

The Proposed Bowers Wind Project
Response to Issues Raised During the Public Hearing
and in Public Comment

July 25, 2011

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The following responds to issues raised during and following the public hearing.

Connectivity of the Lakes and Overall Scenic Impact

Dr. Palmer testified, consistent with our conclusion, that in his opinion the Project would not have an unreasonable adverse impact on the scenic character or existing uses related to scenic character of any single lake within the study area. He also testified, however, that there were many scenic lakes within the eight-mile study area that, coupled with the apparent connectivity of the lakes, made it difficult for him to evaluate whether the Project overall would have an unreasonable adverse impact on scenic character or uses related to scenic character. For the reasons set forth below, we believe not only that there is not an unreasonable adverse impact on any single lake, but that the Project will not have an unreasonable adverse impact on scenic character or uses related to scenic character taking into account the number of lakes and the connectivity of at least some of the lakes.

First, while there are a number of scenic lakes within the Study area, it is important to keep in mind that for the reasons set forth in our VIA and stated in our written and oral testimony, these lakes do not possess features that make them particularly sensitive to changes in the landscape, particularly at the distances from which turbines would be visible. As a result, there are a number of lakes in the region, both within and beyond the eight mile Study area, that present similar recreational opportunities. To the extent that a particular user group is more sensitive to changes in the landscape and objects to visibility of turbines, they may choose to fish or recreate in any of the many other lakes in the region

Second, the assumptions about connectivity of the lakes within the Study area may be overstated. Not all of these lakes are connected, including Sysladobsis Lake, Pleasant Lake and Shaw Lake. For most of the other lakes, the connections are often shallow and rocky, limiting or preventing access to motorboats wishing to travel between lakes due to low water levels, particularly later in the season.

Third, although it was assumed that paddlers travel through these lakes and experience them as a continuous interconnected experience, that is not supported by the literature. Related to the experience of connectivity between lakes, the best guide for extended paddling trips in the region is Quiet Water Maine Canoe & Kayak Guide, 2nd Edition (2005). As noted in the pre-filed rebuttal testimony of Jeffrey Selser, only two of the 25 quiet water trips in the Downeast region listed lie within or partially within the 8-mile study area. See Exhibit D-1, which is a map from the Quiet Water Guide depicting these canoe trips. A large loop trip is described in the book, starting on page 141. The trip starts at Elsemore Landing on Pocumcus Lake (approximately 15miles from the nearest turbine), travels past the outlet to West Grand Lake and Junior Bay, through Junior Stream (passing the 8-mile project radius) to Junior Lake. Within this 8-mile project radius, extensive views of the turbines would only be possible within Junior Lake en route to a possible campsite or when travelling toward Bottle Lake Stream. Once paddling within Bottle Lake Stream, no views of the project are possible. Although

views of the project are possible within Bottle Lake, much of the lake has no visibility and the direction of travel is not oriented toward the project. In addition, Bottle Lake is densely developed with highly visible camps- a reminder that the area is not wilderness. The author notes in Quiet Water Maine “Bottle Lake’s heavy development represents the kind of place we prefer to paddle through as quickly as possible.” From Bottle Lake a minimum half-mile carry is required, although the access is unmarked and unmaintained and low water levels can make access difficult. The direction of travel and general view orientation within Sysladobsis Lake en route back to Pocumcus Lake is away from the project. Almost half of this trip is outside the 8-mile project radius, much of the route has limited or no project visibility, and views are not oriented toward the project for extended portions of the trip. This paddling trip is experienced over a number of days with breaks, and there are substantial stretches of travel with no views or views oriented away from the project. The experience of paddling in the vicinity of a particular view is not like driving in a car on a highway with a potentially fixed view framed within the windshield.

For those paddlers who do experience some of the lakes collectively, there are three key factors to keep in mind when assessing the impact of turbine visibility on their experience:

1) The focus for paddlers in particular is not always on the long distance views. Extensive experience observing and participating in lake paddling via kayak and canoe yield the conclusion that paddlers are often focused on and oriented to the shoreline, take in short-range as well as long-range views, and often change orientation depending upon the destination desired and the nature of the lake itself.

2) The areas where there is greatest visibility – typically the open areas in the middle of the lakes - are not always suitable for paddling. Two quotes from the AMC Quiet Waters Guide are instructive on this point:

Narrative of Pocumcus, Junior, and Sysladobsis Lakes: “Take note: under windy conditions, these lakes can be very treacherous; do not take novice paddlers here...” (141)

Elsmore Landing on Pocumcus Lake to Junior Lake: “With favorable weather, you can make the Junior Stream campsite a lunch stop and continue on to Junior Lake, where you will find some island campsites. We chose to continue on—and regretted it. Most of the morning we had paddled with a light tail wind, but by early afternoon, when we got out onto Junior Lake, the wind had picked up. Our two laden cones (with precious cargo of four- and seven-year-old daughters) bobbed in the increasingly rough water as we made our way for an island campsite near the lake’s center. We got there all right, but just in time, as the wind-driven waves rose to two feet.” (143-144)

Other interconnected paddling trips can be experienced elsewhere in the area. The Downeast Lakes Water Trail – Farm Cove Community Forest identifies a number of campsites that can be accessed along a water trail that goes through Fourth Machias Lake, Third Machias Lake, Pocumcus Lake, Junior Bay of West Grande Lake and West

Grand Lake. See Exhibit D-2. None are located within the Study area and the nearest campsite is approximately 10.5 miles from the nearest turbine.

Moreover, although there was testimony that one user group – young campers approximately 11-12 years old from Darrows Camp - paddles throughout many of the lakes, they are also the user group least likely to object to the presence of turbines in the viewshed.

Young people in Maine and elsewhere are growing up with wind power as a viable and accepted renewable energy source. They are much more supportive of these types of projects and in general have different expectations with respect seeing forms of renewable energy than do their parents. For example, at the first evening session, there were two young people who spoke and whose parents had no apparent position on the Project. One of them, a local recent high school graduate, expressed support for the project. Tr. at 33. Another, the daughter of camp owners who will have views of the Project, also indicated acceptance for the Project, recognizing its benefits and location in a working landscape. Their comments are echoed each year in the feedback that I receive in my capacity as a University professor at the University of Vermont, teaching an introductory course to landscape architecture. Specifically, and as I testified in the hearing, I query my students each year with regard to their acceptance of grid scale energy, and even ask about locating wind turbines within scenic resources such as ridgelines. Nine out of ten students support wind power including in locations they identify as having high scenic value. They do not find wind turbines shocking to look at and understand their place in the landscape and as part of our overall energy mix. Thus, in my opinion, the younger users of these lakes, including those who experience them collectively, are the least likely to be adversely impacted by the presence of turbines in the viewshed. It is also worth noting that the majority of the Darrows Camp customers do not even recreate in the lakes in the Study area, but at more distant locations in Maine and beyond in Canada. Tr. at 238, 239. Specifically, the intermediate section of campers explore the headwater lakes of the St Croix, Machias, and Penobscot watersheds and the St. Croix River, as well as river travel. The Senior Sections are conducted in northeastern Canada in New Brunswick and Quebec. Tr. at 239.

In addition to young people on organized trips, the user groups that would likely experience the issue related to connectivity between numerous lakes are boaters (many of whom are fishing) and adult paddlers. Low water levels throughout much of the season limit motorboat access between many of the lakes, while paddlers, especially those willing to portage for some distance, can experience a more interconnected lake experience. Based on the length of this trip and the long portage required, it is certain that only experienced paddlers and campers would make the long interconnected trip described above (that could take three to five days or longer), therefore limiting the number of people experiencing it. It has to be noted that paddlers are just one of many user groups experiencing these lakes, and all of the users of these resources must be taken into account. This would include ATV enthusiasts, whose use, for example, was documented in the Pleasant Lake Memo to Champlain Wind dated May 31, 2011. The owners of Maine Wilderness Camps, testified to the fact that snowmobilers seek out the

Rollins project as a destination, and as owners of a tourism destination on Pleasant lake, they do not view the presence of turbines as an adverse impact to their business or the enjoyment of their guests – to the contrary, it may have an overall net benefit and be viewed positively. The B&B on Junior Lake, Chateau du Lac, has snowmobile trail maps on the walls of their guest rooms, and the owners cite extensive use of the lakes in winter by this user group. Snowmobilers also support wind energy projects and seek them out as part of their travel plans. See Exhibit D-3.

Use of Lakes in the Project Area by Grand Lakes Stream Guides and Customers of Sporting Camps in the Area

Testimony from Mr. Tobey and Mr. Driza indicated that the average guide guides 75 days per year, 50 percent of which takes place in the “Junior area,” and Mr. Tobey indicated that this would result in thousands of guided visits to Junior Lake during the season from April 15 to October 15. Mr. Tobey testified that typically the guides put in at Pocumcus Lake and travel through Junior Bay of West Grand Lake to access lakes within the Project area. See generally June 28, 2011 Hearing Transcript at 291. Similarly, a number of guides and sporting camp owners testified about their concern that the Project would adversely affect their business and their customers’ use of lakes within the Study area.

Because the level of use of lakes in the Study area described by the guides is not consistent with our understanding of the level of use in these lakes, Champlain conducted surveys of boat traffic thru Junior Stream, which is the only water access point connecting West Grand Lake to Junior Lake. The results of the survey are attached as Exhibit D-4. In summary, the boat surveys, conducted during 11 days in July, documented between 1 and 4 boats travelling north each day through Junior Stream. In total, 18 boats were observed travelling north from Junior Bay of West Grand Lake and entering Junior Lake, including 14 motorboats, 3 canoes, and 1 grand lake canoe. Of these, only 2 motorboat observations appeared to be guided trips. The other motorboat observations were either families or couples. The observer camped on-site and did not observe any boat traffic before dawn or after dusk. In fact, the earliest observation took place at 10:00am and the last return trip was documented at 4:40pm.

In comparison, the survey documented 63 boats in Junior Bay that did not enter Junior Stream, suggesting that the level of use that originates in West Grand Lake and stays in West Grand Lake, is significantly higher than use that travels from West Grand Lake to Junior Lake or Scraggly Lake. This is consistent with the written testimony of Herbert Haynes that he has “seen very few guides ever make any use of Junior or Scraggly Lake.” These results are also supported by an informal assessment of the level and types of activity on Pleasant, Scraggly, and Bottle Lakes that Champlain Wind conducted over Memorial Day weekend. The results of that assessment are attached as Exhibit D-5. They show that on Pleasant Lake, during five hours of observation on Sunday and Monday, only two boats were observed on the lake. In comparison, ATV use on the perimeter of Pleasant Lake was moderate to heavy throughout both days. On Scraggly Lake, during three hours of observation, only one boat was observed, and no activity or

vehicles were observed at the Hasty Cove carry-in location. Again, these levels are consistent with our observations on prior visits to the lakes, other testimony presented during the hearing, and with the observations during the Commission's site visit on June 27, 2011. Testimony from lodge owners and guides also suggested that most of the recreational activity originating from Grand Lake Stream was focused on the lakes in the study area.

