



The Obligate

Maine Association of
Wetland Scientists

c/o E-Pro, attn: Gary Emond
249 Western Ave., August, ME 04330

American bittern artwork copyright 1991 by Nancy Derey

President's Message

by Gary Emond, President 2003-2005

Another year has passed and my tenure as the MAWS president is coming to an end. After the scheduled MAWS business meeting on March 4, 2005, I will hand the reins over to Kathleen Miller, the president-elect. I wish Kathleen the best of luck and I'm sure she will enjoy working with the executive committee.

Although, to me it seems as though this past year was relatively uneventful, we actually got a lot accomplished. MAWS sponsored several excellent workshops and received very positive feedback. I extend many thanks to the individuals who organized and presented at these workshops. Along with awarding two \$500 dollar research stipends, we also donated \$250 to the Maine Envirothon for 2005.

We formed a certification subcommittee composed of a wide spectrum of environmental professionals including certified soils scientists, wetland scientists (including at least one certified as a wetland scientist in New Hampshire), and state and federal regulators. The goal of this subcommittee is to objectively explore the pros and cons associated with the certification of wetland scientists in Maine, and examine the feasibility of different certification types and strategies (e.g., state certification or licensing, state-level volunteer certification, MAWS-sponsored internal certification similar to PWS certification, etc.). I'm confident that this subcommittee will get a lot accomplished and I plan to stay actively involved with it over the

next year or so. I thank all of you who volunteered to staff this subcommittee.

One of the things I've enjoyed most about being the president of MAWS has been working with the executive committee. This is a dedicated group that is full of great ideas. They have made my job much easier and I appreciate their energy, enthusiasm, and the time they volunteer to MAWS. I extend a special "thank you" to Marcia Spencer-Famous for the time and effort she devoted to preparing this newsletter.

I would like to remind the MAWS membership to keep the lines of communication open with agency personnel, other wetland professionals in and outside of Maine, and the general public. I strongly encourage you to visit the MAWS web site (www.mainewetlands.org) and encourage others to do so as well. It is loaded with wetland-related information, and links to other sites.

In closing, on behalf of the Executive Committee I'd like to thank all members of MAWS for their continued support, and the presenters at this year's annual meeting. We have an excellent program scheduled and I'm sure you won't be disappointed. I look forward to seeing you all at the annual meeting.

One last thing.....we will be selling MAWS T-shirts and hats for \$12 each. Supplies are limited, but if we run out we will take orders. Also, let us know if you would be interested in other items such as MAWS coffee mugs, bumper stickers, etc.

Legislative Report for 2004/05

by Jeff Simmons, Legislative Chair

This has been an active year on the legislative front, with a number of changes at both the federal and state levels. The items below highlight the major wetland-related legislative issues proposed or adopted in 2004.

Federal

The Corps finalized its *Mitigation Plan Checklist* and *Guidance for Mitigation Plan Checklist* on June 15, 2004. These documents represent an update and formalization of procedures already used informally for many years by the New England District. The mitigation checklist and guidance documents were developed in response to the National Wetlands Mitigation Action Plan, signed by the Department of Army (Civil Works), Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Commerce, Department of Interior, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Transportation. As a part of the process, the Corps solicited comments through issuance of a Public Notice.

On September 15, 2004 the Corps and EPA issued a joint memorandum to the field regarding a stream mitigation compendium. This document is titled *Physical Stream Assessment: A Review of Selected Protocols for use in the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 Program*, and is designed to be a technical resource for stream mitigation projects. Additional information and a copy of the document can be obtained from the Corps website at: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/>.

State

Chapter 355 - Sand Dune Rule Changes

In 2004 the MDEP proposed revisions to the coastal sand dune rules: 1) to improve the comprehension of the rules by the public, municipal officials, and the regulated community; 2) to amend a number of definitions to improve the clarity of the rules; 3) to establish new regulatory variance provisions for construction in frontal dunes; and 4) to include a provision to allow for the one time reconstruction of buildings damaged by more than 50% by an ocean storm.

