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“To promote the protection, preservation, and conservation of land and water in the Chiputneticook Lakes region of eastern Maine and western New Brunswick for the benefit of present and future generations.”





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To promote conservation of the Chiputneticook Lakes

WOODIE WHEATON LAND TRUST

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Issue 14, Winter 2017

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We are excited to announce a major land acquisition within the East Grand Lake Watershed! The Headwaters Project will permanently protect 3,055 acres and many of the brooks and streams that nourish this clear water system.

The lands border 9.4 miles of Monument Stream in the town of Amity, and have both forested uplands and extensive riparian wetlands along Greenleaf and Glendenning Brooks. Abutting the southern border are 7,486 acres of land originally acquired in the East Grand Watershed Initiative, since conveyed to Maine’s

Bureau of Public Lands and managed for its exceptional wildlife habitat. That project was also initiated by WWLT and acquired in a partnership with The Conservation Fund.

Together, there will be some 10,541 acres of wild land under active conservation abutting the Canadian border in Amity and Orient. The Headwaters Project creates a rare opportunity to conserve land that has been documented as some of the finest unspoiled habitat for wild birds, aquatic mammals, and wetland vegetation in northern Maine. It hosts a vast wintering yard for whitetail deer, and is the largest area of “high value wading bird and waterfowl habitat” in the East Grand Watershed. This effort will secure habitat for the endangered black tern, least bittern, and sedge wren; and aid 13 species of special concern.

The brooks and streams flow through remote forest land to supply clean water to both North and East Grand Lake, while also providing significant cold water brook trout

spawning habitat. This is the extreme northern reach of the St. Croix River, the longest stretch of freshwater US/Canada boundary east of the Great Lakes and historically significant. The Webster-Ashburton Treaty led to the placement here of “Monument One” in 1843, being the primary land survey point along the eastern boundary with Canada.

Making this possible is a generous gift from Sam and Betty Shine of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Shine have fished for smallmouth bass many times in the Chiputneticook Lakes, spending their days afield in a guide canoe. Their affection for the area and profound interest in keeping these waters clean, along with their desire to see natural systems endure without human meddling, has led to their support and encouragement of this project. Only a few pieces of the financial puzzle remain.

Continued on NEXT PAGE ▶





The East Grand Lake Headwaters Project

Continued from page 1

Woodie Wheaton Land Trust has been interested in this land for over four years. Retired directors Elbridge Cleaves and Steve Keith have been enthusiastic about a conservation outcome, and their persistence and dedication deserves everyone's gratitude. In the summer of 2017, WWLT directors were flown over the land in order to better see and comprehend the significance of this wild area. Canoe and ground tours were also conducted. The Trust was informed of the land's ecological significance by the findings of professional ecologists and ornithologists. In the end, no one could deny that this wilderness area is indeed a very special place.

The seller is Lakeville Shores, part of the H.C. Haynes family of forest businesses based in Winn, Maine. Although portions of the land have been subject to commercial forest harvests for generations of ownership, it was evident to the landowner that the property deserved

to be held and managed by a conservation owner. Lakeville Shores has worked closely with WWLT to find a fair purchase price with deeded access.



As this newsletter goes to press, we still need help, and turn to our members for support. As many of you are aware, buying a parcel of land involves many components. In addition to the purchase

price, there are many closing costs such as legal services, transfer taxes, survey costs, title insurance, appraisal fees, and environmental inventories. A stewardship fund also must be established to ensure the property's long-term care (annual property taxes, management costs, monitoring, etc.) Owning property for public benefit is not inexpensive, and a realistic stewardship fund can help avoid a future financial burden upon the Trust.