In contrast, results of interviews with ten sporting camp owners in 1996 indicated a wide variety of lakes are visited by their customers and that the majority of these lakes are outside the study area. Specifically, as part of a hydro relicensing effort by Georgia-Pacific in 1996, owners of ten commercial camps in the vicinity of Grand Lake Stream were interviewed to elicit opinions regarding the effects of water levels on recreation. Water levels are managed throughout the year at the West Grand Lake dam to address the needs for bass habitat, trout spawning, and area camp owners. The owners were given a list of lakes and streams in the area and were asked whether their customers used the waterbody for recreation. The interview results identified 32 waterbodies in the general area of Grand Lake Stream, including nine of the lakes within eight miles of the Project. The remaining 21 waterbodies are outside the study area. While trends in use change over time, the results, which are summarized on the attached Exhibit D-6¹, demonstrate that **there are many lakes used for recreational purposes by sporting camp customers and that the majority of these lakes are located outside the Project area.**

Impact of Project on Guiding and Sporting Camp Industry

Although the Commission heard from a number of guides and commercial sporting camp owners about their concerns that the Project would adversely impact their livelihoods, we believe those concerns, although understandable, are overstated. First, the Commission heard testimony from Roger Milliken, president of the Baskahegan Company, which owns and manages 100,000 acres in the Project vicinity, that prior to the construction of First Wind's Stetson wind project, he experienced many of the same fears expressed by area guides and camp owners. Specifically, Mr. Milliken testified that the Stetson project "brought his intellectual support of renewable energy into direct conflict with his emotional connection of the landscape" and the experience of recreating on the lake in solitude was "up for grabs with the proposed construction of the wind site." Tr. at 22. Upon reflection after construction, Mr. Milliken commented that the Stetson project is visible but in terms of personal impact, "it's barely changed at all" and "my experience since then has proven to me that my fears were overstated." Tr. at 23, 27.

Second, there is substantial evidence in the record that recreational use is not adversely impacted by the visibility of turbines in the viewshed. As described in our pre-filed direct and rebuttal testimony in greater detail, several studies have been conducted in recent years concluding that tourists, including hikers, boaters and other outdoor

¹ The information from these interviews was included in the 1998 Recreation Study and 2008 Relicensing Report conducted by Domtar for its West Branch Project (FERC No. 2618). This information was reviewed generally as part of the Visual Impact Assessment (See page 10 of the VIA), but the data from the specific interviews only recently became available from the consultant that conducted the study.

recreational enthusiasts, are either unaffected or positively affected by the presence of wind energy projects. The studies were conducted near operational wind projects in Vermont, Prince Edward Island, Scotland the Czech Republic and Quebec. See Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimony of David Raphael at 13. For example, in testimony submitted to the Vermont Public Service Board, Tourism expert Todd Comen concluded that wind energy development can have a positive effect on tourism. Dr. Palmer has also conducted a study on public acceptance of the Searsburg Wind Project and found that one year after the project went into operation, 89% of respondents were either supportive or very supportive of the existing wind project. Importantly, the study also found that opponent's views moved more to neutral ratings. Id.

As the Commission has now had the opportunity to hear from several people in both written and oral testimony, a particularly instructive study is the "Baskahegan Stream Watershed Recreation Use & Resource Analysis" (the "Baskahegan Study"). The purpose of the Baskahegan study was to evaluate recreation use patterns and site conditions around the Baskahegan watershed area in an effort to inform future decisionmaking for the planning and management of the area's resources and recreational opportunities. The defining feature of the landscape is Baskahegan Lake, which is located approximately 5.1 miles from the existing Stetson Project at its closest point and, from which there are expansive views of that project. See Pre-Filed Direct Testimony of David Raphael at 21. Although interviewees were not asked specifically about the turbines, they were asked a wide variety of questions about their enjoyment and how "use and conditions" in the area have changed over time and have affected their use and enjoyment of the resource. The surprising result of that study was that no person interviewed identified the presence of turbines in the viewshed as a detriment to recreation despite the fact that almost all turbines are clearly visible from the Lake. This fact led the author to conclude in a follow-up telephone call with Mr. Kiely that she assumed people did not attach any significance to them and, in fact, those interviewed confirmed that residential development was a much larger detractor. Id. (citing telephone conference between Mr. Kiely and principal author, Professor Andrea Ednie, Ph.D., University of Maine).

Third, it appears that this particular group of people is opposed to any change, regardless of origin and is prone to characterizing any change as leading to the destruction of lake resources and their way of life. For example, many of those testifying in opposition to the Bowers Project mounted a similar campaign against proposed legislation to re-introduce a native species, the Anadromous Alewife (*Alosa pseudoharengus*) into the St. Croix River. See LD 1957, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit D-7. The law sought to reverse legislation passed in 1995 that, according to the Maine Council of the Atlantic Salmon Federation, among others, excluded alewives from their native habitat. Attached as Exhibit D-8 is testimony from the following guides and camp owners that have testified in opposition to the Bowers proceeding, expressing similar concerns about the impact of allowing Alewives into the St. Croix River: 1) David Tobey, Guide; 2) Dale Tobey (on behalf of 78 licensed guides); 3) Charles Driza, Lodge Owner; 4) Steven Norris, Lodge Owner, Guide; 5) Louis Cataldo, 1st Selectmen, Grand Lake Stream; 6)

Chris and Lindsay Wheaton, Lodge Owners; 7) Lance Wheaton, Guide; 8) James Mabee, Guide; 9) Lee Whitely, Guide.

Intervenor PPDW even opposed construction of a commercial sporting camp, the Wild Fox Run Commercial Camp on Junior Horseshoe Lake, stating in an appeal to LURC to reverse approval of the Camp's permit, "if this project is allowed to go forward, it will be the turning point when the degradation of the wild and scenic nature of Junior Lake began, the commercial campground special permitting process will not have prevented the elimination of another rare wild and scenic resource in Maine. The precedence will be set for this time for Junior Lake." Tr. at 265. When asked if the fears associated with the issuance of the Camp's permit were warranted, Mr. Gurrall testified that the fear expressed in PPDW's letter to LURC had not come to pass. Id. at 267.

Response to Palmer's Comments Regarding FAA Lighting

In order to address the expectation of the typical viewer one must first determine who would be using these lakes at night. Although it is possible that some people could be boating or fishing on the lake at dusk, very little activity occurs on the water at night. As Dr. Palmer noted in his memo dated 7/21/11, people on private property, i.e. camp owners, are not considered public users of the lakes under the Wind Energy Act. Although not technically on the lakes, people camping on locations with public access might be considered "public users", although there are no publicly owned or maintained campsites within the study area. In terms of their expectations, it depends upon the type of camping. One could argue that trailer/RV campers, like those at the private campground at the southeast shore of Pleasant lake, would have lower expectations regarding night lighting due to the fact that they arrived directly to their campsite in motorized vehicles and they typically have electricity to power lights, radios, etc. Due to the likelihood of larger group size, social activity is often the primary focus of the experience at night, as opposed to the experience of nature.

Tent campers- especially those who arrived by canoe to remote sites- might have a higher expectation in terms of the night sky.

The only tent camp sites within the 8-mile project radius are located on Junior Lake and Scraggly Lake, and many of these site would have limited to no visibility of the FAA lights, due to orientation or tree cover (see detailed descriptions in Exhibit A memo dated 11/20/11, presented as a response to a question in the Ninth Procedural Order). As such, there are numerous camping options for those wishing to have an unfettered night view.

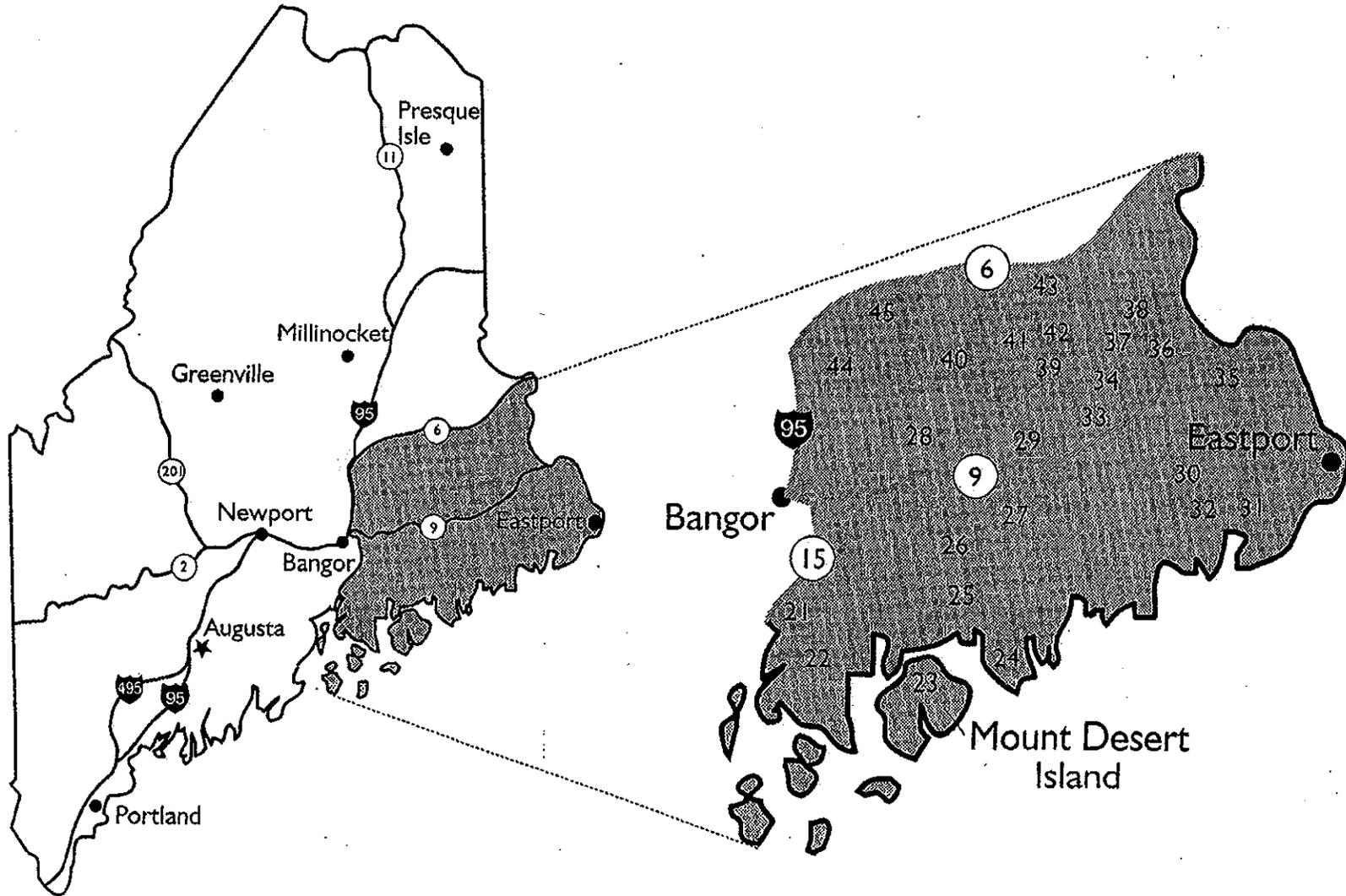
In terms of duration of public uses, the period of time in which campers would experience the night lighting is relatively brief- around dusk, which is as late as 9 pm in the height of summer to the time they retire to their tents/campers, which could be soon thereafter. There is also a seasonal limitation to this use, as tent and RV camping typically occurs in the warmer months. Ice fishermen sometimes camp overnight on the lakes in their shanties, but minimal time is spent outdoors at night due to cold temperatures, and their structures can easily be oriented away from the lights. During the warm seasons, fisherman and others may see the lights at dawn and at dusk when they are

arriving or departing from the lakes, but this would only be for limited duration and users are typically focused on preparing and launching their boats and gathering their equipment.