The major amendments to the rules include:

- Reconstructed and new building in frontal dunes and unstable back dune areas must be elevated on post or pile foundations. This provision significantly improves the ability of sand and water to move freely within the beach system and significantly improves the ability of those structures to withstand coastal flood hazards.
- The elimination of the current exemption for second story additions or the addition of dormers. All such construction now requires a permit and is required to meet the requirements for post or pile foundations. A variance provision has been included to allow for other types of foundations to address undue hardship.
- A new definition for a building's value. The exemption in the previous rules for maintenance and repair as well as the prohibition for reconstruction of buildings damaged by more than 50% by an ocean storm relied on a determination of appraised market value. The rules now allow for a building's value to be determined in either of two ways. The value of a building may be the assessed value as established by the municipality and adjusted by the State's certified ratio, or it may be the appraised market value as determined by a State certified appraiser within the previous five years prior to the date an application is received by the Department. Exceptions to the prohibition on new structures or additions to existing structures in frontal dunes allow for the construction of ramps, fire escapes and other structures to meet Americans with Disabilities Act and local fire code requirements.
- A provision allowing for the issuance of a permit for new residential buildings to be constructed on vacant lots in frontal dune areas where the surrounding lots are already developed. The provision is applicable whenever there is a structure located within 100 feet on both sides of a vacant lot. The building is required to have a post or pile foundation and is limited to covering 20% of the lot with limited additional areas for parking and walkways. A variance provision

allows, in certain circumstances, the construction of new buildings on vacant lots in less developed frontal dune areas and for buildings in V zones. An applicant would need to demonstrate that several criteria are met to obtain a permit.

The rules were adopted by the Board of Environmental Protection on July 15, 2004. As part of the approval process a stakeholder group was formed to review some of the more contentious issues. This stakeholder group is scheduled to report back to the Legislature later this winter on progress towards resolving these issues. The rules are then expected to go back through the final rule process this summer, with an anticipated adoption of final rules in the Spring of 2007. For more information contact Jeff Madore at 287-7848 or by email at: jeff.g.madore@state.me.us.

Chapter 305 – Permit by Rule Standards

The MDEP is proposing to make several important changes to the Permit by Rule (PBR) standards. Some of the proposed changes would clarify the standards or applicability of the rules to specific activities. Section 16 (Activities in Coastal Sand Dunes) is being updated to reflect recent modifications made to the Coastal Sand Dune Rules under Chapter 355. The majority of amendments to this section of the PBR involve new or revised definitions and are not significant. However, more sweeping changes are being proposed for Section 8 (Shoreline Stabilization), and Section 14 (Piers, Wharves, Pilings, and Haulouts). Under Section 8, it is proposed that riprap proposed for rivers, as defined by municipal shoreland zoning, will require an individual permit. The MDEP is proposing that Section 14 be repealed entirely, resulting in a required individual permit for these activities. It is also proposed that new public boat ramps in lakes infested with invasive plants would be ineligible for the PBR process.

A public hearing held on January 6, 2005, with a comment deadline on January 19, 2005. Additional information is available at the MDEP website and/or contacting Mike Mullen at 287-4728 or via email at: mike.mullen@Maine.gov.

Stormwater Rules

The Board of Environmental Protection provisionally adopted revised Chapter 500 (Stormwater

Management) and Chapter 502 (Direct Watersheds of Lakes Most at Risk from New Development, and Urban Impaired Streams) on November 4, 2004. These rules make numerous changes including:

- Combining “quantity and quality standards” into a single set of standards focused on protection of water quality. A variety of treatment options are available to meet the standards, and in some cases, provisions are incorporated for compensation fees and mitigation.
- All projects under the jurisdiction of the Stormwater Law are required to meet standards that protect water quality, regardless of location. This reduces the unintended consequence of sprawl.
- Implementation of a single jurisdictional threshold of one acre of disturbance. This eliminates confusion surrounding multiple thresholds of jurisdiction, and allows for consolidation of permitting requirements with the notice requirements of the Maine Construction General Permit.
- Adds quality treatment in all watersheds, offering a level of protection not currently provided, and adds protection for urban impaired streams.

The final adoption of these changes is likely by the late summer of 2005. For additional information contact Judy Gates, Licensing Coordinator at 287-7691 or by email at: judy.gates@maine.gov.

