

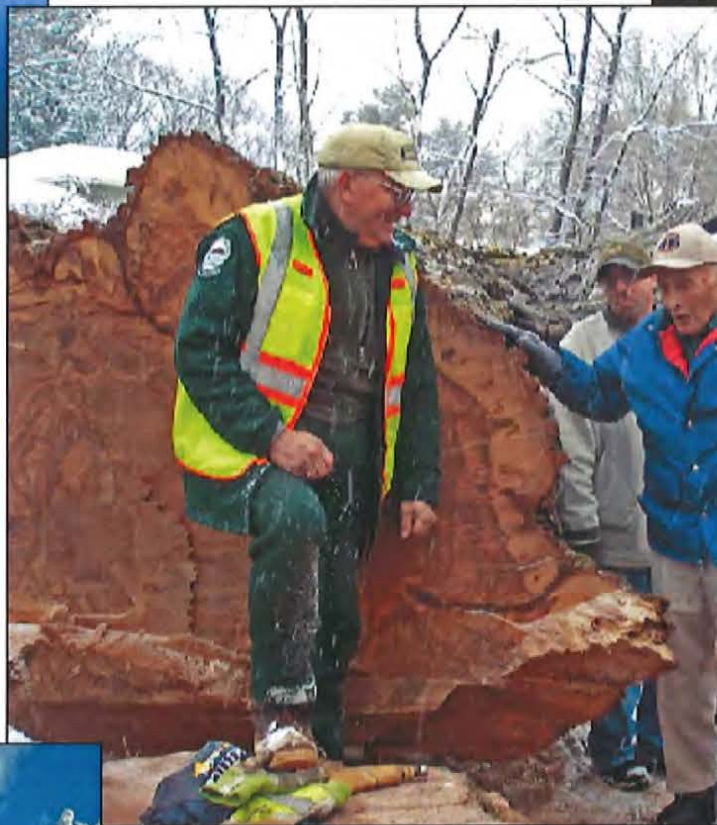
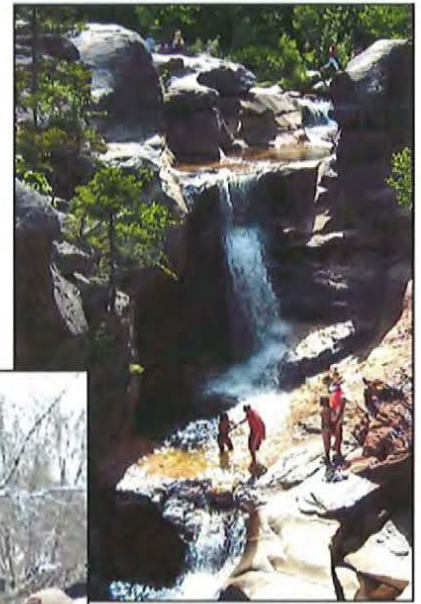
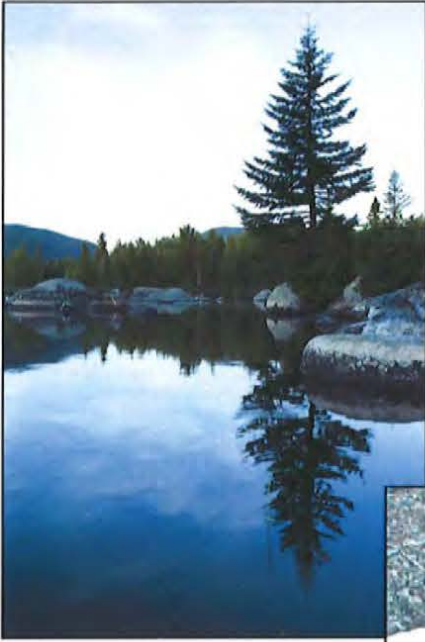
# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Maine Department of Conservation State Government Program Evaluation Report 2011





PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR  
COMMISSIONER

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
22 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0022

WILLIAM H. BEARDSLEY

November 1, 2011

Senator Roger Sherman  
Representative Peter Edgecomb  
Members of the Committee on  
Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry  
Room 206  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Senator Sherman, Representative Edgecomb and Members of the  
Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Committee:

I am pleased to submit the program evaluation report, pursuant to the Government  
Evaluation Act, Title 3 of the Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35, for your reviewing  
process.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions regarding the evaluation report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William H. Beardsley".

William H. Beardsley  
Commissioner

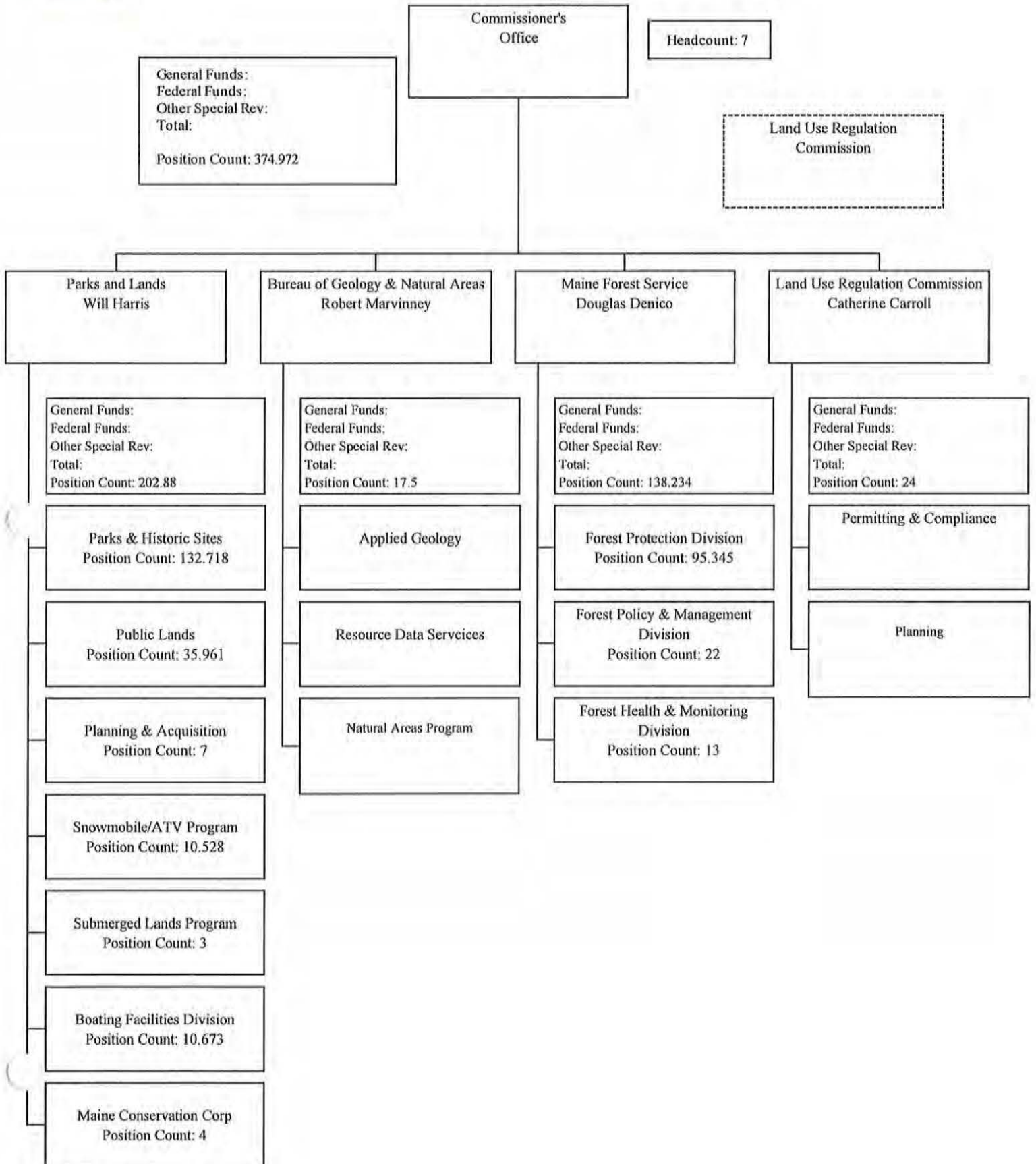
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TTY: 888-577-6690



# DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

## Major Bureaus and Divisions/Programs

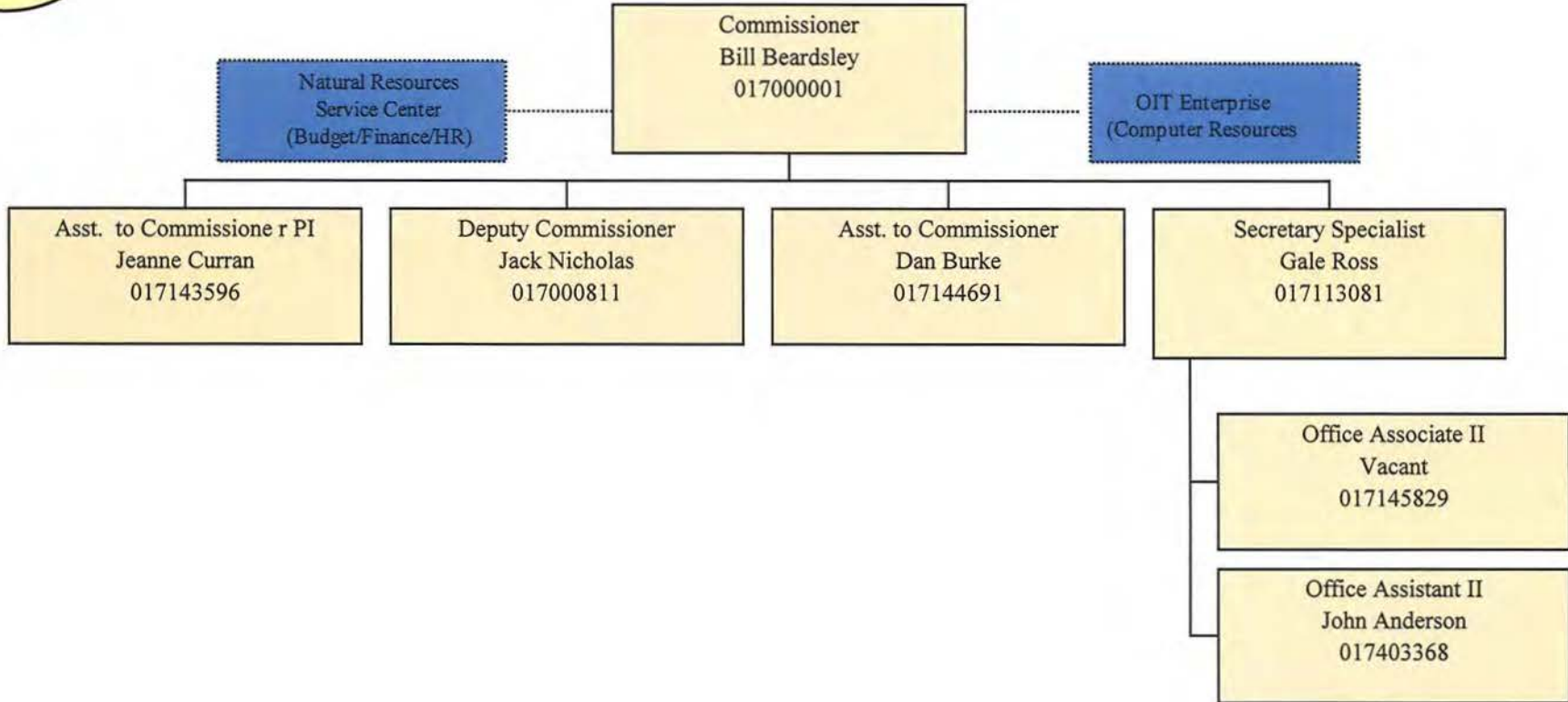
### August 2011







**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**  
**Commissioner's Office**  
October 2011



## OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

A. Enabling Statute: 12 MRSA § 5011

B. Program Description

The Office of the Commissioner coordinates and supervises the activities and programs of the four bureaus and agencies that are part of the Department of Conservation—the Bureau of Geology and Natural Areas, the Bureau of Parks and Lands, the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, and the Maine Forest Service. The Commissioner's Office undertakes comprehensive planning and analysis with respect to the functions and responsibilities of the Department and develops and implements procedures and practices to promote economy, efficiency and coordination in and between the bureaus and agencies of the Department.

The Commissioner's Office consists of the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, Assistant to the Commissioner, Director of Public Information, and an Administrative Assistant.

1. Commissioner

Under the overall policy direction from the Legislature and the Governor, the Commissioner is responsible for the direction and executive management of departmental and interdepartmental issues. The Commissioner is the chief spokesperson for the Administration on natural resource policy initiatives regarding forestry, conservation, geology, and State parks and public lands. By statute, the Commissioner is a member of the Land and Water Resources Council, the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board, and the Land for Maine's Future Board. The Commissioner is also a member the Finance Authority of Maine, and participates in other government, public interest, forest industry, and environmental group forums.

2. Deputy Commissioner

The Deputy Commissioner directs the Department's strategic budgeting and planning efforts of the Department by assisting the four bureaus and agencies in developing key indicators that set standards for measuring performance against goals and objectives; assessing and reporting on performance; and leading actions to take corrective measures. Additional key responsibilities include the updating, development and implementation of financial policies and procedures to ensure effective internal control for the department, development of the department's biennial and supplemental budgets, coordination of federal grant applications, review of operational practices for increased efficiency of operation, review of departmental positions, development and implementation of the department's annual budget work program and the reporting of budget information for operating units of the department in conjunction with the annual budget work program. The Deputy Commissioner carries out many of the department's executive activities in the absence of the Commissioner.

### 3. Assistant to the Commissioner

The Assistant to the Commissioner assists the Commissioner with special projects. In addition, the Assistant to the Commissioner is involved in:

- Coordinating the Department's legislative efforts including conducting policy analysis, legislative tracking, testimony, hearing and work session scheduling, including such activities as staffing the LURC Reform Commission.
- Serving as a liaison for Maine business representatives having questions or concerns regarding Departmental policies or programs.
- Coordinating constituent requests for information from the public, the Legislature, and other executives Departments.
- Coordinating the Department's proposed grants for the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund.

### 4. Director of Public Information

The Director of Public Information coordinates public information, the Department's internet site, and tourism outreach efforts, including:

- Developing media strategies, coordinating media responses, drafting and editing media releases.
- Working with press offices from other State agencies and the Governor's Office to provide coordinated response when necessary.
- Coordinating Departmental presence at press-related events including tourism and outdoor recreation promotions, sportsman's shows, opening day at the State Parks and other events.
- Conducting training sessions on successful media relations and effective presentations.
- Coordinating and editing the "From the Field" employee newsletter.
- Acting as the Department's webmaster.

### 5. Administrative Assistant

The Administrative Assistant for the Office of the Commissioner oversees and manages all office procedures and other tasks as assigned by the Commissioner. In particular, the administrative assistant:

- Maintains the Commissioner's schedule to facilitate workflow, events and meetings.
- Creates files and retrieves organizational documents, records, reports and contracts.
- Interfaces with the public through phone calls and office visits.



- Coordinates other activities as assigned such as the Department's fall foliage website.

#### C. Priorities

- Developing a Maine natural resource and ecological information base atlas that will provide landowners and numerous constituencies with natural resource information pertinent to planning, economic and conservation policy development, and strategic decisions related to Maine's eco-economy.
- Managing Maine public lands for a balance of productive use and conservation.
- Ensuring adequate staff resources for the LURC Reform Commission.
- Establishing a long-term strategy to maintain capital improvements in Maine's State Parks and Historic Sites and to sustain park management staff.
- Meeting the increasing needs for recreational trails and corridors for a diverse array of user groups.
- Ensuring adequate staff resources and equipment to support fire suppression and proactively monitor and direct insect and disease control for Maine's forests.
- Ensuring forest resource inventory activities provide timely and sufficient information to private landowners and industry so as to evaluate potential for expanding existing facilities or for attracting new wood-using industries to Maine.
- Updating the department's strategic plan.
- Implementing Zero-Based Budgeting.
- Meeting the requirements of Part ZZZ of Public Law 2011, Chapter 380 regarding the recommendations of the 2008 plan developed by the natural resources task force.



# Maine Forest Service



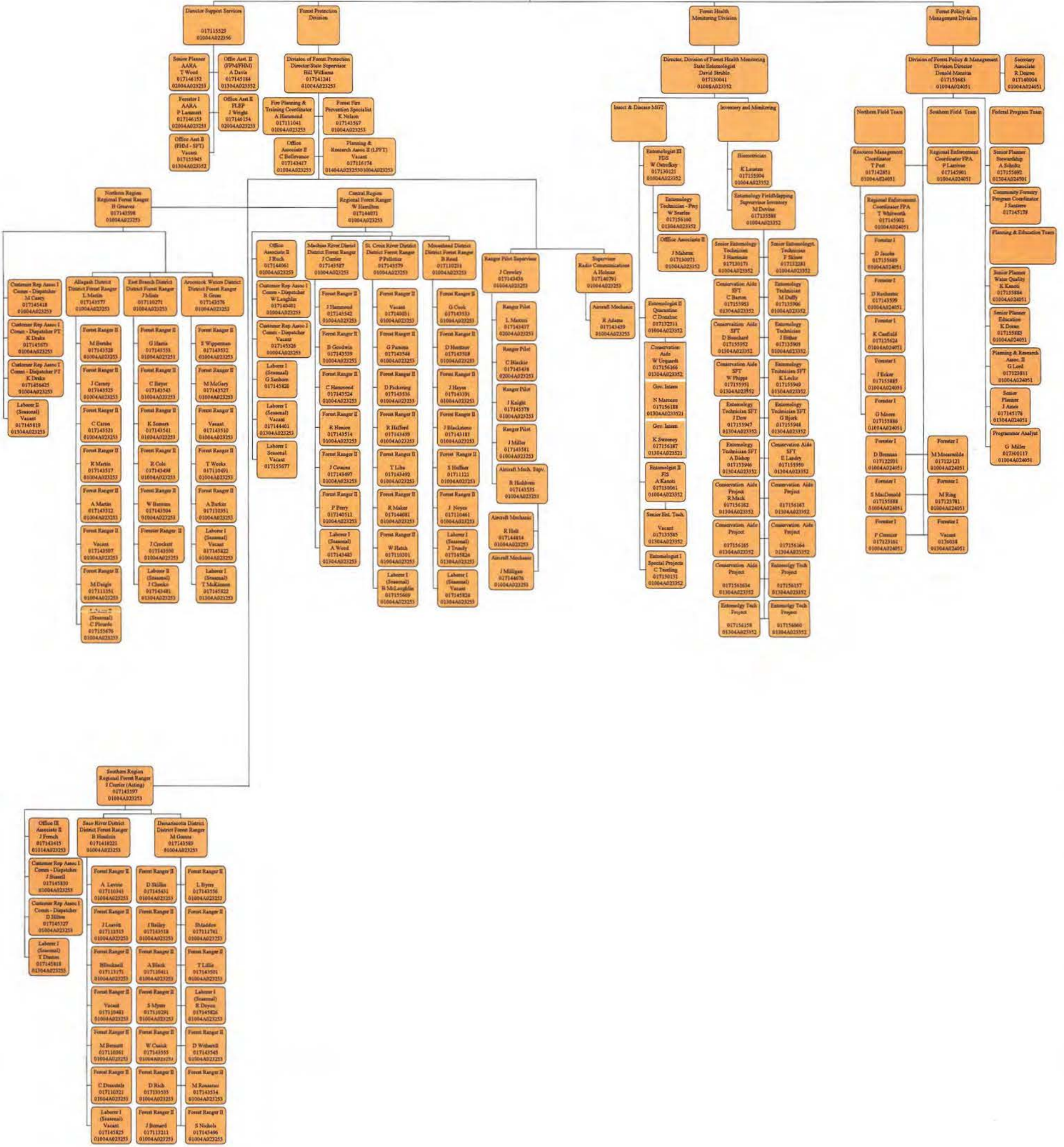
**Maine Department of Conservation**





DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
MAINE FOREST SERVICE  
July 2011

Director  
Maine Forest Service  
D. Desautels  
017119931  
0104A022356



## BUREAU OF FORESTRY (AKA MAINE FOREST SERVICE)

A. **Enabling Statutes:** 12 MRSA, Chapters 801, 803, 805, 807, 809

### B. **Programs**

The Maine Forest Service (MFS) has statewide responsibilities for issues involving forest protection, forest practices, and forest policies. Key program functions include: forest inventory and analysis, forest fire protection and suppression, forest insects and diseases, forestry education and training, forest policy analysis, and the development and enforcement of forest practice regulations.

Three divisions within the Bureau of Forestry carry out core missions:

#### 1. **Forest Health & Monitoring Division (FHM)**

##### **Purpose**

The longest standing responsibility of the Forest Health & Monitoring Division is preserving Maine's forest resources in healthy condition so that they can continue to support Maine's forest-dependant industries and meet public expectations.

The division accomplishes its role by protecting the forest, shade, and ornamental tree resources of the state from significant insect and disease damage; and by providing pest management and damage prevention for homeowners, municipalities, and forest landowners and managers. The 118<sup>th</sup> Legislature expanded the division's responsibilities to include conducting an annualized, five-year cyclical inventory of Maine's forest resources.

The 2010 Maine State Forest Assessment and Strategies document defines the "Desired Future Condition" of Maine's forest resource as: "(1) The various natural communities that in sum are Maine's forest resource are sufficiently healthy and resilient so that they have the capacity to respond to and recover from encountered stress, whether insect/disease, weather/climate induced, or as a result of anthropogenic (human caused) disturbance; and, (2) Maine's forest resource concurrently maintains, without significant interruption, the capacity to generate sustainably desired levels of amenities and products (both traditional and new) while maintaining their capacity to provide necessary ecological process support functions."

##### **Objectives**

The overarching objective of the division is to provide critical services and information to maintain Maine's forest resources in a healthy state and support Maine's forests and support Maine's forest dependant industries and communities. To accomplish this, the division seeks to:

- Conduct sufficient forest health monitoring surveillance and forest resource inventory to provide predictive evaluations and both preventative and remedial prescriptions for known major stressors to municipalities and landowners so as to allow managers to make timely and informed site specific pest and forest management decisions.
- Maintain sufficient analytical capacity to generate timely reports on current levels and trends of Maine's forest resources and to respond to landowner and industry requests for spatially specific information regarding forest extent and condition.

- Provide technical advice and assistance on forest pest management, including (when necessary) site-specific pest management projects, for the people of Maine.
- Conduct and oversee quarantine activities directly related to the forest resource to maximize protection of Maine's resource base while minimizing constraint of commerce.
- Optimize efficiencies in pest monitoring and control by sharing resources, analyses, and information through collaborative efforts with other state agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, and the federal government. At the local level, the division fosters an active network of client/cooperators to augment internal capacity and address local problems.

### **Core Functions**

- Maintain a statewide forest health, sustainability, and inventory monitoring system:
 

Conduct localized and statewide surveys to detect and monitor current and potential insect, disease and other environmental stresses to the forest and shade tree resource. Evaluate actual and potential impacts of identified stressors. Collate, analyze, and report stressor impact and forest health data to homeowners, municipalities, forest landowners and managers, and policymakers to enable timely and informed pest management and policy decisions.

Conduct a forest inventory on an annualized 5-year remeasurement schedule to provide timely, unbiased, credible, and relevant information regarding the current extent and condition of Maine's statewide forest resources at sufficient precision so as to enable timely and informed forest management and policy decisions.
- Provide real-time forest inventory analysis:
 

Within constraints of available analytical resources and in compliance with federal and state confidentiality laws, respond to requests from clients for spatially specific information regarding forest extent and condition to enable timely informed management decisions by private landowners and industry. Generate periodic reports assessing the current levels and trends of Maine's forest resources, thereby providing a sound basis for policy discussions and a foundation for modeling potential future forest conditions. These analyses of current condition provide basic information that has been used to evaluate potential for expanding existing facilities and for attracting new wood-using industries into Maine. However, the MFS does not have the analytical capacity to model future forest conditions against changing economic and environmental constraints. This gap seriously limits the MFS ability to provide forward-looking analysis to industry planners and governmental policy makers.
- Provide technical assistance to forest landowners, municipalities and individuals:
 

Provide information, technical advice and assistance to individuals, municipalities, and other state and federal agencies on identification, significance, and control of forest and shade tree insects and diseases. Provide similar information for other insect pests and plant diseases other than those of agricultural crops. Develop and champion use of best management practices for pest management and forest resource damage prevention.

- **Manage/Cooperate on forest-related state and federal quarantine efforts:**

Manage internal quarantines directly relating to the forest resources (e.g. hemlock woolly adelgid, gypsy moth, European larch canker, white pine blister rust, pine shoot beetle),

Develop and promote pragmatic regulatory instruments and procedures (e.g. Compliance Agreements and Shipping Permits) to avoid unnecessarily constraining commerce and penalizing Maine businesses and dependant local economies. This capacity is critical to assuring a viable wood using economy (as recently demonstrated when state compliance agreements were **the** legal instruments that allowed Maine's white pine processing mills to negotiate the swamp of the federal pine shoot beetle quarantine and maintain an uninterrupted source of raw materials).

Cooperate with outside counterparts on management of similar interstate and international quarantines to protect Maine forest resources from outside threats while minimizing economic impacts.
- **Conduct and supervise pest control actions:**

Provide design, oversight, administration and funding, when justified, for large and small scale pest management and remediation projects. Serve as lead agency and liaison for cooperative federal, state, municipal, and private pest control efforts.
- **Conduct applied research on management of forest stressors:**

Analyze stress impacts on the forest resource to identify possible preventative or corrective actions. Utilize knowledge of cultural practices to develop practical management options for pest control or reducing damage. To the extent possible, develop proactive managerial prescriptions to maintain forest health and sustainability.
- **Identify emerging issues/challenges and develop effective mechanisms for dealing with them:**

Current emerging issues include the probable near-term reoccurrence of spruce budworm (as evidenced by the present resurgence in neighboring Quebec), and the increasing threats that Maine's forests face from the potential introduction, establishment, and expansion of foreign invasive pest species.

The list of non native pests threats range from the intensifying and expanding hemlock woolly adelgid infestation in southern and coastal Maine, the detection of an established infestation of elongate hemlock scale in extreme southern York County, the intensification of balsam woolly adelgid in Hancock and Washington Counties, the encroachment of exotic pests like emerald ash borer and Asian longhorn beetle into neighboring jurisdictions to our south and west, and brown spruce longhorn beetle to our east.

All of these pests represent significant threats to Maine's forest resources. In the case of spruce budworm, we have recent experience regarding the extent of the economic and social impact posed by such outbreaks. Native insects like spruce budworm periodically kill vast numbers of trees in Maine's forests, but the ecosystem is adapted to these perturbations. Bad as that situation was, Maine's forests and the

forest based economy are recovering. Nonnative pests can result in far more devastating and permanent situations.

Whether involving native or non native pests, solutions all require answers to the questions of: "When will the attack come? How much is threatened? What is the potential/probable impact to Maine's forest resource and on the dependant industries and local communities? What can be done to avoid (or at least manage) the impacts?" It is critical that the MFS be able to answer these questions if we are to develop effective response strategies and enlist the public support necessary to protect our forests and forest-based industries from pests.

### **Selected Achievements (2011)**

The FHM division secured over \$1.18 million in US Department of Agriculture (USDA) grants (up over 30% from 2010). Of this amount, over \$920,000 supports core MFS statutory monitoring/protection activities, augmenting state-funded capabilities. The residual \$182,000 represents funding for a 3-year cooperative project with the University of Maine to develop exotic pest readiness and response strategies. Although the planning efforts will have broad utility, the primary focus is emerald ash borer which, since it's initial detection in Detroit in 2002, has killed some 60 million ash trees in 15 states from Minnesota to New York, and as far south as Tennessee. Beyond the direct support provided to the MFS's monitoring and protection efforts, acquisition of these federal funds has served to reinforce our access to other outside funding processes, providing additional support for specific activities such as hemlock woolly adelgid management.

The division also supported selected grant proposals from partners to outside funding sources, resulting in awards of over \$100,000 directly to partners for high priority projects that will directly support MFS efforts and initiatives.

The division continued to leverage internal capabilities, using cooperative efforts and joint ventures with partners to address high priority issues:

- MFS collaborated with other states and the National Association of State Foresters to inform forest industry and other concerned parties nationally of a threatened reduction of funding support for the USDA Forest Service's (USFS) Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program for 2011. The ground swell of grass root support resulted in program funding being reinstated and avoided a potential 133K decrease in USFS funding support for Maine's forest inventory program in 2011. The strong support demonstrated also appears to have resulted in the FIA program being removed from program reduction consideration for USFS's 2012 budget.
- The FIA program and Maine's annualized forest inventory which it subsidizes are critical to Maine's forest industry. The unified state and industry support have been crucial to retention of a viable and credible program with capacity to generate necessary data and analyses.
- The division worked with the Maine Forest Products Council and the Maine Farm Bureau to improve practicability of Maine pesticide notification system as it relates to forest and shade tree pesticide applications, returning the system to its former process which had worked well.



- The division worked with the public and Maine's Arborist/Green Industry to detect and manage spot infestations of elongate hemlock scale. This non native pest if it becomes generally established, will greatly increase the threat to Maine's hemlock resource.
- Through a cooperative joint venture with USDA-Animal & Plant Inspection Service (APHIS) and USFS, the division is conducting trial projects to develop virus-based biocontrol as a management option to address browntail moth outbreaks in sensitive coastal areas.
- The division continued to leverage strong public support for survey, detection, and management of exotic pests: Public detection network; local support for direct pest control (e.g. HWA, EHS); strong support base when seeking funding from federal and other outside funding sources to augment internal state resources.  
The increasing threat of exotic pest introduction into Maine and the surrounding jurisdictions generates increased potential for additional federal regulatory constraints on product movement. The division has expanded its involvement in administering federal and state quarantines to assure that these regulatory tools, when necessary, are focused and appropriate. Concurrently, the division is developing and promoting FHM-issued "Compliance Agreements" as collaborative government/industry instruments to provide resource protection while minimizing constraint of commerce.  
The division continued to collaborate with regional counterparts to conduct coordinated surveys and harmonized management operations for regionally important pests:
- Developed a cooperative Northern New England Hemlock Resource Protection Project built on earlier successful multistate hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) management efforts. The harmonized management strategies and quarantine regulations have facilitated interstate commerce in this interdependent region. The current project, which continues development of the multistate approach. The success of this model for dealing with HWA has been recognized, and similar cooperatives are being proposed in the Mid-Atlantic region.
- Conducted survey and evaluation of foliage diseases across northern New England's valuable white pine resource. This situation has been expanding and intensifying over the last few years. Stands where pine trees have had multiple years of moderate to heavy infection are beginning to be severely impacted – resulting in significant dieback, decline, and tree mortality. This study represents the first step to develop a management response.
- Initiated a collaborative system with Quebec and New Brunswick counterparts to strengthen and harmonize the regional spruce budworm early warning capacity. Although Maine has had no noticeable budworm defoliation since the mid 1980's, Quebec currently has 1.89 million acres with moderate to severe defoliation to our north and west, and New Brunswick has seen a rise in the catches of spruce budworm moths in their pheromone traps. In Maine, we have seen a slight rise in our pheromone trap catches as well. Although we do not expect an outbreak this year, one is on the horizon.

