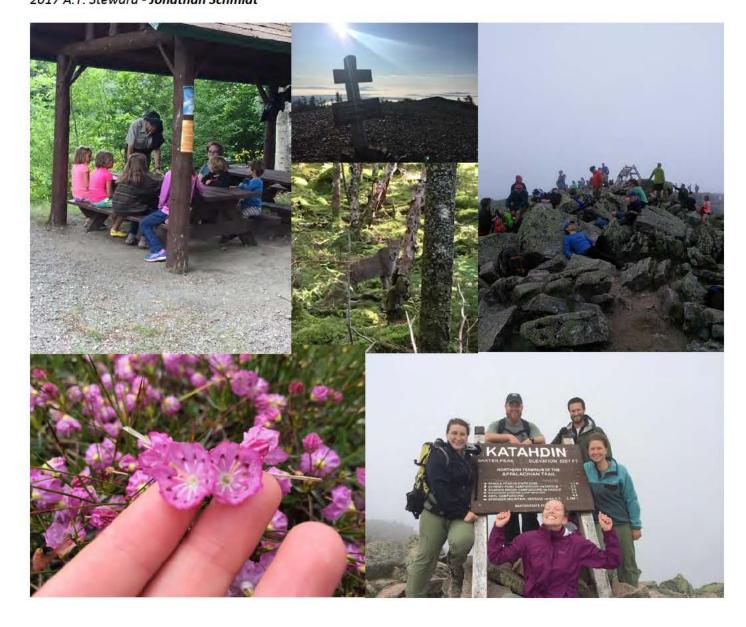


# **Mount Chase Nature Trail**

The future Mount Chase Nature Trail is located on BSP owned land off of the Owlsboro Road in Mount Chase. The trail itself will be implemented in 2018, but the planning process began in 2017 and was a dual effort between the Trail Specialist and Forester. This year's tasks included flagging the trail location, and planning out educational stops along the proposed trail route. Next season, the Maine Conservation Corps and Friends of Baxter State Park Youth Crew will work collaboratively to get the trail cleared, blazed, and signs installed!

# **INFORMATION & EDUCATION DIVISION**

BSP Naturalist - Jean Hoekwater
BSP Interim Naturalist - Stephen Dunham
BSP Interpretive Specialist - Acadia Tripp
BSP Acting Interpretive Specialist - Elise Panzner
BSP Visitor Center Representatives - Brian Johnston and Kathy Winslow
2017 Wilderness Educators - Elise Goplerud, Victoria Gray, Emily Rioux
2017 A.T. Steward - Jonathan Schmidt



# 2017 Summary



2017 proved to be another year of staff changes for the I&E division. In June Stephen Dunham was hired as the Interim Naturalist. Steve was previously employed as a research assistant at the Cooperative Forestry Research Unit at the University of Maine and holds both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Maine in Orono. He was excited for this new opportunity and to support the mission of Baxter State Park.

In August Interpretive Specialist Acadia Tripp stepped down from her position. Hired in 2016, Acadia brought enthusiasm and a dedication to the

Park's mission. Her organizational skills improved the management and distribution of park signage as well as the scheduling and preparation of educational programs. She supervised 5 Wilderness Educators while at the Park and was always a caring and understanding supervisor. Thank you Acadia for your hard work and contributions to the Park!





Elise Panzner, who was a Wilderness Educator here in 2016, was hired in August as Acting Interpretive

Specialist. She graduated from Salem State University in Massachusetts with a degree in Biology and a concentration on environmental conservation. Her commitment to the natural world is evident in her work experience for organizations such as the Audubon Society, Cat Cove Marine Laboratory, and Wolf Hollow, a non-profit educational facility. In many of these positions, she has taught children of all ages about wildlife and ecology. We thank Elise for stepping in to supervise the Wilderness Educators and all of the help she provided the I&E division.

This year we retained all three Wilderness Educators for the entire season and many Park staff and visitors complimented their passion and professionalism throughout

the season. It was another successful season of mountain patrols, children's programs, and evening programs. We were also fortunate that the Wilderness Educators and other members of the I&E division were able to step in and assist with staffing the Visitor Center when we had an unexpected staffing shortage there. Despite the numerous changes it was a positive and successful year for the division.

# **Summer Evening Programs - Dates and Descriptions**

#### July 5th at Daicey Pond - Historical Hike to Toll Dam

Join Interpretive Specialist, Acadia Tripp, for a late afternoon hike to toll dam to learn about the history of logging in Baxter State Park, as well as the dangers of river driving in Maine and the background of the logging industry. View some historical photos during this engaging hike along Nesowadnehunk Stream!

#### July 12th at Kidney Pond - Tree ID and Nature Walk

Join Park Resource Manager, Eben Sypitkowski, for an evening hike and learn more about tree identification and various aspects of forest ecology and management. Eben will share his knowledge of the Scientific Forestry Management Area during this fun and engaging hike.

July 19th at Daicey Pond - Canoeing Workshop

Join Ranger Mike Winslow for a fun afternoon of canoeing! Learn about different strokes and how to use them in certain situations. Come prepared for all weather. Life jackets and paddles will be provided. Insect repellent and sunscreen are recommended.

#### July 26th at South Branch Pond - Stewardship of Baxter State Park

Have you ever thought about protecting and preserving Baxter State Park? Join Campground Ranger Gabe Williamson to learn what you can do to be a steward of Governor Baxter's precious gift to us all! Stewardship is the careful and responsible management of land that is entrusted to one's care, such as the stewardship of Baxter State Park.

#### Aug 2nd at Kidney Pond - Search and Rescue at Baxter State Park

Spend some time with BSP Chief Ranger, Stewart Guay. Listen to Stewart share his experiences of search and rescue incidents in the Park. Visitors will gain a better understanding of the rescuing process while discussing stories from the past during an open exchange of information.

#### Aug 9th at Katahdin Stream - Wilderness On Its Own Terms

Wilderness offers challenge and beauty and also risks. Ever wonder about deaths in the Park and how they happened? The Park Director, Jensen Bissell, will recount the history of fatalities in Baxter State Park and their causes, dating back to the late 1800's.

#### Aug 16th at Katahdin Stream - History of Park Trails

Join Trail Specialist, Theresa Therriault, to learn about the origins, legends, and history of the trails of Katahdin. Theresa will also discuss the various aspects of trail maintenance throughout the past and our current management techniques.

#### Aug 23rd at Daicey Pond - Naturalist Walk

Join Park Naturalist, Steve Dunham, for an evening stroll to learn more about the flora and fauna of Baxter State Park.

# **Children's Programs - Dates and Descriptions**

#### July 8th at Kidney Pond - Reading Between the Rings

Join Wilderness Educator, Elise Goplerud and learn about what is inside a tree, how we can tell how old a tree is and what tree rings can tell us about the tree's life. We will play games and do activities surrounding tree rings.

#### July 15th at South Branch Pond - Nature's Engineers

Have you seen evidence of Beavers in Baxter State Park? Come join Wilderness Educator, Emmy Rioux and learn about beavers and their importance in the ecosystem! Please bring closed toed shoes, comfortable clothing, and water.

#### July 22nd at Daicey Pond - 'Owl' Find You!

How do owls find food in the wild? What do they eat? Join Wilderness Educator, Tori Gray and learn more about the owls in the park! Together we'll discover what they eat by dissecting an owl pellet! It'll be a hoot!

#### July 29th at Daicey Pond - Pamola: Protector of the Mountain

Join Wilderness Educator, Elise Goplerud, for a children's program and learn about the folklore surrounding Mt. Katahdin. We will hear stories and make masks to take home of Pamola. This will help teach us what it means to personally be protectors of the mountain.

#### Aug 5th at Kidney Pond - Respecting Wildlife!

What have you seen in the park? Turtles? Raccoons? Moose?

Come join Wilderness Educator, Emmy Rioux for a discussion and activities about the best ways to respect wildlife and have positive interactions with them!

#### Aug 12th at South Branch Pond - Planting Seeds

Curious about the flowers you see just off the trails? Join Wilderness Educator, Tori Gray, to learn more about the wildflowers in the Park! Together we will grow to understand their importance and plant the seeds for a better tomorrow!

#### Aug 19th at South Branch Pond - The Maine Food Chain

Come learn about the food chain here in Baxter State Park with Wilderness Educator, Elise Goplerud. We will understand how energy flows through the environment by playing fun games and going on a scavenger hunt.

#### Aug 26th at Daicey Pond - Become a Wildlife Detective

Ever wonder what creature made that footprint or left that mark? Come join Park Naturalist Steve Dunham to learn how to become a wildlife detective! We will do fun activities that teach you how to recognize the tracks and sign left by wildlife found here in the park!

#### Sept 2nd at Daicey Pond - Calling All Loons!

Hey kids! Have you heard loons calling in the night? Have you seen chicks swimming on lakes and ponds? Want to learn more? Join Wilderness Educator, Emmy Rioux, for a lesson on Common Loons!

#### Sept 9th at Kidney Pond - Bigfoot's Secrets Revealed!

Description: Curious about how Bigfoot always leaves no trace of evidence behind? Well, we have ground-breaking information about Bigfoot's mysterious methods! Attend Saturday's briefing, led by Wilderness Educator Tori Gray, to find out the details!

#### Sept 13 at Millinocket Memorial Library - Pamola: Protector of the Mountain

Join Wilderness Educator, Elise Goplerud, tor a program to learn about the folklore surrounding Katahdin. we will hear stories and make masks to take home of Pamola. This will help teach us what it means to be protectors of the mountain.

#### Sept 20th at Millinocket Memorial Library - Nature's Engineers

Have you seen evidence of Beavers in Baxter State Park? Come join Wilderness Educator, Emmy Rioux and learn about beavers and their importance in the ecosystem!

#### Sept 27th at Millinocket Memorial Library - Planting Seeds

Curious about the flowers you see just off the trails? Join Wilderness Educator, Tori Gray, to learn more about the wildflowers in the Park! Together we will grow to understand their importance and plant the seeds for a better tomorrow!

## Oct 4th at Millinocket Memorial Library - Creepy Crawlies

Come to the Millinocket Library to learn about all the spooky, little creatures you find outside. Join Wilderness Educator, Elise Goplerud, for a lesson that will teach you how insects are nothing to fear. We will play fun games and do fun activities that you can take home with you!

#### Oct 11th at Millinocket Memorial Library - Calling All Loons!

Hey kids! Have you heard loons calling in the night? Have you seen chicks swimming on lakes and ponds? Want to learn more? Join Wilderness Educator, Emmy Rioux, for a lesson on Common Loons!

#### Oct 17th at Millinocket Memorial Library - 'Owl' Find You!

How do owls find food in the wild? What do they eat? Join Wilderness Educator, Tori Gray and learn more about the owls in the park! Together we'll discover what they eat by dissecting an owl pellet! It'll be a hoot!

# **Park Outreach and Meetings**

July 5th, 19th, and August 2nd - Group Presentation for Overland Summers in the Park July 20th - Summer Camp Presentation at Katahdin Elementary School September 14th-16th - Booth at Trails End Festival in Millinocket

# **Trainings Offered and Received**

May 17th - Welcome and Orientation for Wilderness Educators

May 24th - Workplace harassment Training with Business Manager Christine Theriault

June 1st - BSP Spring Safety Day at Park HQ

June 6th - Mental Health and First Aid Training at Park HQ

June 7th-8th - Leave No Trace Trainer Course in Acadia National Park

June 12th-13th - Wilderness First Aid Training at Park HQ

June 20th - Info Session and Q&A with Chief Ranger Stewart Guay at Park HQ

June 21st - Intro to Wildfire Suppression Training at Kidney Pond

June 22nd - Intro to Search and Rescue Training at Kidney Pond

July 1st-3rd - Mountain Patrol Training on Katahdin

July 7th, 21st, and August 4th - Visitor Center Training for the Wilderness Educators

October 24th - SFMA Tour with Forester Deidre George

#### **Field Patrols**

The Wilderness Educators began patrolling Park trails On May 25th. These hikes familiarized the Educators with the Park, provided educational opportunities for visitors, and ensured that litter, blow-downs, and erosion issues were identified and remedied. Most trails in the Park were patrolled at least once by a Wilderness Educator during the season. Some trails, like the Russell Pond Trail, Wassataquoik Lake Trail, and the Traveler Loop were patrolled by each Educator. New this year, Wilderness Educators not on Mountain Patrol provided safety talks at the Abol and Hunt Trailheads as well as more frequent patrols of the below-treeline sections of those trails.

Jon Schmidt, the AT steward began his patrols of the Appalachian Trail on July 2nd and continued until October 21st. Jon played a crucial role in educating AT hikers and other visitors about the Park and our policies. His frequent patrols of the AT and adjacent trails ensured that any maintenance issues were quickly dealt with, and that hikers on those trails were aware of potential problem areas.

#### Moose Patrol

There are many locations in Baxter State Park where visitors have access to observing wildlife in their natural setting. A prime example is found at Sandy Stream Pond and Stump Pond, where moose are known to frequent the area. The discussion to provide education, and therefore wildlife protection, began in 2002 after visitors were consistently having negative impacts upon the environment and wildlife.

Sandy Stream Pond is unique because it is a prime feeding location and water source for moose, but it is also in close proximity to a popular campground and several highly-used trails, including a Katahdin trailhead. This creates a unique situation that requires moose patrols do be done routinely throughout the season by staff members. One of the main responsibilities of Wilderness Educators is to patrol the areas surrounding theses two ponds and the known stopping locations for visitors and photographers. Our main goals during patrols are to be unobtrusive to the visitors' experience and to be available to answer questions, but to also serve as a primary source of protection for wildlife.

Sandy Stream and Stump Ponds were patrolled from June through October in 2017. Wilderness Educators completed at total of nineteen moose patrols. Ten moose were observed this season and visitors were all observing with respect and courtesy. However, the Wilderness Educators continued to provide a positive and informative presence in these wildlife areas. Approximately 80 visitors were encountered during patrols and 13 parties were provided with additional information and education. A few photographers had to be reminded not to block the trails with their equipment. Details about each patrol can be found in the appendix below.