In terms of the effect on continued use and enjoyment, there could be some impact on the night portion of the recreational experience for people tent camping. We do not believe, however, that it would sufficiently undermine their experience to prevent campers from returning, although we know of no published surveys regarding night lighting to reference in support of this conclusion. Nighttime camping activities are usually focused around the fire, inward on the camp itself. The campfire would typically be the focus of attention, brighter than any lights located miles away. In addition, many of the campsites have limited to no visibility of the FAA lights. Although viewing the FAA lights on the horizon could be an annoyance to some, stargazing can continue without impact, as there is no glow from the lights that would diminish the darkness above. The impact to fishermen on the lake at dawn or dusk would be minimal, as the contrast of the lights to the dusk sky would not be pronounced. As noted in the LandWorks memo dated 11/20/11 in regards to light reflections, only on very clear, still nights (as experienced by the Commission when viewing Rollins) will there be substantial reflectivity on the water. Once the water is disturbed with wind or boat traffic, reflections are disrupted. The visibility of such reflections are highly dependent on viewer location and orientation, distance from the project, intervening landscapes, screening vegetation and, as stated, weather and air quality conditions. Often the viewer's eye is more focused on the bright lights and reflections from camps on the water, such as those located along the western shore of Junior Lake. In fact, this type of lighting can create glare and visual impacts that are arguably more significant and more visible than distant beacons on telecommunication towers and wind turbines. In terms of impact on continued use and enjoyment, the number of affected users should also be considered. Although data on the number of people using these lakes specifically at night is not available, overall use of these resources is relatively low and there are only a limited number of campsites.

In terms of the extent of night lighting impact under review, it should be noted that the Commission has already determined to review the entirety of the project, including met towers, under the Wind Energy Act scenic standard. See April 21, 2011 Second Procedural Order.

Downeast



The Downeast Lakes Land Trust oversees nine primitive campsites accessible by water only. Each site has a picnic table and fire ring, but no outhouse.

Campsite use is free; donations to the land trust are appreciated.

- Campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Use established campsites only. Please do not exceed recommended maximum number of campers set for each site.
- Camping is limited to 3 consecutive nights.
- Carry out everything you carry in. The campsites have no trash receptacles. Please help us keep these sites clean!
- For human waste, dig holes six to eight inches deep at least 200 feet from water, campsites, and trails. Cover waste and paper thoroughly.
- Pets should be kept in control at all times. For pet waste, please follow the same guidelines as for human waste.
- **State law requires fire permits for open fires (including those in campsite fire rings). Campfires may be banned during dry periods. Call the Maine Forest Service for a permit (207) 827-1800.**

- Be aware that approaches to the sites are often rocky and shallow, and access by motorboat can be hazardous. No sites have docks.
- Plan ahead: the weather can change quickly, and sudden winds make the waters treacherous. Don't count on your cell phone in an emergency; coverage is spotty to non-existent. A map and compass are essential. Topographic maps and information on guide services are available at the Pine Tree Store (207-796-5027)

June 2010.

Policies and conditions are subject to change.

The Downeast Lakes Land Trust is a community-based nonprofit founded in Grand Lake Stream in 2001 which owns and oversees the 33,708-acre Farm Cove Community Forest with more than 70 miles of shoreline along West Grand and 7 other lakes. The land was acquired through the generosity of many individuals, foundations, and corporations.



The Downeast Lakes Land Trust contributes to the long-term economic and environmental well-being of the Downeast region through the conservation and exemplary management of its forests and waters.

The trust manages the community Forest for wildlife habitat, public recreation, and a sustainable timber supply.

Quebec-Labrador Foundation, NPS Rivers and Trails Program, Land for Maine's Future Board, and Maine Recreational Trail Program have all contributed to development of our trails and campsites.

To contribute to the trust's efforts or learn how you can help, please contact us:

Downeast Lakes Land Trust
www.downeastlakes.org
P.O. Box 75
4 Water Street
Grand Lake Stream, ME 04637
(207) 796-2100

Downeast Lakes
LAND TRUST
PO Box 75
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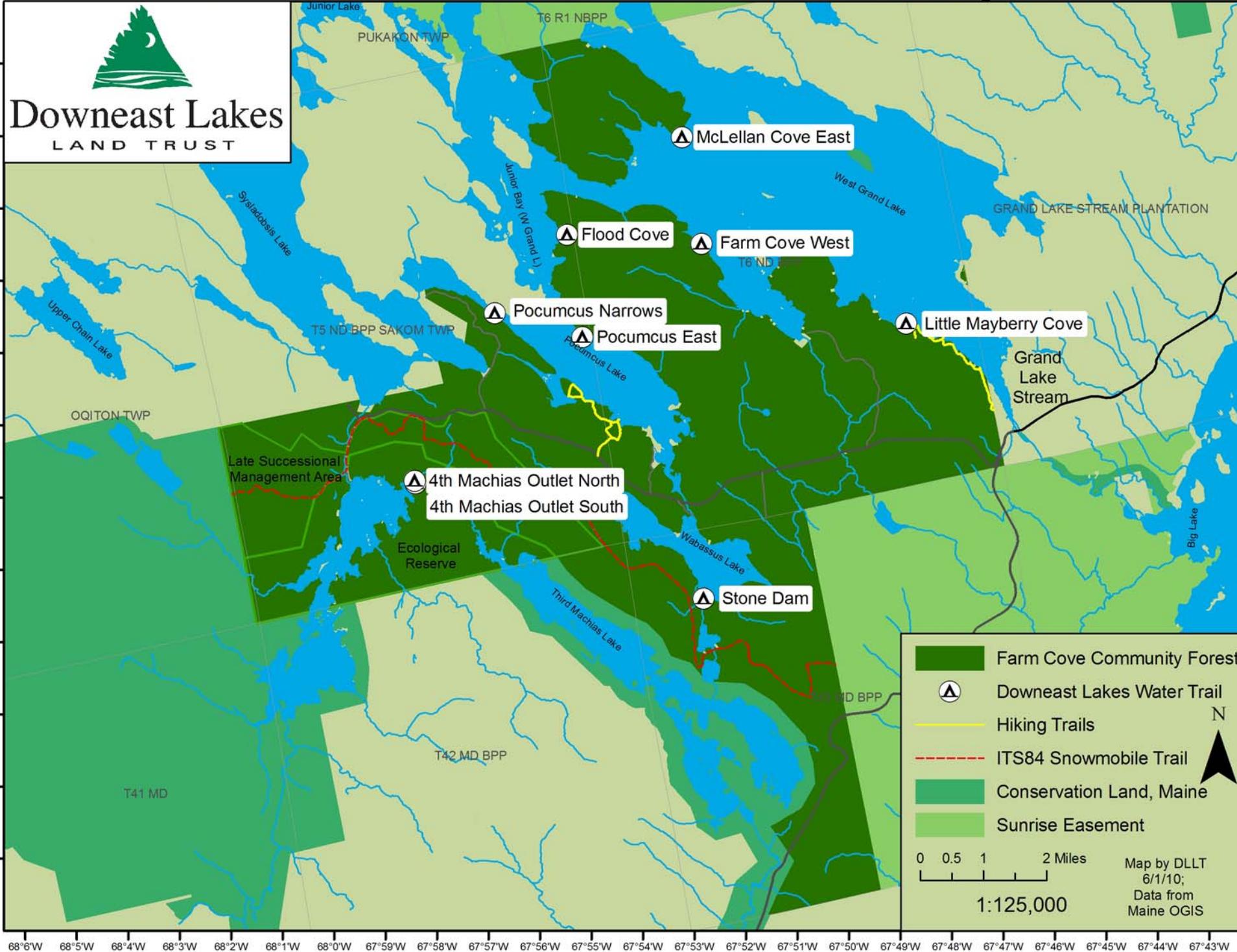
Downeast Lakes
LAND TRUST

DOWNEAST LAKES
WATER TRAIL
CAMPsites



Downeast Lakes Water Trail - Farm Cove Community Forest

CAMPSITES



- 1. Little Mayberry Cove**
 N 45 12' 14.5" W 67 48' 42.2"
 Convenient from Grand Lake Stream.
 Maximum capacity: 3 tents/6 persons
- 2. McClellan Cove East**
 N 45 14' 54.4" W 67 53' 07.0"
 Southern exposure and sweeping views.
 Maximum capacity: 3 tents/6 persons
- 3. Farm Cove West**
 N 45 13' 23.2" W 67 52' 41.1"
 Eastern exposure and sweeping views.
 Maximum capacity: 3 tents/6 persons
- 4. Flood Cove**
 N 45 13' 32.6" W 67 55' 19.9"
 Deep-set cove with low water beach.
 Maximum capacity: 2 tents/4 persons
- 5. Pocumcus Narrows**
 N 45 12' 28.3" W 67 56' 43.7"
 Sheltered site with low water beach.
 Maximum capacity: 3 tents/6 persons
- 6. Pocumcus East**
 N 45 12' 06.3" W 67 55' 02.2"
 Attractive site under tall trees.
 Maximum capacity: 4 tents/8 people
- 7. Stone Dam**
 N 45 8' 28.6" W 67 52' 44.3"
 Attractive site with sandy beach.
 Maximum capacity: 4 tents/8 people
- 8. 4th Machias Outlet North**
 N 45 10' 08.8" W 67 58' 26.3"
 On the berm from the old dam where
 Fourth Lake Stream leaves the lake.
 Maximum capacity: 3 tents/6 people.
- 9. Fourth Machias Outlet South**
 N 45 10' 06.8" W 67 58' 24.9"
 UTM 19 T 0580662 5001970 NAD 27
 Located on the south side of the outlet,
 directly across from the North site.
 Maximum capacity: 3 tents/6 people.

July 20, 2011

Fred Todd
Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Statement in Support of Development Permit DP-4889 Bowers Wind Project

Presented by Bob Meyers, Executive Director

On behalf of the members of the Maine Snowmobile Association, please accept this statement of support for the application for a proposed wind energy development project on Bowers Mountain by Champlain Wind, LLC.

The Maine Snowmobile Association represents 288 snowmobile clubs statewide. Those clubs groom and maintain approximately 14,500 miles of snowmobile trails in Maine. The economic impact of snowmobiling in Maine is estimated to be in excess of \$300 million per year. Our success in large measure is due to the generosity of thousands of private landowners throughout the state, and the willingness of our clubs to recognize that they need to work within the constraints imposed by the primary land management objectives of these landowners. In general, our clubs have enjoyed excellent relations with wind energy developers, and the proposed project on Bowers Mountain gives every indication that it will be an excellent fit with motorized recreation in the region.

This project is located within one of the expedited zones, is on a relatively low ridge and does not intrude on any significant non-motorized recreation trails. It is in fact located in the heart of an area that has seen significant growth in motorized recreation in the past ten years. The development of both snowmobile and ATV trails in Washington and eastern Penobscot Counties has accommodated the needs of riders by offering new destinations and connectivity between the recently developed Sunrise Trail and southern Aroostook County. This growth has helped fuel economic development in the area, supporting lodging and other business establishments, particularly during the winter months which were traditionally a quiet time in the area.

Most riders are keenly aware that they are recreating within industrial forestlands, and based on comments we receive, wind projects are viewed as something new and interesting to be encountered along the trails. We believe that in many instances the wind projects become destinations in and of themselves as snowmobile and ATV riders make riding decisions based on an opportunity to view a wind project "up close." A good case in point is the annual ride-in hosted by First Wind on nearby Stetson Mountain. Hundreds of snowmobiles make their way up the mountain for a cookout and outstanding views of that impressive tower array.