- Cooperated with New Hampshire, Vermont and the University of Vermont, on trial demonstration projects to develop operational fungal-based biocontrol as a management option for HWA in northern New England.

In 2010, in recognition that firewood movement had been responsible for spread of serious nonnative pests such as emerald ash borer and Asian longhorn beetle elsewhere in the US, the 124<sup>th</sup> Legislature passed LD1607, An Act to Regulate the Transportation of Firewood. In response to this statutory guidance, the MFS increased its then-current efforts to educate the public about the issue and embarked on a program of progressive enactment. Over the past 18 months the efforts have included: increased use of advertising and solicitation of partners and volunteers to deliver outreach and heighten public awareness; the State Forester signing an Emergency Order banning import of untreated firewood; and the Forest Protection Division conducting a series highly publicized, high visibility “firewood exchanges” on Interstate 95 on high traffic weekends. MFS currently is preparing to refocus efforts towards confiscation of non-compliant wood and development of full regulations with defined penalties during the winter 2011/12.

## **2. Forest Policy & Management Division (FPM)**

### **Purpose**

The Forest Policy & Management Division provides technical assistance, financial assistance, forest management information, and educational services to the public, forest landowners, loggers, foresters, forest products processors and marketers, municipalities, and many others. Programs delivered by the division (particularly technical and financial assistance) lay the foundation for additional economic activity in the state, including woodland owners hiring consulting foresters, loggers buying new equipment, and wood being harvested to supply Maine’s forest products industry. The division also implements the state’s forest practices laws, providing outreach services and coordination of enforcement activities. The division anticipates and responds to forest policy issues and reports to the public on the state of the forest resource.

### **Objectives**

The division’s principal objectives are to support and enhance the state’s forest economy and promote informed decisions by landowners, loggers, foresters, policy makers, and all other forest stakeholders, including the general public, about Maine’s forests. Division staff accomplish this objective in many ways and with numerous agencies and groups as partners.

### **Core Functions**

- Technical assistance: FPM provides technical assistance to woodland owners (our principal clients), loggers, foresters, municipalities, and other state and federal agencies. Staff experts address such topics as woodland management options, water quality protection, community forest and street tree management, and compliance with forest practices laws. Assistance is provided directly in the field, at workshops, or indirectly via phone, email, listservs and web-based services.
- Financial assistance: FPM supports Maine’s rural economies by providing financial assistance to woodland owners, loggers, municipalities, and other groups with complementary goals. Assistance includes cost sharing woodland management

plans, community forestry grants to municipalities, cost sharing skidder bridges, and providing reduced interest equipment loans to loggers. Nearly all of this financial assistance is federal money granted to MFS for specific purposes. This money is channeled into local economies, directly improving economic conditions for grant beneficiaries, creating jobs in a variety of sectors for service providers, and boosting local purchases of materials. The division also works to reduce costs to the regulated community.

- Forest management information and reporting: FPM collects, maintains, or has access to much of the information about Maine's forests that policy makers, landowners, loggers, foresters, municipalities, educators, and others rely on to make informed decisions at many levels. This information often helps private sector clients enhance their businesses through marketing opportunities, connections with customers, and maintaining market share. The division's State of the Forest report (published in June 2010) synthesizes information from a wide array of sources and assesses the sustainability of Maine's forest resources. Staff collect and report information on water quality protection during timber harvesting operations, helping to maintain the federal exemption from Clean Water Act permitting. Savings to the regulated community of the permit exemption are estimated at \$1.5 million annually.
- Forest practices laws: FPM coordinates enforcement of the state's forest practices laws using a three-tiered approach that includes education and outreach to inform woodland owners, loggers, and foresters about the laws; intervention and technical assistance on active harvests to help woodland owners and managers comply with the laws; and, in a handful of cases each year, conduct enforcement actions. Again, the approach begins low key, with attempts to resolve a violation through administrative settlement agreements that focus on changing behavior; litigation is rarely necessary.
- Education: FPM works with numerous partners to deliver forestry education through a broad spectrum program that targets landowners, teachers, school-aged children, and resource professionals. The program utilizes a wide range of methods to reach diverse audiences, including workshops, publications, exhibits, tours, and classroom visits. Education efforts build an understanding of the many ways we use and benefit from the active management of Maine's forest resources.

#### **Selected achievements (2011, unless otherwise noted)**

- Future wood supply  
In the summer of 2011, the department released a study of the future supply dynamics of the spruce/fir resource in response to public and private requests.
- Be WoodsWise  
Efforts continued in 2011 to assist family woodland owners actively manage their land. The Be WoodsWise program cost shared 200 new or revised Forest Stewardship Plans covering over 30,000 acres for family woodland owners in 2010.
- District Foresters

- 7,420 woodland owners received one-on-one educational contacts in 2010 from FPM District Foresters. These activities stimulate the hiring of consulting foresters and loggers, extending the program's reach into future years.
  - FPM staff initiated collaborative processes between landowners and other regulatory agencies to facilitate and enable timber harvesting operations in regulated areas.
  - Initiated collaborative processes between landowners and other regulatory agencies that allowed timber harvesting to take place.
- Water quality
    - Skidder bridge cost share program: Delivered \$50,000 in cost share assistance to loggers for constructing skidder bridges to protect water quality. Another \$25,000 is currently obligated. The program generated \$158,625 in total economic activity (including private sector share of costs).
    - Direct Link Loan program: This program provides reduced interest loans to loggers purchasing new equipment such as mechanical harvesters and forwarders to protect water quality. It is delivered in partnership with DEP and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. In 2010, ten new loans were originated, with a total value of over \$3.2 million. Through mid-2011, the program has loaned \$10.7 million to loggers, resulting in interest reductions of \$655,000.
    - Stream crossings: MFS coordinated financial assistance for the construction of improved stream crossings, including the following:
      - Town of Brownville: Total project cost \$35,000; MFS coordinated delivery of \$12,500 in federal funds to project. Total cash cost to town \$5,000.
      - Carloe Brook: Total project cost \$30,000. \$20,000 funded by federal grant; \$10,000 by Wagner forest management.
      - Williamsburg crossing: MFS stepped in to take over a project that NRCS could not fund due to farm bill rules (Piscataquis County Soil and Water Conservation District was part owner of the road). MFS coordinated other funding sources and managed the construction project.

- Project Canopy

The statewide program to build community forestry programs is exemplified by the "Herbie Project," in which the removal of New England's largest elm tree in Yarmouth involved community-wide education initiatives and the utilization and marketing of the tree, Herbie, into over \$250,000 worth of small wood products created by over 100 artisans. Utilization and marketing of urban trees is a relatively new concept in the field of urban and community forestry, particularly in rural states like Maine. The success of the Herbie Project in raising both money and awareness of Yarmouth's street tree program has spawned similar programs elsewhere in Maine, including the utilization of a historic elm in Castine and the use of storm damaged trees in the City of Bath for the technical school carpentry program. Proceeds from these projects support continued tree planting and maintenance efforts at the community level.

### **3. Forest Protection Division**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Forest Protection Division is to protect public and private forest lands and high value property from damaging forest fires and to provide forest resource protection through enforcement of state natural resource laws.

Title 12 grants authority and responsibility for the control of forest fires in the state to the Forest Protection Division. In addition to forest fire suppression, the division prepares and maintains facilities, staffing, and equipment necessary to detect and prevent wildland fires, and enforces forest fire laws. It enforces the state's natural resource laws associated with the forest resource. These laws include the Forest Practices Act; the Standards of the Land Use Regulation Commission; timber theft and timber trespass laws; as well as laws and regulations relating to recreational vehicles, Christmas trees, logging equipment theft and vandalism, damage to forest roads, and litter. More recently the division has assisted enforcing water quality laws related to timber harvesting on behalf of Department of Environmental Protection and the Land Use Regulation Commission.

#### **Objectives**

- Keep acreage losses due to forest fires to less than 3,500 acres per year.
- Keep forest fire occurrence to less than 1,000 fires per year.
- Keep forest fire damages and losses to an absolute minimum.
- Control all forest fires within the first burning period (before 10:00 a.m. the following day).
- Maintain the state's forest fire equipment in fire ready condition at all times, including a rapid response aviation operation, which includes the staffing of helitack teams during periods of high fire danger.
- Maintain a good resource base of firefighters and heavy equipment to be able to respond to any geographic area.
- Train and maintain an Incident Management Team for forest fire control anywhere in the state.
- Investigate and prosecute violations of the state's forest fire and forest protection laws.
- Maintain a highly skilled, competent and professional workforce to protect the forest resources.
- Foster fire preparedness at the local level by administering federal cost share programs to provide technical assistance to municipal and volunteer fire departments.
- Respond effectively and efficiently to landowner complaints, seeking resolutions that are commensurate with violations and resulting damages.

#### **Core Functions**

- Forest Fire Suppression.

Direct, control, organize, implement, and assist forest fire suppression efforts using state, town and private resources anywhere in the state; formulate plans for fire suppression; train firefighters, fire departments, and Incident Management personnel; maintain forest fire equipment and facilities; hire needed outside resources and process bills for payment; request federal disaster assistance for fire suppression; assist federal agencies, other states and provinces in fire suppression through mutual aid agreements; provide aerial fire suppression; provide fire equipment to towns and the state through the Federal Excess Property and Volunteer Fire Assistance programs; utilize a reliable radio communication system statewide; and appoint town forest fire wardens.

- **Forest Fire Detection.**  
Implement a statewide forest fire detection system using the Civil Air Patrol, private contractors and the general public.
- **Forest Fire Prevention.**  
Enforce forest fire laws, work with the media to distribute public information and fire danger warnings, administer and implement the fire permit system, conduct an ongoing fire education program with schools and the general public, conduct field inspections of machinery operating in the woods, administer a forest campsite program, assist landowners in identifying and mitigating fire hazard areas, operate 28 weather stations statewide to monitor daily forest fire danger, and patrol forest areas experiencing high levels of human activity.
- **Forest Resource Protection.**  
Enforce all laws relating to forests, forest conservation, and forest practices; enforce violations dealing with land use regulations; report and enforce Department of Environmental Protection violations and violations of non forest related laws; and enforce all-terrain vehicle, litter, and snowmobile laws when reported as complaints or when they happen to occur in the presence of staff.
- **Landowner Support.**  
The division has become the primary response agency in dealing with landowner and logger complaints of equipment vandalism, fuel theft, damage to forestry roads, as well as other unauthorized use of privately held land, contributing to a safer business environment for the logging industry.
- Identify emerging issues/challenges and develop effective mechanisms for dealing with them.

### **Selected achievements (2011)**

- **Cooperation with the University of Maine at Fort Kent**  
In partnership with the University of Maine at Fort Kent, a new program began in the fall of 2011 that allowed for the use of interns enrolled in a new 2 year Wildfire Management Degree program. The division began working with the University of Maine at Fort Kent to help develop a Wildfire Management Degree curriculum in 2010. The culmination of this effort resulted in the new program being approved for the 2011 fall semester. The division supports the program with instructors and has recently hired an intern to work through November of 2011. The intern will be working with forest rangers this fall and will return prior to the beginning of the spring fire season in 2012. Up to 3 additional interns are expected from the program in the spring of 2012.  
  
This program will benefit the school, the interns and the division and represents a significant collaborative effort.

- **Nationwide Support on Fire Incidents**

The Forest Protection Division, through its partnership with the USDA Forest Service and the Northeast Forest Fire Compact, continued to answer the call for support on large fires. The Division sent fire crews to Oklahoma, Texas, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, and Minnesota and resourced fires in Florida and Georgia with 5 fire engines. Crews were also sent to New Hampshire and Vermont to work in the Green and White Mountain National Forests in response to Hurricane Irene. The division is recognized as a leader in its training and support for other states in the nation as well as the provinces of Canada. This effort not only allows Maine to help our state, federal and provincial partners with their needs during intense fire activity and emergency response needs, but provides the division with a tremendous training opportunity for its newer less experienced rangers as well. Additionally, when the need for outside resources is experienced in Maine, these other states and provinces will be ready to answer Maine's call for assistance. This effort is fully reimbursed by the receiving state or agency.

- **Volunteer Fire Assistance and Excess Property Programs**

The division administers several grant programs important to the development and support of small rural fire departments. The Volunteer Fire Assistance Programs funds approximately \$120,000 annually to small volunteer fire departments so they can acquire wildland firefighting equipment. The division also screens for and acquires federal excess fire engines and other excess equipment that is made available directly to these small towns at no charge. In some instances, the federal excess property that the division acquires for a small department means the difference between them having a fire engine or not.

- **Development of the Maine Helitack Program**

In an attempt to provide more efficient and effective response to the first report of forest fires in Maine, the division created the Maine Helitack Program. The division was fortunate to acquire a Bell 407 helicopter in 2007 that provides the perfect platform for the dual mission of fire crew transport and water dropping. During periods of high fire danger, the 407 is prepositioned in the driest areas of Maine with a 4 person crew for rapid response and initial attack. The response effort is a quick strike from the air with water drops followed by a ground effort by the Helitack crew. Usually, by the time the fire is controlled by the Helitack team, ground resources arrive to fully extinguish the remaining ground fire. This program has proven itself on multiple fires during the 2010 and 2011 fire seasons and will be continued in 2012.

- **Landowner Support**

On average, forest Rangers respond to over 3,000 landowner complaints of timber theft and trespass, logging vandalism and fuel theft, littering and fire complaints. Successful prosecutions recover on average over \$140,000 per year in restitution for landowners injured by illegal acts and nearly \$80,000 in fines.

Forest Rangers worked collaboratively with the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine to lead the effort to conduct a Landowner Appreciation Cleanup Day. This



effort resulted in the cleanup of over 140 sites and over 95 tons of illegally dumped trash and tires hauled to transfer stations across Maine. The cleanup included rangers and over 100 volunteers and lasted for a little over 1 week. The event emphasizes the relationship land users should have with landowners who graciously make their land available to the public. This represents an opportunity for land user groups such as snowmobile and ATV groups, hunters, trappers and fishermen to show their appreciation for the privilege of using private land in Maine.

- Challenges in the Helicopter Fleet

The division needs to continue efforts to diversify and upgrade the aging fleet of Huey helicopters (Maine's first line of defense against forest fires), as well as upgrade other aging fire equipment.

In 2011 one Huey helicopter went through a major comprehensive overhaul at an expense of approximately \$900,000. While less than one third the cost of a new helicopter, much of the fleet is over 40 years old and needs to be replaced.

## **Maine Forest Service: Interagency Coordination**

The Maine Forest Service coordinates its efforts with other state and federal agencies to achieve program goals in the following areas:

- MFS works very closely with the USDA Forest Service (USFS), the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and other federal agencies as appropriate to secure federal financial assistance to support forest management and protection efforts by landowners, loggers, and foresters.
- MFS works with the Department of Marine Resources on implementation of the Atlantic salmon recovery plan and by agreement, the sharing of aviation resources and maintenance programs.
- Project Canopy at the Maine Forest Service includes representatives of local and state government in its leadership team.
- MFS has a contribution agreement with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to coordinate delivery of financial assistance to woodland owners.
- MFS staff participates actively in staff groups created by the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters and the National Association of State Foresters and help guide the work of these groups regarding program direction and funding to benefit the people of Maine.
- The Maine Forest Service routinely is called to assist the Maine Warden Service and The Maine State Police in search and rescue and recovery missions, providing manpower and aviation assets as needed.
- The Maine Forest Service through its partnership with the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission shares resources throughout the region for fire training and forest fire suppression activities.
- The Maine Forest Service works closely with the Maine Emergency Management Agency in all risk response efforts in Maine and regionally.
- The Maine Forest Service by agreement through the Bureau of Indian Affairs provides forest fire protection on Tribal lands within Maine.
- The Maine Forest Service works collaboratively with the USFS providing fire fighting resources nationally and delivering federal fire grants and equipment to small towns in Maine.
- The Maine Forest Service has adapted a Bell 407 helicopter for use as a helitack platform staffed during periods of high fire danger to more effectively respond to and suppress wildfires.
- The Maine Forest Service established the Wildfire Training Academy to better serve the training needs of its cooperators in fire management.
- The Maine Forest Service provides aerial survey flights for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (DIFW) to provide more reliable information on game inventories.

### Maintaining a statewide forest health monitoring system

- MFS works with the Department of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources (MDAFRR), USDA-APHIS and USFS on a series of initiatives.
- Funding via cooperative agreements provided by the USDA to MFS and partners for pest surveys – especially for nonnative pests
- Shared conduct of surveys: on joint projects the agencies partition field work to minimize travel costs and deadheading (e.g. MFS may cover survey of tribal land for the USFS and the USFS has covered southern York County from their office in Durham, NH. MFS and MDAFRR frequently share responsibility for dealing with ornamental and shade tree calls from homeowners and nurseries
- MFS has cooperative agreements (and federal subsidies) to conduct surveys of regionally important pests.
- Cooperative Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Slow the Spread (3 state/ fed subsidized In state work harmonized with neighbor's efforts)
- Multistate unified emerald ash borer (EAB) survey effort (7 state) in Maine incorporates efforts from MFS, University of Maine (UMaine) and tribes
- USDA-funded Forest Pest Survey & Outreach Project (Multistate new England/Mid-Atlantic forestry and ag agencies): MFS/MDAFRR shared survey and use of jointly produced/shared shared outreach products for pests such as Asian longhorn beetle and emerald ash borer
- Joint special faunistic biodiversity monitoring projects: MFS cooperates with the Maine State Museum, IF&W, Academia and various federal agencies on such projects such as the Maine Damselfly/Dragonfly project and ME Spider database (DIFW); Acadia National Park's annual "Bioblitz" surveys (Acadia NP, Maine Entomological Society(MES)); Ladybug project (National Science Foundation, Ag Research Service, Academia); Beetles of Maine (Academia)
- Diagnostics and Pest Range Analyses: Smithsonian, Beneficial Insect Research Lab, USDA-APHIS, USFS, Academia. MFS also shares reference and lab resources with MDAFRR as warranted.
- Regional international cooperative efforts – Maine, New Brunswick, Quebec cooperative spruce budworm survey reporting network

### Maintaining real-time forest inventory analysis capability

- MFS has cooperative agreements and MOU's with USFS-Northern Research Station (NRS) and USFS-Research & Development-Washington Office to facilitate MFS access to federal databases. These initiatives provide expedited analyses and data flow and reports to clientele.
- MFS and UMaine regularly develop joint project proposals to outside funding sources to address analytical needs associated with Maine's forest inventory.

### Maintaining an up-to-date statewide forest inventory system

- MFS has maintained a longstanding series of cooperative agreements with USFS-NRS regarding Maine's forest inventory effort. The associated grant subsidizes MFS's data collection effort and the USFS also provides independent quality assurance and data management services.

### Providing technical pest management assistance to forest and shade tree owners

- Efforts to deliver outreach and technical assistance to the public regarding forest and shade tree pests are shared between MFS, MDAFRR, and the Extension Service. Local federal partners (USFS in Durham, NH and USDA-APHIS in Hermon) also provide on-ground assistance. Federal grants from USDA underwrite costs of creating educational material.
- Previous involvement of MFS-FHM in monitoring Insect –Related Human Health Issues (e.g. west Nile virus, Lyme disease, eastern equine encephalitis) has been greatly reduced. Baseline monitoring responsibility returned to Maine Bureau of Health) after they received funding from federal Centers for Disease Control. MFS remains engaged in disease vector control planning and strategy discussions due to the possibility that Maine could in the future need to conduct an aerial control project against vectors of human disease.

### Managing forest-related state and federal quarantine efforts

- For international regulatory activities and issues: strategy development and problem resolution addressed through the federally-led Maine Pest Risk Committee (MFS, MDAFRR, US Customs and Border Patrol, USDA-APHIS).
- For interstate regulatory activities and issues: MFS, MDAFRR, USDA-APHIS, either in state-specific meetings or under the aegis of the National and Eastern Plant Boards.
- Intra state regulatory activities and issues are addressed cooperatively by MFS and MDAFRR.
- The USDA-APHIS does subsidize activities associated with managing federal quarantines.

### Conducting and supervising forest pest control actions

- MFS cooperates with Maine Board of Pesticide Control to assure all regulatory environmental monitoring requirements are met.
- Previous work managing browntail moth also included collaborative efforts wt Maine Department of Marine Resources to monitor for possible impacts to marine life (e.g. juvenile lobsters) conducting applied research on management of forest stressors
- MFS cooperates with federal partners on developing management protocols and strategies for locally-occurring regional and national problems. MFS regularly serves on oversight committees to assure that federal efforts have regional and local benefit.

- USDA competitive grants underwrite methods development projects with MFS; e.g. biocontrol for HWA; virus efficacy trials against browntail moth; HWA Slow the Spread project (with NH and VT).
- MFS similarly collaborates with regional state and academic counterparts, e.g. Development of an Emerald Ash Borer Biosurveillance system (MFS, CT Ag Experiment Station, State University of NY, Canadian Food Inspection Agency); Efficacy trials for bacterial pesticide against HWA (University of Vermont)
- MFS has served as a partner with academia on conducting and overseeing state and regional pest impact assessments and in developing pest hazard rating systems; e.g. Development of a Forest Tent Caterpillar Decision Support System (Syracuse University).
- State entomologist Dave Struble and Natural Science Educator Kevin Doran serve as adjunct graduate faculty for the UMaine School of Forestry.

### **Maine Forest Service Constituencies**

#### Forest landowners

- Industrial
- Investor
- Family
- Public
- Nonprofits

#### Forestry-related organizations

- Forestry-related professional organizations
- Forestry-related commodity organizations
- Forestry-related educational organizations

#### Wood Processing Facilities

- Sawmills
- Pulp mills
- Pellet mills
- Biomass to energy plants
- Bark mulch producers
- Firewood processors

#### Recreational Users

- Campground owners
- Seasonal residents – camps and second homes
- Guides

#### Educational Institutions

- Post-secondary
- Primary and secondary

#### Nonprofit and extension organizations

- Land trusts
- Economic development organizations

- University of Maine Cooperative Extension
- Forest certification organizations
- Conservation groups

#### Other state agencies

- Agriculture
- Environmental Protection
- Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
- Marine Resources
- Maine Emergency Management Agency

#### Baxter State Park Authority

#### Federal agencies

- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- USDA Forest Service
- USDI National Park Service
- US Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Maine Tribes

#### Municipalities

- City Arborists
- Code Enforcement
- Fire Departments

#### Multijurisdictional and cooperative organizations

- Eastern Pest Board
- National Association of State Foresters
- National Pest Board
- Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission
- Northeast Forest Fire Supervisors
- Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters

#### Maine railroad companies

#### General Public

## **Maine Forest Service: Summary of efforts regarding the use of alternative delivery systems, including privatization, in meeting its goals and objectives**

The Maine Forest Service utilizes a number of alternative delivery systems for services it provides. Our online services are good examples of our efforts in this area.

- Publications online: The Maine Forest Service publishes its reports online (with limited hard copy distribution) as a way to reduce printing costs.
- Burn Permits online: The Maine Forest Service provides the option to purchase open burning permits online. Through this service, a person may purchase an open burning permit 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing permits are being issued at the time. The Open Burning Permits are valid for 48 hours from time of issuance.
- Private sector delivery of financial assistance programs to woodland owners: The Maine Forest Service works with a network of private sector consulting foresters to deliver financial assistance programs to woodland owners.
- Private sector contracting: The Maine Forest Service contracts with the private sector for a variety of services, including aerial fire detection and surveillance and building and grounds maintenance.

### **Collaborative delivery via other Maine state and federal agencies, academia**

#### Increasing shared/integrated pest survey work – especially exotic pest surveys:

Maine Forest Service, Maine Department of Agriculture, USDA Forest Service, APHIS

#### Outreach/program awareness

Maine Department of Agriculture, USDA Forest Service, APHIS, Extension

#### Special surveys/projects (faunistic/curating/biodiversity monitoring)

Maine State Museum

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Academia

E.g: Me Damselfly/Dragonfly project and Me Spider database (Me IF&W); Acadia NP annual bioblitz surveys (AcadiaNP, Me Entomological Society); Lady bug project (National Science Foundation, ARS, Academia); Beetles of Maine (Academia)

## **Collaborative efforts with client/cooperators:**

### Outreach/program awareness

- Volunteers
- Education/extension agencies: "Vital Signs"; "Master Gardeners" etc
- Friends of parks/land trusts
- Community organizations (garden clubs, etc.)
- Outside organization newsletters

### Pest detection

- HWA Take-a-Stand
- Cerceris biosurveillance
- ALB, EAB reporting initiatives

### Diagnostics

MES: identification work: contracts and volunteers

## **Collaborative efforts with regional counterparts**

### Multistate regional Pest survey and management projects:

- Coop HWA Slow the Spread (3 state/ fed subsidized)
- EAB survey (7 state); in Maine incorporates efforts from UMaine and tribes
- Forest Pest Survey & Outreach project (Multistate new England/Mid-Atlantic forestry and ag agencies)

### Regional international cooperative efforts

ME, NB, PQ cooperative spruce budworm survey reporting network

## **Targeted audience outreach - exterior to MFS**

Paid advertising to reach specific target audiences

Feature stories in outside magazines and newsletters

## **Increasing use of electronic communication tools with the public**

- Electronic diagnostics: encouraging initial electronic reports and digital images, then staff do triage to determine need for on-site visits. (Digital cameras have been the key to the success of this real-time response approach)
- Encouraging public use of email and MFS website to access information. MFS web page hits increased 59% between 2007 and 2011, from 331,350 to 525,506
- MFS is increasing use of listservs etc to provide newsletters
- Exploring use of social media to communicate with the public

## **Increasing use of electronic communication tools to share information within and between agencies:**

- GPS capabilities in planes (and hand held) have facilitated real time pest and damage reporting (aerial and land based) and interagency sharing



- All divisions increasingly use digital data recording devices linked to GPS to record field data (e.g. Best Management Practices monitoring)
- MFS continues to explore greater use of remote sensing to monitor forest conditions
- MOU's between MFS and USFS FIA to facilitate access to federal databases. This resulting in expedited analyses and flow of data and reports to clientele.

**Augmenting year round staff with seasonal workforce** – targeted on high-need periods with project positions and interns

**Insect –Related Human Health Issues:** Reduced MFS commitment to baseline monitoring. Baseline monitoring responsibility returned to Maine CDC after they got targeted federal funding (for WNV, Lyme etc). MFS continues to be engaged in planning/strategy discussions in recognition of possibility that Maine could in the future need to conduct an aerial disease vector control project. Baseline monitoring conducted through contracts and grants with Maine Medical Center and private mosquito management companies.

### **Maine Forest Service: Emerging Issues**

1. The MFS requires improved capability to model FIA data to predict future forest conditions, wood supplies and regulatory costs to resource managers. The forests of Maine are undergoing rapid changes in areas such as growth rates, forest structure, species abundance, and wood availability. Maine's forests also face threats from historical and new forest pests. At the same time, both established and emerging forest products markets are attempting to understand future fiber opportunities. It is imperative that the MFS provide insight into these conditions to provide a base level of information for economic and policy decisions.
2. A number of exotic and native pests are on the verge of profoundly altering Maine's forest communities. Exotics such as the emerald ash borer and Asian long horned beetle and the native spruce budworm can be expected to cause significant damage to Maine's forests in the near future. MFS's ability to detect and combat such pests must be improved to realize any opportunity to keep damage in check.
3. The distribution of mature wood in Maine continues to shift to southern Maine and onto ownerships where timber harvesting is not the primary ownership objective. This has created and will continue to create challenges for traditional wood procurement systems and threaten the viability of the forest economy. MFS needs to continue to provide information to these landowners that articulate the benefits of active forest management and assure the infrastructure available to help them meet their objectives. This effort will be first directed towards landowners enrolled in the Tree Growth Tax Law program.
4. Several opportunities currently exist to consolidate fire control facilities. A combination of sales, acquisitions and construction will be needed to develop the most cost effective and functional organization possible.

5. The Forest Protection Division has made significant strides to lower costs. Opportunities remain which will be pursued. Early detection and control can be enhanced by reconfiguring the helicopter fleet. Providing training and equipment to rural fire departments offers increased support at least in half of the state. Balancing regulatory surveillance coupled with a component of seasonal employees could lead to more availability of fire control personnel to meet local and regional demands. Maine's reliance for assistance from neighboring states becomes questionable as other jurisdictions reduce the size of their forestry agencies.
6. Maine has many voices providing information about the state's forests but lacks a clearly defined strategy on what messages should be developed, to whom they should be delivered, by whom and in what form. A global strategy needs to be developed by a group of interested parties.
7. Opportunities exist for streamlining regulations. There is some duplication of informational required from landowners and a reliance on paper-based documentation. The harvest notification system must become more automated to reduce costs and provide better customer service. Additionally, a new cold water fisheries initiative to enhance habitat by placing woody debris in streams has great potential to be addressed by standards rather than a permit procedure. Harvesting above 2700' has been allowed by permit since LURC's inception. Sufficient information has been generated to change this activity from a permitted activity to one allowed by following standards prepared through rulemaking. Forest management activities can be improved by the introduction of outcome based forestry through selected landowners. This initiative substitutes prescriptive regulations for verifiable outcomes.
8. Carrying out the greater mission of the MFS must clearly lead to expanded economic activity. It is not sufficient to assume that delivery of a service contributes to the economic well being of Maine residents. Documents articulating the MFS mission must be altered to reflect this direction.
9. An analysis of the economic impact of Maine's forest industry needs updating. The industry has undergone and continues to undergo significant change. We must improve our understanding of the implications of these changes to leverage opportunities and avoid problems.
10. The MFS is concluding agreements with several landowners to adopt outcome based forestry; a statutory defined program that replaces prescriptive regulations. Efforts will continue in 2012 and beyond.
11. Landowner relations are carried out by a number of departments and agencies. Greater efforts must be made to consolidate efforts.

