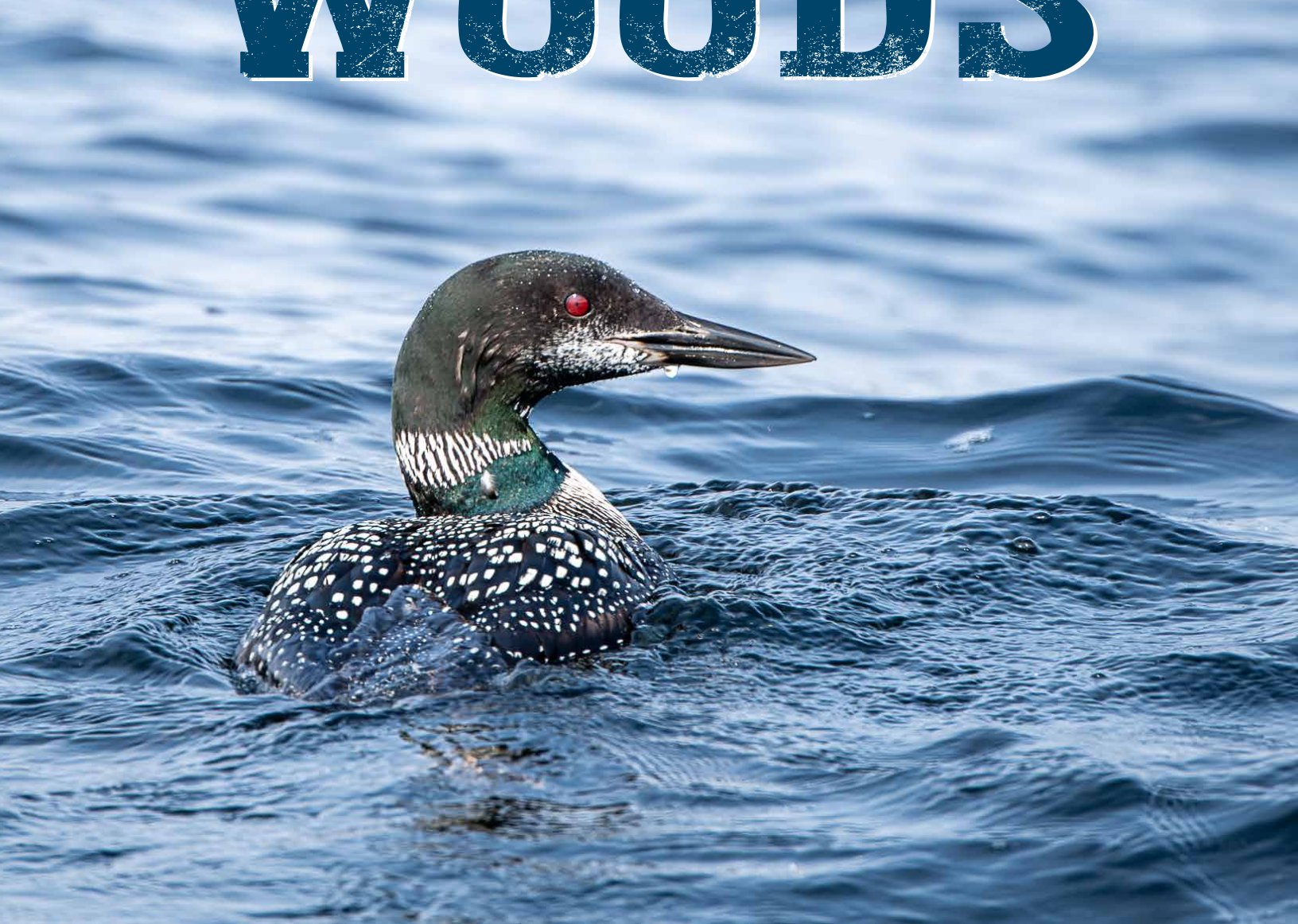


Welcome to one of Maine's most unique regions which provides remote recreational opportunities and supports our natural resource based economy. In this magazine, you'll find tips for a safe trip and learn more about forest resource management.

# NORTH MAINE WOODS

2026

\$4.00



## *Experience* **THE** *Tradition*



Safe Trucker of the Year **7**

Teamwork on the Allagash **13**

50 Years Studying Black Bears **20**

Youth Fishing Challenge **28**

Dogs, Dedication and Blood Tracking **30**

# 2026 Visitor Fees and Checkpoint Information

	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
Under 18.....	Free Day Use & Camping	
Age 70 and Over .....	Free Day Use	
Per Person Per Day .....	\$13	\$18
Camping Per Night.....	\$12	\$15
Annual Day Use Registration.....	\$160	N/A
Annual Unlimited Day Use & Camping .....	\$250	N/A
Camping Only Annual Pass .....	\$125	\$125
<i>Including seniors age 70 and over</i>		

### Special Reduced Seasonal Rates

Summer season is from May 1 to September 30. Fall season is from August 20 to November 30. Either summer or fall passes are valid between August 20 and September 30.

	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
Seasonal Day Use Pass .....	\$95	\$140
Seasonal Unlimited Camping .....	\$140	\$180
Camping Only Seasonal Pass.....	\$75	\$75
<i>Including seniors age 70 and over</i>		
Commercial Sporting Camp Visitors.....	\$40	\$60
<i>Per trip, for any trip over 3 days</i>		
Leaseholders and Internal Landowners of Record .....	\$70	\$70
<i>May purchase 2 annual passes through the NMW office</i>		
Guest Passes for Leaseholders.....	\$100	\$100
<i>May purchase up to 8 annual passes through the NMW office</i>		
Visiting Participating Businesses .....	\$1	\$1
<i>for meals and supplies, up to four hours limit</i>		

### Special Youth Opportunity

In order to create more opportunities for families, and allow more young people to enjoy the out-of-doors, NMW has increased the age from "under 15" to "under 18" for free day use and camping.

### Fees payable by cash, check and credit cards.

Credit cards are only available at staffed checkpoints during normal operating hours. Fees paid at automated checkpoints or after hours must be in the form of cash or check.

**Gift certificates are available for purchase at the main office in Ashland.**

**For Allagash Wilderness Waterway fees, see page 16 in this brochure. For Penobscot River Corridor fees, see page 18.**

Visitors traveling by vehicle will pass through one of the following checkpoints. Please refer to the map in the center of this publication for locations.

### NMW Checkpoints

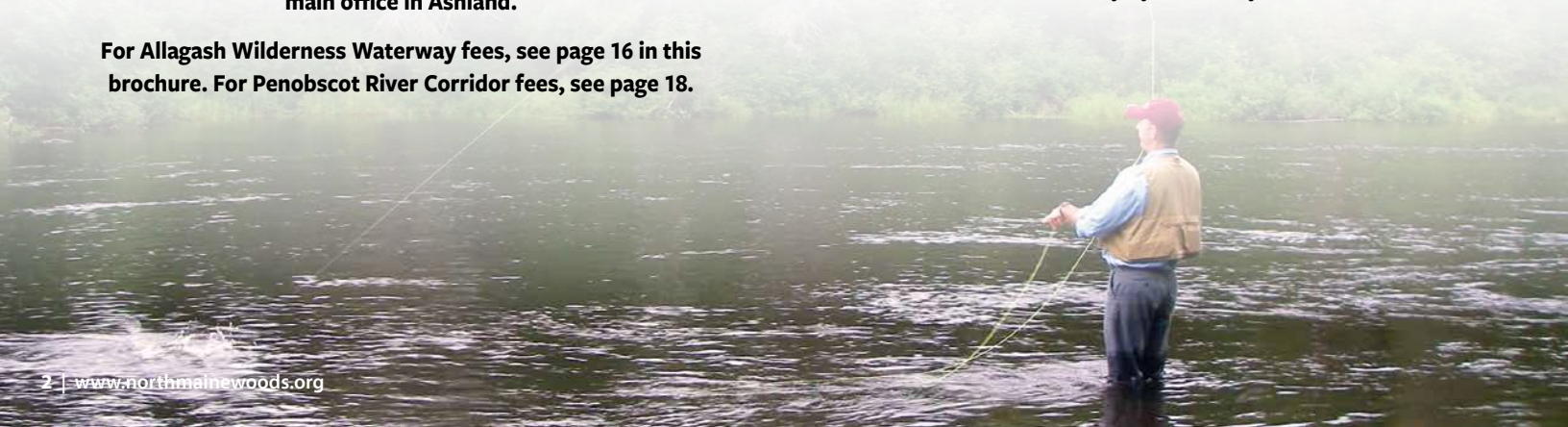
Allagash	6am-9pm daily
Caribou	6am-9pm daily
Dickey	6am-9pm daily
Fish River	6am-9pm daily
Little Black	6am-9pm daily
Six-Mile	6am-9pm daily
St. Francis	6am-9pm daily
Telos	6am-9pm daily
Twenty-Mile	6am-9pm daily

### Canadian Border Checkpoints

Estcourt	8am-4pm M-F
US Customs 1-418-859-2501	
Canadian Customs 1-418-859-2201	
St. Pamphile 1-418-356-2411	6am-8pm M-Th
US Customs 1-418-356-3222	
Canadian Customs 1-418-356-3151	
St. Juste 1-418-244-3648	6am-8pm M-Th
US Customs 1-418-244-3026	
Canadian Customs 1-418-244-3653	
St. Aurelie	6am-8pm M-Th
US Customs 1-418-593-3582	
Canadian Customs 1-418-593-3971	

The schedules of operation for Canadian border checkpoints and both U. S. and Canadian Customs offices are subject to change at any time, so it is advised that you call the number listed for the crossing you intend to use for current information. U.S. Customs offices are closed during New Year's Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving.

U.S. citizens are required to have a U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport Card to enter the U.S. Other travelers will need NEXUS, FAST, or SENTRI identification. By Federal Law PL 99-570, there is a \$5,000 fine for a first time offense of entering Maine without proper permission, plus an additional fine of \$1,000 per person involved. This includes entry by foot or by water.



# NORTH MAINE WOODS

2026

## CONTENTS

Message from the Maine Forest Service	4
Message from the Warden Service	4
General Information	5
Rules of the Road <i>Stay safe while driving in the woods</i>	6
Safe Trucker of the Year Award	7
Campsite Inventory	8
What's the CLUP <i>What's happening in the Unorganized Territories</i>	10
Maine's Moose Population <i>Past and Present</i>	11
Teamwork <i>on the Allagash Wilderness Waterway</i>	13
Allagash Wilderness Waterway Map and Info	16
Penobscot River Map and Info	18
Maine Black Bears <i>50 Years of Learning</i>	20
Budworm Brief <i>What happened in 2025</i>	25
2025 Youth Fishing Challenge	28
For the Love of the Game <i>Dogs, dedication and blood tracking</i>	30
Hunt of a Lifetime	33
Road Safety	39
Landowners in NMW	40

## Experience the Tradition

Welcome to one of Maine's most unique regions which provides remote recreational opportunities and support our natural resource-based economy. In this magazine, you'll find tips for a safe trip and learn more about forest resource management.





## FOREST SERVICE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

To report a wildland fire, obtain fire permits, or to receive additional information you may call:

Northern Region | Ashland **207-435-7963**

Central Region | Old Town **207-827-1800**

Allagash District Office | Portage **207-435-6644**

Aroostook Waters District Office | Masardis **207-435-6975**

East Branch District Office | Island Falls **207-463-2331**

Moosehead District Office | Greenville **207-695-3721**

For any emergency, call **911**

The Maine Forest Service protects hundreds of thousands of acres in NMW from wildland fire every year. It is everyone's responsibility to be safe with campfires and report wildland fires that you encounter. Remember, you must attend your campfire at all times. It's important to put your fire dead out before you leave your site for the day. A heavy wind and dry conditions can create a large wildland fire from what was an innocent campfire, and the person who lights the fire is responsible for damages. Campers are reminded that it is unlawful to burn prohibited items such as plastic, metal cans, bottles, and any type of trash. Please carry your trash out.

The Maine Forest Service has seen a significant increase of campfires that are not fully extinguished. Rangers responded to 174 campfire-caused wildfires last year. Only YOU can change this trend! Please take the time needed to protect the land that you enjoy!

If you encounter a wildland fire, report it immediately. Information that is helpful when reporting a fire includes: where the fire is (township, GPS coordinates, nearest road), what type of vegetation the fire is burning in, what type of fire behavior is being exhibited, is there a water source nearby, and are there any camps or tree plantations threatened. This information helps Maine Forest Service provide a quicker, more efficient response.

# Message from the Maine Warden Service



Maine's game wardens welcome you to the North Maine Woods! Maine's backcountry is unrivaled in the east and many of you have made it a destination for that very reason. The remoteness and vastness of the North Maine Woods poses some risks to those who are not well prepared for such an adventure. Making sure you prepare for the unexpected is critical in making sure your trip is safe and enjoyable. We ask that you always provide someone with your trip plans in the event that something happens. If you deviate from your trip plans, let a family member know.

Searches and rescues involve significant resources and are often hazardous to conduct. Many search and rescue missions can be avoided by using good common sense and being prepared. We ask that you carry a phone or other communication device in the event of an emergency. In the North Maine Woods, don't assume your cell phone will work as mobile coverage here is poor and in many cases unavailable. This is another reason why it is so important to provide trip plans to family members, on the dash of your truck or back at your camp or campsite.

Other key items include bringing plenty of extra fuel, at least one spare tire and a jack, a winch or come-along, a means to make a fire, a shovel, and some extra food and water in your vehicle in the event your trip gets delayed or you must spend the night in the woods unexpectedly. Incorporating these simple tips into your North Maine Woods adventure can make a significant difference in locating you quickly and safely should you become lost or injured during your trip. Maine's game wardens wish you a safe and memorable trip to our great North Woods. For more information about our Department, visit us online at [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com).

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife - We're all in for the Maine outdoors!



## MISSION

To provide the visiting public with high quality, traditional outdoor recreational experiences that are compatible with providing renewable forest resources which sustain approximately 20% of Maine's economy. Forest recreation, when managed properly, is compatible with harvesting forest products.

# General Information

**Cutting live trees is not permitted.** You are welcome to use dead and down wood for your fire at an authorized location. To prevent the spread of injurious insects, movement of firewood more than 50 miles is discouraged. Importation of firewood to Maine is prohibited. Extreme caution is always the rule. Remember a small fire is best for cooking. By Maine law, there is a \$50 fine for leaving any fire unattended. The steel fire ring provided is the only place a fire may be built at authorized campsites.

**Limits on camper trailer and vehicle sizes.** Only single vehicles less than 28 feet in length, or vehicle and trailer with a combined length of less than 48 feet, and with a maximum width of 8 feet, will be allowed entrance. Large vehicles within these limits may be required to travel at certain low traffic periods through any checkpoint if requested by the checkpoint receptionist on duty.

**Bicycles, motorcycles, all terrain vehicles, tractors and horses are not allowed** in the NMW at any time of year. This is necessary for logging road safety and avoidance of fire hazards in hard to reach locations.

**Through-traffic between Canada and Maine is discouraged** via the private road system in the NMW. These roads are privately built for the purpose of managing the woodland area. Recreationists are encouraged to travel to their desired destinations within the area and then

return to the country from which they entered. Parties entering at a Canadian border checkpoint must leave via the same checkpoint. Through passage between the US and Canada is allowed for camp owners and other visitors only when at least one night's lodging is spent within NMW.

**Water supplies in the NMW are not tested for safety.** It is recommended that you bring in water from a known safe source. You should not drink water directly from any stream or pond without treating it to kill bacteria and other organisms. The safest way to treat the water is to boil it for at least one minute at a rolling boil. While other methods of treatment are available, they may not be totally effective against all harmful organisms and are not recommended.

**Biting insects are common most of the summer.** Visitors should be equipped with insect repellent at all times. The peak time for mosquitoes and blackflies is from the end of May through July. Daily periods of increased insect activities are during early morning and evening hours.