An Act to Clarify the Definition of Significant Wildlife Habitat as it Pertains to Significant Vernal Pools and to Increase Consistency in Addressing Wetlands of Special Significance

This bill would allow DEP and IF&W to regulate vernal pools under NRPA by eliminating language in the existing rules that requires vernal pools to be identified and mapped in order to be considered significant wildlife habitat. Criteria for identification of significant vernal pools and associated critical terrestrial habitat would be established through rule. The bill would also eliminate the exemption for minor alterations in freshwater wetlands, if the proposed activity would occur in a significant wildlife habitat. The proposed changes are anticipated to be effective in August or September of 2005. For additional information contact Judy Gates, Licensing Coordinator at 287-7691 or by email at: judy.gates@maine.gov.

Message from the Ethics Chair

by Brett M. Battaglia

The Maine Association of Wetland Scientists (MAWS) typically offers a wetland research stipend to actively enrolled students for use on a research project(s) relating to Maine wetlands for up to \$1,000. An announcement describing the process was circulated to colleges and universities in Maine with departments involved in wetland-related studies. The MAWS Executive Committee reviews applicants' proposals/abstracts and awards the stipend(s) to the selected candidate(s). As part of receiving the stipend, the selected student(s) are required to give a presentation on the outcome or progress of their research at the MAWS annual membership meeting.

This year MAWS only received two applications for the wetland research stipend. Each application

clearly demonstrated that each research project would benefit from the MAWS stipend, and the MAWS EC decided to award two \$500.00 stipends to each candidate.

The 2004 MAWS wetland research stipend winners are: Frederic Beaudry and Sean Blomquist: both are students at the University of Maine, Orono. Mr. Beaudry studied the spatial ecology of spotted (*Clemmys guttata*) and blanding's (*Emydoidea blandingii*) turtles in Maine, and determined the significance and extent of threats posed by roads to their populations. Mr. Blomquist examined the potential mechanisms behind loss of local amphibian populations in forested wetland ecosystems altered by harvesting; in particular, larval, juvenile, and adult wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*). This research is part of the Land-use Effects on Amphibian Populations (LEAP) project currently underway at the University of Maine.

Vernal Pool Workshop

by Chris Dorion

On a blustery April 16th, 2004, MAWS members gathered in Orono, Maine to attend a vernal pool workshop. The morning session in the Town Community Center featured a stunning color slide presentation by Dr. Aram Calhoun (University of Maine, Orono), explaining the life cycles of amphibians that utilize vernal pools, why they need vernal pools, and the importance of adjacent uplands. The slides showed, in brilliant color, each of the indicator amphibians. The spotted salamanders had smiles on their faces. A question and answer session followed the slide show, followed by Dr. Calhoun's PowerPoint presentation focusing on town-level conservation planning, the *Best Development Practices* manual, and the recently published *Forestry Habitat Management Guidelines for Vernal Pool Wildlife*.

The next few paragraphs are some notes I recorded during the morning presentations: Vernal pools can cover up to 2 acres, their origin is natural (not human-constructed), they are isolated from surficial hydrology (although they may be broad and diffuse, such as in a red maple swamp), they are seasonal (prevents green frogs, bull frogs, and fish from preying on the amphibians), fish are always absent, and just one of the indicator species (wood frogs, spotted salamanders, blue spotted salamanders, or fairy shrimp) classify the system as a vernal pool. To make the final call, you

must monitor during the spring. Also, the youngest amphibians only travel ~100 feet away so you can turn over nearby rocks. Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIF&W) has been working since 1995 on a definition for a "Significant Vernal Pool" (which would move these small wetlands into Wetlands of Special Significance). Still no decision; Phillip DeMaynadier is leading the group at MDIF&W. In southern Maine, some vernal pools occur on floodplains, while in northern Maine the vernal pools are larger. A new definition: "Seasonal Woodland Pools" is preferred over "Vernal Pools".

Vernal pools are fueled by the carbon in leaf litter and detritus that falls into the pool. They may be as productive as salt marshes for carbon export via insects and larger fauna. To find fairy shrimp, wade to a sunny portion of the pool and use a glass-bottomed bucket – do not NET fairy shrimp.

Salamanders have a lifespan of 15 to 20 years, they always return to the same pool, they are more sensitive than frogs, and they don't breed every year – that's why multi-year monitoring is essential. The males lay their eggs in packets which the females then pick up and fertilize, with the eggs masses attaching to branches. This happens at night. Their egg masses only contain about 15 to 30 eggs, and the egg masses change color from clear to cloudy. Wood frogs lay their eggs over a 12 day period, while salamanders lay over a longer period – up to 6 weeks. Wood frogs over-winter in the

leaf litter on the forest floor. They live for about 3 years. They lay about 1,000 to 1,500 eggs in a “raft” (no outer envelope), they don’t change color, and are black on top, white on the bottom, like camouflage. They summer in the hummocks in red maple swamps. In one night one wood frog moved 480 meters. Vernal pools are not used every year, so multi-year monitoring is important.