The proposed Bowers Mountain project is an excellent fit within the expedited zone in that it is located within the same area as existing projects on Rollins and Stetson Mountains. This gives it excellent proximity to existing transmission lines and minimizes the amount of additional construction that will

need to take place. It also provides tremendous opportunity to an area of the state that is in desperate need of jobs and large-scale development to help create a more stable regional economy .

Finally, the project application includes the details of the Bowers Conservation Fund, which would be established when the project goes operational. This fund will be used to further enhance conservation and recreational opportunities in the region.

The members of the Maine Snowmobile Association support responsible development within the LURC jurisdiction, and in our view this is a model project. We strongly support this application, and look forward to the opportunities that its approval will present.



July 19, 2011

Neil Kiely
Champlain Wind, LLC
129 Middle Street, 3rd Floor
Portland, ME 04101

**Subject: Results of Boat Surveys Conducted at Junior Stream for
Bowers Wind Project**

Dear Neil,

As requested, Stantec Consulting conducted a survey of boat activity at Junior Stream, near the proposed Bowers Wind Project. This letter summarizes the results of those surveys.

In response to information presented during the public hearing on level of boat use and travel from West Grand Lake to areas more proximate to the Project, Stantec conducted a survey of boat traffic travelling thru Junior Stream, which is the only water access point from West Grand Lake to lakes within eight miles of the proposed Bowers Project. The purpose of the survey was to document the level of traffic travelling from West Grand Lake towards Junior Lake (See Figure 1 for the observation location).

Surveys were conducted on 11 days from July 4 through July 15 for approximately 12-15 hours each day. Except for July 4, the observer camped at the site. The observer present all day, either at the tent site or on the water in the general vicinity of the tent site. The survey period started before dawn, at approximately 5am and continued until approximately 8:30pm each day. The weather during each day was sunny to partly cloudy, with temperatures from 60 to 75, and slight to moderate winds during each day (Table 1). An observer was stationed at the inlet from Junior Bay (part of West Grand Lake) to Junior Stream and had clear views towards both water bodies.

All boats travelling in Junior Stream were documented (Table 2), as well as all boats observed travelling in Junior Bay (Table 3). Information documented about each observation included: time of observation; type of boat (motor, canoe, kayak, grand lake canoe, other); number of people in boat; direction of travel; previously documented boat; and potential guided trip. If a boat was previously observed, it was documented as a return trip and the trip length was calculated (from the time of initial observation in Junior Stream to the subsequent time of observation in Junior Stream).

In total, 18 boats were observed travelling north from Junior Bay of West Grand Lake and entering Junior Lake over the 11 day period. This included 3 canoes, 1 grand lake canoe, and 14 motorboats. Of these, 2 motorboat observations appeared to be guided trips. The other motorboat observations included four boats of families and four boats with two adults who appeared to be fishing. Return trips were documented for 12 of the motorboats and 1 grand lake canoe. The length of trips varied, with 1 trip lasting 10 minutes, 3 trips lasting less than 2 hours (including one potentially guided trip¹), 4 trips lasting 3-4.5 hours, and 1 trip lasting 6.5 hours.

The average trip length was 3 hours and 8 minutes. No observations were observed before dawn or after dusk. The earliest observation took place at 10:00am, and the latest return trip took place at 4:40pm.

In addition, 5 motor boats were observed travelling north from West Grand Lake into Junior Stream but did not enter Junior Lake. The average trip length was 40 minutes.

A similar level of traffic was observed travelling south. In total, 16 boats were observed travelling south from Junior Lake towards West Grand Lake, including 3 canoes and 13 motorboats. Two of these boats appeared to be guided trips. Return trips were documented for 8 motorboats. The average trip length was 3 hours and 53 minutes, with 4 trips lasting 2.5 to 3 hours, 3 trips lasting 4-5 hours, and 1 potentially guided trip lasting 7 hours. No observations were observed before dawn or after dusk. The earliest observation took place at 7:40am, and the latest return trip took place at 1:44pm.

In comparison, 63 boats were observed in Junior Bay of West Grand Lake during the same timeframe, including 4 canoes, 5 grand lake canoes, 51 motorboats, and 1 pontoon boat, 1 jetski, and 1 kayak. At least 7 of these boats appeared to be guided, including 4 canoes, 2 motorboats and 1 grand lake canoe. Two motorboats were observed prior to 6am and the majority of observations took place between 10am and 2pm.

Please contact our office if you have any questions regarding the information presented in this report or if we can be of further assistance.

Best regards,
STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC.



Joy Prescott
Project Manager

¹ No return trip was documented for one of the observations identified as a potentially guided trip so trip length could not be calculated.

Table 1. Summary of Observations

Date	Hours of Observation	Boats Travelling North to Enter Junior Lake	Number of Boats Travelling South to Enter Junior Bay of West Grand Lake	Boats Observed only in Junior Stream ¹	Boats Observed only in Junior Bay of West Grand Lake	Weather Conditions during Day
7/4/2011	12	2	0	0	23	sunny, few rain showers, 72
7/6/2011	14	1	0	0	3	sunny, slight wind from NW, 72
7/7/2011	15	3	4	4	2	partly cloudy, some rain, wind from W, 74
7/8/2011	15	4	5	5	3	sunny, moderate wind from W, 68
7/9/2011	14	0	0	0	5	partly cloudy, some rain, wind variable, 70
7/10/2011	15.5	0	0	0	11	sunny, wind from WNW, 73
7/11/2011	14	3	0	0	3	sunny, wind from WNW, some rain, 79
7/12/2011	14	3	3	2	0	mostly cloudy, some rain, wind from WNW, 77
7/13/2011	15.5	1	0	3	6	overcast, mild wind from NW, 70
7/14/2011	15.5	1	2	0	4	partly cloudy, mild wind from NNE, 66
7/15/2011	7	0	2	0	3	mostly sunny, slight wind from NW, 65-70
Total	151.5	18	16	5	63	

¹Five boats were observed within Junior Stream but were observed returning to Junior Bay, rather than travelling North to Junior Lake.

Table 2. Observations of Boats Travelling in Junior Stream

Date	Type of boat	# of people	Travelling thru Junior Stream	Direction on Junior Stream	Time of Observation	Return Trip	Time previously observed	Length of Trip	Guided Trip	Notes
7/4/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	15:26	no			no	
7/4/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	14:05	no			yes	
7/6/2011	motor	3	Yes	North	14:44	no			maybe	older couple and male
7/6/2011	motor	3	Yes	South	16:40	yes	14:44	1:56	maybe	
7/7/2011	motor	6	Yes	North	11:40	no			no	4 kids, 2 adults, rods
7/7/2011	motor	3	Yes	North	11:41	no			no	2 adults, 1 child
7/7/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	12:04	no			no	older couple with dog
7/7/2011	motor	6	Yes	South	13:10	yes	11:40	1:30	no	
7/7/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	13:26	no			no	couple with 3 dogs
7/7/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	13:35	yes	13:26	0:09	no	
7/7/2011	motor	3	Yes	South	13:35	yes	11:41	1:54	no	
7/7/2011	motor	5	Yes	South	13:44	no			no	2 adults, 3 children
7/7/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	13:44	no			no	father and son
7/7/2011	motor	5	Yes	South	13:44	no			no	2 adults, 3 children
7/7/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	16:03	yes	12:04	3:59	no	
7/7/2011	motor	5	Yes	North	16:28	yes	13:44	2:44	no	3 boats traveling together
7/7/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	16:28	yes	13:44	2:44	no	3 boats traveling together
7/7/2011	motor	5	Yes	North	16:28	yes	13:44	2:44	no	3 boats traveling together
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	8:02	no			maybe	2 adult males wearing life PFDs, rods
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	9:07	no			no	older couple
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	10:00	no			no	2 older men
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	10:10	no			no	older couple, rods
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	10:11	no			no	older couple, 2 dogs, not observed returning north
7/8/2011	motor	5	Yes	North	10:45	no			no	4 adults, 1 child
7/8/2011	motor	3	Yes	North	10:45	no			no	2 adults, 1 child
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	10:45	no			no	older couple
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	10:47	no			no	2 adults, 2 dogs
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	13:00	yes	10:00	3:00	no	
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	13:23	yes	10:47	2:36	no	
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	14:05	yes	9:07	4:58	no	
7/8/2011	motor	5	Yes	South	14:49	yes	10:45	4:04	no	
7/8/2011	motor	3	Yes	South	14:49	yes	10:45	4:04	no	
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	14:49	yes	10:45	4:04	no	
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	14:57	yes	10:10	4:47	no	
7/8/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	15:05	yes	8:02	7:03	maybe	
7/11/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	10:30	no			no	
7/11/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	10:30	no			no	
7/11/2011	motor	4	Yes	North	11:05	no			no	
7/11/2011	motor	4	Yes	South	15:00	yes	11:05	3:55	no	
7/11/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	15:03	yes	10:30	4:33	no	
7/11/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	15:03	yes	10:30	4:33	no	

Table 2. Observations of Boats Travelling in Junior Stream

Date	Type of boat	# of people	Travelling thru Junior Stream	Direction on Junior Stream	Time of Observation	Return Trip	Time previously observed	Length of Trip	Guided Trip	Notes
7/12/2011	canoe	2	Yes	North	11:20	no			no	group of 3 canoes with 5 children and 1 adult
7/12/2011	canoe	2	Yes	North	11:20	no			no	group of 3 canoes with 5 children and 1 adult
7/12/2011	canoe	2	Yes	North	11:20	no			no	group of 3 canoes with 5 children and 1 adult
7/12/2011	canoe	2	Yes	South	11:40	no			no	group of 3 canoes with 5 children and 1 adult
7/12/2011	canoe	2	Yes	South	11:40	no			no	group of 3 canoes with 5 children and 1 adult
7/12/2011	canoe	2	Yes	South	11:40	no			no	group of 3 canoes with 5 children and 1 adult
7/12/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	North	19:00	no			no	2 boats traveling together from camp on peninsula. Did not travel all the way thru stream
7/12/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	North	19:15	no			no	2 boats traveling together from camp on peninsula. Did not travel all the way thru stream
7/12/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	South	19:52	yes	19:00	0:52	no	
7/12/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	South	19:52	yes	19:00	0:52	no	
7/12/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	South	19:56	yes	19:15	0:41	no	
7/12/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	South	19:56	yes	19:15	0:41	no	
7/13/2011	motor	4	Only Stream	North	10:23	no			no	stayed in stream for 10 min, and then headed into Junior Bay
7/13/2011	motor	4	Only Stream	South	10:33	yes	10:23	0:10	no	stayed in stream for 10 min, and then headed into Junior Bay
7/13/2011	motor	4	Only Stream	South	10:33	yes	10:23	0:10	no	stayed in stream for 10 min, and then headed into Junior Bay
7/13/2011	grand lake canoe	2	Yes	North	11:15	no			no	man and woman. Stopped at boat ramp and continued into Junior Stream.
7/13/2011	grand lake canoe	2	Yes	South	13:06	yes	11:15	1:51	no	
7/13/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	North	19:30	no			no	2 boats from camps in Junior Bay, stayed in Stream and did not enter Junior Lake
7/13/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	North	19:30	no			no	2 boats from camps in Junior Bay, stayed in Stream and did not enter Junior Lake
7/13/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	South	20:20	yes	19:30	0:50	no	
7/13/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	South	20:20	yes	19:30	0:50	no	
7/13/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	South	20:20	yes	19:30	0:50	no	
7/13/2011	motor	2	Only Stream	South	20:20	yes	19:30	0:50	no	
7/14/2011	motor	2	Yes	North	10:00	no			no	2 adults, fishing
7/14/2011	motor	1	Yes	South	12:30	no			no	
7/14/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	16:30	yes	10:00	6:30	no	
7/14/2011	motor	1	Yes	South	17:00	no			no	
7/15/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	7:40	no			maybe	2 boats traveling together. Boats had "Fox Wilderness Resorts" on side
7/15/2011	motor	2	Yes	South	7:40	no			maybe	2 boats traveling together. Boats had "Fox Wilderness Resorts" on side