## Mountain Patrol (Alpine Stewardship)

Unlike last season all three Wilderness Educators were available for the normal rotation of three interns, allowing each a two week rest period between the physically demanding job duties of Mountain Patrol. This ensured more frequent above-treeline and summit visits than the previous year. Their role on Katahdin not only assisted hikers in need of aid and/or information, it also ensured that the fragile resources of the mountain were protected.

Similar to prior seasons, each Wilderness Educator would assist the Chimney Pond ranger to provide morning safety and educational talks at the trail register before beginning their hike. This allows the Chimney Pond ranger to focus on incoming radio messages and reservation issues while hikers continue to be greeted and have their questions answered. By mid-morning, the Wilderness Educator will gear up with a park-issued radio and first aid kit, as well as their food and supplies to begin Mountain Patrol for the day.

In addition to answering visitor questions, Wilderness Educators recorded notes at five plant stations and their observations from the numbers of hikers visible from various points during their patrol. New for 2017, Wilderness Educators spent one hour observing the behavior of Park visitors at the summit during one randomly selected time on each patrol. These new Summit Behavior Surveys include five counts (one every 15 minutes) of the number of people visible on the summit, a photograph of the summit, and a count of any violations/resource protection issues observed. Each count of both total people and total violations is subdivided into one of three user categories: Day-Use/Camper, Long Distance Hiker, and Organized Group. While we recognize that it is not always possible to distinguish these three groups, doing so will allow us to look at the number of issues through time by group and to tailor our messaging to, and management of, those groups accordingly.

#### **Wildnotes**

The Park ordered 26,000 copies of Wildnotes to be printed for the 2017 season. Wildnotes serves as an educational resource and is distributed to all Park visitors entering the Park through the Gatehouses and copies are also available at nearby local stores. The articles featured important information regarding Leave No Trace, updated rules and regulations, safety precautions, preventing the spread of invasive species, Appalachian Trail updates, trail and campground overviews, and other helpful details. Park Director Jensen Bissell highlighted the management and independent funding of the Park, while also including updates on the Dudley Trail, new regulations, and seasonal maintenance projects in his front page story. One key change for 2017 was the implementation of the A.T. Permit card system which Director Bissell discussed and was further explained in a separate article. The featured article in this year's issue was a collection of memories from Park Staff about Donn Fendler who passed away in October of 2016. We hope this humble tribute was an interesting read for Park visitors.

#### **Volunteers**

Hundreds of Junior Ranger Booklets were copied, folded, and stapled in preparation of the season. Thank you to Laurie Rich, Robin Stevens, Diane Freelove, and Katrina Kinkead for ensuring that we would never run out of copies of these much favored and appreciated children's activity books!

## **Maine Audubon Loon Count**

It was an overcast but rain-free morning of July 15th, the day of our annual Loon Count for the Maine Audubon Society! Eighteen individuals, ranging from volunteers to BSP staff, joined us this year to take part in the count and sixteen bodies of water were surveyed. Wilderness Educator Elise Goplerud coordinated the effort this year and compiled the results. Thirty-nine adults and two chicks were counted altogether, which indicates a stable and healthy loon population for the Park. Most volunteers paddled the waters or searched from the shoreline with binoculars for the half hour duration of the count. It is always a treat to behold the contrasting colors of a loon, hear its echoing song, or even be fortunate enough to see a chick following in the wake of its mother. A table listing of the volunteers and more detailed results is included in the Appendix of this report.

# **Invasive Species**

# **Purple Loosestrife**

Purple loosestrife (Lythrum salicaria) is an invasive species found in many states, including Maine. In



recent years, this plant has been found near the boundary of Baxter State Park at Nesowadnehunk Lake Dam and Caribou Pit. Based upon locations it has already invaded, this plant has the potential to be found in other high-use areas of the Park, including Matagamon Lake Landing. Purple loosestrife is found in wetland ecosystems and is a threat to native species, including cattails and sedges.

Although there are different methods for controlling the invasion of Purple loosestrife, we are currently pulling the plant and its roots when it is found within or near Park boundaries. There are a few lookalikes, including Fireweed

(Epilobium angustifolium), Blue vervain (Verbena hastata), and other native species of loosestrife. Learning how to distinguish between Purple Loosestrife and other plants always presents the opportunity for seasonal employees to learn more about plant identification in the Park. Several Patrols were made of the Nesowadnehunk Lake Dam, Caribou Pit, and Matagamon Lake Landing areas



during August and no plants were detected. While we are hopeful that we have been successful in our eradication efforts we will continually monitor these areas into the future.

#### **Bristly Locust**

Bristly locust (*Robinia hispida*) is an invasive shrub often used for erosion control or as an ornamental due to its pink flowers. It thrives in sandy soils, and due to the nitrogen fixing symbionts that live on its root system, it can alter soil chemistry and thrive in places native plants cannot. The seeds of this plant can last remain viable for up to 10 years. It often forms dense thickets and has a vigorous root system that makes controlling this plant difficult. It is found mostly along highways in Maine but can be found on part of Togue Beach and at Mountain View. Bristly locust was likely introduced to control erosion in both areas as it has been used extensively for that purpose throughout the state.

Past efforts to remove this plant included pulling and cutting, but these methods often do not remove enough of the root system to fully eradicate the plant. In fact, many smaller shoots were attached to large

diameter roots that spanned large distances between plants. Therefore, in September, we undertook another approach where stems were first cut and then had a solution of 50% glyphosate dripped directly onto the cut stem. This method was selected as it minimizes over-spray while ensuring that the chemical will be transported into the root system, which will kill more of the plant than cutting alone. On Sept. 21 Emmy Rioux, Elise Panzner, and Steve Dunham cut all the stems of bristly locust that they could find in the





Togue Beach area and marked those cut stems with flags. Deirdra George, our forester and master pesticide applicator then followed and applied the pesticide to each stem. On Sept. 28 Elise Panzner, Steve Dunham, and Kevin Osbourne cut all the stems they could find at Mountain View and then Deirdra George applied the same solution to those stems. All cut stems were placed in a truck, covered with a tarp and transported to the Rum Service Area burn pile to be burned with other brush from the Park. We will continue to survey this area for future sprouting.

# **Visitor Center**

The Park's Visitor Center served 19,825 visitors total in 2017. Although this is over 3,000 visitors short of the previous year, part of the difference may be due to staffing related closures that occurred in September and October. The efforts of Visitor Center Staff provided assistance to visitors and protection to Park resources. Maps continue to be the most frequently sold resource at the Visitor Center with patches being a close second. In total, nearly \$11,000 in sales (gross) were recorded this year.

Thank you to Brian Johnston, Kathy Winslow for another successful year of sharing your knowledge with Park visitors. Thank you also to Elise Panzner, Bill Martel, Danielle Woodsworth, Emmy Rioux, Elise Goplerud, Tori Gray, and Steve Dunham for picking up shifts in order to keep the number mid-season closures to a minimum.

# **Outside Research and Monitoring**

The following research and monitoring activities were undertaken by outside parties in 2017:

# Earthscope Magnetotelluric Study of Eastern North America

Principal Investigator: Dr. Louise Pellerin of Green Geophysics Inc., under contract with Oregon State University.

On June 19th a field crew installed a magnetotelluric instrument that consisted of two 100m electrodes laid out on the forest floor in a cross pattern and connected to buried magnetometer. A pelican case containing a battery and receiver unit was also placed on the ground. This equipment was deployed along the eastern boundary of the Park near Katahdin Lake. This location was part of a larger grid that covers the northeastern United States. The devices deployed at locations along this array measure the natural magnetic and electric fields of the earth and allow researchers to study the structure of the earth's crust to better understand its structure and how it was formed over time. The device remained in place until July 10th when it was removed. No sign of the device's presence were found after removal.

# Developing Large-scale Optimal Monitoring Protocols for Mesocarnivores

Principal Investigator: Dr. Alessio Mortelliti of the University of Maine

On August 24th-28th a field crew installed 10 camera "trap" arrays to capture images of carnivores. This is part of a larger, state-wide, study that will use repeated deployments to create records of detections that can be used in occupancy analyses to generate statewide population trends that are independent of harvest effort and reporting. This project is focused primarily on American marten and fisher, but will analyze any carnivore species that had sufficient detections. The crew returned during August 14th-16th to remove the traps. The crew plans to return during the winter.

# Detecting Northern Bog Lemming Using DNA from Small Mammal Fecal Pellets

Principal Investigators: Dr. Zach Olson of the University of New England and Cory Mosby of the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

On August 16th-17th, a field crew from Maine IF&W searched for lemming fecal pellets at historic locations of the Northern Bog Lemming near Nesowadnehunk Field. They later returned on August 21st-24th to search at several locations on Katahdin. The goal of this work is to determine the presence of the state threatened northern bog lemming without utilizing effort-intensive trapping that could result in mortality events.

# Perceived Crowding, Preferences for Social and Resource Conditions, and Behavioral Choices of Visitors to Baxter State Park, Maine.

Principal Investigator: Dr. John Daigle of the University of Maine

On July 28-30, August 14-17, August 24-27, September 11-14, September 21-24, and October 9-12+15, a graduate student from the University of Maine interviewed hikers as they returned to Katahdin Stream from their ascent on Katahdin. The goal of this research was to collect information from hikers regarding their perception of crowding at the summit and on trails, their preferences for the social and natural resource conditions of the trails, and the behavioral choices they make during a hike. This information can then be used to assess current management practices.

# Pathogen Screening and Abundance of Winter Ticks in Maine and How Risk Perception of Tick-Borne Disease (TBD) Compares to the Actual Risk

Principal Investigator: Dr. Sandra De Urioste-Stone of the University of Maine

A graduate student attempted to collect winter tick larvae on October 8th-9th but was unsuccessful due to poor weather conditions (rain). The goal of this study is to determine if there is a risk of winter ticks transmitting diseases to Moose and to estimate the density of the winter tick population. This is part of a larger study that is also looking at how people currently perceive the risk of disease transmission from winter ticks.

#### Water Quality Sampling

Principal Investigator: Jeremy Deeds of Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

Two members of Maine DEP investigated the water quality of Kidney Pond, Daicey Pond, and Draper Pond on September 20th. Water quality data for these bodies of water has not been collected in many years and this visit was prompted by a report to DEP of abnormal algae in Daicey Pond. The team found no evidence of any abnormal algae.

#### Mountain Birdwatch

Volunteer birders once again surveyed Katahdin for high elevation bird species as part of the Mountain Birdwatch Program which is run by the Vermont Center for Ecostudies. Although the program and protocols have changed overtime this effort has been made for 18 years. More information and data are available HERE.

## **Seasonal Staff**

#### Victoria Gray: Wilderness Educator Intern



Victoria "Tori" Gray graduated from George Mason University in May of 2017 with a BFA in Dance and a minor in Psychology. She has backpacked and hiked all over the world, including sections of the Appalachian Trail, Europe, Cuba, and Panama. On her first trip to Baxter State Park, Tori still remembers "...seeing that large rock, painted with the words 'Keep Maine Beautiful,' and being overwhelmed with emotion because Maine is indeed beautiful." Tori lead several engaging children's programs, hiked many miles, and took some beautiful

pictures of landscapes, plants, and wildlife.

#### Elise Goplerud: Wilderness Educator Intern

Elise Goplerud graduated from the University of Maine in 2017 with a degree in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism. Before coming to the Park Elise has worked in multiple recreational capacities, including: raft guide, ski instructor, and trail crew leader. She has a passion for both education and ultimate frisbee. Elise put her NAI interpretation certification to use this season during her children's programs as well as the numerous hiking safety talks and mountain patrols that she assisted with. She also had a keen eye and found an abundance of litter during her patrols.

#### **Emily Rioux: Wilderness Educator Intern**



Emily "Emmy" Rioux graduated from Colby-Sawyer College in 2016 with a degree in biology with a minor in environmental studies. She focused

both her studies and work experience around ecology and conservation. Before coming to the Park she was working in California with Americorps doing trail work, restoration work, and conservation education. Emmy enjoyed creating and leading

children's programs as well as interacting with hikers during mountain patrols. Her sense of

humor was appreciated by both visitors and fellow staff members.



Jon Schmidt returned to Baxter State Park for his third season as the Appalachian Trail Steward. Prior to educating visitors along the Appalachian Trail, Jon worked for the Park for two seasons with the trail crew, first in 2010 as a Trail Crew Intern, and again in 2012 as a Trail Crew Leader. Jon has also occasionally served as a park volunteer. He has hiked and performed maintenance along many of the trails in the Park. Originally from North Dakota, he now lives in Bowdoin, Maine, with his wife and daughters.



#### Brian Johnston & Kathy Winslow: Visitor Center Customer Service Representatives



Brian Johnston returned for his eighteenth season at the Visitor Center, and he continued to provide exceptional advice and customer service to visitors of the Park. Brian's knowledge and experience from working in the Park for many years makes him a valuable member of the Information and Education Team. Kathy Winslow returned for her first full season at the Visitor Center. As a resident of Millinocket, Kathy is very familiar with the Park and all of its opportunities and proved to be an excellent addition to the Visitor Center.

# **I&E Season Highlights**

# **Bat Monitoring Trial**



Cory Mosby, the furbearer and small mammal biologist from Maine DIF&W loaned two automated acoustic recorders (Wildlife Acoustics Song Meter SM3BAT) to the Park. These devices are composed of a recording device, cable, and microphone, are programmed to listen passively from sunset to sunrise and if they detect a sound within the frequency range of a bat call, they will record that noise. Each recording is stored separately. At the end of the season the data can be downloaded, and each recording can be analyzed by comparing the sonogram of that sound to sonograms of known bat species. This process is done with automatically with software.

