



The Monitor

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEWFOUND LAKE REGION ASSOCIATION

“Every Acre Counts” Watershed Plan – Implementation Underway

Even as early ice sets in on the summit of Mt. Cardigan, the implementation phase of Every Acre Counts is heating up. Read on!

- **Watershed culvert assessment.** Using criteria co-developed with NHDES and UNH, Plymouth State intern Anthony Belmonte mapped over 200 culverts to assess threats from flooding and habitat fragmentation. With input from local road agents and assistance from The Forest Society and NHDES, we are preparing a summary report for Newfound area towns and other interested parties.

- **Storm water treatment / demonstration.** Working with the Town of Bristol, civil engineering firm KV Partners, LLC and local landowners, we completed design and permitting for Bristol’s Cummings Beach, a popular swimming location where storm water runoff erodes the beach and adversely impacts the Lake.

- **Joint land-use planning.** On September 27 members of six watershed Planning Boards (Alexandria, Bridgewater, Bristol, Groton, Hebron and Plymouth) joined professional planners Steve Whitman and Dan Sundquist to identify ordinances of interest to the group. Steep slopes are a common concern that will be prepared for public vote at 2011 Town meetings.



Icicles on the ledges of Mt. Cardigan’s Holt Trail foretell the onset of winter.

- **Regulatory policy.** NLRA is working with the NHDES on innovative anti-degradation policy to reduce phosphorus discharges. Newfound Lake is a pilot site for this new policy.

- **Communications.** The “Newfound Skulls” (an ad hoc group of NLRA, UNH, PSU, NHDES and Forest Society volunteers) with critical leadership

and support from Jon Greenberg (Executive Producer of NH Public Radio) are building an interactive web site to encourage “water healthy” behaviors. Check out www.nhpr.org/wio to see the concept in action.

We look forward to making Every Acre Counts a lasting reality!

From the Executive Director

Any way you slice it, Newfound summers are shorter than we want them to be! So much to do, so little time... First and foremost for 2010, a heartfelt *Thanks!* to all the volunteers that make our success possible. With less than two full-time staff, the work would not get done without your hands. Our competent and committed leadership team continues to grow and mature into a top-line group, most recently enhanced by long-time NLRA member Jerry Anderson. Welcome, Jerry!

We have made substantial progress on 2010's strategic goals (objective measures of success, revision of Bylaws, leadership development, volunteer recruitment and retention, membership growth, and a planned giving program). This is important behind-the-scenes work led by staff and Trustees to ensure we are among the best non-profits in the State, able to de-

liver our mission at a high level for the long term. Our land conservation efforts are also growing apace under the committed leadership of Martha Twombly, Peter Carey, Mark Coulson and other members of the Newfound Land Conservation Partnership (NLCP).

Please give me or one of our Trustees a call if you have any questions or ideas, or if you want to become more involved with the NLRA.

See you around the Watershed!

Boyd Smith, Director

744-8689

NLRA.Boyd@Metrocast.net



Newt on stream bank

Chairperson's Message

Happy autumn to all! We had beautiful weather for a wonderful summer that brought more people to the area than I have seen. It gave us all a chance to marvel in what we have in this special part of New Hampshire and to share it with friends and family. I do not take this for granted – do you?

I often ponder – how do we preserve and protect this treasure? With Fall's

beautiful colors and shorter days, I find I am spending more time indoors working on projects and thinking about my answer to this question. As President of the NLRA, I would like you to ask yourself, neighbors, friends and family to join me in answering this important question.

One clear answer for me is "I support the NLRA." You can join me by being an informed ambassador about the work we

do; by volunteering for a committee, task force or event; and by making a financial contribution.

Thanks for your past support, and please consider doing all you can to be a part of NLRA.

Sincerely,

Jan Collins, NLRA Board Chair



The Monitor is a publication of the Newfound Lake Region Association.

NLRA Officers and Executive Committee Members: Jan Collins, *Board Chair*;

Ken Weidman, *Treasurer*; Helga Stamp, *Secretary*; Peter Carey, *at-large*; Jerry Anderson, *at-large*

Trustees: Bill Fay, Laura Moore, Rob Moore, Noah Munro, Greg Wagner

Staff: Boyd Smith, *Executive Director*; Nikki Wooster-Goodwin, *Program Director*;

Karen Boyd, *Volunteer Membership Coordinator*.