**The weather varies greatly in northern Maine.** May temperatures range from 20 to 70 degrees on any given day, and snow may even fall. During the summer, temperatures average 50 to 90 degrees. It is suggested that visitors pack clothing for both extremes. Rain is unpredictable with the average seasonal amount between 35 and 45 inches. The temperatures begin to drop below freezing in mid-September with

daytime highs in the 50s. In November it is common for temperatures to approach 0 with highs in the 40s, and snow can begin to build up. November hunters are cautioned to camp near main roads and listen to weather forecasts.

**There are very few stores or gas stations in the NMW.** All supplies must be carried in with you.

**Fireworks are prohibited in NMW.** Although the State of Maine legalized the use of fireworks in 2011, the new law also requires that users of fireworks have land-owner permission. None of the private land-owners and managers of public land within North Maine Woods have agreed to give permission or allow the use of fireworks. Fire hazard is the major concern, but public safety and disturbance to other recreationists and wildlife are also factors cited in their decision to prohibit fireworks in NMW.

**A majority of visitors come to the NMW to enjoy peace and tranquility.** Although there are no rules regarding the use of generators, chainsaws, other types of motors and radios, we do ask that visitors use common sense and be considerate of others.

**All parties flying into the area must abide by the area's rules and regulations.** NMW Land Use and Camping permits are available from many commercial bush pilots or you may obtain permits by contacting North Maine Woods, PO Box 425, Ashland, ME 04732 or [info@northmainewoods.org](mailto:info@northmainewoods.org).



photo by Lonnie Jandreau

# RULES OF THE ROAD

## FOR INDUSTRIAL LOGGING ROADS

These rules apply to all road users. Your safety is important.

- Give all logging trucks the right of way! The roads in this area were built to move wood products. For safety, please give logging trucks the same respect provided to fire trucks and ambulances. Logging trucks typically travel on the crown of the road for stability. When you see a truck coming from either direction, please pull over to let it pass safely.
- Obey posted speed limit signs. Maximum speed is 45 mph.
- Lights on for safety.
- Always travel on the right hand side.
- Be prepared to stop at all times.
- Never stop on a corner. Always give yourself at least 500 feet of visibility front and back.
- Reduce speeds on freshly graded roads. You are more likely to blow a tire or lose control because of loose gravel.
- Never block side roads. Even roads that seem unused may be needed in emergencies.
- Refrain from driving on newly constructed roads and roads that are "soft" from spring thawing or fall rainfall to prevent severe rutting.
- Do not linger on roads or stop on bridges. Most bridges in NMW are one lane.
- Park vehicles well off the road.
- Do not park in front of checkpoints. Use parking area provided
- All drivers must have a valid state or provincial driver's license.
- All vehicles yield right of way to loaded trucks. All traffic yield to equipment working in roads. Pass only after operator's acknowledgement.

# NORTH MAINE WOODS NAMES GREYDEN PELLETIER SAFE TRUCKER OF THE YEAR

The North Maine Woods, a working forest and recreational area consisting of 3.5 million acres of commercial forest and waterways, has an Industrial Road Safety Committee, a landowner representative group which meets regularly to address safety issues. In 2022, the committee decided to use a proactive approach to commit to safety and recognize truckers who consider it a top priority in their important job of getting wood delivered to the mill in an efficient manner.

After being nominated by the committee, a small monetary award, donated by large industrial forest landowners and managers, and a plaque was awarded to Greyden Pelletier.

Since graduating high school in 2017, Greyden has made a living trucking in the North Maine Woods. Greyden has focused on safety as a top-priority, calling mile markers clearly, always wearing proper PPE, driving at a safe speed, and always securing loads properly. We hope this award can showcase to the public that workers in the North Maine Woods are looking out for everyone's interest, whether it be a woods worker or a recreationalist -- anyone that enjoys or works in the North Maine Woods.

Greyden Pelletier has been driving truck for the last nine years, but his experience with the woods industry goes farther back, spanning generations. The Pelletier family has been in the woods since the 70's starting with his grandfather Vern Pelletier. Greyden's father, Ben Pelletier, still runs a tree length crew.

Greyden got his start at age 18 driving truck for his uncle Marty. Over the course of 6 years, Greyden learned how to drive safely and effectively and in 2023 bought his own truck. Greyden notes when he started driving for Marty, he was mostly hauling to Saint Pamphile and Ashland. Now that he owns his own truck, however, he's all over the North Maine Woods from Portage to Saint Aurelie, Saint Juste to Allagash, spending many nights in his sleeper cab.

"It's really quite an honor," Greyden notes when learning about receiving the safe trucker of the year award.

The Industrial Road Safety Committee wants to thank Greyden and all other safe truckers out there. We want this award to be an inspiration for all truckers to continue practicing safe disciplines and to know that safety does get recognized. 🙌

**Greyden Pelletier, of xxx, is the recipient of North Maine Woods' 2026 Safe Trucker of the Year award.**



	Township	Sites	Shelters	Water Access	Vehicle Access	Canoe Access	Camper Access
<b>ASHLAND REGION</b>							
Little Munsungan Lake	T8R9	2		y	y		
Chase Brook Road	T10R9	2		y	y		y
Munsungan Falls	T8R9	3		y	y		y
Malcolm Branch	T9R8	2	2	y	y		y
Mooseleuk Dam	T10R9	3	2	y	y		
N. Br. Machias River	T11R7	6	2	y	y		y
Machias Bridge	T11R7	2		y	y		y
Machias River	T11R7	1		y	y		y
Chase Lake	T9R10	3	1	y	y		y
Ragged Mountain Pond	T9R10	2		y	y		y
Jack Mountain	T11R8	3			y		y
S. Br. Machias River	T10R7	2		y	y		y
Pratt Lake	T11R9	1	1	y	y		y
Island Pond	T10R10	2	1	y	y		
Machias Lake Dam	T12R8	3	1		y		y
20-Mile Bridge	T12R8	3	1	y	y		y
Little Clayton Lake	T12R8	1		y	y		
Moosehorn Crossing	T12R7	2	1	y	y		y
Upper Elbow Pond	T10R10	1		y	y		
Peaked Mountain Pond	T10R10	3		y	y		
Russell Crossing	T11R8	3	1	y	y		y
Musquacook Stream	T12R11	2		y	y		y
McNally Pond	T11R10	2		y	y		y
2nd Musquacook Lake	T11R11	6	2	y	y		y
Clear Lake	T10R11	3	1		y		y
Squirrel Pond	T11R10	1	1	y	y		y
Beaver Sprague	T11R7	3	3	y	y		
Weeks Brook	T11R8	1		y	y		y
Smith Brook	T9R9	1		y	y		
Big Hudson Brook	T10R9	3		y	y		
Munsungan Thoroughfare	T8R10	1		y			
Little Moosehorn	T8R10	2			y		y
Kelly Brook	T11R14	5		y	y		y
Squirrel Mountain	T11R13	2			y		y
Ross Lake	T10R15	3	1	y	y		y
	TOTAL	85					

<b>ALLAGASH REGION</b>							
Little Falls Pond	T17R11	1		y	y		
Fall Brook Lake	T18R10	2	1	y	y		y
Little Black River Pit	T19R12	2	1	y	y		y
Upper Little Black	T19R12	1		y	y		
Little Black River	T19R12	2	1	y	y		y
Chimenticook Stream	T17R13	2		y	y		y
West Twin Brook #1	Allagash	1		y	y		
West Twin Brook #2	Allagash	1			y		y
West Twin Gravel Pit	Allagash	1		y	y		y
Blue Pond	T13R13	1		y	y		y
Deadeye Bridge	T18R13	3			y		y
3rd Pelletier Pond	T16R9	3		y	y		y
Ben Glazier	T14R12	1			y		y
Big Black River Road	T15R13	2		y	y		y
Wells Campsite	T16R13	1			y		y
Big Black Fall Site	T15R13	3		y	y		y
Connors Cove	T18R10	4		y	y		y
Camp 106	T16R13	1			y		y
Pelletier	T15R12	2			y		y
	TOTAL	34					

<b>TELOS REGION</b>							
Umbazooksus West	T6R13	4	1	y	y		y
Umbazooksus East	T6R13	2	1	y	y		
Indian Stream	T7R12	2		y	y		
Indian Pond	T7R12	6	2	y	y		y
Haymock Lake	T8R11	8		y	y		y
Cliff Lake	T8R12	5	1	y	y		y
Pillsbury Deadwater	T8R11	2		y	y		y
Spider Lake	T9R11	3	1	y	y		y
Little Pillsbury Pond	T8R11	4	2	y	y		y
Coffeelos South	T6R11	4		y	y		
Coffeelos North	T6R11	2		y	y		y
	TOTAL	45					

<b>ST. JOHN RIVER</b>							
Turner Bogan	T8R17	2		y			y
Flaws Bogan	T8R17	1	1	y			y
Flaws Bogan Camp	T8R17	1		y			y
Southwest Branch	T9R17	1		y			y
Doucie Brook	T10R17	2		y			y
Knowles Brook	T10R16	1		y			y
Northwest Branch	T10R17	1		y			y
Ledge Rapids	T11R16	2	1	y			y
Moody Campsite	T11R16	2	1	y	y	y	y
Red Pine	T11R16	4	2	y	y	y	y
Burntland Brook	T11R16	2	1	y			y
Nine-Mile Campsite	T12R16	2		y			y
East Nine-Mile	T12R15	1		y	y		y
Connor Farm	T13R15	1		y			y
Seven Islands	T13R15	3	2	y			y
Priestly Campsite	T13R14	3	1	y	y	y	y
Simmons Farm	T14R14	3	1	y			y
Big Black Rapids	T15R13	3	1	y			y
Ferry Crossing	T15R13	2	1	y	y	y	y
Seminary Brook	T15R13	1	1	y	y	y	y
Longs Rapids	T16R13	2	1	y	y		y
Castonia Farm	T16R12	1		y	y	y	y
Ouellette Brook	T16R12	1		y	y		y
Ouellette Farm	T16R12	2	1	y	y	y	y
Fox Brook	T16R12	3	2	y	y	y	y
Poplar Island	Allagash	1	1	y			y
	TOTAL	48					

<b>FISH RIVER REGION</b>							
Gleason Brook	T13R7	1		y	y		y
Carr Pond	T13R8	4		y	y		y
Fish River Falls	T14R8	8	2	y	y		y
Fish Lake	T14R8	5	1	y	y		y
Big Brook	T14R10	3	1	y	y		y
Fox Brook	T13R9	3	1	y	y		y
	TOTAL	24					

	Township	Sites	Shelters	Water Access	Vehicle Access	Canoe Access	Camper Access
<b>RAGMUFF/SEBOOMOOK REGION</b>							
Lane Brook	T2R4	4	1	y	y		y
Leadbetter Falls	T2R18	3		y	y		y
Leadbetter Pit	T2R18	3	1	y	y		y
Gilberts Crossing	T2R4	3	1	y	y		y
Lane Brook (Boundary Rd)	T3R4	1		y	y		y
Cheney Pond	T3R4	3		y	y		
Penobscot Dam	T4R4	4	1	y	y		y
Penobscot Pd (Ice Box Pit)	T4R4	1		y	y		y
Long Pond	T3R5	4	1	y	y		y
Dole Pond	T3R5	4	1	y	y		y
Dole Brook	T3R5	1		y	y		
Hurricane Pond	T5R20	1		y	y		
Hurricane Stream	T5R19	2	1	y	y		
Snake Campsite	T4R18	6	1	y	y	y	y
Nulhedus Pit	T1R4	1			y		y
Little Lobster Lake	T3R14	2	1	y	y		y
35-Mile Campsite	Dole Twp	1			y		y
	TOTAL	44					
<b>OXBOW REGION</b>							
Lapomkeag Field	T8R8	2	1	y	y		y
Millinocket Stream	T8R8	2		y	y		y
Munsungan Stream	T8R9	2	1	y	y		y
	TOTAL	6					

	Township	Sites	Shelters	Water Access	Vehicle Access	Canoe Access	Camper Access
<b>CAUCOMGOMOC REGION</b>							
Caucomgomoc Landing	T7R15	5	1	y	y		y
Caucomgomoc Dam	T6R14	3	1	y	y		y
Henrys Island	T7R15	1		y		y	
Rowe Thoroughfare	T7R15	1		y		y	
Round Pond North	T7R14	4	1	y	y		
Round Pond Inlet	T7R14	1		y	y		
Lost Pond	T5R16	2		y	y		
Russell Stream	T4R16	1		y	y		y
Big Bog	T5R18	4	1	y	y		y
5th St. John Bridge	T6R17	2		y	y	y	y
5th St. John Dam	T6R17	1		y	y		
Wadleigh Pond Beach	T8R15	1		y	y		
Wadleigh Pond	T8R15	3	1	y	y		y
Wadleigh Pond South	T8R15	1		y	y		y
St. Francis Lake	T8R16	2		y	y		y
Baker Lake North	T7R17	5	1	y	y		y
Baker Lake South	T7R17	1		y		y	
Boulet Campyard	T7R17	2			y		y
Turner Pond	T7R16	2		y	y		y
Crescent Pond	T9R15	2		y	y		y
Johnson Pond Island	T8R14	2		y		y	
Elm Stream	T4R16	2		y	y		
	TOTAL	48					



# Camping in the North Maine Woods

Camping permits are issued at the checkpoints upon entrance to the North Maine Woods area. Camping is allowed at the more than 300 designated, marked camping areas for a two-week maximum time limit per campsite. The North Maine Woods map in this publication shows campsite locations. There are two types of campsites available for use:

**Authorized Campsites:** These campsites are marked on the NMW map and are listed here for reference. While all campsites are rustic, there are steel fire rings, cedar picnic tables and toilets at the authorized campsites. Fires may be carefully built in the steel fire rings, and many of the campsites have picnic shelters. A Maine Forest Service fire permit is not required.

**Designated Fire Permit Campsites:** These are locations where overnight camping is allowed but where building campfires requires a Maine Forest Service fire permit. The locations of designated fire permit campsites are shown on the NMW map. These campsites have fewer facilities than authorized campsites. Although some fire permit campsites

are not as attractive as authorized campsites, fall hunters prefer sheltered locations rather than windswept lake shore campsites.

**Outhouse Update:** North Maine Woods is currently using an active enzyme (Bio Quest SST-850) for the treatment of outhouse solids. We ask that visitors do not dump lime, deodorizers, trash, or liquid materials into outhouse openings. These foreign substances will either kill or greatly reduce the effectiveness of the enzyme.

**Campsites on Google Earth:** Campsite locations within the North Maine Woods are shown on Google Earth. Visit our website ([www.northmainewoods.org](http://www.northmainewoods.org)) to download this feature found on the homepage and the maps menu. In addition to showing campsite locations, there are photos and a written description of each campsite to help you decide which campsite to visit.

Please carry your trash out. Do not leave trash at your campsite or alongside roads and waters.



# WHAT'S THE CLUP

## and what's happening in the Unorganized Territories (UT)?

The Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC) wants to hear from you about your connections, expectations, ideas, and concerns related to the **Unorganized Territories, or UT**.

The LUPC is responsible for land use planning, zoning, permitting, and enforcement in parts of Maine that either lack local government or have chosen not to administer land use controls locally. This service area covers approximately **10.4 million acres**.

State law (12 M.R.S. Ch. 206-A) requires the LUPC to maintain an official **Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP)**. The CLUP guides zoning, rules, and development decisions across the UT. The CLUP applies to a much larger and more diverse area than a typical municipal comprehensive plan.

### What's happening now

LUPC is in the **pre-planning phase** of a CLUP update. Staff are:

- Hosting topic-based informational sessions during Commission meetings
- Launching a CLUP update website to keep the public informed
- Preparing a public survey to gather feedback and help shape the update

### We want to hear from you

- What issues should be priorities in a CLUP update?
- What questions do you have about the future of the UT?
- How often do you use the LUPC website? Any thoughts or suggestions?