The units we were given were deployed first at Trout Brook Farm and Nesowadnehunk Field. After a week we moved the units to Kidney Pond and the Visitor Center for a week. In total we recorded 3870 bat calls. The most frequently recorded species were little brown, big brown, and hoary bats. We also had recordings of red, silver-haired, northern long-eared, and tri-color bats. It is our hope to continue

monitoring for bats in the future.

#### Adirondack Visit

The Adirondack Park in New York has been struggling with crowding and parking issues in recent years. Recently the problem became bad enough to instigate the organization of a meeting to discuss the problem and possible solutions. The town of Keene, NY as well as the neighboring High Peaks Area are the two places where the problem is the worst. The town manager of Keene reached out to invite representatives from Baxter State Park to attend. Resource Manager Eben Sypitkowski and Interim Naturalist Steve Dunham visited the region from November 7-10. They had the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Adirondack Council, NY Department of Conservation, and the Adirondack Park Agency, as well as participate in a regional meeting to discuss the hiker traffic issue. Although our parks are quite different in many ways, the focus of the discussion centered on the similarities in our missions and on potential options for controlling overuse issues. It is our sincere hope to participate in, and perhaps one day facilitate, similar regional meetings among the various agencies in the northeast that manage wilderness areas.

# Loon Count Data 2017

# 2017 LOON COUNT DATA

LAKE/POND	ADULTS	CHICKS	PAIRS		ISOLATED	
Abol Pond	3		0 Not stated		Not stated	
Big Rocky Pond	2		1	1		0
Daicey Pond	0		0	0		0
Draper Pond	0		0	0		0
Elbow Pond	6		0 Not stated		Not stated	
Grassy Pond	1		0	0		1
Lily Pad Pond	0		0	0		0
Little Rocky Pond	0		0	0		0
Lost Pond	1	-	0	0		1
Lower South Branch Pond	0		0	0		0
Lower Togue Pond	2		0	1		0
Matagamon Lake	18		1	1	Not stated	
Upper South Branch Pond	0		0	0		0
Upper Togue Pond	1		0	0		1
Wassataquoik Lake	1	- 1	0	0		1
Webster Lake	4		0 Not stated		Not stated	
TOTALS	39		2	3		4

# **Loon Count Volunteers**

First Name	Last Name	Pond
Laurie	Rich	Abol Pond
Dean	Levasseur	Big Rocky Pond
Andrew	Vietze	Daicey Pond
Bruce	White	Draper Pond
Keith	Kennedy	Elbow Pond
Dave	Loome	Grassy Pond
Kelly	Meehan-Coussee	Lily Pad Pond
Charity	Levasseur	Little Rocky Pond
Richard	Ste. Croix	Lost Pond/T3 R10
Gabriel	Williamson	Lower South Branch Pond
Elise	Goplerud	Lower Togue Pond
Mike and Jan	Martin	Matagamon
Emmy	Rioux	Upper South Branch Pond
Theresa	Therriault	Upper Togue Pond
Greg	Hamer	Wassataquoik Lake
Steve	Dunham	Webster lake

					201	7 Moose Patrols	A4-						
Date	Weather	Location	Time	Ppl visible	Moose visible	Closest distance	Behavior issues	# of Moose	# of Ppl met	Info/edu	Trash	HW	Notes
2-Jun	Sunny	SSP	8:25-8:55	2	2	50 ft	n/a	2	2	0	(	0	0 Visitors were respectfully viewing moose
3-Jun	Partly Sunny	SSP	10:55-11:20	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	13	0	(	0	0 Trail crew present on bog bridges
15-Jun	Sunny	SSP	2:45-3:25	10	0	n/a	n/a	0	10	0	(	0	0
20-Jun	Foggy, Rainy	Stump	7:45-8:15	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	(	0	0
27-Jun	Thunderstorms	Stump	3:10-3:15	3	.0	n/a	n/a	0	3	1	(	0	0 Family present looking for moose
7-Jul	Mostly cloudy	SSP	8:50-9:20	8	2	1/10 mile	n/a	2	4	0	2		0 Cow & calf
9-Jul	Clear & Sunny	SSP	8:00-9:10	5	0	n/a	n/a	0	5	1	(	0	O Couple from Germany w/ large cameras/tripods set up on big rock - no bad behaviors noted
10-Aug	Sunny	SSP	8:45-9:30	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	6	0	1		O Area near viewpoint 3 has been muddy all year - bog boardwalk?
17-Aug	Sunny	Stump	2:00-2:30	5	.0	n/a	n/a	0	5	2	Ė	(	0
30-Aug	Partly Cloudy	SSP	7:30-8:15	.1	0	n/a	n/a	0	1	1	(	0	0 Lots of beaver activity, bog walks in 3rd viewpoint area getting flooded
7-Sep	Rainy & Cloudy	SSP	9:00-9:30	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	(	0	0
9-Sep	Sunny	SSP	8:15-8:45	0	2	50 ft	n/a	2	.3	1	(	0	0
10-Sep	Partly Cloudy	Stump	9:00-9:15	0	.0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	(	0	0 Noted that a cow has been seen @ stump recently
20-Sep	Mostly cloudy	Stump	8:35-8:45	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	0	(	0	0
27-Sep	Sunny	SSP	12:00-12:20	.6	0	n/a	n/a	0	7	3	(	0	0
12-Oct	Sunny	SSP	10:15-11:15	7	1	1/10 mile	n/a	1	.5	1	1		0
13-Oct	Fair	SSP	12:30-1:30	6	1	1/10 mile	n/a	1	8	1	(	0	0
14-Oct	Cloudy	SSP	9:35-12:45	8	1	1/10 mile	1 blocking boardwalk	1	8	2	2		0 man w/ large camera stand blocking boadwalk, was receptive to edu. Patrol done on way up/down S Turner
15-Oct	Rainy & Foggy	SSP	9:30-10:15	0	1	n/a	n/a	1	- 0	0	(	0	0
otal				61	10		1	10	80	13	11		0

# **Mountain Patrol Stats**

		-	2017 /	Alpine Steward	Patrol			-			A V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V V
o. T	foral Stopping Points	Total Visible	Min at any Pt	Max at any Pt	Bax Pk Count	# People Met	Parties Contacted	Trash	HW.fiocl.TP)	Weather code	Notes / bad behavior
2-lul	7	42	0	23	23	65	5	6	4	2	
7-jul	6	23		21	21	20	4	7	0	2	
8-Jul	2	6	2	4	4	31	4	6	0	2, turning to 3	
12-jui	5	15	0	- 6	6/2	35	not stated	7	0	2	
13-Jul	4	16	0	7	10/2	20	2	3	0	-2	
14-Jul	3	33	S	20	20	40	8	15	0	i	A lot of food waste @ pk
15-Jul	2	58	18	40	40	80	not stated	4	0	2	Few parties napping on sedges @ pk.
19-10	3	75	5	50	50	70	10	7	0		4 parties attempting to go down cathedral
20-jul	2	11	5	6	n/a	40	10	15	3		A lot of food waste
21-Jul	4	20	2	9	9	35	5	9	1		Ppi off trail
22-Jul	- 4	46	4	30	30	45	5	12	3	1	Ppi off trail
26-Jul	5	27	0	10	10/3	57	4	4	1	,	3-3-3-3
27-jul		0	0	0	11/2	12		4	0		
28-Jul		75	0	65	65	not stated	5	2	0		
29-jul				65		not stated			-5		
	3	79	6		65		5	11	0	1	Drone encounter
2-Aug	5	97	0	80	80	100	10	- 5	2	1	Poop on saddle on tableland
4-Aug	5	36	0	20	n/a	50	5	10	5	2	
5-Aug	2	17	8	9	n/a	20	-4	1	0	- 3	
9-Aug	6	118	4	50	50	120	10	4	1		Loud group of teens on pk, man with anxiety 1/2 way up saddle slide
10-Aug	5	83	5	40	40	130	13	25	4	2	Poop in middle of trail on cathedral/on saddle
16-Aug	7	68	0	40	40	70	7	2	1	- 2	
17-Aug	4	64	6	50	50	70	8	10	0	2	Some AT hikers yelling @ pk
18-Aug	1	3	3	3	11/2	26	1	1	0	9	Assisted with hypothermic patient
19-Aug	2	62	12	50	50	80	3	8	0		Lot of ppl off trail on saddle
23-Aug	6	21	0	15	n/a	40	3	1	2		Poop in the middle of Baxter pk cut off near thoreau
24-Aug		5	0	3	6/2	8	2	3	0		Diapensia abundant from saddle slide to Howe pk, esp near caribou s
26-Aug	9	60	8	30	30	70	5	6			Pol on sedges left of Baxter pk sign
31-Aug		12	2	5	5	40	5	25			Chick and a series by age.
		28	100	ii	5	45	10	20	5		
1-Sep	3	100	2				1.0			3	a control de decesión de
2-Sep	6	139	7	75	75	400	40	25	2	- 1	2 parties drinking on pk
6-Sep	8	5	0	2	n/a	9	2	3	1	3	
7-Sep	3	6	1	3	1	13	3	26	0	3	
8-Sep	4	50	2	37	37	70	5	3	1	2	
9-Sep		10	0	7	10/2	24	3	3	0	- 3	Hiked down 7 ppl in hall storm
13-Sep	5	18	.0	8	11/2	30	3	4	2	1	
14-Sep	3	20	5	9	9	30	2	- 1	1	-1	Poss 2 pipits
15-Sep	2	1	.0	i	11/2	6	0	0	1	1	
16-Sep	5	97	6	56	56	120	10	. 7	- 5	2	
20-Sep	5	49	3	30	30	45	10	4	2	2	Pol scared to go down hunt
21-Sep	5	62	1	45	45	70	15	6	2		3 groups concerned about descent/ which trail to take
22-Sep		71	2	60	60	85	20	3	1	-	3 ppl drinking beer on pk, more ppl scared to go down hunt
27-Sep		2	0	2	0/2	2	2	2	0	-	a bit any man of man and any a bit with any of the ground profits
28-Sep	- 1	2		6	19/2	18	2	0	0	1	
		7	1		6		1	100		-	
29-Sep	1	0		0	11/2	6	- 1	2	0	1	
30-Sep	5	81	2	70	70	100	- 6	10	1	- 1	A lot of ppl walking on plants on pk
4-Oct	5	10		4	0/2	30	-2	0	4	- 2	
5-Oct	.4	. 4	0	4	11/2	8	1	0	0	1	A lot of diapensia from caribou spring to north peaks
6-Oct	2	7	0	7	7	. 7	3	5	2	3	
7-Oct	3	35	7	20	20	60	8	1	2	2	
11-Oct	1	6	2	4	11/2	6	3	- 4	1	1	
12-0:1	3	43	3	35	35	45	10	4	1	1	
13-Oct	4	42	1	30	30	50	not stated	2	1		Assisted with sick hiker, 1 disrespectful AT hiker
14-Oct	- 5	63		30	30	60	10	4	0		
n Totals	206	2028	140	1307	1188	2718	314	343	66		
n Awa	3.8	-	3	24	34	50	6	6.1	1.3	1.9	
1	3.0	- 31	- 7	25	*n/a = peak w		d	-			
					ALL RESULT						
							Weather codes				
							1: Sunny - mostly	sunny	calm winds,	nice day	
							2: Cloudy, winds				
							3. Rain, winds ow				

# **BUSINESS DEPARTMENT**

# **Executive Summary: FY17 Annual Work Program**

#### Revenue Notes:

- Revenue from Recreational Use, Entrance Fees, Books and Maps remains consistent.
- Online reservations continue to help maximize camping sites in the Park.
- The Park continues to use Balance Forward account to fund large Capital projects.
- Significant donations from the Baxter Park Wilderness Trust continue to support increased trail maintenance and relocation projects in the Park.
- fluctuating wood products markets continues to challenge the management of the SFMA.

# **Expenditure Notes:**

- Baxter Park efforts to reorganize both year round and seasonal positions to better operational effectiveness results in an increase in Personal Services.
- Efforts continue in replacing large culverts on the Park tote road.
- Completion of the major relocation project on the Abol Trail.
- Baxter Park will be providing funding to allow MCC crews to help the efforts of trail maintenance and relocations projects.
- Scheduled for FY17 includes a major revision of the Park website to improve the interface and connect it to the Park's social media.
- FY17 plans include continued progress on improving the visitor registration process at the Park Gatehouses.
- Project work to replace the Kidney Pond staff housing is proceeding. This will be followed by additional building demolition and re-purposing.

#### **Personnel:**

### Position Changed By FJAs

An FJA to reclassify the five Gatehouse Attendants at Togue Pond Gate and the four Office Assistants in the reservations office to the same classification making them all Baxter Park Customer Representatives went into effect On July 3, 2017.

#### Position Changes - Year Round:

Acadia Tripp resigned as Interpretive Specialist in December and Marc Edwards was hired to start in January 2018. Judy Nicholson resigned in September and Emilie Tisch was hired to start in January 2018. Due to a long term Workers Comp leave of absence Steve Dunham was hired acting capacity in June to fill the Naturalist position.

#### **Position Changes - Seasonal:**

**Trail Specialists:** Alex Bradley resigned in July and Theresa Therriault in December, Elizabeth Thibault and Rebekah Morrisson were hired to start in Feb. 2018.

