



# Weekly Report

[www.mefishwildlife.com](http://www.mefishwildlife.com)

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Friday, August 3, 2012

## RESEARCH & ASSESSMENT SECTION

**Bats!** - Written by John DePue, Furbearer/Small Mammal Biologist

John DePue of the Mammal Group just wrapped up IFW's annual acoustic transect surveys for bats. These surveys will allow biologists to track population trends of different bat species. Determining bat population trends is especially needed since the outbreak of White-nosed syndrome -- a fatal disease for several species of bats in Maine. This disease may change the distribution and abundance of certain species in the state. This was the second year he has conducted the surveys. John was able to survey a greater area of the state this year thanks to a Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund grant he received to purchase additional bat detectors. With these additional bat detectors, John was able to enlist the help of other professional biologists from various agencies to assist with the surveys. Bat detectors record the call sequences that bats use to navigate and locate insects at night. Because call sequences differ by species, biologists are able to count the number of individuals and tell one species or genus from another. Surveys are conducted by attaching a detector to the roof of a truck and driving just a little faster than the fastest bat species can fly (approx. 20 mph). Because the survey is conducted from a moving vehicle it is assumed that individual bats are only recorded once. This year the survey transects were distributed from Allagash Lake down to Wells. Other biologists participating in the survey were from IFW's Management Regions, Acadia National Park (National Park Service), Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge (US Fish and Wildlife Service), and Stantec Corporation. John will be analyzing the data this fall to see how many and what species of bats we recorded.



**New Blog!** [Maine Fish and Wildlife: Insider](#) - Written by Ashley Malinowski, I&E Biologist  
Thoughts, notes, discoveries, pictures, and videos from the field with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. [Click here!](#)

## OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Woodcock and Deputy Commissioner Erskine attended a swearing in ceremony for newly promoted Warden Sergeant Doug Kulis of Georgetown. Sergeant Kulis will be the Section 6 supervisor taking the place of recent retiree Sgt. Mark Warren.



L-R: Deputy Commissioner Andrea Erskine, Sergeant Doug Kulis, Colonel Joel Wilkinon, Commissioner Chandler Woodcock



**Introductory Skills Weekend**  
**September 14-16, 2012**

Attending the BOW Intro Skills Weekend is a great way to learn new skills, meet new friends, gain self-confidence and most importantly, have fun!

[Click here](#) to sign up or [e-mail](#) for more Info!

## INFORMATION CENTER

Last week the front office of the Department received and replied to:

- 1,249 Phone calls
- 580 Emails
- 89 Walk-ins



**Missed an issue?**

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## WILDLIFE DIVISION

### Petit Manan - *Written by Richard Bard, Regional Biologist*

Continuing a long tradition of inter-agency cooperation, on July 31st I joined a crew of biologists from Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge (MCINWR) and Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge on a trip to Petit Manan Island, owned by MCINWR. Petit Manan is connected at low tide to Green Island, which is owned by MDIFW. We have similar ownership arrangements at other paired islands along the Downeast coast, so we often collaborate and combine forces on seabird restoration projects.

Petit Manan is one of the most important breeding grounds for Atlantic puffins in the United States, and also hosts other rare seabird colonies, including 3 species of terns, razorbills, and black guillemots. Our mission on Tuesday was to scour the nesting areas, find young birds in their rocky crevices or dark burrows and place identifying leg bands on the chicks. We managed to find a number of puffin, guillemot, and tern chicks that were large enough to be banded. While we were on the island, we also helped out with some invasive weed management and provided a lift back to the mainland for one of the summertime interns who has been staying on the island.

Looking up from our work with the birds, we saw crowded tour boats floating offshore, cameras clicking away as the photogenic puffins return from fishing trips out at sea. One boat, the Atlantecat, visits the island every morning during the breeding season with as many as 450 passengers, all anxious for a view of the wildlife spectacle on and around Petit Manan Island.



## MAINE WARDEN SERVICE

### Warden Activity

*Prepared by Captain Chris Cloutier*

Game Warden Michelle Merrifield successfully completed a very interesting search and rescue mission the other day. While out on routine patrol Michelle stopped to speak with a young little boy who was walking along the side of a road barefoot alone and definitely out of place. Michelle was able to determine that the young boy was lost, but she had not received any reports of lost or missing children. She was able to calm the boy down by having him help walk her K9, and was eventually able to walk the boy back to his residence where a local police officer was talking to the young boy's mother. The mother was extremely relieved to be reunited with her son, as he had been missing from the residence.



Recently Warden Ethan Buuck and Acting Chief Pilot Durward Humphrey spent some time with Warden Pilot Daryl Gordon's family at Clear Lake in Aroostook County. Daryl's mother Camilla attended and was happy to see the place her son had loved so much.

## FISHERIES & HATCHERIES DIVISION

### First Impressions - *Written by Dana DeGraaf, Coldwater Fisheries Biologist*

As a new member of the Fisheries Division for a little over a month, I have been able to quickly interact with most of the regional biologists, research staff in Bangor, the administration in Augusta, and various members of the public. I have been impressed with the workload all our staff undertake, their commitment to responsibly collecting and analyzing scientific data, and how and why fishing regulations are developed and implemented. Fisheries biologists may work on fish passage and habitat enhancement projects, fish stocking programs, evaluating impacts of exotic species, reclaiming waters for native species, conducting scientific SCUBA diving surveys, and constantly reviewing and developing new techniques to better study and manage Maine's aquatic resources. On any given day our biologists can be found... To read more [click here!](#)