### Get involved

- Visit the new CLUP update website: <http://maine.gov/dacf/clupdate>
- Watch for the CLUP survey launching Spring 2026
- Sign up for GovDelivery updates: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MEDACF/subscribers/qualify>
- Share your thoughts directly with LUPC: (207) 441-2175 or email [Emily.Francis-Lamore@maine.gov](mailto:Emily.Francis-Lamore@maine.gov)



### Why Update Now?

- The current **Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP)** was adopted in **2010**, more than 15 years ago, after a five-year planning process. Much has changed in the Unorganized Territories since then.
- In **2012**, the Maine Legislature updated the statute governing the Commission's work (P.L. 2011, ch. 682, enacting LD 1798), affecting how LUPC carries out its responsibilities.
- Economic, environmental, and social conditions are changing rapidly. Updating the CLUP allows the Commission to assess current conditions and plan for future trends.
- The Commission has achieved, or made significant progress toward, many of the goals and policies established in the 2010 CLUP.
- An updated plan provides an opportunity to **reset priorities** and reflect current conditions, informed by people who live, work, and recreate in the UT.



*Illustrations by Russell Lamer, Mapping and Graphics Arts Specialist II with the Land Use Planning Commission in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.*

# MAINE'S MOOSE POPULATION

Lee Kantar, State Moose Biologist  
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

***It's still dark, early morning and I am heading north for the 2nd week of moose hunting season in Maine to check hunter-harvested moose. Heading to Jackman, where dropping into the Moose River Valley and seeing the gorgeous colors of fall foliage makes your heart skip a beat; where mountains, lakes and rivers and the dark growth of spruce and fir tell you that you are in some of the best moose country that the lower 48 has to offer. Moose need the Big Woods; they need room to roam to stretch those long legs over miles of uninhabited country so they can feed in the young choppings and drink from the abundant wetland and waterways of the state.***

Maine is about 90% forested and much of the expansive North Maine Woods consists of commercial forestlands that shape not only the composition, structure, and age of the forest but the wildlife that live there; this is a good thing for moose. Much of the “Big Woods” consists of unorganized territories with a human population of one person for every 100 square miles; so along with moose, bears, lynx, marten and a variety of other northern-adapted species thrive. It likely comes as a shock to many folks outside of Maine that much of the state

embodies a wildness that is shared with many western locales, and likewise that we have more moose and moose hunting opportunity than most other lower 48 states.

As the story goes, much of central to northern Maine was the land of moose and caribou, and up towards the close of the 1800's, moose hunting was unregulated. At the same time, the human population was making inroads into the North Maine Woods, and land use practices across the state were changing not only the composition and abundance of forests and fields, but wildlife as well. Throughout the 1900's, moose season was generally closed, although a few years had moose hunts. By 1980, the Maine State Legislature, after much debate and public scrutiny, decided to open the moose hunt; the first since 1935.

To back up a bit, the opening of the season was created by not only public interest, but by the great changes in habitat that had occurred and were continuing to unfold. By the late 1960's, the spruce-fir region of the state was at a high point of mature softwood and these stands, while beneficial for some species, didn't produce much in the way of moose habitat. But an insidious pest was idling in the woods and waiting to capitalize on the opportunity. The spruce budworm is an insect that has a particular taste for balsam fir and easily kills these trees when they reach maturity. By the 1980's, the budworm had taken a firm hold of the northeast and devastated vast stretches of Maine. The loss of these stands and subsequent salvage work opened up the forest to young stands of intolerant hardwoods that set the stage for moose population growth and expansion.

Maine is naturally blessed with a high diversity and abundance of lakes, ponds, rivers, streams and, of course, bogs. Moose have an affinity for these areas born out of their thirst for sodium when spring has ebbed and summer begins in earnest. Sodium-rich aquatic plants provide critical nutrients to moose that are depleted of these elements over the long winter. In addition, as the long summer days stretch on, water provides some additional benefits for maintaining homeostasis when things are really heating up.

*continued on page 14*



continued from page 11

Over the last 20 years, the moose population has grown and doubled, with forestry activities maintaining a relatively constant supply of forage.

The forest industry has changed greatly since the 70's with mechanization, increased utilization of smaller diameter trees, and new (often volatile) markets for wood products from biomass. At the same time, legislative action in the form of the Maine Forest Practices Act (1989) essentially curbed the creation of larger clearcuts (>250 acres). In practice, clearcuts remain relatively small today, however, increases in the partial harvesting of timber create stands with relatively low basal area, which likely continue to provide ample levels of available browse that is preferred by moose. Today, Maine's forest continues to be a working forest, and the commercial forestlands of the Big Woods provide a landscape with few people and a lot of moose habitat.

***Rolling into Jackman, I spy a young bull accompanied by a cow moving through a young stand of trees not far from the road. I stop to watch these two on opening day of moose season and give a few beeps of the horn as they***



***trudge onto the road; a logging truck is coming the other way, and these moose need to move along.***

***There is something about this place that just makes you feel like you are in the center of it all. Looking out at this autumn landscape, you can just sense that it is crawling with moose. Down at Bishop's Store, the first moose to be registered rolls in with many more to come in rapid succession, including two moose dressed at over 900 pounds (post-rut bulls)! The crowds of people gather to size up each moose, hedge their bets on the weight of each animal, and talk about seasons past, partridge (ruffed grouse) numbers, and the one that got away. Maine allocates over 3,000 permits annually across the state compared to 700 permits in 1980. Typically, a dozen or more bulls dress out at over 1,000 pounds and a few come in with more than 60" spreads. Moose harvests are designed to provide hunting while maintaining wildlife viewing opportunities.***

By all current measures, moose have plenty of good habitat to roam across the North Maine Woods, even though those conditions change over time and space. The biggest concern remains the changing weather conditions and subsequent impact on annual winter tick numbers. Winter tick has been the driver of overwintering calf mortality now for more than 15 years and is a substantial problem for growth of the moose population. The ability of calves to survive to their first birthday is the drive of the moose population and female reproductive health. More moose will not make things better because more moose means more winter ticks. Maine DIFW continues to work at and investigate ways to deal with the threat that winter tick commands over moose. In the coming year, we will be reporting on the outcome of the Adaptive Hunt and future direction for moose management. 🍷



**The Allagash is our best trip for spotting moose!**



The Allagash is our best trip for spotting moose!

We offer private custom group outings as well.

Join a scheduled Allagash or St. John River canoe trip for the beginner and seasoned paddler alike.

**[www.canoethewild.com](http://www.canoethewild.com)  
call/text 207-551-8729**

# TEAMWORK

## on the Allagash Wilderness Waterway

*Alissa Lutz, Ranger  
Allagash Wilderness Waterway*

When someone says “the Allagash Wilderness Waterway,” many memories or images can drift through your mind depending on how many times you have experienced this place. I am lucky enough to call it my home. For me, one of the first things I think of as a Park Ranger, besides all my fishing and hunting memories, is teamwork. For eight years now, I have been lucky enough to be a part of a small but mighty team of twelve overseeing the 92 miles of this wild and scenic river system.

Our work schedule assigns us nine days at a time in this wilderness park away from our family and friends. Your coworkers quickly become part of an extended family, making the Allagash team much stronger. Although there may be forty-some-odd miles between myself and my nearest counterpart, we check in daily over the radio and often work on projects together in different districts.

But our teamwork goes well beyond the restricted zone of the waterway. We are part of a team made up of agencies that spread across the entire 3.5 million acres of the North Maine Woods (NMW). Spring

training includes members from Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IFW) and the Maine Forest Service (MFS). Our focus is on preparing for a variety of possible wilderness emergencies including a lost person, water rescues, pinned canoes, medical emergencies, and remote helicopter extractions. In September, we all reflect on the busy season behind us with our friends from the North Maine Woods office. As we munch on that year’s potluck plates, we share an appreciation for their staff; the women and men at all the NMW’s checkpoints who are the first faces that thousands of paddlers, anglers, and hunters see before they ever cross our paths.

A large portion of the teamwork involves the safety of this incredible resource and the people who visit it. Knowing

*continued on page 14*

***Spring training exercises, like swift water rescue at Churchill Dam, includes members of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Maine Forest Service.***



*continued from page 13*

that these three partners have our backs and that we have theirs is a crucial element in providing safety in an area where you are often recreating on your own. I've seen this teamwork in action many times over the years, but perhaps the best example of our team coming together to help people took place at Allagash Falls this past summer.

Three weeks to the day after our short-haul rescue training with the MFS, our Chief Ranger, two other Allagash Rangers, and I were working on a project not far from Michaud Farm. With black flies roaring, saws buzzing, and tractors breaking down, a call came over the radio: "Dispatch to any Allagash Ranger," a call that makes any Park Ranger perk up and mentally prepare for what's ahead. After another ranger in a distant district answered the

call, it was apparent that there were two paddlers stranded above Allagash Falls. Within minutes of the call, the four of us had all our emergency gear packed and into our two prepared canoes, putting the MFS helicopter on standby via radio, while the rest of our distant rangers listened to our calls.

Now it must be noted how we were able to receive this information from dispatch in the first place. That morning our Chief Ranger was greeting paddlers upon their arrival at Michaud Farm Ranger Station. He informed a party of the SOS capabilities iPhone models 14 and above now possess. Through satellite technology with a clear view of the sky, you can text 911 deep in the NMW, without cellphone coverage. After informing this party about this safety feature, they continued their

paddle towards Allagash Falls. Little did we know that this party would use this newly acquired information just moments later to help save two strangers on top of Allagash Falls.

It was apparent upon our arrival that the safest way to extract these individuals from the top of the falls was to request the nearest MFS short-haul helicopter team to come immediately. With Park Rangers staged above and below the falls, we waited and informed the paddlers that help was coming. Just over an hour later, we watched the MFS helicopter come in to assess the situation before landing to deploy their equipment for the extraction. Not long after their arrival, the short-haul team safely extracted the individuals to shore, one at a time. The two rescued paddlers were shaken but had no physical injuries. They were later transported to their vehicle, leaving the waterway with a harrowing tale to share and a view from Allagash Falls not many have ever seen, nor want to.

This incident proved that our training and teamwork can resolve serious issues that can arise in any backcountry park at any given time. I am thankful to not only the MFS, IFW Game Wardens, and the widespread team of the NMW, but to my supervisors and fellow Park Rangers who are never afraid to jump into action.

**Left: Landing on the side of the river below Allagash Falls to deploy their gear before short-hauling the paddlers one by one.**

**Right: Maine Forest Service short-haul rescue at Allagash Falls.**



Each year my coworkers and I reflect on what we can do better. I am proud to say that I get to train alongside my fellow AWW rangers and our partners, and that every year we work to enhance our training and develop our relationships. Every state park is so different from the next, but in the AWW we are often the first responders in times of trouble. Due to this dynamic, my supervisors decided we should develop an annual AWW Ranger Academy that better prepares us for waterway-specific operations. This academy gives our staff the knowledge, experience, and tools to respond when we are alone in our district and how to bring the whole team together quickly and effectively. I've learned that you can never train enough and that focusing on helping our guests to avoid getting themselves into bad situations is a priority.

Last year's incident and enhanced training also provided an opportunity for us to debrief and identify how to improve our procedures and messaging and determine what equipment we need. We have already begun to expand our tools and equipment at the falls to help protect the public. We also determined that we could do a better job messaging about potential resource hazards, ranger expectations, how to use your phone's SOS features, and more. Some changes that our visitors will notice this season are improved messaging in campsite outhouses, Allagash Falls brochures located on the porch at the Michaud Farm Ranger Station, and potentially improved visual signage in the Michaud Farm District related to the falls.



**Spring training with partner agencies prepares the team for a variety of possible wilderness emergencies including a lost person, water rescues, pinned canoes, medical emergencies, and remote helicopter extractions.**

This will be my eighth year with the AWW. It feels like yesterday that I was just an intern, a fish out of water in a remote region I had never been in or knew anything about. I've developed into the ranger I am today because of my passion, effective encouragement, my level of confidence that came from increased training and because of the relationships I have with my teammates and partners.

At the end of the day, the credit is due to this extraordinary place and the native

species that thrive here; that is what fuels my passion, whether it be on sled or in the boat, to get the job done right. I guess what I want you all to remember is that anyone can do the hard things in life if you set your mind to it and remember you have a team nearby whenever you need us. Be safe and see you out there! 🏕️

# ALLAGASH WILDERNESS WATERWAY

## The Rules

The rules governing the Allagash Wilderness Waterway were established to protect the Waterway and its users. These rules contain important information on several subjects, such as the limitations placed on the use of boats, motors, canoes and authorized access points. Please refer to the rules when planning your trip. For a copy of the rules, please contact:

Northern Region  
 Bureau of Parks and Lands  
 106 Hogan Road, Bangor, ME 04401  
 Phone (207) 941-4014

## The Trip

Ability, desire and time are among the most important factors to consider when planning the type of trip you wish to undertake. Some visitors will want to engage a guide, outfitter or experienced canoeist. Others may wish to arrange for float plane transportation into or out of the Waterway. Info on outfitters, guides and float plane services is available from North Maine Woods.

The longest trip through the Waterway starts at Telos Lake and ends at West Twin Brook, a distance of about 92 miles. This takes 7 to 10 days. It is wise to allow extra time, since some days strong winds make canoeing on the large lakes very difficult. With extra time built into your schedule, you will not be tempted to venture onto the lakes during dangerous conditions.

Shorter trips may be taken from Telos north to Churchill Dam, which is mostly lake, or from Umsaskis Lake to West Twin Brook, which is mostly river.

For a side trip, consider that three miles west of Lock Dam lies the mouth of Allagash Stream. An experienced canoeist can make the 6-mile trip with pole and paddle

## Access

Both summer and winter access points to the AWW are designated and managed. Please refer to the AWW rules for the locations of authorized launch sites, hiking trails and winter access points.

## Party Size

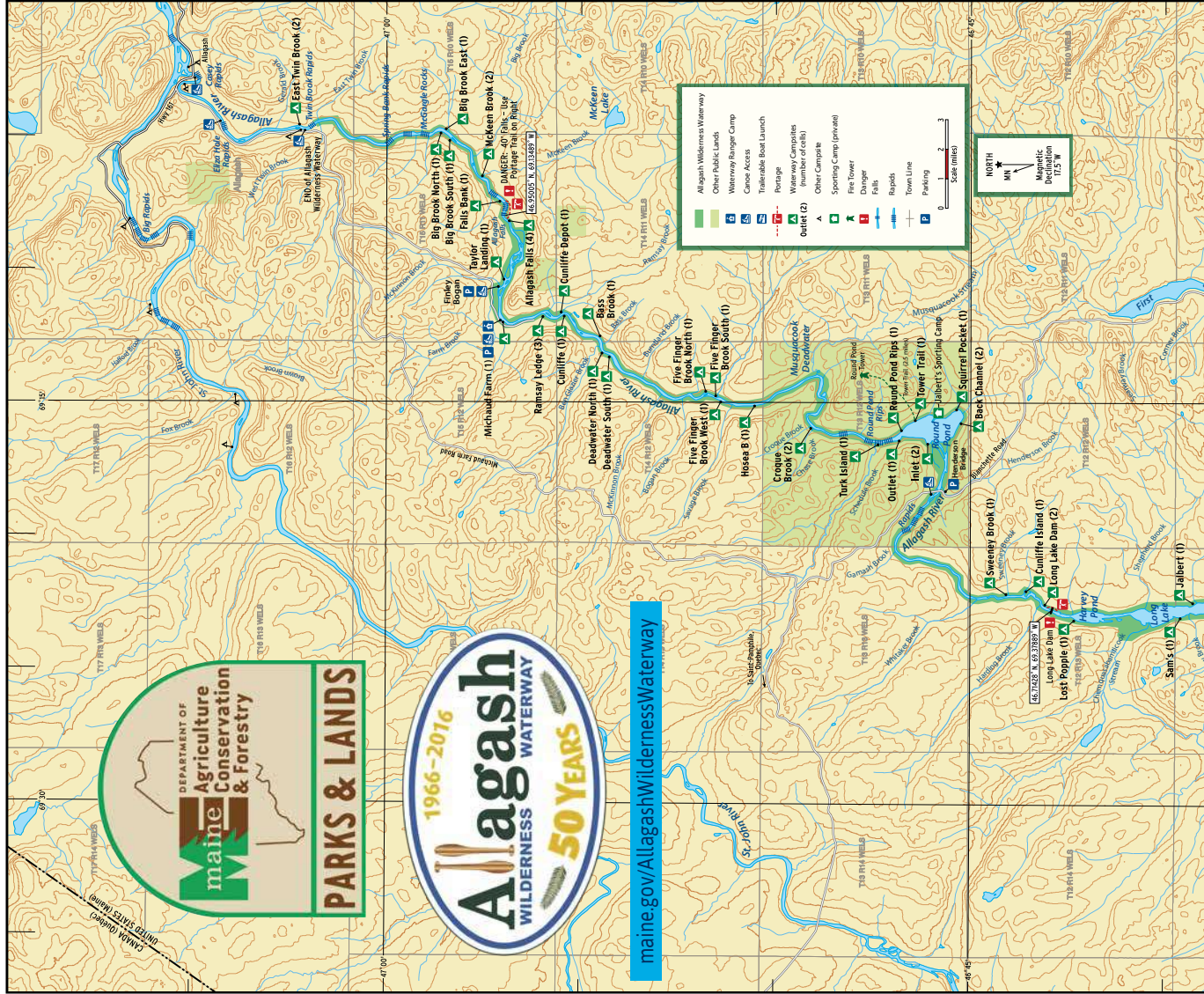
Groups of more than 12 persons of any age, including trip leaders and/or guides, are prohibited from traveling the Allagash Wilderness Waterway or camping at AWW campsites.