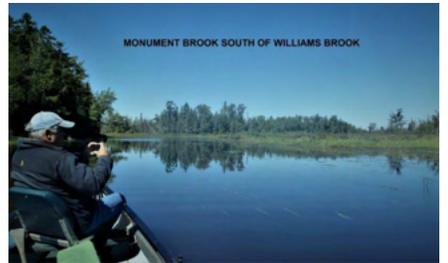
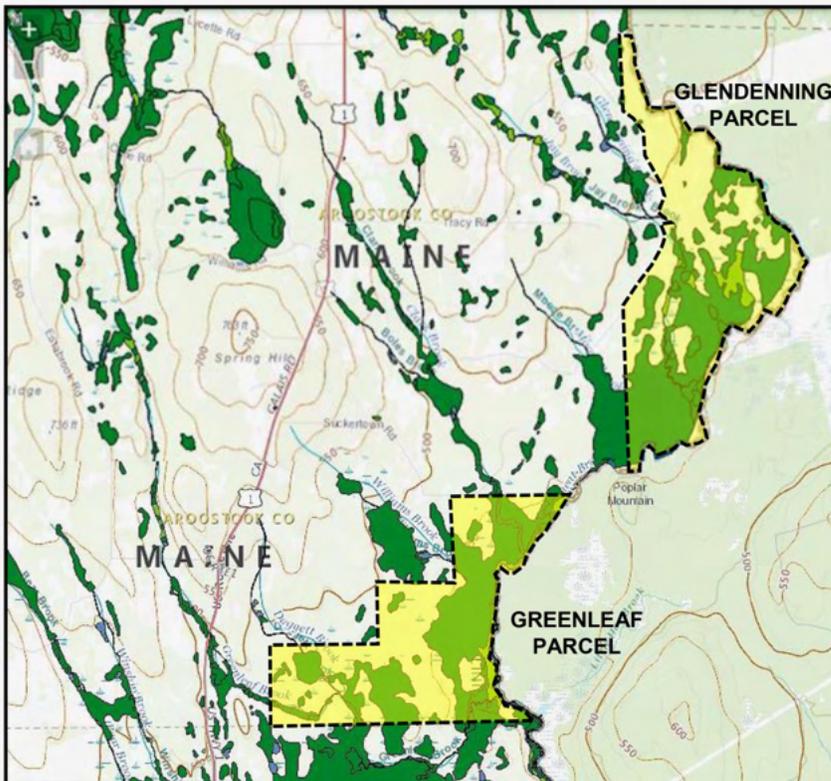
We estimate the overall project cost to be \$1,313,000. WWLT has budgeted pledged monies toward acquisition costs, the stewardship fund, and a considerable portion of the purchase price. A Purchase and Sale Agreement has been executed between buyer and seller. The Trust urgently needs nearly \$300,000 with a closing

anticipated for January, 2018.

We hope you will agree that these lands are special and merit our protection. Together, we can preserve a special Natural Area along Monument Stream. Please consider a gift earmarked for the Headwaters Project before year's end. Thank you! ■

MONUMENT LANDS – NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY

MAP DEPICTION – NOT TO SCALE



2017 Summer Internship Program

The WWLT Summer Internship Program was created to provide college and graduate students with an opportunity to contribute to the conservation of the Chiputneticook Lakes region during their summer break while receiving invaluable work experience and professional growth. Interns spend the summer assisting staff and directors with the management of various ongoing and seasonal projects, in addition to our Summer Speaker Outreach Series and other vital operational tasks. The Program offers interns an opportunity to play a key role in our organization, utilizing their specialized and developing skillsets in numerous ways from GIS mapping to ecological field work and environmental policy.



The Trust extends a big thank you to our 2017 summer interns, Kyle and Jakob! Not only was it a pleasure working with them, but their strong work ethic, passion for conservation, and positive attitudes helped us to accomplish far more than anticipated. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors!



We Fondly Remember...
Norm Boardman
&
Dan Serebrakian



Retiring Directors

John Gaskins, member of WWLT's Board of Directors and Treasurer for many years, has recently retired from the Board. John was elected as a director in 2002, later taking on the responsibility of the organization's Treasurer in 2013 and continuing to serve in that role until 2016. With a passion for conservation, the great outdoors, and education, he often donated his time leading canoe trips and giving fly-tying lessons as part of the Trust's summer outreach program. In John's 8 years of service, WWLT deepened not only its commitment to land preservation, but also its dedication to excellence, building organizational strength and capacity as a professionally managed nonprofit land trust. We are immensely grateful for his leadership, friendship, dedication, and his passionate commitment to our mission.



