



Woodie Wheaton Land Trust

2 Grove Road, Forest City, ME 04413
www.woodiewheaton.org
207-448-3250

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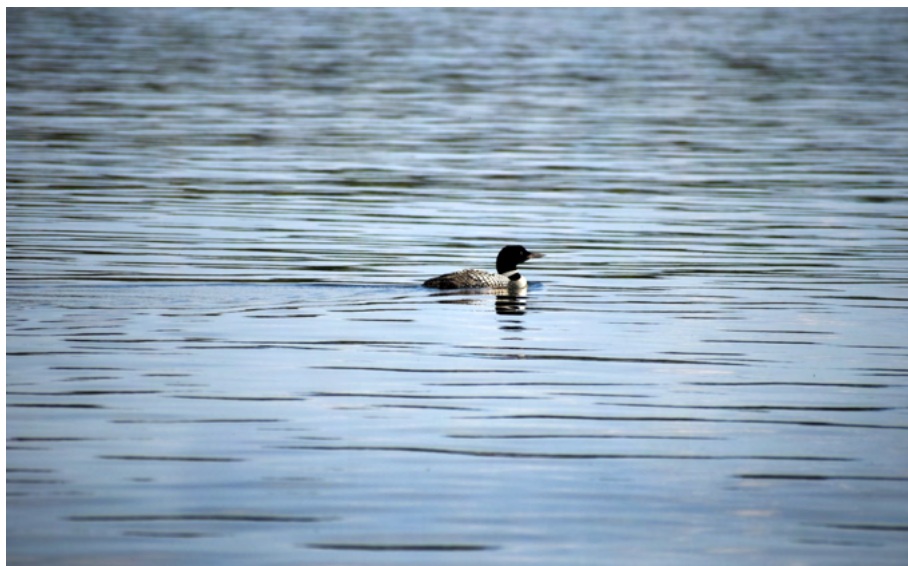
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Help us protect, preserve, and
conserve the land and water in the
Chiputneticook Lakes
region of eastern Maine and western
New Brunswick for the benefit of
present and future generations.

*"Only by giving are you able to receive more
than you already have."
- Jim Rohn*



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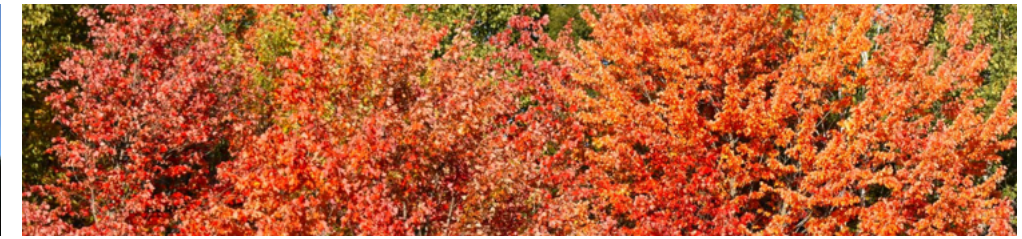
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To promote conservation of the Chiputneticook Lakes



WOODIE WHEATON LAND TRUST

C O N S E R V A T I O N N O T E S

Issue 20, Fall 2020

HEADWATERS LAND ACQUISITION

by Dale Wheaton, Director & Lands Committee Chair

We are getting very close to completing the purchase of the 906-acre addition to the Headwaters Forest! The closing, which was scheduled for September 30, has been delayed to correct several issues in the survey. However, thanks to you, it will happen soon!



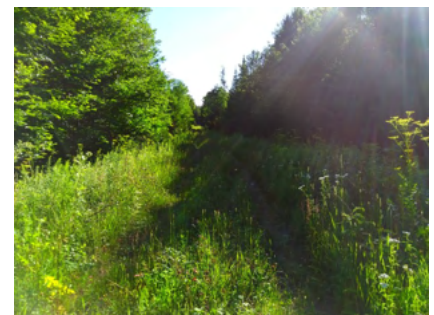
The parcel constitutes a complementary and strategic addition to the 3,055 acres we secured in 2017 to protect the feeder streams supplying East Grand Lake and North Lake, abutting Monument Stream to the north. It is a heavily forested upland, subjected to years of commercial timber harvest, but now well on its way to recovery. Located in Amity, Maine, the forest exhibits nature's bounty uncompromised by human structures or occupation.

Our new acquisition contains long stretches of Williams and Daggett Brooks, home to native brook trout fisheries. It abuts the so-called Glendenning lot, creating a vast natural area between U.S. Route 1 and the Canadian border. The public is free to visit and enjoy traditional recreation throughout, but this land belongs to the animals.

