

Dear Members of the Board of Environmental Protection Committee,

My name is Betsy Bishop Terrell representing Carr Pond.

My family was drawn to Fish Lake in 1901 and built camps on Carr Pond in 1902. There is a mountain, a pond and a stream named after the Bishop family.

My father Henry Bishop protected the woods around Carr Pond from the Carr Pond Mountain Fire Tower as a forest ranger, and was a hunting and fishing guide on Fish River Lake in the 1950's. Maine's rich outdoor heritage and natural scenic beauty are critical part of its economy. Thousands of Maine people need the state's healthy environment to make their living and provide for their families. Guides, like my father, commercial fishermen, and sporting camp owners all depend on Maine's clean water and abundant fish and wildlife. The people who work in these industries depend on clean water. Mining pollution would be a grave threat to the resources these industries use.

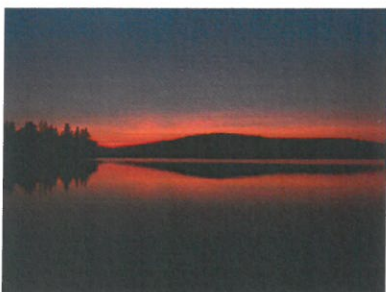
I know the land and waterways that surround Carr Pond. I am a steward of the land and consider Carr Pond a sacred place. As a steward of the land I am deeply concerned about the water quality, as I drink the water from the spring, and fish from the waters. I am concerned about the wildlife habitat. These resources are more precious than gold.

In the late 1970's when they first started to explore Bald Mountain for mineral deposits, I saw the silt that built up where Moose Brook flows into Carr Pond; knowing if Bald Mountain is mined, the water quality of Carr Pond and the Fish river Chain would be in trouble. Carr Pond is fed by two streams, one brook and many springs. I have stood on the shore of Greenlaw Pond with my back to Bald Mountain watching the stream flow southeast to Machias River and onto the Aroostook River. The woods in this area are wet, wasterock piles and tailing ponds used in mining would be extremely dangerous in an area like this.

I urge you to reject the latest version of DEP's weak mining rules. I am very concerned that these weak rules would allow mining corporations to pollute our water and harm our woods and wildlife for centuries.

Sincerely,
Betsy Bishop Terrell

Carr Pond Sunset



Carr Pond Southern View
With View of Bald Mt.



Fish River Falls