For current water levels, visit <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mel/nwis/current/?type=flow>

CFS (cubic feet per second) below 500 means that the rocks are starting to show. CFS below 250 means that people are searching for the channel and dragging a lot.

## Along the Way

**Lock Dam:** The earthen dam was built in 1841 to divert the flow of Chamberlain Lake water into the East Branch of the Penobscot River.



up this stream to the unforgettable solitude of Allagash Lake. This lake and stream are closed to airplanes, motors and mechanized equipment of any type. Only canoes are permitted here.

The water level in the side streams, including Allagash Stream, is highly variable. There may be a lack of adequate flow of water for canoeing especially late in the season. Very early in the season, flows may be too heavy to canoe.

A short portage from Lock Dam will take you along the traditional route with a 12-mile paddle across Eagle Lake, a 2-mile run through the thoroughfare, and 5 more miles of lake to Churchill Dam. Below the dam is a 9-mile trip through Chase Rapids, dropping into Umsaskis Lake. Chase Rapids is famed for its “whitewater” canoeing. It takes an experienced person in the stern, able to guide a canoe through the rocks when water is running high. On bright days after 2:00 pm, canoeists will experience considerable glare from the sun as they run the rips. Sunglasses help.

The trip across Umsaskis Lake to the thoroughfare at Long Lake is 5 miles long. Here the private American Realty Road crosses the Waterway.

Another 5 miles through Long Lake will carry you into the 10-mile run downriver to Round Pond, which is 3 miles wide.

An 18-mile paddle to Allagash Falls, a third of a mile portage, and a run of 8 miles will bring you to West Twin Brook.

West Twin Brook is the end of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, but many prefer to continue another 5 miles to Allagash Village at the confluence of the St. John and Allagash Rivers. It is about 15 miles downriver to St. Francis and another 15 miles to Fort Kent.

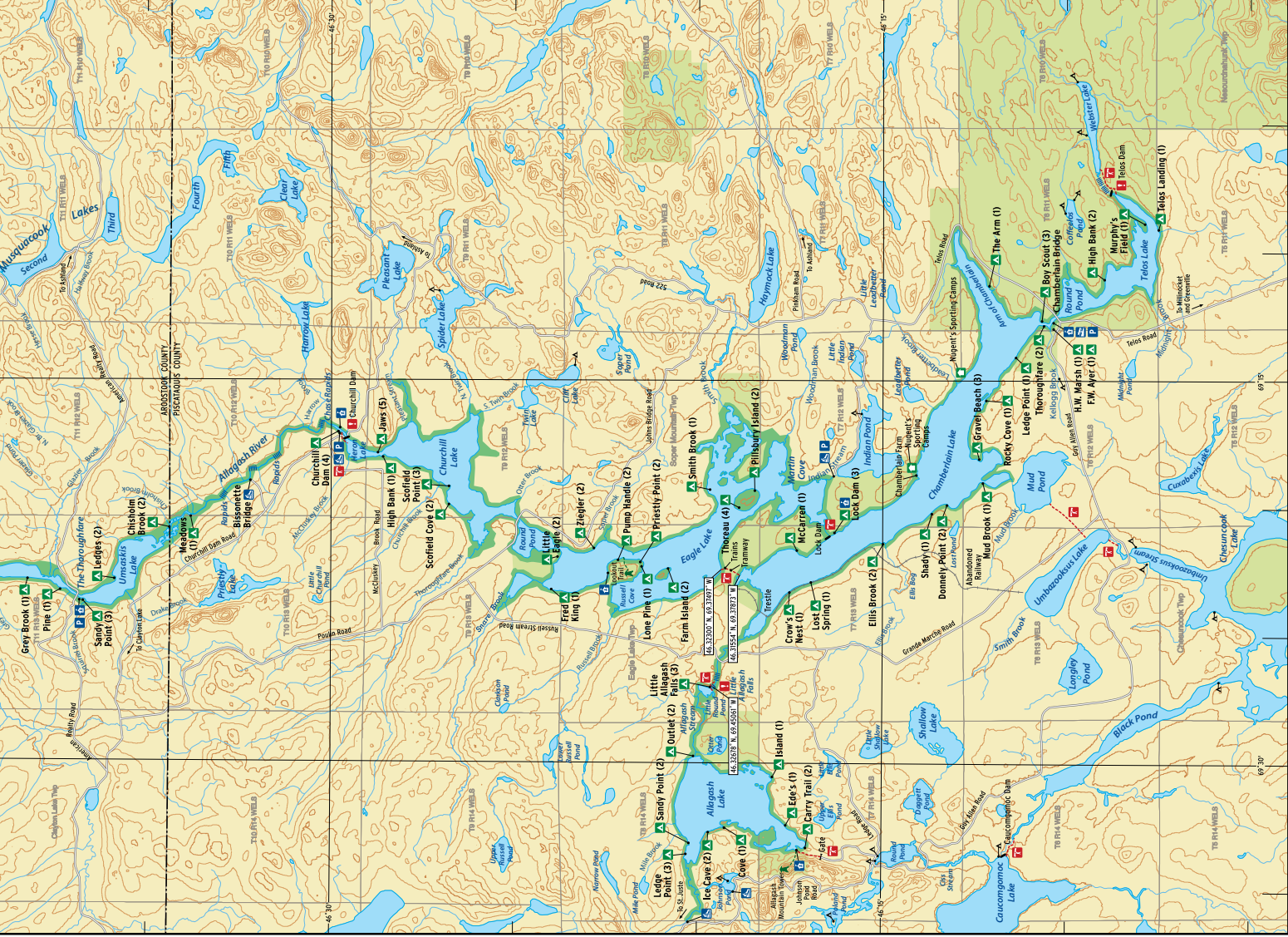
Water levels vary throughout the season, but there is usually good recreational water for all types of canoeists from May through October.

**The Tramway:** The original cable tramway was built in 1902-1903 to transport logs from Eagle Lake to Chamberlain Lake, a distance of three-quarters of a mile. At peak production, a half-million board feet of logs were handled in a single day.

**Abandoned Railroad:** The Eagle Lake and Umbazooksus Railroad was built in 1925-1926 and hauled 125,000 cords of pulpwood each year from Eagle to Umbazooksus Lake.

**Chase Rapids:** The most taxing stretch of water on the Allagash extends between Churchill Dam and Umsaskis Lake. The 9-mile course through the rips can be a high point for whitewater canoe enthusiasts. Portage service is available for this stretch of white water.

**Camping Fees:** Under 10 years of age is free. \$6.00 per night per person for residents. \$12.00 per night per person for non-residents. Plus a 9% lodging tax.



## Upper West Branch

The Upper West Branch and Lobster Lake area offer pleasant canoeing and camping. Canoeing groups usually put in at Roll Dam Campsite, Penobscot Farm or Lobster Lake. It is a leisurely three day trip to Umbazooksus Stream or five to seven day trip to the take out at the former site of Chesuncook Dam. Paddlers encounter quick water only from Big Island to Little Ragmuff and (at very low water) Rocky Rips. Lobster Lake is a popular camping spot for canoeing and fishing groups. Groups using Lobster Lake should be aware that high winds can cause dangerous waves. Caution is recommended in the use of small watercraft.

## Chesuncook Lake

Chesuncook Lake is the third largest lake in the state, with a flowage length of 29 miles. High winds can cause dangerous waves. Be careful. Chesuncook Village is a popular stopping spot for canoe groups. In bygone days, the village had over 100 year-round residents, a school, post office, stores, church, hotel, boarding house and an organized town government. Today the village boasts two sporting camps, several seasonal camps and a church that has Sunday services during June, July and August.

## Lower West Branch

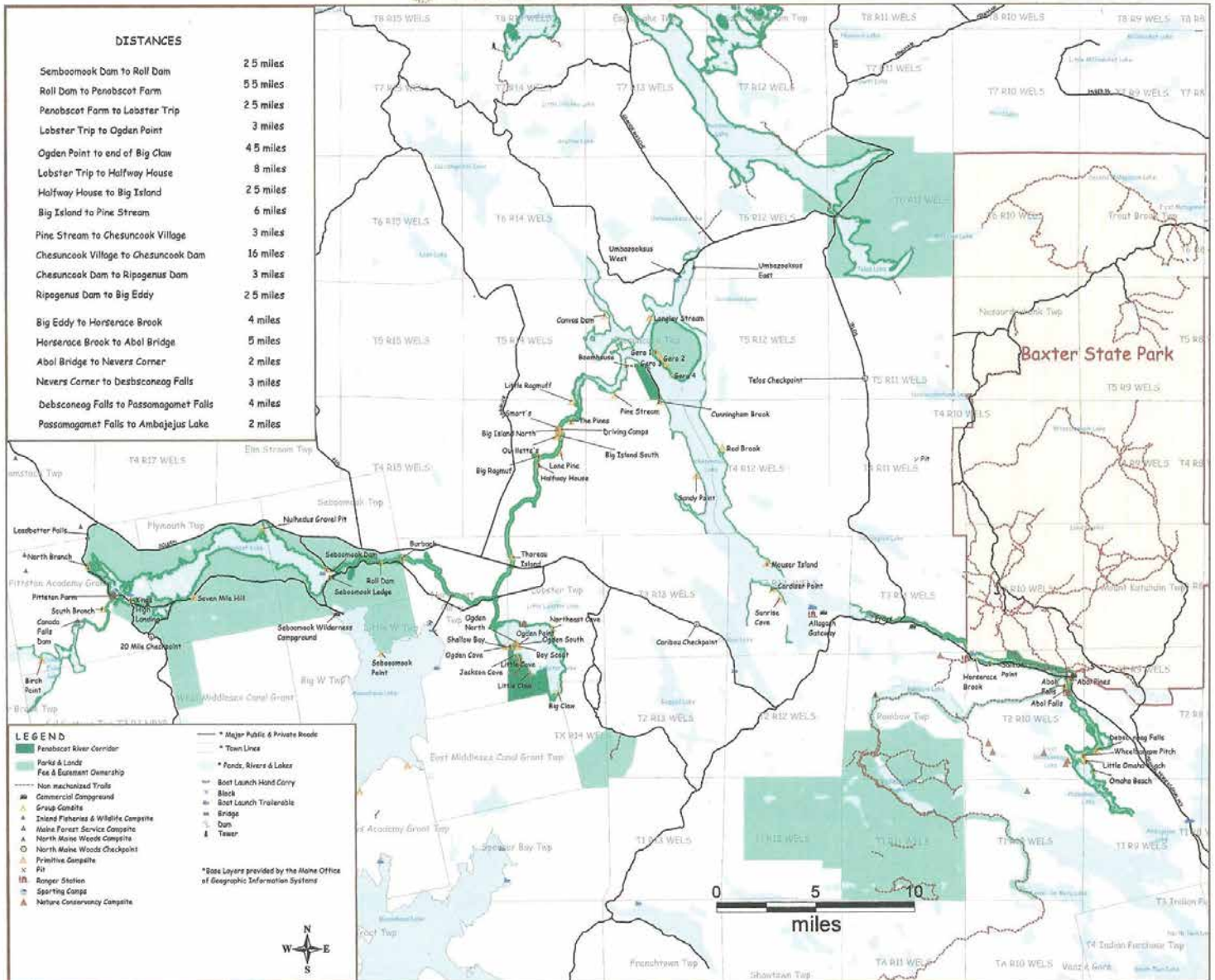
The Lower West Branch offers easy access for camping and fishing groups. The “Golden Road” is a primary land management road used for the transportation of forest products and runs parallel to the river for 10 miles from Abol to Ripogenus Dam. Ripogenus Dam to Big Eddy contains very severe rapids runable only by an experienced team in a whitewater craft. It is recommended that groups wishing to run the Lower West Branch make arrangements with a whitewater rafting company.

Big Eddy to Ambejejus is mixed flat water and rapids with several falls and stretches of heavy rapids. Canoe groups who wish to run the Lower West Branch should be experienced and use extreme caution due to the many rapids and falls. Several portages are also required. Refer to the AMC Canoe Guide.

# the Penobscot River

EXCITING RAPIDS  
COMFORTABLE CAMPSITES  
LEISURELY FLAT WATER

# Penobscot River Corridor




photos by PRC staff

## Campsites

Camping is allowed only at sites designated by the Bureau of Parks and Lands. All sites are primitive, many accessible only by watercraft. All sites have a fire ring, table and outhouse. Fire permits are not required; however, fires must be contained in fireplaces provided, fire pans or portable stoves. Visitors are limited to no more than 7 consecutive nights. The Bureau of Parks and Lands may authorize an extension on a day to day basis. Tents or other equipment cannot be left unoccupied on any site more than one night and sites must be vacated by noon on the last day of the permit. If you are not interested in primitive camping there are commercial campgrounds and camps in the West Branch area.

**Camping Fees: Under 10 years of age is free. \$6 per night per person for residents. \$12 per night per person for non-residents. Plus a 9% lodging tax.**

## Organized Groups

Groups of more than 30 people are prohibited. Groups of more than 12 people are restricted to using designated group campsites. Group campsites are marked by a  on the map. Trip leaders of boys and girls camps licensed by the Department of Human Services are required by law to obtain a permit from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in advance of the trip.



# MAINE BLACK BEARS

## 50 YEARS OF LEARNING

*By Caitlin Drasher, State Black Bear Biologist  
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife*

*In 2025, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) marked an important milestone: 50 years of black bear research in Maine. This half-century of work represents one of the longest consecutively running black bear studies in the United States, and it has helped shape how bears are managed in Maine today.*



**Former State Bear Biologist, Craig McLaughlin, holds up two bear cubs during a winter den visit in the 1980's.**



**Biologists Randy Cross (former Field Study Leader) and Jen Vashon (Former State Bear Biologist) process an anesthetized bear during the spring, when bears are captured to be fitted with radiocollars.**

**Data collected on black bear cubs during winter den surveys contributes to a population model, allowing biologists to estimate the size and density of the bear population in Maine.**

Photo by Lone Spruce Creative.



When the study initially began in 1975, Maine's black bears were still something of a mystery. Biologists understood that they were abundant and ecologically important, but there were some gaps in understanding how many bears were in the state, where they spent their time throughout the year, how far they traveled, whether they were territorial, and how human activities like forest management, logging, hunting, and human development might affect them. Thanks to decades of research, those questions are much clearer today. The bear population is estimated to be large and stable, with bears found statewide, but most densely populated in northern, northwestern, and eastern Maine. The knowledge that we have gained from the bear study provides wildlife managers with the information needed to keep the bear population at healthy, stable, and sustainable levels in harmony with people.

### **The early years**

The study began in 1975 as part of a PhD project led by Roy Hugie, a graduate student at the University of Montana, working in partnership with MDIFW and the University of Maine. His research objectives were to gain more information about the basic biology and ecology of black bears in Maine, through hands-on field work.