3 MRSA §956, sub-§2.N.

FORMS THE PUBLIC IS REQUIRED TO FILE WITH MAINE FOREST SERVICE

Form	Statutory cite (1)	Date statute last amended (2)	When required (3)	Why required	# of filings received annually (4)	# of filings anticipated (4)
Forest Operations Notification	12 MRSA §8883-B	2003	Any commercial timber harvest	Informs bureau of timber harvesting - for educational, regulatory, and reporting purposes	Approx. 5,000	Approx. 5,000
Landowner report of timber harvest	12 MRSA §8885	2003	Annually (if notification filed)	Informs bureau how many acres harvested by various methods, stumpage prices for calculating Tree Growth Tax Law valuations	Approx. 5,000	Approx. 5,000
Clearcutting report	12 MRSA §8885	1997	Annually (if notification filed)	Informs bureau about clearcutting activities by landowners owning > 100,000 acres	Approx. 125	Approx. 125
Precommercial silvicultural activities report	12 MRSA §8885	1989	Annually (if notification filed)	Informs bureau about investments in silviculture (thinning, planting, etc.)	Combined w/landowner report of timber harvest; approx. 125	Combined w/landowner report of timber harvest; approx. 125
Wood processor report	12 MRSA §8884	1989	Annually	Informs bureau how much timber is processed by Maine's forest products industry	Approx. 550	Approx. 550
Import and export report	12 MRSA §8884	2005	Annually	Allows bureau to track wood flows	Approx. 120	Approx. 120
Prescribed fire burn plans	12 MRSA §9321	2001	Any prescribed burning	Allows bureau to allocate fire suppression resources	Approximately 50	Approximately 50

Form	Statutory cite (1)	Date statute last amended (2)	When required (3)	Why required	# of filings received annually (4)	# of filings anticipated (4)
Fire payroll report	12 MRSA §9206	1979	After a fire (town wardens)	Allows bureau to determine fire costs	Approximately 500	Approximately 500
Obstruction of woods roads permit	12 MRSA §9602	1979	Whenever closing a woods road	Allows bureau to determine need for fire control access	Approx.5	Approx. 5
Railroad fire report	12 MRSA §9402	1979	Whenever fire occurs in railroad right of way	Allows bureau to suppress fire and investigate cause	38	Approx. 50
Tree Growth Tax Law roster	36 MRSA §581-G	2005	Annually (by towns)	Allows bureau and Revenue Services to track enrollments in Tree Growth	487	487



# Bureau of Parks & Lands



# Maine Department of Conservation





## BUREAU OF PARKS AND LAND

**A. Enabling Statute:** 12 MRSA §§ Sections 1801-1899 (Chapter 220)

### **B. Program Description**

Department of Conservation's Bureau of Parks and Lands oversees some of Maine's key natural resources and recreational lands. Its mission is "to provide for a variety of quality recreational and educational opportunities and resource conservation and management benefits to Maine citizens and visitors."

The Bureau of Parks and Lands was established in 1996 through the merger of two separate Bureaus within the Department of Conservation: the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, and the Bureau of Public Lands. The Bureau of Parks & Lands was established to provide access to woods, inland and coastal waters to the people of Maine and visitors through stewardship and conservation of the State's Parks, public lands and state owned historic sites

The Bureau serves to encourage the public's recreation in and appreciation of Maine's natural resources through the operation of its State Parks, Historic Sites, and Public Reserved Lands, boat launches, and recreational trails. It helps to stimulate Maine's natural resource economy through timber harvesting, tourism, and outdoor recreational sports.

The major programs within the Bureau are State Park Operations that include 33 State Parks, 13 Historic Sites, the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, and the Penobscot River Corridor; Public Lands managing almost 600,000 acres of state owned land on a multiple-use basis; the Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) program that oversees 14,000 miles of snowmobile trails and 6,000 miles of ATV trails statewide; the Boating Facilities program that oversees more than 300 state owned or sponsored boat launches on Maine Lakes, Rivers and Coast; and the Submerged Lands program that oversees the public trust rights on approximately 3 million acres of land underwater from mean low tide to seaward three miles.

The bureau has a year-round staff of 110, supplemented by 267 seasonal employees. It operates on general fund appropriation and dedicated revenues allocation, which for FY 2012 include a general fund appropriation of \$6.7 million, federal allotment of \$2 million and dedicated revenue allotment of \$16.8 million. The general fund appropriation funds the state parks and historic sites. Fees collected in the parks and historic sites are placed in the general fund undedicated revenue. In FY 11 Parks fees contributed \$3.6 million to the State's General Fund.

Public Reserved Lands administration and management is supported by dedicated funds from timber sales and property leases on public lands. Recreational programs for snowmobile and ATV trails are funded primarily by ORV registrations, supplemented by a proportionate share of the gasoline tax. Boating facilities are supported by gasoline



taxes. Land acquisition is funded through a variety of public bonds and funds, as well as private sources, gifts, and any revenue generated from the sale of Public Reserved Land approved by the legislature.

**1. State Parks and Historic Sites**

Maine has many spectacular state-owned parks and historic sites. The combination of coastal and inland forested parks, together with nationally recognized wilderness adventures such as the Allagash Wilderness Waterway and the Penobscot River Corridor make our State Parks system a valuable asset both for public access and for the input it provides to the tourist economy.

- 100,000 acres (87,500 Bureau-managed; 13,000 under management agreement)
- 33 state parks, 13 historic sites, Allagash Wilderness Waterway, and Penobscot River Corridor
- Infrastructure value more than \$100M
- Annual Budget: General Fund \$6.7 M;  
Dedicated Funds \$1.5 M;
- Fee Income: \$3.6 million to General Fund, up 44% since 2006
- Visitors: approx. 2.4 million day use; 225,000 camper-nights

**Current Initiatives and Accomplishments**

- Increase public utilization of state park resources
  - Raise profile of parks (newspaper inserts, publicity), Take It Outside! program, First Time Campers program, State Parks Passport program, and Winter Activities Programs
  - Improve range of amenities offered in the parks (RV hookups)
  - Continue to expand accessibility (ADA)
- Improve capital infrastructure through State Bond funds matched with Federal dollars and BGS funds
- Implement management planning on park land base using Integrated Resource Policy; St. Croix International Waterway plan currently under way.
- Implement the AWW Strategic plan through revision of the AWW management plan
- Broaden outdoor recreational opportunities to include more bird watching, winter activities, biking, and interpretive hikes
- Develop strong ties to private enterprises in the tourist economy

**2. Public Reserved and Nonreserved Lands**

The Public Lands Division is Maine's land management agency, managing hundreds of thousands of publicly-owned lands for multiple uses including timber harvesting, recreation, enhancement of wildlife habitat, and protection of unique natural and cultural resources, in accordance with Legislative guidelines. This division is self-supporting through income

derived from its land management activities (primarily timber harvesting and leasing of camp lots and other facilities). Maine's timberlands are dual-certified (FSC and SFI) for sustainability. Timber harvesting helps support Maine's Natural Resources industry providing jobs for private woods contractors and supplying to more than 40 mills. The program also manages some of Maine's most important ecological and recreation resources. These recreation and ecological resources are assuming increasing importance in the work of the Bureau. One of the main issues before the division is addressing the burgeoning Conservation Easement responsibility as ownership portfolio shifts from fee ownership with revenue generating potential to easement management and monitoring responsibilities with associated cost.

- 591,000 acres owned in fee (Reserved and Nonreserved lands) on 147 public reserved lands units and 21 nonreserved lands units.
- 348,000 acres of Conservation Easements managed by Public Lands
- 1,320 coastal islands also managed by this division
- Self-funded through dedicated revenues from sale of forest products and land leases
- Annual Budget (FY 12): \$5.52M

### **Current Initiatives and Accomplishments**

- Management Planning on a regional basis under the Integrated Resources Policy (IRP)
  - Eight major plans completed
  - Interior Penobscot and Allagash Wilderness Waterway—currently underway
- Meet conditions of Forest Certification:
  - develop timber growth and yield computer modeling capability.
  - inventory current wood supply to determine the most advantageous harvesting opportunities to support the forest economy and adequately fund Bureau programs, while assuring a sustained yield.
- Harvest Timber on public lands allocated for timber management to 100% of maximum sustained yield.
- Explore the use of outcome-based forestry to increase targeted yields while improving habitat.
- Increase development of recreation opportunities on public lands.
  - staff development: recreation training for land stewards
  - trail development
  - road improvement
- Focus on special resource protection.
  - continue inventory and monitoring of ecological reserves

### **3. Boating Facilities Division**

The boating facilities division acquires, constructs, and operates public boat

launch facilities to ensure that Maine citizens have access to the waters of the State. The program also administers a small navigational aids (buoys) program to mark navigation hazards on some busy Maine inland waters.

- Existing public boat access sites: 85 DOC-owned; 229 grant- assisted municipal/other
- Navigational Aids (buoys) – maintain markers on 35 lakes; permitting for other inland bodies of water
- 10-yr strategic plan developed with Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Marine Resources and State Planning
- Funded by dedicated revenue from gas tax
- Annual Budget: \$1.88M, from dedicated gas tax revenues

**Current Initiatives:**

- Implement the Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to have DOC maintain all major boat launch facilities owned by both Departments.
- Develop additional lakes to be marked for navigation
- Work with municipalities, lake associations and others to develop, improve and increase boating facilities on Maine's waters.

**4. Off Road Vehicle Division**

The Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Division works in close partnership with hundreds of snowmobile and ATV clubs and their statewide organizations (Maine Snowmobile Association and ATV Maine) to build and maintain many thousands of miles of snowmobile and ATV trails, and to support the volunteer workforce that keeps the system up through municipal and club grant programs.

- 14,000 miles of snowmobile trail; 6,000 miles of ATV trail
- 298 Snowmobile clubs; 147 ATV clubs
- 310 miles of multi-use rail trail including the 87 mile Downeast Sunrise Trail
- Dedicated Revenues from registrations & gas tax
- Annual Budget: \$6.23M

**Current Initiatives:**

- Public acquisition of easements and rights of way, including abandoned rail corridors, and the attendant management responsibilities.
- Manage the snowmobile grooming equipment grant program

**5. Submerged Lands and Coastal Islands Division**

Publicly owned submerged lands include lands extending seaward from the mean low water line of tidal waters to the 3-mile territorial boundary, lands beneath the natural low water line of ponds larger than 10 acres, and the river beds of Maine's three international boundary rivers. These lands are managed under the

Public Trust Doctrine to ensure protection of the public trust rights fishing, waterfowl hunting, navigation, and recreation.

The Shore and Harbor Management Fund is supported by revenues in excess of operational needs and is the means by which public compensation is provided for the leasing of public lands for private use. The Submerged Lands Program through cooperative agreements with the State Planning Office and Maine Department of Transportation provides grant funding to support improved waterfront planning and access for the public and marine-related businesses. The program generates approximately \$500,000 in lease revenues annually.

Major program elements include a leasing program for such uses as municipal and private piers, marinas, and commercial fisheries facilities; an on-going inventory to identify existing uses requiring a submerged lands conveyance, sunken log salvage, and a municipal shore and harbor grant program. The program administers nearly 2,000 leases and easements. This represents a nearly 50% increase since 2005 with the inclusion of coastal structures with constructive easements predating the leasing program as well as leases on the State's great ponds. It reviews approximately 100 new proposals annually.

The Coastal Island Registry was established as a means of clarifying title to Maine's 3,166 coastal islands by establishing and registering ownership. At this point, most islands in private ownership have been registered and the program's primary focus is responding to requests to update the registry as property ownerships are transferred and the many requests for ownership information from persons interested in Maine's islands.

- Dedicated Revenues from leases & log salvage operations  
Annual Budget: \$478,000.

#### **Current Initiatives:**

- Conversion of constructive easements that predate the program to leases including submerged lands under great ponds.
- Distribute Shore & Harbor Management Fund monies through existing SPO and MDOT programs
- Reexamination of the program to prepare for emerging offshore issues (e.g.: LNG development, increasing interest in shorefront development and related offshore uses)

#### **6. Planning, Acquisition, and Special Services Division**

This division provides support services for management of the Bureau's properties, conservation lands acquisition and management and support for Statewide or multi-agency conservation and recreation planning initiatives. This division also includes a Community Grants program for land conservation and recreation infrastructure projects and the Maine Conservation Corps which provides services to state agencies, land trusts and local entities undertaking trail planning and improvements.

Management and Planning Support Services for Bureau Lands: Support services includes: administering the Bureau's leases and agreements for use of Bureau lands (write and manage ~300 camplot leases and 51 other leases and agreements), property records management, GIS/mapping services - support to regions and Augusta staff, public information and interpretive services - unit based and system wide, assist Regions with non-motorized trails planning and wildlife management; coordinate with Regional staff and write Public Reserved Lands Management plans (required by statute for public reserved and nonreserved lands; required for FSC and SFI certification - 152 units assembled into 14 regions), and Parks management plans (AWW, Androscoggin Riverlands; others)

Conservation Lands Acquisitions and Management: This division also provides support for acquisitions of new public lands and conservation easements to protect areas of high public value, using Federal Forest Legacy, Land for Maine's Future, dedicated Bureau funds, and other state and federal grant programs. This involves coordinating with landowners, funders, legal advisors, Bureau management and staff; consultants and partner NGOs; from project planning to closing. This includes:

- Acquisition of new fee properties and conservation easements to be held by the Bureau - includes ongoing annual monitoring (57 easements; ~350,000 acres)
- Sponsoring local entities for LMF funding - ongoing compliance with Project Agreements (over 100 agreements; 52,000 acres)

Statewide or Multi-Agency Conservation and Recreation Planning & Initiatives:

This division also participates in or initiates major initiatives in support of expanding recreation and tourism opportunities in Maine including;

- 5-year Maine Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan (required for federal Land & Water Conservation Funds) (2009)
- St. Croix International Waterway Recreation and Conservation Management Plan (in process - with IF&W, St. Croix Waterway Commission)
- Sunrise Trail Infrastructure and Tourism Planning (current MOHF grant)
- Collaborations with partner organizations for various non-motorized trail planning and management (ORV supports motorized) - Appalachian Trail, Northern Forest Canoe Trail; Maine Island Trail

The Community Grants Program: This program administers two federal grant programs: the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). RTP provides funds to governmental and non-profit entities for trail related projects. This includes land acquisition, trail construction and renovation, and safety and environmental education projects. This program will provide up to 80% of project related costs. Since the program inception in 1993, Maine has received over \$6 million in RTP funds, and the Division has funded 300 trail projects throughout the state. Congress has approved RTP funding through 2011. In 2011 the Bureau was awarded \$2.3 million for this program. LWCF provides funding to governmental agencies for the development and renovation of public outdoor recreation facilities and for the acquisition of land to support outdoor recreation. LWCF provides up to 50% of project costs. Maine has received over \$39 million through this program since 1965, and has funded

approximately 850 projects statewide. Since 2006 LWCF has been substantially reduced from up to \$1 million per year to \$366,000 in FY 2011.

Maine Conservation Corps - The Maine Conservation Corps (MCC) was established by Maine's governor and legislature in 1983 and since then has recruited and placed hundreds of members who have accomplished countless natural resource projects all over Maine. The MCC's four-fold mission is to: accomplish conservation projects, create conservation employment, provide conservation education, and engage conservation volunteers. The Field Team program consists of 15 trail crews that construct and rehabilitate recreational trails in places like Acadia National Park, Baxter State Park, and on the Appalachian Trail, as well as land owned by local communities and land trusts.

The Environmental Educator program places individuals with non-profit and state organizations such as the Maine DEP, Pemaquid Watershed Association, and the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge. These individuals focus on community outreach and education through projects like watershed surveys, classroom activities, and ecological studies.

The MCC receives AmeriCorps funding through the Maine Commission for Community Service. During their terms of service members receive a weekly living allowance, health insurance, First Aid/CPR training, and are able to earn AmeriCorps Education Awards to pay for college or student loans. The program operates under a general fund appropriation of \$76,000 for FY 12, a federal grant of \$460,000 and other special revenue of \$729,000.

#### **Current Initiatives:**

- Continuation of Management Plan process to include Central Penobscot Plan and Allagash Wilderness Waterway Management Plan.

Explore funding alternatives to fund MCC to continue and expand program.

#### **Emerging Issues**

##### **1. Utilization and Funding of State Parks and Historic Sites**

Maine is now reexamining its natural resources-based economy and exploring opportunities to increase nature-based tourism. The role of State Parks and Historic Sites in serving Maine's tourist economy has been underappreciated but is now on the rise. Together with the three major icons of Maine (Acadia, the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, and Baxter State Park), the parks and historic sites are a core set of destinations for Maine tourists, where the spectacular natural features of Maine are showcased. In this respect, the parks serve as keepers of the Maine "brand." They are the public face of Maine.

The parks serve not only tourists, but also Maine's own citizens. As land ownership patterns change, and as special natural spaces out-of-doors are bought up by private individuals and concerns, parks have become an increasingly important outdoor recreation resource for Maine people. They also are an important resource for helping to build and maintain healthy lifestyles for Maine citizens. In these times of constrained financial resources one of the key issues for parks is to assure that park fees don't become a barrier to public usage, especially for Maine residents.

Despite the increasing importance of the park system in providing these important components of the Maine lifestyle and the Maine "image," the state has only made modest investments in essential infrastructure to maintain its parks system. The \$7.5 million bond for parks infrastructure passed in 2007 and another for \$500,000 in 2010 were very well received and were supplemented by matching federal funds for many projects. However much work on improving and repairing parks infrastructure is yet to be done. A 2004 facilities review showed an \$80+ million infrastructure that needed \$30 million in repairs and renovations. Because the parks system receives most of its funding through the General Fund, it has suffered numerous rounds of budget cuts which have pared the system down to bare bones. The parks system currently is going into its second biennial period with no general fund capital budget.

Development of stable and adequate funding sources is essential to the continued operation and maintenance of the parks and historic sites. This should include generating our own income as well as developing partnerships with others who can help support State Parks and Historic Sites. The Department welcomes the opportunity to discuss options for such funding mechanisms.

## **2. The Role of Public Lands in Public Access and Nature Based Economy.**

The States nearly 600,000 acres of ownership of Public Reserved and Non Reserved Lands can and does provide the public access to some of the most special places in Maine. Through the statutory multiple use mandate the Bureau also manages the timber and other natural resources for sustainable yield using sound and prudent business practices. It is the intention of the Department to support and strengthen the natural resource based economy while assuring responsible stewardship of its natural resources.

Conservation easements are a growing responsibility for the Bureau. The number of acres of easements for which the bureau has responsibility has grown to over 348,000 acres. That is a nearly ten-fold increase over the past 7 years. Our increased business like approach to managing our resources is necessary to provide funds for increased public access. There are currently 54 conservation easements that the Bureau is responsible for, 3 easements delegated by the US Forest Service and is the 3<sup>rd</sup> party enforcer on an additional 17. The cumulative effect of this increased workload without increased staff is a great concern to the Bureau.

The acquisition of land both in fee and easement has been significant over the past five years. Programs such as the State's Land for Maine's Future, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and the Federal Forest Legacy Program have provided funding to acquire and/or protect from development many acres of Maine's most special places. As we look forward to reduced financial resources at both the State and Federal levels, the Department will seek to be strategic both in its choices for acquisition and in determining methods of funding available to help with purchases.

In addition to acquisition, the management of timber on reserved lands and nonreserved lands is of increasing importance. Timber management remains the main source of revenues for the program and provides significant employment to private logging contractors, as well as adding to the state's wood fiber supply. The Bureau supplies wood to at least 45 mills. A revised forest inventory of Public Reserved Lands is currently underway and will give us new information for determining forest supply and sustainability levels. It is our intention to continue to manage our timber at 100% of sustainable levels. We are also exploring the use of outcome-based forestry management to increase yields of targeted types of wood while also improving habitat.

### **3. The Changing Role of State Government in Developing and Maintaining Maine's ORV Recreation Industry**

Snowmobiling in winter has become a favorite pastime for thousands of Maine citizens, and Maine's snowmobile recreation industry has become critically important to the economies of rural areas in the State. The industry has grown steadily over the course of several decades, to the point that today it generates many hundreds of millions of dollars for the Maine economy. The 14,000 acres of groomed trails in the State, the majority of which is on private land, is unique in the nation.

The State of Maine, to this point, has acted in a supporting role for private clubs in Maine. Through the administration of grants to clubs and municipalities for trail maintenance activities and the purchase of equipment, the Bureau's ORV Division has encouraged club growth and trails development and improvement.

The use of all terrain vehicles for recreation and touring has grown exponentially in recent years, such that the statewide economic impact of the ATV recreation industry is already in the hundreds of millions of dollars. But ATVs are capable of doing a great deal of damage to land, and unmanaged use of ATVs, and the resulting damage to private property, has caused many land owners to restrict access to their property. This landowner reaction has caused a crisis in the ATV recreation community, and it has affected both ATV and snowmobiling opportunities. One of the most effective alternative ways to provide access is through the development of multiuse trails on former railroad beds. The State of Maine has been asked to assume a more active role in developing clubs and trails, and to address problems flowing from the burgeoning sport of recreational ATViing.



The Bureau welcomes the opportunity to explore creative ways to deal with these challenges, together with our partners in the ORV community.

#### **4. Adequately Addressing Local Issues in Developing Public Access To Maine's Waters**

The Bureau's boating facilities program is charged with ensuring that Maine citizens have reasonable access to Maine's waters, through the acquisition and construction of public boat launch facilities. The proper location and development of a public boat launch sometimes raises difficult planning issues of great concern to municipalities. These concerns, such as the threat of inadvertent introduction of invasive plant species, potential threats to drinking water supplies, traffic flow issues, etc., are legitimate and must be carefully addressed. Planning tools and protocols are needed to ensure that legitimate local concerns are fully addressed in the siting and construction of public boat launches, that the public's right of access is not defeated by illegitimate use of local zoning restrictions.

##### **Bureau of Parks & Lands Interagency coordination**

**Department of Agriculture** - Ongoing coordination between BPL and Department of Agriculture regarding agricultural leases on public lands.

**Department of Transportation** - BPL has partnered with DOT in the operation and management of the Penobscot Narrows Observatory. Coordination and collaboration on traffic control and signage issues near state parks. The Submerged Lands division worked closely with DOT on the Shore and Harbor Investment Program (SHIP). The Off-Road Division worked in collaboration on the Downeast Sunrise Trail which converted 87 miles of railbeds to multi use recreational trails.

**Department of Environmental Protection** - BPL works with DEP on any issues that involve permitting for projects in organized towns. Collaboration is also used in monitoring and curtailing adequate invasive species.

**Department of Health and Human Services** – BPL collaborates with DHHS regarding water testing and public health issues at Maine State Parks.

**Inland Fisheries and Wildlife** - Coordination on fisheries and wildlife habitat, management issues on state parks and public reserved lands. Working with Warden Service on enforcement issues associated with ORV's. The Bureau also works with

IF&W on educational outreach programs such as hooked on fishing and Take It Outside events for Maine State Parks which allows children the opportunity to try fishing and other outdoor activities.

**Maine Forest Service** - BPL collaborated with the Maine Forest Service in the construction of new radio towers, as well as any enforcement issues regarding ORV's. Coordination on Forest insect and disease compliance with emphasis on invasive species control of firewood.

**Maine Office of Tourism** - Collaboration and coordination on increasing the marketing of State Parks and Historic Sites as part of the tourism economy. Active participation in the Big E exposition to promote Parks and Lands. Partner in the Maine State Parks Passport Program.

**Marine Resources** - Collaboration on shellfish harvesting at State Parks.

**Maine Revenue Service** - Cooperative program to allow Maine taxpayers to purchase Maine State Parks season passes as a check off option on their income taxes.

**Maine Emergency Management Agency**- Collaboration on emergency issues involving public safety such as hurricanes and other natural disasters at our State Parks.

**State Planning Office** – Coordination on Land for Maine's Future program. Collaboration on coastal management issues between Submerged Lands Program and Coastal Zone Management.

**USDA Forest Service** - Coordination of the Maine Forest Legacy Program.

**US Fish and Wildlife Service**- Coordination and collaboration regarding Moose Horn Wildlife Refuge that involves Cobscook Bay State Park.

**National Park Service**- Collaboration and coordination on issues involving the Allagash Wilderness Waterway and the State of Maine portion of the Appalachian Trail.

## **Bureau of Parks & Lands Constituencies**

### **Recreational Users**

Sportsmen's Groups

Outdoor recreational groups

Campground owners

Historical Societies

147 ATV clubs across Maine

298 Snowmobile clubs across Maine

604 State owned and public assisted boat launch facilities

Volunteer groups

Maine Snowmobile Association

ATV Maine

### **Forest landowners**

Industrial

Investor

Family

Public

Forestry-related organizations

Forestry-related professional organizations

Forestry-related commodity organizations

Forestry-related educational organizations

### **Wood Processing Facilities**

Sawmills

Pulp mills

Pellet mills

Bark mulch producers

Firewood processors

### **Educational Institutions**

Post-secondary

Primary and secondary

### **Nonprofit and extension organizations**

Land trusts

Marine Owners

Advisory Councils

Economic development organizations

University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Forest certification organizations

Conservation groups

**Other state agencies**

Agriculture

Department of Transportation

Environmental Protection

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Maine Office of Tourism

Marine Resources

Maine Revenue Service

Maine Emergency Management Agency

**Baxter State Park Authority**

**Federal agencies**

USDA Forest Service

University of Maine Orono

USDA National Park Service

US Fish and Wildlife Service

**Municipalities**

Harbor Masters

**Multijurisdictional and cooperative organizations**

National Association of State Park Directors

**General Public**

Central Maine Power

Bangor Hydro

Florida Power and Light

**Bureau of Parks and Lands:  
Summary of efforts regarding the use of alternative delivery systems**

- Publications online:
  - Maine State Parks and Historic Site Brochures
  - Public Lands Brochures
  - Find Parks and Lands Database
  - Google Earth Boat Launch Facilities
  - GIS Mapping
  - Maine ATV and Snowmobile Maps
  - Maine Trail Finder
  - Application for Land and Water Conservation Grant
  - Application for RTP Grant
  - Management Plans
  - Advisory Council Meetings
  
- Reservations System
  - Development of a web-based camping reservation system now used by 70% of those making reservations for camping at State Parks.

**Emerging Issues**

- Funding and staffing to meet a strong and growing public demand for use of parks, lands, trails & other facilities. An aging and heavily used infrastructure.
- Updating the Allagash Wilderness Waterway Management Plan
- Acquisition of 100 acres to ensure access by the public to Crescent Beach State Park
- Snowmobiling and ATVing rely largely on a volunteer base for grooming and maintenance; access to private property for recreation grows increasingly difficult.
- While demand for access to waters grows, boating facilities nearly always draw opposition from local property owners.
- The Maine Conservation Corps, critical to trail building, faces uncertain funding.

## Statutory Requirements

12 §1839, 12 §1853  
and 12 §1862

Public and Submerged Lands: Report on nonreserved public land, public reserved land and submerged lands. The Agriculture Committee shall submit a written recommendation regarding the bureau's proposed budget to the AFA Committee.

12 §1853-B sub-§1

Public Reserved Lands. Report must include a list of gates or barriers to public access, campsite or facility fees, budget information, status of ecological reserves and a description of any changes in allowed uses of public reserved lands.



# Bureau of Geology and Natural Areas



## Maine Department of Conservation

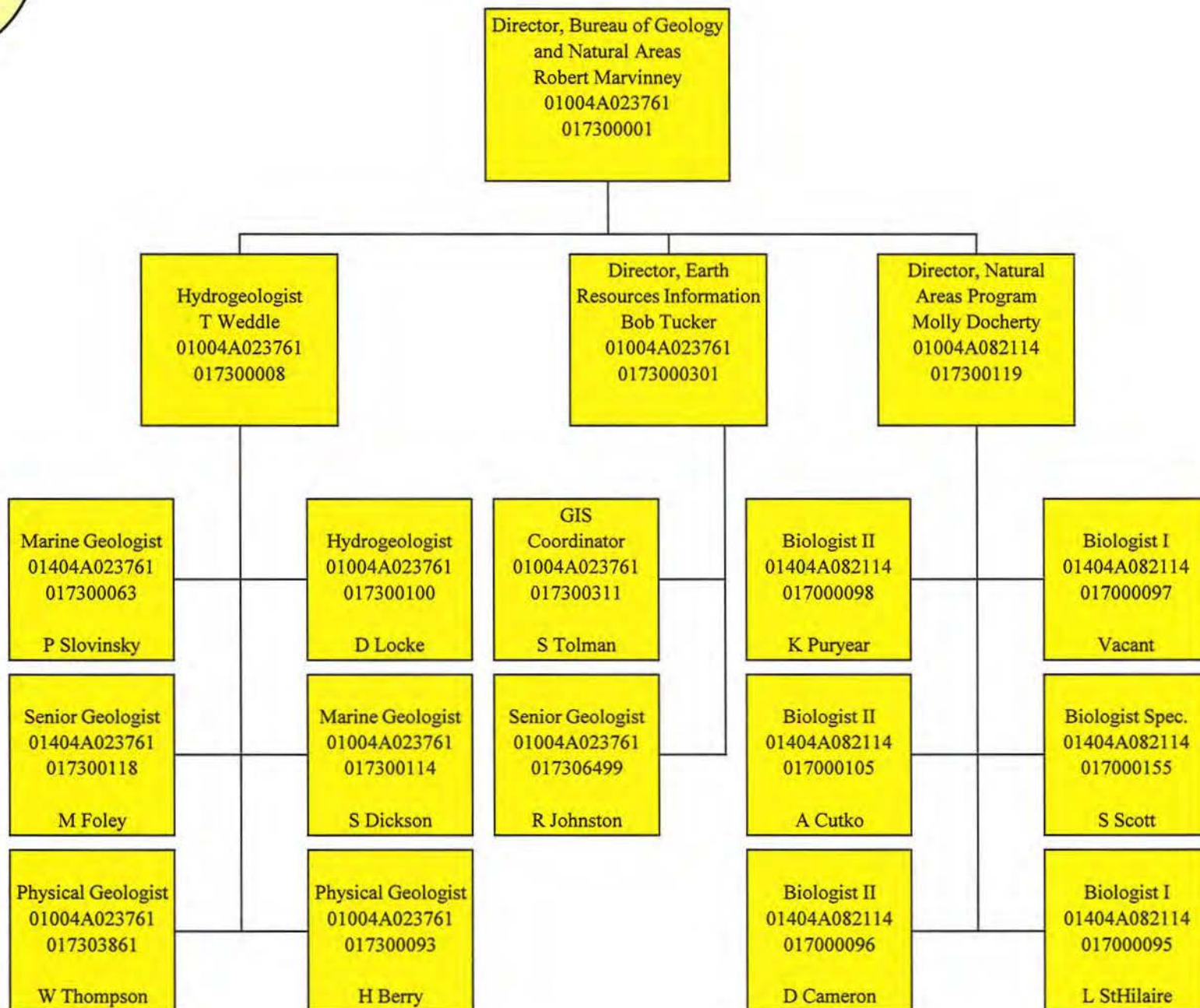






# Department of Conservation Bureau of Geology

JULY 2011



## BUREAU OF GEOLOGY AND NATURAL AREAS

A. **Enabling Statutes:** 12 MRSA, Chapter 201-A

B. **Programs**

This Bureau is the administrative home of the Maine Geological Survey (MGS) and the Maine Natural Areas Program. The mission of this agency is to provide the People of Maine with quality information to facilitate informed decision-making for natural resource management, economic development, conservation planning, and regulation; to provide public assistance; and to promote education. The Bureau will inventory, map, assess, and interpret Maine's geology, plants, and ecosystems.

