

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

www.covebrook.org/lpwc.html

Minutes of Meeting of 25 February 2008
Fields Pond Audubon Center, Holden, ME

The meeting was called to order at 13:00.

1. Judy Markowsky, Director of Fields Pond Audubon Center, provided an introduction and welcome to the Center.
2. **Guest Speaker:** Melissa Laser discussed the state's new *Strategic Plan for Restoration of Diadromous Fishes to the Penobscot River*.
3. Claire Enterline of Maine Department of Marine Resources discussed work that she and others in the Department are conducting to better understand rainbow smelt populations in the Gulf of Maine. She pointed out that DMR has an index station in the Lower Penobscot Watershed and will be looking for volunteers to help sample from April to June. If you would like to help please contact Claire at: Claire.Enterline@maine.gov
4. The agenda was reviewed and no additions were made.
5. Minutes from November 19, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved.
6. Brief introductions of those present were made.
7. No reports beyond general introductions were given.

Old Business

1. Next meeting is set for May 19th
 - We will go back to 10 – 12 am
 - The meeting will be held at the Penobscot Indian Nation – specific location to be determined
 - Christopher Swain will be the guest speaker – he will be swimming the Penobscot River in summer 2008 to raise awareness about water quality. He has done this on other rivers such as the Columbia and Hudson Rivers.
2. Brochure – Were completed, printed, and initial distributions have been made. All those in attendance were encouraged to take copies to disseminate throughout the LPWC communities.
 - Maine Sea Grant and the George Mitchell Center provided funds for printing
 - It was pointed out that the United Salmon Clubs were not included in the partner list and this will be addressed in the next edition of the brochure
 - It is the intent to use the brochures for mailings to external groups to increase the capacity of the group and raise awareness to watershed-level issues
 1. ***Subcommittee to work on this task: Bethany Atkins, Alvion Kimball; Allison Barker***
3. Striped Bass Tournament and River Revival
 - Plans are ongoing

- Posters have been produced and are available for distribution/hanging anywhere folks seem fit
 - These were made available at the recent Cabin Fever Reliever (held by the Penobscot FlyFishers) and the Orono Sportsman's Show (held by the Penobscot County Conservation Association)
 - If your group is interested in having a booth at the Penobscot River Revival on July 26th please contact Gayle
4. State of the Watershed Report - Update provided by Catherine Schmitt
 - A Table of Contents draft is available on the website
 - The TOC will be finalized soon in reporting to the funding organization – University of Maine Environmental Solutions Initiative
 - A College of the Atlantic student is producing preliminary maps
 5. Coordinator position/funding
 - Funds for this position are not available
 - If anyone has ideas for funding sources for this position please provide them to Gayle or someone on the Steering Committee
 6. Steering Committee structure
 - Steering Committee will remain as 9 members representing organization types (state, federal, academic, non-profit)
 - Terms and roles should be determined
 - ***A nominating committee was chosen so that a new chair, co-chair, and secretary can be nominated for the May 2008 meeting.***
 - ***Joe Zydlewski, USGS***
 - ***David Huntress, CCA***
 7. Stream crossing signs
 - Jim Freeman has spoken with some employees of Maine DOT and will pursue further with Catherine Schmitt
 8. Penobscot Regional Conserved Lands Map -
 - A non-public meeting of the Penobscot Regional land trusts will be held by MCHT on May 20th to discuss the region as a whole and discuss which areas make sense to coordinate efforts and focus energy.
 - It is very likely a map will be created at the meeting, discussed and then dismantled in an important effort to protect land owners.
 - The important point is that the Land Trusts will be discussing land conservation from a larger regional perspective. This was the goal of the Land Conservation subcommittee of the LPWC.
 9. Regional Stream CleanUp
 - The event will occur on Saturday May 17th. Materials for planning are available from the Bangor Area Storm Water group, Gayle or any of the towns of the BASWG.
 - Please help your community participate in this event.

New Business

1. Water Resources Research Institute funding

- Funds have been provided to several collaborators (University of Maine, Maine Cooperative Extension, Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials, College of the Atlantic) to work with the LPWC to discuss needs for an interactive map.
- LPWC identified this need at some early meetings.
- A brainstorming session ensued to identify map layers that were important to the different groups present.
 1. Breakout groups were: Nonprofit/NGO; Municipal; Federal/State government; Other
- Results were collected by Catherine Schmitt to be provided back to the research group.

Other

Donna Gilbert and Gayle Zydlewski were chosen to represent non-profit organizations in Maine at the statehouse on February 7, 2007. They brought materials from the Cove Brook Watershed Council and the Lower Penobscot Watershed Coalition, including the new brochure and outreach materials for the Striped Bass tournament and Penobscot River Revival.

NEXT MEETING DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Regional Stream Clean up planning**
- **Follow-up with brochure/letters**
- **River Revival Update**
- **Charter / Vision / Strategic Plan**
- **Adopt a Stream**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Attendees:

Bethany	Atkins	MDIFW - Beginning with Habitat	bethany.atkins@maine.gov
Charles	Baker	Eddington	shumanpond@prodigy.net
Alison	Barker	EMDC	abarker@emdc.org
Jen	Boothroyd	EMDC	jboothroyd@emdc.org
Maynard	Clemons	Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition	mjoanclem@yahoo.com
Steve	Condon	Town of Holden	steve@holdenmaine.com
Cheryl	Daigle	Penobscot River Restoration Trust	cheryl@penobscotriver.org
Claire	Enterline	Maine DMR	Claire.enterline@maine.gov
Donna	Gilbert	Cove Brook Watershed Council	Gilbertdonna@roadrunner.com
Lou	Horvath	Penobscot Salmon Club	asboth1@aol.com
David	Huntress	Coastal Conservation Association	dhuntres@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	Department of Marine Resources	melissa.laser@maine.gov
Katrina	Mueller	NOAA/Michigan State University	mueller.katrina@gmail.com
John	Murphy	City of Bangor	john.murphy@bangormaine.gov
Skip	Pendleton	Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition	skipen@midmaine.com
Lucy	Quimby	Bangor Land Trust	sur905@maine.edu
Peter	Ruksznis	Department of Marine Resources	Peter.ruksznis@maine.gov
Gordon	Russell	USFWS - retired	gruss@roadrunner.com
Catherine	Schmitt	Maine Sea Grant and George Mitchell Center	catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu
Jerry	Smith	Maine Audubon Center	jasjcsjss@aol.com
Russell	Smith	Town of Eddington	townofeddington@roadrunner.com
Peter	Steenstra	US Fish and Wildlife Service	edward_steenstra@fws.gov
Peter	Vaux	Mitchell Center, UMaine	peter.vaux@maine.edu
Wendy	Warren	Bangor Area Storm Water Group	Wendy.warren@bangormaine.gov
Dylan	Weese	UMaine AFS student subunit	dylan.weese@umit.maine.edu
Mark	Whiting	Maine DEP	Mark.whiting@maine.gov
Gayle	Zydlewski	Cove Brook Watershed Council	cbwc@covebrook.org
Joe	Zydlewski	USGS/ Maine Coop Unit	jzydlewski@usgs.gov