



Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

Weekly Report

www.mefishwildlife.com

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Tuesday, October 25, 2011

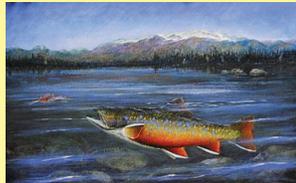
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER



The 2011 Commissioner's Print was presented this week to Commissioner Woodcock and Deputy Commissioner Erskine by renowned Maine artist David Footer. A beautiful scene in front

of Mt. Katahdin, the print will be used for special recognitions at the Department of volunteers, employees, retirees and presented at special events. Dave Footer has been a Maine Wilderness and Wildlife Artist for over 63 years, and is well known throughout Maine's outdoor community.

We encourage you to visit David Footer's website at www.davidfooter.com.



The Commissioner's schedule this week includes working with DIF&W biologists on trap netting salmon at Parker Pond and meeting with the Department's new Recreational Access and Landowner Relations Coordinator, Mark Latti. A priority for the Department is to bolster our Landowner Relations programs; watch for updates as Mark begins his new position. The Commissioner is hosting other meetings at the Department Headquarters, although we believe he would be the first to say that the highlight of his week will be Saturday, October 29 – Opening Day of Maine's Deer Hunting Season. The Commissioner will be out for his annual first day hunt with his son at an undisclosed location!



Commissioner Woodcock speaks to the Chaplain of the Maine Warden Service, Kate Braestrup, at the Fallen Officers Memorial Service.

FISHERIES & HATCHERIES DIV.

Update from Todd Langevin, DIF&W's Superintendent of Hatcheries and Acting Director of the Fisheries Division:

It's never too late to think ahead: DIF&W will be stocking fish for the Lake St. George fishing derby this winter on January 15th. The Derby is sponsored by the Department of Conservation. Ice fishermen, mark your calendars!



DIF&W Fish Culture Supervisor Tim Knedler at the New Gloucester Fish Hatchery sent in this photo of the spawning operation which took place on October 18. With the help of 3 Unity College students 323,012 brown trout eggs were taken for brood

stock. Tim reports that the last few weeks have been extremely busy with 22,800 fall yearling and 970 adult brown trout (total weight of 23,919 pounds) have been stocked in 41 separate bodies of water.

REMINDER: The Public Hearings for proposed, new fishing regulations are coming up! We hope to see you at one of the Hearings. To review the proposals, click [here](#). Schedule of Hearings:

- November 1, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. – Presque Isle Inn & Convention Center, 116 Main Street, Presque Isle
- November 2, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. – Stearns High School, Library, 199 State Street, Millinocket
- November 7, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. – Ramada Inn, 215 High Street, Route 1 & 3, Ellsworth
- November 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. – Brunswick High School, Multi-Purpose Room, 116 Maquoit Road, Brunswick
- November 9, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. – Rangeley Lakes Regional School, 43 Mendolia Road, Rangeley



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

Swan Island
Maine Wildlife Park

WILDLIFE DIVISION

Invitation

Early Successional Habitat Creation and Management Workshop

IF&W Timber Harvest on the Scarborough Marsh
Sunday Nov. 20, 2011 9 AM – Noon Cost: Free

Only 3% of forestlands in York and Cumberland Counties are less than 20 years old. This has led to a decline in wildlife species that are dependent on young forests to survive, such as American Woodcock and the now endangered New England Cottontail (NEC). Last year, DIF&W planned and conducted a commercial timber harvest on the Scarborough Marsh property to create NEC habitat.

We invite landowners, loggers, and foresters to come tour the harvest site to learn about habitat management and timber harvesting. IF&W Lands Management Biologist and licensed forester Ryan Robicheau, NEC Restoration Coordinator Kelly Boland, and MFS district forester Ken Canfield will discuss the operation and give a field tour. For details and to RSVP, call or email Ken Canfield at (207)441-3712 or ken.canfield@maine.gov.

As reported last week, the Task Force to Examine the Decline in the Number of Nonresident Hunters continues its work. New documents including the minutes of their October 2 meeting are now available on the DIF&W website [here](#). Minutes of their recently-held October 23 meeting will be available after they are approved by the Task Force. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 20, 2011 from 4-6 PM at the DIF&W Headquarters in Augusta. Comments are being solicited from all interested parties. Emails can be sent to Edith.A.Smith@maine.gov.

INFORMATION CENTER

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

- 1,187 Phone calls
- 614 Emails
- 109 Walk-ins



Missed an issue?

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

INFORMATION & EDUCATION



DIF&W continues to partner with Walmart at their Outdoor Safety Recognition events. Shown here is the booth set up at the Bangor Walmart, attended by Regional Safety Coordinator Clint Gaskill.

An important mission of DIF&W is to partner with the Maine Office of Tourism (Department of Economic and Community Development). Hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation are an important part of the larger tourism picture in Maine. Click [here](#) to see the email news blast sent from the Office of Tourism to everyone on their email list interested in hunting. It's a wonderful pro-hunting message!