### 1. **Applied Geology Division**

#### **Bedrock and Surficial Geology**

- Bedrock geology of Maine refers to the solid rock of the earth – the ledge; surficial geology refers to loose materials and soils overlying the solid ledge. Mapping the bedrock and surficial geology of the state is an on-going basic function of the MGS and underlies most of the other resource investigations that the agency conducts. These include ground-water quantity and quality investigations in both unconsolidated glacial materials and fractured crystalline bedrock, aggregate resource assessments, geologic hazards and slope stability studies. It identifies mineral deposits of relevance to economic development. Geologic mapping also provides the foundation for a significant portion of the education and outreach functions of MGS.

#### **Hydrogeology**

- The Maine Geological Survey began mapping sand and gravel aquifers throughout the populated and traveled portions of the state in the 1970s. This program has been a cooperative venture with the U.S. Geological Survey and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP). Aquifer mapping facilitates ground-water protection efforts by delineating areas of unconsolidated sediments that are likely to yield significant amounts of ground water of relevance to municipal water supply, irrigation, the water industry, and conservation. Because of their high porosity and permeability, sand and gravel aquifers are vulnerable to contamination from surface spills. Additionally, sand and gravel aquifers have the greatest potential to serve as municipal water supplies, with more than 100 towns relying on them for at least part of their supply, and many more considering them. This project was completed statewide in 2009, except for unpopulated areas of northwestern Maine. It produced 525 maps and corresponding digital datasets showing the distribution of significant sand and gravel aquifers.
- Water Resources Planning Committee: Established by the Legislature (Public Law 2007 Chapter 399), this stakeholder group is staffed by the Maine Geological Survey and includes representatives of major water users and interest

groups. The WRPC helps guide watershed investigations and provides input to the redesign of the State's groundwater-level monitoring network. This group also acts as a policy sounding board.

## **Marine Geology**

- Maine has more than 3,500 miles of shoreline of which about 50% is rockbound. Bluffs in unconsolidated glacial deposits, beaches, and salt marshes make up the remainder. Bluffs are particularly important in the major bays of the coast, including Casco Bay, Penobscot Bay, and Cobscook Bay, but occur along other sheltered sections of the coast as well. Bluffs are typically developed where unconsolidated glacial sediment such as the glacial-marine clay is exposed to wave action. MGS has mapped eroding coastal bluffs with funding from various sources, including the Maine Coastal Program at the State Planning Office and the Maine Emergency Management Agency. Mapping of the southern and central parts of the Maine coast was completed in 2006.
- Over the past two decades, the MGS has mapped the geological environments of southern Maine's dune system in support of sound development. The critical boundaries between frontal dune and back dune environments have been consistently mapped in the major dune systems, and are presented on a series of easy-to-use maps using aerial photographs as the base. MGS completed a systematic, consistent effort to assess erosion hazard on southern Maine beaches. This effort facilitates improved permitting, coastal planning, and provide important information to property owners. MGS continues to annually map the upland edge of southern Maine beaches to assess changes to the beach system over time.
- The program provides information on offshore resources (e.g. marine sediment, minerals) and the marine physical environment (e.g. currents, tides) that is pertinent deepwater development such as deepwater ports, and energy facilities.
- This program provides scientific and technical outreach directly with the public, municipal governments, federal agencies, and businesses to address local, regional, and statewide issues. Examples include: managing public beaches with the Bureau of Parks and Lands, supporting the Sea-Level Adaptation Working Group (with 4 towns and the Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission); leading the biannual Maine Beaches Conference; data analysis from a volunteer network of beach profiling teams; participation in the interagency dredge management team, and contributing to MEMA's State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

## **2. Resource Data Services Division**

- An essential function of the MGS is to make geological information available to the public. Geology is a discipline that is closely linked to the landscape and as such the geology of a place is best conveyed using maps. In the 1990s, MGS converted all map production from manual to digital techniques. All maps are now produced with increased efficiency using GIS capabilities, with the added

advantage of making digital representations of geological maps available for uses with other analyses.

- Since 2005, the MGS has transitioned to internet-based distribution of maps and reports. More than 2,100 maps and reports on bedrock, surficial, aquifer, and coastal geology are now available on line for free download. While the MGS previously sold more than 5,000 hard-copies of maps and reports annually, in 2010 this number had fallen to about 1,000. Free download via the internet has supplanted purchase of hard-copy maps as the primary access method to geologic information. In the past two years, downloads of free maps and reports have averaged about 6,000 per month.

### **3. Natural Areas Division**

#### **Ecological Inventory and Monitoring**

- MNAP, in cooperation with MDIFW, has completed a number of natural resource assessments across the state. These assessments aim to identify new locations and update known locations of rare plants, rare animals, and exemplary natural communities through landscape analysis, outreach to landowners for permission to inventory, and field inventory of sites for which MNAP has been granted access. After field surveys are completed, results are provided to landowners and added to MNAP's database system where they are used to help landowners, decision makers, developers, conservation organizations, and other constituencies develop improved management and protection of significant natural areas.
- MNAP conducts extensive natural resource inventories of federal and state lands at the request of the respective agencies. The results of the inventories guide management, establish baselines for long-term monitoring, and provide knowledge on the specific natural areas in public ownership. MNAP has detailed monitoring plans in place for all of Maine's federally and some state listed plant species, state designated Ecological Reserves, and freshwater wetlands.

#### **Ecological Analysis and Assessment**

- MNAP maintains the Official List of Endangered and Threatened Plants in Maine, which is a list of native plant species that are highly vulnerable due to habitat loss or collection. Species on the list are typically known from a very small number of sites within the state and many require unusual and distinct habitat for survival. This list is used to assist scientific research, environmental assessment, permit review, land management, and for educational purposes. MNAP's focus is also on identifying and disseminating information related to the least restrictive criteria needed to achieve sustainability.
- MNAP oversees the classification of natural community types that collectively cover the State's landscape. These include such habitats as floodplain forests, coastal bogs, alpine summits, and many others. Each type has been assigned a rarity rank of 1 (rare) through 5 (common) both within Maine (state rank) and

globally (global rank). MNAP's *Natural Landscapes of Maine* describes the composition, rarity, and distribution of each of the natural community types in the state, indicating levels of security based on science and long-term records.

- Non-native plants that cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health are considered invasive. MNAP works in collaboration with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the Maine Department of Agriculture, and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to provide outreach and education services to spread the word about invasive plants such as Purple Loosestrife, Eurasian Milfoil, and Japanese Barberry in Maine. MNAP has also developed fact sheets for Maine's Cooperative Extension Program detailing the identification and control of invasive plant species documented throughout Maine.

### **Information Management and Dissemination**

- MNAP maintains a comprehensive data management system, including a geographic information system (GIS), which houses information about the status and viability of Maine's rare plants, rare animals, and natural communities. From this information, MNAP can determine the minimum population levels of such rare communities that are needed to ensure sustainability, not just ideal or aspirational levels. MNAP offers review services for many types of projects, including environmental site review of development projects, comprehensive plans, potential acquisition parcels, and forest management plans. This review involves examining maps, manual and computerized records, other sources of information such as scientific articles or published references, and the personal knowledge of staff or cooperating experts for information on rare and exemplary features in the project area.
- Informing landowners of significant botanical features documented on their land or requesting permission to conduct a field survey of a particular parcel are ongoing efforts at MNAP, providing the opportunity to offer management suggestions and technical assistance to landowners. Most often, landowners are sent letters containing information about their property or requesting permission for MNAP to conduct a field survey. If permission is granted and a field survey is conducted, follow-up information and field survey results are provided to the landowner. MNAP staff does not conduct surveys without landowner permission.
- MNAP provides a variety of services to the forest industry, consulting foresters, and small woodlot landowners, including property reviews using in-house data; field surveys for rare plants and exemplary natural communities; ecological training; landscape analysis; and management plan review. MNAP currently has a licensed forester on staff.

### **Maine Geological Survey**

Federal Mandates: The Maine Geological Survey is not subject to any federal mandates.

Interagency Coordination:

- Maine Department of Economic Development: serves as a source of information related to the economic potential of Maine's natural resources.
- Maine Coastal Program, State Planning Office: develop joint proposals for federal funding; jointly propose policies for coastal development based on the science of coastal processes; work cooperatively with coastal communities on strategies to mitigate potential coastal hazards.
- Floodplain Management Program, State Planning Office: joint work on improving multi-hazard maps.
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection: provide agency review of select coastal development projects; provide agency review of groundwater development projects; work cooperatively to improve Maine's groundwater level monitoring network; technical assistance on dredge applications.
- Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Drinking Water Program: work cooperatively on groundwater quantity and quality issues; develop groundwater protection strategies.
- Maine Department of Health and Human Services, State Toxicologist: jointly investigate groundwater quality issues; develop outreach strategies for Maine citizens using private wells regarding the need to test.
- Maine Land Use Regulation Commission: provide technical foundation for review of applications related to groundwater development and wind-power siting.
- Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands: provide critical technical support on issues of coastal erosion at coastal state parks.
- Maine Emergency Management Agency: Participate in the River Flow Advisory Commission which annually forecasts the potential for spring flooding; manage the interagency annual snow survey that is essential to spring flood forecasting; provide technical advice on landslide potential, work on joint proposals to fund landslide hazard analysis; assist in developing the State's Hazard Mitigation Plan; jointly develop public outreach materials; provide technical support on seismic hazards.
- Maine Department of Transportation: provide technical support on dredging and siting of deepwater facilities.
- Water Resources Planning Committee: Interagency and stakeholder work group that identifies water related issues and directs efforts to address issues; provides oversight on special studies, such as the current project in the Branch Brook watershed, York County.

Constituencies: the information generated by the Maine Geological Survey is used by a wide variety of users.

- Geological consultants: use geologic information for all types of projects – construction, water resource development, water quality remediation, etc.
- Water well drillers: information on overburden thickness, anticipated depth of wells.
- Ground-coupled heat pump installers: overburden thickness, rock characteristics.
- Water utilities: groundwater resource information.

- Mineral explorationists: prospective areas in Maine for mineral deposits; information on known deposits.
- Aggregate producers: resource estimates; prospective areas for additional resources.
- Educators: general geological information, fieldtrip localities.
- Large land owners: geologic information on mineral and groundwater resources.
- Land owners: basic geologic information on their parcels; information on their water wells.
- Coastal property owners: geological framework of coastal areas; potential for coastal erosion.

Alternative delivery systems:

- Private sector: Geologists in the private sector could carry out geologic mapping tasks at far greater cost and the resulting information would be far less accessible.
- Federal agencies: The U.S. Geological Survey maintains an office in Maine, focused primarily on surface water resources. The USGS could take on some of the geologic mapping, coastal and groundwater tasks now performed by the Maine Geological Survey, but at a much higher cost.

Reports:

Water Well Completion Report: Filed by water well drillers upon completion of a new well for potable water.

Statutory authority: Title 12, §550-B

First adopted: 1987

Last amended: 2009

Frequency of filing: Within 30 days of well completion.

Number of annual filings, past two years: 2,000

Anticipated number of annual filings, next two years: 2,500

Actions to reduce filing requirements or duplication: This report is not duplicative of any other state agency report. No actions anticipated.

Exploration permit: For individuals wishing to explore for minerals on state land.

Statutory authority: Title 12, §549-B

First adopted: 1985

Last amended: 2009

Frequency of filing: Once annually.

Number of annual filings, past two years: 2

Anticipated number of annual filings, next two years: 4

Actions to reduce filing requirements or duplication: This report is not duplicative of any other state agency report. No actions anticipated.

Exploration claim: Claims on state-owned land to secure mineral rights.

Statutory authority: Title 12, §549-B

First adopted: 1985

Last amended: 2009

Frequency of filing: Once annually.

Number of annual filings, past two years: 2

Anticipated number of annual filings, next two years: 4

Actions to reduce filing requirements or duplication: This report is not duplicative of any other state agency report. No actions anticipated.

Exploration registration: For any person anticipating an expenditure of at least \$25,000 on mineral exploration on public or private lands.

Statutory authority: Title 12, §550

First adopted: 1985

Last amended: 1985

Frequency of filing: Once annually.

Number of annual filings, past two years: 0

Anticipated number of annual filings, next two years: 1

Actions to reduce filing requirements or duplication: This report is not duplicative of any other state agency report. No actions anticipated.

Notice of Intent to file: For any company anticipating to file an application with the DEP to develop a metallic mineral mine.

Statutory authority: Title 12, §550-A

First adopted: 1985

Last amended: 1985

Frequency of filing: Once annually.

Number of annual filings, past two years: 0

Anticipated number of annual filings, next two years: 0

Actions to reduce filing requirements or duplication: This report is not duplicative of any other state agency report. No actions anticipated.

## **Maine Natural Areas Program**

Federal Mandates: The Maine Natural Areas Program is not subject to any federal mandates.

Interagency Coordination:

- Maine Beginning with Habitat Program, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife: work cooperatively to improve the delivery and use of natural resource information for municipal planning; jointly develop technical assistance material related to at-risk species and habitats; develop joint proposals for government and non-governmental funding; assist land trusts, regional and statewide planning entities on strategies to conserve habitats of statewide importance.
- Wildlife and Fisheries Research and Assessment Section, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife: jointly inventory lands for at-risk species and habitats.



- Wildlife and Fisheries Management Section, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife: work cooperatively on review of large development projects statewide; conduct natural resource inventories of publicly owned lands and guide land management decisions.
- Land for Maine's Future Program, State Planning Office: provide technical assistance reviewing proposed State acquisitions and conducting natural resource inventories of newly acquired properties.
- Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program, Maine Department of Environmental Protection: serve on interagency review committee to recommend action on projects related to wetland preservation, enhancement, and restoration; provide field assessments and technical review of proposed projects.
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection: provide agency review of development projects for Site Law and Natural Resource Protection Act projects; work cooperatively to improve Maine's aquatic invasive plant detection and monitoring network.
- Maine Land Use Regulation Commission: provide review of applications related to wind-power siting and other large development and planning projects.
- Maine Department of Transportation: provide field assessments and technical assistance on transportation planning projects; review seed mixes for use.
- Maine Department of Agriculture: work cooperatively to improve Maine's terrestrial invasive plant detection and monitoring network.
- Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands: conduct natural resource inventories of public lands and contribute to management plans for respective parcels; provide technical assistance on acquisition projects, forest harvest and recreation plans; facilitate Scientific Advisory Committee on Ecological Reserves.
- Maine Forest Service: review forest management plans; serve on Maine's Forest Stewardship Advisory Committee.
- Maine Coastal Program, State Planning Office: Collaborate on mapping of coastal wetlands and outreach regarding sea level rise.
- Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund: serve on Board to allocate funds related to Maine's Outdoor Heritage.
- Botanical Advisory Group: facilitate amateur and professional botanist review of Maine's official Endangered and Threatened Plant list.

Constituencies: the information generated by the Maine Natural Areas Program is used by a wide variety of users for the following purposes.

- Public Land Managers: guide land management and acquisition decisions.
- Large and Small Private Landowners: provide assistance on forest management and invasive plant species control.
- Foresters: to guide forest management.
- Non-governmental conservation organizations: assist with planning, easement monitoring, land management, and acquisition planning.
- Natural Resource Consultants: minimize and avoid impacts to at-risk species and habitats by development; guide wetland identification and restoration.
- Towns: inform local planning for at-risk species and habitats; to assist with preparation for changes in tidal marshes and estuaries as sea level rises.

- Federal agencies: contribute to federally endangered and threatened plant species monitoring and recovery efforts.
- Landscape architects: recommend native species to plant in various habitats for restorations and for horticultural plantings.
- Academic Researchers: improve scientific knowledge of Maine's at-risk species and habitats.
- General Public: respond to inquiries about Maine's forests, vegetation, and biodiversity.

Alternative delivery systems:

- Private sector: Botanists in the private sector do conduct inventories for at-risk species and habitats and often contribute the information to the Maine Natural Areas Program however, their interest is site-specific. They are not in a position to assess statewide distribution and/or rarity of Maine's at-risk species and habitats nor to disseminate information at a regional or statewide scale.

Reports:

N/A



# Land Use Regulation Commission



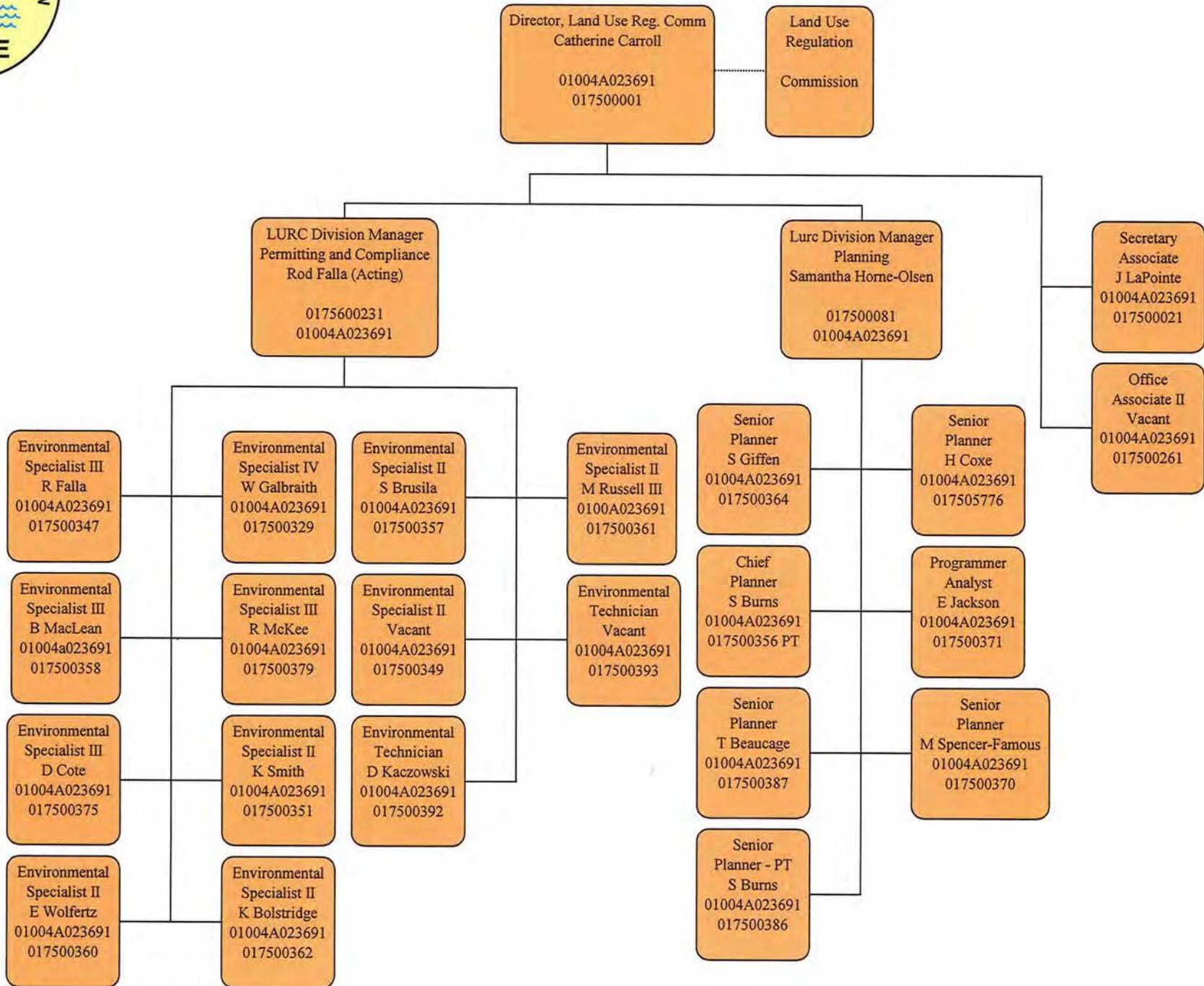
## Maine Department of Conservation





DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
LAND USE REGULATION COMMISSION

July 2011



## LAND USE REGULATION COMMISSION

A. **Enabling Statute:** 12 MRSA, Chapter 206-A, Subchapter II

B. **Program**

The Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) was established by the legislature in 1971 to implement principles of sound planning, zoning, and subdivision controls in the unorganized townships and plantations. LURC's purpose is to encourage the well-planned, well-managed, and appropriate multiple use of land resources in the 421 unorganized townships, 32 plantations, 7 towns, and over 300 coastal islands, in the 10.5 million acres in LURC's jurisdiction.

### 1. Commission

The Land Use Regulation Commission is an independent citizen-board of seven members selected and appointed by the Governor for four year terms who are familiar with the needs and issues affecting the LURC's jurisdiction.

The current members are:

**Gwendolyn Hilton**, chair, a professional land use planner and a Starks (Somerset County) resident;  
**Toby Hammond**, a resident of Naples (Cumberland County); and former CEO and chairman of the board for Hancock Lumber and Hancock Land;  
**Ernest Carle**, a resident of Big Lake Twp. (Washington County) and professional forester;  
**Robert Dunphy**, a resident of Emden, (Somerset County) and a county commissioner;  
**Sally Farrand**, a resident of the Town of Beaver Cove (Piscataquis County) and a medical writer/producer, specializing in continuing medical education for physicians and allied health personnel;  
**Edward Laverty**, a resident of Medford (Penobscot County) and an associate professor at the University of Maine in the Department of Public Administration and,  
**Rebecca Kurtz**, a resident of Phillips (Franklin County) and the Invasive Plant Program Director of the Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust.

These citizen members of the Commission contribute many hundreds of hours each year to their duties. The Commission meets regularly 12 times a year throughout the jurisdiction and holds several additional public hearings.

### 2. Primary Responsibilities of the Commission

- Protect the public health, safety and general welfare by ensuring that development is appropriately sited so as to avoid hazards such as

flooding, erosion, unsafe proximity to roads, inadequate waste disposal facilities, environmental contamination, etc.

- Direct growth to appropriate areas through zoning and development standards based on the Commission's Comprehensive Land Use Plan;
- Identify and evaluate lands and waters for their natural resource value and significance, and development potential;
- Assist customers and evaluate requests for land use activities;
- Educate and inform those who live, work, and recreate in the jurisdiction regarding land use laws and standards;
- Promote compliance with land use laws and standards, and
- Enforce land use laws and standards.

### **3. Commission Staff**

Currently there are 25 positions to administer an efficient planning, permitting, and compliance program. The staff is located in the agency's main office in Augusta, and in five regional offices located in West Farmington, Greenville, East Millinocket, Ashland, and Bangor.

- **Planning:** Since the last program review, planning staff had the primary role in assisting the Commission to adopt several rule changes including legislative directed changes to Chapter 10 to address certain provisions of the Wind Energy Act and the Ocean Energy Act; adopt a 10 year update to the Commission's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and approve a 400,000 acre concept plan for the Moosehead Area. The planning staff also processed eight grid scale wind energy development applications for the Commissioners' consideration, and a total of 248.5 MW was ultimately approved. The planning staff regularly assists the permitting staff with complicated proposals that require policy interpretation and is responsible for providing technical services such as GIS, database maintenance, and data analysis.
- **Permitting:** Regional Representatives process an average of 800 permit applications a year for everything from camps to subdivisions and small businesses to large scale development projects.
- **Compliance and Enforcement:** Regional Representatives conduct site visits and field inspections ranging from meeting with customers for pre-construction consultation, certifying compliance, and enforcing land use laws and standards.
- **Education and Information:** Planning and Permitting and Compliance staff assist their customers by formal and informal assistance ranging from attending meetings with groups or associations, and providing assistance to applicants over the telephone and in person at the Augusta headquarters and the regional offices.

- Support Staff: A clerk provides reception and telephone services, process, distribute, and archive thousands of paper and electronic files, perform database entry and quality control, and manage financial and business processes to keep LURC working efficiently and professionally.

#### 4. Interagency Relations

- **Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL) and Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW)** - conservation lands GIS layer.
- **Maine Forest Service** – coordinate intent to harvest notifications for commercial forest products. Limited statutory authority for timber harvesting and related uses in areas zoned protection and development.
- **Office of Energy Independence and Security and Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP)** – legislative mandate to assess issues of permitting wind energy projects, including cumulative visual impact, decommissioning, and noise.
- **MDEP and Maine Geological Survey** - joint jurisdiction for metallic mineral mining activities.
- **MDEP** - review certain projects in overlapping LURC and MDEP jurisdiction such as utility lines and windpower. **NRPA** - legislative mandate to update Commission's rules to be consistent with MDEP rules. **Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act** - hydropower projects that are wholly within the unorganized areas, otherwise MDEP is permitting agency where a proposed project overlaps both jurisdictions.
- **Department of Health and Human Services** – many approved LURC projects need to meet the requirements of the state's plumbing code, a license for bulk water transport, and/or comply with the public water supply system requirements.
- **MDIFW**- activities in mapped essential habitat requires a determination that the activity will not unreasonably harm essential habitat. Provide technical assistance on information about habitats including deer wintering areas, coastal nesting sites, and fisheries.
- **Maine Historic Preservation Commission** – provide technical assistance on land use activities impacts on designated historical and archaeological sites.
- **Maine Natural Areas Program** – provide technical assistance on land use activities impacts on rare botanical features.
- **County and other local governments** – provide technical assistance on land use activities impacts on regional and local infrastructure and services.
- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** – certain approved LURC projects may need to meet the requirements on impacts to wetlands where the corps has jurisdiction.
- **Maine Department of Transportation** – certain approved LURC projects may need to obtain entrance permits.
- **State Planning Office** – coordinate with Maine's FEMA representative for compliance with the federal Flood Insurance Program.



- **BPL** - conservation easement holder on land with LURC approved development, coordinate with bureau to be consistent in recreational and land management plans.
- **Department of Marine Resources** – provide technical assistance on LURC projects along coastal islands.
- **Public Utilities Commission** – provide technical assistance on energy issues not limited to distribution and transmission of wind energy projects.

## **5. LURC has a Broad Constituency**

- Multiple townships, towns and plantations
- Organized communities nearby unorganized areas
- Municipal and Regional Planning Boards
- Local Residents, and residents of organized areas working in the unorganized areas or have economic ties
- Property Owners
- Recreating public

LURC strives to balance the concerns of the various constituencies.

## **6. Use of Alternative Delivery Systems**

- **File Transfer Protocol (FTP)** site hosted by InforME for the transfer of large amounts of electronic data for LURC project review to public and private entities.
- **Web based application LURC Zoning and Parcel Viewer** that is hosted by MEGIS and allows users to locate LURC zoning within parcels in the unorganized territories as well as create a pdf file for print or download.
- **Real time audio streaming** during the monthly LURC Commission meetings and public hearings available as a link from the website.
- **LURC agenda and meeting audio** are posted on the web with links to pertinent documents or audio files from past Commission Meetings.
- **Geographic Oriented Action Tracker (GOAT)** LURC's own sequel application, which links its zoning and parcel layers with tabular permitting and enforcement databases. GOAT is an interactive application which allows staff to both find data and enter data, often on a daily basis. This database can be shared within state government for project reviews.
- **GIS layers, UT parcels and zones** developed and maintained by LURC. Both are hosted on the MEGIS web data catalog and can be downloaded by public and private entities in several GIS formats. Parcels and zones are also available on the MEGIS SDE server for state government users to query and display within their individual projects.
- A **Survey Monkey website** has been created for the purposes of customer service and feedback.

- LURC's zoning maps, publications, brochures, and reference materials are available for download on the website.

## 7. Emerging Issues

- **Update application forms** for permits for residential and non-residential developments to shorten and simplify the paperwork for applicants.
- **Increase education and awareness of LURC's permitting and compliance program** through publication guidance documents, mailings, the internet, and site visits.
- **Increase permitting efficiencies** through policy guidance memos to increase consistency on applying rules and standards.
- **Process development proposals** for grid scale wind energy projects, concept plans, subdivisions, resorts, etc.
- **Revise Level II Subdivision Criteria** to expand and encourage the use of these subdivisions.
- **Implement permit by rule and expedited permits** to reduce the requirements for permits and shorten processing times.
- **Implement the Comprehensive Land Use Plan** and/or any new legislative direction following the next session of the 125<sup>th</sup>.
- **Improve Data collection** to standardize data collection and storage.
- **Update Website** to conform to state and federal regulations.
- **Update Rules in Chp. 10** to be consistent with the NRPA.
- **Implement the Plum Creek Concept Plan** as development proposals are submitted.
- **Renew Resource Plans** for the St. John River, Metinic Island and the Penobscot River's – East Branch.
- **Develop a guidance document on wind energy issues** on cumulative visual impact and other issues to develop uniform standards and procedures
- **Re-evaluate regulatory approach to recreational lodging** to better mesh and align with current recreation trends and needs.
- **Create a Flood Plain Supplement** to fulfill FEMA requirements.
- **Develop Organization/deorganization plans** as requested by unorganized townships and municipalities.
- **Assist LURC Study Committee** to respond to requests for information.

## 8. Federal Mandates

The ***Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)*** administers the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which provides landowners or purchasers of flood prone property in unorganized areas the option of obtaining federal flood insurance and mortgage financing. LURC is mandated to participate in the program by delineating flood prone areas identified by FEMA so that flood insurance can be made available to those with property in the unorganized areas.

**9. Forms The Public is Required to File**

LURC Recording of Land Division Plan	Within 60 days of the creation of the land division	Allows LURC to track divisions of land of at least 40 acres over time when they are being used only for natural resource management	12 MRSA § 682-B
LURC Notice of Road and Water Crossing Activities	Prior to the commencement of pertinent activities	Allows LURC to track road and water crossing construction activities	Chapter 10.27,D of LURC Rules; 12 MRSA §§ 685-A and 685-B
LURC Notice of Timber Harvesting	Prior to the commencement of timber harvesting operations	Allows LURC to track timber harvesting operations' conformance with LURC standards	Chapter 10.27,E of LURC Rules; 12 MRSA §§ 685-A and 685-B
LURC Notice of Transfer to Governmental Entity	At the time of the transfer the transferee provides written notice to LURC	Allows LURC to track transfers of lots to a municipality, county or State	12 MRSA § 682-A (2)
LURC Notice of Development	Prior to or concurrently with submission of an application to the MDEP	Informs LURC of intent to develop a project that is partially in LURC jurisdiction and will be approved by the MDEP	12 MRSA § 685-B
LURC Recording of Permitted Subdivisions	After a permit for a subdivision is issued	Allows to make available to the public LURC Approved Subdivisions	12 MRSA § B,
Notice of Filing for Expedited Wind Energy Developments	Prior to Filing	Allows the public and neighboring municipalities to learn about the proposal and the process in time to	12 MRSA § 685-B (2-C) (A)

		meaningfully participate.	
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## 10. LURC Publications

In most instances, there's no charge for individual copies, nominal charge for multiple copies. Copies of all publications can be obtained, electronically and at no charge, from the website.

- **Statute**

The LURC statute is the land use law that created the Maine Land Use Regulation and identified the mission of the agency. The LURC statute is entitled: 12 M.R.S.A. §206-A LAND USE REGULATION.