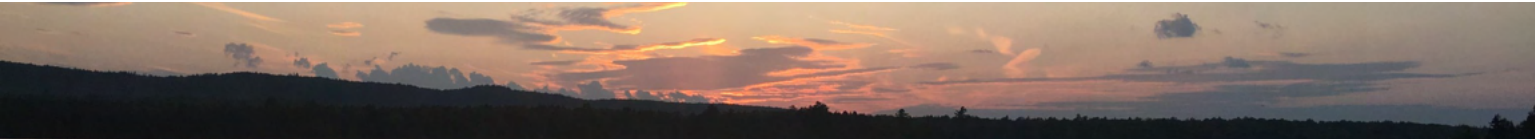
Critical to our decision to purchase this tract is that we have secured direct public access, to the properties, including 1.9 miles of interior roads. This not only ensures public road access, but also gives total management control to the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust. We can limit vehicular access when it threatens the land or roads, e.g. during "mud season," and we can invest in ecologically sound and sustainable water crossings. These expenditures would not occur under commercial ownership.

It has not been easy. During the COVID-19 year, getting grants from nonprofit foundations has been challenging, indeed. Including the purchase price, legal fees, appraisal, stewardship, and other ancillary expenses, the overall project cost reached \$442,000. Your support and generosity has been critical, and all who live in the watershed and who enjoy its clean waters will benefit.

We want to thank each and every one of you for helping. Without your support, this achievement would not have been possible. Two donors, Sarina Gwartzman and the Summer Hill...



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Headwaters Land Acquisition

Continued from page 1

Foundation, provided significant contributions at timely moments when our fundraising spirits were nearly exhausted. This re-energized the Lands Committee, and the results are now apparent.

Thanks to all. We hope you will someday visit the Headwaters Forest by land or by water and enjoy nature far from the noise and hubbub, knowing the achievements are permanent.



We are grateful for our Headwaters Forest Acquisition Donors:

Mr. Leonard Ackerman	Mr. Don Early	Ms. Terri Needleman
American Arms & Ammo	Mr. Karl Fischer	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Packert
Anonymous Charitable Foundation	Ms. Danielle Flood <i>In memory of Jason R. Flood</i>	Mr. and Mrs. Truman Parker, Jr.
Mr. Jim Baker	Fox Valley Shooting	Ms. Barbara Pipines and Ms. Debra Pipines <i>In memory of Peter Pipines</i>
Ms. Susan Balogh	Ms. Suzanne Gaffney <i>In memory of The Wheaton Family</i>	Mr. Leonard Ripps <i>In memory of David Bianco</i>
Ms. Dana Bellefiore	Mr. Jon Gavin	Mr. Dominick Rutigliano.
Ms. Linda Bennett <i>In memory of Robert "Bob" Ellis</i>	Ms. Sarah Grout	Sam Shine Foundation
Mr. Richard Bianco	Ms. Sarina Gwartzman <i>In memory of Burt Gwartzman, and Woodie and Ruth Wheaton</i>	Mr. and Mrs. Alan Shactman
Mr. Jerry Bonnell <i>In memory of Sheila Bonnell</i>	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hathaway	Dr. and Mrs. Robert Shaw
Ms. Cynthia Brien	Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Hovey	Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Simmons
Mr. and Mrs. Colin Brown	John Sage Foundation	Summer Hill Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. James Bucher	Mr. Richard Kaufmann	Dr. and Mrs. Ted Sussman
Ms. Carol Caradonna <i>In honor and memory of David Paul Bianco</i>	Mr. Donald Kearney <i>In memory of Steve and Elaine Kearney</i>	Ms. Pamela Taylor
Ms. Elizabeth Cassier <i>In memory of Howard J. Cassier</i>	Ms. Marcy Keller	Tennessee Spring and Metal, LLC
Ms. Barbara Corcoran <i>In memory of Matthew Green, and in honor of Randy Campos</i>	Mr. and Mrs. Pat Mailett	Ms. Patricia Tozer <i>In memory of Dana R. Tozer</i>
Dr. Patrick Coville	Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Martin	Mr. Jeremy Trainor
Mr. Phil Curtis	Mr. Phillip McLellan and Ms. Jan Fitter	Mr. and Mrs. John Trainor
Davis Conservation Foundation	Mr. Frederick Mitchell	Mr. and Mrs. Dale Wheaton
Mr. John Duffy <i>In honor of Shane Wheaton</i>	Ms. Sandra Mitchell <i>In honor of David Bianco</i>	Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wheaton
	Mort Mendes Foundation	Mr. Milton Wright
		Mr. and Mrs. William Yahner

A Special Thank You to
Deerfield Leathers



We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to Deerfield Leathers. They generously donated over fifty items towards our Annual Meeting Online Auction. The auction would not have been possible without their continued support. Each year, they go above and beyond in lending a helping hand to our auction. We are very grateful for their support and contributions.



