

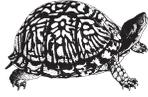


Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

Weekly Report

www.mefishwildlife.com

284 State St., 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04330 207-287-8000



Wednesday, December 7, 2011

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Woodcock has a busy schedule coming up:

- Dec. 6 Baxter State Authority Meeting
International Joint Commission on the reintroduction of alewives into the International St. Croix Watershed
- Dec. 7 Quarterly Meeting with members of the Maine Professional Guides Association
- Dec. 8 Northeast Deer Task Force Meeting
- Dec. 9 50th Anniversary of the Maine Air National Guard at the Guard Base in Bangor (Commissioner has been invited to speak)
- Dec. 12 Monthly Meeting of the Georges River Trout Unlimited Chapter
- Dec. 13 Landowner Relations Conference at the SAM Conference Center

INFORMATION CENTER

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

- 900 Phone calls
- 370 Emails
- 55 Walk-ins



Missed an issue?

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

MAINE WILDLIFE PARK

Audio Wildlife Tour



The Maine Wildlife Park offers visitors a free audio tour as a tool to learn more about the park, the Department and our wildlife. Using their own cell phones, visitors can dial 207-228-1700 to access the tour and receive instructions. There are small blue signs posted at each exhibit

indicating the audio stop number, and these are coordinated with the park map. This year, the park had 8136 calls with 12,625 total minutes listened. The most popular stops? You'd think it'd be the moose; but the albino raccoon was the top draw with nearly 800 calls; and the fisher #2 with 679 calls. This is a great way to deliver more information about each animals' personal history, what MDIFW does to manage the population, and additional natural history. Dial in for a listen from anywhere, anytime; the full script is also posted on the park website for those that are hearing impaired.



www.mainewildlifepark.com

WILDLIFE DIVISION

As reported in the November 15th issue of the DIF&W Weekly Report, there are upcoming Public Information Meetings hosted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and DIF&W concerning Maine's application to authorize incidental take of Canada Lynx. USFWS sent out an updated media advisory this week, listing the evening agendas (Dec. 13, 14 and 15) and information on providing written comments for the formal record. To visit our dedicated page to all-things-lynx please [click here](#), and to see the USFWS media advisory [click here](#).



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

Swan Island
Maine Wildlife Park



INFORMATION & EDUCATION

Update on Project Wild

I&E's Lisa Kane reports on the success of a grant distributed to Maine and 9 other states through the national Project WILD office. A \$4000 grant was obtained at the beginning of the year to implement early childhood and Head Start teacher workshops with a new program called 'Growing Up Wild', and it has been a great success for Maine's youth. Lisa notes, "Special thanks to my 3 facilitators, who conducted the workshops: Joanne Alex, Linda Woodard and Toni Pied; they deserve the kudos! They are wonderful teachers and workshop leaders."

The grant was funded from the National EPA—"Building Capacity for Early Childhood EE for Diverse Audiences." By the end of the grant period, the 10 states held over 90 workshops and trained over 2,200 educators in Growing Up WILD! Growing Up WILD: Exploring Nature With Young Children Ages 3-7, is an activity book from Project WILD and the U.S. Council for Environmental Education, designed to help early childhood educators and primary teachers develop children's sense of wonder for wildlife and nature. We will continue to offer these new workshops, as they are in great demand statewide.



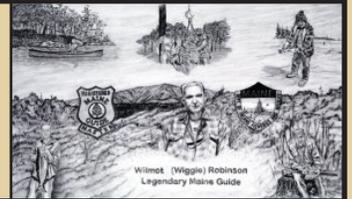
The BOW "Becoming an Outdoors Woman" Board of Directors recently enjoyed a potluck supper at DIF&W Headquarters, welcoming new recruits interested in serving on the BOW Board. The supper was highlighted by the homemade moose stew made by BOW Program Director Emily MacCabe!



Deadline coming up: December 10 – for nominations of the 2012 Wiggle Robinson Legendary Guide of the Year Award.

[Click here](#) for all the information and forms.

For information on the 2011 winner, Gary Corson, [click here](#).



ENGINEERING & REALTY



◀ Head Engineer Ron Taylor reports that work is ongoing at the Bog Brook Flowage Dam in Beddington.

Work continues also on the Panther Pond Dam by DIF&W's engineering crew. The dam, located in Raymond, was in need of repairs, requiring a draw down of the pond. ▶



Design work continues on new DIFW boat access sites at:
St. John River in Grand Isle – Sandy River in New Sharon –
Bog Lake in Northfield – Canton Lake in Canton.

MAINE WARDEN SERVICE



More Trophy Bucks!

Warden David Milligan shares this photo and story :

Here is a picture of my 14 year old son Malcolm Milligan with his first buck. He got it with a muzzle loader on Monday. It has a 12 point rack and weighed 204 lbs. He's going to have a hard time getting a bigger one next year!

Today, Commissioner Woodcock had the privilege and honor of swearing in Warden Chris Cloutier as a new Captain in the Maine Warden Service. The ceremony was attended by Captain Cloutier's wife, Deb, his mother, Jayne and several members of the Warden Service. Captain Cloutier will become part of the Command Staff of the Warden Service based out of the DIF&W office in Augusta. Congratulations Captain Cloutier!



Captain Cloutier being sworn in by Commissioner Woodcock, Colonel Joel Wilkinson looking on.

L to R: Colonel Joel Wilkinson; Deputy Commissioner Andrea Erskine, Captain Chris Cloutier, Commissioner Chandler Woodcock and Major Gregg Sanborn.



RETIREMENTS

After more than 45 years in the Fisheries and Hatcheries divisions at the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Peter Bourque retired this past fall.

Bourque, who lives in Farmingdale, began his career with the MDIFW in 1965 as an assistant regional fisheries biologist in the Moosehead Lake region. He worked under Roger Auclair at the time, before moving to Ashland to work as the regional fisheries biologist in the Fish River/Allagash region in late 1968.

For 15 years, that's where Bourque called home – until moving to Augusta to become the Assistant Chief of Fisheries in 1983. One year later, he became the Chief, a position now known as Director of Fisheries.

"Having the 18½ years in the field was really, really important in terms of knowing what the needs were for the division, knowing the type of work the (biologists) did, and being able to support them," Bourque said. "The 'boots on the ground' really makes a difference in fisheries. It's really those guys in the regions that make it work. It's important for them to understand their waters well and keep things rolling."

Bourque remained the director until early last decade, when he became the new Director of Fisheries Program Development.

He has no concrete plans for retirement, beyond traveling some with his wife and staying involved in fish and wildlife pursuits.

"I want to keep interested in the fish and wildlife field," said Bourque, who retreats in his spare time to his camp near Haymock Lake. "Wherever I can be helpful, even on volunteer basis, I want to do that. I'm hoping to do some traveling – we haven't done a lot of that as a husband-wife team.

"I'm going to spend a lot of time with outdoors pursuits. Boating, fishing, hunting, kayaking. Hopefully, with a little more time, I can do more of that, too. Myself, I know that I'm going to spend a lot more time in the outdoors."