NEWFOUND LAKE REGION ASSOCIATION

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Annual Meeting and Mega-Raffle Drawing

The NLRA wrapped up the summer season with our Annual Meeting and Mega-Raffle drawing at the lovely and historic Alexandria Town Hall. President Jan Collins warmed up and welcomed the crowd while Executive Director Boyd Smith and Program Director Nikki Wooster-Goodwin reported on past successes and future goals (summarized in this newsletter).

The NLRA Board officially welcomed new Trustees Jerry Anderson, Rob Moore and Laura Moore. Jerry, Rob and Laura bring expertise in human resources, organizational and membership development, non-profit leadership and passion for the NLRA mission. Heartfelt appreciation was expressed for the many contributions of retiring Trustees Don Martin, Dave Carlson and Victor Field. In honor of 15 consecutive years of service, Victor was presented with a framed copy of the Every Acre Counts photograph in recognition of his vision for the NLRA to be a central force in protecting the local environment and economy through collaborative efforts.

T. Holmes "Bud" and Norma Jean "Jinga" Moore were recognized with the presentation of the NLRA Founder's Award. Through their support of our 2003-2005 endowment campaign, long-term personal contributions and wise counsel, Bud and Jinga have continued their legacy of stewardship for New Hampshire's greatest treasures. We are honored by Bud and Jinga's commitment to Newfound through the NLRA.

Guest speaker Harry Vogel, Director of the Loon Preservation Committee (visit them at www.loon.org), gave a riveting and highly informative presentation on the life and behavior of loons. The Newfound area is fortunate to have a stable and healthy



Bud and Jinga Moore receiving the NLRA Founder's Award at our August 2010 Annual Meeting. Pictured left to right are NLRA Director Boyd Smith, Founders Bud and Jinga Moore, and Association Board Chair Jan Collins.

loon population, an indicator of our high-quality environment. Harry and his team are world-renowned for discovering the connection between loon mortality and lead sinkers and their extensive data on loon populations. Thanks, Harry for sharing your time and expertise!

The meeting concluded with drawing for winners of the 2010 Mega-Raffle. This raffle was supported by \$15,000

in donated gifts and services from more than 70 local businesses. Prizes included packages of lodging, dining and a feature activity, with dozens of other amazing items. Business donors and prize winners are listed at www.Newfoundlake.org/Raffle. A big shout out to all who purchased raffle tickets, and to our business donors for making this year's raffle such a success!

Culverts and Critters

Anthony Belmonte, our Plymouth State intern, found more than culverts as he scoured the watershed gathering project data. He took a number of pictures of wildlife he encountered on his travels. What a slice of life – what a great summer job!

Look for his critter photos throughout this newsletter!



Dragonfly taking a rest

Programs

Lake Hosting Halts Invaders

Thanks to our paid and volunteer Lake Hosts who committed 665 hours and inspected 3,758 boats (including eighteen fishing tournaments) to prevent invasive species from entering Newfound Lake. Thanks are also owed to towns that gave financial support in 2010 (Alexandria, \$700; Bridgewater, \$1,400) to expand coverage. Threats from invasives are real – in 2010 we intercepted water chestnut and Eurasian milfoil. Your support of NLRA helps protect your Newfound experience from these unwanted invaders!

Weed Watchers on Patrol

Newfound Weed Watchers traverse the shores and waters of Newfound Lake in search of invasive weeds that may have found their way into our lake. This summer, lack of rain and high temperatures led to increased filamentous algae growth. This growth is actually a wonderful source of food and shelter for insects and fish and does not pose a threat to Newfound Lake. Plant growth varies with time, and Weed Watchers will continue to monitor for trends and the presence of invasive species. Thanks to everyone who helped this year – hope to see you again in 2011!



Hawk contemplating its dinner



Tapply Thompson Community Center counselor and campers enjoying a Newfound Eco-Tour.

Newfound Eco-Tours Debut with the Help of Many!

Our first year of Newfound Eco-Tours was a pleasure and a delight. Kate Mausolf (tour guide), Jan Connor (boat captain) and Andy Connelly (boat captain) were the Eco-Tour “dream team.” We Eco-Toured on Fridays and Saturdays during July and August and accommodated 126 paying passengers and 180 children from the Tapply Thompson Community Center (TTCC). Big thanks to Anne and Glenn Dorr for their endowment gifts directed to serving TTCC youth through NLRA programs.

