

Meeting of the **Lower Penobscot Watershed Coalition (LPWC)**

www.covebrook.org/lpwc.html

Minutes of Meeting of 1 October 2007

Brewer Auditorium, Brewer, Maine

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

Action items from the June 11 meeting were reviewed in lieu of the full set of minutes.

Gayle noted that some items are still pending and some will be discussed later in the meeting.

Introductions and reports were made by all attendees (attendees listed at end of minutes).

- LPWC presence/input (via Gayle's attendance) has been provided to the following efforts
 - Trust for Public Lands "Central Penobscot River Valley Greenprint" of 13 municipalities in the lower Penobscot
 - The Nature Conservancy Conservation Action Plan for the Penobscot River
- Other
 - Island Institute (Hope Rowan) is working on mapping public and private water access to the Penobscot River
 - LPWC has requested information from Red Shield LLC on their activities in the watershed
 - LPWC attended the BridgeFest in June and gave out ~250 rubber duckies representing storm water run off
- Maine Sea Grant and Mitchell Center
 - Outreach
 - Coordination and updating kiosks throughout the watershed
- City of Brewer and Brewer Land Trust
 - Involved in TPL efforts
 - Has worked with Island Institute on public water access mapping
- Bagaduce Watershed Association
 - Design and production of maps for LPWC
- Bucksport Bay Area Chamber of Commerce
 - Organizing a walk in October
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Craig Brook is coordinating with the COC
- Friends of Sears Island
 - Working with the governor's Joint Use Planning committee on Sears Island
- ME Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife – Beginning with Habitat
 - Working on a toolbox for town planning
 - Please review and provide comment
- NOAA-Fisheries
 - Involved in striped bass tournament data collection
 - Sedgeunkedunk Stream dam removal study in coordination with UMaine researchers
 - A NOAA document will be available soon regarding standard protocols for research & monitoring during dam removal projects
 - Outreach with Penobscot RiverKeepers and others
- Department of Marine Resources, Sea Run Fisheries and Habitat
 - A Diadromous Fish Management plan will be available for public comment on or around October 18, 2007.
 - The Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Program has received funding that is linked to habitat issues that could be pertinent in the Lower Penobscot
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection

- Working in multiple watersheds of the Penobscot including the newly formed Penjajawoc Stream Team
 - University of Maine American Fisheries Society Student Chapter
 - Helping with Natural Barrier surveys on Marsh Stream
 - Eastern Maine Development Corporation
 - Partner in TPL greenprinting
 - Working to re-route the East coast greenway up the Penobscot River (Brewer, Orrington, Bucksport)
 - Coastal Conservation Association
 - Working on striper tournament for 2008
 - Bangor Area Storm Water Group and City of Bangor
 - Planning around storm water issues in the Bangor area
 - Penobscot River Restoration Trust
 - \$12 M approved in the NOAA budget to go toward the PRR Project
 - Hoping to “realize the option to purchase” within the next 6 months.
 - Bangor Land Trust
 - TPL greenprinting partner
 - Penjajawoc Planning
 - Land conservation in Bangor region
-

Desired Outcomes of the Meeting were reviewed:

- Business
 - Membership discussion
 - Determine meeting frequency
 - Review a brochure
 - Discuss planning progress for
 - Natural fish barrier surveys
 - Striped bass tournament/River celebration
- First attempt at a Table of Contents for a State of the Watershed report

Question: Who is in charge of putting up signs on streams?

Answer: Usually watershed organizations such as LPWC. We may want to work on getting funding for such a project in the future.

Old Business

1. The DRAFT brochure (handed out) was used to discuss the following items
 - a. Membership
 - i. It was discussed and decided that LPWC will accept donations
 - ii. Formal membership may be considered in the future
 - b. Meeting Frequency
 - i. Steering Committee will meet as needed before full member meetings
 - ii. Full membership will meet quarterly
 1. September
 2. November
 3. February
 4. May
 - iii. Special meetings will be convened as needed.

2. Meeting dates until May 2008, 10 – 12 (until time brought up again for further discussion):
 - a. November 19
 - b. February 25th
 - c. May 19th

Unless these dates conflict with a major conference or holiday these will hold. Please inform Gayle if there is a major conflict.