- **Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

The LURC statute requires that the Commission operate under a comprehensive land use plan whose purpose is to guide the Commission in developing specific land use standards, creating zoning boundaries and guiding development. The Commission's plan is entitled: COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN FOR THE PLANTATIONS AND UNORGANIZED TOWNSHIPS OF THE STATE OF MAINE.

The Plan was originally adopted in 1976 and subsequently revised in 1983, 1990, 1997 and 2010. The Plan was also amended in 2001 in order to create a land use plan developed for a subregion of the jurisdiction (the Rangeley area). The amendment to the Plan is officially entitled: PROSPECTIVE ZONING PLAN FOR THE RANGELEY LAKES REGION: AN AMENDMENT TO THE MAINE LAND USE REGULATION COMMISSIONS COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN.

- **Zoning Maps**

In accordance with its enabling statute, the Commission has established zoning districts to protect important resources and prevent conflicts between incompatible uses. These zoning districts identify what types of activities are appropriate and allowed in each zone.

- **Rules and Regulations**

The LURC statute also authorizes the Commission to adopt rules in order to interpret and carry out the requirements outlined in the statute. These rules are known as the Commission's Rules and Regulations and consist of the following chapters:

Chapter 1. General Provisions (PDF, 55 KB)  
*Chapter 2. Interim Land Use Districts and Standards (largely replaced by Chapter 10)*  
Chapter 3. Delegation of Authority to Staff (PDF, 37 KB)  
Chapter 4. Rules of Practice (PDF, 56 KB)  
Chapter 5. Rules for the Conduct of Public Hearings (PDF, 156 KB)  
*Chapter 6. Repealed*  
*Chapter 7. Repealed*  
*Chapter 8. Repealed*  
*Chapter 9. Repealed*  
Chapter 10. Land Use Districts and Standards  
Chapter 11. Administrative Regulation for Hydropower Projects (PDF, 56 KB)  
Chapter 12. Requirements for Metallic Mineral Mining & Level C Mineral Exploration (PDF, 66 KB)  
Chapter 13. Rules for Metallic Mineral Exploration, Advanced Exploration and Mining (PDF, 604 KB)  
*Chapter 14. Reserved*  
Chapter 15. Guidelines for Private Roads or Ways (PDF, 44 KB)  
Chapter 16. Rules Relating to Large Lot Land Divisions (PDF, 33 KB)  
Chapter 17. Reestablishment of Commission Jurisdiction (PDF, 45KB)

- **Resource Protection Plans**

Under the Commission's regulatory framework, a landowner may submit a petition to rezone land to the Resource Plan Protection (P-RP) subdistrict. The purpose of the P-RP subdistrict is to provide for a way to more efficiently and effectively manage protection subdistricts (and in some cases adjoining management subdistricts). Lake concept plans are also included within the P-RP subdistrict. Such plans are a flexible alternative to traditional shoreland regulation in that they allow landowners to create long-range plans for the development and conservation of large blocks of land on a lake or group of lakes.

- **Guidance Documents**

**Wind Power Expedited Area Expansion Guidance Document** -  
(Published April 12, 2011)

**Windpower Permitting Checklist** - Guidance Document and Checklist for Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) Wind Energy Development Permit Applications (Published November 6, 2008)

**Affordable Housing** - This document was created to provide guidance concerning affordable housing opportunities within its jurisdiction.  
(Published April 19, 2007)

**Guidelines for Selection of Easement Holders** - Provides ways to determine the acceptability of a proposed holder of a conservation easement (Published November 22, 2004)

**Approval Process for Energy Generation and Transmission Projects** - Explains the regulatory process for siting various energy projects such as wind generation and transmission lines (Published April 14, 2004)

**Clarifying the Rezoning Criterion of 'Demonstrated Need'** - Describes ways of meeting the Commission's rezoning criterion of 'demonstrated need in the community or area' (Published April 1, 2004)

**Wetland Compensation Guidelines** - Outlines requirements for wetland compensation plans for projects that cause the loss of wetland functions and values (Published February 26, 1998)

**Commission Guidance on Receiving Public Comment** - Guidelines for Commissioners and staff on ways to gather public comment fairly and effectively (Published October 16, 1996)

**Compliance and Enforcement Response Policy** - Summarizes the Commission's policy for administering and developing penalties for land use violations (Published March 1, 1992)

- **Forms**

The application forms listed below may be used to apply to the Commission for a permit for various structures and uses. If you are uncertain which forms you will need to submit for a particular project, contact our main office in Augusta or one of our regional offices for guidance before you begin filling out any paperwork.

**Petition for Rezoning to Implement a Concept Plan** - Used to petition LURC for a change in district boundaries (zoning) to a P-RP subdistrict to implement a concept plan (Published June 1, 2003)

**Subdivision Permit Application** - Used to apply for LURC permit approval of residential or non-residential subdivision of land (Published November 23, 2010)

**Application for Non-Residential Development** - Used to apply for LURC permit approval for non-residential, commercial, industrial, public and institutional structures and uses, and home occupations (Published August 30, 2008)

**Expedited Application for Conforming Residential Development (10.26 Form)** - Used to apply for LURC permit approval for certain residential structures and uses that meet the Commission's dimensional requirements (Published September 2, 2008)

**Expedited Application for Nonconforming Residential Development (10.11 Form)** - Used to apply for LURC permit approval for certain residential structures and uses that do not meet the Commission's dimensional requirements (Published September 2, 2011)

**Expedited Building Permit Application for Brassua Lake Concept Plan** - Used for residential development within the Brassua Lake Concept Plan. (Published December 15, 2010)

**Forestry Operations Amendment Form** - Used to amend any Forestry Operations notifications. (Published February 22, 2010)

**Minor Change Request** - Used to request a minor change related to a permit previously issued by LURC (Published August 4, 2008)

**Questions for Home Occupations: Supplement S-1** - Used for applications for major home occupations, to be submitted along with the Application for Residential and Non-Residential Development (Published August 4, 2008)

**Requirements for Non-Residential Development: Supplement S-2** - Used for applications for non-residential development, to be submitted along with the Application for Residential and Non-Residential Development (Published August 4, 2008)

**Requirements for Wetland Alterations: Supplement S-3** - Used for any applications involving alteration of certain wetlands or waters (Published August 4, 2008)

**Self-Certification Form** - Used to certify that construction activities have been completed in conformance with LURC permit approval (Published March 28, 2011)

- **Miscellaneous Publications**

The publications below are intended to help the public understand the Commission's permitting requirements, as well as answer some commonly-asked questions about some of the Commission's standards.

**About Your LURC Building Permit** - Brochure summarizing requirements for residential development (Published July 14, 2011)

**Buying and Selling Property** - What you should know before you buy, develop or sell land in the Commission's jurisdiction (Published December 16, 2009)





Maine Forest Service  
2011-2012 Regulatory Agenda  
October 2011

**AGENCY UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER:** 04-058

**AGENCY NAME:** Department of Conservation, Maine Forest Service

**CONTACT PERSON:** Dan Burke; 22 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333; 287-4909;  
dan.burke@maine.gov

**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA:**  
None

**EXPECTED 2011 – 2012 RULEMAKING ACTIVITY:**

1 - NEW RULES: Rules to ban the import of untreated firewood, define acceptable firewood treatment and associated labeling requirements, establish variance procedures and govern inspection, seizure, destruction or other disposition of any non-compliant out of state firewood.

STATUTORY BASIS: Public Law 2010, Chapter 585, LD 1607, An Act to Regulate the Transportation of Firewood (12 M.R.S. § 8305 (as amended by PL 2010, Ch. 585).

PURPOSE: The chapter authorizes the Director of the Maine Forest Service to seek resources and implement restrictions on the import of firewood into the state to reduce risk of introducing forest diseases and pests of foreign origin.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: The rulemaking process will begin late fall 2011. Final rules are anticipated by spring 2012.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Maine homeowners, campground owners, retail and wholesale firewood dealers, out of state visitors

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: Not contemplated

Land Use Regulation Commission  
2011-2012 Regulatory Agenda  
October 2011

**AGENCY UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER:** 04-061

**AGENCY NAME:** Department of Conservation, Land Use Regulation  
Commission

**CONTACT PERSON:** Dan Burke; 22 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333; 287-4909;  
dan.burke@maine.gov

**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA:**  
None

**EXPECTED 2011 – 2012 RULEMAKING ACTIVITY:**

1 – CHAPTER 10: Land Use Districts and Standards, Miscellaneous Changes

STATUTORY BASIS: 12 M.R.S. §§ 684, 685

**PURPOSE:** These rules establish land use standards for lands under LURC jurisdiction. They need to be updated periodically to address issues which become obvious through experience gained from applying current rules as well as correcting errors, updating references, as appropriate, and other minor changes to Chapter 10.

**ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE:** Issue proposed amendments by June 2012; adopt amendments by October 2012; submit for legislative review during January 2013

**AFFECTED PARTIES:** Landowners and others who hold interests in lands under LURC jurisdiction

**CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT:** Not contemplated.

2 – CHAPTER 10: Land Use Districts and Standards, Changes to Enhance  
Regulatory Efficiency

STATUTORY BASIS: 12 M.R.S. §§ 684, 685

**PURPOSE:** These rules establish land use standards for lands under LURC jurisdiction. Methods to increase efficiencies in the review and permitting of development will be considered, such as expanding the application of provisions regarding Level II subdivisions, handling certain activities by permit-by-rule or its equivalent, and reviewing nonconforming use and other provisions to consider

revisions consistent with Shoreland Zoning Guidelines currently under review by a DEP stakeholders group.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Issue proposed amendments by July 2012; adopt amendments by November 2012; submit for legislative review by March 2013.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Landowners and others who hold interests in lands under LURC jurisdiction

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: Not contemplated

3 – CHAPTER 10: Land Use Districts and Standards, Natural Resource Protection Act-related (NRPA) Changes

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 12 M.R.S. §§ 684, 685

PURPOSE: Rules need to be promulgated to provide resource protection in LURC jurisdiction consistent with that provided under NRPA in organized areas of the state, as required by the NRPA statute.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE: Track upcoming legislative action on the NRPA statute and issue proposed amendments by August 2012, adopt amendments by December 2012; submit for legislative review by March 2013

AFFECTED PARTIES: Landowners and others who hold interests in lands under LURC jurisdiction

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: Not contemplated

Bureau of Parks and Lands  
2011-2012 Regulatory Agenda  
October 2011

**AGENCY UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER:** 04-059

**AGENCY NAME:** Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands

**CONTACT PERSON:** Dan Burke; 22 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333; 287-4909;  
dan.burke@maine.gov

**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA:**  
None

**EXPECTED 2011 – 2012 RULEMAKING ACTIVITY:**

1 – Chapter 53: Submerged Lands Rules

**STATUTORY BASIS:** 12 M.R.S. §§ 1801, 1803, and 1862.

**PURPOSE:** These rules need to be amended to establish an annual rent fee schedule for renewable ocean energy projects located in state waters.

**ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE:** Issue proposed amendments by March 2012;  
adopt amendments by June 2012

**AFFECTED PARTIES:** Potential renewable ocean energy project developers and other users of coastal waters and public submerged lands

**CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT:** Not contemplated.

2 – Chapter 9: Rules for Snowmobile Capital Equipment Grant in Aid Program

**STATUTORY BASIS:** 12 M.R.S. § 13104(4)

**PURPOSE:** These rules need to be amended to include “groomer repairs” in the list of eligible reimbursements for the Capital Equipment Grant Program.

**ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE:** Issue proposed amendments by March 2012;  
adopt amendments by June 2012

**AFFECTED PARTIES:** Municipalities, counties, snowmobile groups, and others who are participating in this grant program

**CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT:** Not contemplated.



**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
STRATEGIC PLAN  
November 1, 2011**

The Department of Conservation is a 578-position organization, representing legislative position count of 283, which operates state parks and lands, forest service, geological and natural areas programs, and land use regulation for the unorganized territories. Of the 578, about 300 employees are seasonal. We have a FY12 budget of \$48.6 million, of which \$22.7 million is general fund, \$19.8 million is dedicated and \$6 million in federal funds. The Department's general fund budget is less than 0.9% of the State's general fund budget. Personal services are 52% of the total budget and 80% of the general fund budget.

The Department oversees 35 state parks, 13 historic sites, 600,000 acres of certified sustainably timber-harvested land, is the land use planning and zoning board for 10 million acres (one half of the state), and protector of the forests and minerals for the whole 21 million acres of Maine.

**Legislative Mandate:**

There is created and established the Department of Conservation to preserve, protect and enhance the land resources of the State of Maine; to encourage the wise use of the scenic, mineral and forest resources of the State of Maine, and to ensure that coordinated planning for the future allocation of lands for recreational, forest production, mining and other public and private uses is effectively accomplished; and to provide for the effective management of public lands in the State of Maine. (12 MRSA § 5011)

**Department Mission:**

The Mission of the Department of Conservation is to benefit the citizens, landowners, and users of the State's natural resources by promoting and performing stewardship and ensuring responsible balanced use of Maine's land, forest, water, and mineral resources.

**Department Goals:**

1. Effectively and efficiently plan and manage Maine's lands and waters to preserve, protect, and enhance the state's unique character while facilitating sound and sustainable development and use of scenic, mineral, water and forest resources.
2. Ensure that all Maine people and visitors are aware of, and enjoy, the recreational and educational opportunities offered by Maine's state parks, historic sites, and other public lands, waters, and related facilities.

## **EMERGING ISSUES**

### **OVERVIEW**

This section discusses emerging issues and challenges for the five bureaus of the Department. The issues and challenges will certainly be colored by the significant budget shortfall projected for the next biennium. The Department will continue to perform to the highest level of service for whatever level its programs are funded in the upcoming budget.

#### **1. Commissioner's Office**

##### **Emerging Issues and Challenges**

Issues and challenges create opportunities. Having said that though, the Department surely will be challenged in trying to move beyond the previous strategic plan's maintenance of effort posture in which the Department's core programs were expected to be constrained by the ongoing budgetary reality of limited resources.

Nevertheless, on the positive side of the equation, the Department is strongly committed to using the \$48.6 million annual appropriations and allocations in effective, efficient, innovative and entrepreneurial ways that leverage the state's unique natural resources for the benefit of Maine people.

This strategic vision can be accomplished by taking the following steps:

1. Prepare and continuously update the Department's strategic plan that embodies a positive, innovative, nimble, entrepreneurial and forward thinking approach to the state's natural resources;
2. Implement zero based budgeting, beginning with the 2014-2015 biennium, that enables the Department to analyze, evaluate and assess its programs, functions and activities to ensure they are relevant to the contemporary needs of Maine people with respect to the wise use and conservation of Maine's natural resources; and,
3. Implement continuous improvement efforts that compliment strategic planning and zero based budgeting.

#### **2. Geology and Natural Areas**

##### **Emerging Issues and Challenges**

The broad issue of "sustainable use of natural resources for recreation, development and a healthy economy" applies to the Maine Geological Survey and the Natural Areas Programs in a manner similar to that of the bureaus of Parks and Lands, and Forestry.

## Emerging Issues

### Geology:

- **Sustainable development:** Provide the geologic framework that contributes to sustainable communities while providing for and promoting appropriate utilization of resources.
- **Coastal zone:** Strike the appropriate balance between development and natural processes in hazardous coastal sand dunes environments with regulations that are based on sound science.
- **Geologic hazards:** Identify and communicate the risks to life and property from landslides, coastal storms, and earthquakes.
- **Water resources:** Strike the appropriate balance between resource conservation/protection and resource development for both surface and ground waters. Develop a robust database of groundwater quantity and quality that can guide development efforts.

### Natural Areas

- **Landowner Incentives** - Provide meaningful incentives to private landowners for continued protection of lands considered to be statewide ecological significance.
- **Forest Certification** – In conjunction with Maine Forest Service ensure that forest certification systems (SFI, FSC, Tree Farm) embrace and implement effective guidelines for protection of biodiversity.
- **Ecological Reserves** - Establish Endowment for long-term monitoring of Maine's Ecological Reserves. Nine of 16 ecoreserves have had baseline information collected but there is a need to secure funding to monitor systems over time.
- **Beginning with Habitat at Regional Scale** - Collaborate with ever increasing program partners on regional land use planning as it pertains to wildlife habitat, water quality, landscape connectivity, access, and coastal resources.
- **Information Dissemination** - Balance need for data access (web enablement) by the public while maintaining our strong working relationship with large and small private landowners.
- **Emerging Technologies** - Move from field-based assessments to incorporating remote and modeled information (e.g.; satellite imagery, Ecological Land Units) into landscape level ecological assessments.



### 3. LURC

#### Emerging Issues for LURC in 2011/2012

- **Update application forms** for permits for residential and non-residential developments to shorten and simplify the paperwork for applicants.
- **Increase education and awareness of LURC's permitting and compliance program** through publication guidance documents, mailings, the internet, and site visits.
- **Increase permitting efficiencies** through policy guidance memos to increase consistency on applying rules and standards.
- **Process development proposals** for grid scale wind energy projects, concept plans, subdivisions, resorts, etc. for energy generation economic enhancement.
- **Revise Level II Subdivision Criteria** to expand and encourage the use of these subdivisions.
- **Implement permit by rule and expedited permits** to reduce the requirements for permits and shorten processing times.
- **Implement the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and/or any new legislative direction following the next session of the 125<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Improve Data collection** to standardize data collection and storage.
- **Update Website** to conform to state and federal regulations.
- **Update Rules in Chp. 10** to be consistent with the NRPA.
- **Implement the Plum Creek Concept Plan** as development proposals are submitted.
- **Renew Resource Plans** for the St. John River, Metinic Island and the Penobscot River's – East Branch.
- **Develop a guidance document on wind energy issues** on cumulative visual impact and other issues to develop uniform standards and procedures
- **Re-evaluate regulatory approach to recreational lodging** to better mesh and align with current recreation trends and needs.
- **Create a Flood Plain Supplement** to fulfill FEMA requirements.
- **Develop Organization/deorganization plans** as requested by unorganized townships and municipalities.
- **Assist LURC Study Committee** to respond to requests for information.

### 4. FORESTRY

#### Emerging Issues and Challenges

Over the foreseeable future, Maine will continue to be challenged on forestry issues. In shaping public policy, we need to consider and address the following issues:

1. The Maine Forest Service (MFS) requires improved capability to model Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) data to predict future forest conditions, wood supplies and regulatory costs to resource managers. The forests of Maine are undergoing rapid changes in areas such as growth rates, forest structure, species

abundance, and wood availability. Maine's forests also face threats from historical and new forest pests. At the same time, both established and emerging forest products markets are attempting to understand future fiber opportunities. It is imperative that the MFS provide insight into these conditions to provide a base level of information for economic and policy decisions.

2. A number of exotic and native pests are on the verge of profoundly altering Maine's forest communities. Exotics such as the emerald ash borer and Asian long horned beetle and the native spruce budworm can be expected to cause significant damage to Maine's forests in the near future. MFS's ability to detect and combat such pests must be improved to realize any opportunity to keep damage in check.
3. The distribution of mature wood in Maine continues to shift to southern Maine and onto ownerships where timber harvesting is not the primary ownership objective. This has created and will continue to create challenges for traditional wood procurement systems and threaten the viability of the forest economy. MFS needs to continue to provide information to these landowners that articulate the benefits of active forest management and assure the infrastructure available to help them meet their objectives. This effort will be first directed towards landowners enrolled in the Tree Growth Tax Law program.
4. Several opportunities currently exist to consolidate fire control facilities. A combination of sales, acquisitions and construction will be needed to develop the most cost effective and functional organization possible.
5. The Forest Protection Division has made serious strides to lower costs. Opportunities remain which will be pursued. Early detection and control can be enhanced by reconfiguring the helicopter fleet. Providing training and equipment to rural fire departments offers increased support at least in half of the state. Balancing regulatory surveillance coupled with a component of seasonal employees could lead to more availability of fire control personnel to meet local and regional demands. Maine's reliance for assistance from neighboring states becomes questionable as other jurisdictions reduce the size of their forestry agencies.
6. Maine has many voices providing information about the state's forests but lacks a clearly defined strategy on what messages should be developed, to whom they should be delivered, by whom and in what form. A global strategy needs to be developed by a group of interested parties.
7. Opportunities exist for streamlining regulations. There is some duplication of informational required from landowners and a reliance on paper-based documentation. The harvest notification system must become more automated to reduce costs and provide better customer service. Additionally, a new cold water fisheries initiative to enhance habitat by placing woody debris in streams has great potential to be addressed by standards rather than a permit procedure. Harvesting above 2700' has been allowed by permit since LURC's inception. Sufficient information has been generated to change this activity from a permitted activity to one allowed by following standards prepared through rulemaking. Forest management activities can be improved by the introduction of outcome based forestry through selected landowners. This initiative substitutes prescriptive regulations for verifiable outcomes.

8. Carrying out the greater mission of the MFS must clearly lead to expanded economic activity. It is not sufficient to assume that delivery of a service contributes to the economic well being of Maine residents. Documents articulating the MFS mission must be altered to reflect this direction.
9. An analysis of the economic impact of Maine's forest industry needs updating. The industry has undergone and continues to undergo significant change. We must improve our understanding of the implications of these changes to leverage opportunities and avoid problems.
10. The MFS is concluding agreements with several landowners to adopt outcome based forestry; a statutory defined program that replaces prescriptive regulations. Efforts will continue in 2012 and beyond.
11. Landowner relations are carried out by a number of departments and agencies. Greater efforts must be made to consolidate efforts.

## **5. PARKS AND LANDS**

### **Emerging Issues and Challenges**

#### **1. Changing Role of the Department of Conservation and Bureau of Parks and Lands**

Over the past two decades, the Department and bureau have been at the center of a strong program of acquisition to protect lands with important public values. Changes in private land ownership over the same period have challenged long-standing practices of public access to private lands and brought new attention to the role of public lands in meeting a variety of conservation and recreation objectives. The Department and Bureau now play a pivotal role in facilitating continued public use of private lands and addressing often competing interests for use of the public lands it manages. The Department and Bureau are also actively involved with working to stimulate the local economy.

#### **Action Steps:**

- Facilitating discussions about changes in public access to private lands.
- Pivotal role in addressing different, sometimes competing and incompatible recreation interests on public lands.
- Find way to add to and stimulate the surrounding economy.

#### **2. State Parks and Historic Sites**

In 2011, Maine's state parks and historic sites hosted over 2.6 million camping and day use visits and returned over \$3.6 million in fees to the state's General Fund. Through non-resident fee increases, General Fund revenues have increased by more than 40% since 2006. However, the bureau continues to turn to fluctuating Poland Spring lease and declining Loon license plate revenues to meet park operations and maintenance expenses. Fewer state dollars overall are available to meet capital equipment needs and to match federal dollars for needed capital improvement projects.

It is the bureau's goal to increase park use and fee income by updating amenities to meet today's visitor expectations, such as providing RV hook-ups at campgrounds and expanding interpretive services. The bureau will also undertake management planning that identifies new recreation opportunities and resource protection needs.

**Action Steps:**

- Increase park usage
- Increase revenues to cover a greater proportion of operating costs
- Improve park amenities to better match current visitor expectations
- Manage park resources consistent with the Integrated Resource Policy
- Meet major capital improvement needs at state parks
- Increase the operating seasons of the Parks by opening earlier and closing later in the year.

**3. Public Reserved and Nonreserved Lands**

Maine's Public Reserved and Nonreserved Lands are managed under statutorily mandated multiple use principles that carry a strong commitment to protect special resources and provide recreation opportunities, in addition to achieving rigorous standards of forest sustainability and self-support. Programs on Public Lands are funded through revenues generated by either timber harvesting or land leases.

All of the States Public Reserved and Non Reserved lands are dual certified by FSC and SFI. To maintain its current dual forest certification, the bureau has completed a number of management plans and has become proficient at growth and yield computer modeling. It has also increased its rate of harvesting to 100% of maximum sustained yield, while demonstrating exemplary forestry, to maximize yield from land managed for timber harvesting. The acquisition or designation of lands to be managed solely for ecological reserves without timber production income potential, and the demand for recreation as a dominant use with timber management allowed secondarily on existing lands requires careful attention in order to remain self-sufficient.

**Action Steps:**

- Re-emphasize principles of multiple use management, focusing on resource protection and recreation
- Maintain annual harvests at 100% of maximum sustained yield
- Enhance access and recreation opportunities
- Maintain rigorous standards of forest sustainability while providing forest products for the forest economy

**4. Boating Facilities Division**

To target limited program funds to areas of greatest need, the Departments of Conservation, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Marine Resources and the State Planning Office identified priority waters and areas for the development of public access facilities for boating and fishing. Some potential access sites are opposed by neighbors

concerned about the impacts of a particular project. Others are opposed by communities who find state water access facilities to be at odds with local planning goals.

**Action Step:**

- Continue to acquire and develop public boat access to Maine waters.
- Continue to mark certain lakes and ponds for navigational hazards.

**5. Off Road Vehicles**

The ORV program has successfully guided the acquisition of abandoned rail corridors for recreation. These multi-use trails have become very popular wherever they are developed in the State. The division will focus on acquisition and improvement of trails now in use, and support trail management primarily by local clubs and communities.

A large increase in ATV registrations and a smaller increase in snowmobile registrations indicate that current funds for ORV trail management from gasoline taxes and other sources may not be adequate to meet growing demands.

**Action Steps:**

- Focus on acquisition and improvement of existing trails including rail trails.
- Develop capabilities for local management and maintenance.
- Monitor funds available from gasoline taxes.

**6. Land Acquisition**

The acquisition of lands with conservation and recreation values continues to be a high priority for Maine voters who have consistently authorized bonds for the Land for Maine's Future Program (LMF). Prompted by rapid changes in forest ownership a new federal program, the USDA Forest Legacy Program, was established in the early 1990's to assure that valuable forest lands remain intact and available for commercial forest management. This program has enabled the State to couple LMF funds with Forest Legacy funds to acquire lands and conservation easements to keep over 700,000 acres in commercial forest production. The LMF and Forest Legacy funds have enabled the Bureau to seize time-sensitive opportunities to acquire lands and conservation easements on lands with special natural resources, public recreation values, and unfragmented wildlife habitat, and with Forest Legacy funds, to support the forest-based economy. The Bureau works with a variety of other federal and state acquisition funding programs, but the Forest Legacy Program and Land for Maine's Future program are the key sources of funds for these critical land purchases. With current LMF funds nearly spent and new bond funds in doubt, and with pressure to reduce the Forest Legacy Program in order to reduce the federal budget, the state's ability to respond to acquisition opportunities will be severely limited.

**Action Steps:**

- Increase funding, particularly for acquisition of recreation and open space lands in

southern Maine

- Develop financial support mechanisms for management of newly acquired lands and or easements that cannot generate revenue (e.g., endowments, friend groups, volunteers, etc.)

## **7. Submerged Lands and Coastal Islands**

Submerged lands are held in trust for the people of Maine. By statute (12 MRSA Section 1862), the Bureau is authorized to lease these lands to allow private recreational and commercial use of these lands for structures such as piers, marinas, and boatyards, and potential future development of ocean energy projects.

### **Action Steps:**

- Effectively maintain and improve inventory of structures on public submerged lands and complete incorporation of identified structures in the leasing program.
- Facilitate leasing of submerged lands for ongoing research in ocean energy technology.
- Maintain and improve the Coastal Island Registry.

## **8. Planning**

The Bureau is required by statute and as a condition of forest certification to prepare management plans for individual units of public reserved and nonreserved lands (12 MRSA Sections 1847 and 1833). Over the past 5 years 24 of the 35 major units have had management plans completed. Plans for 4 more are currently underway. To address the backlog, planners have shifted to a regional approach and are now preparing plans for multiple units within geographic areas, e.g., the Downeast, Seboomook, and Flagstaff regions.

### **Action Steps:**

- Complete management plans for Public Reserved Lands
- Update visitor use and preference surveys
- Address monitoring requirements of the growing number of conservation easements

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES  
FOR UPCOMING BIENNIEUM  
2012-2013**

**GOAL A: Effectively and efficiently plan and manage Maine’s forested lands to preserve, protect and enhance the state’s unique character, while facilitating wise and sustainable use of forest resources to support the state’s forest based economy.**

OBJECTIVE A-1: Promote informed decisions about the forests of today and tomorrow and protect the resources and values of Maine’s forests by developing and implementing forest programs and by tracking and reports results.

**Forestry Administration 0223:** Provide oversight in the implementation and coordination of forestry programs under the office of the State Forester.

Proposed Performance Measures	Units of Measure	Proposed Performance Targets		
		Baseline	2010-2011	2011-2012
Measurable progress on issues identified in State Forest Assessment and Strategies	Number <sup>1</sup>	0	0	2
# of mandated reports prepared and distributed	Number <sup>2</sup>	6	6	5
Federal grant revenue received in millions	Dollars	\$2,625,017	\$2,451,352	\$4,341,382

**Forest Protection 0232:** Protect Maine’s forested lands, intermingled high value property, and natural resources from fire and illegal harvesting activity through a statewide forest fire prevention, detection, presuppression, and suppression program.

Proposed Performance Measures <sup>3</sup>	Units of Measure	Proposed Performance Targets		
		Baseline	2010-2011	2011-2012
Average number of fires (5 year avg.)	Number	484	562	523
Average number of acres lost to fires (5 year avg.)	Acres	487	342	415
Average dollar value lost per year (5 years avg.)	Dollars	\$944,920	\$434,495	\$689,706
Number of forest practices complaints and violations handled per year	Number	691	804	748

<sup>1</sup> State Forest Assessment and Strategies identified seven goals and themes.

<sup>2</sup> Mandated reports identified in MFS statutes.

<sup>3</sup> Information derived from Forest Ranger reports.

**Forest Health and Monitoring 0233:** Ensure the health and sustainability of the forest resources and the economies of associated local communities by monitoring and reporting forest and shade tree conditions, and developing practicable management prescriptions to minimize degradation and destruction by insect, disease, and abiotic agents.

<b>Proposed Performance Measures<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Units of Measure</b>	<b>Proposed Performance Targets</b>		
		<b>Baseline</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>
# of forest health/sustainability monitoring plots established/measured	Number	659	672	672
Millions of acres surveyed to ensure no 5000 acre contiguous patch of injury goes undetected	Number	48	51	51
# requests for assistance (beyond web-provided information) responded to	Number	1,100	1,200	1,200
# of evaluations and pest management options developed	Number	91	75	83
% of municipalities receiving requested pesticide application assistance	Percent	100%	100%	100%
% of quarantine requests for assistance addressing quarantine restrictions responded to	Percent	100%	100%	100%

<sup>4</sup> Information derived from Forest Health and Monitoring staff reports and field monitoring.



**Forest Policy and Management Division 0240:** Provide technical and financial assistance, forest management information, and educational services; deliver programs that lay the foundation for additional economic activity in the state's forest based economy; anticipate and respond to forest policy issues and report to the public on the state of the forest resource.