Gatehouse Attendant: Brandon Theriault, Kenya Smart, Bonnie Patchell

Campground Ranger: Kyle Lee-Roaring Brook, Bruce Thibodeau-NES/TBF, Geoff Snow-South Branch Pond

Resignations: Brandon Theriault, Kenya Smart, Kyle Lee, Nate Ventra, Rob MacKenzie, Yves Baribeau,

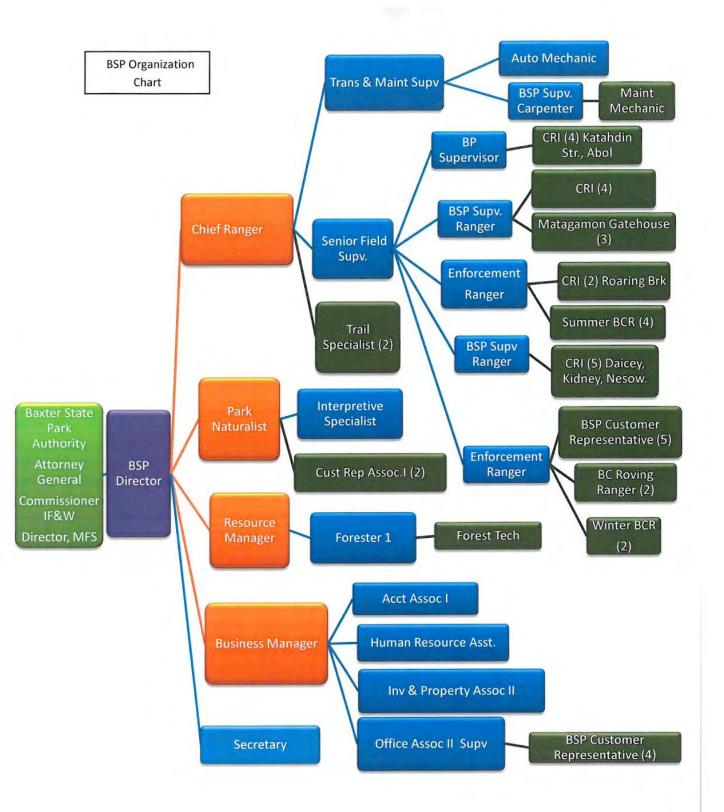
**Transfers/promotions/acting capacity/temp comp:** Robin Stevens- transferred from Abol Campground to Kidney Pond. Tom Powers transferred from 29 week Gatehouse Attendant to 24 week Gatehouse Attendant. Katrina Kinkead transferred from 26 week Gatehouse Attendant to 29 week Gatehouse Attendant. David White acting capacity for 24 week Gatehouse Attendant. Nick McPherson transferred from Roaring Brook to Katahdin Stream.

Retired: Diane Freelove - Kidney Pond

**Year-Round Positions** 

Position	Name	Location
BSP Director	D. Jensen Bissell	Headquarters, Mlkt.
BSP Chief Ranger	Stewart Guay	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Park Naturalist	Jean Hoekwater/Steve Dunham	Headquarters,
Mlkt.		
Business Manager	Christine Theriault	Headquarters, Mlkt.
BSP Senior Field Supervisor	Michael Martin	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Secretary	Georgia Manzo	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Accounting Associate I	Judy Nicholson	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Human Resource Assistant	Joni Lowell	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Inventory & Property Assoc.	II Constance Theriault	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Office Associate II, Supv.	Nancy Guay	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Maintenance Supervisor	Stephen Bouchard	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Auto Mechanic II	Frank George	Headquarters, Mlkt.
BSP Supv. Carpenter	Craig Kennedy	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Interpretive Specialist	Acadia Tripp	Headquarters, Mlkt.
Resource Manager	Eben Sypitkowski	SFMA
Forester I	Deidra George	SFMA
BSP Enforcement Ranger	Michael Winslow	Field
BSP Enforcement Ranger	Robert Tice	Field
BSP Supervisor	Bruce White	Field
BSP Supervisor- Ranger	David Loome	Field
BSP Supervisor-Ranger	Russell Porter	Field

See Appendix B for Budget.



#### **Contracted Services**

Rubbish Removal – Plourde Trucking, Millinocket; Pine Tree, Houlton
Janitorial Services – Denise Bragdon, Millinocket
Firewood and Firewood Bundling – Justin Allen, Scott Hannington
SFMA Forest Operations/Road Construction – Pelletier Brothers, Brent Chadbourne
SFMA – BSP Interns
Trail Work – Maine Conservation Corp.
Information/Education – BSP Interns
Septic Tank Pumping – Lincoln Rental, Lincoln
Fuel – Dead River, Preble Oil, Agri-Cal, Houlton
Lawn Maintenance – Mainely Landscaping and Lawns, Millinocket
Computers and Programing – Starfruit Solutions
Cellular Service – US Cellular, Verizon
Copier Service – Budget Documents Technology
Satellite Internet Dish Access – Hughesnet.com

#### Reservations

Opening day was Saturday January 14, 2017. The number of visitors that made reservations were 107 and made 117 reservations. Of the 107 visitors 92 were Maine residents. The total revenue for opening day was \$33,929.00.

The reservation office made an adjustment to the rolling system by not allowing online reservations from January 15-January 31 (which cover May 15-May 31) because the opening date of the Park and campgrounds are dependant on the Spring thaw and many years the May 15 opening date is delayed for a week or more. Having reservations made by the reservation office allows the communication about the delayed opening as a possibility.

With the change in classification of the five positions at the Togue Pond gate a week long training was required in the reservation office at the beginning of their season to learn how to make reservations on the computer system. The gate staff started making reservation through the computer reservation system 2017 summer season. This would enable visitors to use their credit card at the gate for reservations and would allow for more efficient stats on reservation now that they are all being done through the same system. The gate staff would be able to make reservations after the 4 pm closing of the reservation office. They would also be able to make Day Use Parking Passes. Over the season changes were made to the process at the gate to help with the flow of work.

#### 2017 Baxter State Park Reservation Procedures

How do I make Reservations?

- **1. Coming in person to BSP HQ on Sat. January 14, 2017.** Reservations will be limited to 20% of sites per campground, per day. Only two (2) reservations per person will be allowed. If large numbers of campers intend to make reservations on this day the campground limits are expected to be quickly reached; forcing campers to try again for reservations during the rest of the season. Campers are encouraged to be flexible in their dates and site choices and plan on using the rolling reservation system for the majority of their camping trips.
- 2. Using the Rolling Reservation System, mailing, walking in, phone and reservations can be made at BSP HQ four (4) months or less prior to the start of your desired camping trip. Online reservations can be make (4) months from your camping end date.(sites excluded from online reservations include: Chimney Pond, Russell Pond, Davis Pond, bunk spaces, group sites and accessible sites). All sites (at least 80% of

all camping nights, plus any sites not reserved on January 14th) will now be available for rental, four months prior to camping. Mail in reservations will be given a seven (7) day "buffer". Mail and walk-in customers will be processed at the same time. Mail will be randomly processed (not in the order it was received) except that all Maine resident reservation requests made by mail will be processed before non-resident mail requests on a daily basis. There is a limit of two (2) reservations per day for each person making walk-in or mail-in reservations. **NOTE:** People who arrive earlier than four months ahead of their camping date will not be processed and will be asked to return or mail-in when the dates finally do "roll" open. Mail that is received more than four months and seven days ahead of camping dates will not be processed and will be returned to sender.

#### What else do I need to know?

#### **Summer Campground Opening & Closing Dates (Inclusive):**

Roaring Brook: May 15th - Oct. 15th Chimney Pond: June 1st - Oct. 15th Katahdin Stream: May 15th - Oct. 15th

Abol: May 15th - Oct. 15th

Daicey Pond: May 15th - Oct. 15th South Branch Pond: May 15th - Oct. 15th

Russell Pond: May 15 - Oct. 15th Kidney Pond May 15th - Oct. 15th

Trout Brook Farm Opens the Friday before Memorial Day - Oct. 15th Nesowadnehunk Opens Friday before Memorial Day – Oct 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Director or such other person designated by the Authority may adjust campground seasons before July 4th and after Labor Day should use, weather or other conditions warrant. Under these circumstances, reservations will be made on a daily basis only.

Arrival and Departure Check-In Time after 1:00 p.m. Check-Out Time by 11:00 a.m.

All campers must be through the gate by 8:30 p.m. on the first night of camping. If you miss the first day of your reservation please call, as reservations are released on the second day at 4:00 p.m. for no show reservations.

#### Fees:

#### Fee Changes:

This year the rates of campsites and entrance passes were reviewed and an increases were put in place.

#### Summer fees:

Tent sites and lean-tos \$30 to \$32 Bunkhouse \$11 to \$12 Group sites \$7 per person to \$8 person Backcountry sites \$20 to \$21 Two person cabin \$55 to \$57 Three person \$75 to \$78 Four person \$100 to \$105 Six person \$130 to \$135.

Winter fees: Tent sites and lean-tos \$15 to \$17

Lean-tos at Chimney \$42 to \$44
Bunkhouse per person \$20
Chimney Bunkhouse per person \$38 to \$40

**Entrance Passes:** Non-resident \$14 to \$15

Non-Resident Motor Vehicle Fee A day pass or season pass is required for all vehicles entering Baxter State Park. Non-resident motor vehicles shall pay a motor vehicle fee of \$15.00 per motor vehicle for each day in the Park. If a motor vehicle enters the park in connection with overnight reservations covering one or more consecutive nights in the park, then re-entry to the park shall be permitted upon payment of a single motor vehicle fee during the period covered by the overnight reservations, and no longer. Motor vehicles shall not be permitted to enter the Park under any other circumstances, including day use, through traffic or reservations for non-successive nights in the park, without payment of the motor vehicle fee for each day. This regulation does not apply to motor vehicles bearing a Maine registration and license plate. A season pass under this regulation shall be available at a charge of \$40.00 per non-resident vehicle.

The proper fee must accompany all reservation requests. All fees include sales tax where applicable and must be paid in U.S. funds. For summer reservations, Park Headquarters accepts Visa, MasterCard, money order or check made payable to Baxter State Park. Campgrounds and Matagamon gate do not accept credit cards (no electricity), please be prepared to pay with cash or check when arriving at the Park. Togue Pond gate does have the ability for credit card for reservations and day use passes. Fees are payable by all persons year round, except government employees on official business within the Park.

**Summer Season Cancellation Policy:** Cancellations and partial cancellations requests must be received a minimum of 14 days prior to the scheduled camping date. A \$15.00 service fee will be applied. Cancellations can only be made in person or by phone. No refunds within the 14 day window, transfers only, a \$15.00 will also apply.

**Transfers:** Transfers must be made and used within the same camping season the original reservation was made. Changes to all reservations can only be made in person or by phone 207-724-5140. A \$15.00 fee.

**Office Hours**: The Reservations Office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, but closed on weekends and holidays. During our peak season from Memorial Day through the Saturday of Columbus Day weekend, the Reservation Office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. seven days a week, including Holidays. No mail reservations will be made when our office is closed, but shall be accepted on the next business day.

Reservation Limits and Other Policies: A reservation is accommodations are secured for one or more consecutive nights of lodging in Baxter State Park. Reservations shall be accepted for up to seven (7) total nights for any one (1) site and any one (1) campground, and up to two weeks (14 nights) total duration. Exceptions: Davis Pone lean-to one (1) night only and Wassataquoik Lake Island lean-to two (2) nights only.

**Capacity:** When considering capacity of all facilities, each child is counted as one individual regardless of age. **Site capacity is strictly enforced.** Before adding people to your party, consult with Park Reservation Clerks to be sure your site will hold additional people.

**No Shows:** Reservations for two or more nights will be held only until 4:00 PM of the day following the first evening for which reservations were made.

Groups of thirteen (13) or more in a family or non-family situation shall be assigned to one of the group areas.

## **Financial Report**

#### **FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017**

#### Revenue - 014 Account

\$989,349
\$6,844
\$239,603
\$61,227
\$45,694
\$ 262,468
\$142
(\$3,423)
\$1,601,904

### **Trust Funds**

Boston Trust	\$ 2,010,188
State Held Trust	\$206,347
Cash Pool Distribution (interest)	\$7,390
Independent Trust	\$264,000
NET REVENUE FROM TRUSTS	\$2,487,92 <u>5</u>

#### Miscellaneous Revenue

Special Licenses and Leases	\$ (16)
Sale of Equipment	\$11,405
Rent of Lands	\$2,501
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,292
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	\$16,182
BALANCE FORWARD USED AS REVENUE	\$221,000
TOTAL REVENUE AVAILABLE	\$4,327,011

Expenditures
PERSONNEL SERVICES

Salaries, permanent	\$880,421
Salaries, seasonal	\$576,827
Overtime/Differential/Retro	\$103,331
Retirement Contributions	\$577,125
Other Benefits	\$435,705
TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES	\$2,573,409

## All Other

Contractual Services	\$547,930
Park Operations – All Groups	\$589,552
Sta-Cap Charges	\$51,296
TOTAL ALL OTHER	\$1,188,778

## Capital

Buildings	\$214,564
Equipment	\$ 6,370
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$220,934

\$3,983,121 TOTAL EXPENDITURES

## SCIENTIFIC FOREST MANAGEMENT

#### **Staff and Contracted Labor**

Eben Sypitkowski, Res Mgr. Dee George, Forester. Kevin Osborne, Fst Tech.

Interns:

Sam Hahn, UM MF student.

Dylan Thombs, Bates Edu.

Processor (JD tracked dangle):

Clint Morrow Volunteers: Forwarder: Keith Dionne Jim Hamlin Hand Crew: Tom Goetz

Brent Chadbourne, Caratunk,

JD 540B

#### **Harvest Production and Markets**

We kept Clint in quite decent spruce and fir and some pine for much of the winter down Murphy Brook and the summer mainly down the Frost Pond and Thrush systems, and this seemed to keep his productivity in an ok place (166 cords/week on average for the entire year--no difference between summer and winter--according to his machine). Brent's production as a hand crew is much harder to judge but once he got ahead of the advances we started out him out on, he stayed ahead and wants to come back next year. Brent finished in the pine in mid October, and we kept Clint on for the fall, which brought with it some nice cold weather through December--we moved Clint to the north end and into the new North End camp around mid-December so we didn't need to plow the south end at all--and barely got Brent's pine off Kingbird before winter closed in.