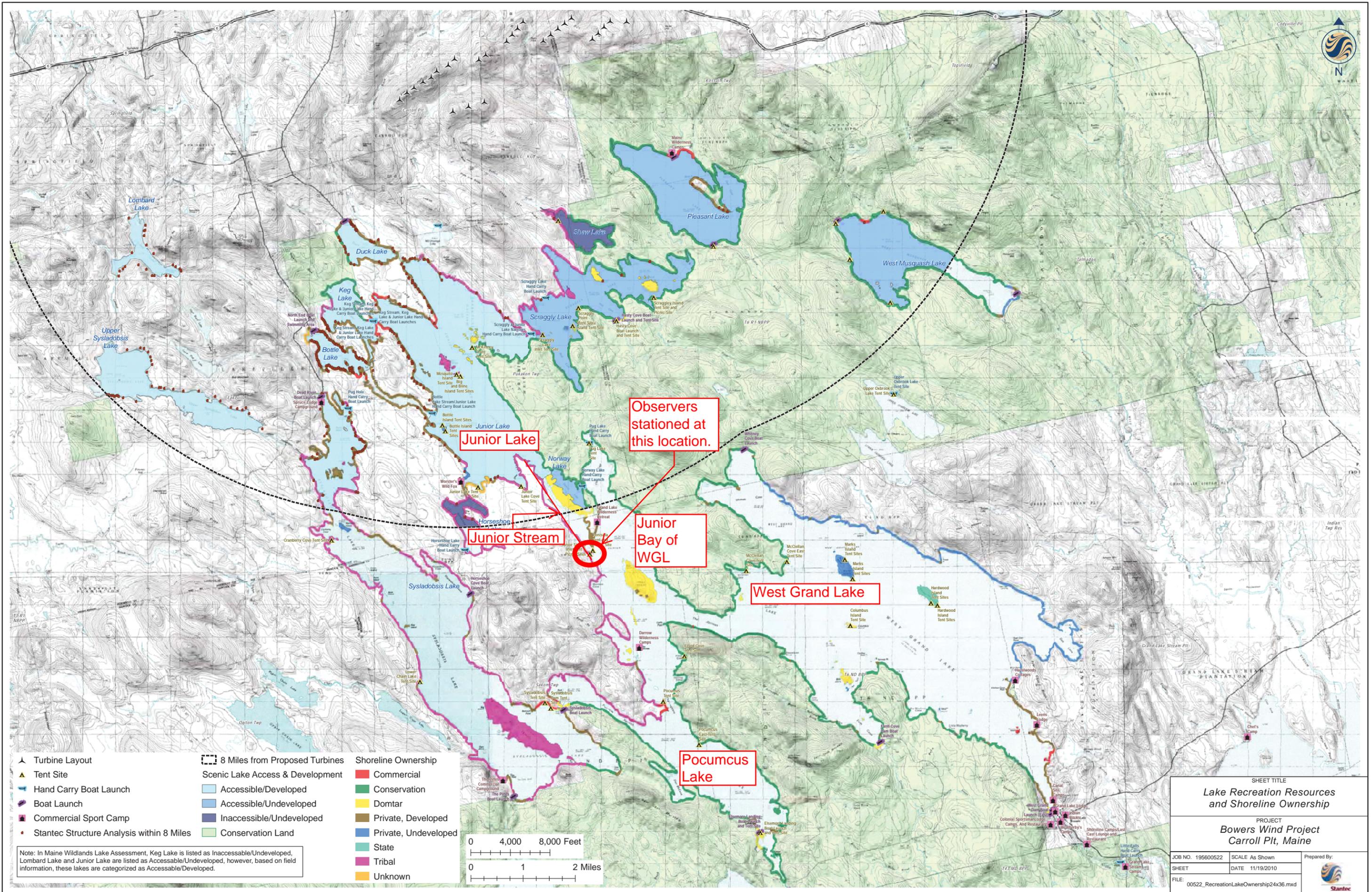
Table 3. Observations of Boats Travelling in Junior Bay

Date	Type of boat	# of people	Travelling thru Junior Stream	Location / Direction	Time	Return Trip	Time previously observed	Length of Trip	Guided Trip	Notes
7/4/2011	grand lake canoe	1	No	Junior Bay, N	8:45	no			no	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, S	8:50	no			no	
7/4/2011	motor	4	No	Junior Bay, S	9:30	no			no	
7/4/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, N	9:47	no			no	
7/4/2011	grand lake canoe	1	No	Junior Bay, S	12:11	yes	8:45	3:26	no	
7/4/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, S	12:15	yes	9:47	2:28	no	
7/4/2011	pontoon	3	No	Junior Bay, N	12:20	n/a			no	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, S	12:31	n/a			no	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, N	12:35	n/a			no	
7/4/2011	canoe	2	No	Junior Bay, N	12:42	no			yes	
7/4/2011	canoe	3	No	Junior Bay, N	12:42	no			yes	
7/4/2011	canoe	2	No	Junior Bay, N	12:42	no			yes	
7/4/2011	canoe	3	No	Junior Bay, N	12:42	no			yes	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, S	12:54	n/a			no	
7/4/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, S	13:23	yes	12:15	1:08	no	
7/4/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, N	13:56	no			maybe	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, N	13:58	no			no	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, N	14:00	no			no	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, N	14:22	no			no	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, S	14:31	yes	14:22	0:09	no	
7/4/2011	motor	5	No	Junior Bay, S	14:32	n/a			no	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, N	14:39	n/a			no	
7/4/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, S	14:45	yes	1:58	12:47	no	
7/4/2011	grand lake canoe	1	No	Junior Bay, N	15:03	n/a			no	
7/4/2011	motor	7	No	Junior Bay, N	16:18	no			no	bayliner
7/4/2011	motor	7	No	Junior Bay, S	16:29	yes	16:18	0:11	no	bayliner
7/4/2011	grand lake canoe	1	No	Junior Bay, N	16:50	n/a			no	
7/4/2011	motor	3	No	Junior Bay, N	16:57	n/a			no	waterskiing
7/4/2011	jetski	1	No	Junior Bay, S	17:10	n/a			no	
7/6/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay	15:44	no			no	launched at Junior Stream to go to WGL
7/6/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay	18:00	no			n/a	fishing around outlet of Junior Stream
7/7/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, S	5:45	n/a			n/a	fisherman
7/7/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	6:50	n/a			n/a	
7/7/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	7:45	n/a			n/a	
7/7/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	9:30	n/a			n/a	
7/7/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, S	11:15	no			no	launched at Junior Stream, headed south in bay
7/7/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, S	11:56	n/a			n/a	
7/7/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	13:26	n/a			n/a	
7/7/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	14:27	n/a			n/a	

Table 3. Observations of Boats Travelling in Junior Bay

Date	Type of boat	# of people	Travelling thru Junior Stream	Location / Direction	Time	Return Trip	Time previously observed	Length of Trip	Guided Trip	Notes
7/7/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	14:27	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, S	5:35	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, S	7:15	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	7:45	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, S	7:55	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, S	9:07	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, S	10:00	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	10:45	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	12:05	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	grand lake canoe	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	12:28	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, S	14:16	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, S	14:16	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, N	17:03	n/a			n/a	
7/8/2011	motor	3	No	Junior Bay, S	13:00	n/a			no	launched at stream and went to Bear Island
7/9/2011	motor	3	No	Junior Bay, S	8:40	no			maybe	looked like father, son, and guide, wearing camo
7/9/2011	motor	3	No	Junior Bay, N	12:45	yes	8:40	4:05	maybe	
7/9/2011	kayak	2	No	Junior Bay, S	15:50	no			no	
7/10/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, S	6:25	no			no	
7/10/2011	motor	3	No	Junior Bay, S	10:17	no			no	
7/10/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, N	12:35	yes	6:25	6:10	no	
7/10/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, S	10:30	no			no	
7/10/2011	motor	3	No	Junior Bay, N	13:00	no			no	Took out at boat launch
7/10/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, N	16:15	no			no	
7/11/2011	grand lake canoe	3	No	Junior Bay, S	11:20	no			yes	put in at boat launch near campsite
7/11/2011	grand lake canoe	3	No	Junior Bay, N	15:34	yes	11:20	4:14	yes	took out at boat launch
7/13/2011	motor	4	No	Junior Bay	12:34	no			no	
7/13/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, NW	15:19	no			no	
7/13/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, NW	18:00	yes	15:19	2:41	no	boat observed multiple times in Bay
7/14/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, SE	4:15	no			no	
7/14/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, NW	9:35	yes	4:15	5:20	no	
7/14/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, S	12:00	no			no	put in at boat launch near campsite
7/14/2011	motor	2	No	Junior Bay, N	13:45	yes	13:00	0:45	no	Took out at boat launch
7/14/2011	motor	n/a	No	Junior Bay, SE	17:45	n/a			n/a	
7/15/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, SE		n/a			no	
7/15/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, NW	8:32	yes	7:15	1:17	no	
7/15/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, NW	9:55	no			no	
7/15/2011	motor	1	No	Junior Bay, SE	10:16	no			no	

Note: n/a indicates that the distance to the boat was too great to document the number of people or identify if it was a return trip or potential guided trip.



Observers
stationed at
this location.

Junior Lake

Junior Bay of
WGL

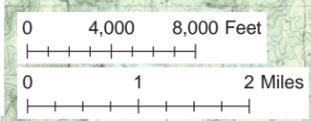
Junior Stream

West Grand Lake

Pocumcus
Lake

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| ▲ Turbine Layout | ⬜ 8 Miles from Proposed Turbines | Shoreline Ownership |
| ▲ Tent Site | Scenic Lake Access & Development | Commercial |
| Hand Carry Boat Launch | Accessible/Developed | Conservation |
| Boat Launch | Accessible/Undeveloped | Domtar |
| Commercial Sport Camp | Inaccessible/Undeveloped | Private, Developed |
| • Stantec Structure Analysis within 8 Miles | Conservation Land | Private, Undeveloped |
| | | State |
| | | Tribal |
| | | Unknown |

Note: In Maine Wildlands Lake Assessment, Keg Lake is listed as Inaccessible/Undeveloped, Lombard Lake and Junior Lake are listed as Accessible/Undeveloped, however, based on field information, these lakes are categorized as Accessible/Developed.



SHEET TITLE		
Lake Recreation Resources and Shoreline Ownership		
PROJECT		
Bowers Wind Project Carroll Pit, Maine		
JOB NO. 195600522	SCALE As Shown	Prepared By:
SHEET	DATE 11/19/2010	
FILE: 00522_RecreationLakeOwnership24x36.mxd		

Pleasant Lake Memo for Champlain Wind



June 1, 2010

To: Neil Kiely, First Wind

From: Randy Seaver

Date: May 31, 2011

Re: Pleasant Lake memo for Champlain Wind

Neil,

At your request, I and my wife, Laura, spent two days over Memorial Day weekend observing activity on Pleasant, Scraggly and Bottle lakes. We did not conduct a systematic assessment of the level of use of or activities occurring on these resources, but spent a combined total of approximately 10 hours, observing use on the lakes and around their shore areas. The results of our observations are summarized below and on the accompanying table. During two days of observations over the Memorial Day weekend, there appeared to be little to moderate activity on Pleasant, Scraggly and Bottle lakes. Activity may have been somewhat limited by poor-moderate weather conditions on both Saturday and Sunday.