In these early years, female bears were captured and fitted with radiocollars in two different study areas. One study area was Spectacle Pond, in northern Maine's remote commercial forestlands, west of Ashland. The other was Staceyville, a more accessible area in north-central Maine. These two study areas served a purpose, to study whether there were any differences between bears living in different areas of the state with variable habitats, human activity levels, and hunting pressure.

By tracking radiocollared female bears throughout the year and visiting their dens in winter, biologists began to see some differences between study areas. Bears near Spectacle Pond lived in higher densities and used larger home ranges. Food availability was more limited due to a shorter growing season, and these bears tended to be slightly smaller. They entered dens earlier in the fall, stayed in their dens longer through winter and spring, and started reproducing at a later age, on average.

In contrast, bears in Staceyville had better access to food (including some agriculture and human-provided foods), and a longer growing season. They averaged heavier weights, didn't den quite as long, and began reproducing slightly earlier. At the time, this study area had more hunt-

ing pressure due in part to easier accessibility. These early findings demonstrated that habitat, food availability, and human access influenced the bear population, with some differences depending on location in the state.

### **Evolution of the bear study**

As years went on, the research evolved from an academic research project into a long-term MDIFW study. Biologist George Matula first led the study, followed by Craig McLaughlin who led the Department's black bear program for nearly 20 years, with field assistance from numerous Department biologists and seasonal technicians helping to capture and collar new bears, and visit dens in the winter to collect reproductive data.

In 1982, a third study area was added near Bradford, to represent a very different landscape. Unlike the primarily forested Spectacle Pond and Staceyville study areas, Bradford included a mix of small towns, agriculture, and working forestlands in central Maine, with a higher human population. This additional study area helped biologists better understand how bears use habitats closer to people.

Tracking bears during this time required a lot of legwork, quite literally. The only way for biologists to locate radiocollared bears was going into the field with hand-

*continued on page 22*

*continued from page 21*

held antennas and receivers, often hiking or snowmobiling long distances, or flying over the study areas in small planes with private pilots, most notably retired game warden pilot Jack McPhee that located bears from his Piper Super Cub from 1985 until 2003. While time-consuming, these efforts gave us a better understanding of how bears moved around the landscape and where they spent their time. Biologists with the assistance of these highly skilled bush pilots documented long-distance movements of dispersing juvenile bears, and seasonal movements of bears seeking out acorns and beechnuts in the fall.

We also learned just how natural food fluctuations influence the bear population. Years of good hard mast (e.g., acorns, beechnuts, hazelnuts) often lead to heavier bears in the fall and winter, higher cub and yearling survival, and fewer reported conflicts with people. Poor food years, on the other hand, can increase bear movements to find food, and result in smaller bears in the den, affecting cubs and yearling survival.

By the late 1980's, the bear program was able to support two full-time biologists: one to conduct the field research study, and one to focus more on bear population management, using data from the study to inform management decisions. Randy Cross took over leadership of the field study after previously working as a crew leader in one of the study areas, while Craig McLaughlin served as the state's Bear Biologist. The study gradually expanded in size; at times, close to 100 bears were being monitored across three study areas.

### **Informing bear management today**

In the early 2000's, Jen Vashon stepped into the role of state Bear Biologist, working closely with Randy Cross who continued to lead the field study to gather data on the bear population. In 2004, the Staceyville study area was phased out and replaced with a Downeast study area, to better represent bear habitat and conditions for bears in eastern Maine. The Department also began collecting

more information from harvested bears, such as age data from mandatory tooth collection that began in 2008. By analyzing bear teeth submitted by hunters and determining the age of harvested bears, we were able to understand more about the age structure of the population and incorporate this information into population estimates.

Around this time, technology was improving, and the study began slowly transitioning to the use of GPS collars. Instead of only being able to collect locations of bears manually in the field, GPS collars were able to record thousands of locations and store them on the collar. Once retrieved and downloaded, the collars provided much more detailed information about bear movements, habitat use, and seasonal behavior, which saved time and expanded our knowledge further.

Data collected in the field continued to inform management decisions and provided useful information about bear ecology and the status of the bear population during two bear referendums in 2004 and 2014. These referendums proposed eliminating the primary legal hunting methods used to manage bears in Maine. Research showed that existing harvest levels, and the methods used to achieve them, were critical to managing bears at both ecological carrying capacity (the amount of bears the environment can support) and social carrying capacity (the amount of bears that people are willing to live with).

MDIFW used decades of field data to explain the potential implications of these proposals. In both cases, Maine voters rejected





**Clockwise from top left:**

**Black bear cubs in their winter den.**

**State Black Bear Biologist, Caitlin Drasher, looks on as a cub is weighed during a winter den visit.**

**During the spring, MDIFW biologists capture bears to deploy radiocollars.**

**Field Study Leader, Matt O'Neal, locating a collared bear with radiotelemetry.**

Photos by Lone Spruce Creative.



the referendums, maintaining existing bear hunting methods as an important management tool in the state.

In 2019, Randy Cross retired after 37 years of working on and later leading the bear field study. In 2023, after two decades as the State Bear Biologist, Jen Vashon moved into a leadership role overseeing MDIFW's Game Research and Management Section. With Matt O'Neal now leading the bear field study and my new role as State Bear Biologist, we look forward to working together to strengthen this important research.

Over the last five decades, we have gathered a great amount of valuable information about Maine's black bears. Some of the main findings include a better understanding of the distribution and size of the population throughout the state, the differences in reproduction, survival, and recruitment between study areas as well as within study areas over time as habitats and conditions change, and the role of important food sources and nutrition with regards to cub production

and survival. The continuation of this long-term study allows us to keep a pulse on the bear population and detect any changes early on and will help inform our bear management into the future.

Over time, our field tools and our analytical methods have improved, allowing us to estimate Maine's bear population more accurately than ever before. While much of the work still happens the old-fashioned way – traveling deep into the Maine woods on foot, by snowmobile, and by plane to collect data – we now have better ways to combine and interpret all of the information we collect. Today, MDIFW uses an integrated population model (IPM) that pulls together data from several sources to produce a more reliable picture of the bear population. This includes information provided by bear hunters, such as the age and sex of harvested bears, reports of human-bear conflicts, and long-term field data on cub production and survival. Together, these data allow us to estimate bear numbers both at a statewide level, and within Wild-

life Management Districts. Our ultimate goal is to maintain a stable, healthy bear population that Maine residents and visitors can enjoy – whether through wildlife watching, hunting, or simply knowing that bears remain a vital part of our landscape. Black bears are an important and enduring part of Maine's cultural heritage and forest ecosystem, and we learned much about them over 50 years of research.

Maine's black bear study has been supported by the federal Pittman-Robertson program and through state revenues from the sale of hunting and trapping licenses. Just as important, it has depended on cooperation from landowners and managers, hunters, biologists, wardens, pilots, volunteers, and University partners who have provided their time and expertise and shared information and access over the years. To learn more about the history of Maine's black bear study, you can view the short documentary film *Fifty Seasons* on MDIFW's YouTube channel, or visit [www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/wildlife/species-information/mammals/bear.html#management](http://www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/wildlife/species-information/mammals/bear.html#management). 🐻



## LEAVE IT LIKE YOU LOVE IT.

*From its pine forests to its rugged coastline, every adventure in Maine is made possible by a natural and cultural landscape that deserves our respect and care. That's why we're inviting you to Look Out for ME, an initiative rooted in decades of research and the 7 Principles of Leave No Trace. Join the shared promise to be a good guest—on the trails, in small towns and everywhere in between.*

# MAINE.

## FORGED BY NATURE

VisitMaine.com





Reddish-brown needles of spruce and fir trees can be seen on untreated trees in the summer 2025; indicative of spruce budworm feeding. In areas treated through the EIS response, healthy and green stands can be seen. Photo: N. Thompson, UMFK

# Budworm Brief

## WHAT HAPPENED IN 2025?

By *Brittany Schappach, Forest Entomologist*  
Maine Forest Service

Over the past year, spruce budworm has been a particularly hot topic for those concerned with newly discovered “hot spots” in Northern Maine. Although spruce budworm is a native insect and is always present in Maine’s forests, populations can quickly become unmanageable, reaching such high levels that their natural controls (predators (birds, insects, spiders, etc.), diseases, and weather) are no longer able to keep budworm populations low and stable.

Maine’s last major response to a spruce budworm outbreak began in the 1970s, when the management goal was to keep valuable trees alive after the populations had already overwhelmed their natural controls. Using this foliage-protection approach, roughly seven million acres of spruce and fir trees were still damaged or killed by spruce budworm. This caused waves of change in Maine including diminished water quality and disruptions to the natural resources and their dependent communities for the decades that followed.

Since then, decades of monitoring and research led scientists to develop and implement a new management approach: Early Intervention Strategy (EIS). Initially tested in Atlantic Canada, EIS aims to help forests by using targeted insecticides to reduce building



Spruce budworm larva (~4th instar) in host fir tree in the June. Photo: N. Thompson, UMFK.

budworm populations early – when they are still low – instead of waiting until populations have already exploded.

The goal of EIS is not to eliminate spruce budworm, but rather to reduce populations in affected areas and allow natural enemies to continue doing what they do best: keeping budworm in check. This new approach to management can drastically reduce tree damage and the size of the areas requiring management.

### Budworm Monitoring in 2025

The first step toward successful EIS is understanding exactly where spruce budworm populations are poised to escape natural controls. To help us achieve this, branch samples are collected from fir and spruce trees, and overwintering spruce budworm larvae in their second instar, otherwise known as “L2”, are counted from each sample. Those locations with more than 7 L2 per sample have budworm populations growing beyond what natural enemies can control. Called “hot spots,” the center of these areas indicates where targeted use of insecticides can help prevent an outbreak from building.

In 2024, L2 survey results indicated roughly 307,000 acres with hot spots of

budworm populations exceeding the action threshold of 7 L2, with approximately 241,000 acres identified for management. This data led decision makers to choose an EIS approach in 2025 to protect Maine’s forests before populations were expected to outbreak, or in some cases, prevent the spread of an active outbreak.

### Choosing the right insecticides for EIS

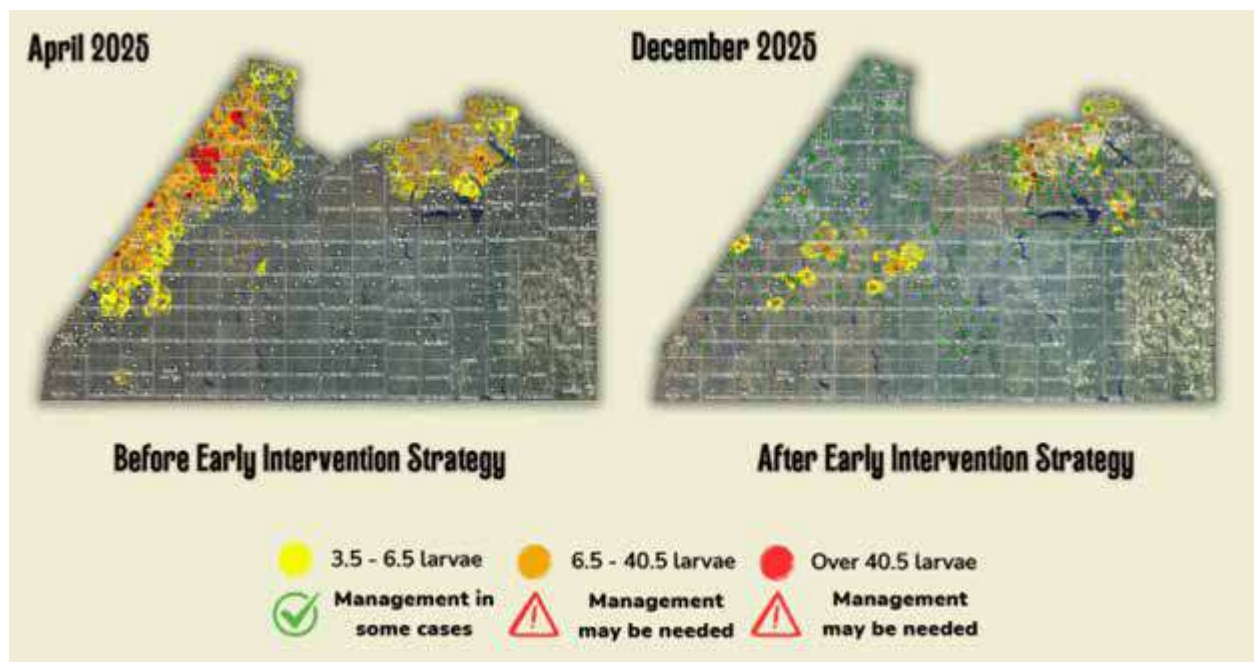
An effective EIS approach includes using insecticides that are specific toward caterpillars and are practically nontoxic toward other insects, birds, mammals (including humans), and the environment. Active ingredients tebufenozide or *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) were the best match for these goals. Insecticides with either active ingredient are only effective if caterpillars consume them. Most importantly, both active ingredients will not directly impact natural enemies of spruce budworm (birds, wasps, spiders, ants, etc.) which will allow them to be the “clean-up crew” after insecticides knock down most of the elevated budworm populations.

Both insecticides are specific toward caterpillars, including spruce budworm,

but may affect other caterpillar species that are feeding at the same time and on the same treated foliage as budworm. Ensuring correct treatment timing helps maximize the desired outcome and minimize the number of non-target caterpillar species impacted.

Tebufenozide acts as an insect growth regulator that mimics a hormone in caterpillars, causing them to molt too early during their development and results in mortality. Because only caterpillars respond to this type of growth regulator hormone, it does not affect other types of insects, including bees or other beneficial insects. Tebufenozide received the Environmental Protection Agency’s Green Chemistry award in 1998 due to this and other properties.

*Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) contains spores of a bacterium that occurs naturally on dead or decaying matter on plants and in soils. Btk spores are only activated by highly alkaline environments (pH>9), matching caterpillars’ gut environments. Once activated, Btk spores release an endotoxin that punctures the caterpillar’s gut wall and allows bacteria to enter its body and cause infection and mortality. Unlike caterpillars, humans,



L2 survey maps from before EIS in April 2025 compared to after EIS in December 2025. Management decisions do not hinge solely on budworm populations. EIS is a landscape-based approach. Some areas in the landscape may not be treated even though budworm populations meet or drastically exceed the management threshold.

other mammals, and other insects (like budworm's natural enemies) have guts that do not activate Btk spores and instead break them down, rendering the product harmless.