#### Markets

All wood markets stabilized over the winter and prices more or less remained similar to 2016 for the summer, save for a few bucks of flux with hardwood pulp. We continued to split our **spruce** between Maine and Canada, keeping as much as possible in Maine, even with the understanding that by doing so

we were leaving money on the table. Pleasant River increased their price enough that we swapped and kept a majority of the spruce in the state. That wood still flows through the train yard at Dolby for the moment, and ends up at Moose River Lumber in Jackman. Gardiner never opened the chip plant at Dolby, so **hardwood** heads north to Portage along with **hygrade**, which we have been sending tree length from the hand crew to make it simpler to pay him in a reasonable amount of time (last year the hand crews logged products



on the landing and we were revenue sharing a portion of the profit from each product--going to a weight

rate for tree length hygrade significantly simplified this process.). Did use Parker Brothers for a few loads of hemlock as well.

#### Silviculture

Much of our forest is spruce, and much of it has this ubiquitous layer of SF regeneration climbing into an established state. Though this is not unique to areas that have been treated with a shelterwood establishment, much of our ground has in fact been treated this way between 5 and 20 years ago. Thus, we're seeing the need for **lots of overstory removals** to release the well-established regeneration. This was predicted by Rick's modelling activities, and is quite helpful on to our finances given the continued value of spruce relative to other products. In comparison with other years, the finances of the SFMA were quite favorable as prices we had last year remained where they were and given only slight inflation, we paid only slightly more than last year for wood harvesting services.

In the winter we began what will likely be the first of 3 winters down the **Murphy Brook and Roundabout road systems** past the North Branch of Murphy Brook. These stands exist on ledge-swale gravel tills too poor for hardwoods, making them perfect for spruce fir production. Most of the stands have varying overstory densities dependent on their treatment in the mid-90s when they were last harvested and more or less ubiquitous SF regeneration layer from 3-20' tall. The presence or absence of this regeneration and its height are the primary determinant of the shelterwood variant (establishment--30% target removal, extended--40-50%, OSR--80-90%) used in a particular area--these areas are generally on the sub-stand level, maybe ranging in size from 5-25 acres.

Brent also spent the last few weeks of his season with us attacking the poorest pine I could find on what is known on all the USGS topo maps as pine knoll (our stand 10047). Because of the great pine seed year, he was instructed to essentially mow down the mostly undesirable hardwood regeneration in this stand to expose mineral soil in the hopes of seeding in more pine on this site that clearly grows pine quite well.

#### Layout

Our layout process has settled in the past year to consist mainly of identifying these sub-stand pockets of relative homogeneity in the GIS (avenza maps on a tablet or phone in the cab) and flagging main trails into them, allowing the loggers to make supplemental trails to extend throughout the sub-stand area. Our standard maps now include one map with aerial images (still using mainly 2013 images, though we have some poor-quality ones from 2016 now), and another with the Enhanced Forestry Inventory basal area layer draped on the LiDAR-derived 1M DEM. The latter is generally preferred by Clint, but in mixed-wood the aerial image can be useful. We have tried to focus on doing more layout in the office and then field-checking our assumptions in the field with ribbon.

#### Natural Disturbance Based Silviculture

In order to keep up with the prescription in place for a few our better sites where Jensen had installed **small gaps** to establish 14 age classes within each stand, we continued to employ the services of Brent Chadbourne to work in these gaps. We tried a few subtly different approaches to massage the balance of the roles of logger and forester--last year we were criticized for overstepping the line between what should be our role--to decide what, when, and where to cut--and the role of the logger, which is to figure out how to remove the wood we've designated to be removed. Thus, instead of flagging the boundaries of gaps, we hung a ribbon at what we wanted to be the center point of a gap and instructed the logger that the gap should be either 66' or 100' in radius (these occurred in hardwood dominated ground with a good spruce component, so the gaps were intended to be larger in the hopes of regenerating yellow birch and sugar maple). We also designated leave trees and instructed the logger to pay careful attention to pole sized and smaller spruce regeneration (in most cases, the predominance of which dictated the

location of the gap). A second variation on this loosening the hold on the logger we performed in a stand that had already been laid out by ringing the gaps we wanted cut. However, when we laid out these gaps, they often came out smaller than I had wanted or we became so focused on releasing regeneration that we forgot we needed to include something worthy of harvest as well. Thus, the logger was instructed to use these ribbons to guide the notion of where the *core* of the gap would be located, and he was tree to expand each of these by about a tree length, but of course holding to the retention standards set forth in other gaps.

The results were universally positive, though the real evaluation of these gaps is a few years away as we see how they regenerate and how any new regeneration interacts with the pole-sized and smaller red spruce that we intend to be the next canopy cohort. See 2016's annual report for more on this hallmark natural-disturbance based method of maintaining spruce in some of the better soils of the SFMA.

#### **Pre Commercial Thinning**

Brent also performed some Pre Commercial Thinning for us on about 15 acres down the end of Peewee. We chose a **7 x 7' spacing** so as to allow for a studwood entry in 40 years, yet dense enough to allow for some mortality in the event of a budworm event and to maintain decent hare habitat, though we have so much of this I'm not sure we need to be worried about the few acres we have available that are appropriate places to perform PCT. We have yet to identify an another area for this, though we have modified some of our overstory removals so as to prime some sites for this treatment in the future--mainly by concentrating the overstory removal and lowering the retention standards within that portion of a stand where the SF regeneration is ripe for PCT and the soils are well drained enough that the potential growth benefits would be worthwhile. Brent did a great job with this tough physical work--got up to about ¾ of an acre a day. This turned out to be more expensive than it would have been if we had hired one of the migrant crews, but it worked alright to provide off-season work to a great logger.

#### **Monitoring**

Because we believe the **LiDAR Enhanced Forest Inventory** provides a pretty good window into the metrics required for most operations, after this year we've decided against training interns again for a few years. This will be a trial to see if we can be more efficient and just as effective without their help. As inventory becomes less important with remote sensing techniques, the staff cost of training interns to do more nuanced and difficult work of layout and harvest oversight ceases to make organizational sense. With this is mind, much of what the interns did this year was perform inventory on stands that were 10 years post harvest, and we should certainly make an effort to revisit stands in this condition—but shift our focus when there toward revisiting the narratives and taking a higher-level look at these stands with more experienced eyes, instead of relying on inexperienced eyes to simply gather numbers.

As for our CFI, we **added a down woody material component** to those measurements, the details of which were provided the necromass expert and advisory member Shawn Fraver. Plots in some areas took much longer than they had before, but this is where we should've been gathering these types of data for years--not in the operational inventory as we were doing in the early 20-teens. Since we have removed much of the operational inventory work burden, I think this extra effort for the CFI will be manageable.

We have begun to consider ways to house, preserve, and provide context and access to the **ecological monitoring data** we collect on an annual basis. We began with a basic inventory of our current ecological monitoring data and protocols, and have since been trying to identify places to store these data so that they might be better preserved than in the Access DB format in which we've been keeping them, and where they might be more accessible to those who could use them in various studies. We found a great repository for these data in the <u>Forest Ecosystem Monitoring Cooperative</u> out of UVM, and began by <u>storing our CFI data there</u>. Their data services are currently free and we were the first Maine entity to reach out to them--they store this stuff in future-proof formats and redundant networks within the

<u>DataOne system</u>. We'll continue to curate and update this and other datasets, and as we do so, think about other ecological parameters we might measure to compliment or enhance future studies or questions we have yet to ask.

We also began to revisit the Frost Pond Forest again to focus on any beetle damage still affecting the larger spruce in this area, and consider how and if we might re-enter. We started by re-assessing bark beetle damage following the methods that Jensen employed in 2003 when there was a large concern that the stand might fall apart as the beetle spread through it. Back then, a sanitation cut of recently and almost-dead spruce was employed to mitigate the loss--and perhaps contributed to the lack of impacts we're seeing now. This data collection and compilation will comprise Sam Hahn's master's project for his MF at UMO this year. With that in hand, we hope to finish a revised Frost Pond Management Plan this year.

Dee is working on an update to the Mt. Chase Forest Management Plan. This is one of the forests purchased in the early 70's to be a demonstration forest closer to population centers where visitation might be greater than in the SFMA. As part of this outreach objective, Dee and Trail specialist Theresa Theriault laid out an interpretive trail that MCC will likely rough out next year. The other demonstration forest, the Austin Cary Forest in Harpswell, is almost out of the legal woods and done with a land swap that should settle out an encroachment from the neighboring Used Auto Sales place.

Recreational use in the SFMA continued to decline as it has since the good old days in the early 2000s when deer were running the place.

#### **Advisory**

We are blessed to have such a high caliber community of knowledgeable forestry folk concerned and involved in the SFMA. We were pleased to honor one with a dedication of a stand in his name (stand 2026), and install a signpost so that others might see his visage as they passed. D. Gordon Mott gave more than 10 years of service to the advisory and additionally was one of the original instigators that helped to create the Resource Manager position and set the SFMA on a more productive track. He stepped down this year and will be missed. We are humbled by his long and generous service.

The <u>advisory met in Bangor on April 24th</u>, where we discussed LiDAR, drone use, and long term ecological monitoring. We also held a field meeting in which we dedicated Gordon's stand, visited Frost Pond to discuss our process to revise the management plan there, and took a short walk down the Forestry interpretive Trail, where the consensus was we still need to pare down the words in the brochure to get to a sixth to eighth grade level.

It was a quiet year for tours and presentations mainly because Eben became a dad in late summer. Eben lead a brief tour of the FiT for Maine Project Learning Tree, Dee lead one for I&E staff, and we continued to revise the FiT brochure.

Lname	Fname	TermUp
Kanoti	Allison	2019
Fraver	Shawn	2019
Cutko	Andy	2019
Meacham	Emily	2019
Bryant	John	2019
O'Malley	Jim	2019
Laustsen	Ken	2020
Seymour	Robert	2020
Troeger	Craig	2020
Weiskittel	Aaron	2020
Brusila	Barrie	2018
Bryan	Rob	2018
Ahrens	Philip	2018
Dibble	Alison	2018
Wiley	Joe	2018
Mott	Gordon	2017



#### Infrastructure

Road Work this year was largely maintenance-based--we replaced 9 culverts and spot graded much of the south end. Later in the season, we discovered that 20 year old excavator roads fall apart when you haul on them, likely because the stumps buried beneath have rotted to a large extent. Therefore we ended up resurfacing pieces of Frost Pond and Thrush. For winter roads, we devoted some excavator time to Murphy Brook and Roundabout so that they might not fall apart as they did last January when we tried to get in there--and that also improved the surfaces enough that we can drive in most of that system and therefore also keep it mowed. That was the first of three winters down that road system.

Tom Goetz and Bruce had another whack at the Halfway Brook shelter to keep the thing from falling over, and will continue that effort next season. Jim Hamlin was the first to use the brand-new tractor to mow ½ of our roads. The other building we



dealt with was the North End Camp--The Pelletier's removed the old camp that we had purchased from them 5-6 years ago and we gave it to the CFRU for use at their site next to the Pelletier's Telos Camp. We replaced it with a kit-built unit from Hill View Mini-Barns that it much tighter and has a better layout for the two man crew that frequents it, mainly in the winter. Steve Bouchard and Matt Martin finished out much of the interior in time for Clint and Keith to move in in December.





## **VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

### **Overview of Program**

Baxter State Park's Volunteer Program is an important part of the maintenance and preservation of Park resources. The Volunteer Coordinators (Supervisor Ranger Bruce White, and Park Secretary Georgia Manzo) work in close communication and coordination with the Park Naturalist, Chief Ranger, Supervisor Rangers and Campground Rangers, as well as SFMA and Maintenance and Transportation personnel, to identify, assemble and execute volunteer work projects.

In 2017, including Search and Rescue volunteer teams, over 180 volunteers provided approximately 3,230 hours of service to the maintenance, operations, resource protection and visitor safety of the Park.

A Volunteer banquet was held in November to honor Search & Rescue volunteers and those volunteers with 25 or more hours of service in 2018.













## **Volunteer Projects Accomplished (not including Trails and Search & Rescue)**

Location	Project Description
Abol Campground	Build Klosk
Annual Loon Count	Document Loon Sightings
Chimney Pond	Help Trail Specialists construct tent platforms
Culverts	GPS and assess condition
Daicey Pond Volunteer Camp	Interior painting, cleaning, rough carpentry
Earth Day Litter Patrol	Litter Clean-up Mikt to Togue Pd Gate
Junior Ranger Booklet	Copy & Assemble @ Park Headquarters
Katahdin Stream Garage	Staining
Katahdin Stream sites 1,2,3,24,25	Wheelbarrow gravel and crib work
Kidney Pd, Daicey Pd, South Branch Pd, Trout Brook Farm Campgrounds	Opening and closing: Clean cabins, hang curtains, raking, paint picnic tables, install boats, motors, canoes, launches
Kidney Pond - Stream Camp	Interior/Exterior Staining/Painting
Nesowadnehunk and Togue Gate	Smokey Bears Facelift
Nesowadnehunk Bunkhouse	Log Oil - Exterior
North Branch Camps	New stove pipes on stoves and blackening on stoves, window replacement etc
North Branch Camps	Install stovepipe, blacken stove, clean, repair screens
Park Gates (Metal) -excluding SFMA	Scraped, painted, new reflectors
Park Headquarters	Stain polebarn, sign/planter, picnic tables
Parkwide	Campground/Trailhead monitoring during spring and fall all-staff meetings
Pine Camp at Abol	Construct new stairway to loft
Roaring Brook	Replace Outhouse Roof
Russell Pond	Lean-to #2 replace/build crib, haul gravel and fill
Sandy Stream Pond	fill in trodden/unwelcomed trails
SFMA	Mowing, road repair, repair of Halfway Brook Shelter
Togue Gate/Logan Pond Gate	Oil and Stain respectively
Togue Pond and Matagamon Gates	Spring and Fall Mtg Coverage
Togue Pond and Visitor Center Landing	Haul/Spread Material (gravel - small job) - and planking
Togue Pond Area (VC, Togue Pond Camp & Lower Togue) Daicey/Kidney Ponds	Firewood Stacking
Togue Pond Camp Facilities-All	Scraping/Staining 4 buildings, some Roof Work. Stain Outhouse (on the Point)
Togue Pond Camps	paint pole barn, garage and ranger camp
Trout Brook Farm	Paint office & Apartment Building
Trout Brook Farm	Light CarpentryRepairs
Trout Brook Farm	Groundswork