After 4 years of dedication, **Jean Swanson** has retired from the Board of Directors. Jean joined the Trust's Board in 2012, serving as Secretary until her retirement this past August. In addition to her officer role, Jean chaired the Outreach Committee, organizing WWLT's Summer Speaker Series schedule and generating the bi-annual newsletter for several years. She regularly dedicated her skills as a Master Gardener to the Trust, and could often be found at the Trust Center weeding, mulching or pruning to ensure it looked its best. We are extremely grateful to Jean for the generous years of service and commitment she dedicated to WWLT during her time with us. Her retirement is certainly well earned!

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The Trek to Monument One

Lying in a swamp, deep in the woods in the boundary wildlands, lies a formidable testament to the political history of this region. It is a bold, silver monument on a large stone base—ten feet tall—a stark contrast to the natural surrounds. It is accessed by no road or trail, and is rarely visited by humans. It was originally placed as a permanent marker in August, 1843 (the top section has been updated), identifying the precise point of the northernmost source of the St. Croix River, and to which all survey references for the eastern border between the United States and Canada are originated—both northward to the St. John River, and southward along river and lake channels to Passamaquoddy Bay and the Atlantic Ocean.

Monument One is the first land-based survey point on the eastern boundary, as the international line to the south is wholly situated in the waters. There are small markers on bridge crossings to show the border, although these do not constitute primary survey references. Monument Brook (and Monument Road, etc.) hence takes its name from this remote landmark.

History

The Webster-Ashburton Treaty, signed August 9, 1842, between the United States and Great Britain resolved what is known as the Aroostook War. The Treaty of Paris (1783), ending the American Revolutionary War, was vague regarding the eastern boundary between the U.S. and the British North American colonies (Canada, as a self-governing nation including New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, formed in 1867.) This led to many land squabbles among area residents, primarily over timber rights. The conflict elevated in the 1830s, resulting in the assembly of militias and various confrontations. Nobody was killed, although U.S. General Winfield Scott was sent to restore order and garner a truce.

The treaty was negotiated between U.S. Secretary of State Daniel Webster (from Marshfield, MA) and British diplomat Alexander Baring, First Baron Ashburton. There were the usual political shenanigans to sell the proposal to the

locals and politicians of the era. A new boundary line, comprising opposing claims, was established at its present location. In 1843, a bilateral survey group under guidance from Sir G.B. Airy (the British Astronomer Royal) carved a swath through the wilderness and set the defining survey point for the eastern boundary.

As a functional survey point, Monument One is much larger than others due to its significance as the first land monument in the east. It is a tall obelisk, from which a straight boundary line extends



north to the St. John River. Smaller brass survey markers were placed along the shorelines to the south. A large sister survey monument defines the western end of the 3500-mile-long U.S./Canada boundary on a bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

The Treaty of 1908 between Canada and the U.S. tweaked the boundary south of Monument One, resulting in several changes as the exact channel was confirmed. For example, Birch

Island in Spednic Lake changed from Canadian to American jurisdiction. The boundary is administered by the International Boundary Commission, who periodically updates coordinates and resolves minor issues.

Field Trip

On September 3rd, as part of the WWLT's annual Summer Speaker Series, Dale Wheaton hosted a field trip to visit Monument One. Participants were fortunate that the dry season had starved the area surrounding this historic monument. Only a semblance of what appeared to be a small brook was left to "walk the proverbial plank". Despite the Monument being within sight, careful footing and balance was tested with the help of walking sticks to gain access to the cement structure. The easier access was taken via Monument Road on the Canadian side. A scarcely marked trail led us to the edge of the swamp, leaving us picking our way through the driftwood and dead wood obstacles

until we finally made it to the Monument. The sunshine and banter made for a good trip with smiles and muddy boots all around. A big thank you to Dale as he enlightened us with such a rich factual lesson of an important part of Maine's history that was unknowingly right under our noses—bringing written text to life.