### **Maine's EIS approach in 2025**

While an EIS approach may be relatively straightforward, the correct timing can make or break a treatment program. For success, the insecticides had to:

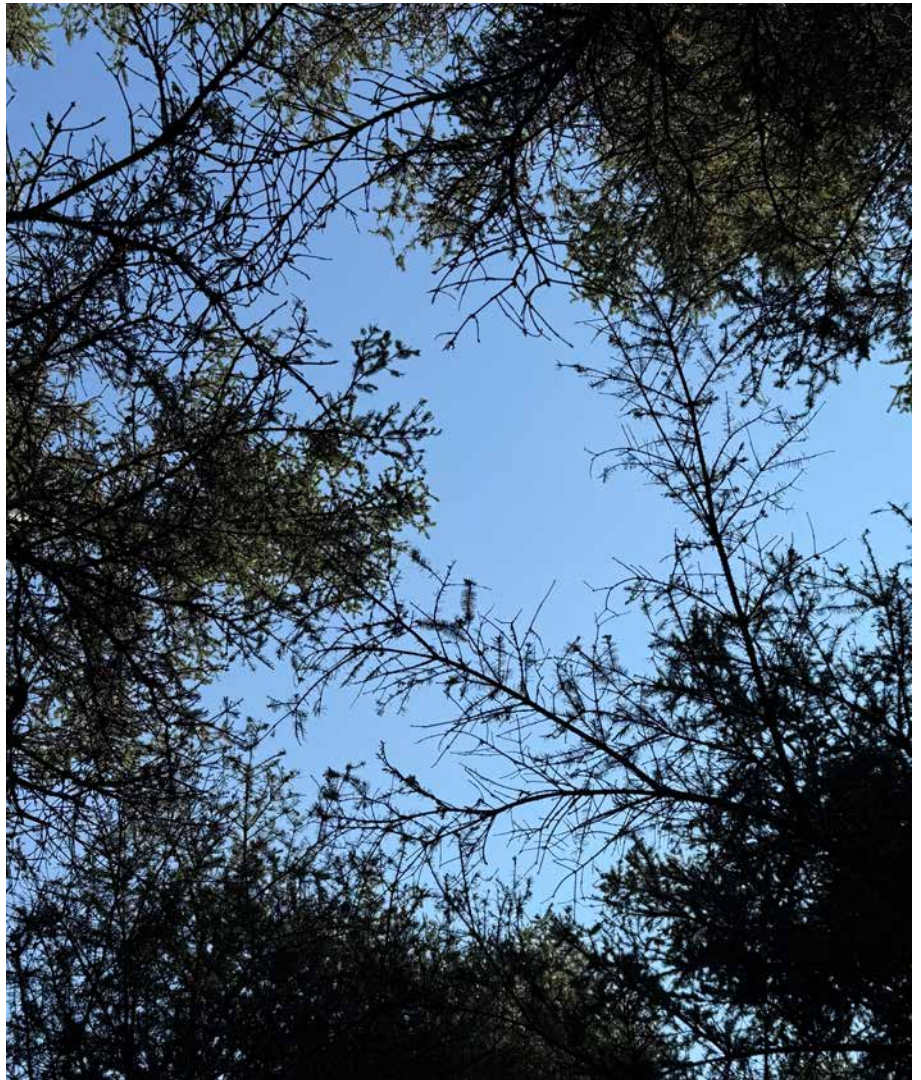
1. Be applied at a time when budworm caterpillars had emerged and were actively feeding on partially expanded fir or spruce needles,
2. Land on the tops of trees that budworm caterpillars were actively feeding on, and
3. Be consumed by the caterpillars before they were broken down in the environment.

In addition, the team was committed to avoiding treatment of sensitive areas, with buffers on water and wetlands as well as around habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered butterflies and homes.

Ongoing communication with the public about the treatments and timing was also critical to the project. Newsletters, presentations, formal notices, social media, and traditional media area among the avenues the team used to inform and update the public on the project.

A network of professionals on the ground monitored tree and caterpillar development across the impacted landscape. Once tree needles and caterpillars were at the right developmental stages, a favorable weather window allowed for the Maine Budworm Response Coalition to coordinate and complete Maine's first large-scale spruce budworm aerial treatment program in decades.

After EIS applications, budworm populations declined across approximately 95% of treated areas and high levels of natural enemies were documented both in treatment areas and buffer areas up to two miles away.




**Spruce budworm damage as seen from the forest floor in Wallagrass in August 2025.** Photo: B. Schappach, Maine Forest Service.

### **Planning ahead for 2026**

Following 2025's success, managers have opted to apply EIS in 2026 to suppress elevated populations of spruce budworm in Maine. After monitoring and L2 surveys during winter 2025-2026, roughly 83,000 acres have been identified as hot spots – a decrease of 72% compared to the documented acres of hot spots the year before. Treatment plans are preliminary at the time of this writing, but about 70,000 acres of forest have been identified for potential treatments in late May and early June 2026.

To offer small landowners in Maine an opportunity to participate in the success of EIS, the Maine Forest Service created a

small landowner program to set up cost-share treatments for these landowners in 2026. The opportunity was advertised in the Bangor Daily News, Maine Woodland Owners newsletter, in-person tours, tabled outreach events, social media posts, and on the Maine Forest Service and Spruce Budworm Task Force websites. In the first year of the program, over 50 landowners and 200 woodlots encompassing nearly 4,000 acres of treatable spruce-fir cover in northern Maine were submitted by landowners for consideration in the EIS program.

More information about EIS treatments and future plans can be found on the Spruce Budworm Task Force website: [www.sprucebudwormmaine.org](http://www.sprucebudwormmaine.org) 

# 2025 YOUTH FISHING CHALLENGE

As part of our ongoing efforts to increase youth engagement and involvement, we hosted a youth fishing contest and the response was incredible. While we originally planned to recognize five winners, we were so impressed by the enthusiasm and participation that we ultimately selected ten!

Each winner received a North Maine Woods hat and decal, an official award certificate, and a \$100 donation made in their name to the Hunt of a Lifetime organization.

We extend our sincere thanks to all of the participants and their families for helping make this fishing challenge such a success.

Here we present the winners of the 2025 fishing challenge.



Featured with their prizes are Maxwell and Amelia McInnis.



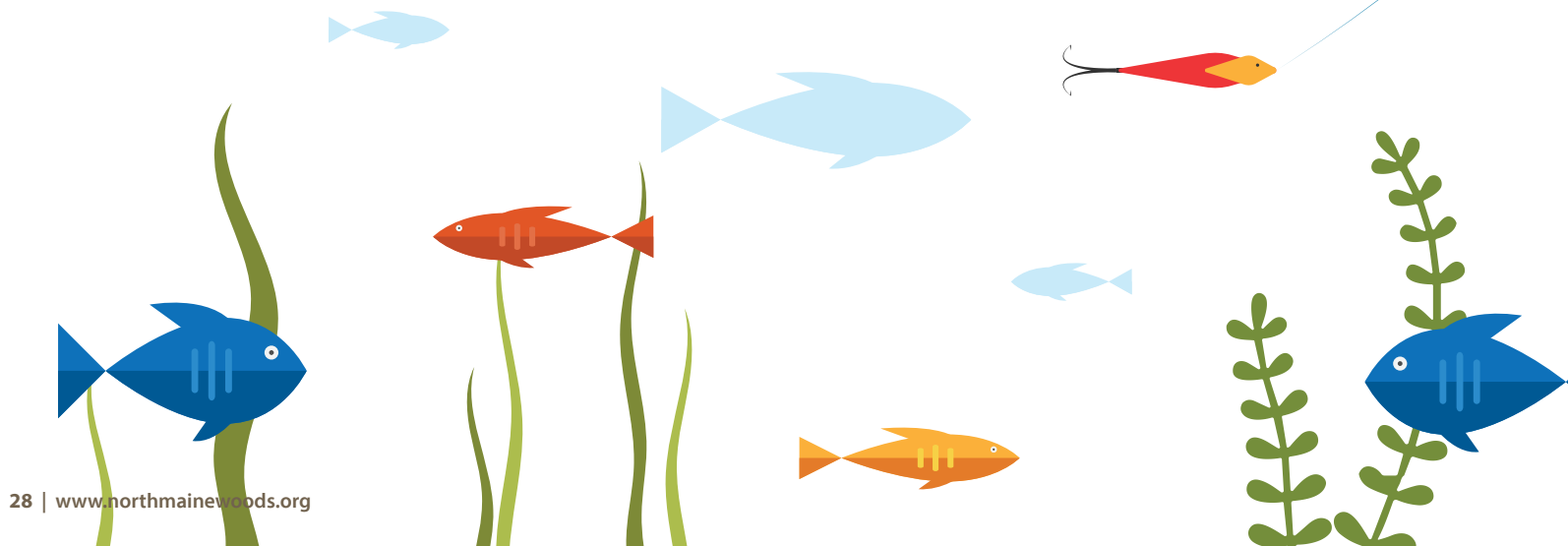
Emma Castonguay, age 13, from Wal-lag-rass, ME caught this beauty at Beau Lake with her dad, Jason Castonguay.



(L) Ethan Collins, age 11 and (R) Logan Greaves, age 11, from Mapleton, ME caught their fish at Greenlaw Stream with Logan's dad, Joe Greaves.



Carter Boulware, age 11, from Mapleton, ME caught this 14" salmon at Fish Lake with his grandfather, Vern Dean. This was a catch and release.





**Amelia McInnis, age 9, from Norway, ME caught this 13" brook trout at Deboullie Pond with her dad, Jacob McInnis.**



**Megan Nichols, age 11, from Fremont, NH caught her fish at Mooseleuk Lake with her dad, Joe Nichols**



**Drew Sylvester, age 10, from Winthrop, ME caught this fish with his father, Matthew Sylvester.**



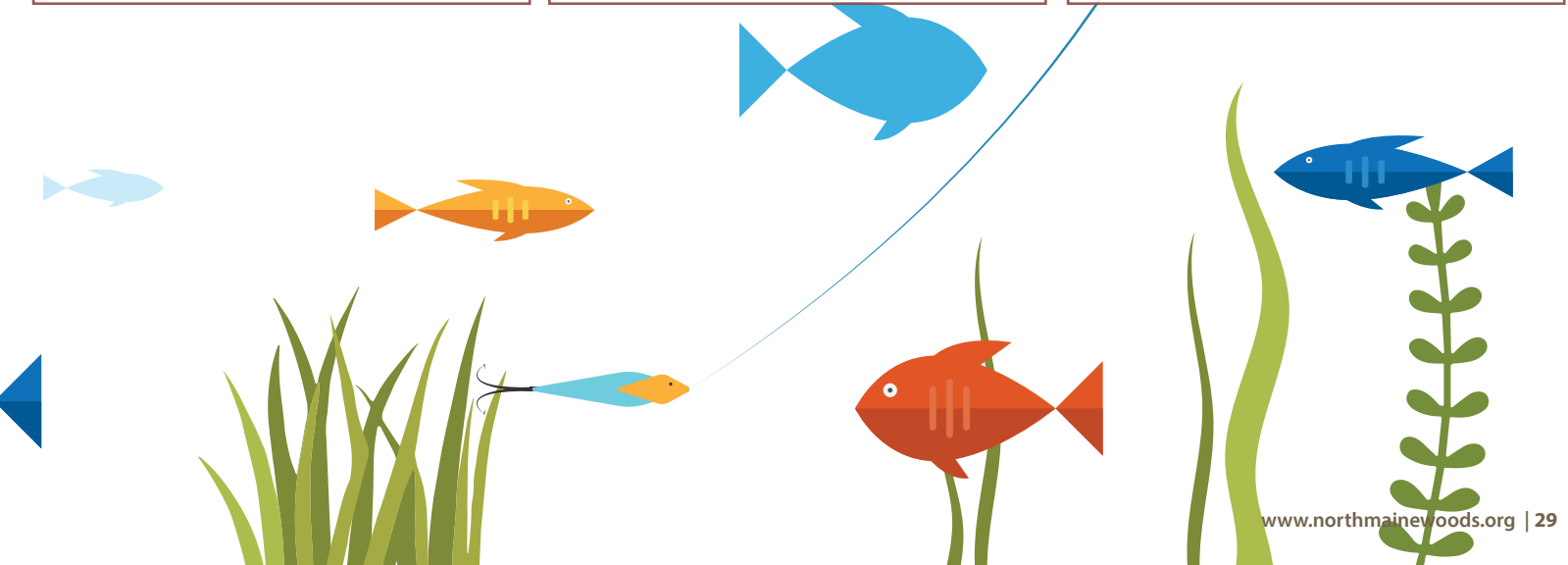
**Anna Pomerleau, age 12, from Ashland, ME caught her fish at Carr Pond with her mom and dad, Jenny and Preston Pomerleau.**



**Austin Pomerleau, age 11, from Ashland, ME caught his fish at Carr Pond with his mom and dad, Jenny and Preston Pomerleau.**



**Maxwell McInnis, age 5, from Norway, ME caught this 18" lake trout at Togue Pond with his dad, Jacob McInnis.**





Aldo  
&  
Juniper

FOR THE  
**LOVE**  
OF THE GAME

Aldo (left) and Juniper

## *Dogs, dedication, and blood tracking*

*By Lindsay Ware, professional dog tracker and trainer*

***When I tell someone that in the fall, you can regularly find me hiking in the dark through unfamiliar woods, crawling into the thickest alder swamps, and staying up until dawn on weeknights, I usually get asked some version of, “Why?”***

The short answer is that I happily do all of that (and much more) in the name of tracking wounded game for hunters. The longer answer as to what exactly motivates me to dedicate so much of my life to this is a bit harder to explain.

Using a leashed dog to recover large game, or “blood tracking” as it’s more commonly known, was not always a well-established part of Maine hunting culture. Legalized statewide in 2003, it was slow to gain traction. A few people became licensed early on, but Susanne Hamilton was the first Maine tracker to do it avidly and long-term. She travelled from her home in Montville throughout the state, tracking wounded deer with her amazing German wirehaired dachshund, Buster. Few hunters were aware that such a service existed, and those that did often didn’t call Susanne until a day or more after the shot.

I had never heard of blood tracking until one fateful day in 2010, when I spotted a very brief mention of it in the Maine hunting regulation booklet. I had grown up in a hunting family and cared deeply about ethical game harvest, and I

couldn't stop thinking about how tracking might be a good job for my new dog. Gander was a young labrador retriever with a goofy disposition, an obsession with using his nose, and a deep hatred of being asked to stay still or quiet in a duck blind. I suspected that he had plans for himself beyond retrieving ducks. A year later, I had read John Jeanneney's book "Tracking Dogs for Finding Wounded Deer" several times over, spent countless hours training Gander to follow mock blood trails, and was a proud Leashed Dog Tracking licensee. Because few hunters knew about us, we only had a small handful of tracking opportunities for the first couple of years. I had only intended to track as a casual hobby, so a full tracking schedule wasn't necessary, but I did wish for more hands-on opportunities to learn and develop as a tracker.

By the time we first met in 2013, Susanne had already been working for nearly a decade to prove how valuable good tracking dog teams could be to Maine hunters. Her tracking opportunities were not always plentiful, but stories of her and Buster saving game from being left in the woods were spreading. As a result, she was tracking more frequently, and seeing that I needed some real-life experience, she invited me along.

Following an experienced tracker through the woods taught me what it really meant to track wounded game. On one of our first tracks together, Susanne and I found ourselves in a swamp at midnight. Buster had just done an expert-level job of track-

ing the wounded buck over a mile, with only the occasional blood drop as confirmation that we were on the right trail, and all the evidence we compiled made it clear that the deer would likely survive with just a minor wound. We were navigating ourselves out of the woods through the edge of the remote wetland, a full moon overhead. The going was tough and mucky, and we were trying (not always successfully) to lift our feet from each step without leaving our boots behind in the mud. Surprisingly, this was the moment that I realized that tracking was not going to be a casual or occasional thing for me. I was all in and completely hooked.

Susanne and I became fast friends, connected by our love for our dogs and tracking. We continued to learn from each other as Gander and I developed as a team, tracking and recovering many bears and deer, and the occasional moose. Susanne and I focused on spreading the word among Maine hunters about how to best incorporate a tracking dog team into their game recovery strategy. We also familiarized hunters with the less-publicized reality of tracking: that often, a wounded animal is not fatally hit, and it's part of our job to find out what happened. Yes, with a highly experienced tracking team, a dead or dying animal is almost always recovered. But just as importantly, we can also track a non-fatally wounded animal long enough to determine its likeliness to survive and provide valuable peace of mind and closure to the hunter.

By the late 2010s, as hunter awareness grew, so did our tracking community. Susanne and I now had additional tracker friends in Southern Maine, and new trackers were emerging, some of which were taking us up on our offers of mentorship. I had grown as well, initiating a career change which allowed me to turn tracking into a full-time job in the fall. As Gander aged and had to trade his adventures in the woods for time on the couch, I developed a fondness for Susanne's breed of choice, the dachshund. Many different breeds of dogs can be excellent blood trackers, and a handler must find the type of dog that fits best with their lifestyle and personality. I found mine in a 15-pound fiery little dachshund named Aldo. By 2020, Aldo and I were tracking over 150 animals per season, almost exclusively deer and bear.