In a study of Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species, 24 out of 27 of the species had a strong connection to vernal pools and the upland surrounding the pools. The number of vernal pools is more important than one large wetland, so the SWANCC decision does not help these isolated wetlands. Megafauna such as moose and deer use vernal pools heavily because they green up first in the spring and thus serve as a well-distributed stand of “fast-food” browsing. Moose tracks are important to vernal pool functioning as the pools dry down in late spring/early summer.

Amphibians use well-spaced vernal pools between their birth pool and their summering area as “stop-overs”, so chains of isolated vernal pools are critical to successful migration. Wood frogs spend their first winter less than 30 m from a vernal pool while spotted salamanders spend most of their time in well drained, greater than 70% canopy forest, in rodent burrow holes.

Development is considered pavement, buildings, and lawns. A 100 foot radius out from the vernal pool edge is considered the vernal pool envelope, while a 750 foot radius outward is critical terrestrial habitat. To assess a vernal pool, first use biological criteria – number of egg masses, species, T&E species present and then the terrestrial habitat conditions. Put mitigation where it will work – give up on some development. Preservation is more important than creation.

Judy Gates volunteered commentary from the MDEP perspective. We need a solution to the mapping

requirement (MDEP guidelines for significant wildlife areas); MDEP needs more rule making on vernal pools; specific functions & values need to be developed for vernal pools. Tier II permit applications must now include Wildlife Habitat loss (not necessarily just significant wildlife habitat. Next year (2005) MDEP will look at Tier I guidelines for review.

Dr. Calhoun then listed recommendations for use at the town level: Locate all vernal pools in a town (can use air photos to some extent but up to 30% are missed); get landowner permissions, survey all vernal pools and collect data; tally assessments, and then decide where Tier I, II, and III impacts are located.

After lunch, participants assembled on Town of Orono property in a new office building development area. Dr. Calhoun, Wende Mahaney of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and Lee Burman from S.W. Cole Engineering led the group through the on-going preparation of a Tier III NRPA wetland alteration permit application for this area. We observed at least 5 vernal pools and found very few egg masses, but the cold, late spring most likely pushed the egg-laying time back a couple of weeks. Options for preserving the functions of these vernal pools were discussed, what land to set aside, and what conservation easements could be arranged to conserve adjacent uplands. Field techniques for observing amphibians and tallying data were outlined.

The workshop finished by mid-afternoon. MAWS would like to thank the workshop leaders who led the day’s events: Dr. Aram Calhoun, Wende Mahaney, Lee Burman, and Chris Dorion.

The manuals described earlier in this article are available by contacting Dr. Calhoun (calhoun@maine.edu).

**Grasses of Maine: Terminology,
Keys and Field Identification**
by Chris Dorion

On Wednesday, June 16th, 2004, MAWS held a workshop at the Delta Institute in Bowdoin, Maine. The weather was hot and sunny with a good crop of affectionate mosquitoes. We met at 9am to begin the morning lecture. World-renowned botanist Arthur

Haines delivered a stunning lecture on his new abbreviated grass key. After the lecture we were given various live grasses to begin keying out.

Mr. Haines’ simplified key for the common grasses in Maine was unanimously hailed a success. I overheard several MAWS members’ epiphanies: “This is the first time I have learned to use a [key]” and like testimonials. Mr. Haines’ philosophy in

teaching is that there is a minimum “must have” vocabulary to key out grasses. But this is only half of the challenge. Botanists must be able to actually apply the terminology to the grass parts; for example, where is the lemma in the floret? Personally, I finally learned what was meant by “open” and “closed” sheaths. The term “open” really just means not fused, despite the fact that sheath is doubled over like a double breasted jacket. Closed means fused; one must tear the sheath, ripping plant fibers, to open it. This was just one of many epiphanies I experienced during the day’s botanizing.

