

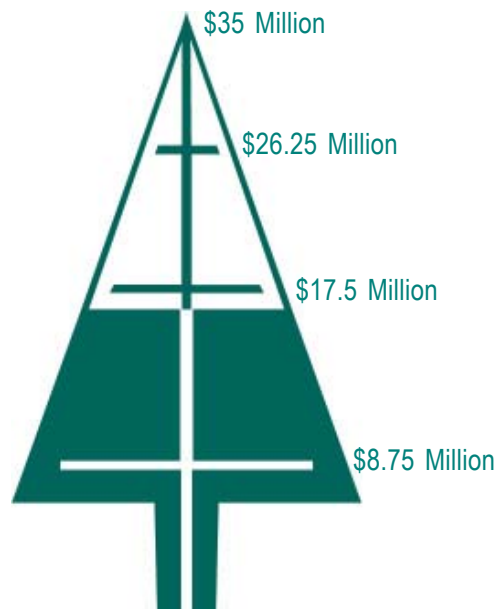


NEW ENGLAND FORESTS

PRIVATE FORESTS FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

NEW ENGLAND FORESTRY FOUNDATION: 32 Foster Street, PO Box 1346, Littleton, MA 01460 • 1-888-367-3780 • info@newenglandforestry.org

Support the
Downeast Lakes
Forestry Partnership!



To complete these purchases the project partners must raise \$35 million by December 31, 2004. We are about halfway there. Your generous contribution will help us get there by the end of 2004.

To contribute online or download a contribution form to mail, please visit:
www.newenglandforestry.org/projects/dlfp.asp

The Next Level: The Pingree Project as Conservation Innovation

By Cynthia Wood, Director of Community Forest Programs

Over twenty people found their way to our office at Prouty Woods to hear James Levitt, Director of the Program on Conservation Innovation at the Harvard Forest, present his research paper on the Pingree project. A key finding is that the Pingree project stands as an important conservation innovation marked by novelty and creativity in conception, political significance and measurable effectiveness.

The project has already, in several ways, helped to “change the game” in the field of private lands conservation in the U.S.--sometimes generating controversy among conservationists active in Northern New England. It represents a new level of scale for private land conservation deals, being the first of its kind to cover an area of this size --at 762,192 acres.

Even before the Pingree dust settled, NEFF considered, and subsequently formed a partnership

with the Downeast Lakes Land Trust to conserve 342,000 acres in Downeast Maine. This effort, the Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership, is also a conservation innovation because it is the first northern Maine forest conservation project that is community incubated, community supported, community led, and designed to sustain a natural resource based, rural community economy and lifestyle of residents in Washington County, Maine. To learn more about the Downeast Lake Forestry Partnership project, visit our website at www.newenglandforestry.org/projects/dlfp.asp.

To receive a copy of *The Next Level: The Pingree Forest Partnership as a Private Lands Conservation Innovation*, please contact:

Donna Sibley
dsibley@newenglandforestry.org
or (978) 952-6856 ext. 100



A Letter From the Executive Director By Amos Eno

One of the hallmarks of NEFF, ever since I've been aware of its existence, has been its commitment to partnerships. Partnerships have been a missing ingredient in conservation recipes for much of the last century--when land conservation initiatives were literally the province of federal agencies and state equivalents. As our country has become more populated, the obvious missing ingredients are beginning to come into play--people, communities and a sprinkling of conservation organizations working together in partnerships.

Our Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership was designed, emblematically by NEFF, as a partnership with the local people, communities and two local land trusts: the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust of Princeton, Maine and the Downeast Lakes Land Trust of Grand Lake Stream, Maine.

Now we have taken an incremental step up the partnership ladder, as over one million people have learned in the past month when they opened their April/May 2004 issue of National Wildlife magazine. The National Wildlife Federation has included

a profile of our Downeast project in their national magazine and in many of their other membership communications. NWF's Northeast Regional Director, Eric Palola, visited the project site two summers ago and was blown away. As editor Lawrence Arron writes, "The article on page 48 describes a type of project the National Wildlife Federation is so well suited to support. It's landscape level conservation that will assure a future for a broad array of wildlife and outdoor recreation on habitat that otherwise might be destined for subdivisions and mini malls. It's a balanced approach that puts people into the equation of wildlife conservation. And it is firmly based on drawing support from local communities...."

Ted Williams authored the article in National Wildlife and a similar description of our project in the January/February 2004 edition of Fly Rod & Reel, "Saving the North Woods, Nothing like this has ever been attempted anywhere...." What Ted grasped--when he visited the project in the summer of '03--is the unprecedented scale of partnerships embodied in the Downeast project.

The local land trusts, Woodie Wheaton and Downeast Lakes, knew they couldn't pull off a project of this size--342,000 acres, 78,000 surface acres on 60 lakes, 445 miles of lake shoreline, 1,500 miles of river and stream, 54,000 acres of wetlands--without help, so they partnered with NEFF. We, in turn, need to draw support from across Maine, across all of New England, and even nationally, so we welcome the support and endorsement of the National Wildlife Federation.

NWF's feature on our Downeast project is bearing fruit. I came home from Washington D.C. to find an unsolicited email: "I was vaguely familiar with the attempt to preserve land and waters in the Grand Lakes region, but I had no idea of the expanse of the project until reading the NWF article. I was truly exhilarated by the time I finished reading it. To the point that I went on-line and made a donation in support of what you're doing..." Thank you Joe Nesin (the author of the email), Eric Palola, Ted Williams, and--in the spirit of partnerships in conservation--the whole NWF family. For more information on NEFF's Partnerships, visit our website at www.newenglandforestry.org.

Come to Grand Lake Stream, ME this summer and have the experience of a lifetime!

Come meet the folks in the community and hear about the project!





\$300 ~ includes lodging for two nights, all meals, and a Maine Guide outing of your choice.

\$450 ~ includes all of the above, plus a float-plane arrival and departure.

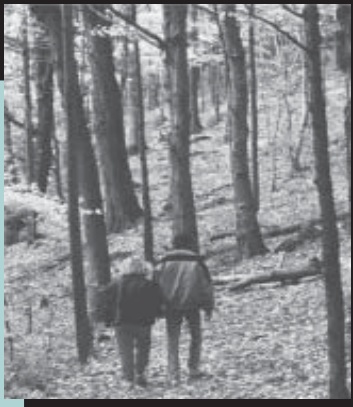
This excursion promises to become one of your fondest lifetime memories. For more information and to make arrangements, please call Roxie at (207) 847-9313.

NEFF Participates in National Trails Day

Pull out your clippers and sharpen your saws! Join other volunteers on June 5th, 9 a.m. at one of NEFF's community forests. There will be trail crew leaders at each of the following four forests:

-  Hawk's Hill Demonstration Forest ~ East Barnard, VT
-  Chamberlain-Reynolds Memorial Forest ~ Center Harbor, NH
-  Sortwell Memorial Forest ~ Wiscasset, ME
-  Prouty Woods Community Forest ~ Littleton, MA

Each of these forests has an existing walking trail network that needs general clearing and care. Other projects may include parking area improvements, culvert installation, apple tree pruning, and sign installation. If you would like to lend a hand, please call Cynthia Wood at (978) 952-6856 ext. 110 to register. All ages welcome!! If you can't make it to one of these four community forests, but would like to work on trails at another NEFF community forest, please call Cynthia so that she can keep track of all the great work accomplished by our dedicated volunteers. And many thanks to all!



A WALK IN OUR WOODS: NEFF's Newly Acquired Forest

The "Nadeau Forest", our newest land protection success, is located along Purgatory Brook in the towns of Mont Vernon and Lyndeborough, New Hampshire. Over a year's worth of grass-roots fundraising efforts by the Purgatory Watershed Conservancy, allowed the New England Forestry Foundation (NEFF) to purchase the 78-acre forest in late February. NEFF will own and manage the land and the town of Mont Vernon will hold a conservation

easement to protect the land permanently for conservation uses. The dedication ceremony, held on May 8th, officially named this forest the "Nadeau Forest" in honor of the landowner, Donald Nadeau, who made this project possible.