Tracking had come a long way in Maine hunting culture, yet a challenge remained: moose. Susanne and I tracked moose occasionally over the years, but we knew there was a bigger need. Tracking these special animals takes extra effort and caution: they're hunted in remote areas, can cover long distances quickly, and have a strong tendency to aggressively charge a tracking team when they're still lively. Nonetheless, Susanne and I were determined to spend more time helping moose hunters. In 2022, housed by amazing supporters who believe in our work, we began an annual tradition of spending the September bull hunting week-long season in the Ashland area. During "moose week," me, Susanne and

*continued on page 32*

**Left to right: The author's first tracking dog, Gander, with a large bear recovered; Juniper with a deer she recovered; Susanne, the author, and Aldo with the moose recovery mentioned in the article.**





**Left to right: Aldo checks out the view from a mountain during a long hike out to remote track. Susanne’s tracking dog, Fritzzi, with a moose she and Susanne recovered during a Moose Week together. Aldo and a doe recovered after a cold snow. Aldo with a deer we recovered.**

*continued from page 31*

our crew of dachshunds form a specialized moose tracking team.

This past 2025 hunting season, we had a particularly memorable moose track in the North Maine Woods. Susanne and I received a call for help with finding a moose, but the caller had not actually shot a moose. Instead, she had come across a hunting party along the side of the road while driving out of the woods to return to town. The party explained to her that the permit holder had made what he thought was a well-placed shot on a nice bull, but they could only locate two small blood splatters at the hit site, and there was no blood trail to follow. The hunters were not aware of me and Susanne, or perhaps even blood tracking dogs in general. But fortunately, our good Samaritan was. Not stopping at just simply giving them our phone number, she somehow found a blip of phone reception and called us for them, arranging a spot for us to meet.

Susanne and I arrived just after dark, and it was little Aldo’s turn to take up the track. I carried Aldo to the hit site and let him

examine the area. Things were tricky at first; Aldo had to carefully examine all the ground disturbance and odors in the area, ruling out the scent of other moose and hunters’ footprints. Finally, he locked onto a scent trail and led us confidently away. Soon, we had gone over 800 yards, just short of half a mile, and hadn’t spotted a single additional blood drop. Aldo insisted he was following the correct moose, and through eight years as partners and several hundreds of recoveries to his name, he had earned my trust. Suddenly, I heard a triumphant “ah ha!” from Susanne, and she pointed out a small pool of blood in a patch of moss. Just fifty yards later, the light from our headlamps caught a flash of moose antler peeking up from the shrubs ahead of us: we had found him. The hunter had indeed made a shot in vital organs, but the distance the moose covered before stopping was a perfect example of how incredibly tough these animals can be. Now it was time for our favorite part: allowing the victorious tracking dog to go see his prize, congratulating and celebrating with the hunters, and marveling at the beautiful ani-

mal. We still don’t know the identity of the woman who connected the hunters with us, but I suspect she and I share the same sentiments about conservation, ethics, and camaraderie among outdoorspeople.

In retrospect, perhaps the question of why I do this work is not so difficult to explain. Why do I embrace the exhausting physical challenges, the sleepless nights, the mud, the thorns, and the especially tough tracks? Because it’s part of working together with my tireless dogs to succeed at the job they love. Because it’s how we support hunters when they need help bringing ethical conclusions to their hunts. And above all, because blood tracking is an effective and important way to respect the iconic large game animals of Maine.

*Lindsay Ware is a professional tracker and dog trainer. When she’s not helping hunters, she works with scent detection dogs to find animals and other wildlife for biologists as the owner of Science Dogs of New England. For more information about tracking wounded game with dogs, visit [www.unitedbloodtrackers.org](http://www.unitedbloodtrackers.org).*

**Left to right: Gander again, with a buck, recovered after a very difficult track, posing with the happy hunter. Juniper and one of her first bear recoveries. Aldo with a recovered moose. The author with a dog named Viva, owned by southern Maine tracker Joanne, and a buck they recovered together.**



# HUNT OF A LIFETIME

Tina Pattison founded Hunt of a Lifetime shortly after losing her son, Matthew, to cancer. “I would sit by Matthew’s bedside... we would talk about ‘dreams’—mine and his. I asked him what he would like to do in the future, blocking out of my mind how difficult a word like ‘future’ can be when it is so uncertain. Matthew’s forehead wrinkled for only a moment as he thought of what he wanted to do most in the world. He looked at me with eyes that were for that moment not those of a dying child, but those of a boy who wished for adventure —outside of the sterile confinement of a hospital room.” Matthew wanted one thing; he wanted to hunt moose with his Dad. Despite the knowledge that such a hunt could cost upwards of ten thousand dollars, Tina set out to make her son’s wish come true. Tina contacted a wish granting organization and was told that they no longer granted hunting wishes, and because Matthew had passed his 18th birthday, he would not be eligible to receive a wish. Nevertheless, this determined mother would not stop there. After exhausting all of her options, Tina finally received a call from Clayton Grosso,



an outfitter in Nordegg, a tiny village in Alberta, Canada. The Safari Club of Pittsburg, through the Safari Outfitters Association, had contacted Grosso. With the help of Clayton Grosso and his small community, Matthew’s wish became a reality. Sadly, Matthew lost his battle with cancer in the spring of 1999. Now more than twenty years later, in honor of her son, Tina and her team at Hunt of a Lifetime continue to help grant hunting and fishing wishes for other children and young people, up to the age of 21, who have a life-threatening disability or illness.

**To learn more about this organization, visit [www.huntofalifetime.org](http://www.huntofalifetime.org).** For more information on Matthew and Tina’s personal journey, please visit the About Us section of their webpage. If you would like to apply or to help make the dreams of other children and young people come true, please contact the Hunt of a Lifetime team at:

817-572-4387 (cell) or [info@huntofalifetime.org](mailto:info@huntofalifetime.org)  
Hunt of a Lifetime Foundation, Inc.  
6297 Buffalo Road, Harbor Creek, PA 16421



## MAINE OPERATION GAME THIEF BE A SPORT. REPORT.

PROTECTING ALL OF MAINE’S NATURAL RESOURCES

### REPORT A VIOLATION

[maineogt.org/report-a-violation](http://maineogt.org/report-a-violation)

OR

## 1-800-253-7887

This number is specifically for VIOLATIONS ONLY  
Your call or report will remain totally anonymous  
and you will not be asked to testify in court.

### QUESTIONS?

PLEASE CONTACT THE MAINE  
WARDEN SERVICE AT

## 1-207-287-8000

IMPORTANT: This phone number is for the offices of  
the MAINE WARDEN SERVICE and is for GENERAL  
INQUIRIES NOT FOR REPORTING VIOLATIONS

# Hammond Lumber Company

34 LOCATIONS ACROSS  
MAINE & NEW HAMPSHIRE

[HAMMONDLUMBER.COM](http://HAMMONDLUMBER.COM)

## R.C. LOGGING SUPPLIES

One Stop Shop For All Your Logging Needs

Echo - Jonsered - Husqvarna  
Sales & Service

3429 Rt. 2  
PO Box 7  
Smyrna Mills, ME 04780  
Ph: 207-757-8691  
Fx: 207-757-8630  
rpesfe@fairpoint.net

Ross Crandall, Proprietor



STURDI-BILT

# SB

STORAGE BUILDINGS LLC

2836 U.S. Route 2, Smyrna, Maine 04780

**207-757-7877**

"Built to order, Built to last."

Portable Sheds,  
Garages and Camps



Bear • Moose • Upland • Coyote

## Turnpike Ridge OUTFITTERS



**(207) 540-3501**

Your hosts: Edsel and Amy Barnes

PO Box 284

Ashland, Maine 04732

[www.facebook.com/trosalmonpoolcamps](http://www.facebook.com/trosalmonpoolcamps)



HUBER RESOURCES CORP.

Huber Resources Corp. (HRC), a subsidiary of J.M. Huber Corporation, traces its origins as a timberland manager dating back to the 1940s. Operating across the U.S. Northeast, Lake States, and the Southwest, HRC actively manages over 1.5 million acres for a variety of timberland owners.

We focus on providing exceptional stewardship of client timberlands, with a commitment to excellence in every aspect of our work. Our mission is to help clients achieve their timberland investment objectives while ensuring sustainable management of their timber resources.

With services like integrated resource management, timber marketing, forest certification, forestland accounting, and technical services, see what our professionals can do for you. For more information, please visit [www.huberresources.com](http://www.huberresources.com).



(207) 668-3411  
www.bishopstore.com

Your outdoor headquarters for hiking, camping, fishing and hunting supplies in Jackman, "The Switzerland of Maine"



## Gateway Trading Post

Gateway to North Maine Woods

Game Tagging Station • Convenience Store  
Hunting and Fishing Licenses and Supplies  
Snowmobile and ATV Registrations  
Souvenirs • Lodging • Ammo • Hot Foods  
RV & Tent Campsites • Dumping Station



### NOW OFFERING:

- Cold Storage for Deer, Bear, Moose
- 14' x 24' Walk-in Cooler
- Skinning, Quartering and Deboning Available

**39 years wild game processing experience**

**www.gatewaytradingpost.com**  
111 Garfield Road, Ashland ME 04732  
**207-435-6890**

Experience Maine's Wild Allagash with retired Ranger Supervisor Tim Caverly in his collection of books found at **www.allagashtails.com**



Books may be ordered by writing to Allagash Tails, 220 Morgan Lane, Millinocket, ME 04462; calling (207) 907-0517; or emailing tim.caverly7357@gmail.com

Join Tim at his scheduled speaking engagements found at [www.allagashtails.com/events](http://www.allagashtails.com/events)



Allagash Lakes Region, high quality, full utility and basic housekeeping cabins on Haymock, Spider and Cliff Lakes

**OPEN YEAR ROUND**

Boats, motors, canoes, gas.  
Recreational snowmobile riding,  
fishing, hunting, vacationing.  
Pets welcome.

Mailing Address: 20 Wonderview Dr, Mapleton, ME 04757  
**1-207-307-2115**  
**www.macannamac.com**

**Maine Antler Works**

Lonnie and Janet Jandreau  
 shedcarver@hotmail.com | maineantlerworks@gmail.com  
 207-227-9113 207-435-3770  
 353 Goding Rd, Ashland ME 04732

**GRAND LAKE HUNT**  
*Dayforth, Maine*

**Maine's Premiere Hunting Preserve**  
 Red Stag • Elk • Fallow • Moose  
 Black Bear • Bison • Grouse • Turkey

[www.grandlakehunt.com](http://www.grandlakehunt.com) [@grandlakehunt](https://www.facebook.com/grandlakehunt)  
 719-930-1464 • 207-448-9099

Kevin & Cheryl Pelletier

**Crossroad Cabins**

46 Klien Road Fort Kent ME 04743  
**(207) 834-6717**  
 All Season Rentals  
[www.crossroadcabins.com](http://www.crossroadcabins.com)  
 email: info@crossroadcabins.com

**J&J**  
 MINI BARNs

748 HOULTON ROAD, EASTON, ME 04740

Workshops  
 Garages  
 Garden Sheds  
 Storage Sheds  
 Camps & Cottages

Ice Shanties  
 Horse Barns  
 Play Houses  
 Chicken Houses  
 Pellet & Coal Storage

Stop by and check us out before you buy!

24-HOUR TOWING & RECOVERY SERVICE

TIRE SALES & REPAIR

**Reliant Repair**

380 Presque Isle Road Ashland, ME 04732 (207) 762-1829  
 ReliantRepairs@gmail.com  
[www.facebook.com/reliantrepair](http://www.facebook.com/reliantrepair)

**M.A.C.S. TRADING POST**  
 532 9700

**OUTDOOR SPORTING GOODS**

54 NORTH STREET  
 HOULTON, ME 04730

LIKE US ON [f](https://www.facebook.com) [i](https://www.instagram.com)

**MOOSE POINT LODGE**

ON THE SHORES OF FISH RIVER LAKE  
 T13 R8

**HUNTING • FISHING VACATIONS**

GUIDED • AMERICAN PLAN • DIY  
 207-522-9723  
 MOOSEPOINTLODGE@GMAIL.COM  
 CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

**Stanley's Auto Center, LLC**  
 Over 40 Years Family Owned and Operated

Specializing in tires, complete auto repair, outdoor power equipment, and small engine repair.

2184 Medway Road, Medway | 746.5770  
 Visit us on Facebook - [www.facebook.com/stanleysautocenter](http://www.facebook.com/stanleysautocenter)

**TROPHY DEER, MOOSE AND BEAR HUNTS**  
 WWW.MAINEWHITETAILADVENTURES.COM



**MAINE WHITETAIL ADVENTURES**

JAYSON LUCARELLI  
 MASTER MAINE GUIDE  
 (207) 265-6250

P.O. BOX 124, MEDWAY, ME 04460  
 INFO@MAINEWHITETAILADVENTURES.COM

**BEER • NON ETHANOL GAS • DIESEL • OIL  
 LIQUOR • HOT FOODS • GROCERY • GUNS & AMMO**



**B & C  
 PIT STOP**  
 EAGLE LAKE, MAINE  
**444-5289**

**SEA-DOO can-am ski-doo**

**SALES • SERVICE • RENTALS**







**Grab Life by the HANDLEBARS**


[www.mooseheadmotorsports.com](http://www.mooseheadmotorsports.com)  
 info@mooseheadmotorsports.com

Phone: 207-695-2020 || Fax: 207-695-2050  
 13 Industrial Park, Greenville Junction, ME 04442



**BUCKHORN CAMPS**  
 Experience a Maine Tradition

-  Fish lakes, ponds, streams
-  Hunt upland birds
-  Canoe, kayak, hike
-  Gather — retreats/groups
-  Meal plan options
-  Open May thru October

(207) 723-1548 

info@buckhorncamps.com

buckhorncamps.com



**Community Banking at its Best since 1918!**

Proudly serving your personal and business banking needs from 16 locations throughout Maine.

**Checking | Savings | Loans | Business Accounts**

To find one of our banking locations: [www.KatahdinTrust.com](http://www.KatahdinTrust.com)



MEMBER FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER



**NORTHERN DOOR INN  
 LA PORTE DU NORD**

*Fort Kent -- "The little town that could!"*

356 West Main Street • Fort Kent, Maine 04743  
 Toll Free: 866-834-3133  
 Phone: 207-834-3133  
 Fax: 207-834-2784  
[www.northerndoorinn.com](http://www.northerndoorinn.com)  
 Email: [northerndoorinn@gmail.com](mailto:northerndoorinn@gmail.com)

**SUBSCRIBE TO THE**



**ONLY \$30 FOR 12 ISSUES (1YEAR)  
 OR \$48.95 FOR 2 YEARS**

[www.sportingjournal.com](http://www.sportingjournal.com)  
 or call (207) 732-4880

**Art's APPLIANCE & FURNITURE**

**Off-Grid Appliances (Propane & Solar)**  
 refrigerators, freezers, cooking ranges,  
 lighting, heating



**Woodstoves & Accessories**





**HOURS/INFO: 207-551-8319 or 207-435-4151**  
[artsapplfurn@mail.com](mailto:artsapplfurn@mail.com)  
 21A Main Street, Ashland, ME 04732



Specializing in  
Northern Bear Hunts

- Camp Rentals
- Deer, Moose and Coyote
- Hunting and Fishing
- Canoeing and Relaxing
- Sight Seeing
- Housekeeping Cabins

DAVID PREVOST

CELL: 603-381-0080

highlandcamps@gmail.com

www.highlandcamps.com

ON FISH RIVER  
PORTAGE, MAINE



265 Frank Mack Road  
Allagash ME 04774  
207-322-5313

[allagashdestinations@gmail.com](mailto:allagashdestinations@gmail.com)

Don't forget... head for the woods or water.  
A little nature will do ya good!