The simplified key works for the 26 most common genera in Maine. To get to the species level, we used *The Flora of Maine* by Arthur Haines and Thomas Vining. The group found that once the genus was determined, keying to species was fast. We relied on 14X hand lenses initially then used the microscopes in the lab to really learn the various parts of the floret. Participants worked singly or in groups, whichever method suited them best, and all found success in keying out the grass samples. Genera in the simplified key included:

<i>Festuca</i>	<i>Schedonorus</i>
<i>Spartina</i>	<i>Dichanthelium</i>
<i>Phleum</i>	<i>Panicum</i>
<i>Alopecurus</i>	<i>Elymus</i>
<i>Leersia</i>	<i>Lolium</i>
<i>Phalaris</i>	<i>Dactylis</i>
<i>Calamagrostis</i>	<i>Bromus</i>
<i>Agrostis</i>	<i>Glyceria</i>
<i>Zizania</i>	<i>Phragmites</i>
<i>Setaria</i>	<i>Poa</i>
<i>Digitaria</i>	<i>Eragrostis</i>
<i>Schizachyrium</i>	<i>Danthonia</i>
<i>Echinochloa</i>	<i>Anthoxanthum</i>

After lunch, we went to a nearby field and wetland area to use our new skills and collect new grass samples. We also keyed out other vascular plants, such as sedges and some willows, using *The Flora of Maine*. We returned to the lab and worked into mid-afternoon.

MAWS would like to thank Tom Vining and the Delta Institute of Natural History for hosting the event. Arthur Haines was the master instructor and Chris Dorion organized the MAWS participants.

To learn more about course offerings at the Delta Institute, and botanical materials for sale, contact: <http://www.vfthomas.com/>

Wetland Functions and Values: A Descriptive Approach by Don Philips

The Wainwright Farm Recreation Area in South Portland, Maine, was quite a lively place to be on August 20th, 2004, at least if you were a wetland scientist. Why? The MAINE ASSOCIATION OF WETLAND SCIENTISTS held a workshop there to discuss wetland functions and values, and to provide a forum for practicing wetland scientists to share opinions on that tricky question: just why are wetlands valuable?

Wetlands are, by definition, those areas transitional between upland and deep water habitats. We all know that. Due to the word *transitional* in this definition, the only real rule that we as wetland scientist know regarding our profession is, there are no black or white rules. Oh sure, we try our best to develop criteria in keeping with good science; the criteria that allow us to make measurable and repeatable decisions with respect to a site, regardless of the season or who makes them. So, when it comes down to it, a soil is hydric or not hydric. An individual plant is hydrophytic or not hydrophytic. Properly carried out, the application of these criteria suggests whether a natural community is a wetland or not a wetland. We just have to keep up with all the details that allow us to make these decisions. Understanding and interpreting wetland functions and values, however, is wetland science on a different level.

When it comes right down to it, there are ways to measure almost any function or value, and therefore come to a definitive conclusion regarding a wetland’s worth to society. We have the highly quantitative methodologies of assessing wetland functions and values: the HGM method for instance. But these are not practical procedures for most of us to implement on a regular basis due to their expense and the time required to collect all the data.

That is why I, for one, thoroughly enjoyed this workshop. It did not focus on any one criterion (is this guy *Carex gynandra* or *C. crinita*?), but instead

brought us together to talk about the non-measurable, qualitative role that wetlands play in the environment and to society. This workshop brought our subjective biases regarding our interpretations of various wetland functions to a more calibrated understanding. It encouraged free discussion on why a particular wetland may, or may not, function for any of the functions or values.

There were widely varying opinions on the relative importance of a wetland with respect to *Floodflow Alteration* based on where the wetland is located – that is, high or low - within the watershed. There was also quite a spirited discussion (at least in the group I was in) on whether a wetland exhibited *Groundwater Discharge/Recharge* characteristics.

A quite common wetland class in central and northern Maine is the palustrine, scrub-shrub, broad-leaved deciduous wetland, dominated by ericaceous species like rhodora (*Rhododendron canadense*), sweetgale (*Myrica gale*) and leatherleaf (*Chamaedaphne calyculata*). “Not so here!” chorused wetland scientists more familiar with southern Maine. I learned that such wetlands ought to be given more weight in southern Maine than similar wetlands in more northerly parts of Maine.