Pleasant Lake:

South Shore observations, Sunday, May 29, 12:30-3:30:

We spent roughly three hours on the southern end of Pleasant Lake, paddling portions of the eastern and southern shoreline. The public boat ramp is located on the southern shore of Pleasant Lake, near a seasonal campground that features 19 primitive sites. Upon our arrival and departure, the boat ramp was not being used, and the campground was relatively quiet with mostly family activity, including 12 adults in three different camping parties, as well as several small groups of children.

We observed only two other boats on the lake (both 14-16 foot, boats with outboard engines) Both boating parties were traveling only at headway speed and appeared to be fishing near the western side of the lake. One boating party consisted of two gentlemen; the other party had multiple people, but was too far away to make an accurate determination of the size of their party

South Shore observations, Monday, May 30, 12-1:30 p.m.:

We spent an additional 90 minutes (approximately) kayaking and observed two boats being pulled out and onto trailers. At and near the campground, we saw 7-10 adults, including two men pulling out boats. We also saw two teenagers using dirt-bikes and several (8-9) ATVs on Amazon Road.

North Shore observations, Monday, May 30; 2:30-3:00 p.m.:

We visited Maine Wilderness Camps on the northern shore of Pleasant Lake. And observed six parked boat trailers; and three small boats tied near shore and a pontoon boat;. That campground was also quiet, and there was no water activity noted near the shoreline or toward the center of the lake. We observed what appeared to be a total of four camping parties; including a group of six adults sitting around a smoldering campfire and a few young children running about.

It should be noted that ATV use on the perimeter of Pleasant Lake (most notably on Amazon Road) was moderate to heavy throughout both days. ATV's, including motorized dirt-bikes, and side-by sides, were also seen further down the road near Scraggly Lake. We also clearly heard ATVs from the north, east and western shores while paddling on Pleasant Lake as well as during our walk into Hasty Cove at Scraggly Lake.

Scraggly Lake:

South Shore observations, Sunday, May 29, 4-5:30 p.m.:

We visited Scraggly Lake later in the day on Sunday, but spent only 90 minutes there because of what appeared to be a fast moving thunderstorm moving in from the east. The public boat access near Hasty Cove requires carry-in along a dirt path that connects to Amazon Road. We saw no human activity on the lake on Sunday afternoon but we could hear ATV use nearby.

South Shore observations, Monday, May 30, 9:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.:

When we returned to Hasty Cove on Monday morning, we observed a small power boat operating on the lake. The boat (with 3 passengers) appeared to be heading toward the eastern shore to a private mooring. We also observed ice shacks stored near the boat access area, but otherwise no ongoing activity on the water was detected while we conducted a brief 90-minute paddle, within proximity to the cove and along the southern shoreline. As noted above, we saw several ATVs both upon arriving and departing on the Amazon Road.

Bottle Lake:

North shore observations, Monday, May 30, 3-3:30 p.m.

At your request, we briefly visited the boat ramp area at Bottle Lake.

Although we spent a few minutes on the shoreline, we opted not to disrupt residents who were seated in lawn chairs and supervising a small group of children swimming. Other than four boats privately docked; we observed only one boat trailer parked nearby on Bottle Lake Road; and did not observe any water activity.

For your convenience, I have attached a chart that details the observations on all three lakes over the two-day period. I have also attached six photos to further illustrate our observations. I hope you find this information helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions or need more information. Thanks!

Sunday, May 29			
	Pleasant Lake	Scraggly Lake	Bottle Lake
Weather:	Overcast/ 50-60 F midday	Overcast/ 50-60 F midday	No observations taken
Time:	12:30-3:30 p.m.	4-5:30 p.m.	N/A
Water Activity:	Southern Shore Observation: 2 mid-sized boats (14-16-foot) with outboards observed near western shore, fishing	No activity noted	No observations taken
Shore Activity:	Small campground with quiet family activity; five boat trailers observed; 3 small boats moored on southern shore	Observed 2 ice fishing shacks stored near shore; no activity detected	No observations taken
Gen'l Observations:	Lake was quiet on both northern and southern shore; ATVs were heard and seen	ATVs could be heard from boat access and shoreline	No observations taken
Pictures:	Exhibits 1, 2	None	None
Monday, May 30			
	Pleasant Lake	Scraggly Lake	Bottle Lake
Weather:	Mostly Sunny 75-85 F midday	Mostly Sunny 75-85 F midday	Mostly Sunny 75-85 F midday
Time:	12-3 p.m.	9:45-11:15 a.m.	3-3:30 p.m.
Water Activity:	Two boats being pulled out	16-foot boat w/outboard	None observed
Shore Activity:	Generally quiet; several ATVs observed	None observed, ATV tracks	Children swimming at ramp
Gen'l Observations:	At campgrounds on both the north and south shore; there was very limited activity; pontoon boat docked at Maine Wilderness Camps.		Four boats moored at private docks; two boat trailers observed near boat ramp
Pictures:	Exhibit 5	Exhibits 3,4	Exhibit 6

Exhibit 1



PLEASANT LAKE (South Shore view) Sunday, May 29. Only two boats observed

Exhibit 2



PLEASANT LAKE (South Shore view) Sunday, May 29. Boats moored at campground

Exhibit 3



SCRAGGLY LAKE (View from south; Hasty Cove; Monday, May 30)

Exhibit 4



SCRAGGLY LAKE (View of shore access road, connecting to Amazon Road; stored ice shacks; Hasty Cove; Monday, May 30)

Exhibit 5



View of pontoon boat stored at Maine Wilderness Camps, northern shore, Pleasant Lake, Monday, May 30

Exhibit 6



Parked truck and trailer observed roughly 1/8 mile north of boat ramp on Bottle Lake Road

Use of Lakes in Downeast Region by Clients of Sporting Camps Near Grand Lake Stream

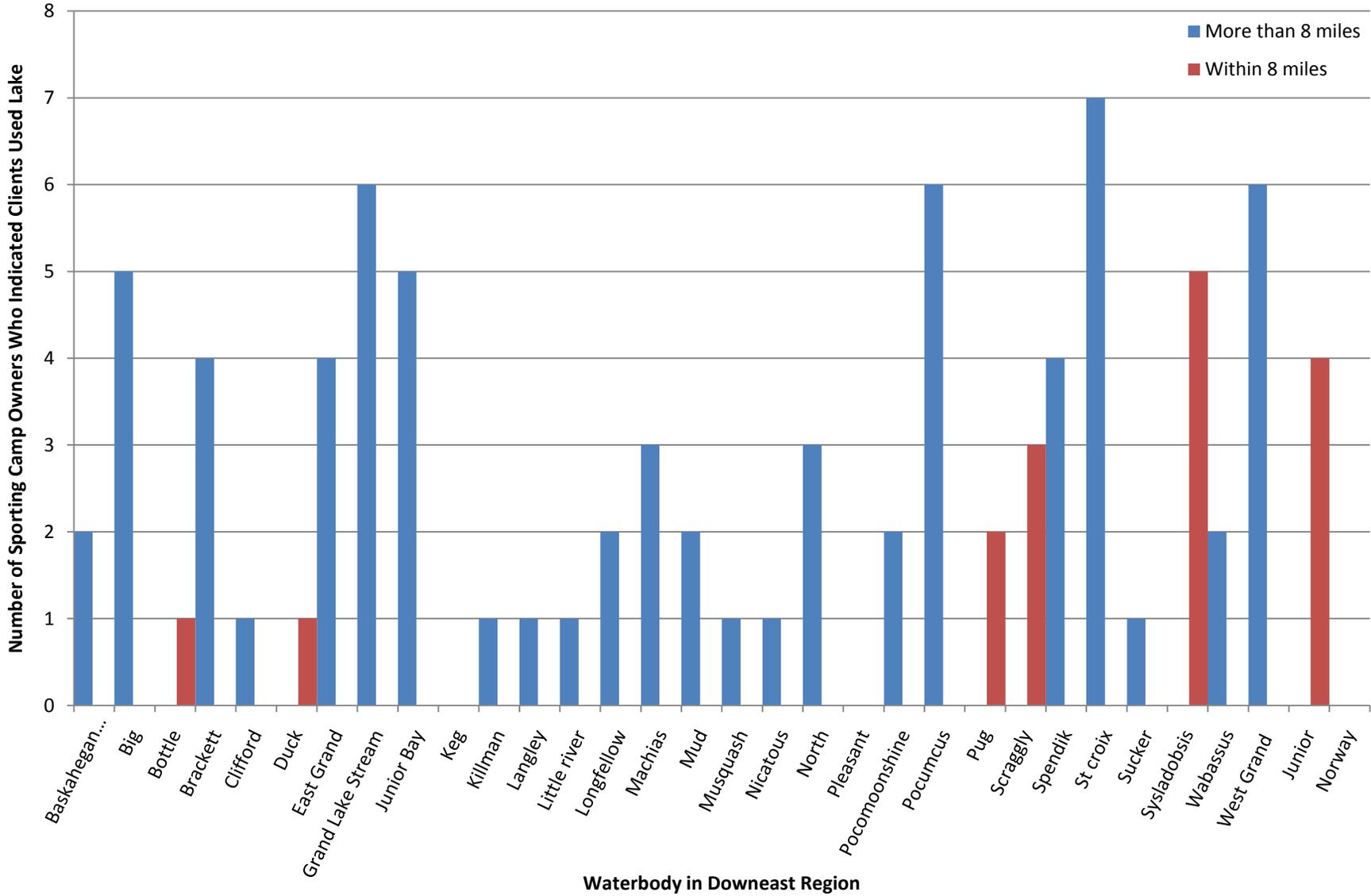


Table 1. Responses from Owners of Commercial Sporting Camps about Use by Customers of Lakes in the vicinity of West Grand Lake

Water Body	Within 8 miles of Bowers	Number of Commercial Camp Owners who Indicated Clients Used Lake	Sporting Camp 1	Sporting Camp 2	Sporting Camp 3	Sporting Camp 4	Sporting Camp 5	Sporting Camp 6	Sporting Camp 7	Sporting Camp 8	Sporting Camp 9	Sporting Camp 10
Bottle	Within 8 miles	1					no	no	no	yes	no	no
Duck	Within 8 miles	1					no	yes	no	no	no	no
Junior	Within 8 miles	4					no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes
Keg	Within 8 miles	0					no	no	no	no	no	no
Norway	Within 8 miles	0					no	no	no	no	no	no
Pleasant	Within 8 miles	0					no	no	no	no	no	no
Pug	Within 8 miles	2					no	no	yes	no	yes	no
Scraggly	Within 8 miles	3					no	yes	no	yes	yes	no
Sysladobsis	Within 8 miles	5					yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes
Baskahegan Stream	More than 8 miles	2	yes	yes								
Big	More than 8 miles	5					no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Brackett	More than 8 miles	4	yes	yes	yes	yes						
Clifford	More than 8 miles	1						yes				
East Grand	More than 8 miles	4	yes	yes	yes	yes						
Grand Lake Stream	More than 8 miles	6					yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Junior Bay	More than 8 miles	5					no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Killman	More than 8 miles	1					yes					
Langley	More than 8 miles	1	no	no	yes	no						
Little river	More than 8 miles	1						yes				
Longfellow	More than 8 miles	2	no	yes	yes	no						
Machias	More than 8 miles	3							yes		yes	yes
Mud	More than 8 miles	2	no	yes	yes	no						
Musquash	More than 8 miles	1										yes
Nicatous	More than 8 miles	1						yes				
North	More than 8 miles	3	no	yes	yes	yes						
Pocomoonshine	More than 8 miles	2						yes	yes			
Pocumcus	More than 8 miles	6					yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Spendik	More than 8 miles	4	yes	yes	yes	yes						
St croix	More than 8 miles	7	no	yes	yes	yes			yes	yes	yes	yes
Sucker	More than 8 miles	1	no	no	no	yes						
Wabassus	More than 8 miles	2							yes		yes	
West Grand	More than 8 miles	6					yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

Note 1: Data based on responses to Question 8 of the Commercial Camp Survey conducted as part of the Georgia-Pacific's relicensing of their Forest City and West Branch area dams. Ten commercial camp owners in the Grand Lake Stream area were contacted. They were asked the following question: "I'm going to read you a list of lakes and streams in the area. For each, I'd like you to tell me whether or not your customers use the lake for recreation." The responses are summarized in this table.