# Appendix A

**BSP Statistics** 

BAXTER STATE PARK Cam	per Night	Summa	ry	2017													
TOTAL CAMPER NIGHTS (S	ummer)		54,866					% OF						% OF			
TOTAL CAMPERS (Summer	}		22,976					SUMMER						WINTER	CAMP-	%	Camper
NIGHTS PER CAMPER (Sun	nmer)		2.39				SUMMER	CAMPER					WINTER	CAMPER	NIGHT	PARK	Nights
	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	TOTAL	NIGHT	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	TOTAL	NIGHT	TOTAL	TOTAL	Total
CAMPGROUNDS																	
Roaring Brook	135	1136	1562	1679	1314	548	6374	14%	129	101	167	169	566	19%	6940	15%	694
Abol	121	776	1583	1645	886	402	5413	12%	35	113	69	133	350	12%	5763	12%	576
Katahdin Stream	304	1220	1721	1822	1337	773	7177	16%	8	13	6	18	45	2%	7222	15%	722
Daicey Pond	241	561	834	891	691	446	3664	8%	23	70	224	159	476	16%	4140	9%	414
Kidney Pond	191	698	929	1003	876	503	4200	9%	0	6	118	119	243	8%	4443	9%	444
Nesowadnehunk	34	315	1155	1469	666	228	3867	9%	2	14	72	87	175	6%	4042	9%	404
Trout Brook Farm	16	75	496	783	236	114	1720	4%	10	15	17	9	51	2%	1771	4%	177
South Branch Pond	100	676	2290	2524	1245	484	7319	16%	2	43	166	7	218	7%	7537	16%	753
Russell Pond	35	156	499	520	216	61	1487	3%	2	26	57	19	104	3%	1591	3%	159
Chimney Pond	0	533	908	890	691	288	3310	7%	43	119	243	337	742	25%	4052	9%	405
Togue Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0	6	8	13	27	1%	27	0%	2
Campground Total	1177	6146	11977	13226	8158	3847	44531	81%	254	526	1147	1070	2997	100%	47528	82%	4752
GROUP AREAS																	
Bear Brook	55	283	674	546	371	127	2056	33%							2056	33%	205
Foster Field	10	190	591	686	181	109	1767	29%							1767	29%	176
Nesowadnehunk	0	106	319	476	245	38	1184	19%		CL	0 5	E D			1184	19%	118
North Branch Camps	0	0	105	192	64	4	365	6%							365	6%	36
Trout Brook	27	253	108	327	68	9	792	13%							792	13%	79
Group Area Total	92	832	1797	2227	929	287	6164	11%							6164	11%	616
OUTLYING SITES																	
South Branch Pond	16	36	105	106	94	42	399	10%							399	10%	39
Fowler	52	78	146	231	130	17	654	16%							654	16%	65
A 100 A	7.7			777	777	-											
Webster/Matagamon	93	78	203	342	137	39	892	21%		72. 6	1,01716	0.0			892	21%	89
AT Shelter/Thr Birches	2	40	143	215	183	90	673	16%		CL	0 5	E D			673	16%	67
Davis	0	23	51	56	50	20	200	5%							200	5%	20
Wassataguoik Area	15	85	151	257	210	97	815	20%							815	20%	81
Katahdin Lake	8	40	166	175	101	48	538	13%							538	13%	53
Outlying Total	186	380	799	1382	905	353	4171	8%							4171	7%	417
TOT. CAMP NIGHTS - SUMMER	1455	7358	14573	16835	9992	4487	54866	100%	254	526	1147	1070	2997	100%	57863	100%	5786
% OF PARK TOTAL	3%	13%	25%	29%	17%	8%	95%	100%	0%	1%	2%	2%	5%		100%		

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS - VISIT 2008-2017	OR DAYS									
VISITOR DAY STATISTICS:	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
TOTAL SUMMER VISITOR DAYS	106,544	106,592	114,523	109,265	115,828	114,101	113,444	119,761	127,459	124,963
TOTAL WINTER VISITOR DAYS	2,741	1,396	1,240	2,597	1,420	3,380	4,090	4,033	2,513	2,997
TOTAL PARK VISITOR DAYS	109,285	107,988	115,763	111,862	117,248	117,481	117,534	123,794	129,972	127,960
Visitor day = camper nights + gatel	nouse headco	unt								
(A visitor staying in the park two n	ights would s	pend thre	e davs in	the Park.	Camper r	nights cou	nts the ni	ghts in		
the Park, gatehouse headcount ad							THE COLUMN	0		

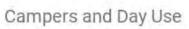
	MAY	occu	PIED SIT	re-Nig		ост	SUMMER TOTAL	3 - 21	TOTAL AVAIL NIGHTS	TOTAL AVAIL SITE- NIGHTS	% OCCUPANCY
LEANTOS	1		-								
Roaring Brook	22	175	245	257	225	109	1033	9	147	1323	78.1%
Abol	38	177	329	336	234	84	1198	12	154	1848	64.8%
Katahdin Stream	77	285	321	334	296	161	1474	12	160	1920	76.8%
Nesowadnehunk	4	56	240	248	154	42	744	11:	143	1573	47.3%
Trout Brook Farm	0	4	18	26	14	3	65	1	143	143	45.5%
South Branch Pond	37	129	293	308	264	110	1141	12	147	1764	64.7%
Russell Pond	H	43	87	111	64	30	346	4	147	588	58.8%
Chimney Pond	0	151	251	236	208	72	918	9	134	1206	76.1%
Leanto Total	189	1020	1784	1856	1459	611	6919	70	1175	10365	66.8%
TENTSITES											
Roaring Brook	25	221	244	267	243	113	1113	10	147	1470	75.7%
Abol	21	145	245	253	154	69	887	9	154	1386	64.0%
Katahdin Stream	57	229	267	281	243	140	1217	9	160	1440	84.5%
Nesowadnehunk	7	61	159	250	105	33	615	10	143	1430	43.0%
Trout Brook Farm	8	23	180	272	86	35	604	14	143	2002	30.2%
South Branch Pond	10	129	482	519	266	105	1511	21	147	3087	48.9%
Russell Pond	0	11	42	41	23	6	123	4	147	588	20.9%
Tentsite Total	128	819	1619	1883	1120	501	6070	77	1041	11403	53.2%
BUNKHOUSES											
Roaring Brook	2	25	30	29	26	14	126	1	147	147	85.7%
Nesowadnehunk	0	6	18	26	16	-5	71	1	143	143	49.7%
South Branch Pond	3	9	21	20	20	9	82	1	147	147	55.8%
Russell Pond	5	2	19	26	9	4	65	1	147	147	44.2%
Chimney Pond	0	27	30	31	29	13	130	1	134	134	97.0%
Bunkhouse Total	10	69	118	132	100	45	474	5	718	718	66.0%
GROUP AREAS											
Bear Brook	5	43	58	85	48	22	261	3	147	441	59.2%
North Branch Camps	0	0	. 11	19	7	1	38	1	105	105	36.2%
Foster Field	2	27	72	74	29	16	220	3	160	480	45.8%
Nesowadnehunk	0	14	50	57	32	3	156	3	143	429	36.4%
Trout Brook Farm	5	37	23	50	12	3	130	- 4	143	572	22.7%
Group Area Total	12	121	214	285	128	45	805	14	698	2027	39.7%
CABINS											
Nesowadnehunk	0	10	25	27	17	8	87	1	143	143	60.8%
Daicey Pond	86	198	272	293	255	164	1268	10	160	1600	79.3%
Kidney Pond	69	265	329	365	343	205	1576	12	160	1920	82.1%
TOTAL	155	473	626	685	615	377	2931	23	463	3663	80.0%
NO-SHOW SITES											
Roaring Brook	8	75	78	60	80	30	331	23	147	3381	9.8%
Abol	2	45	45	49	49	20	210	21	154	3234	6.5%
Katahdin Stream	12	80	83	66	.77	47	365	24	160	3840	9.5%
Daicey Pond	3	2	8	2	9	5	29	10	160	1600	1.8%
Kidney Pond	0	3	6	11		3	23	12	160	1920	1.2%
Nesowadnehunk	0	12	34	70	49	10	175	25	143	3575	4.9%
Trout Brook Farm	0	0	0	5	0	1.	6	19	143	2717	0.2%
South Branch Pond	7	35	66	88	90	16	302	34	147	4998	6.0%
Russell Pond	5	0	13	10	10	7	45	9	147	1323	3.4%
Chimney Pond	0	19	14	27	18	11	89	10	134	1340	6.6%
NO-SHOW TOTAL	37	271	347	388	382	150	1575	187	1495	27928	5.6%

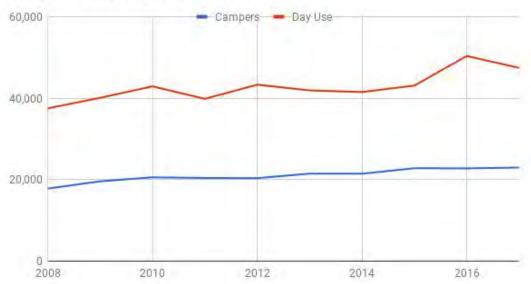
	VEHI	cies	COMME	RCIAL USE	TOTAL VEHICLE	% OF TOTAL	TOTAL PEOPLE/	AVE. PEOPLE/
	RES	NON-RES	RES	NON-RES	MONTH	VEH	MONTH	VEHICLE
MAY								
Togue Pond	459	304	9	1	773		1839	
Matagamon	159	50	1	0	210		463	
Total MAY	618	354	10	1	983	4%	2302	2.3
JUNE			- 11					
Togue Pond	1541	1533	72	3	3149		8086	
Matagamon	303	142	19	0	464		1068	
Total JUNE	1844	1675	91	3	3613	13%	9154	2.5
JULY								
Togue Pond	2497	2900	76	17	5490		15683	
Matagamon	699	310	2	0	1011		2740	
Total JULY	3196	3210	78	17	6501	24%	18423	2.8
AUGUST								
Togue Pond	2681	3276	60	6	6023		16482	
Matagamon	661	376	0	0	1037		2812	
Total AUGUST	3342	3652	60	6	7060	26%	19294	2.7
SEPTEMBER								
Togue Pond	2267	2600	48	3	4918		11633	
Matagamon	419	259	0	0	678		1599	
Total SEPT	2686	2859	48	3	5596	20%	13232	2.4
OCTOBER								
Togue Pond	1455	1631	27	2	3115		7077	
Matagamon	254	181	0	0	435		980	
Total OCTOBER	1709	1812	27	2	3550	13%	8057	2.3
TOTAL BY	1000	-	1			51101	-	
USE CATEGORY	13395	13562	314	32	27303	100%	70462	2.6
<b>%BY CATEGORY</b>	49%	50%						

	VEH	ICLES	COM	MERCIAL		% OF
	RES	NON-RES	RES	NON-RES	TOTAL	TOTAL
TOGUE POND GATE						
May	459	304	9	1	773	
June	1541	1533	72	3	3149	
July	2497	2900	76	17	5490	
August	2681	3276	60	6	6023	
September	2267	2600	48	3	4918	
October	1455	1631	27	2	3115	
TOGUE TOTAL	10900	12244	292	32	23468	87%
MATAGAMON GATE		- "		1/4		
May	159	50	1	0	0	
June	303	142	19	0	464	
July	699	310	2	0	1011	
August	661	376	0	0	1037	
September	419	259	0	0	678	
October	254	181	0	0	435	
MATAGAMON TOTAL	2495	1318	22	0	3625	13%
TOTAL GATES	13395	13562	314	32	27093	

	RES	DAY USE NON-RES	Walk/ Bike	TOTAL	RES	CAMPERS NON-RES	Walk/ Bike	TOTAL	BY MONTH	% OF TOTAL
MAY	1125	11511111			,,,,,					
Togue Pond	858	471	0	1329	289	221	0	510	1839	
Matagamon	283	41	0	324	93	46	0	139	463	
Total MAY	1141	512	0	1653	382	267	0	649	2302	3%
JUNE										
Togue Pond	2770	2403	2	5175	1286	1624	1	2911	8086	
Matagamon	461	196	0	657	276	135	0	411	1068	
Total JUNE	3231	2599	2	5832	1562	1759	1	3322	9154	13%
JULY		- 1.0							1111	
Togue Pond	5423	5366	17	10806	1915	2960	2	4877	15683	
Matagamon	1167	340	2	1509	788	443	0	1231	2740	
Total JULY	6590	5706	19	12315	2703	3403	2	6108	18423	26%
AUGUST	1									
Togue Pond	5383	6074	4	11461	2302	2716	3	5021	16482	
Matagamon	1035	425	5	1465	851	496	0	1347	2812	
Total AUGUST	6418	6499	9	12926	3153	3212	3	6368	19294	27%
SEPTEMBER										
Togue Pond	3883	4045	5	7933	1740	1958	2	3700	11633	
Matagamon	509	310	3	822	483	294	0	777	1599	
Total SEPTEMBER	4392	4355	8	8755	2223	2252	2	4477	13232	19%
OCTOBER	T.oren	- 8.5			1 7 7 7					
Togue Pond	2623	2702	1	5326	828	922	1	1751	7077	
Matagamon	400	277	2	679	191	108	2	301	980	
Total OCTOBER	3023	2979	3	6005	1019	1030	3	2052	8057	11%
TOTALS BY	24795	22650	41	47486	11042	11923	11	22976		
USE CATEGORY				47486				22976	70462	100%
% OF TOTAL USE				67%				33%		
% BY CATAGORY RES/NON-RES*	DAY USE 52%	48%			CAMPING 48%	52%			RES/NON-R 51%	ES 49%