Meet WWLT Newest Directors!

David Bianco

David graduated from Franklin Pierce College (now Franklin Pierce University) in 1996 with a BS in Anthropology and a Concentration in Archaeology. During his college career, his passion for archaeology led him to Belize in Central America where he worked for 5 years on a Mayan archeological excavation. In 2001, David started his professional career in the finance world, first as a bank manager for Massbank and then, in 2010, working for State Street Corporation as Accounting Team Leader. In early 2017 David and his wife decided they wanted out of the corporate world and purchased a paper shredding company, A1 DataShred. Shortly after the birth of his first child, David was introduced to Forest City by his long-time friends, Gwen and Randy Campos, and immediately fell in love with the area. When not running the new business, David enjoys spending his time with his two children, Nicholas and Isabella, gardening, beekeeping, and when he can sneak away fishing.



Stephen Martin

Steve graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1973 with a BS in chemical engineering, went on to the University of Rochester to study biochemistry and ultimately medicine, graduating in 1981 with an MD-PhD degree. In 1986, after completing training in Ophthalmology at the University of Rochester, he moved to Presque Isle with his wife Cheryl and their two boys. Steve practiced Ophthalmology in Aroostook county for 30 years, initially as part of a group practice and then in solo practice until forming a group practice with The Aroostook Medical Center in 2012. He retired from the practice of medicine at the end of 2015, but maintains his medical license. He has always enjoyed the outdoors in the area, hiking, camping, skiing, kayaking, sailing, and fishing throughout Maine. Since 1990, he and his family have owned a camp on East Grand Lake and have come to treasure the beauty and tranquility the region has to offer.



Brianne O'Leary

Brianne resides in Bridgewater, Maine with her husband, Tracy, and their two children. She has spent her summers at their family's lake house on Fosters Island in Forest City since she was a small child. The Foster family is descendants of the Forest City community as far back as 5 generations. She graduated with a BS in Business Administration in 1993 from University of Southern Maine and BS in Sustainable Agriculture from the University of Maine in 1997. Her interests lie in the agriculture industry, having spent the last 10 years working for McCain Foods as a Senior Field Representative. In this role, she works directly with potato growers who supply the McCain Factory. During her time with McCain foods she has earned the McCain Agronomist Certification as well as McCain Agricultural Supply Specialist, and has recently been named to the Board of Directors for the Maine Potato Board. Both Brianne and her husband have a great love for outdoor sporting activities, and a passion for sharing those experiences with others.



Pete White

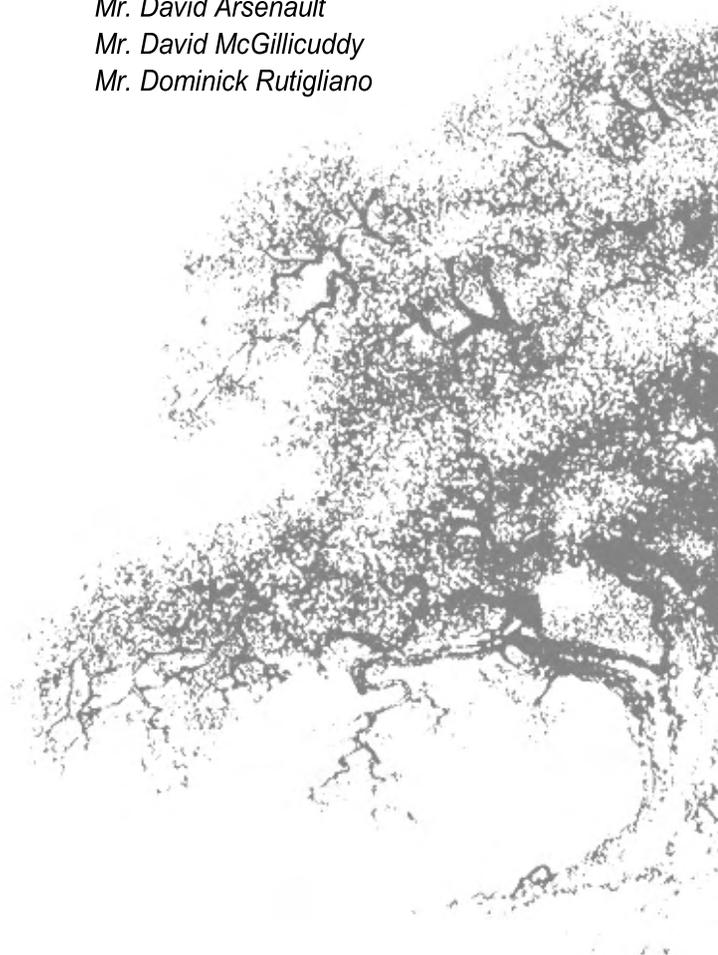
Pete grew up locally in Brookton, Maine. He received a degree in Business at the University of Maine at Orono, where he met his wife, Julie. They raised their family in Brookton – a daughter, Molly, and two sons, Clay and Tanner. Their children also attended the University of Maine with Tanner currently entering his junior year. Pete has always enjoyed outdoor activities including watersports, hunting & fishing, camping, hiking, and skiing. He raises Morgan horses and is currently training a 3 year-old and a yearling colt. For most of his professional career, he has worked at the Woodland Pulp & Paper, Timberland and Tissue operations mainly in the financial and procurement areas.