Thank you,
The Woodie Wheaton
Land Trust

We encourage you to check out their website and view all their amazing, high-quality items.
www.deerfieldleathers.com



SHOP & SUPPORT

We just added our merchandise to our website! If you care about the protection, preservation and conservation of the Chiputneticook Lakes region and want to help ensure clean waterways, vibrant wildlife habitats, and ample recreational opportunities, then this is for you. Shop now on our website and help us continue to accomplish our mission and leave an important conservation legacy.



WWLT New Board Officers



Jill Wheaton, President

In August, Jill Wheaton was unanimously voted in as the new President of the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust's Board of Directors. Jill has served on the Board of Directors for five years, holding the positions of Secretary in 2018 and most recently, Vice President. She is no stranger to Forest City as she grew up spending her summers in Forest City, waiting tables and cleaning camps at Wheaton's Lodge. Jill resides in Portland, where she spends much of her time traveling, serving as a Senior Business Strategist for Anthony Robbins and owning her own nutrition and blood testing business. We wish her the best of luck in her new role.

Anna Levitsky, Vice President

Anna Levitsky is a well-known face to all with her six years of experience working first as an intern for the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust, then as Conservation Manager and most recently as Executive Director. We were all saddened last year to hear of her departure as Executive Director, but we were blessed to have her become part of the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust's Board of Directors. Her dedication and commitment to the Land Trust has recently led her to be named the Vice President. Anna resides in Pennsylvania, where she enjoys traveling, hiking, kayaking and spending time with her husband, Josh and two dogs.



New Director, Paul R. Benny Sr.



Born and raised in Chicago, Paul Benny presently resides in Nashville, Tennessee with his wife and life's partner of 28 years, Leslie Hawkins Benny. They have a son, Paul R. Benny Jr., who presently serves as a rescue paramedic for the U.S. Forest service at the Grand Canyon. Benny is presently engaged as the President and Chief Operating Officer of two companies (Tennessee Spring and Metal, a manufacturer of precision mechanical steel springs and FluidForming Americas, a metal forming technology company), both located near Nashville, TN. Benny's checkered past includes; serving as a Senior Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer for a national bedding manufacturer, various roles as a senior executive for several multi-national real estate development companies, along with senior executive responsibilities for several regional health care corporations. Benny has been a passionate

member of the Outdoor Fraternity since childhood and has been regularly in attendance the last 15 years at the Forest City School of the Outdoors. Benny is a past officer of the Nashville Chapter of Trout Unlimited and holds Life Memberships in Ruffed Grouse and American Woodcock Societies.

A Socially Distant Summer

Summer of 2020 may have looked a little different for the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust. Due to the statewide restrictions on events and gatherings, we were unable to have our usual Summer Speaker Series. However, it didn't stop us from finding ways to make our annual events and others still possible.

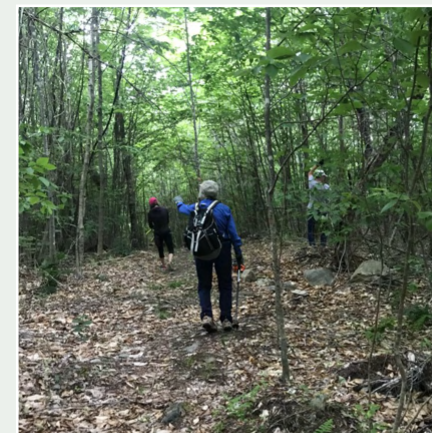


Forth of July Lobsterfest

This year's Lobsterfest was still held at Wheaton's Lodge, with only a few slight changes. The lobster dinner was takeout only, but guests of the Lodge were able to enjoy their lobsters by the water. Dick Kaufmann and Band provided viewers with a virtual online concert, instead of an in-person one. WWLT did a Facebook Live of the fireworks for everyone to enjoy. We would like to sincerely thank Dick and his Band, and Wheaton's Lodge. The event would not be possible without them and their generosity.