BAXTER STATE PARK 2017 GATE COUNTS -	PEOPLE	PER GATE							
	RES	DAY USE NON-RES	TOTAL	RES	CAMPERS NON-RES	TOTAL	WALK/ BIKE	TOTAL COUNT	% BY GATE
TOGUE POND GATE									
May	858	471	1329	289	221	510	0	1839	3.6%
June	2770	2403	5173	1286	1624	2910	3	8086	15.7%
July	5423	5366	10789	1915	2960	4875	19	15683	30.4%
August	5383	6074	11457	2302	2716	5018	7	16482	31.9%
September	3883	4045	7928	1740	1958	3698	7	11633	22.5%
October	2623	2702	5325	828	922	1750	2	7077	13.7%
TOGUE POND TOTAL	20940	21061	42001	8360	10401	18761	38	60800	86%
MATAGAMON GATE									
May	283	41	324	93	46	139	0	463	5.3%
June	461	196	657	276	135	411	0	1068	12.3%
July	1167	340	1507	788	443	1231	2	2740	31.6%
August	1035	425	1460	851	496	1347	5	2812	32,4%
September	509	310	819	483	294	777	3	1599	18.4%
October	400	277	677	191	108	299	4	980	11.3%
MATAGAMON TOTAL	3855	1589	5444	2682	1522	4204	14	9662	14%
TOTAL GATES	24795	22650	47445	11042	11923	22965	52	70462	





BAXTER STATE PARK			Dudle	y Trail clo	osed in 2	017.		
2017 TRAIL USE SUMI								
REGISTERED HIKES PE	R PERSO	ON PER T	RAIL	ты				% of all
	may	jun	jul	aug	sept	oct	year	% w/in area
All trails	1,978	10,970	21,698	1 - 4 - 5		7,830	7 70 7 70	20 W/III area
% by month	2%	13%	26%	29%	20%	9%	100%	
KATAHDIN STREAM:	360	2,231	3,877	4,484	3,067	1,406	15,425	19%
Hunt	236	1892	3389	3942	2672	1244	13375	87%
Owl	45	64	108		84	54	533	3%
Name of the last o			87	178 45			247	2%
Grassy Pond	31	25			38	21		
O.J.I. A.T. South	27	42	74	123	97	39 38	402 660	3% 4%
	12	184	154	127	145			
Blueberry Ledges	9	24	65	69	31	10	208	1%
ABOL:	265	1,225	2,674	3,385	2,114	1,041		13%
Abol Trail	150	827	1,517	1,770	1,037	504	5,805	54%
Abol Falls	24	80	148	158	108	60	578	5%
Abol Pond/Stream	13	8	78	61	97	37	294	3%
Blueberry Ledges	28	40	352	485	138	79	1,122	10%
AT North	9	147	325	582	541	238	1,842	17%
Foss & Knowlton	1	13	18	23	16	8	79	1%
Kettle Ponds	12	19	52	51	34	26	194	2%
Cranberry Pond	28	91	184	255	143	89	790	7%
ROARING BROOK:	420	4,129	7,396	6,959	5,461	2,509	26,874	
Chimney	0	2,050	3,921	3,825	2,944	1,215	4.4.	
Helon Taylor	46	559	1,337	1,258	2	404	4,711	18%
Sandy Stream	273	1,237	1,607	1,386	1,063	688	6,254	
South Turner	84	167	231	173	138	122	915	3%
Russell Pond	15	100	287	309	185	72	968	4%
Nature Trail	2	16	13	8	24	8	71	0%
Katahdin Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Martin Ponds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
North Katahdin Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Rum Pond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
SOUTH BRANCH PD:	133	566	1,579	1,867	1,038	465	5,648	7%
South Branch Falls	34	161	372	432	155	87	1,241	22%
Ledges	21	78	261	243	112	76	791	14%
Howe Brook	27	63	263	265	133	70	821	15%
North Traveler	28	43	217	253	192	64	797	14%
Center Ridge	0	13	35	9	25	12	94	2%
Traveler Loop	0	73	179	215	173	61	701	12%
South Branch Mounta	8	44	131	206	91	20	500	9%
Pogy Notch	11	67	94	122	81	46	421	7%

			MON	HTI				% of all
	may	jun	jul	aug	sept	oct	year	16 W/In are
Middle Fowler	4	12	12	43	18	6	95	296
Burnt Mountain	0	12	15	79	58	23	187	396
NESOWADNEHUNK:	80	219	631	675	543	241	2,389	3%
Double Top	52	49	214	225	149	79	768	32%
Marston	19	122	285	289	297	99	1,111	
Wassataquoik Lake Tr	9	34	57	55	40	21	216	996
Dwelley Trail	0	14	75	106	57	42	294	1296
CHIMNEY POND:	0	1,218	2,580	2,853	2,023	856	9,530	12%
Dudley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	096
Cathedral	0	825		1,485	1,168	465	5,254	
Saddle	0	289	1,174	1,257		362		
Hamlin	0	49	58	46	58	11	222	296
North Basin	0	28	20	34	39	8	129	196
NorthWest Basin	0	21	15	19	14	8	77	196
North Peaks	0	6	2	12	5	2	27	096
DAICEY POND:	341	745	1,577	1,802	990	656	6,111	7%
Niagara Falls	283	689	1,348	1,404	679	487	4,890	
Daicy Pond Nature Tr	25	31	92	156	80	46	430	796
Lost Pond Trail	16	13	12	32	11	10	94	296
Sentinel Mt. Trail	0	0	0	0	4	16	20	096
A.T. to Katahdin Str.	12	1	89	125	166	52	445	796
Daicey to Grassy	5	11	14	44	28	29	131	296
Daicey to Elbow	0	0	6	22	8	10	46	196
Daicey to Kidney	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	096
Kidney/Lily Pad	0	0	16	19	14	6	55	196
KIDNEY POND:	203	290	469	641	508	300	2,411	3%
Double Top	59	46	45	73	86	67	376	16%
Sentinel Mountain	49	53	239	327	177	137	982	4196
Rocky Pond	31	61	72	104	102	34	404	17%
Draper Pond	7	34	23	26	45	19	154	696
Kidney Pond Circuit			2	21	28	6	57	296
Celia & Jackson	26	23	23	45	32	14	163	796
WindyPitch/Niagara/	18	18	43	20	9	7	115	596
Slaughter Pond	13	55	22	25	29	16	160	796
RUSSELL POND:	53	193	479	673	406	188	1,992	2%
Russell Pond Trail	2	25	80	86	66	28	287	1496
Wassataquoik Stream	12	60	117	136	90	31	446	22%
Pogy Notch Trail	10	13	26	53	37	19	158	896
Wassataquoik Lake	21	35	102	180	102	62	502	25%

		N PER T	MON	ere.				N/ 48-11
		5.12			-		2022	% of all
North West Basin Tra	may 0	jun 36	jul 85	aug 98	sept 64	oct 25	year 308	15%
Grand Falls Trail	5	11	46	61	25	12	160	8%
Lookout Trail	3	9	20	26	9	7	74	4%
North Peaks	0	4	3	33	13	4	57	3%
TROUT BRk FARM:	123	154	436	571	314	168	1,766	2%
Horse Mountain	8	23	96	116	43	55	341	19%
Five Ponds	26	37	61	75	54	27	280	16%
Fowler Pond	25	60	70	93	65	16	329	19%
Freezeout	10	9	39	62	45	14	179	10%
Frast Pond	16	8	21	16	4	.0	65	496
Trout Brook Mountain	37	13	122	181	93	52	498	28%
Wadleigh Brook	1	4	27	28	10	4	74	496

# Appendix B

## 2017 Budget

	ACTUAL BUDGET FY14	ACTUAL BUDGET FY15	ANNUAL BUDGET FY16	ANNUAL BUDGET FY17
3000 PERSONAL SERVICES				
3110 Perm Regular	724,181	746,737	943,965	944,281
3120 Perm PT B			18,716	18,023
3180 Perm Vac	63,028	71,111		2
3181 Perm Hol	45,355	48,660		
3182 Perm Sick	24,398	15,738		2 73
3185 Perm Vac Pay Retire				20
3195 Attrition		0	-25,969	(25,658)
3210 Limited Period Regular	3,083			
3280 Limited Period Vacation				
3281 Limited Period Holiday	116			3
3282 Limited Period Sick			8	9
3310 SSNL REG	400,821	417,844	578,446	559,919
3380 SSNL VAC	28,834	31,858		2 73
3381 SSNL HOL	23,791	22,189		20
3382 SSNL SICK	18,703	21,348		
3410 PROJ REG	•	5,328		
3450 REG ACTG	12,225	13,726		
3480 PROJ VAC	193		ć	3
3481 PROJ HOL	391	855	8	3
3482 PROJ SICK	5	285		
3611 STAND O/T	6,699	4,695		
3612 PREM O/T	11,358	8,082		
3616 RETRO LUMP	17,338	2,640		
3618 RETRO 84				
3620 Retire Incentive				
3621 STP RC/RT	4,329	4,650	5,162	4,957
3623 I.T.TRAINING STIPEND	3		8	2
3631 LNGVTY PY	5,942	8,705	9,778	10,326
3634 CALL OUT		194		
3636 Court Pay	279	74		
3638 SHFT DIFF	730	753	4,554	4,554
3641 NSTND DIF	54,074	54,013	62,522	61,816

3648 Comp U/P No Retirement	7,017	10,942		7
3810 UNEMP CMP	45,811	50,752	46,000	46,000
3899 ACCRUED PAYROLLS				
3901 HLTH INSR	323,952	347,047	373,023	387,860
3905 DENTAL IN	12,054	11,948	13,209	13,805
3906 EMPLOYEE HLTH SVS/WC	76	418		2
3908 ST RET HL	182,913	189,329	159,558	166,346
3909 ST RET AD		,		
3910 EMPR RTMT	78,846	80,546	122,508	121,088
3911 EMPR GROUP LIFE	7,697	7,829	9,628	9,290
3912 EMPR MED	19,631	20,097	22,288	22,047
3959 RUL-BPR	67,648	69,410	86,993	87,456
3960 RUL-REG	156,540	167,579	203,355	204,951
3971 UNIFORM	1,817	617	1,900	0
3973 CHILD CARE				
3978 INTEREST DUE EMPLOYEES	56		ž.	
	2,349,926	2,435,999	2,635,636	2,637,061
All Other				2
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES				
4003 Act/Audit Service				
4015 Casual Labor	142,952	99,704	176,925	288,825
4016 Art /Graphics	50	0	200	200
4041 Laundry Services	39	0	100	100
4042 Legal Services	3,230	0	100	100
4046 Medical Services	1,319	587	3,000	1,500
4099 Professional Services	193,749	226,424	250,140	243,030
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES STATE				S 20
4106 Lab Services	512	22	1000	1,000
				.,
TRAVEL IN STATE				
4270 In-State Mileage	1,408	694	2,000	2,000
4271 Other Transportation	,,,,,,,	0	200	200
4273 Lodging	1,439	1,690	2,000	2,403
4274 Meals/Gratuities	3,216	5,030	5,000	5,000
Branch April 19 Branch 19 April 19 Apri	-,	2,202	-,	5,5.53
TRAVEL OUT OF STATE				7
4380 Out of State Mileage				
4381 Other Transportation (out of state)	29	36	3,000	3,000
4383 Lodging (out of state)	962	391	1,000	1,000
4384 Meals/Gratuities	40	0	224	224
VEHICLE OPERATIONS			5	

4402 Gas/Oil	65,133	51,306	65,000	64,000
4403 Diesel Oil	9,575	785	10,000	10,000
4423 Repairs Parts/Supply	39,323	30,531	25,000	25,000
4424 Repairs Snowmobile	6,784	3,392	7,000	7,000
UTILITIES SERVICES				
4521 Electric	12,324	14,092	13,500	14,500
4532 Bottled Water	332	0	500	500
4536 Other Utility	3,993	2,516	4,000	4,000
4551 Freight	1,958	4,060	4,000	5,000
RENTS				
4601 Rent Land	1,000	500	500	500
4602 Rent Plane	1,645	0	1,400	1,400
4616 Rent Misc. Office Equipment	1,040	0	200	200
4661 Rent Equipment		0	500	500
REPAIRS		,		
4711 Repair Building	20.004	20.074	20,000	25 000
4721 Repair Small Engine	26,091	20,874	30,000	25,000
4726 Repair Radios	2,615	1,735	3,200	2,000
4735 Maintenance Agreements	2,755	1,107	3,000	2,000
4751 Misc. Repairs	5,299	6,974 1,198	6,000 3,000	7,000 3,000
4701 Wilde. Repairs	2,771	ACTUAL	ANNUAL	ANNUAL
	BUDGET FY14	BUDGET FY15	BUDGET FY16	BUDGET FY17
INSURANCES				
4801 Insurance Building	2,528	0	2,500	2,500
4811 Insurance Equipment	290	290	300	300
4825 Insurance General Liability	4,342	4,107	4,300	4,300
4827 Snowmobile Ins	1,078	0	1,400	1,400
4841 Employees Bond	120	120	200	200
4845 Workers Comp Ins.	32,391	25,148	36,000	44,000
4851 Mis Insurance	800	0	600	600
4852 Auto Insurance	4,054	8,645	5,000	9,000
4880 Eye Exam	150	150	250	250
4881 Lens Stat	150	0	250	250
GENERAL OPERATIONS				
1001 Ctamps/Darest Doct		X160.001	×214	722
4901 Stamps/Parcel Post	13	45	0	50
4909 Courier Service	13	45 0	300	50 0