Proposed Performance Measures <sup>5</sup>	Units of Measure	Proposed Performance Targets		
		Baseline	2010-2011	2011-2012
Percentage of harvests on which water quality BMPs are effectively applied	Percent	84%	85%	85%
Percentage of stewardship landowners who are implementing at least part of their stewardship plans	Percent	85%	85%	85%
Percentage of harvest acres found in compliance with state laws and rules	Percent	98%	98%	98%
# of clients and customers served by Division staff	Number	12,753	16,216	14,500

**Forest Fire Control Municipal Assistance Grants 0300:** Protect Maine's forested lands, intermingled high value property & natural resources from fire and illegal harvesting activity through a statewide forest fire prevention, detection, presuppression, and suppression program.

Proposed Performance Measures <sup>6</sup>	Units of Measure	Proposed Performance Targets		
		Baseline	2010-2011	2011-2012
Average number of fires (5 year avg.)	Number	484	562	523
Average number of acres lost to fires (5 year avg.)	Acres	487	342	415
Average dollar value lost per year (5 year avg.)	Dollars	\$944,920	\$434,495	\$689,706
Number of forest practices complaints and violations handled per year	Number	691	804	748

**GOAL B: Provide for a variety of quality recreational and educational opportunities and resource conservation and management benefits to Maine citizens and visitors.**

<sup>5</sup> Information derived from Forest Policy and Management staff reports and field monitoring.

<sup>6</sup> Information derived from Forest Ranger reports.

OBJECTIVE B-1: Increase the conservation of natural and cultural resources at state parks and historic sites; increase the number and quality of recreational/educational opportunities for Maine citizens and visitors; maintain high visitor satisfaction levels.

Parks General Operations 0221: Operate and maintain state parks and historic sites, and support the creation of other recreation opportunities.

Proposed Performance Measures	Units of Measure	Proposed Performance Targets		
		Baseline 2004-05	2012	2013
% of major parks and historic sites with current brochures	Percent	40%	100%	100%
# of volunteer hours spent at park and historic sites	Number	16,000	16,000	16,000
Acres of park lands acquired through fee/easements	Number	1,500	NA	NA
# campsite reservations made	Number	11,000	11,000	11,000
# of visitors to state parks and historic sites	Number	2,400,000	2,600,000	2,600,000

Boating Facilities Fund 0226: Boating Facilities Fund: Provide safe, accessible public boat launching facilities and mark hazards to navigation on the waters of the State.

Proposed Performance Measures	Units of Measure	Proposed Performance Targets		
		Baseline	2011-12	2012-13
% of projects completed under budget and as scheduled	Percent	87.5%	100%	100%
% of compliance with the strategic plan	Percent	77.5%	100%	100%

Maine State Parks Development Fund 0342: Use funds to develop, maintain, and manage state parks, and other facilities on land owned by the Bureau.

Proposed Performance Measures	Baseline	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13
Provide Geology with \$20,000 annually for water monitoring at state parks	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
Supplement Loon Fund income to make repairs and renovations at parks	NA	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$400,000	\$400,000

Forest Recreation Resource Fund 0354: Provide and maintain fire-safe primitive public campsites in the Penobscot Corridor and other state owned or leased lands.

<b>Proposed Performance Measures</b>	<b>Units of Measure</b>	<b>Proposed Performance Targets</b>		
		<b>Baseline' 2004-2005</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>
% of projects completed under budget and as scheduled	Percent	85%	85%	85%
# of campsites monitored and maintained	Number	79	125	125

Maine State Parks Program 0746: Perform major and minor capital improvements, repairs, and maintenance activities, and fund operations at state park and historic sites.

<b>Proposed Performance Measures</b>	<b>FY10</b>	<b>Proposed Performance Targets</b>		
		<b>FY11</b>	<b>FY12</b>	<b>FY13</b>
% of major capital projects completed under budget and as scheduled	80%	80%	90%	90%
% of minor capital projects completed under budget and as scheduled	80%	80%	90%	90%

Off Road Recreational Vehicles Program 0224: Provide public trails for snowmobile and ATV use, and educational/informational support to the conduct of these activities.

<b>Proposed Performance Measures</b>	<b>FY10</b>	<b>Proposed Performance Targets</b>		
		<b>FY11</b>	<b>FY12</b>	<b>FY13</b>
Miles of ATV/Snowmobile Trail on State Land	12%	3%	10%	10%
Number of Fatal accidents on State Funded Trails	0	0	0	0
% of state contributions to total cost of trail maintenance for ATV/Snowmobile	63.5	65	67	69
\$ value of grants provided to local snowmobile/ATV clubs in millions	4,181,387	4,180,000	4,000,000	4,500,000
Average cost per mile of trail maintained	329	398	417	439
# of miles of trail maintained through grant money	19,535	20,005	20,320	20,651

OBJECTIVE B-2: Increase the management of natural resources and the production of goods and services on Public Reserved Lands and non-reserved Public Lands, and achieve protection of public interests in submerged and intertidal lands.

Land Management & Planning 0239: Manage the Public Reserved Lands and Non-reserved Public Lands (including coastal islands), according to principles of multiple use, providing for reasonable public access, use, and sustained yields of products and services; and manage submerged lands to protect public access and public trust rights.

Proposed Performance Measures	Units of Measure	Proposed Performance Targets		
		Baseline 2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Average % of cords harvested from public lands each year	Percent		100%	100%
# of major land units with map and guide brochures updated in the last 3 years (36 total)	Number	7	10	12
# of major land units with new or updated management plans completed (36 total)	Number	21	22	26
% of submerged lands expenses covered by revenue from conveyances	Percent	100%	100%	100%
Acres acquired and managed consistent with goal to increase land ownership	Number	5,500	4,130 (Forest Legacy Project in process)	NA
Acres of conservation easements acquired consistent with goal of increasing conservation protections and supporting working forests	Number	4,300	48,000 (Forest Legacy Projects in process)	21,700 (Forest Legacy Projects in process)

Coastal Island Registry 0241: Establish title to island property in Maine coastal waters, and protect State owned island resources for public use.

Proposed Performance Measures	FY10	Proposed Performance Targets		
		FY11	FY12	FY13
# of updates made to the coastal island database	15	15	15	15
% of titles clarified in ownership	1%	1%	1%	1%

**GOAL C: To encourage development and well managed and appropriate multiple uses of lands and resources providing planning, zoning and land use control.**

OBJECTIVE C-1: ensure that actions are efficiently and accurately processed, and that land use activities within the Commission’s jurisdiction occur in compliance with Land Use Standards and in appropriate subdistricts.

Land Use Regulation Commission 0236: The Commission will administer an efficient planning, permitting, and compliance program throughout its jurisdiction from its headquarters in Augusta and 5 full-service regional offices run by knowledgeable and well-trained staff.

Proposed Performance Measures	Units of Measure	Proposed Performance Targets		
		Baseline	2011-2012	2012-2013
Review, and if necessary, revise rules and policies to ensure jurisdiction relevance		None	Annual	Annual
Average processing time of 10 days for Expedited Building (Residential) Permits approved	Percent	100%	100%	100%
Average processing time of 30 days for Development (Non-residential) Permits approved	Percent	100%	100%	100%
Average processing time of 60 days for Subdivision Permits approved	Percent	100%	100%	100%
Enforcement actions resolved	Percent	51%	65%	75%

**GOAL D: Provide high quality info on geology, plants, animals, and natural communities of the State for decision making for natural resources management and economic development.**

OBJECTIVE D-1: Position Maine as the leader in the natural resource-based economy by improving and using our natural resources information base for sound planning, preparedness, and making the most of recreational, societal, and economical opportunities that our natural resources can provide.

Maine Natural Areas Program: 0821: Administer a statewide program of natural areas (outstanding examples of different habitat types and habitat supporting rare, threatened, and endangered plants and animals) data collection and dissemination to address societal needs.

Proposed Performance Measures	Unit	Base-line	FY 10 2009-2010	FY11 2010-2011	FY12 2011-2012	FY13 2012-2013
Respond to information requests from private landowners, state agencies,	# of responses	1,187	1,153	1,264	1,300	1,300

town planners and developers						
Conduct field inventories of privately owned areas likely to contain rare plants and/or rare and exemplary natural communities	# of sites surveyed	100	221	190	150	150
Provide landowners with information and management considerations for state threatened and endangered botanical features	# of letters sent to landowners	250	300	300	500	400
Provide technical assistance to natural resource professionals through outreach, publications, and training sessions	# of natural resource professionals	500	3200	2800	500	500
Monitor vegetation within established Ecological Reserves	# of acres	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Convene the Scientific Advisory Committee for Ecological Reserves at least once annually	# of meetings	1	2	1	1	1
Monitor occurrences of federally listed plant species in Maine biennially	# sites surveyed	28	28	28	28	28
Collect data for and update official list of Threatened and Endangered Plants in Maine biennially	Y/N		N	N	Y	N
Conduct natural resource inventories of publically owned	# of acres	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000

lands in Maine						
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Maine Geological Survey (all accounts): Administer a statewide program of geological (bedrock, surficial, groundwater, marine) data collection and dissemination to address societal needs and a natural resource-based economy.

<b>Proposed Performance Measures</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Base-line</b>	<b>FY 10 2009-2010</b>	<b>FY11 2010-2011</b>	<b>FY12 2011-2012</b>	<b>FY13 2012-2013</b>
Complete 1 watershed study every two years	Count	0	1	1.3	2	2.5
Conduct at least 12 statewide snow surveys annually to support flood forecasting	Count	10	10	12	12	12
Enter all water well reports to the database within 2 weeks of receipt	%	85%	85%	90%	100%	100%
Conduct at least one study focused on a specific groundwater quality issue annually	Count	1	1	2	1	1
Convene the Water Resources Planning Committee at least twice annually	Count	2	2	1	2	2
Survey shoreline change on Maine's major sand beaches annually	# surveyed	15	12	15	17	17
Collect the data for and compile "State of Maine's Beaches" report biennially	Y/N		N	Y	N	Y
Complete eight detailed geologic maps each year in critical areas determined by the Geologic Mapping Advisory Committee	Count	8	10	8	8	8
Complete landslide assessments for 10 additional towns each year	Cumulative # completed	20	20	20	30	40

Automate legacy documents for free internet download	% complete	95	100	100	100	100
Increase number of document downloads from internet by 10% each year	# of downloads	60,000	66,000	72,000	80,000	88,000
Post 12 new field localities for geological education to the website annually	Count	12	12	12	12	12
Engage in at least 20 public outreach activities annually	Count	20	20	20	20	20

**GOAL E: Provide for a variety of quality recreational and educational opportunities and resource conservation and management benefits to Maine citizens and visitors.**

OBJECTIVE E-1: Increase the productive work time of the Department.  
 Commissioner's Office: 0222: Meet the executive management, financial, human resources, information services and communications needs of the department.

Proposed Performance Measures	Units of Measure	Proposed Performance Targets		
		Baseline	2011-2012	2012-2013
Review/Update at least 20% of Department policies each year	Percent	20%	20%	20%
% variance (+/-) of quarterly expenditures compared to work program	Percent	5%	5%	5%
Continuously update strategic plan	Percent	100%	100%	100%
Continuously engage in zero based budgeting	Percent	100%	100%	100%
Sustain continuous improvement efforts	Percent	100%	100%	100%





## Department of Conservation Accomplishments 2003-2010

### Maine Geological Survey

#### Water Resources

- Completed mapping of sand and gravel aquifers throughout Maine except the extreme northwestern forestlands. These aquifers are the most important for community water supplies, with more than 70 systems currently using this ground water source. Mapping the distribution of sand and gravel aquifers also contributes to protection of ground water quality.
- Water Use reporting: Implemented the Water Use Reporting program to gather water use data annually from the largest water users as a step towards sustainable water use.
- Water Resources Planning Committee: Established this stake-holder committee through the Legislature in 2007. Completed a statewide watersheds-at-risk analysis that identified a few watersheds in southern Maine where demand approached available supply. Used these results to guide further investigations.
- Watershed studies: Established a cooperative program with the U.S. Geological Survey to improve ground water and surface water information and analysis in select watersheds shown to have a high percentage of demand relative to supply.
- Promoted sound science-based policy for the sustainable use of Maine's ground water resources.

#### Coastal Geology

- Instituted a program to measure shoreline change annually along Maine's southern sand beaches. Established erosion hazard areas on all of Maine's developed beaches.
- Worked with a stakeholder group to revise coastal development regulations thereby providing opportunities for creative solutions to coastal issues, accounting for predicted sea-level rise, and building resilient communities.
- Instituted a program to work directly with towns, regional planning groups, and citizens to improve resiliency of coastal towns to storms and sea-level rise.
- Mapped eroding and landslide-prone bluffs from Kittery to Machias. Trained municipal officials in the value and use of the maps.
- Expanded and systematized the volunteer beach profiling program that provides monthly profiles of dozens of Maine beaches. Analyze and summarize the profile information to assess beach health. Report on results at biennial State of Maine Beaches conference.

## **Geologic Mapping**

- Completed geologic mapping in southern Maine from Kittery to Portland. These geologic maps provide the foundation for further studies of aquifers and geologic hazards.
- Approaching completion of geologic mapping in the Capital area from Augusta to Rockland.
- Instituted a program to map the geology of the lower Penobscot Valley.
- Received more than \$1 million in federal support through competitive grants for geologic mapping in priority areas.

## **Geologic Hazards**

- Completed mapping of coastal landslide potential from Kittery to Machias.
- Instituted a program with MEMA to map landslide potential of inland areas. Developed landslide susceptibility maps for towns in York County that are underlain with marine clays. The distribution of the landslide-prone clay deposits was established through the geologic mapping program.
- Completed a program with MEMA to map potential tsunami inundation on the coast.

## **Energy**

- Designed and implemented a program in collaboration with SPO to identify sites in Maine coastal waters suitable for testing deepwater renewable energy devices. Selected sites on December 15, 2009.
- Compiled geothermal data for the State.

## **Publications**

- Made thousands of geologic maps and reports available on-line for free download. Downloads average 6,000 maps and reports monthly.
- Published "*Maine's Fossil Record*," a comprehensive report on the fossils of Maine.
- Published "*A guide to the geology of Baxter State Park and Katahdin*."

## **Maine Natural Areas Program**

### **Invasive Species**

- Conducted outreach to over 21,000 people regarding the introduction, spread, and control of terrestrial and aquatic invasive plants at a wide variety of venues including forester trainings, agricultural fairs, nursery and garden trade shows, land trust meetings, watershed meetings, environmental educator shows, and library and arboretum displays.
- Completed an Invasive Plant Atlas project documenting the distribution of invasive plants in Maine.
- Implemented an early detection response program designed to eradicate new invasive plant species before they become too widespread to be managed.

- Provided technical assistance to citizens, students, businesses, non-profits, conservation organizations, and state agencies regarding plant identification, native species alternatives for landscape planting, site evaluation, research on species invasiveness, factsheets to distribute, and advice on control and management of invasive infestations.
- Helped the Bureau of Parks and Lands set up an inventory to map invasive plants in State Parks.
- Provided technical support to the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species.

### **Private and Public Lands**

- Provided multiple services for forest industry related to voluntary forest certification (SFI and FSC), including field training, natural resource inventory and assessment, and mapping of special features. Companies have included Prentiss & Carlisle, JD Irving, Baskahegan Company, Wagner Forest Management, GMO/American Forest Management, Plum Creek, and Seven Islands Land Company.
- Conducted natural resource assessments of 300,000 acres of public lands in Androscoggin, Aroostook, Franklin, Hancock, Kennebec, Oxford, and Washington counties. Served on planning and management teams that sought public input to optimize opportunities for timber harvesting, recreation, hunting and fishing, and natural resource protection.
- Completed baseline inventory of Maine's 16 designated ecological reserves.
- With landowner permission, MNAP staff conducted systematic inventory of the Central & Western Mountains, Aroostook Hills and Lowlands, and Eastern Lowland ecoregions totaling more than 10 million acres of land to identify lands of management concern or lands worthy of acquisition.

### **Wetlands Restoration and Conservation**

- Identified potential wetland conservation or restoration projects and conducted field inventories of high priority sites to identify rare features and assess wetland condition and suitability for restoration.
- Worked with the Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program to develop a plan to improve the state's method for tracking and assessing wetland loss, aimed at improving future compensation and prioritization of wetland protection efforts.

### **Publications**

- Produced Natural Landscapes of Maine, a 350 page book designed to aid foresters, landowners, educators, and others in the identification and management of the state's habitats.
- Updated the Official List of Endangered and Threatened Plants in Maine based on the results of inventory throughout the state conducted in cooperation with public and private landowners.

## Land Use Regulation Commission

### **Plum Creek Concept Plan**

- Considered and ultimately approved the largest land use project in Maine's history using a thorough public process over a four year period.
- Through the plan brought predictability to the land use future in the Moosehead Region, laying out where development may and may not go and guaranteeing public access.
- Achieved a mix of expansive conservation and guided, permanently bounded development that protects the region's valuable natural resources: residential and resort development on roughly 16,000 acres of land near existing settlements and 392,500 acres of permanently conserved land for commercial forestry, outdoor recreation and the protection of natural resources.
- The plan is unique in that it strikes a balance between public and private interests: Plum Creek has a plan that is feasible and financially attractive, and some of the plan's best practices include affordable housing, state of the art conservation easements, and hillside scenic standards.
- In 2010 the Maine Association of Planners awarded LURC the "plan of the year" for the Moosehead Region Plan.

### **Wind Power**

- Since 2003, LURC has reviewed 4 wind power projects, approving 3 projects totaling over 200 MW to date: *Stetson I* (57MW), *Kibby I* (132MW) and *Stetson II* (25.5MW). The Commission considered, but did not approve, a 90MW project, reduced to 54MW at Black Nubble.
- LURC has implemented the "expedited permitting areas" as determined by the Maine Legislature, including completing reviews on shorter timelines.
- The Commission is currently reviewing a 33MW project called *Kibby II*.

### **CLUP**

- The Commission revised its Comprehensive Land Use Plan to reflect changes in the jurisdiction since the development of the 1997 plan and identified guiding the location of development as their number one goal.
- The Commission has committed to exploring alternative ways of accomplishing this goal as expressed in a letter to the Governor.
- This commitment provides an opportunity for collaborators and stakeholders to look at the Commission's regulatory framework, and assess whether the tools LURC has at their disposal are adequate to the scope, scale and complexity of today's land use practices.
- This commitment provides an opportunity to devise better and more responsive ways to meet LURC's statutory obligations.

### **Permitting and Compliance**

- Average annual number of permits processed was 1,000, and numerous settlements were ratified.

- Maintain five full service regional offices scattered throughout the unorganized area.
- Processed several large industrial/commercial projects, i.e. Saddleback Ski Area expansion, two major water withdrawal operations, and a major irrigation project for blueberry growing.
- Processed numerous residential subdivisions and two smaller concept plans (Whetstone, Foss, and Hilton Ponds, and Brassua Lake projects).

### **Rules**

- Reorganized Chapter 10 and added a host of land use standards, including permit by standard.
- Adopted Affordable Housing Rules throughout the unorganized areas
- Renewed resource protection plans for the E. Branch and Lower West Branch of the Penobscot River.
- With the legislature's approval, updated the fee schedule

### **Maine Forest Service**

The Maine Forest Service has worked to keep Maine's forests as forests; protect Maine's forests from harm from fires and insects and diseases; provide reliable information on the condition of Maine's forests; assist Maine's family forest landowners to enhance their management; and support Maine's forest products industry.

### **Forest Policy and Management**

- The Maine Forest Service chaired, staffed and facilitated a broad coalition of forestry interests that developed a shared vision for how to Keep Forests as Forests in Maine. The result of this effort is a proposal to US Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas Vilsack and US Department of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar.
- Developing and enforcing rules to substantially eliminate liquidation harvesting adopted pursuant to legislation passed in 2004. The bureau has developed enforcement protocols and procedures and is enforcing the law.
- Developing a comprehensive analysis of the forest products industry and logging industry in Maine. The "Maine Future Forest Economy" report documented the condition of Maine's manufacturing forest products companies and included information on the competitive positions of sectors of the industry never before available to the public. The report included 19 major recommendations – many of which have been implemented, including eliminating a major tax on business equipment (e.g., paper machines). A companion report evaluated the logging industry and included recommendations for improvements (see both reports at <http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/ffe/>).
- Supporting and facilitating the work of Senior Forest Products Advisor, Rosaire Pelletier, a retired Fraser Paper Company executive who worked closely not only with the Maine Forest Service, but also the forest products industry troubleshooting specific problems, developing markets, finding buyers, and emphasizing the value of a certified product.

- Developed numerous reports on the condition of Maine’s forest resources – most recently the Comprehensive Forest Assessment prepared to retain eligibility for US Forest Service funding. Previous reports include a report entitled “*The 2005 Biennial Report on the State of the Forest and Progress Report on Forest Sustainability Standards*” and another entitled “*Where We Are and Where We are Going*” (both reports can be found at <http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/pubs.htm>). A number of other more specialized reports were also prepared.
- The Bureau’s Be WoodsWISE Incentives Program has reached tens of thousands of Maine’s family woodland owners through workshops, field days, “walk and talk” site visits, and more. The program has directly assisted 1,303 landowners by funding the development of 1,184 Forest Stewardship Plans covering 145,228 acres, and the implementation of 612 individual management practices.
- Creating the Forester’s Institute, providing statewide training and educational opportunities for Maine’s licensed foresters. Foresters blend the art and science of managing forestland in ways that support Maine’s forest products industry, multiple values, and other societal benefits. Over 450 foresters have attended institute workshops since its inception in 2008.
- Settling 27 forest practices violations, with penalties totaling nearly \$450,000. Intervened in dozens of harvests to prevent violations. Currently, 23 cases remain under investigation.
- Securing \$11.5 million in federal Recovery Act funds for a program designed to convert public buildings from oil heat to wood based energy, simultaneously reducing dependence on fossil fuels and creating markets for Maine wood — which in turn serves to keep forests as forests.
- Encouraging, but not mandating, Maine landowners to become national leaders in voluntary independent third party certification of woodlands, mills, and loggers, demonstrating that the management of Maine’s working forests meets sustainability standards.
- Advocating for improved sustainability standards for the federal Biomass Crop Assistance Program.
- Working with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection to provide over \$8 million in Direct Link loans to loggers to upgrade harvesting equipment and protect water quality.
- Continued monitoring implementation and effectiveness of best management logging practices to protect water quality. This effort has been highly successful and now, through voluntary efforts, the great majority of harvests do not result in water quality problems.
- Conducting analyses of available wood (including but not limited to biomass) to support industries while maintaining the sustainability of our forests.
- Providing \$862,495 in grants for 183 town, non-profit, and school forestry projects to support community forestry efforts.

### **Forest Health**

- In response to northern expansion of the general Hemlock Woolly Adelgid infestation into Maine, developed and implemented an integrated Slow-The-Spread management strategy that has succeeded in containing the situation to southern

coastal sections of the state while providing mechanisms to maintain local and regional commerce.

- Increased public awareness efforts regarding the potentially devastating effects of invasive insect species on Maine's forests. With the detection of Asian Longhorn Beetle and Emerald Ash Borer elsewhere in New England and adjacent Quebec, this effort continues to assume increasing urgency and visibility. The success of these efforts is evidenced by the high level of public involvement in volunteer survey networks and in support for Maine's recently legislated ban on importation of firewood.
- Related to Maine's recent firewood ban, the Maine Forest Service has conducted two successful firewood exchanges on I 95, exchanging three cords of Maine firewood for firewood brought to Maine from other states. Neighboring New Hampshire and Vermont are currently considering similar restrictions on out-of-state firewood.
- Developed and championed a regional strategy for addressing low level Pine Shoot Beetle infestation that has ameliorated the impacts of overly restrictive federal regulations.
- Actively maintained national and regional leadership role in augmenting/ improving the USFS Forest Inventory program.
- Actively involved in national efforts to secure recognition for the role forests could play in reducing atmospheric greenhouse gas levels, including representing Maine's interest on the Forest-Climite Working Group, working to insure inclusion of forest in any national policy on climate change; and the American National Standards Institute process to develop a forestry-offset protocol. Also played a leadership role in drafting recommendations to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative for forest offsets.

### **Forest Protection**

- Over the past 8 years the Division has conducted over 320,000 inspections, responded to over 5,300 fires, recovered over \$1,367,000 in restitution for Maine property owners, and met fire suppression goals of <1,000 fires and <3,500 acres consumed annually
- Purchased a Bell 407 helicopter in 2007 to begin the replacement process for the aging Maine Forest Service Huey helicopter fleet. This is a major improvement in maintaining the firefighting capacity of the Maine Forest Service for the foreseeable future.
- Redesigned systems to increase effectiveness and efficiency: implemented the State's Aviation Plan to consolidate aviation maintenance functions within the natural resource agencies; created a Type II Incident Management Team that is one of only 2 nationally recognized type II state teams in the 13 state Northeast Area; established the Helitack crews to staff helicopters during high fire danger, reducing response time to remote areas; established a 4 person Investigator Team focused on the most challenging and complex cases to manage the case loads of unit rangers & expedite the resolution of cases; increased efficiency in complaint tracking and enforcement using electronic reporting equipment with real time recording and tracking of necessary inspections; created a ranger wellness program



that provides incentives for maintaining physical fitness; created the Maine State Wildfire Training Academy, providing low cost fire suppression training to fire departments statewide.

- Provided support to state, local, federal and international partners: mobilized rangers to national weather disasters in the Gulf States, continued to support the US Forest Service with fire suppression, mobilized a helicopter to Nova Scotia in support of fire suppression, provided Maine fire crews to the province of Quebec. Supported other state agencies in search and rescue, flood assessment, fish stocking, eagle survey crew transports and other emergency response needs.
- Worked with federal equipment programs to help acquire fire suppression equipment in a very difficult economic environment; provided nearly \$900,000 in federal aid to small rural fire departments.
- Established the Wildland Urban Interface program to assist local communities prevent and plan for the spread of wild fire.

## **Bureau of Parks and Lands**

### **Land Acquisition**

Acquired more than one million acres of new permanent conservation land enhancing the quality of life and tourism and the natural resource economy of Maine, including:

- Protection of coastal working waterfronts, supporting fishing and lobster access and jobs.
- Protection of working farms, supporting sustainable agriculture and local food.
- Hundreds of thousands of acres of guaranteed permanent hunting access on working forest conservation easements and new Public Reserved Land units across the state.
- State Park Expansions in Camden, Rangeley, Aroostook, Colonial Pemaquid, and more.
- Maine's first new State Park in decades, at the Androscoggin River near Lewiston-Auburn.
- Protection of major river corridors especially the Machias River, Moose River, and upper Kennebec River.
- Permanent protection of hundreds of miles of snowmobile trails and ATV trails statewide, supporting Maine's economy.
- Expansions of wildlife management areas statewide, including Merrymeeting Bay and Cobscook Bay.
- Development of vast backcountry recreation opportunities including the Hundred Mile Wilderness, Tumbledown, the Mahoosucs, and the Bold Coast
- Support of world class tourism and Registered Maine Guides through vast successes in the Downeast Lakes region
- Sustained support for the Land for Maine's Future program, and land trusts across Maine

### **State Parks and Historic Sites (infrastructure)**

- Invested \$7.5 million from the 2007 approved bond in State Parks and Historic Sites (the first major upgrades in more than a dozen years) including infrastructure repairs as well as playgrounds, group shelters, bathhouses and restrooms, sewer and water upgrades, improved access and water and electrical hook-ups at our two most heavily used camping parks (Sebago and Camden) to meet the needs and interests of changing demographics in camping (motorized self-contained units). With the legislature, placed an additional \$500,000 request to continue the effort on the 2010 ballot.
- Made major advances in the management of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway including the River Drivers Agreement, developing the AWW Advisory Council and reorganizing the staffing of the Waterway to include hiring of the AWW Superintendent. Reconstruction of the Henderson Bridge over the Allagash River assures east-west economic and recreational connectivity in the North Woods.
- Developed and implemented the *Take It Outside!* program and associated activities that promote increased outdoor recreation for children and their families, including the popular & successful First Time Campers program.
- Re-established the important role of State Parks during our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year through multiple special events and the introduction of the State Park Passport program.
- Implemented a no-smoking policy in shared use areas of parks.
- Welcomed over 2,300,000 visitor days annually recreating at parks and historic sites, a 10% increase over the previous year; nearly doubled revenue from sales of season passes from 9,179 in CY03 generating \$432,885 to 11,443 in CY10 generating \$757,750.
- Transitioned the reservation system from an in-house system available during regular business hours Monday thru Friday to real time web-based 24/7 system processing over 13,000 reservations annually.
- Updated State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan in order to qualify for and guide use of federal Land and Water Conservation Funds; and developed comprehensive plan for the Androscoggin Riverlands State Park; developed a long range plan at Colonial Pemaquid in cooperation with the Friends group.
- Provided hunting opportunities on over 700,000 acres, 98% of lands managed by BPL.
- Improved relationships with volunteer Friends groups who contribute thousands of hours and hundreds of thousands of dollars to various historic sites.

### **Public Reserved and Non-reserved Lands**

- Revenue: Increased annual revenue from \$2,650,002 in CY03 to \$4,032,721 in CY 09; Generated \$32,395,000 during period CY03–09 which funded all management activities on this land base.
- Timber management: Increased annual harvest volume from 66,902 cords in CY03 to 121,700 cords in CY10, representing an increase from 60% to 100 % of the bureau's calculated allowable cut; harvested 756,361 cords CY03–10; Supplied forest products to approximately 45 mills on annual basis; maintained dual forest certification through both the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)

and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) systems; marketed wood harvested from Bureau lands as "green certified".

- Transportation: Maintained 131 miles of public access roads; Reconstructed Henderson Brook Bridge over the AWW as cooperative project with northern Maine land and mill owners.
- Recreation: Increased number of available and maintained campsites from 204 to 326 and increased miles of hiking trails from 187 to 221.
- Ecological Reserves: Funded establishment of baseline documentation on 69,000 acres of designated Ecological Reserves.
- Planning: Prepared 7 regional management plans covering 19 public lands units/ 374,003 acres to assure long-term multiple use management as defined by the Bureau's Integrated Resources Policy (IRP).

### **Off Road Vehicle Division**

- Significant growth/responsibility as a division over the last 8 years in particular the purchase of several rail trails for multi-use management. Acquired by fee an additional 110 miles of abandoned corridor and entered a management agreement with MDOT for development and management of the 87 mile Down East Sunrise Trail. Total DOC rail trail managed is now just over 300 miles.
- Several major landowners now require DOC to enter into trail licenses for snowmobile and ATV trails on their ownership/management including CMP, American Forest Management, Plum Creek, St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad, and Wagner Forest Management. These agreements cover approximately 100 club trails spread across the state and put us in the direct chain of responsibility for volunteers following trail BMP's, obtaining environmental permitting, and liability insurance.
- DOC land managers (Parks and Lands) have moved toward ORV staff managing motorized trails on BPL lands in general, which has required seeking funding from RTP grants for trail maintenance and improvement. Examples of this include the new ATV trail in Seboomook, new multi-use trail in Nahmakanta, rehabilitation of Androscoggin Riverlands, and multi-use trail Bradbury Mountain to Pineland.
- We are supporting the development of a multi-use trail from Millinocket southwest that dramatically improves trail connections year round for multi-use through grant funding/contributions/staff time. This project came from Resolve Chapter 197-3 Katahdin Region Public Access. Our project includes a new bridge crossing the Penobscot River and developing the first multi-use trail including the first ATV opportunity in the region based primarily on Katahdin Forest lands.