Note 2: Ten commercial camps located in Grand Lake Stream were included in this survey. For privacy purposes, the data did not specifically identify respondents. The camps include Canal Side Camps, Colonial Camps, Grand Lake Lodge, Grand Lake Stream Camps, Hazelwood Cottage, Indian Rock Camps, Leens Lodge, Shoreline Camps, and Weatherbys.

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Restore Diadromous Fish in the St. Croix River

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period to allow for the spring migration of alewives in the St. Croix River; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6134, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 48, §1, is amended to read:

§ 6134. Alewives passage; fishways on the St. Croix River

By May 1, ~~1995~~2008, the commissioner and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall ensure that fishways on the Woodland Dam and the Grand Falls Dam, both located on the St. Croix River, are configured or operated in a manner that ~~prevents~~allows the passage of alewives.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Commissioner of Marine Resources and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to ensure by May 1, 2008 that fishways on the Woodland Dam and the Grand Falls Dam, both located on the St. Croix River, are configured or operated in a manner that allows the passage of alewives.

March 3, 2008

Honorable Members of the Maine Legislature

My name is Dave Tobey from Grand Lake Stream, a Guide in this area for 34 years. During this time I've served as President of the Maine Professional Guides Association as well the Grand Lake Stream Guides Association. Today I'd like to tell you about our corner of Maine. There is more history written and told about this place than I or anyone could speak of in such a short time. All the old timers, both tribal and white were mentors to the men and women around you right here. We are the stewards of the resource now, just as they were in their seasons.

We are known to have a good working relationship with our fisheries biologist, one they attribute their great success in the management of Maine's number one fishing destination. They hold in their office information on more than six thousand Bass, the largest collection of bass data in the U.S. A.

Our work didn't stop there; the guides were instrumental in preserving land along the famous Grand Lake Stream. Soon after that, The Downeast Lakes Land Trust and the Woody Wheaton Land Trust, with many of their directors being local guides went to work to preserve 342,000 acres of woodland, 60 lakes with 445 miles of shoreline and 1500 miles of riverfront. Committed to our mentors to protect the vast resource we are so dependant on. In six years time after raising 34 million dollars we are known to be the largest land trust in Maine. This came naturally, for years we've been known downeast to protect our culture, heritage, and traditions, especially the resource that feeds us.

Now today before us is a bill to introduce a fish that oral and written history tells us was not present in waters they are now slated to go. In waters that our culture, heritage and traditions have been built on. In waters that support a 5.5 million dollar a year local economic engine. In waters where "people and place" live in close harmony.

Gov. Baldacci said " Our conservation efforts downeast will save not only the natural resources but also a rare breed of people" he also said " For generations these resources have sustained the people who live in the

downeast lakes region, now that resource based economy will be secure for generations to come”.

Karin Tilburg, said “The regions assets are irreplaceable”

You find yourselves under extreme pressure and lobbying efforts by “special interest groups” one of them being the NRCM who have named this bill their number one priority to pass this session. Brownie Carson said we are only a handful of guides. Jeff McEvoy wrote for the Natural Resources Council of Maine “Maine Guides are much more than just hunters or paddlers. The obligation of a Maine guide extends far beyond the role of taking a client out in search of fish and game. What sets them apart is their commitment to the resource, it includes educating their clients about the resource, its history and threats to its future”.

In 2001 I received the NRCM Environmental Award. They was pleased to recognize with deep appreciation the dedication and commitment I made “to the protection of the Down East Lakes area of Maine by working with landowners, residents and environmentalists to protect the natural, cultural and economic heritage of this region.” Now today they are willing to jeopardize 78 licensed working guides and 32 lodges in this same area. Never contacting tribal members or area guides of their intentions to change our ecosystem.

I feel very lucky to have made a living being a responsible steward of these lakes, streams and woods. I’m committed to leaving it better, if anything, than it was when I began my adult career as a guide. My efforts towards leaving so great a legacy as the one I received may be the single, most important thing I can do as a member of my community, this state and even this planet.

I pray you take no risk to jeopardize our way of life and vote NO on LD 1957.

Sincerely,

Dave Tobey

Senator Damon and esteemed colleagues of this committee,

My name is Dale Tobey. I am a resident of Grand Lake Stream, a licensed master guide, and the president of the Grand Lake Stream Guides Association. I am here today to ask you to vote or not to pass LD 1957.

I am here representing 78 current licensed guides, just a fraction of the men and women that, for the last 150 years, have made a living guiding fishing on the St. Croix watershed. In front of you is a report done by our IF&W in 1999. This report shows there were approximately 75,000 angler-days of fishing exceeding 5.5 million dollars. Sport fish guiding and sporting camps on the US side of the St. Croix watershed alone furnished employment for at least 142 people annually. We feel this is a substantial industry that should not be tampered with.

We aren't talking about one simple river with a few lakes and streams flowing into it, we are talking about fifty lakes that spread out over Washington, Hancock, Penobscot and Aroostook Counties

It has been a law for 200 years that all towns in Maine that border any watershed where Alewife, Herring or other bait fish run, must issue a permit or license to fish them. In a search of the State Archives, we found that going back 200 years, there has never been a license or permit issued in Calais, Baring, Baileyville or Princeton.

We, the guides, feel this is not a bill to restore, but a bill to introduce, a non-native, invasive fish into the St. Croix watershed. We feel that 17 bones, about half of the bones in one Alewife found at Mud Lake Stream, does not constitute a millennia of Alewife runs and is an excuse being exploited by the supporters of this bill. With the hundreds of archeological sites all along the St. Croix watershed (50 lakes spread over 4 counties and 2 countries), literally thousands of Native American artifacts have been found with no reports of even one other Alewife bone. We feel that if anything needs to be restored, it should be the natural falls that block the Alewife where they were naturally blocked for a millennia. We also believe that the 2,000 barrels of fish talked about in Flagg's report possibly were more Shad and Herring than Alewife. Then you add the Alewife trucked to Calais from Meddybemps. Yes, the thousands of Alewife fished at Meddybemps had to leave through some port. Calais being the closest major shipping port is also where thousands of Pickerel, Perch and Suckers were shipped from, also documented as being a commercial fishery from the St. Croix in the early 1800's.

In closing, introducing a non native invasive fish into the St. Croix will be very detrimental to a multi- million dollar a year fishing industry on the St. Croix. Not introducing Alewife into the St. Croix will never harm any marine resources.



P.O. Box 40, Grand Lake Stream, Maine 04637

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February 2008

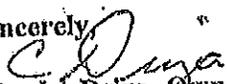
Honorable Members of the Maine Legislature:

The Guiding industry and The Commercial Sporting Camps in the Upper St. Croix River Watershed of Washington County are critically dependent upon our healthy freshwater fisheries, as is the local labor and supply chain that supports this unique type of tourism.

Our industry was threatened during the 1980's when many traditional lake fisheries collapsed. Fisheries that were affected were Smallmouth Bass, Landlocked Salmon, Lake Trout, White Perch, Whitefish and Rainbow Smelt. The collapse closely correlated with increasingly large runs of anadromous alewives that entered our lakes when navigational barriers were removed downstream. Most Lodges faced a dire crisis. When the sea run alewives were blocked from their upstream migration due to an act of the Maine Legislature, Our freshwater fisheries immediately began to recover. Our fish stocks are again healthy, after many years of rebuilding.

We do not believe that there is any Biological benefit between anadromous alewives and our present local fisheries, nor do the area biologists. We do know that their presence poses an urgent and serious economic risk. It makes no sense to us to inflict this threat, jeopardizing many jobs and livelihoods, without fully understanding the impact of alewives in this region. By allowing the passage or stocking of a nonnative species you are creating a biological invasion that you have no control of. We are completely against LD 1957

Sincerely,


Charles Driza- Owner- Leen's Lodge

Snow, Veronica

From: Steve Norris [dobslegulde@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2008 4:38 PM
To: The Pines Lodge
Cc: Snow, Veronica
Subject: NO on LD1957

Members of the Maine Legislature,

Please consider the ramifications concerning the passage of LD 1957. Our fishery in downeast Maine provides a livelihood for many people. I own a sporting camp near Grand Lake Stream which stands to experience a drastic result if alewives are allowed to infiltrate our watershed.

As citizen legislators, it's your duty to listen to biological reasoning that proves alewives can and did affect native species already there. Listen to those who suffered the destruction of a high quality bass fishery at Spednic Lake in the 1980s.

Proponents of this bill claim more harvesting jobs for downeast fishermen. Let's consider the resulting job losses by guides, lodges, and related industries when we no longer can attract fishermen to our area due to lack of even a sufficient fishery. Understand the effect of introducing a species which can carry a devastating enzyme to salmonids causing severe survival and reproductive rates.

You must be able to conclusively certify that any alewives introduced carry NO evidence of ANY disease which MAY threaten fish stocks within the State. Refer to Title 12, section 12509, 3C. This is your legal responsibility! We trust in you to choose the proper and right direction for the future of our fisheries.

Thank You,

Steven Norris
The Pines Lodge
Master Maine Guide
Board Director, Maine Professional Guides Assoc.

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Snow, Veronica

From: Louis Cataldo [loucat@mldmaine.com]
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2008 8:37 PM
To: Snow, Veronica
Subject: Oppose LD1957

To the Committee on Marine Resources, My Name is Louis Cataldo and I am the 1st Selectman of Grand Lake Stream, Maine. I strongly oppose LD-1957. The town of Grand Lake Stream relies very heavily on the fisheries in the St. Croix River Water shed. Please don't take a chance hurting what we have worked so hard to take care of. Over the last 100 years the guides and camp owners have worked with Maine IF&W to keep these waters healthy and productive fisheries. I was guiding on these waters when we had the last alewives invasion. We came very close to losing our Smallmouth Bass fishery then and our rainbow smelt population were all but wiped out. Lucky for us the east branch of the St. Croix River (Spednic Lake) got a heavier run of the sea run Alewives before we did on the West Branch. And we had the alewives stopped at the dams in the lower St. Croix before they could completely ruin our fisheries. It took several years of lower limits and good fisheries management to get things back to an acceptable level. This little experiment taught us just how fragile these fisheries are. So in closing, I ask you to oppose this bill. Don't play Russian roulette with something that is so important to so many. Respectfully yours, Louis Cataldo 1st Selectman Grand Lake Stream

February 2008

Honorable Members of the Maine Legislature:

Please vote against LD 1957. Our livelihoods in the tourism business depend on healthy fisheries in the Upper St. Croix River Watershed of Washington County.