4913 Inter Government postage	35	42	150	50
4929 Printing/Binding	22,795	18,318	18,000	18,000
4941 Print Report (State of Maine)	0	0	60	0
4946 Advertisement Notices	2,544	2,238	2,000	2,300
4955 Credit Card Charges	11,369	12,815	14,000	14,000
4975 Sales Tax	72,250	67,011	74,000	71,000
4982 Subscriptions	29	189	550	200
4995 General Expenses	6,080	43,431	30,000	30,000
CAREER DEVELOPMENT				.s A5
5013 Employee Training	11,062	3,774	15,000	14,000
Training budget for I&E	,	0	800	500
Training budget for SFMA		0	600	500
Training budget for Bus Dept		0	600	500
FUEL			S	
5201 Fuel oil/pellets	12,350	9,344	17,000	14,000
5202 LP Gas	8,158	5,909	10,000	9,000
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY				
5300 Technology			A.	500
5301 OIT Prof services		0	1082	1,454
5302 Telephone/Data	25,899	36,854	13,000	10,686
5304 Cellular Phones	13,402	12,815	14,000	14,000
5310 Other Services		242	8,957	
5315 GIS Services			2,006	
5331 Network Access		1,414	5,655	5,655
5346 PC & Network software		275		2,685
5370 Minor IT Equipment				4,000
5380 Subscription- PC/Laptop		113	450	450
5381 Support - PC/Laptop		131	524	524
5382 File Services		1,639	137	137
5383 Email		799	2,491	2,340
5386 Mobile Data Device/Connection		553	2,548	419
	BUDGET FY14	ACTUAL BUDGET FY15	ANNUAL BUDGET FY16	ANNUAL BUDGET FY17
CLOTHING	6 10 1616	\$1 \$0 6500 I		R 9 40
5401 Clothing	20,569	10,141	15,000	15,000
ODEDATING CURRILIES				
OPERATING SUPPLIES				
5602 Office Supply	6,366	8,325	8,000	8,000
5611 Interpretation/Education	210	386	3,000	1,000

5629 Books & Maps for Resale	21,568	19,621	20,000	20,000
5636 Miscellaneous Supply	47,167	31,779	45,000	45,000
5650 Misc. Minor Equipment	31,431	37,190	44,000	41,600
HIGHWAY MATERIALS				
5812 Culverts	7,086	0	6,000	6,000
5861 Signs	528	374	2,276	2,276
STA-CAP	55,937	60,500	40,367	40,367
Total All Other	901,520	844,586	1,054,675	1,143,808
Total All Other & Sta-cap	961,010	905,086	1,095,042	1,184,175
Capital				3
7001 Land				
7101 Bldg./Improvements	171,857	232166	299000	210,000
	910			
				7
7200 Equipment				
7203 Data Processing Equipment				
7211 Motor Vehicle Transportation	82,858	46310	54000	
New			183 8563 856 46.	
Used				
Snowmobiles			11000	11,000
Showmonies			11000	11,000
Total Capital	254.745	270 476	364,000	224 000
All Totals		278,476		221,000
All Totals	3,565,651	3,619,561	4,094,678	4,042,236
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ANNUAL	ANNUAL
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET
	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17
4015 Casual Labor Detail				
A. I&E Wilderness Ed Interns	19,020	21,600	22,500	28,800
B. AT Trail Steward	6,964	7,800	7,800	7,800
C. Trail Interns	60,000	60,000	0	0
D. Trail Interns Stipend	2,000	2,500	0	0
E. MCC trail crews	41,250	22,500	135,000	237,000
F.MATC cost share	5,625	5,625	5,625	5,625

G. SFMA summer interns	6,000	6,000	6,000	9,600
Totals	140,859	126,025	176,925	288,825
4099 Professional Services Detail				
A. Janitorial	16,923	16,237	15,500	16,000
B. Rubbish Removal	<b>15,508</b>	12,348	14,000	14,000
C. Vault Pumping	8,010	6,424	6,000	6,000
D. Forest Management (SFMA-FSC)	1,725	5,779	2,000	8,000
E. Road Const/Maint.(SFMA)	25,326	31,228	30,000	40,000
F. Engineering Cost	7/	7,920	5,000	5,000
G. ADA Contracted Services	0	0	5,000	5,000
H. Campground Firewood	30,281	35,211	31,000	35,000
I. Mowing for Patten repeater	240	230	240	230
J. Contract workers	2,821	10,802	8,000	8,000
K. HQ Lawn Services	1,260	2,204	1,400	1,400
L. Audio/video Productions	0	0	1,000	1,000
M. BSP Road Maintenance	63,509	58,445	82,000	65,000
O. Tech Support	10,800	15,615	21,000	21,000
S. Snow Plowing	6,055	5,795	8,500	8,500
T. Monitoring Surveys	5,000	0	7,500	
U. Archivist	0			
V. Saw Mill Services	5,167	11,987	8,000	8,000
W. Website maintenance	1,125	900	900	900
X. 2015 Alpine Gathering			3,100	
Totals	193,749	221,125	250,140	243,030
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ANNUAL	ANNUAL
	BUDGET FY14	BUDGET FY15	BUDGET FY16	BUDGET FY17
FGEO Mice Miner Equipment Detail	F114	FIID	F1 10	FIW
5650 Misc. Minor Equipment Detail General Equipment line	47.000	00.040	44.000	45.000
A. Radios 100 Watt (vehicle)	17,982	28,048	14,200	15,000
		0	1,000	1,000
B. Radios 45 (camp)		0	1,000	1,000
C. Hand Held Radios	NEC 1012124			2.222
D. Wood Stoves (2)	1,460	1,714	2,000	2,000
E. Refrigerators (2)	1,925	1,950	2,200	2,000
F. Hot Water Heaters	1,030			
G. Air Conditioners	1.10,000,000	( - <u>and a</u> - ( a - ( a ) a	14 11 12 14 1	
H. Computers/printers	9,034	4,246	8,000	8,000
I. Canoes		0	1,000	1,000
J. Fire Equipment		765	600	600
K. Dumpsters				
L. BBQ stands/rings				

M. DVD/VCR/TV				\$ ys
N. Med. Equip/SAR		0	3,000	3,000
O. Repeaters		0	5,000	3,000
P. Vault Caps		0	2,000	2 000
Q. Law Enforcement			4,000	2,000
R. Safety		2,392	4,000	4,000 2,000
Totals	31,431	39,115	44,000	41,600
Totals	31,431	39,113	44,000	41,000
				7.
7000 Capital Detail				13 20
1000 Capital Detail	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ANNUAL	ANNUAL
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET
7404 B. : Li //	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17
7101 Building/Improvements				
FY15				
HQ siding replacement (phase 2)		37,346		
Abutment replacements (Kidney Pd				
Bridge)		124,540		
KPRC- septic system install		9,000		
KPRC - well drilling		2,600		rs vo
Solar system upgrades (existing BSP)		0	4	3 31
VC parking lot repave		5,000		
Trapper John- install metal roof		0	v.	2 73
Culvert replacement (annual)		0		15 X8
Gravel screen/prep (biennal)		55,320		
Roadside brushing		9,600		
Storehouse extention		20,836		
7211 Motor Vehicle Transportation				
used 2wd campground truck		11,769		
Gem car		3,700	9	
Replace for 54		23,239	Ÿ.	2 73
Snowmobile (1)		11,401		Z.S.
		314,351		
		**//		
7101 Building/Improvements				
FY16				3
Abol Trail Relocation Project			135,000	
Roadside Ditching			10,000	
Roadside Brushing			10,000	73
Tote Road Culvert Replacement			13,000	
Togue Pond Solar			6,000	
Kidney Ranger Camp			60,000	
Storehouse Expansion			30,000	

HQ Siding and Roof Replacement			30,000	
7211 Motor Vehicle Transportation				
Vehicle Replacement 3)			54,000	
Snowmobile (1)			11,000	
Totals	0	628,702	359,000	
		Shelmbel Islander		
7101 Building/Improvements				
FY17				
Roaring Brook Culvert				165,000
TBF hiking bridge				8,000
SFMA pre-commercial thinning				10,000
Website renovation				19,000
Reservation system updates				8,000
Totals				210,000
7211 Motor Vehicle Transportation				
Snowmobile (1)		- 0		11,000
Totals				221,000

Donations to Baxter State Park Sur	nmary		
Yearly Report			
01/01/17-12/31/17			
PAYER / PAYEE	DEP / CHK DATE	CHK #	AMOUNT
DONATIONS UNDER \$1,000			
Anonymous - Field Locations			
January donations	01/31/17		\$0.00
February donations	02/28/17		\$0.00
March donations	03/31/17		\$0.00
April donations	04/30/17		\$0.00
May donations	05/31/17		\$16.50
June donations	06/30/17		\$284.86
July donations	07/31/17		\$179.3
August donations	08/31/17		\$131.46
September donations			\$96.50
October donations			\$263.17
November donations			\$35.00
December donations			\$0.00
Total			\$1,006.80
Anonymous - Reservation Office			
January donations	01/31/17		\$0.00
February donations	02/28/17		\$0.00
March donations	03/31/17		\$0.00
April donations	04/30/17	77.77	\$0.00
May donations	05/31/17		\$0.00
June donations	06/30/17		\$3.50
July donations	07/31/17		\$0.50
August donations	08/31/17		\$40.00
September donations			\$14.00
October donations			\$4.00
November donations			\$1.00
December donations			\$0.00
Total			\$63.0
Individual Donations			
Caitlin Andrews and siblings on behalf of parents Lisa & Joe McSwain	01/10/17	198	\$420.00
James Lowe general donation	01/18/17		

Total			\$1,665.00				
Misc general donation	12/12/17		\$65.00				
Libby Heselton general donation	12/12/17	2 - 4	\$10.00				
David Bourg general donation 8/22/17		СС	\$100.00				
Carl Pehrsson in appreciation	07/27/17	1249	\$20.00				
John Reilley general donation	04/18/17	сс	\$50.00				
James Garland general donation	03/09/17	6244	\$500.00				

Wilderness Fund Donation	02/06/17	1053	\$66,000.00
Wilderness Fund Donation	04/06/17	1055	\$66,000.00
Edward Hawkins-Trail Donation	05/09/17	224	\$5,000.00
Wilderness Fund Donation	06/22/17	1057	\$80,500.00
Wilderness Fund Donation	10/23/17	2001	\$80,500.00
	1 1 1 1		\$298,000.0
Total			0

Wilderness Fund Donation	06/22/17	1057	\$80,500.00
Wilderness Fund Donation	10/23/17	2001	\$80,500.00
Total			\$298,000.0 0
DONATION PURCHASES & TRANS	FERS		
Whitten's 2-way Services-antenna's	01/05/17	293	\$3,653.00
Backwoods Solar-Chimney Pond Solar System	02/03/17	294	\$5,564.09
Baxter State Park-Wilderness Fund Donation	02/14/17	295	\$66,000.00
Backwoods Solar-Chimney Pond Solar System	03/14/17	296	\$734.22
Baxter State Park-Wilderness Fund Donation	04/18/17	297	\$66,000.00
Backwoods Solar-Chimney Pond Solar System	04/19/17	298	\$105.41
Key Bank-Campground Trucks Dash Lights	05/17/17	299	\$1,049.40
Baxter State Park-Wilderness Fund Donation	07/07/17	300	\$80,500.00
Key Bank-Rocoh Imaging Americ Theta S Model 910720	09/01/17	301	\$710.90
Total			\$224,317.0 2
Total Donations			\$300,734.8 0
Total Purchases			\$224,317.0 2

#### BAXTER STATE PARK - REVENUE BUDGET SUMMARY - FY 2017

EARNED REVENUE	CODE	ACTUAL FY2014	ACTUAL FY2015	ANNUAL FY2016	% OF FY16	ANNUAL PYZO17	% OF FY17
SPECIAL LICENSE & LEASES	1448	(64)	104	100	0%	100	0%
EARNINGS ON INVESTMENT/Cash pool	2105	3,380	2,920	3,000	0%	3,000	0%
RENT OF LANDS	2601	2,501	2,501	2,500	0%	2,500	0%
RECREATIONAL USE OF PARK	2610	984,391	823,160	860,000	25%	850,000	25%
TRANSFERS	2616	5,930	5,646	5,500	0%	5,500	0%
ENTRANCE FEES	2618	188,173	136,746	190,000	5%	136,000	4%
REFUNDS & DUPLICATE FEES	2620	(5,185)	(11,104)	(3,000)	0%	(3,000)	0%
MISC SERVICES & FEES	2637	48,703	57,798	47,000	1%	52,000	2%
SALE OF MAPS & BOOKS	2657	37,120	42,148	35,000	1%	40,000	1%
CASH OVER/SHORT FOREIGN EXCHANGE	2689	(102)	110	(100)	0%	(100)	0%
CONTINGENCY FROM ENTERPRISE FUND(SFN	2722	174,551	177,304	170,000	5%	125,000	4%
CONTINGENCY FROM BAXTER TRUSTS	2724	1,845,000	1,961,700	2,052,000	59%	2,010,188	59%
CONTINGENCY FROM STATE HELD TRUSTS	2724A	122,565	194,929	125,000	4%	175,000	5%
SALE OF EQUIPMENT	2806	2,500	4,100	0	0%	2,500	0%
SALE OF AUTOS	2821	2,000		0	0%	0	0%
TOTAL EARNED REVENUE		3,411,463	3,398,062	3,487,000	100%	3,398,688	100%
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD		202,049	408,868	338,754		378,548	
UNEARNED (Donated) REVENUE							
SMALL DONATIONS (<\$1000)	2686A	2,779	7,721	5,000		5,000	
LARGE DONATIONS (>\$1000)	2686B	120,000	136,000	136,000		260,000	
TOTAL UNEARNED REVENUE		122,779	143,721	141,000		265,000	
TOTAL REVENUE		3,736,291	3,950,651	3,966,754		4,042,236	
EXPENDITURES BY GROUP							
PERSONAL SERVICES		2.217.943	2.435.999	2.480.812	65%	2,637,061	65%
ALL OTHER		882.736	905,066	1,024,130		1,184,175	29%
CAPITAL		202,049	278,476	306,000	8%	221,000	5%
					100%		