Woodlot Management Course

Thanks to Kyle Burdick, Woodlands Manager for the Baskahegan Company, participants were able to learn about some of the best small woodlot management practices. Kyle focused on management practices that are best for wildlife, silviculture, regeneration and much more. The course concluded with a tour of a local Forest City woodlot.



East Grand Highlands Trail Clean Up

Thanks to Susan, Bob, Mari and Madison, who volunteered earlier this summer to clean up some of the East Grand Highlands Trails. Part of the Sucker Lake Trail and all of the Boulder Ridge Trail were cleared of any fallen down trees and large branches, and were also re-blazed for better marking.

Anyone interested in volunteering or wanting more information on the trails can contact **Madison Shaw** at mshaw@woodiewheaton.org.



Welcome the Newest Face of the WWLT Madison Shaw

We would like to introduce our new Office Manager, Madison Shaw, to the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust Community.

Madison graduated from the University of Maine at Presque Isle in 2019 with her B.A. in Business Administration with a Concentration in Accounting. From there, she went on to attend Husson University, where she completed her Masters of Business Administration in June 2020. Madison lives in Mapleton and has spent every summer at her family camp on East Grand Lake. It was at camp that her love and appreciation for the Chiputneticook Lake region developed. In her spare time, she enjoys going fishing, four-wheeling, paddle boarding and snowmobiling in the winter.



"I have many fond memories fishing with my father, swimming in the crystal-clear water, and sitting around the campfire taking in the beauty that East Grand Lake has to offer. I hope that future generations will be able to share the same experiences and realize the hidden beauty of this region that I have been blessed with"



Best of Luck Mari!

We would like to wish Mari Shaw the best of luck as she attends Indiana University to pursue her Doctorate in Audiology. Mari has served as our administrative assistant for the past three summers and has been a tremendous asset to the WWLT team. We are very grateful for her dedication to help further the Land Trust's mission. Thank you Mari for all your hard work and don't forget your WWLT family.

The Woodie Wheaton Land Trust in the Pandemic

by Stephen Martin, Director & Outreach Committee Chair

This year has presented many significant and unique challenges for all of us. With the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust issued a message to our supporters in which we acknowledged the uncertain and evolving situation created by the pandemic. The WWLT's primary concern throughout is the health and well-being of our community. Thus, we have committed to following the state and federal guidelines for maintaining public safety. Recognizing the risk of indoor gatherings, we made necessary moves to protect our staff, board members, and the community. The Land Trust Center was closed to public access, with necessary interactions between staff and others moved to the outside porch to allow appropriate physical distancing. Masks were obtained for the use of staff and visitors to further reduce risk. To avoid them being handled by multiple people, education and promotional materials were kept inside, but available to distribute as needed.

The WWLT Outreach Committee had planned many interesting and exciting summer activities. We assessed each as our understanding of the pandemic risks became clearer and as guidelines became available. As a result, most in-person events were cancelled, with the hope of rescheduling to 2021. An excellent presentation on Woodlot Management by Kyle Burdick, Woodlands Manager for the Baskahegan Company, was held on a beautiful Saturday in late July. For the small group of participants, outdoor physical distancing was easily accomplished.

The work of the Land Trust has continued. For safety, all committee and board meetings were, and continue to be, held by teleconference or video conference. On

August 22nd, our traditional Annual Meeting was held by Zoom video conference, allowing participation by many who would not otherwise be able to attend. All were able to enjoy a presentation by Forest City native Blaine Higgs, the Premier of New Brunswick, highlighting issues related to conservation in our border region. We anticipate that future annual meetings will allow for both in person and virtual attendance, greatly increasing membership participation in this essential activity.

The usually well attended annual Lobsterfest and Fundraiser had a major change this year. Despite the pandemic, through the efforts of Sandy and Pat

Patterson of Wheaton's Lodge, staff, and volunteers, about 30 people enjoyed lobster by curbside pickup from the lodge. Participants were able to enjoy a virtual concert by Dick Kaufmann and his band. Live fireworks held at the Wheaton's Lodge shore were also broadcast on Facebook Live. In another first, the annual Silent Auction was held

online. The many beautiful, unique, and useful items contributed to its success.

The coronavirus pandemic has created many challenges for the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust. It has also provided opportunities for improvement in the way we interact and communicate with our members and the public. We will take advantage of these opportunities as the Land Trust continues in pursuit of its mission promoting the protection and conservation of our land and water for the benefit of present and future generations. The safety and health of our community will continue to guide our choices in this process.