Our industry was threatened during the 1980's when many traditional lake fisheries collapsed. Fisheries that were affected were Smallmouth Bass, Landlocked Salmon, Lake Trout, White Perch, Whitefish and Rainbow Smelt. The collapse closely correlated with increasingly large runs of anadromous alewives that entered our lakes when navigational barriers were removed downstream. Most Lodges faced a dire crisis. When the sea run alewives were blocked from their upstream migration due to an act of the Maine Legislature, Our freshwater fisheries immediately began to recover. Our fish stocks are again healthy, after many years of rebuilding.

We do not believe that there is any Biological benefit between anadromous alewives and our present local fisheries, nor do the area biologists. We do know that their presence poses an urgent and serious economic risk. It makes no sense to us to inflict this threat, jeopardizing many jobs and livelihoods, without fully understanding the impact of alewives in this region. By allowing the passage or stocking of a nonnative species you are creating a biological invasion that you have no control of.

Thank you for attention to this important matter and for supporting our Downeast community.

Sincerely,

Chris and Lindsay Wheaton
Grand Lake Lodge
Grand Lake Stream, Maine 04637

Good Afternoon Senator Damon, members of this committee, distinguished Guests.

Please let me introduce myself. I am Lance Wheaton, a fourth generation Maine Guide with over 45 years of experience. I was, for the previous six years, a member of the IF&W Advisory Council representing Washington county and the St. Croix drainage system. I am also a board member of the Woodie Wheaton land Trust. We have worked hand in hand with the Down East Lakes Land Trust to help preserve and conserve hundreds of thousands of acres and hundreds of miles of shore frontage along the same system that this group seems hell bent on destroying.

One of my questions today is: Have you people heard the phrase "We the People"? Well, we the people come before you today to try to prevent a disaster from reoccurring. If we lose the sport fisheries on the St. Croix River system, we would be loosing our way of life.

You see, Senator Damon, we have worked very hard to preserve our fresh water fisheries. We are not into commercial marine fisheries,

Which brings me to another question: Is not the Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife the appropriate committee to be addressing this issue? Or perhaps joining with your committee to have oversight?

Our traditional way of life was threatened and our area faced a major crisis

during the 1980's when many lake fisheries collapsed. The collapse closely correlated with increasingly large runs of anadromous alewives that entered our lakes when navigational barriers were removed downstream. When the sea run alewives were blocked from their upstream migration due to an act of the Maine Legislature, our freshwater fisheries immediately began to recover.

Why is this being discussed again since it was found to be detrimental by the New Brunswick and Maine biologists?

We need to continue to strive to maintain the delicate balance between the St. Croix and the many tributaries in northern Washington County.

Freshwater fishing is a traditional way of life which people from all over the United States come to our area to enjoy.

As an avid outdoorsman and conservationist, I fear the damage to our environment and way of life from passage of this document.

Additionally, the committee and the legislature should consider the impact of lost revenue from those who come to our area to enjoy the natural beauty and natural resources.

I do not believe that there is any biological benefit between anadromous alewives and our present local fisheries, nor do area biologists. We do know that the presence of alewives poses an urgent and serious

James R. Mabee
271 Kenduskeag Ave.
Bangor, ME 04401

Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0100

Dear Senators and Representatives of the Joint Committee on Marine Resources,

My legal residence is Bangor; however, I live in Grand Lake Stream (G.L.S.) from May to November working as a Registered Maine Guide. I was very fortunate to grow up spending a vast amount of my time with my Grandfather at his two camps in Washington County, one of which is located on West Grand Lake, part of the West Branch of the St. Croix River. My family is made of outdoor enthusiasts that enjoy many natural resources Maine and the St. Croix River have to offer. LD 1957 (An Act To Restore Diadromous Fish To The St. Croix River) severely threatens inland sport fisheries my family has enjoyed for longer than my lifetime. My livelihood is threatened as well.

- Grand Lake Stream (G.L.S.) was made famous because of Landlocked Salmon. If Atlantic Salmon (known to leap greater than 11 vertical feet) were able to leap Grand Falls (Grand Falls Dam location), and Salmon Falls (Milltown Dam Location), G.L.S. anglers would have caught them. If Atlantic Salmon could not do it, there is no way an Alewife could.
- Landlocked Salmon are a very special, geographically specific, rare, and valuable species that was native to the St. Croix River. The Maine "State" Fish. Native to only four watersheds in the State of Maine.
- Charles Atkins started an "intercept" Hatchery on G.L.S. for Landlocked Salmon in the late 1800's. Today the St. Croix Landlocked Salmon is considered the purest strain, in the United States. The hatchery at G.L.S. also produces 75% of all Landlocked Salmon being stocked in the State of Maine.
- Maine Sportsman article, dated 1903, is an account of Bangor a doctors mid 1800's trip to G.L.S. to fish for "Shiners", native guide Peyola Tomah know these "shiners" were salmon, he said they returned to the lakes after spawning unlike sea run salmon, and very rarely weighed more than four pounds.
- Smallmouth Bass appeared in the watershed around or just slightly after the time of the civil war.
- St. Croix River, Fish Management and Restoration, by Kelth A. Havey, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game, March, 1963, only reports "potential" anadromous fisheries of the St. Croix Drainage. The report also states "The drainage was known for its landlocked salmon fishing before the civil war, and in more recent years the Bass fishing has received world-wide recognition."
- The Third Machias Lake, Smallmouth Bass Fishery, featured on "The American Sportsman", hosted by Curt Gowdy. In the 1970's dams were removed from the Machias River, Anadromous Alewives got access, and the bass fishery crashed. Even with recent efforts of transfer stockings, the bass fishery has not recovered.
- Spednic and Big Lake Smallmouth Bass fisheries were impacted by the presence of Alewives in the 1980's. This is supported by local fisherman, guides, sporting camp owners, and fisheries biologist. Extensive research conducted from 1984 to 1997 at Spednic Lake by Michael Smith, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife also backs this up. That is why guides and sporting camp owners from both Forest City and Grand Lake Stream supported the 1995 legislation to close the fish ladders. This also created a great working relationship between guides and regional fisheries biologists as we worked together to change regulations and protect the resources.

- Scientific reports on the status of Smallmouth Bass fisheries in Spednic Lake, by Michael Smith of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife between 1987 and 1997 repeat, "After the exclusion of Alewives there was an improvement in the survival of young of the year bass."
- Grand Falls Flowage, Lewey Lake, Long Lake, and Big Lake are already being impacted by a population of Landlocked Alewives from an illegal introduction in East Grand Lake. Even though the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife does not have the resources the effects of their presence needs to be studied. Many local fisherman and guides are saying the salmon and white perch fishing on these waters is not what it was since the landlocked alewives arrived.
- Anadromous Alewives eat the same plankton as Rainbow Smelts, Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Biologists have documented six lakes in the downeast region (Hancock and Washington Counties) that have compromised smelt populations due to competition from Anadromous Alewives, resulting in lower growth rates of Landlocked Salmon than lakes without Alewives. They are Gardner Lake, Donnell Pond, Toddy Pond, Lower Patten Pond, and Phillips Lake
- Dr. Theo Willis, project biologist for the Maine Rivers, Smallmouth Bass/ Anadromous Alewife interaction study, discussed his findings with the Grand Lake Stream Guides Association. He stated Anadromous Alewives eat the same plankton as rainbow smelt. There was also diet overlap found between Alewives and young of the year Bass. Contrary to supporters of LD 365 in 2001, he found fish in the stomachs of Alewives, many were young of the year smelts, sticklebacks, and even a fish from the same family as Bass and Sunfish, and he could not tell if it was a Smallmouth Bass or Sunfish due to it being partial digested. Is that is not interaction?

From the outside it looks funny that fish ladders are closed. There are too many "free flowing" rivers for the alewife to become extinct. We need to protect the "State" fish, the Landlocked Salmon. I would wager that if they could have it their way, the regional fisheries biologist would rather manage the present inland sport fisheries with out alewives.

My name is Lee Whitely and I am from Grand Lake Stream. I am strongly opposed to LD 1957.

Some of us in Grand Lake Stream were curious as to what our regional fisheries biologist thought about allowing alewives into West Grand Lake. My testimony is a summary of the information provided to us by our regional fisheries biologist. I have also provided a copy of the complete transmission from our biologist for your further information.

West Grand Lake is the most important landlocked salmon lake in this fisheries region. Any adverse impacts that occur to the hatchery or to the salmon at large in West Grand Lake would create serious and long-term problems to the future of landlocked salmon stocking in Maine.

Sea-run alewives carry VEN, ISA and other fish diseases. Further sea-run alewives carry thiaminase in their bodies. Fish such as landlocked salmon that eat sea-run alewives as a major part of their diet develop thiamine deficiency. Adverse effects from the diseases and the deficiency include early mortality syndrome in fry, mortality in adults, reproductive failure, reduced growth, impaired vision, reduced capture of prey, less predator avoidance, loss of equilibrium, swimming in a spiral pattern, lethargy, hyperexcitability, hemorrhage, and immune function problems.

Maine stocks 120,000 landlocked salmon each year and 75% of those eggs originate in West Grand Lake. The Department does not want to risk a serious reduction in egg viability by allowing alewives into West Grand Lake.

A second reason for keeping alewives out is to prevent the potential adverse impacts, which might arise from competition for food with West Grand Lake's highly important smelt population. These smelt constitute the most valuable forage for the lake's landlocked salmon and lake-trout. Letting sea-run alewives into West Grand with 14,000+ acres would give them access to an additional 15,000 acres including the many lakes above West Grand. The resulting juvenile population, that would feed, grow and migrate to the sea, would be in the hundreds of millions or the billions. Alewives compete directly with smelts for the same forage base. All these alewives would have to funnel through West Grand eating their way to the sea. Our regional biologists do not wish to see the strong competition for the forage base develop in West Grand Lake. Of course this would occur through the entire watershed.

Yet another third reason is that there is no way to permit sea-run alewife passage into West Grand through the fishway and block landlocked alewife passage at the same time. Landlocked alewives have established populations in Big Lake. The department has been committed for many years to preventing their ascend into West Grand with the possibility of creating adverse impacts such as have occurred at East Grand Lake. East Grand Lake's ability to grow large landlocked salmon appears to have been seriously diminished since the illegal introduction and population expansion of landlocked alewives there in the last 10-11 years. It seems that the same is taking place in Big Lake.

A fourth reason given is that if sea-run alewives were allowed in West Grand Lake huge schools of alewives would crowd below West Grand Lake Dam waiting to go through the fishway. This would virtually preclude any fishing there for landlocked salmon. Crowding would also likely happen just below little falls. The fishway would also have to be opened by the second week in May. This would allow salmon to move upstream into West Grand Lake a month earlier than normal. All of this would have a negative effect on the quality of fishing in Grand Lake Stream. Our biologist would expect a big drop in angler use.

. Clearly our fisheries biologist believes that sea-run alewives have the potential to do huge harm to this fishery. Of course much of this would apply to the watershed below West Grand as well. The folks in our area have worked very hard to protect area habitat through a number of successful conservation efforts and continue to do so today. This been a grassroots effort to preserve both a way of life and economic viability. Fishing is the lifeblood of area's lodges and guides. It is a critical cornerstone of the economic base of our community. I can't imagine why anyone would want to carry out this experiment with all the inherent risks to our community. Please vote against LD1957.