Preserving Today for Tomorrow.....

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In honor of Dick Kaufmann
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In memory of Ardele Olson
Mr. Christopher Anderson
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Mr. David Arsenault
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...with sincere appreciation to our 2016 donors

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Mr. Thomas Paras

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Thorton Brothers

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Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Vidmar

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Ketchum

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Martin

Bangor Savings Bank





New Sucker Lake Trail Now Open!

It's been a busy summer for the East Grand Highlands Trails and we are pleased to announce we have completed Phase 2 of the East Grand Highlands Hiking Trail Project with the grand opening of the Sucker Lake Trail! Approximately 4 miles round-trip, this trail is designated as "moderately strenuous", and is recommended for experienced hikers due to the elevation variability and uneven terrain. The trail starts from the existing Overlook Trail, passing through regenerated timberland, leading to a large cedar swamp requiring some careful balance while crossing a boardwalk of raised log



planks, before continuing around the south and east side of Sucker Lake leading to a quiet, lakeside picnic area. A big thank you to the members of the Outdoor Education Program at the East

Grand School in Danforth for tackling the not so easy task of delivering and installing the new picnic table.

The Sucker Lake Trail was completed mostly through the efforts of WWLT's summer interns Kyle Bodtorf and Jakob Schnur, and Trail Committee Chair Steve Mine, with additional help from local volunteers. This summer, WWLT's internship schedule included 4 hours every Friday to the maintenance and expansion of the EGH Trails throughout their 10-week stay.

The grand opening of the new trail was celebrated on Saturday, September 23rd with a Family Photo Scavenger Hunt & Hike, as part of WWLT's Summer Speaker Series. During this event, members of the community were invited to form teams and then given a list of items to "capture" with their smartphone or camera. Items

varied in difficulty from finding wildflowers to specific animal tracks.

In addition to the new trail, an enclosed advertisement board was installed on the backside of the trailhead kiosk as free business advertising for local businesses supporting the trail project. A new trail map will also be posted at the trailhead showing both the new and old trail, as well as trail intersection/guidance signs to be installed along the trails this upcoming spring.

As part of an initiative to get families and children engaged and interested in the outdoors, the Trust has been working on a series of interpretive boards to be placed along the trails. The first of these signs was recently completed and is scheduled to be installed hopefully before winter at the overlook platform. The sign displays a panoramic photo of the overlook view with labels pointing out various significant features so that visitors can clearly understand what they are looking at.

We are now completing the second year of the anticipated 5-year East Grand Highland Hiking Trail Project. There are still many miles of trail to be built before the master plan is completed. We would like to thank all of the people who have supported this project so far with either their time or financial support. We are especially grateful to David and Lynette Snow for providing a place for these trails to be built. The project will require both continued donations of volunteer time and money in order to maintain and expand these trails for the benefit of the public. If you are interested in donating or becoming a trails volunteer please contact Anna at the WWLT.