3. DRAFT brochure
 - a. Follow-up agenda item from June:

*“Do we **follow up** with towns?*

 1. *Mail minutes and contact LURC for the 4 un-organized towns*
 2. *Include a brochure/fact sheet with minutes*
 3. *The letter must*
 - a. *emphasize how LPWC benefits the community*
 - b. *invite the town to participate*
 - c. *provide a list of resources”*
 - b. Discussed
 - c. Suggestions submitted to Gayle in writing
 - d. A version will be finalized in November
 - e. Maine Sea Grant will pursue funding
4. Natural barriers to fish migration
 - a. TNC directed some volunteer surveys of Road Crossings during the summer
 - i. LPWC volunteers helped out
 - b. LPWC has trained a group of volunteers to conduct walking surveys
 - c. LPWC conducted a canoe trip on September 16th
 - i. 8 volunteers
 - ii. Surveyed 4 sections of Marsh Stream diadromous fish habitat
 - d. USFWS will prioritize sites and make data available as it becomes available.
 - i. A municipality can request the information and USFWS will try to make those data available ASAP.
 - e. Another canoe trip will be organized for October 14th or 28th.
5. Striped Bass tournament/Migration Celebration
 - a. CCA will organize tournament, including Captain’s dinner
 - b. LPWC will organize groups for presentations at the closing/presentation of awards: JULY 26, 2008
 - i. Pursuing possibilities for where to hold the July 26 event
 1. Brewer Waterfront Park ... Gayle will check river access (Penobscot Riverkeepers will bring canoes for rides)
 2. Bangor Waterfront ...
 - c. It would be nice to have a banner made for the event
6. State of the Watershed Report Breakout
 - a. Pre-report survey was passed out and filled in.
 - b. Catherine Schmitt provided
 - i. background on historical reports about the Penobscot
 - ii. suggested Table of Contents outline
 - iii. Ideas from other State of the “Bay/watershed” reports

- iv. The Charge for the group was to be sure all aspects of a report were considered:
 1. What information should be included in the report?
 - a. Can you suggest authors/contributors?
 - b. Can you contribute?
 2. How should the information be formatted?
 3. How would you use the report?
 4. What format would you prefer?
- v. Breakout groups:
 1. Education
 2. Land Conservation
 3. Land use and regulations
 4. Research and monitoring
- vi. Results will be distributed separately from these minutes.

New Business

Coordinator/Funding

- a. A proposal was submitted for Maine Atlantic Salmon Conservation Funds to continue the coordinator's position (10 h per week)
- b. A new person will need to be identified to fill this role starting in May 2008.
- c. This and the potential re-structuring of the steering committee/executive board will be discussed in November.

Next meeting November 19th 10-12, location to be announced.

- Items to discuss in November
 - Update on State of the Watershed Report
 - Finalize a brochure
 - Update on natural barrier surveys
 - Update on tournament plans
 - Coordinator position
 - Steering committee/Executive committee
 - Trust for Public Lands

Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Attendees:

Bethany	Atkins	MDIFW - Beginning with Habitat	bethany.atkins@maine.gov
Don	Cooper	EMDC	dcooper@emdc.org
Cheryl	Daigle	Penobscot River Restoration Trust	cheryl@penobscotriver.org
Phillip	Dionne	Maine Student Chapter of the American Fisheries Society	phillip.dionne@umit.maine.edu
George	Fields	Bagaduce Watershed Association	fieldsg7203@yahoo.com
Jim	Freeman	Friends of Sears Island	packrats@minisms.com
David	Huntress	Coastal Conservation Association	dhuntress@hotmail.com
Linda	Johns	City of Brewer Town Planner and Brewer Land Trust	ljohns@brewerme.org
Alvion	Kimball	Bucksport Bay Area Chamber of Commerce	Ackimball1995@msn.com
Melissa	Laser	Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission	melissa.laser@maine.gov
Christine	Lipsky	NOAA - Fisheries	christine.lipsky@noaa.gov
Katrina	Mueller	NOAA-Fisheries	Mueller.katrina@gmail.com
John	Murphy	City of Bangor	john.murphy@bangormaine.gov
Lucy	Quimby	Bangor Land Trust	sur905@maine.edu
Rory	Saunders	NOAA-Fisherie	Rory.saunders@noaa.gov
Catherine	Schmitt	Maine Sea Grant and George Mitchell Center	catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu
Peter	Steenstra	US Fish and Wildlife Service	edward_steenstra@fws.gov
Mark	Whiting	Maine DEP	Mark.whiting@maine.gov
Gayle	Zydlewski	Cove Brook Watershed Council	cbwc@covebrook.org