Workshops like as this are of immense value to us all. They provide continuing education requirements for the profession, encourage free interchange of ideas, pass on lessons learned through experience to those with less experience, and enable us all to better manage wetlands. Not least of all, workshops such as this give us all the opportunity to get together as peers to socialize a bit, not at all a bad way to spend a glorious late summer day.

**DON'T FORGET TO LOG ON TO
WWW.MAINEWETLANDS.ORG AND
SIGN UP FOR THE MAWS EMAIL LIST**

**Receive workshop and regulatory updates
from the comfort of your inbox! Also, start or
add to an ongoing online discussion group....**

NOW AVAILABLE!

**Maine's Endangered and Threatened
WILDLIFE**

Some of the most spectacular and inconspicuous of Maine's wildlife species are in jeopardy of extinction. At last, Maine has a book that describes all of its endangered species in one volume. This softcover book is the first and only comprehensive description of all 49 Maine animals on state and federal endangered species lists, from Canada lynx and bald eagles to Blanding's turtles and Tomah mayflies. Written by top Maine endangered species experts, two full pages for each species describe the animal's life history and conservation, and include valuable management recommendations. A beautiful color photo or drawing helps readers identify each species, and a range map shows its approximate location in the State. The 117-page, 8½"x11" book also covers the history and policies behind the Maine Endangered Species Act, describes the causes of species decline, explains the listing process, provides a complete list of species, and offers some overall actions that can help. Landowners, foresters, consultants, land managers, town planners, libraries, high school students and teachers, and anyone interested in learning about and conserving the great diversity of Maine wildlife will find this book a readable reference full of fascinating and authoritative information.

To order a copy of "Maine's Endangered and Threatened Wildlife":

No. books: _____ x \$13.50 (\$10.00 + \$3.50 shipping and tax) per book = \$ _____ total due
Make checks payable to: Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund

Send order to: Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Attn: Information Center, 284 State St., 41 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0041

Copies may also be ordered online at www.mefishwildlife.com or by calling 207-287-8000

MAWS Financial Statement - F.Y. 2004-2005

(For period of Jan. 20, 2004 to Jan. 15, 2005)
 Respectfully submitted to MAWS Membership
 15 January 2004 - Dana Valleau, Treasurer

Projected Budget for 2005-2006
 (based on income/expenses from 04-05)

	Balance		
	01/20/2004	\$2,811.46	
	Balance		
	01/15/2005	\$2,988.36	
Income	Projected	Actual	
Membership	\$1,115.00	\$1,730.00	
Annual Meeting			
Attendance	\$1,900.00	\$1,085.00	
Other			
Workshops	\$1,900.00	\$1,353.00	
Other Sources	\$40.00	\$108.00	
Total	\$4,955.00	\$4,276.00	

Expenditures		
2004 Annual Meeting	-\$1,600.00	-\$1,086.78
Postage and Copying	-\$400.00	-\$350.52
P.O. Box		
Rental	-\$60.00	\$0.00
2003 Workshops (not Non-Profit)	-\$1,000.00	-\$678.45
Registration	-\$35.00	-\$20.00
Student		
Research Grant	-\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00
Web Hosting	\$100.00	-\$130.62
Bank Fees (including bank discrepancies)	-\$75.00	-\$86.83
Other (purchases, sponsorships)	-\$400.00	-\$745.90
Total	-\$4,470.00	-\$4,099.10

Income		
Membership		\$1,085.00
Annual Meeting		
Attendance		\$1,055.00
Other		
Workshops		\$1,400.00
Other Sources		\$0.00
Total Income		\$3,540.00

Expenditures		
2005 Annual Meeting		-\$1100.00
Postage and Copying		-\$400.00
P.O. Box		
Rental		0
2005 Workshops (not incl. mailing)		-\$1000.00
Non-Profit Registration		-\$25.00
Student		
Research Grant		-\$1000.00
Web Hosting		-\$150.00
Bank Fees (including bank discrepancies)		-\$12.00
Other (purchases, sponsorships)		-\$200.00
Total		-\$3995.00

Total projected income 2004-2005 \$485.00
Projected balance, January 2005 \$3,296.46
Actual balance, January 2005 \$2,988.36
Difference between projected and actual -\$308.10