Last week, Maine Landowners were honored at the annual Landowner/Land User Appreciation Banquet at the Augusta Civic Center. Read about the awards [here](#).

Forest Education Program

Report from I&E's Lisa Kane

The Kennebec Land Trust will host approximately 100 students and teachers from six area schools at Gov. Kenneth Curtis' childhood home, the trust's 360-acre Curtis Homestead Conservation Area, on Monday, Oct. 24, and Wednesday, Oct. 26.

The forest education program will offer a series of three demonstrations that are focused on forest stewardship, sustainable forestry, successful land management and animal habitat.

Participants will learn about the trust's conservation efforts at the property and see a timber harvest demonstration by Bruce Bell and Nat Bell of Leeds. Students observing the sawmill demonstration will learn how forest trees become milled boards.

Ken Canfield, Maine Forest Service district forester, will teach students about forestry and tree identification. Lisa Kane, natural science educator for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, will present animal's amazing adaptations, which focuses on the 'equipment' different animals have to do their jobs in their habitats.

Contact the Kennebec Land Trust office at 377-2848 for more information. Members and the public are welcome.

MAINE WARDEN SERVICE



Led by the sons of Warden Service Pilot Darryl Gordon, who lost his life in the line of duty this winter, members of the Maine Warden Service participated

in the Fourth Annual Fallen Officers Run from Vassalboro to Augusta this past week.

The 15-mile run started at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro and finished at the Fallen officers Memorial outside the State House in Augusta.

A total of 40 game wardens, friends and family members completed the run, Chaplain Kate Braestrup of the Maine Warden Service, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Commissioner Chandler Woodcock and Deputy Commissioner Andrea Erskine also attended a brief ceremony at the memorial which followed the run. Col. Joel Wilkinson concluded the event with brief remarks commemorating the dedication of game wardens and their families.

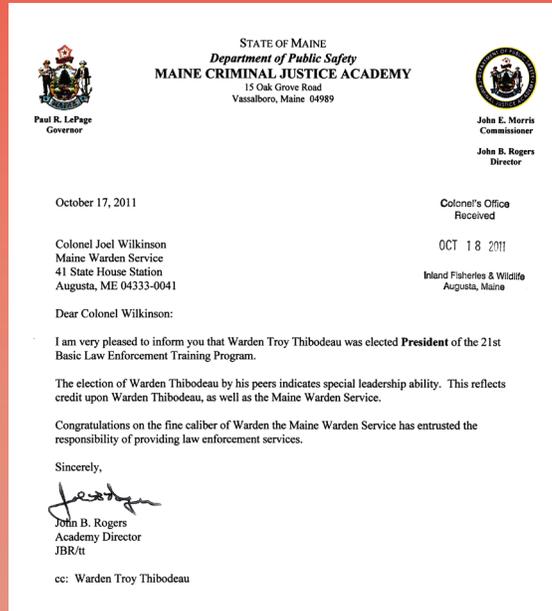
Reports from the field:

Warden Martin sent in "Last week's Moose hunt saw hunters out in summer like conditions on more than one day but the persistent hunters seemed to make opportunities and have success." Stories around Maine came in also about very successful takes of ruffed grouse. Wardens were busy with more ATV calls, some fishing incidents, rescues and one hunting accident involving a youth on Youth Hunting Day:

Maine wardens responded to a call concerning an injured hiker on the Brook Trail on Tumbledown Mountain on Saturday, Oct. 22. The hiker, Karen Chase, age 48 of MA, had slipped on rocks and fallen. First reports were of a broken ankle, but later reports confirmed a bad sprain and the hiker did not require transportation to a medical facility. The Maine Warden Service did use a litter to get Ms. Chase off the mountain (she was approximately three-quarters of the way from the summit), then utilized an ATV to get her to a Northstar Ambulance where she was examined by medical personnel.

Also on Saturday, October 22 (Youth Deer Hunting Day) the MWS received a call that a 12 year old boy had accidentally shot himself in the foot while deer hunting with his uncle in Waterboro. The youth, awake and alert, told wardens that he was resting the barrel of a 243 rifle on his foot and was playing with the safety when the gun fired. He suffered a gunshot to his right foot. The youth was taken by ATV out of the woods and to an ambulance where he was transported to a hospital where he was listed in good condition.

It is with great pride that we announce that Troy Thibodeau has been elected by his peers at the MCJA as the first warden ever to be President of the Law Enforcement Training Program. This is a wonderful honor for Troy and the Maine Warden Service. Congratulations, Troy!



MAINE WILDLIFE PARK

The Maine Wildlife Park hosted close to 600 HalloweenFest visitors last Friday night; and over 800 on Saturday night for all kinds of spooky fun. The park opens from 6pm-9pm, everyone wears their costumes and takes part in a variety of Halloween themed games and activities. The Haunted Woodchuck Tunnel and the Marshmallow Shoot Out were favorites this year. The Park couldn't put an event on of this magnitude without over 50 volunteers and staff helping out.

This was the last big event for the wildlife park this season. The park will close Veteran's Day.



The Marshmallow Shoot Out was extremely popular!