Huge kudos and thanks to Greg Wagner and West Shore Marine for assisting

us with unexpected boat maintenance as well as fuel. There would have been no tours without you, Greg! Wellington Park Managers Bill and Edie Grout shared the park and its lovely sandy beach. A big shout-out to Richard Sidor and his Northway Bank team for their \$1,000 sponsorship of the Eco-Tours. The summer sweetener was free ice cream from NLRA Trustee Noah Munro and his family business, The Mill Ice Cream and Fudge Factory.

We look forward to continuing Newfound Eco-Tours in 2011. Please make us part of your Newfound vacation plans!

Consider acting as an ambassador for the care of our special, shared place.

Programs

Lake Lay Monitoring – 25th Consecutive Year!

Overall water quality in Newfound Lake was excellent in 2010. Bob Craycraft (UNH Biologist) and eleven dedicated NLRA volunteers sampled deep water stations from May through September. Transparency ranged from 24.8 to 35.3 feet; microscopic plant growth, phosphorus and nutrient concentrations were very low; and dissolved oxygen concentrations were high except south of Mayhew Island. This end of the Lake had shallower transparency; microscopic plant growth and phosphorus concentrations were higher, and dissolved oxygen concentrations were lower. Based on long-term trends, the slight degradation of southern Lake water quality is likely a symptom of nutrient enrichment due to residential development.

Stream Monitoring Tests Headwaters

Stream monitors sample headwater streams well away from the lake, which provide the best indicator of overall water health. Trained volunteers are sampling Fowler River, Dick Brown Brook and Georges Brook. Sampling data include nutrient phosphorous (drives plant growth), temperature and specific conductivity (a measure of dissolved minerals, including road way salt), ph (acidity) and turbidity (measure of sediments and erosion). More tributaries will be added to the sampling network in 2011. If you are interested in monitoring your favorite stream, contact Nikki at 744-8689.

Adopt-A-Highway Sets Great Example

The Adopt-A-Highway (“AAH”) program does more than just clean up trash from our local streets - it says our community cares enough to step up and make a difference. From May through September our AAH volunteers monitored over 67 miles of roadway, collected over 62 bags of garbage and committed over 98 hours to clean our roadways. We hope the presence of AAH volunteers influences onlookers to recycle rather than hurl trash out the window. Thank you, AAH volunteers!



Butterfly feeding on milkweed nectar

*NLRA
Programs protect
the Lake and
the surrounding
watershed as
well as educate
the public.*

Before There was an NLRA

by Joe Foote, NLRA member

Newfound Lake offers such a special beauty, and such a special mystical serenity, that it has long attracted special people to its shores. A lot of those people were sunning on the rocks, paddling their canoes, or skiing behind classic Chris Craft speedboats when our little family arrived in Bridgewater in 1940.

That was just before World War II broke out, before Newfound Lake went to war. Oh, yes it did. The ladies up in Hebron rolled bandages for the troops;

they had a group from Hebron-Bridgewater-Groton called the HeeBeeGee-Bees. At night, you could hear convoys of new bombers flying overhead, sometimes piloted by women, on their way to Newfoundland and thence to bases in England. Everybody had a Victory Garden.

Summer visitors stayed in one-room cabins at places with dining rooms. My mother, Evelyn Foote, bought 1,500 feet of shoreline on the tip of Whittemore Point and pioneered the concept of a

housekeeping cottage. Servicemen on leave came there with their wives and children. They told chilling stories of combat. One sailor described coming topside on his destroyer just as a Japanese Kamikaze plane streaked toward exactly where he was standing. Navy guns hit the plane, which exploded before reaching the ship. He never went topside again. The men would say goodbye when they left, and we all knew that they were returning to the fighting. They were very brave.

State rules required a septic tank and dry well, set back from the Lake high water mark (I think 50 feet) for every cottage, and inspections were rigorous. My mother always made sure that her cottages met state regulations. Much shorefront was still unoccupied, and mountainside development was not even contemplated. Logging around the watershed was common, but nobody thought about runoff effects from clear-cutting.

Local and summer people respected the Lake and were concerned about its water purity. At Bridgewater Town Meeting, however, any proposal that hinted of “government regulation” was quickly buried with a shouted nay vote. The NLRA was years off; it began in the mid-1980s and was incorporated as a nonprofit in 1991.