### **ATV Program**

- In 2003, Maine had 2,244 miles of trail and state approved grants of \$164,259 (62 projects). This year we have 5,996 miles of trail (167% growth) and state grants of \$913,620 (456% growth) and 132 projects.

- ATV Trail Fund budget in 2003 was \$287,562. This year the budget is \$1,383,925 (381% increase) if registration numbers remain consistent. Club development providing trails and local land owner contacts has taken off - Maine now has 147 clubs which we believe to be the most state-recognized clubs in the country.
- Highlights of trail improvements include: the Down East ATV trail system that now is approximately 700+miles and connected to Aroostook County for long distance touring. In Aroostook County Irving Woodlands opened their land for regional connections of ATV trails that has now opened 291 more miles for a total of 958 miles of ATV trail in that county.
- The Governors ATV Task Force made 47 recommendations, most of which have been implemented including requiring land owner permission to operate an ATV.

### **Snowmobile Program**

- Snowmobile Trail Fund budget in 2003 was \$2,725,547. This year the budget is \$4,794,609 (76% increase) if registration numbers remain consistent. Even at that level due to the popularity of the sport we have greater operational/grant demands each year than we can currently fully fund.
- Growth in the Snowmobile Trail Program has been significant but less dramatic than the ATV side. In 2003 Maine had 13,000 miles of trail with approved state grants (373 projects) for \$2,390,523. This year Maine will have 13,821 miles+- (6% growth), managed through 381 projects totaling \$3,271,294 in grants (37% increase).
- The newest growth issue for the snowmobile program has been the creation of Capital Equipment (grooming equipment) grants. Approximately \$14,229,455 worth of equipment has been purchased in the last eight years and grants of approximately \$500,000/year have been awarded to approximately 100 projects each year. We track the equipment inventory purchased for four years to assure the state grant commitment is fulfilled.
- The quality of trail has dramatically improved as the demand and expectation of quality has grown. This has seriously challenged the volunteers in clubs providing the service as well as the available funding.

### **Boating Facilities Program**

- During the past eight years the Division has added 38 new secured public boat access sites and renovated another 46 sites, assuring their continued availability to the public. Of the new sites 8 were tidal and 30 were non-tidal. 15 were state-owned while 23 were locally owned.
- Of the 46 renovated sites, 18 were tidal and 28 were non-tidal. 21 of these sites were state-owned while 25 were locally owned.
- The Division has also added 7 new lakes to the list they mark with aids to navigation.
- In 2009, the Division linked its boating facility database with Google Earth, making all state-owned and state-funded boating facilities available in this popular medium.

## **Submerged Lands Program**

The submerged lands program has grown significantly over the past eight years.

- The program manages roughly 2,000 leases and easements for the private use of public submerged lands including over 1,100 new leases and easements added since 2003 including the conversion of 720 constructive easements for structures pre-dating the leasing program.
- Major revisions were made to the lease fee schedule to improve the fairness and equity for leaseholders, while significantly reducing rental rates and providing fair compensation to the public. After completion of the phase-in period in 2014, annual lease revenues are estimated to be approximately \$680,000.
- Leasing program revenues combined with the sale of submerged lands for the Bath Iron Works in 2001 has allowed the program to return \$2 million through grants to municipalities and other coastal programs to maintain and improve coastal access for the public and marine-related businesses and to manage public recreation on coastal islands.
- The sunken log salvage program continues to generate moderate interest with most of the focus at Moosehead Lake. To date, over 300,000 board feet of logs have been recovered.
- Working with other state agencies and the Ocean Energy Task Force, the program has helped streamline the permitting and leasing process for experimental offshore energy projects and has identified three areas, each roughly 2 square miles, in state waters for the installation and testing of those facilities.

## **Maine Conservation Corps**

- Over \$1,790,000 in Federal Funding
- Over \$2,860,000 in local match funding
- Over 500 AmeriCorps members recruited
- Over 2,800 volunteers recruited, providing over 25,300 volunteer hours
- Over 300 miles of trail constructed, rehabilitated or maintained
- Over 800 environmental education hours provided to educate communities around environmental issues
- Over 250 National, State, Municipal and Land Trust partners

## **Public Information**

The Director of Public Information has significantly improved DOC's communication with the public, making information available in the following ways:

- The DOC website is up to date, thorough, and user-friendly.
- A Facebook page, linked to the website shares news articles, photos, bureau information, accomplishments, event announcements and press releases. Updated daily, it has more than 1,200 "fans."
- A newsletter, *From the Field*, is distributed electronically to more than 1,000 subscribers.

- Press releases are distributed via email to the media, posted to [www.maine.gov](http://www.maine.gov) and the DOC website, and posted to Facebook.
- Department publications are promoted through all avenues.
- Events at parks and historic sites are listed on an event calendar on the BPL web page as well as posted to assorted online calendars.
- Separate web pages support inter-department efforts such as loon license plates, the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund, and the annual fall foliage report.
- Videos depicting six state parks (Lake St. George, Moose Point, Fort Point, Damariscotta, Camden Hills, and Colonial Pemaquid) are posted to [www.maine.gov](http://www.maine.gov) and YouTube.
- Matt LaRoche, Allagash Wilderness Waterway manager; Rex Turner, BPL outdoor recreation planner; and Samantha Wilkinson, Reid State Park manager write columns on parks and recreation, disseminated to a number of publications.



## **Financial Summary of Department Revenues and Expenditures**

This section summarizes the financial history of the Department over the last ten years, and provides information and graphs showing the sources of revenues and categories of expenses.

In 2007, Maine voters approved a \$7.5 million bond for Capital improvements at State Parks and Historic Sites, and another \$500,000 was approved by voters again in 2009 to be used for the same purpose. The funds have been used to make improvements at various State Parks and Historic Sites across the state. Some projects that were done with the bond money include installing new shower buildings at Lake St. George, Peaks-Kenney and Rangeley State Parks, as well as new beach restrooms at Damariscotta, Reid and Popham State Parks. 9 new playgrounds were installed around the state at locations such as Mount Blue, Two Lights, Moose Point, Swan Lake, Cobscook and Sebago State Parks. The Crousseville bridge trestle was rehabilitated, and masonry at Fort Popham was completed.

The Department's Capital expenses show varied increases over the years, especially for single occurrence purchases made with Federal Forest Legacy Program funds.

In 2006, consolidation of the service centers reorganized various portions of the department. As part of the reorganization, all technology budgets were consolidated into one central account under the Commissioner's Office. Prior to the consolidation, each bureau purchased technology items based on available funds within the bureau.

In 2010, Forestry was awarded \$11.4 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for a project to convert public facilities to wood or dual fuel heating. Sites that were awarded funds include Houlton RSU 29, Northern Maine Medical Center in Fort Kent, Greenville school department, Messalonskee school department, Millinocket Regional Hospital, University of Maine at Presque Isle, Oxford Hills SAD 17 and the Town of Mechanic Falls. In addition, this initiative promotes sustainable management of forest land.

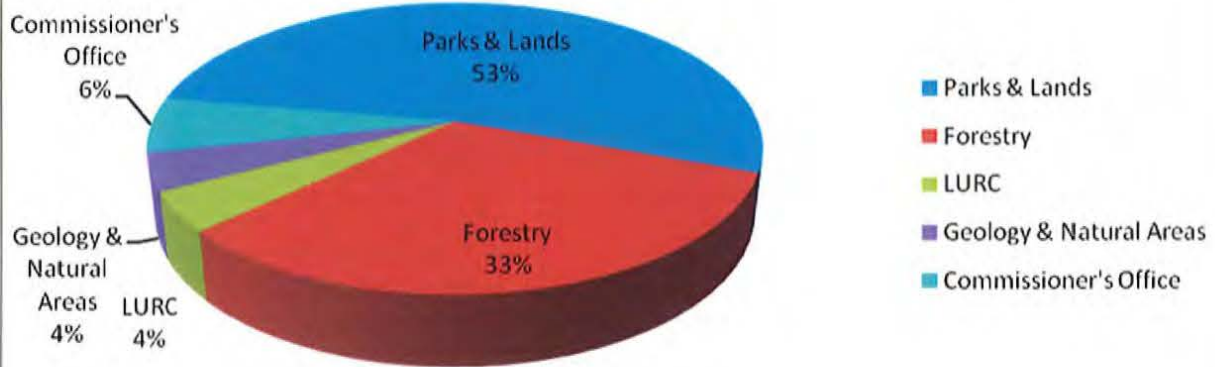
The Department believes it has adequate financial controls in place to assure proper oversight of the spending and receiving of funds, and continues to participate in, and actively pursue, improvements to the financial system at the state level.



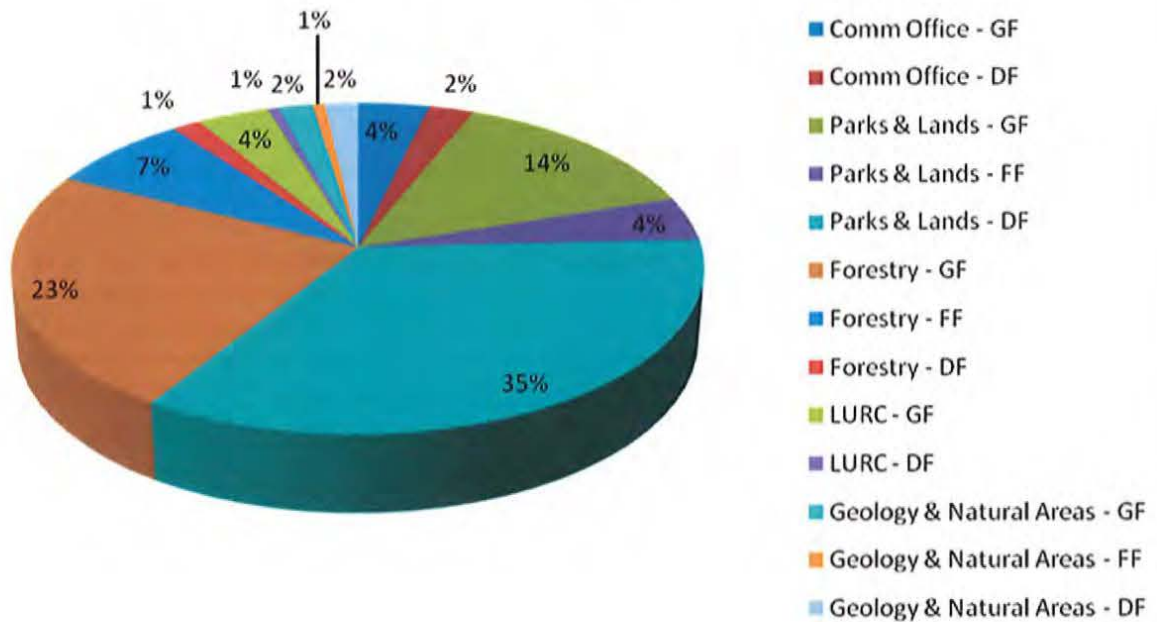


# Department Budget

## Budget by Bureaus - All Funds



## Budget Breakdown by Fund Source





- **Budget by Bureau – All Funds Chart**
- **Budget Breakdown by Fund Source Chart**
- **Budget by Fund Chart**
- **Budget Percentage by Fund Chart**

The Budget by Bureau pie chart shows the percentage of the Department's total budget that each bureau represents. The Budget Breakdown by Fund Source pie chart shows the source of each bureau's budget (general, federal and dedicated funds) and the percentage of the Department's total budget that source represents. For example, Forestry represents 33% of the Department's budget. Of that 33% total, federal funds for Forestry amount to 8% of the total budget.

For the Bureaus of Parks and Lands, and Forestry, the percentage of the bureau's budget from each source is as follows:

	General Fund	Federal Fund	Dedicated Fund
Forestry	23%	8%	2%
Parks & Lands	14%	4%	35%

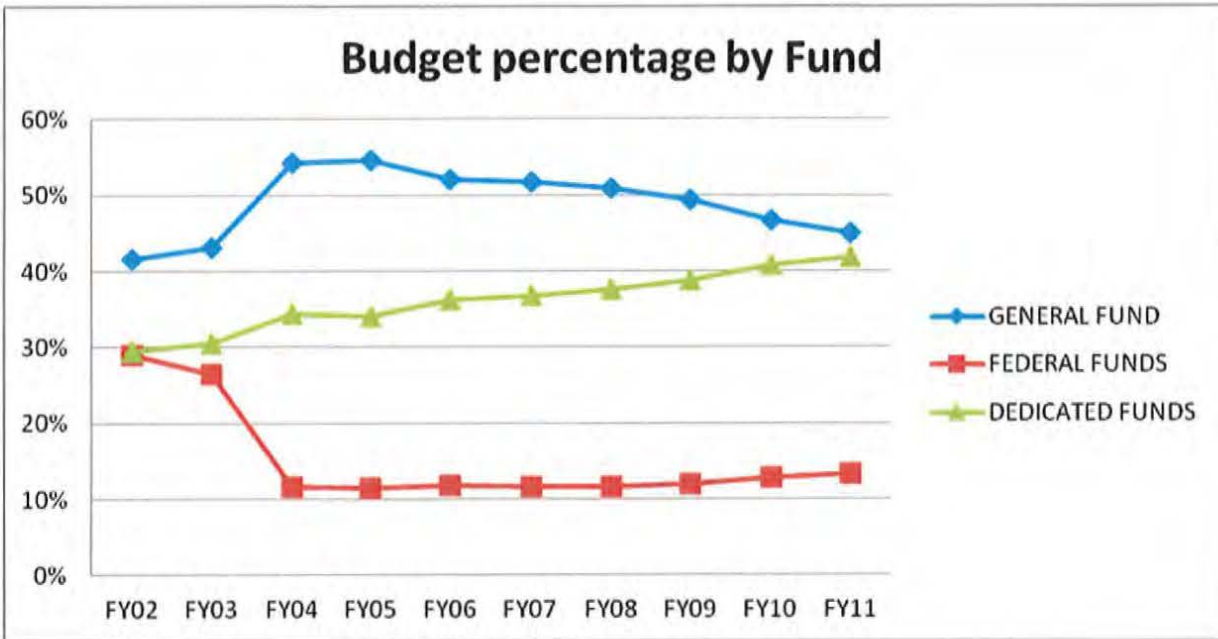
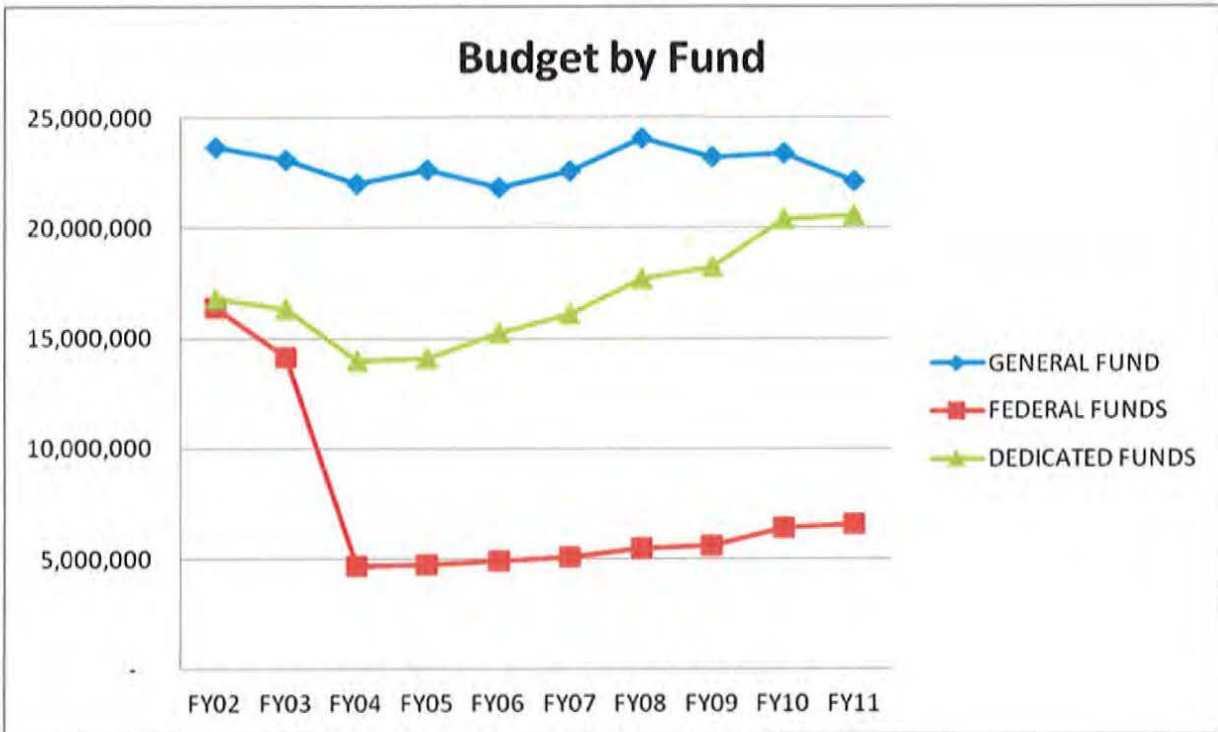
The Budget and Percentage by Fund graphs trace the Department's expenditures by fund source for the last ten years. The graphs show the dollar amount and percentage of total expenditures for each source of funds (General, Federal, and Dedicated).

The mix of sources of funding for FY02 compared with FY11 shows a clear trend of increased reliance on dedicated funds.

	FY02	FY11
General Fund	42%	45%
Federal Funds	29%	13%
Dedicated Funds	30%	42%

In FY02, the department was still receiving funds from the Ice Storm. The decrease in federal funds occurred after these funds were completely expended.







- **Personal Services, All Other and Capital Expenditures by Fund**
- **Personal Services, All Other and Capital Expenditures as a % of Total Fund**
- **Fund by Category ( General, Federal, Dedicated, Bond and ARRA)**

The Personal Services, All Other and Capital Expenditures graphs trace the Department's expenses for the last ten years broken down into personal services, all other and capital expenditures categories. They show the dollar amount expended from the general, federal, dedicated, bond and ARRA funds for each category, and the percentage of the fund that the dollar amount represents.

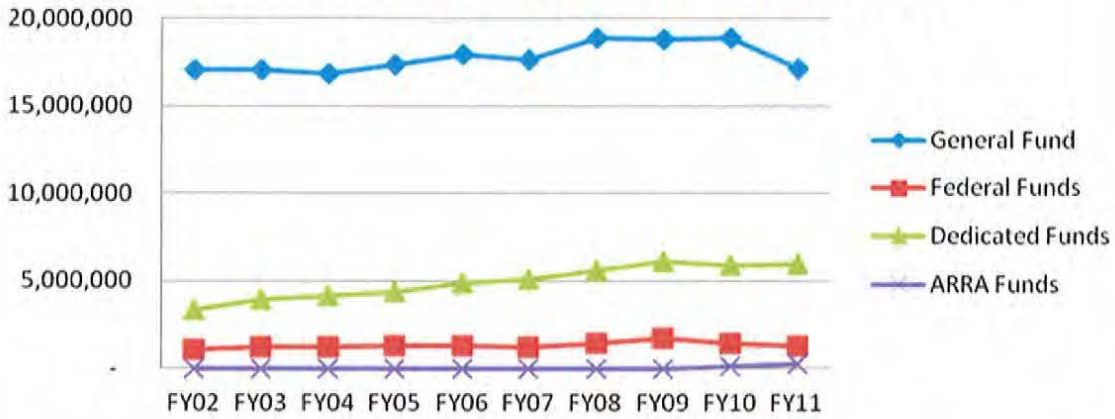
The "%" graphs demonstrate relatively little change in the amount expended for personal services and all other, except in dedicated funds, and a varied increase in capital expenditures. Increases in the Federal Funding for capital expenditures were due to single occurrence land purchases, and the increase beginning in FY08 was related to the bond issue approved by voters to fund improvements at State Parks and Historic Sites. The increase for All Other funds in FY11 is for the ARRA grant that was explained on the first page of this section.

The Fund by Category graph breaks down the general, federal, dedicated, bond and ARRA funds by line category (personal services, all other and capital expenditures). The graph shows that the general fund carries the majority of the personal services costs for the Department. The all other expenses for the operating costs of the programs have remained flat for the general fund and federal funds but have grown significantly for the dedicated and ARRA funds. Dedicated funds make up the majority of the capital expenses for the Department except for the years when major land was purchased using Federal Funding and beginning in FY08 when Parks & Lands received a bond for capital improvements at State Parks.

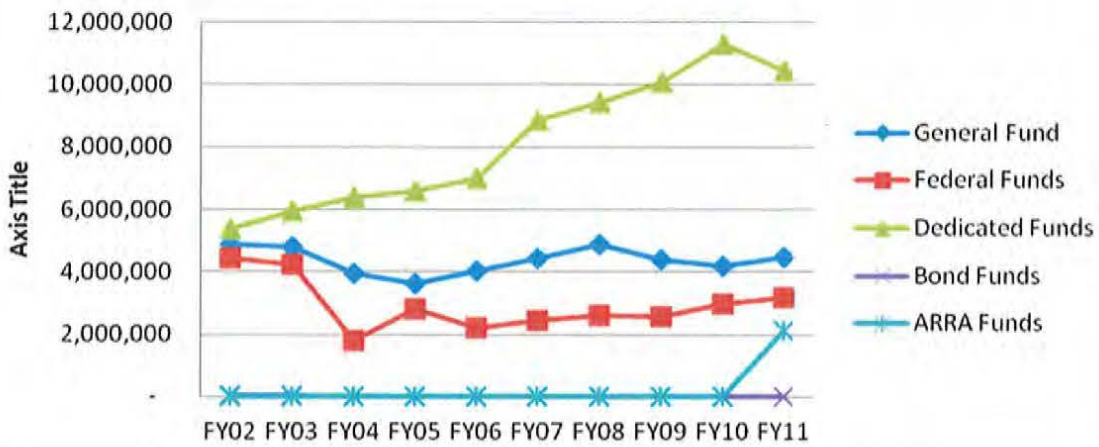




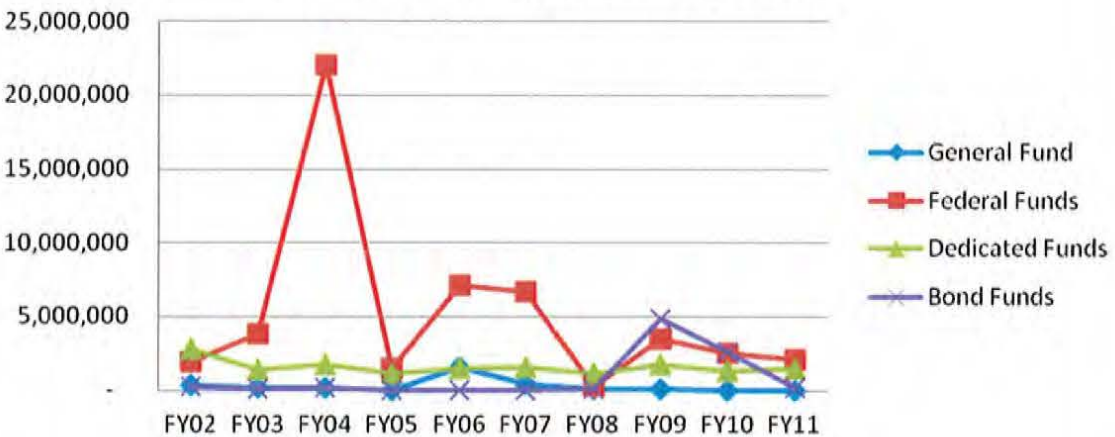
### Personal Services Expenditures by Fund



### All Other Expenditures by Fund

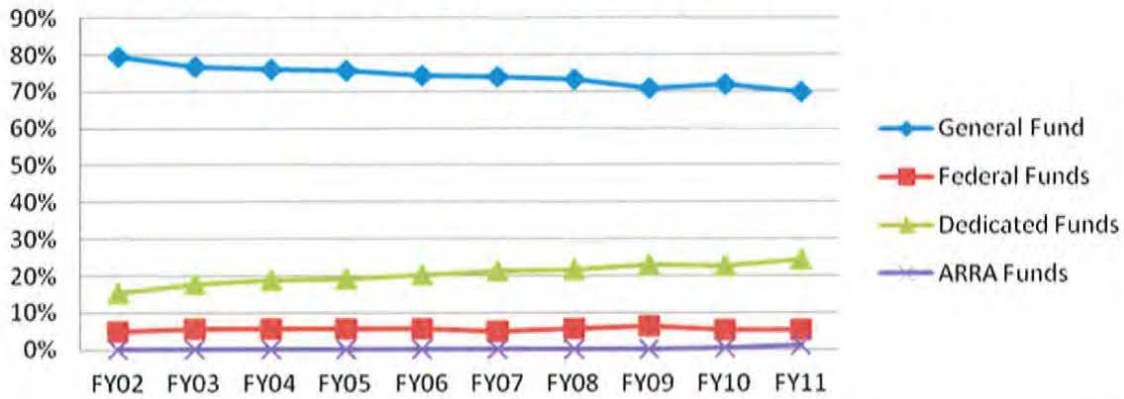


### Capital Expenditures by Fund

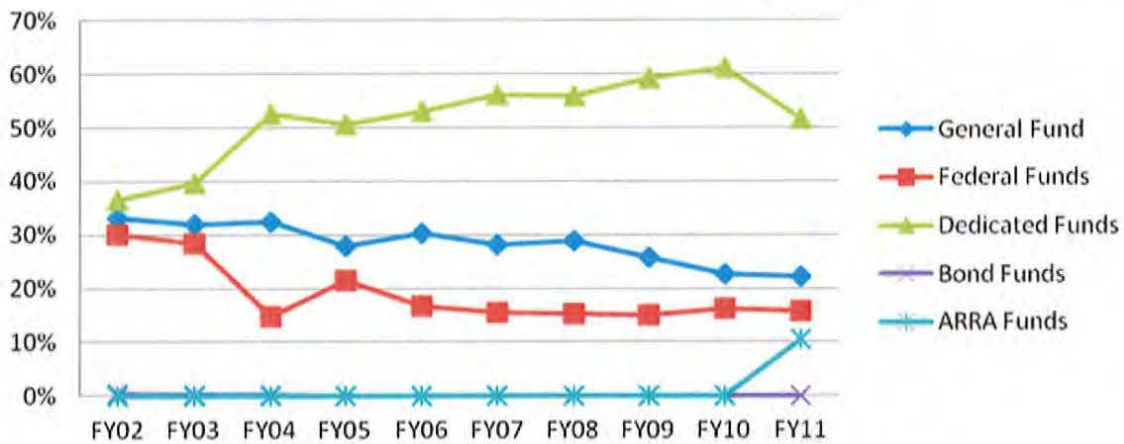




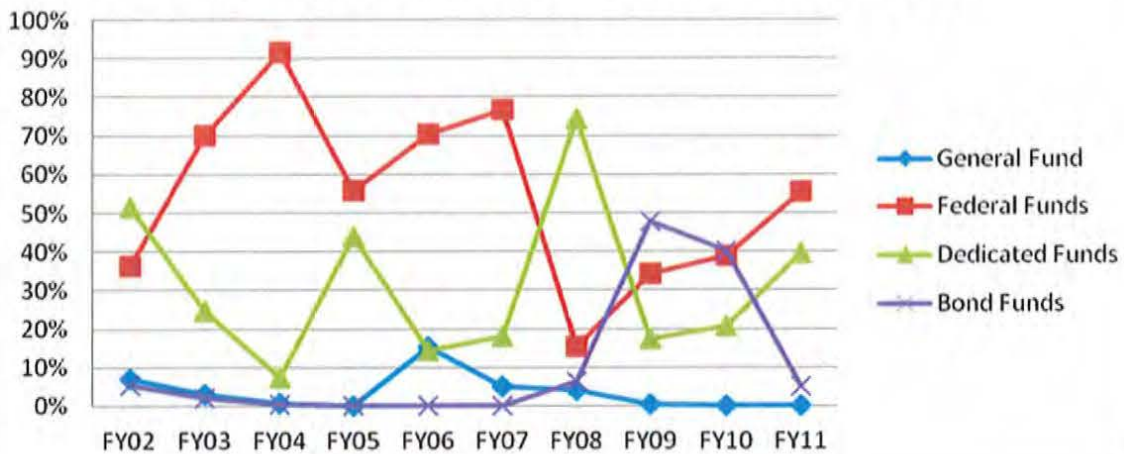
### Personal Services as a % of Total Fund