Left: Greater East Grand Lake Chamber President Heather Zakupowsky and WWLT Manager Anna Rickard pose in front of the newly installed EGH trailhead sign. The trails are the result of a co-sponsorship between the two organizations.

2017 Financial Report

Revenue	FYE December 31, 2016	CY 2017*
Contributions and Grants	\$72,608	\$23,392
Events Income	\$10,552	\$20,125
Endowment Distribution	\$40,000	\$30,000
Other Income	\$223	\$4,362
Total Revenue	\$123,383	\$77,879
Expenses	FYE December 31, 2016	CY 2017*
Management and General	\$50,445	\$46,772
Conservation and Education	\$17,584	\$19,262
Stewardship	\$9,001	\$3,841
Interest Expense	\$2,478	\$1,618
Other Expenses	\$1,064	\$537
Total Expenses	\$80,572	\$72,030
TOTAL NET ASSETS est.	\$3,264,158	\$3,377,145

Forest City Dam Update

The License Surrender Proceeding:

On the December 23, 2016, Woodland Pulp applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or the Commission) to surrender the (new) 30-year license to operate the US side of Forest City Dam that the Commission had issued to Woodland in November of 2015. Within its application Woodland proposed to decommission the dam by permanently removing its two US gates and thereby, forever, lowering the water levels of East Grand Lake by about six feet and North Lake by about 3.5 to 4 feet.

On the 6th of April of this year, the Commission initiated a 30-day comment period for members of the public to make submissions to this license surrender proceeding. The period for timely comments, interventions and protests ended on the 8th of May, and by that time about 100 submissions had been made to the surrender proceeding. About 12 of those submissions were made in the form of an intervention. All of those Interveners are now legal parties to this proceeding. Over the past five months FERC staff have been examining the submissions forwarded within all comments and interventions received and also incorporating their own knowledge and investigations to produce an environmental assessment of the implications of Woodland Pulp's proposal to decommission the FC dam by removing its gates. Staff also have been examining the environmental impacts associated with decommissioning the dam by permanently fixing the gates at some pre-set level.

The Jurisdictional Challenge Proceeding:

On the 18th of August, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission commenced a new docket in relation to the Forest City Dam which is referred to in this update as the Jurisdictional Challenge Proceeding. This FERC proceeding is to address the jurisdictional question posed on the 27th of July by Woodland Pulp (Woodland) to the Commission. Woodland Pulp asked the Commission to issue a declaration that answers the following legal question: If Woodland Pulp transfers the legal title to the US portion of the Forest City Dam to the State of Maine -- pursuant to Maine legislation L.D. 1626 and the terms of an Operation and Management Agreement (O&M Agreement) signed between Woodland and the State -- will the Forest City Dam (FERC Project 2660) no longer be required to be licensed by FERC under section 23(b)(1) of the Federal Power Act?

Should FERC declare that the State of Maine or Maine DIFW will not require a FERC license (if the title to the US Portion of the Forest City Dam is conveyed to the State under the terms outlined above) shortly thereafter Woodland Pulp likely will transfer the title to the State and FERC's regulation of the Forest City Dam will terminate. And, of course, the License Surrender Proceeding that commenced in December of 2016 also will terminate. Should FERC refuse to answer the question posed by Woodland Pulp (on policy or procedural grounds), or answer the jurisdictional question posed by Woodland by stating that the Forest City Dam will still require a license under section 23(b)(1) of the Federal Power Act, the License Surrender Proceeding will continue and the Jurisdictional Challenge Proceeding will end.

The nature of the issues of the Jurisdictional Challenge Proceeding are narrow and focused and, to be frank, very legalistic. Only a modest number of comments and interventions were received by FERC in relation to this proceeding, and it may be months before we receive an answer from the Commission.

-Provided by Chiputneticook Lakes International Conservancy President, David Townsend