My pals included Neal Peirce, now my lifelong friend, who still spends summers at the Lake and writes his weekly column there for *The Washington Post*, and Dorna Litchfield, niece of the fabled Dodo Denton and decades later to become my life partner. We rowed back and forth across the Bay, which had little boat traffic in those golden days of summer in the 1940s.



News from the Land and Watershed Committee: this land conservation map will soon show additions as the L & W Committee has been meeting with interested landowners throughout the watershed all summer, and we hope to have two to three conservation projects – equaling about 400 acres – completed this year! In addition, the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests is completing conservation of the Green Acres forest in Hebron, Plymouth and Groton.

2010 Annual Fund Campaign Underway

The NLRA is a member-funded service organization. This is excellent news, as member commitment is typically more dependable than foundations and government granting agencies. We count on our family and business members for the financial support required to maintain the office and small staff that, working with our many volunteers, iden-

tifies and addresses critical threats to our watershed.

Without your support, the NLRA can not carry on its successful work. Over the next week or two you will receive a request to give to the 2010 Annual Fund with additional proof of how your gift to the NLRA is a sound investment. We hope that you will consider the NLRA

as one of your top three charitable giving priorities, and make a 2010 Annual Fund donation that is meaningful to you.

Thank you for your steadfast support of our mission – please contact us at 603-744-6230 or NLRA.Boyd@metrocast.net if you have any questions about how the NLRA stewards the Newfound Lake watershed community.

Planned Giving – Your Legacy for the Future

by James “Jim” Husson, NLRA Member

I’ve had the good fortune of spending part of each summer at our family’s home on Newfound Lake for more than two decades. While July and August are the months when we enjoy Newfound the most, there is something very special about the early autumn when we make our annual pilgrimage to close the house for the winter ahead. This familiar ritual may have the trappings of routine housework, but I find that it is accompanied by wonderful moments of reflection, quiet opportunities that remind me why New-

found is such a very special place in my life. We put our house in order and leave Newfound secure in the knowledge that our home will be waiting for us when we return in the spring.

Planning and preparation are important to the care of any seasonal home as winter approaches. And yet these values are also important to how we as a community care for the lake itself. You can help ensure that our collective “Lake House” will be there for generations to come by supporting the NLRA. I hope you will

when there are many worthy causes that deserve our support. If Newfound Lake is among the places that means the most to you and your family, I hope that you will place the NLRA at the top of your list of charities.

Second, the NLRA is launching a planned giving initiative that asks those of us who care for the long term preservation of the watershed to include Newfound in our estate plans. As you move forward in your estate planning, please remember that even a modest provision for Newfound in your will can make a significant difference.

Finally, we need you to help us spread the word of the work of the NLRA. Learning about what the organization does to fulfill its mission, how volunteers and other partners are central to our success, and why membership and support from families, businesses and local towns is so critical allows you to act as an ambassador for the care of our special, shared place.

With best wishes for a warm winter and sunny spring...

join me in taking these three simple steps, each of which will make an important difference in our efforts to preserve our legacy for our families.

First, please include the NLRA among your charitable gift priorities each year. We live in a time



Calendar

Winter/Spring events and activities are in the planning stages. Updates and invitations will be provided via email with our Watershed eNewsletter and at www.Newfoundlake.org.

Check www.newfoundlake.org for updates!

The Newfound Lake Region Association's mission is to protect Newfound Lake and its watershed. The Association - through education, programs and collaboration - promotes conservation and preservation of the region's natural, social and economic resources.



Membership Form

Member support is vital to help us protect Newfound Lake. Please renew your membership or join NLRA today!

Please mail this form and your check, payable to NLRA, to:
NLRA, 800 Lake St. Bristol, NH 03222.

Name _____

Email address: _____

Permanent Mailing Address: _____

Summer Mailing Address: _____

Please check here if you are interested in receiving email communications (web-based newsletters, annual report, news updates).

Membership Categories:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steward | \$2000+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newfounder | \$1000-\$1,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining | \$500-\$999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$250-\$499 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining | \$100-\$249 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$50-\$99 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$35-\$50 |

Volunteer opportunities:

Please check all that apply.

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Host/Invasive Species Protection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Monitoring/Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed Mapping/Land Conservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Events/Publications/Outreach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Planning |

You can join online at
www.newfoundlake.org!

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Visit our website for new
information and upcoming workshops:
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