



Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

Weekly Report

www.mefishwildlife.com

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Friday, August 19, 2011

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER CHANDLER E. WOODCOCK

Thursday, August 25

Commissioner Woodcock will join Governor LePage at one of the Governor's Town Hall Meetings in Presque Isle: University of Maine Presque Isle, the Multi-Purpose Room in the Campus Center, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM.

Friday, August 26

Commissioner Woodcock will hold a Q&A Forum in Rockwood at the Rockwood Community Center from 7-9 PM. The event is being hosted by the Moosehead Lake Fisheries Coalition. [Click here for more information.](#)

Saturday, August 27

12:00 Noon: Join Commissioner Woodcock and Maine Warden Service Colonel Joel Wilkinson at a brown bag lunch during L.L. Bean's Hunting Expo. It will be an open discussion with the Commissioner and the Colonel, at the Camping Atrium.

INFORMATION CENTER

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

- 1,348 Phone calls
- 515 Emails
- 67 Walk-ins

Missed an issue?

To view previous Weekly Reports, please visit www.mefishwildlife.com and select "About Us"

MAINE WARDEN SERVICE

- Last week, The Scarborough Youth Field Day was a great success with many new faces - 59 or 60 was the total for youths. Many parents also were able to participate after all the youngsters had completed their events.
- Also over the past two weekends, the Durham Rod & Gun Club hosted a firearms safety course "Beyond BOW" for women. Under the direction of Coordinator Craig Gerry, the women learned firearms handling and live shooting on the Trap range and 25 yd rifle range. Special thanks to Ken Scribner - volunteer instructor, Nancy Weeks - volunteer instructor, Lt. Adam Gormely - Maine Warden Service, Emily MacCabe - IF&W, and Mike Sawyer - IF&W Safety Director, as well as the Durham Rod & Gun Club for sponsoring the event with the help from their volunteers.
- Many wardens responded to the Jackman area for a call for help from the top of Sally Mtn. This is a rugged and very popular hiking trail in the area. The subject had suffered an apparent heart attack and was deceased. The carry out was one of the more difficult that wardens had been on. The MWS was fortunate to have the help from the Border Patrol, Customs agents, Jackman Fire Department, and the LifeFlight crew. Although they could not land at the patient, they did put down about a mile away on the backside of the mtn and bushwhacked in to the scene with all their medical gear. MWS carried out of the victim which took several hours and concluded in Jackman around 10:30PM.

Despite spending hundreds of hours on duty each week in the woods and on the lakes of Maine, wardens take time from their very busy schedules to work public events, answer questions from the public and educate them on the programs of the Maine Warden Service. Reported from Lt. Tom Ward in Aroostook County: The annual Muskie Derby and Acadian Festival were held last weekend in the St. John Valley and Princeton held a youth festival, where our new OPP (Outdoor Partners) trailer was displayed. And also last week, Warden Patrick Egan represented the Warden Service at Outdoor Heritage Days in Oquossoc.



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Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife
Maine Sporting Heritage 1870-1970

Swan Island
Maine Wildlife Park

FISHERIES & HATCHERIES DIVISION

Dozens of young people took part in the Youth Fishing Day in Auburn, sponsored by the Androscoggin Land Trust, which partnered with the National Park Service



and the Hooked on Fishing program of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. After some practice on dry land, the kids headed for the banks of the nearby Androscoggin River.

Watch the newest DIF&W video
"Let's Go Fishing!"

WILDLIFE DIVISION

We are sad to report the impending retirement of Sandy Ritchie – a note from Sandy:

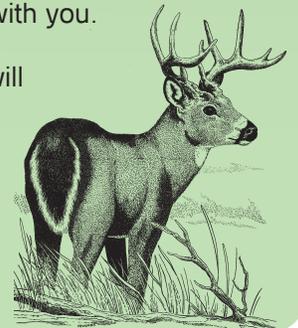
After much thought and personal reflection I have decided to retire from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife after 31 years of service; my last day of work will be September 16, 2011. This is a bittersweet decision for me as I have wanted to be a wildlife biologist since I was 10 years old, and working for MDIFW has been a dream come true for me. Still, I am looking forward to new challenges and opportunities that await me. I have nothing concrete planned at this point, but you can be sure that it will include fish and wildlife and the outdoors in some way.

It has been an honor and privilege to work with you and to serve the people and fish and wildlife resources of Maine. Despite being a small agency that is continually underfunded and understaffed, we are looked upon as national models for our species planning process, public involvement in goal setting, and Beginning with Habitat Program among others. The work you are doing to conserve Maine's diverse fish and wildlife is incredibly important, and all Maine citizens and visitors to our state benefit every single day because of your hard work and dedication. You can all be proud of the great work that we do, and it has been my pleasure working with you.

Many thanks! I hope our paths will continue to cross in the future.

Warm regards,

--Sandy



INFORMATION & EDUCATION

I&E's Emily MacCabe leaves today for the annual Casting for Recovery program, being held this year at Bosebuck Camps on Aziscohos Lake. Emily reports, Casting for Recovery is a national non-profit support and educational program for women who have or have had breast cancer. The program provides an opportunity for women who have been affected by the disease to get together for a weekend in a natural setting and learn to fly-fish. The weekend retreat also includes counseling and medical information but most importantly a chance to have fun and make new friends. There is no cost for participants to attend and no previous fishing experience is required.

[Click here](#) for an article written about the program last summer.



PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



Look at those flies go! Teaching fly fishing at last year's Casting for Recovery Event. I&E's Emily MacCabe leaves today for this year's event.



Volunteers Ken Scribner (left) and Nancy Weeks (right) at the Durham Rod & Gun Club teaching firearm skills to "Beyond BOW" women, co-sponsored by DIF&W.



A good catch by our friend V. Paul Reynolds last week, on the typo in the Weekly Report. In our section on boating safety, instead of pdf's – we wrote pdf's and Paul immediately responded by email: *In your weekly report, you remind boaters to be sure and wear their "PDFs". You meant PFDs, huh? I tried wearing a PDF the last time I went boating and it got in the way of my TIFF and my JPEG.* Thanks for the humor, Paul!!



Wardens Troy Dauphinee and Mike Favreau worked the DIF&W Information Table last weekend at Forest Heritage Days in Greenville. In the background is I&E Director Edie Smith, in her typical posture of sending incident reports out to the media!