Total Projected Income -\$445.00
Projected Balance January 2006 \$2533.36

Actual Total Gross Income 2004 \$176.90

**Maine Association of Wetland Scientists
Business Meeting Agenda**

March 4, 2005
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

1. Certification Subcommittee update – Kathleen Miller
2. Secretary’s Report – Stephanie Jordan
Acceptance of the 2004 Annual Business Meeting minutes
3. Treasurer’s Report – Dana Valleau
4. Legislative update - Jeff Simmons
5. Membership update – Richard Jordan
6. Election of new Executive Committee chairs
7. Floor Discussions
 - 2005 Stipend
 - Suggested topics for 2003 workshops
 - Other donations, etc.
8. Adjourn

Constitution By-law Vote

Items 1 and 4 under Article III (Membership), Section A – Active Members, of the MAWS Constitution currently preclude those individuals who do not meet certain minimum requirements from becoming Active Members and subsequently serving on the Executive Committee. Items 1 and 4 read as follows:

Item 1. Must have practiced the profession of wetland science for at least 2 years (full time equivalent) and must possess a Baccalaureate degree with a minimum of 30 semester hours in multiple scientific disciplines such as ecology, biology, zoology, botany, pedology,

- *hydrology, geology, and chemistry. All applicants for active membership must be approved by the Membership Committee.*
- *Item 4. Only Active Members may serve on the Executive Committee or Chair standing committees.*

We are seeking comment from the MAWS membership to determine if Item 1 should be amended to allow those individuals with the requisite experience, but who lack the minimum educational requirements, to become active members and have the option to serve on the Executive Committee.

2005 Executive Committee Members

President: Kathleen Miller

Treasurer: Dana Valleau

Membership: Rich Jordan

Elections will be held for these Executive Committee members at the 2005 Annual Meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Current Nominees</u>
President Elect	
Program	
Secretary	Eugenie Francine
Ethics	Stephanie Sweizynski
Legislative	Karol Worden

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Maine Association of Wetland Scientists
Annual Meeting
Friday, March 4, 2005
Augusta Elks Lodge

The Maine Association of Wetland Scientists will be holding its annual meeting at the Augusta Elks Lodge (north on Route 11/27, off Exit 112 of I-95 in Augusta, ME) and we hope to see you there! To cover the cost of the facility and food, registration for MAWS is \$25 (not including annual dues); for non-members is \$35., and for students is \$15. Members, please take this opportunity to continue your support of MAWS by paying your annual dues.

- 8:00 – 8:30 **Registration**
- 8:30 – 8:45 **Welcome, Introduction of Speakers, and By-law Vote (see newsletter, page 9)**
- 8:45 – 9:30 **Using Science in the Formulation of Regulatory Guidelines, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission** – Kathleen Miller, Managing Environmental Scientist, Northern Ecological Associates, Inc.
- 9:30 – 10:15 **Maine State Wetland Conservation Plan: Update, 2005, panel discussion** – Elizabeth Hertz, Maine State Planning Office; Marcia Spencer Famous, LURC; and (other Wetlands Interagency Team member to be announced)
- 10:15 – 10:30 **Break**
- 10:30 – 11:15 **Protecting Significant Wildlife Habitat under the Natural Resources Protection Act** – Judy Gates, Licensing Coordinator, Maine DEP
- 11:15 – 12:00 **The Effects of Habitat Alteration on amphibian Fitness, Habitat Selection, and Movement** – Sean M. Blomquist, University of Maine, MAWS 2004 Stipend Winner
- 12:00 – 1:00 **Lunch**
- 1:00 – 1:45 **Habitat Selection for Spotted and Blanding's Turtle Populations** – Frederic Beaudry, University of Maine, MAWS 2004 Stipend Winner
- 1:45 – 2:00 **Break, Handing out ballots and vote on new executive committee chairs**
Nominations will also be accepted from the floor
- 2:00 – 3:30 **Business Meeting**

If you have any questions, contact MAWS Program Chair Chris Dorion @ (207) 866-7806, or by e-mail at cdorion@infionline.net

REGISTRATION FOR MAWS ANNUAL MEETING

Please mail registration form and payment to: MAWS c/o Chris Dorion, 79 Bennoch Road, Orono, ME 04473.
Registration and check should be received no later than February 25, 2004. Make checks payable to MAWS.

Name: _____ Affiliation: _____
Address: _____ City/State: _____
Telephone and/or e-mail address: _____

RETURN TO: E-Pro

**Attn: Gary Emond
249 Western Ave.
Augusta, ME 04330**

TO: