



# Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

## Weekly Report

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

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Tuesday, September 13, 2011

### MAINE WARDEN SERVICE

DIF&W participated in the SWOAM Field Day last Saturday at Higmo's Lumber in Brunswick. Pictured here is Corporal John MacDonald with the Maine Warden Service's "Outdoor Partners Program" Trailer at the event.



The Maine Warden Service, working with the Maine Forest Service, made a dramatic rescue last week of Mr. John Abbot, a through hiker on the AT, who started hiking in Georgia on April 1. Just 70 miles from his finishing spot, Mr. Abbot fell and severely broke his ankle. The full story of the rescue can be read [here](#).

The Wardens were busy assisting communities and individuals in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. Many Wardens, including Pete Herring spent considerable time and energy chain-sawing fallen trees on public roads clearing paths for emergency vehicles.



Warden Dave Chabot received a Commendation this past week for excellent work with in-service training.

The wild brook trout fishery in the Cuscutic River in Northern Oxford County will see some relief with the shutting down of gold panning on the river. Warden Reggie Hammond has been leading the effort to protect this resource. With high gold prices, the Cuscutic River has been hit by gold panners, despite mechanized gold panning equipment being illegal to use under LURC Laws. This activity has caused serious erosion and siltation of the river, jeopardizing the wild brook trout fishery. The major land owner surrounding the river, Seven Islands, has agreed to post the area to No Gold Panning, and violators will be charged with trespassing should they ignore the signs.

### OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER CHANDLER E. WOODCOCK



Commissioner Woodcock participated in the dedication of the new Norway-Paris Fish and Game Clubhouse on Rt 117 in South Paris Saturday September 10, 2011.

The Commissioner's next Public Forum will be hosted by the Norway-Paris Fish and Game Club on Wednesday, Sept. 21 at 6:30 – 8:30 PM. The Sportsman's Forum is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend! Visit the Norway-Paris Fish and Game Club website [www.npfg.org](http://www.npfg.org)

Members of the Maine Warden Service and RMCP pose with Bishops Richard Malone of Portland and Claude Champagne of



Edmundston at the Blue Mass on Saturday, September 10, 2011 at Holy Rosary Church in Caribou. Wardens present left to right: Major Gregg Sanborn, Lieutenant Tom Ward, Sgt Ron Dunham, Wdn. Preston Pomerleau, Wdn. Ryan Fitzpatrick, Wdn. Adrian Marquis and Wdn. Mike Boyer.

The Blue Mass is a yearly event to honor public safety officials and first responders. It is held on the Saturday as close to September 11 as possible. Maine Game Wardens assisted in the Honor and Color Guard as well as Adrian Marquis participated in the ceremony as a gift bearer.



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

Swan Island  
Maine Wildlife Park

## FISHERIES & HATCHERIES DIVISION

**Update on Coffee Pond:** Coffee Pond in Casco has been stocked with brook trout since it was first managed by the Department in 1939. Coffee was one of only a few stocked waters in southern Maine where brook trout grew to larger size, and where spring anglers caught 2 and 3 pound brook trout. Angler reports and recent MDIFW sampling indicates stocked BKT no longer experience good growth and contribute to a multiage class fishery. Competition and predation from introduced smallmouth and largemouth bass is of such magnitude that brook trout stockings have been canceled and replaced with splake (brook trout-lake trout hybrid), which are more tolerant of competition and predation. Splake are scheduled to be stocked in the spring of 2012.

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This was sent to us from Paula Work, Curator of the Maine State Museum: *When visiting the Maine State Museum, a must see is the Back to Nature exhibit, a walk through of Maine's seasons and environments. What makes this walk extra special is the presence of live Brook Trout in the Bear scene.*

*The presence of these live trout would not be possible however without the support of the DIF&W's Governor Hill Fish Hatchery. Not only does staff from the hatchery lend their expertise to maintaining the proper living conditions for these cold-water fish (52 degrees in the case of the museum's trout pond) but they always come through whenever a changeover of fish is needed.*

*The expertise of staff at the hatchery is invaluable to the museum in maintaining this living exhibit and just one more quality enterprise that staff at the Governor Hill Fish Hatchery quietly ensures happens.*

Governor Hill Hatchery Manager, Tom McLaughlin unloads fish stocked at the Maine State Museum



## WILDLIFE DIVISION

Deer, Moose and Bird Update:

- The Any-Deer Permit Lottery winners are on line! See if you're on the list [here!](#)
- Mailings to the Moose Lottery winners have started going out – they are full of information on the moose hunt, including a reminder to read the 2011 Maine Moose Hunter's Guide online. Stop by the Augusta office and pick up your copy, call 287-2000 to get one mailed to you, or [read online here.](#)
- The Migratory Game Bird Hunting Schedule (federal and state regulations) will be available within the next week; it is available on line by [clicking here.](#)



- [Members of Maine's Waterfowl Council](#)

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MDIFW Wildlife Biologists Lindsay Tudor, left, and Judy Camuso present an award Thursday night at the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust in Kennebunkport.



Maine Audubon held an recognition ceremony as part of an event to recognize volunteers and landowners who have been instrumental in helping protect endangered Piping Plovers and their habitat.

35 people attended the event, including members of Maine Audubon, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Read the [press release.](#)



[Find out how you can aid in the recovery of Maine's Plover by clicking here](#)

## INFORMATION & EDUCATION



**SAFETY FIRST:**  
In partnership with IF&W's Safety Programs, Russell Corson is seen teaching tree stand safety at the Skowhegan Sportsman Club on Sept. 3; Jerome and Tina Richard led a Bowhunter Safety Class with 31 students!



The Maine Wildlife Park was recently showcased in an article on MELIVING.com. [Click here](#) to read the entire article and watch a video!

DIF&W Director of Engineering and Realty Ron Taylor was dispatched last week to the state of Vermont to help with the devastating consequences of Hurricane Irene along with trucks and equipment from the Maine Warden Service. Ron remains in Vermont this week, via an agreement of assistance between the Governor LePage and Vermont's Governor Peter Shumlin. In particular, Ron's expertise with bridge repair is a huge asset to the relief efforts in VT.

Joining the Department's I&E Division is Ben Tucker – a native of Presque Isle and a resident of Norway, Maine. Ben comes to I&E as an independent contractor, working as an Outreach Coordinator. Ben is shown here with his office-mate, the Department moose which has been taken off the wall in our building's entrance while the front foyer is being painted. If you would like to schedule an event with the Commissioner, have the Dept. represented at one of your functions or have a Dept. display booth or trailer at your event, contact Ben at [bentucker@maineben.com](mailto:bentucker@maineben.com) or 207-446-8197.



## INFORMATION CENTER

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

- 967 Phone calls
- 545 Emails
- 57 Walk-ins



### Missed an issue?

To view previous Weekly Reports, please visit [www.mefishwildlife.com](http://www.mefishwildlife.com) and select "About Us"

## Did You Know?

**Fact of the Week, Submitted by Major Gregg Sanborn from the Maine Warden Service**

### Are ATV snorkel kits illegal in Maine?

**Answer:** A snorkel kit is a device that allows an ATV to operate in deep water by supplying air to the engine from an elevated breather located higher than the water level. In Maine, A person may not operate an ATV that is equipped with a snorkel kit or other equipment designed to allow the ATV to be used in deep water EXCEPT with the permission of the owner of the land of which the ATV is operated or during a scheduled racing event.

This law is intended to protect the land owner and the environment. Please keep this in mind when any time you operate any recreational vehicle upon the land of another. Happy trails.

