



# Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

## Weekly Report

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

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Tuesday, December 13, 2011

### OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Coming up this week on the Commissioner's Schedule:

- Dec. 14 -Advisory Committee meeting in Bangor  
-Capitol for a Day with Governor LePage at Mt. Abram High School in Salem TWP
- Dec. 15 -Meeting with members of the Rangeley Region Guides and Sportsmen's Association
- Dec. 16 -Graduation Ceremonies at the Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro

### INFORMATION CENTER

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

- 621 Phone calls
- 308 Emails
- 58 Walk-ins



#### Missed an issue?

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

### 2012 Licenses Now Available!

The 2012 sporting seasons are upon us, and the 2012 hunting and fishing licenses are available online NOW.

To purchase your 2012 licenses [click here!](#)

The Department's online licensing system gives you the convenience of purchasing from home, camp or office and the ability to print out multiple copies of your licenses when you need them.

All proceeds from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses stay at the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. We are grateful for your continued support of the important programs of the Department.

Buying a license is an easy and effective way to support Maine's fish and wildlife management efforts.

And this time of year, a license is the perfect gift for the sports enthusiast in your life!

We hope you will also visit our website to learn more about the work of the Department.

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

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Swan Island  
Maine Wildlife Park

## WILDLIFE DIVISION

DIF&W worked with Maine Audubon on a successful year for Piping Plovers – for details of all the efforts [click here](#).

### Weskeag Marsh Project

Regional Wildlife Biologist Jim Connolly submitted an Outdoor Heritage Grant to develop a hiking trail and wildlife viewing platform at the R. Waldo Tyler WMA in Thomaston, also called Weskeag Marsh. Each year, thousands of shorebirds migrating from Arctic breeding grounds to their wintering areas in South America stop to rest and refuel from mid July through October.



Birders flock to this site to view and photograph this spectacle, hiking across fragile salt marsh. Weskeag is also regularly used by duck hunters in the fall and birders year round.

Knowing the importance of minimizing the impacts to the marsh itself and the birds, Jim put on his other hat as Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 53 from Corinth and submitted the grant to fund the project as an Eagle Scout project.

Although informational signs still need to go up, the project was essentially completed this September, under the direction of Eagle Scout Rob Batron with a group of twelve 12-17 year olds and adult volunteers doing the work.

DIF&W Moose Biologist Lee Kantar reports: Our flight crew with Forest Ranger Pilot Chris Blackie plan on conducting an aerial survey for moose (double count) Monday, Dec. 12. If weather holds and moose cooperate, we will follow-up Tuesday, Dec. 13 with a composition count. Re-fueling will take place in Portage.



Commissioner Woodcock met recently with a dozen members of the Maine Professional Guides Association to discuss a wide variety of common interests and concerns. Bear Biologists Randy Cross and Jennifer Vashon, Landowner Relations Director Mark Latti and Warden Service Captain Chris Cloutier were also in attendance.

## LANDOWNER RELATIONS

Mark Latti, newly appointed DIF&W Landowner Relations Director, is seen here addressing the 2011 Landowner Relations Conference held Dec. 13 at the SAM office in Augusta. The Conference, co-sponsored by SAM (Sportsman's Alliance of Maine) and SWOAM (Small Woodlot Owners Association of Maine) brought together a large group

of stakeholders interested in and working toward improving landowner relations throughout Maine. Latti spoke about new DIF&W proposals and projects.



## MAINE WARDEN SERVICE

Due to the Maine Warden Service working on cases of illegal transport into Maine of wildlife harvested out of state, the Department has sent out a reminder to hunters. The concern of Chronic Wasting Disease possibly coming into Maine is a serious threat, so hunters need to be knowledgeable about the transport laws.



For the full press release [click here](#).

## INFORMATION & EDUCATION



Commissioner Woodcock was the guest speaker at the Maine Air National Guard's Annual Sportsman's Banquet in Bangor last Friday evening. V. Paul Reynolds, President of Maine Outdoor Publications, introduced the Commissioner to the 200 people in attendance. The evening included a fundraiser with all monies raised going to benefit Maine Air National Guard families.

## FISHERIES & HATCHERIES DIVISION



Commissioner Woodcock listens to a question from a member of the St. George's River Chapter of Trout Unlimited. The Chapter's monthly meeting was held at Cappy's Chowder House in Camden on Monday. Commissioner Woodcock addressed the group and answered questions on a variety of topics that focused primarily on Maine Fisheries.



# Support Landowner Relations!

Your Supersport donation goes directly to support the Landowner Relations Program of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. The Landowner Relations Program works with land owners and land users to ensure recreational access to Maine's outdoors.

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- **Kittery Trading Post** - Coupon with special discount only available to Supersports.
- **Maine Wildlife Park** - 2 admissions for the price of one.
- **Swan Island** - 2 admissions for the price of one.
- **Fort Kent Ski-Doo** - Discount on apparel.
- **North Maine Woods, Inc.** - One day free passage or discount towards seasons pass.
- 10% Discount on selected items at the following places: **Mac's Trading Post, Ben's Trading Post, and Indian Hill Trading Post.**
- *You can also purchase a Supersport Hat from LT's, Inc by using the coupon in the package mailed to you.*