The Purgatory Brook runs north to south between the towns of Mont Vernon and Lyndeborough—providing an important wildlife corridor that connects the Pisquataquog River corridor to the north and the Souhegan River corridor to the south. The brook is unique in its beauty as it flows over three waterfalls and passes through a gorge. The Upper Falls are currently protected by 30 acres of conservation land owned by the town of Mont Vernon. The 78-acre Nadeau Forest abuts existing

dedicated open space, has access on a Class 6 road, and contains a managed, well-stocked forest of red oak, northern hardwoods, white pine, and hemlock.

Visit our new forest! The Purgatory Watershed provides an established hiking trail system used frequently for hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and horseback riding. The Nadeau Forest itself is accessible by a Class 6 road. To find directions, please visit New England Forestry Foundation online at www.newenglandforestry.org.

New England Forestry Foundation currently owns over 22,078 acres, and holds the easement on 93 properties, 786,113 acres of working forest and protected wildlife habitat.

A New Program at NEFF! By Cynthia Wood, Director of Community Forest Programs

What do Ken, David, Peter, Marcy and Carl all have in common? One is in corporate real estate, another was an industrial engineer, and another used to own a boarding stable. So we know the answer isn't their field of employment or training. But they all have experience with hand and power tools and like to work with people.

Here are a few quotes; let's see if this helps:

"I would like to help people enjoy the trails, beauty and wildlife."

"Interested in keeping open lands for our future children to enjoy as I have."

"Maintain the integrity of the

forests and to continue to support NEFF."

What's the answer? Ken, David, Peter, Marcy and Carl are the first volunteers to become NEFF Forest Stewards. Their common love of being outdoors, enjoyment of a NEFF community forest and desire to make a difference has brought them together.

As Forest Stewards, Ken, David, Peter, Marcy and Carl have adopted a NEFF Community Forest in their neighborhood and agreed to monitor the land throughout the year. In addition, Forest Stewards serve as the community ambassador on behalf of NEFF. Forest Stewards are offered the opportunity to attend

training sessions, including topics such as: forest ecology, forest management and trail maintenance, exotic invasive plant control, and use of compass and maps. Attendance at an orientation meeting is required to become a Forest Steward. NEFF initiated its Forest Steward program in northern and central Massachusetts. We will be expanding the number of community forests in the near future and will be seeking Forest Stewards.

If you are interested in learning more about our Forest Steward program, please visit our website: www.newenglandforestry.org or call Cynthia Wood at (978) 952-6856 ext. 110.

FACT ~ FICTION ~ MYTH

Exotic Species By Si Balch, Director of Community Forest Stewardship

There is a lot of excitement today about exotic species, and there is general buzz in the environmental community that exotics are bad. There are definitely some very serious well-documented problems with introduced species. In fact, introduced pests and pathogens have greater power to modify the mix of species living in an area than any other change agent. We have seen the results of Chestnut Blight, Gypsy Moth, Small Pox, Kudzu, and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. Federal and State insect and disease specialists are fighting a constant battle against new invaders. Alongside

this justified concern are the blessings that other exotics bring to our lives. Many of our mainstay grains, vegetables, fruits and garden flowers have been introduced from lands outside North America. They include wheat, rice, broccoli, tomatoes and potatoes. Among the fruits, are apples, peaches, pears, and watermelons. And so are almost all of the farm animals. An interesting trivia fact is that all of our northern earthworms are exotics, and new research shows that they have a significant effect on forest soil organic layers and therefore affect forest floor plant

communities. Hundreds of species have been introduced, both on purpose and by mistake. Most of them cause no problems, but a few go spectacularly bad. We are now more careful and must test any new species for invasive potential. Additionally, we are actively trying to control a number of invasive exotic plants, insects and diseases.



Please contact us at:
www.newenglandforestry.org

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