### All Other as a % of Total Fund

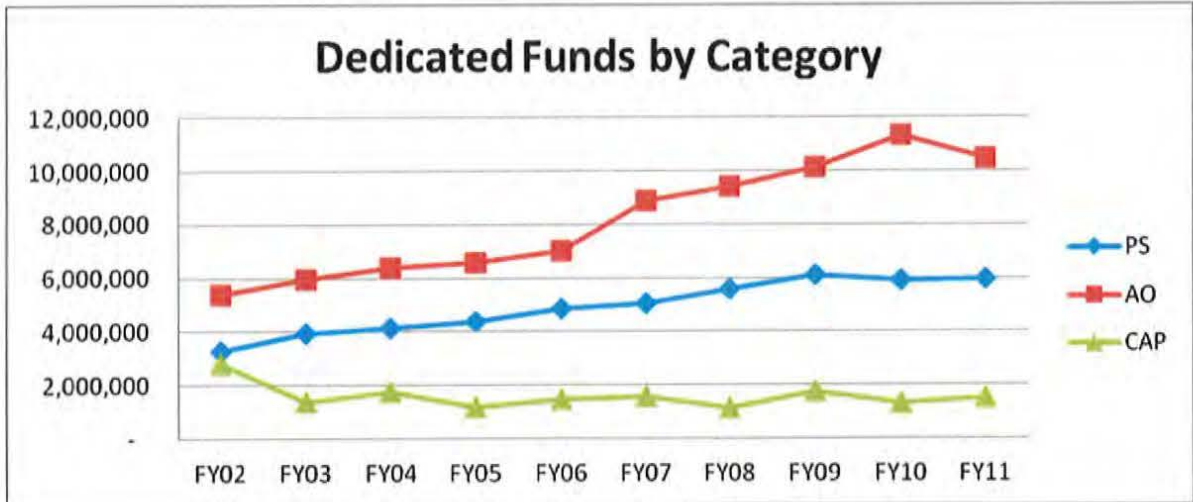
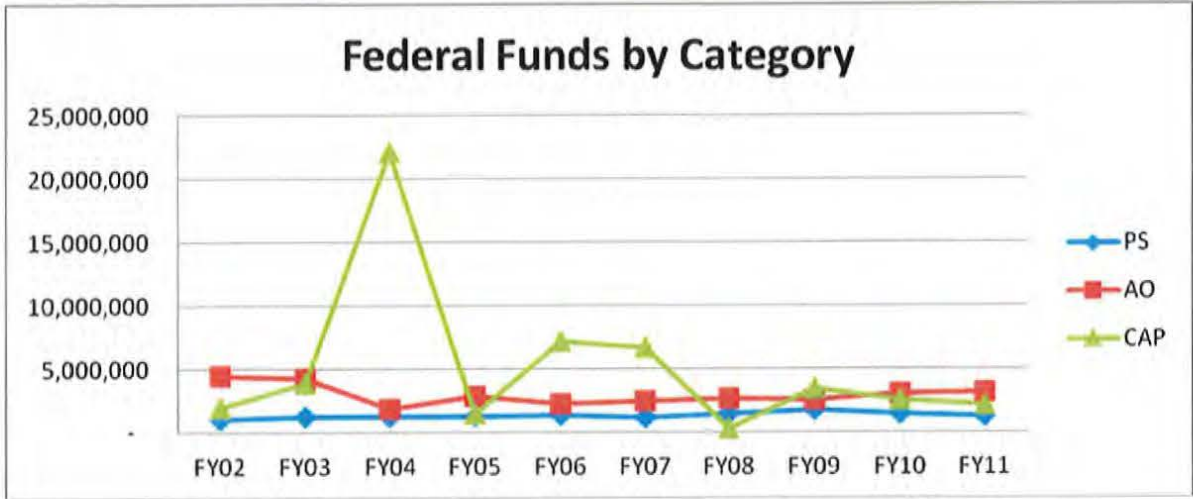
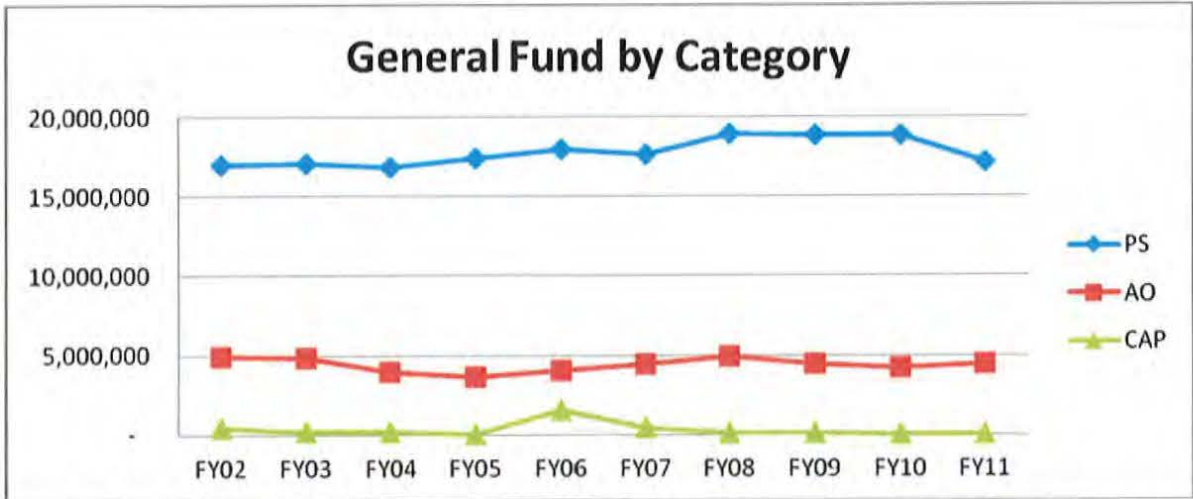


### Capital Expenditures as a % of Total Fund



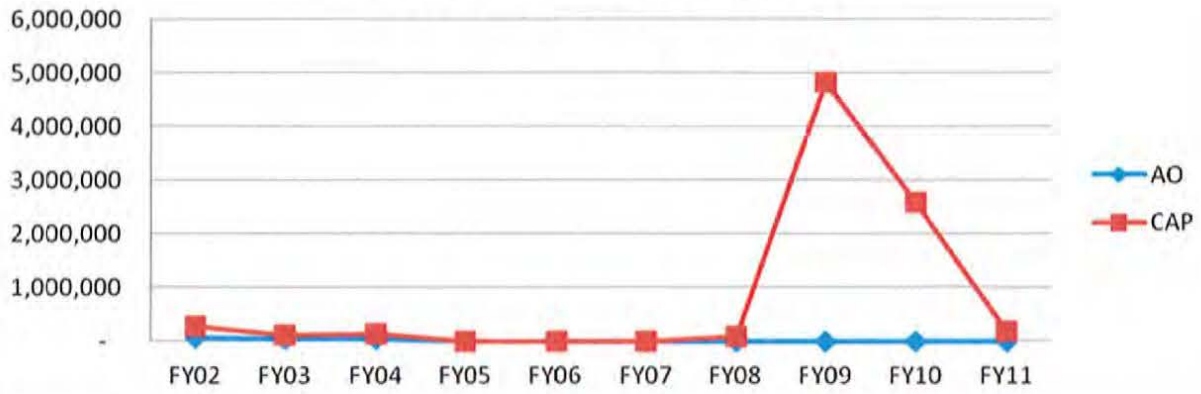


# Fund by Category

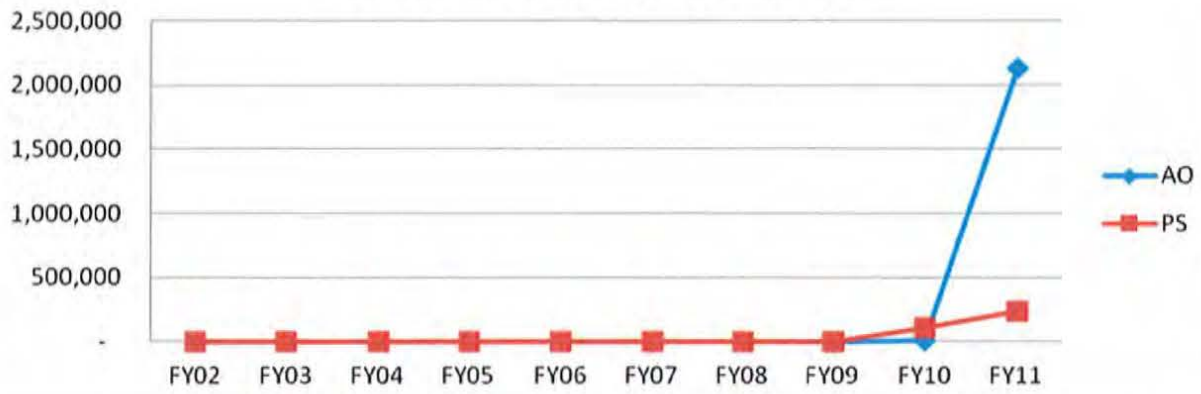




### Bond Funds by Category



### ARRA Funds by Category





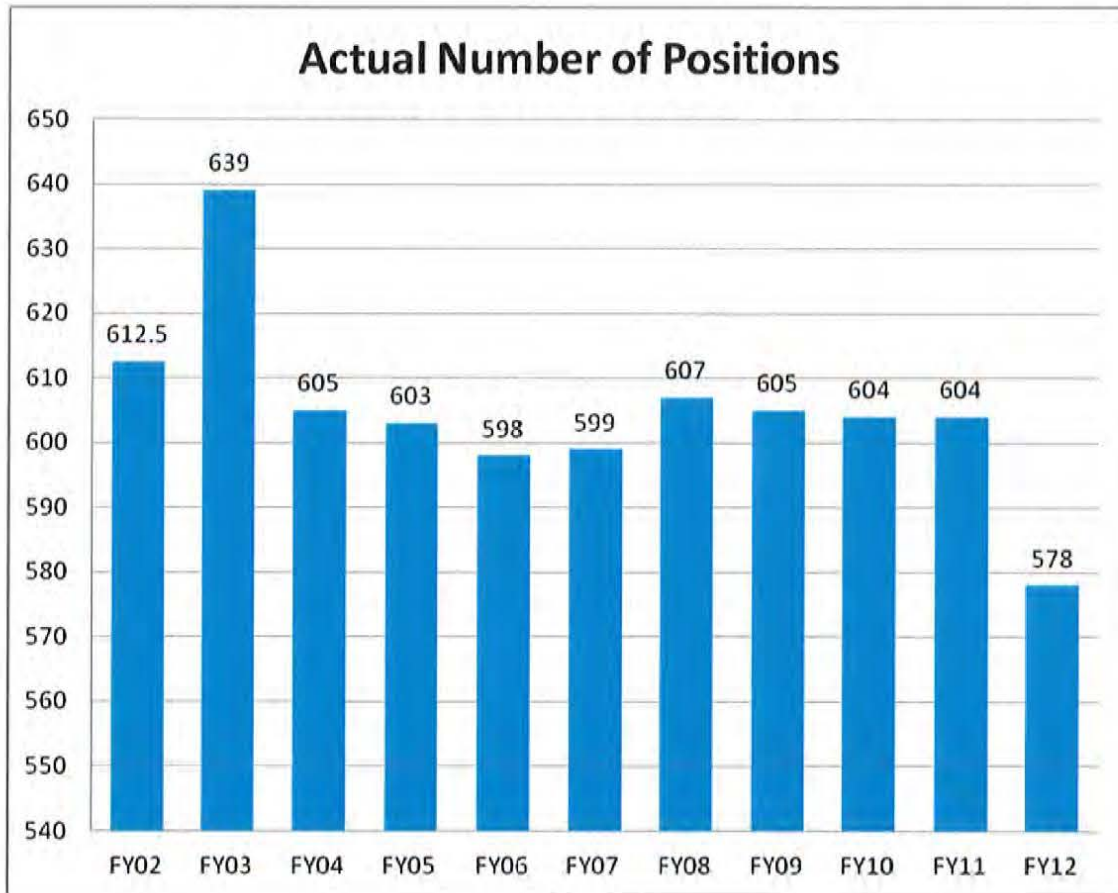


- **Actual Number of Positions**

The graph illustrates the number of staff positions in each of the past ten years. Since 2002, the number of positions has been reduced by 34, which represents a 6% reduction from the 2002 levels.

- **Appropriations and Allocations**
- **Expenditures by Program**

These spreadsheets show appropriations and allocations, and expenditures by program for each of the past ten years by program, broken down into general (010), federal (013), dedicated (014), bond (017/018) and ARRA (020) funds with each fund showing the breakdown of personal services (1), all other (2) and capital expenditures (3). These raw figures are the basis for the charts and graphs in this section.





Appropriations and Allocations

Bureau	Program	Fund	LC	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11
<b>COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE</b>													
	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	010	1	1,041,100	1,111,672	1,069,913	1,104,713	840,400	272,212	375,796	303,234	244,325	171,693
	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	010	2	363,547	338,289	337,758	243,176	252,993	521,016	1,486,642	1,309,592	1,460,368	1,336,920
	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	010	3	8,920	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	010	4	-	-	214,463	186,120	90,134	201,831	-	-	-	-
	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	013	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	013	2	296,469	303,881	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	014	1	205,505	216,233	300,541	307,468	282,460	153,547	166,945	215,220	335,094	346,078
	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	014	2	362,050	262,541	211,515	217,982	311,699	443,447	903,143	914,175	996,960	996,058
	OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER	014	3	29,000	25,000	37,000	12,500	7,500	15,000	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE</b>				2,306,591	2,257,616	2,171,190	2,071,959	1,785,186	1,607,053	2,932,526	2,742,221	3,036,747	2,850,749
<b>PARKS &amp; LANDS</b>													
	PARKS GENERAL OPERATIONS	010	1	5,425,939	5,583,889	5,807,594	5,858,614	5,839,276	5,869,513	6,367,838	6,173,033	6,176,283	5,900,596
	PARKS GENERAL OPERATIONS	010	2	957,725	1,034,267	648,629	650,447	771,065	790,033	685,175	630,844	632,706	675,306
	PARKS GENERAL OPERATIONS	010	3	233,623	83,705	99,570	-	16,897	190,495	-	-	-	-
	PARKS GENERAL OPERATIONS	013	1	-	-	-	-	41,009	43,103	41,204	41,876	56,201	59,157
	PARKS GENERAL OPERATIONS	013	2	2,207,208	1,905,942	1,190,632	1,191,430	1,218,237	1,248,692	1,247,833	1,247,833	1,247,833	1,247,833
	PARKS GENERAL OPERATIONS	013	3	2,080,000	80,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PARKS GENERAL OPERATIONS	014	1	95,810	97,933	104,905	110,515	114,537	118,669	97,378	99,758	58,432	59,662
	PARKS GENERAL OPERATIONS	014	2	90,269	65,268	61,093	62,316	63,719	174,308	191,289	201,128	426,128	428,628
	PARKS GENERAL OPERATIONS	014	3	195,847	232,859	70,000	70,000	100,000	100,000	10,000	10,000	50,000	50,000
	OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL VEHICLES PROGRAM	014	1	371,121	362,998	418,766	433,050	445,849	564,637	578,607	602,369	599,792	610,129
	OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL VEHICLES PROGRAM	014	2	3,903,318	3,767,584	3,345,593	3,405,006	3,775,187	3,917,761	4,275,393	4,373,640	5,509,038	5,480,289
	OFF-ROAD RECREATIONAL VEHICLES PROGRAM	014	3	232,000	223,004	40,000	38,000	34,000	20,000	220,316	227,911	55,000	42,500
	BOATING FACILITIES FUND	014	1	590,946	584,438	611,125	636,651	656,977	688,257	715,564	737,863	842,293	859,822
	BOATING FACILITIES FUND	014	2	835,641	846,572	582,839	555,522	947,884	1,012,416	582,828	862,686	734,780	728,991
	BOATING FACILITIES FUND	014	3	803,935	807,334	220,105	233,586	104,000	100,000	888,623	518,000	624,500	628,000
	LAND MANAGEMENT & PLANNING	013	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	LAND MANAGEMENT & PLANNING	013	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37,557	37,557
	LAND MANAGEMENT & PLANNING	013	3	148,000	3,756,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	LAND MANAGEMENT & PLANNING	014	1	2,426,785	2,660,307	2,989,953	3,046,554	3,079,948	3,229,453	3,225,946	3,505,459	3,535,542	3,634,421
	LAND MANAGEMENT & PLANNING	014	2	1,316,163	1,543,030	1,350,848	1,374,363	1,401,704	1,540,418	1,550,349	1,554,448	1,563,103	1,564,718
	LAND MANAGEMENT & PLANNING	014	3	1,446,256	1,390,000	1,195,000	1,171,500	1,136,500	1,131,500	1,095,000	1,050,000	1,079,000	1,079,000
	COASTAL ISLAND REGISTRY	014	2	99	99	101	103	105	107	107	107	107	107
	MAINE STATE PARKS DEVELOPMENT FUND	014	1	220,695	228,657	305,646	331,520	354,197	368,928	437,031	454,133	455,263	470,954
	MAINE STATE PARKS DEVELOPMENT FUND	014	2	391,289	463,105	172,137	177,581	181,576	186,116	342,932	376,803	386,914	387,059
	MAINE STATE PARKS DEVELOPMENT FUND	014	3	458,638	329,113	127,000	123,000	-	-	50,000	50,000	-	-
	FOREST RECREATION RESOURCE FUN	014	1	69,735	68,638	73,717	77,259	79,342	81,404	84,691	86,816	90,732	75,680
	FOREST RECREATION RESOURCE FUN	014	2	10,839	10,913	1,358	1,385	1,416	1,452	3,271	3,352	3,352	3,352
	MAINE STATE PARKS FUND	014	2	660,509	666,332	622,476	623,083	636,597	653,030	400,907	373,753	380,483	380,483
	MAINE STATE PARKS FUND	014	3	707,720	553,534	100,500	100,500	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-
	MAINE CONSERVATION CORPS	010	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	74,677	75,777	75,612	72,722
	MAINE CONSERVATION CORPS	010	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,935	3,005	3,114	3,135
	MAINE CONSERVATION CORPS	013	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	115,360	120,602	132,572	137,364
	MAINE CONSERVATION CORPS	013	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	180,067	180,267	343,267	343,267
	MAINE CONSERVATION CORPS	014	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	66,613	69,208	127,370	132,768
	MAINE CONSERVATION CORPS	014	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	132,604	132,703	626,241	626,323
	MAINE CONSERVATION CORPS	014	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL PARKS &amp; LANDS</b>				25,880,110	27,345,521	20,139,587	20,271,985	21,050,022	22,080,292	23,716,538	23,813,374	25,853,215	25,719,823



Appropriations and Allocations

Bureau	Program	Fund	LC	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11
<b>FORESTRY</b>													
	ADMINISTRATION - FORESTRY	010	1	173,525	158,698	188,089	194,518	198,079	204,671	173,565	175,647	175,965	170,851
	ADMINISTRATION - FORESTRY	010	2	135,663	40,179	41,208	41,454	39,527	39,500	30,930	30,217	19,921	-
	ADMINISTRATION - FORESTRY	013	1	93,724	96,766	111,872	113,764	118,273	123,151	124,217	126,174	132,604	135,202
	ADMINISTRATION - FORESTRY	013	2	96,766	25,205	25,710	26,223	26,855	27,525	26,493	26,493	26,493	26,493
	ADMINISTRATION - FORESTRY	014	2	100,513	6,025	106,146	106,269	258,660	261,376	261,376	261,376	261,376	261,376
	DIVISION OF FOREST PROTECTION	010	1	5,995,014	5,739,871	5,645,924	6,232,176	6,251,945	6,524,733	6,970,368	7,059,363	7,158,046	6,645,561
	DIVISION OF FOREST PROTECTION	010	2	3,121,079	2,950,722	2,409,305	2,392,514	1,795,655	2,183,874	1,979,067	1,827,529	1,896,102	1,895,625
	DIVISION OF FOREST PROTECTION	010	3	311,213	203,916	18,258	-	-	106,577	-	-	-	-
	DIVISION OF FOREST PROTECTION	013	1	136,125	314,614	147,167	149,421	231,909	240,463	163,736	169,190	308,094	392,399
	DIVISION OF FOREST PROTECTION	013	2	323,237	611,652	167,501	169,051	122,854	127,176	512,416	512,416	813,641	813,641
	DIVISION OF FOREST PROTECTION	013	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	DIVISION OF FOREST PROTECTION	014	2	134,214	137,573	140,324	143,130	222,466	226,154	226,154	226,154	226,154	226,154
	DIVISION OF FOREST PROTECTION	014	3	256,020	150,000	150,000	41,500	150,000	41,500	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
	FOREST HEALTH AND MONITORING	010	1	940,236	845,669	742,091	740,059	766,627	768,241	802,548	767,913	816,087	792,393
	FOREST HEALTH AND MONITORING	010	2	135,818	137,548	113,472	119,061	111,378	111,212	96,233	95,493	88,697	81,191
	FOREST HEALTH AND MONITORING	013	1	579,725	763,055	613,065	633,011	716,284	751,034	664,740	705,512	768,189	792,339
	FOREST HEALTH AND MONITORING	013	2	3,614,325	1,114,627	214,841	219,139	175,044	180,670	228,628	228,628	237,671	243,187
	FOREST HEALTH AND MONITORING	013	3	55,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	FOREST HEALTH AND MONITORING	014	2	3,370	3,454	53,523	53,594	54,800	56,171	56,171	56,171	56,171	56,171
	DIVISION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT	010	1	959,125	929,208	1,310,215	1,363,805	1,422,244	1,428,758	1,446,344	1,426,729	1,432,255	1,323,442
	DIVISION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT	010	2	233,712	250,555	463,296	496,805	419,315	419,528	344,944	329,499	336,293	310,181
	DIVISION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT	013	1	249,942	476,134	575,358	588,743	646,215	684,761	504,169	571,211	608,706	628,905
	DIVISION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT	013	2	6,002,550	4,241,259	1,261,585	1,286,818	1,265,982	1,295,669	1,343,344	1,343,451	1,350,343	1,376,009
	DIVISION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT	014	1	3,200	3,200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	DIVISION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT	014	2	30,000	5,000	105,100	105,202	107,569	110,258	110,258	110,258	110,258	110,258
	FOREST FIRE CONTROL MUN ASSIT	010	2	54,624	50,108	49,902	49,902	47,407	47,407	47,407	47,278	47,356	47,356
	FOREST PRACTICES - CONSERVATIO	010	1	427,683	416,324	76,602	5,111	-	-	-	-	-	-
	FOREST PRACTICES - CONSERVATIO	010	2	238,412	281,223	(5,496)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FORESTRY</b>				<b>24,404,815</b>	<b>19,952,585</b>	<b>14,725,058</b>	<b>15,271,270</b>	<b>15,149,088</b>	<b>15,960,409</b>	<b>16,193,108</b>	<b>16,176,702</b>	<b>16,950,422</b>	<b>16,408,734</b>
<b>LAND USE REGULATION COMMISSION (LURC)</b>													
	MAINE LAND USE REG. COMMISSION	010	1	1,363,126	1,402,827	1,359,664	1,434,548	1,574,518	1,599,959	1,866,136	1,839,225	1,787,155	1,660,684
	MAINE LAND USE REG. COMMISSION	010	2	414,739	399,856	386,318	423,091	398,211	336,002	254,468	184,666	141,515	129,452
	MAINE LAND USE REG. COMMISSION	010	3	-	-	13,500	15,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
	MAINE LAND USE REG. COMMISSION	014	1	9,000	4,670	-	500	33,926	144,126	-	-	-	-
	MAINE LAND USE REG. COMMISSION	014	2	1,783	38,151	-	500	2,300	3,700	268,178	268,178	288,178	308,178
<b>TOTAL LURC</b>				<b>1,788,648</b>	<b>1,845,504</b>	<b>1,759,482</b>	<b>1,873,639</b>	<b>2,008,955</b>	<b>2,083,787</b>	<b>2,388,782</b>	<b>2,292,069</b>	<b>2,216,848</b>	<b>2,098,314</b>
<b>GEOLOGY AND NATURAL AREAS (BOGANA)</b>													
	MAINE MINING OPERATIONS	014	1	71,287	68,575	132,293	134,032	189,150	226,939	182,857	231,877	199,065	208,374
	MAINE MINING OPERATIONS	014	2	76,477	79,771	78,898	80,092	75,970	75,606	91,715	93,502	93,502	87,241
	MAINE MINING OPERATIONS	014	3	16,446	72,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	MAINE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY	010	1	844,488	859,845	840,221	869,063	844,030	822,923	896,210	816,660	768,123	750,213
	MAINE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY	010	2	163,101	160,334	76,587	74,621	51,867	40,490	29,606	23,746	26,722	29,442
	MAINE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY	013	1	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	MAINE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY	013	2	363,973	278,530	220,313	222,621	227,630	233,320	160,159	167,528	167,528	167,528
	NATURAL AREAS	010	1	69,254	70,205	80,993	82,429	85,166	85,269	91,768	92,940	93,322	90,077
	NATURAL AREAS	010	2	47,382	48,384	36,011	36,123	31,641	23,036	19,221	17,162	15,258	14,946
	NATURAL AREAS	013	1	32,147	32,554	38,333	-	-	-	15,399	16,268	16,329	17,256
	NATURAL AREAS	013	2	119,029	122,049	124,491	126,980	129,837	133,083	133,895	133,941	130,037	129,725



Appropriations and Allocations

Bureau	Program	Fund	LC	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11
	NATURAL AREAS	013	3	4,000	4,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NATURAL AREAS	014	1	275,819	177,691	178,858	260,861	274,493	302,089	355,878	420,234	455,556	473,182
	NATURAL AREAS	014	2	362,410	185,375	61,397	62,624	95,772	96,847	21,018	16,145	166,145	166,145
	NATURAL AREAS	014	3	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL BOGANA</b>				<b>2,455,813</b>	<b>2,164,313</b>	<b>1,868,395</b>	<b>1,949,446</b>	<b>2,005,556</b>	<b>2,039,602</b>	<b>1,997,726</b>	<b>2,030,003</b>	<b>2,131,587</b>	<b>2,134,129</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR CONSERVATION</b>				<b>56,835,977</b>	<b>53,565,539</b>	<b>40,663,712</b>	<b>41,438,299</b>	<b>41,998,807</b>	<b>43,771,143</b>	<b>47,228,680</b>	<b>47,054,369</b>	<b>50,188,819</b>	<b>49,211,749</b>

source data: BFMS Budget Guideline reports













## **Special Programs**

### **Health and Safety Initiatives**

The Department continues in its effort to provide for the health, safety, and wellness of employees in the workplace and at department facilities. Through efforts of staff members, employee wellness grant money has been in place for several years which has been used to provide training and education to employees in safety and wellness matters. The Natural Resources Service Center HR staff continues to monitor and analyze employee injury statistics in an effort to further both reduce and prevent employee injuries from occurring, through training, equipment use and policy.

Periodic health and wellness bulletins are provided to employees, featuring health and safety concerns important to the Department and State Government. In coordination with the East Side Wellness Program, lunch-time wellness programs have become available to employees.

### **Workers Compensation**

The Department is in compliance with all workers compensation requirements including notification of injuries, filing of reports, compensating employees, coordinating payment of bills, and coordinating necessary medical evaluations in a timely manner. With the assistance of the Workers Compensation Division, the Department continues to review long-standing cases for possible settlement which will reduce overall workers compensation costs to the Department.

The Department has provided supervisory workers compensation training to all managers and continues in its efforts to ensure that all new supervisors are trained in notification requirements. Additionally, the Department has issued written procedures on notification processes for employee injuries. This information is available online through the Natural Resources Service Center's human resources website. In addition to other personnel information, the website contains all required workers compensation forms and procedure guidelines.

### **Affirmative Action/EEO**

The Department complies fully with federal and state affirmative action requirements. An Affirmative Action Plan is in place and we strive to meet the goals established for recruiting purposes. It is intended that the plan be updated within the coming year. All recruitment and employment initiatives comply with federal and state laws for equal employment opportunities.

The Department continues to hold a position of no tolerance for sexual harassment, discrimination, or employee harassment. Allegations and complaints are investigated immediately and appropriate action taken. In the recent past, the Department conducted mandatory department-wide workplace harassment training. As

part of the training, all employees were provided an updated copy of the Department's policy on both Workplace Harassment and EEO. Similar training is provided every year to all new employees as part of the Department's new employee orientation program. In recent training events, workplace diversity has been incorporated into the training discussion. As new changes and interpretation to EEOC law and court decisions are received, the Department will conduct additional training.

### **ADA Requirements**

The Department makes every reasonable attempt to comply with ADA requirements to include ensuring that work sites and public use areas are readily accessible. The Department complies with all requirements under the ADA relating to employment and public meetings. As our authority extends to parks and other recreational facilities that may be difficult to make ADA accessible, we continue in our efforts to progress in this area.







Reports and repealers  
JSC on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Citation-Statute or Law	Description	Due Date	From	To	Frequency	Recd
<b>Conservation Annual Reports</b>						
P&SL 1989, c. 108, §6, sub-§5	<u>Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Authority:</u> Annual financial report to the Commissioner of Conservation, Director of SPO, Treasurer of the State, State Auditor, and ACF.	Within 20 days after the close of its fiscal year	Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Authority	ACF	Annual	
12 §1839, 12 §1853 and 12 §1862	<u>Public and Submerged Lands:</u> Report on nonreserved public land, public reserved land and submerged lands. The Agriculture Committee shall submit a written recommendation regarding the bureau's proposed budget to the AFA Committee.	3/1	Bureau of Parks and Lands	ACF	Annual	
12 §1853-B sub-§1	<u>Public Reserved Lands.</u> Report must include a list of gates or barriers to public access, campsite or facility fees, budget information, status of ecological reserves and a description of any changes in allowed uses of public reserved lands.	3/1	BPL	ACF (The portion of the report describing any changes in allowed uses must also go to IFW.)	Annual	
12 §8878-A	<u>Clearcutting:</u> Report summarizing clearcutting statewide by geographic region and by ownership class.	Not Specified	Director of the Maine Forest Service	ACF	Annual	
36 §305, sub-§6	<u>Land Transfers:</u> Report on the transfer in ownership of parcels of land 10,000 acres or greater within the unorganized territory of the State.	9/1	Bureau of Revenue Services	ACF	Annual	
<b>Reports Due Annually and Jointly to the Taxation Committee:</b>						
7 §3906-B, sub-§15	<u>Animal Welfare.</u> Report outlining summary of cases of cruelty to animals, a summary of final dispositions of those cases and with respect to companion animals, the number of animal shelter intakes, sterilizations and authorizations, and an account of deposits into and payments from the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund.	Annual: By 3/1	Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources	ACF, TAX	Annual	
12 §685-G, sub-§3	<u>LURC.</u> Report on the 5 previous fiscal years, identifying General Fund appropriations and other resources and amounts assessed and collected from the assessments required. ACF and TAX cmtes may submit legislation based on the report. Beginning Jan 2010 the report must include an accounting of the permitting fees and penalties collected and recommendations for adjusting the fees.	1/15 1st rpt due 1/15/2009	LURC	ACF, TAX	Annual	

REPORTS AND REPEATERS  
JSC on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Citation-Statute or Law	Description	Due Date	From	To	Frequency	Recd
<b>Additional Reports Due This Biennium</b>						
5 §6206, sub-§1, ¶E	<u>Land for Maine's Future.</u> Report on expenditures from the Land for Maine's Future fund and the Public Access to Maine Waters fund, including revisions to strategies and guidelines, a summary of projects that land or interest in land is acquired by a cooperating entity, a county-by county summary of the expenditures, and cumulative totals by county of acreage conserved through acquisition of fee or less-than-fee interest. Report must also include maps that show federal, state and other public lands and permanent interests in lands held for conservation purposes and affected by conservation easements.	1/1 (odd years)	Land for Maine's Future Board	ACF	Biennial	
12 §8879	<u>State of the Forests.</u> Report on the condition of Maine's forests, including information on the number of parcels, classified by size categories, for the organized and unorganized territories of the	1/1 (odd years)	Director of Forest Services	ACF	Biennial	
12 §8612, sub-§4	<u>Field Forester Program.</u> Report on activities under the field forester program including a description of the types of assistance given to landowners and wood processors, and of the activities the field foresters; and any recommendations for changes in the program.	2/1 (odd years)	Commissioner of Conservation	ACF	Biennial	
<b>Other Reports of Interest to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee</b>						
Resolve 2001, c. 31, sec. 2	<u>Conservation Easements.</u> Report to the State Planning Office regarding conservation easements held.	Not Specified	IF&W, DOC, DAFRR, and the Atlantic Salmon Commission	ACF	Annually	
12 §8886, sub-§2	<u>Stumpage Prices.</u> Report by zones on stumpage prices paid for forest tree species.	Not Specified	Forest Bureau	ACF	Annual	