**Boulet  
Sporting  
Camps**

PO Box 291  
Millinocket, Maine 04462  
Tel: (207) 723-8800  
[www.bouletsportingcamps.com](http://www.bouletsportingcamps.com)



T4R15 Russell Stream  
ZONE 4

Fully Equipped Housekeeping Camps



Lagrange • Ashland  
Maine 207-943-2511  
[www.themidmaineoutfitters.com](http://www.themidmaineoutfitters.com)  
[info@themidmaineoutfitters.com](mailto:info@themidmaineoutfitters.com)

**Mid Maine Outfitters &  
Maine-ly Moose Camps**

Troy P. White  
Registered Maine Master Guide

Guided bear, moose,  
deer and bird hunts

Camp rentals

ATV and snowmobile  
trails nearby

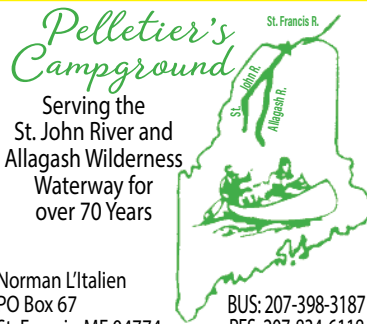
MOOSE & GROUSE HUNT LODGING IN ZONES 4, 8, 9  
**GREAT MOUNTAIN MANOR**



Meals, WiFi  
Shower

(207) 265-6250

[mainewhitetailadventures.com](http://mainewhitetailadventures.com)  
[info@mainewhitetailadventures.com](mailto:info@mainewhitetailadventures.com)



Norman L'Italien  
PO Box 67  
St. Francis, ME 04774  
[pelletiers.mainerec.com](http://pelletiers.mainerec.com)

BUS: 207-398-3187  
RES: 207-834-6118  
[pellcamp@fairpoint.net](http://pellcamp@fairpoint.net)

Old Town  
Canoe Dealer  
Rentals &  
Transportation  
Canoe Landing  
Tenting Areas  
Canoe & Kayak  
Rentals

Rent Rooms  
Fully Furnished  
House  
for Hunting Season

**LandVest**

Serving Timberland Investors Since 1968

**Full-Service Forestry Consulting**

Across New England, New York and Pennsylvania

**Timberland Marketing and Investment Analysis**

Services Provided throughout the United States

Forestry and Real Estate professionals  
are located in these regional offices:

Bangor, ME  
207-947-2800

Jackman, ME  
207-668-7777

Bethel, ME  
207-824-0919

Concord, NH  
603-375-3500

Portland, ME  
207-774-8518

Ashland, ME  
207-435-3200

Clayton Lake, ME

Fort Kent, ME

[landvest.com](http://landvest.com)

Proud History,  
**GROWING  
FUTURE**



CAN YOUR FOREST DO THIS?

CLEAN AIR & WATER • RECREATION • WOOD PRODUCTS  
CARBON SEQUESTRATION • JOBS • WILDLIFE HABITAT



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

## NORTHERN HIDEAWAY Sporting Camps

Hunting - Fishing - Kayaking - Wildlife Photography

JUDY SIROIS

Located on the Big Black River in T14-R15  
1-418-356-3221 or 207-768-0517  
sir\_a\_way@globetrotter.net

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

## MOOSE POINT LODGE

ON THE SHORES OF FISH RIVER LAKE



HUNTING · FISHING · VACATIONS  
GUIDED · AMERICAN PLAN · DIY

207-522-9723  
MOOSEPOINTLODGE@GMAIL.COM  
T13 R8 · CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK



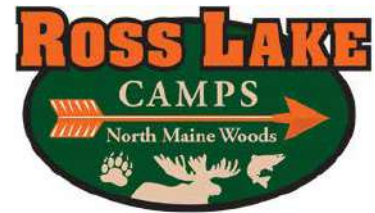
## Nugent's Camps, LLC Chamberlain Lake

Welcome to the  
Allagash Waterway!

PO Box 209 • Millinocket, ME 04462  
(207) 944-5991

info@nugentscamps.com  
[www.nugentscamps.com](http://www.nugentscamps.com)

Bear • Deer • Birds • Moose • Fishing



PO Box 140, Ashland, ME 04732  
207-227-7766 or info@rosslakecamps.com  
[www.rosslakecamps.com](http://www.rosslakecamps.com)

## An Allagash Tradition

ROUND POND T13R12

A guiding tradition in the Allagash since the late 1800s. Enjoy the comfort of the only log cabins along this wilderness river.

Custom trips arranged, all four seasons.

Camping • Canoeing • Fishing • Seasonal Foraging  
XC Skiing & Snowshoeing • Hunting

19 Jordan Road, Freeport, ME 04032-6048

Contact: Phyllis Jalbert 718-834-2500 Email: pj@wbhinc.com

*Located on the Allagash River*



YOUR  
ADVENTURE  
STARTS HERE!

Look to OMM Outfitters to produce the quality moose hunt that discerning hunters worldwide have come to appreciate.

207-444-7529  
[www.ommoutfitters.com](http://www.ommoutfitters.com)



## Chandler Lake Camps T9R8

Traditional Maine Sporting Camps  
within the North Maine Woods

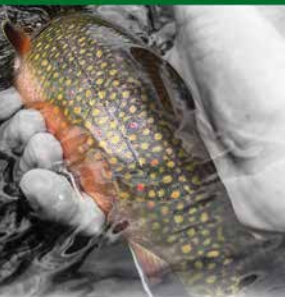


Lakeside cabins with home cooked meals  
An all-inclusive lodge of the highest quality and comfort with no minimum stays

Cell and Wi-Fi available

*A place to relax where life is still  
the way it should be*

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



**LIBBY CAMPS**

Guide Service & Seaplane Flyouts  
 Native Brook Trout & Landlocked Salmon  
 Ruffed Grouse over dogs  
 Trophy Moose, Deer, and Bear  
 Home Cooked Meals  
 Award Winning Lodging

Matt J. Libby  
 207-435-8274  
 mattj@libbycamps.com

ORVIS ENDORSED FLY-FISHING WINGSHOOTING LODGE  
 WWW.LIBBYCAMPS.COM



**Growing Trees and Careers in Maine since 1947**

Contact us for career or contractor opportunities.

(207) 834-5767  
 careers.jdirving.com



IRVING WOODLANDS, LLC

www.katahdinoutfitters.com



**KATAHDIN OUTFITTERS**  
*Canoeing and Kayaking Adventures*

Allagash • St. John • Penobscot River Expeditions  
 Transportation and Vehicle Shuttle  
 Canoe and Kayak Rental and Outfitting

PO Box 34, Millinocket, ME 04462  
 207-723-5700



**CHEWONKI**  
 BIG EDDY CAMPGROUND

*World-class fishing and camping in the heart of the North Woods.*

**Cabins • RV Sites Campsites**

Web: [bigeddy.chewonki.org](http://bigeddy.chewonki.org)  
 Email: [bigeddy@chewonki.org](mailto:bigeddy@chewonki.org)

*The Golden Road, Millinocket, ME*

**Sewall Forestry**  
 & NATURAL RESOURCE CONSULTING  
 a Huber Company

Established in 1880, Sewall Forestry & Natural Resource Consulting (SFNR) is one of the oldest forestry consulting firms in North America. In 2021 SFNR was acquired by Huber Resources Corp., a subsidiary of J.M. Huber Corporation, after over 80 years of collaboration and friendship between the Sewall and Huber families and businesses.

SFNR serves private and public clients on five continents and is recognized globally as a leader in forest resource valuation and analysis, forest inventory planning & execution, forest modeling, acquisition due diligence, litigation support, geospatial solutions, and other forestry and natural resource consulting solutions.

For more information, please visit  
[www.sewallforestry.com](http://www.sewallforestry.com)

Whether you need a single consultant or a team of experts...a little advice or long-term forest management services...an appraisal or a new road...

**Prentiss & Carlisle**  
*In-depth experience. Integrated approach. Exceptional performance.*



- management plans
- timber harvesting
- timber marketing
- woodlot services
- road and bridge building
- consultation and valuation
- tax and regulatory assistance



107 Court Street  
 Bangor, Maine  
 207.942.8295  
[prentissandcarlisle.com](http://prentissandcarlisle.com)

Forest Resource Management and Timberland Services



Larry Young  
**(207) 751-5757**

1585 Augusta Road  
Bowdoin, ME 04287

russellpondadventures@gmail.com  
**russellpondadventures.com**

## Merchant Camps & Lodge

Ashland, Maine  
Gateway to the North Maine Woods  
"A year round Wilderness Adventure"

- Bear Hunts Over Active Bait
- Hunting & Fishing • Recreation

Kenneth Dooley **603-313-7504**

Email [info@merchantcamps.com](mailto:info@merchantcamps.com)

Web [www.merchantcamps.com](http://www.merchantcamps.com)



## ATTENTION Maine Moose Hunters

# Foggy Mountain GUIDE SERVICE



Now Offers Lodging Inside North Maine  
Woods for Zone 8 & Zone 4

☞ **Call Today for Details** ☞

**This is not just a hunt, but a  
memory that will last a lifetime**

Guides Available Upon Request



**207-564-3404**  
[foggymountain.com](http://foggymountain.com)



# PB GUIDE SERVICE

*Hunting Lodge & Outfitter*

### Guide and Lodging Packages:

- Black Bear • Moose (zone 4)
- Whitetail Deer • Grouse • Coyote
- Wildlife Photography



### Baker Lake Region, WMD 4

Registered Maine Guide

Paul Beauregard

207-474-2644

1-418-383-5770 (camp)

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

[info@pbguideservice.com](mailto:info@pbguideservice.com)

PO Box 307, Skowhegan, ME 04976

# AROOSTOOK TECHNOLOGIES, INC

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



**MURS**  
**Two-Way Radios**  
Keep our woods roads safe.



4 Airport Drive, Presque Isle, ME 04769  
**762-9321 / 800-287-9321**



# NEOC



## ADVENTURE BEGINS HERE

Cait Bourquait Photography

Scenic Wildlife Tours · Whitewater Rafting · Snowmobile Rentals · Full Amenity Lakeside Cabin Rentals  
Knife Edge Brewing · River Drivers Restaurant · Weddings · Micro-Weddings · Corporate Meetings · Retreats



Antoinette Photography



Andy Gagne Photography



roylor Walker Film



Jamie Walter

Open Year-Round on Millinocket Lake · 200 Katahdin View Drive, Millinocket, ME 04462 · 800-766-7238 | [www.neoc.com](http://www.neoc.com) | @neoc\_maine

# Road Safety

***The primary goal of all of the landowners in the North Maine Woods is the safety of their employees, contractors, and the general public. Please give all logging trucks the right of way. The roads in this area were built to move wood products. When you see a truck coming from either direction, please pull over to let it pass safely.***

Visitors to North Maine Woods can improve their own safety by abiding by all the rules of the road, yielding right of way to trucks, (do not expect loaded off-road trucks to move away from the center of the road), avoiding stopping on bridges and main roads (preferably pulling onto side roads or well out of the road before stopping), and above all, paying attention and driving prudently.

The focus and efforts on safety by all companies that own and manage lands in the North Maine Woods continues on a daily basis. Part of the safety program is a cooperative Industrial Roads Safety Committee, which has existed for many years. The committee is an opportunity for representatives of landowning companies and state natural resource agencies to share concerns that need to be addressed for the safety of workers and the public that utilize the North Maine Woods.

Although overall safety trends in the forest management and industrial logging operations are trending in the right direction, we do not want to become complacent to the risks and challenges of the industry. Everyone has a story about a close call or an unpleasant experience while driving on a woods road in Northern Maine. The more awareness that can be brought forward by employees, contractors, and the recreational public on any of these issues, the better off everyone will be in the long run. The goal is to eliminate close calls.

The safety committee initiated discussions to define problems, discuss various approaches to correcting the problems and develop solutions. A very important challenge is integrating public recreational use with industrial use. Industrial use extends to large, heavy equipment and trucks traveling on the roads as well as occasionally working in the roads. Since most recreational users are not accustomed to heavy equipment and large off-road trucks, the challenge is one of training both groups. Frequent meetings of the committee over the last few years led to a number of accomplishments. Involvement of representatives of the trucking industry on the committee brought valuable input and insights into possible solutions.

A significant accomplishment is a consolidation of “Rules of the Road” which is supported by all members of the committee. The rules are published in three languages, English, French and Spanish and are made available to all contractors, landowners and trucking companies as well as the recreational public via North Maine Woods. Extensive training in safe driving has been provided to migrant workers and others, along with first aid training and communication training.

Landowners who are responsible for maintenance of the private road systems began an intensive signage effort, including stop signs, speed limit signs, and warning signs. All signs use international symbols recognizable by anyone from the US or elsewhere. Mile markers have been placed along most major routes and are the basis for radio communications between workers and logging trucks, whereby drivers call out location by mile markers to alert others of their location.

Dangerous road situations have been improved through aggressive brush control to improve visibility, widening sections of roads where needed, reconstruction of dangerous curves and intersections and even re-routing roads where necessary. Some side roads have been named and signed making it easier to get around and give directions. Frequent maintenance of high traffic areas was initiated in an effort to improve safety.

So please, as you spend time in the North Maine Woods, remember that your safety as well as the safety of those around you is important to everyone. If you see something that concerns you, or that you question, do not hesitate to share it with the personnel at a North Maine Woods Checkpoint. Although they may not have an immediate answer for you, they will be more than happy to pass this information on to the proper people. If you need to stop along a road to take pictures, enjoy a view, or just relax, find a safe spot where there is plenty of room, and you do not impede the general flow of traffic along the road.

Please note that all NMW Checkpoints close in mid-November. Although plowed roads are open to the public during the winter months, be aware that snow banks and ice can make roads narrower and more treacherous, especially when meeting log trucks and other traffic. Main roads and side roads are plowed to accommodate the movement of timber and equipment related to the forest industry. 🚛



# LANDOWNERS AND MANAGERS

within the 3,500,000 acres of North Maine Woods

Clayton Lake Woodlands Holdings, LLC <sup>[4]</sup>  
Dunn Heirs <sup>[2]</sup>  
Fallen Timber, LLC <sup>[3]</sup>  
Fish River Company <sup>[2]</sup>  
Gardner Land Co./Blanchet Logging  
Griswold Heirs <sup>[2]</sup>  
Huber Resources Corp.  
Irving Woodlands, LLC  
John Cassidy Timberholdings <sup>[2]</sup>  
John Hancock Life Insurance Company <sup>[6]</sup>

Katahdin Forest Management, LLC  
Lost River Company <sup>[2]</sup>  
McCullis Timberlands, LLC <sup>[2]</sup>  
Pingree Associates, Inc. <sup>[1]</sup>  
Prentiss & Carlisle Co, Inc. <sup>[2]</sup>  
Presley Woods, LLC <sup>[3]</sup>  
Sawyer Family, LLC <sup>[5]</sup>  
Solifor Timberlands, Inc. <sup>[3]</sup>  
The Nature Conservancy <sup>[3]</sup>  
Tree-Star Timberlands, Ltd

Webber Timberlands <sup>[2]</sup>  
Yankee Fork Corp. <sup>[2]</sup>  
State of Maine

[1] Managed by Seven Islands Land Company  
[2] Managed by Prentiss & Carlisle Management Co.  
[3] Managed by Huber Resources Corp.  
[4] Managed by LandVest Inc.  
[5] Managed by North Ridge Services, LLC  
[6] Managed by Manulife Investment Management



photo by Tori Lee Jackson

## Your Thoughts and Opinions are Important to Us

### Message from the North Maine Woods Staff

A good portion of our time is focused on making the NMW area more enjoyable for our guests. This is accomplished through the publication of this brochure, by spending time and effort training checkpoint and campsite staff on practicing good public relations and by improving checkpoint and campsite facilities. Many of the better sources of information on how to make improvements come from our customers. So please contact us if you have suggestions, questions or comments regarding your visits to North Maine Woods. They can be sent to us via email at [info@northmainewoods.org](mailto:info@northmainewoods.org) or by telephone at 207-435-6213.

## North Maine Woods

PO Box 425, Ashland, ME 04732

207-435-6213

[www.northmainewoods.org](http://www.northmainewoods.org)   [info@northmainewoods.org](mailto:info@northmainewoods.org)

*This publication is made possible through efforts of editors Kelli Sturgeon and Mike McLellan of North Maine Woods, Hannah Stevens of Seven Islands Land Company and Chris Huston of Irving Woodlands LLC. It was designed and produced by Melissa Arndt. Front cover photo by Tori Lee Jackson, inset photo by North Maine Woods staff.*