



The Obligate

**Maine Association of
Wetland Scientists**

PO Box 361; Augusta, Maine; 04330
www.mainewetlands.org

(American bittern artwork copyright 1991 by Nancy Derey)

President's Message

By Lauren Stockwell, President (2007 & 2008)

I cannot believe that a year has already flown by since I became President of MAWS. To me, it was a whirlwind year. Reflecting on the year, I realize that I value being a member of MAWS especially when I am busy. Wetland science is a multi disciplinary, dynamic field. This is what I love about it; what keeps it interesting. However, it can be challenging to keep up with everything that is happening. MAWS helps keep its membership at the forefront of wetland science. By visiting the website, one can get updates and links to their most frequently visited sites. At the workshops and annual meetings, we hear presentations from speakers on topics of relevance to the members. For instance, at the February 7th Corps Jurisdictional Determination Workshop, Ruth Ladd with the assistance of Jay Clement, both of the New England District of the Corps, provided training on the Rapanos Guidance. The guidance was in response to the 2006 Supreme Court Rapanos/Carabell decision related to federal jurisdiction under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. In Corps jurisdictional determinations, the project area is determined by property boundaries, but the wetlands are considered on a landscape level, in context of the characteristics of the stream reach with which they are associated.

On the regulatory front, there were recent changes not only at the federal, but at the state and local levels as well. There is a thorough synopsis of these changes elsewhere in the newsletter written by our legislative chair (Thank you, Eugenie).

At the March 21 annual meeting, updates will be given by the regulatory agencies, straight from the horse's mouth, so to speak. Members will be given the opportunity to ask questions and get clarification as always. Regulatory updates will be given on federal changes by Peter Tischbein of the New England District of the Corps; on the new In Lieu Fee Program as well as Vernal Pool (Significant Wildlife Habitat chapter of NRPA) regulations by Jim Cassida of DEP; and on the revised Guidelines for Municipal Shoreland Zoning by Rich Baker of DEP.

MAWS is about a lot more than keeping current with regulations. The mission is to promote and participate in educational programs pertaining to the study of wetland science, advancing the profession of wetland science for the Association's membership and the public. MAWS continues to support education through its stipend program and contributions to programs such as Maine Envirothon. At the annual meeting, two of the MAWS stipend winners will give presentations on their on-going research. We heard from Ruth that work on the long awaited (dreaded?) regional Wetland Delineation Manual for our area is now underway. Dave Rocque, Maine State Soil Scientist and Chris Dorion of MAPSS will give us an update on the Hydric Soil Technical Committee that is part of this process. In addition, Charles Lubelczyk, field biologist at Maine Medical Center Research Institute, Vector-borne Disease Lab will give a talk on field exposure to infectious diseases. This is a topic sure to be of great interest to the

membership and will hopefully keep us all healthy; maybe even save a life.

The educational efforts of organizations like MAWS are working. Now, when I try to explain what I do for work, people have at least heard of 'wetlands'. This was not always the case. There are still misconceptions, but terms like wetland and vernal pool are becoming household words. I recently had the opportunity to spend some time with a 7th grade science class in Maine. They were studying watersheds and non-point pollution and the importance of preserving wetlands and buffers in maintaining water quality. WOW! That was not on the curriculum when I was in middle school.

MAWS provides a forum not only to exchange ideas and information, but an opportunity to network with others in the same profession grappling with same issues. I have been impressed with the enthusiasm and professionalism of the other wetland scientists I have had the chance to get to know, especially working with the Executive Committee.

With the complexity of wetland science, it is hard to believe that anyone can practice it in the State of Maine. MAWS membership has consistently voted for some sort of certification or credentialing in Maine. The final exploratory report on credentialing wetland scientists in Maine was completed in February of 2007, just prior to the 2007 annual meeting. The Certification Sub-Committee (CSC) has continued to make progress this year. Don Phillips, Chair of the CSC, will give

an update on progress to date and what remains to be done. In brief, several members of the committee met with Ms. Anne Head, Acting Commissioner of the Dept. of Professional & Financial Regulation, Office of Licensing & Registration, and her Assistant Cheryl Hersom to discuss what MAWS must do to become licensed. This discussion focused on the application, which must satisfactorily respond to thirteen (13) evaluation criteria (Sunrise Review Procedures). Others met with Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists (MAPSS) Executive Committee and received endorsement of MAWS efforts to pursue certification. Thank you, Don and the CSC, for all of your work! Much of this progress was single-handedly spearheaded by Don. Unfortunately, Don has decided to resign as chair of the committee. I urge all of you that are interested to volunteer for this committee and continue this work. There is more to be done if we want to see this happen.

The EC continues to meet to continue the work of the organization. Thank you to all the Executive Committee: Jennifer West, Rich Jordan, Gil Paquette, Lauren Leclerc, Alex Finamore, Eugenie Francine, Dale Knapp and Kathleen Miller for all the time they have volunteered! I urge you to visit the website, kept up to date by Rich Jordan. Thank you, Rich. Also, many thanks to Marcia Spencer-Famous for continuing help putting together the Obligate. Please support MAWS and volunteer to run for one of the EC committee openings or join a committee. Thank you.

Message from the Ethics Chair

Lauren Leclerc, Ethics Chair

As part of our commitment to participate in educational programs, MAWS typically offers one or two wetland research stipends to actively enrolled students for use on a research project(s) relating to Maine wetlands. Each year, an announcement describing the MAWS stipend is circulated to departments of colleges and universities in Maine involved in wetland-related

studies. The MAWS Executive Committee reviews the proposals/abstracts and awards the stipend(s) to the selected candidate(s). As a condition of receiving the stipend, the student(s) agree to give a presentation on the outcome or progress of their research at the MAWS annual membership meeting.

This past year, MAWS awarded one \$1,000 wetland research stipend to Katelyn Michaud, an undergraduate at the University of Maine, Farmington. Ms. Michaud is distinguishing reproductive methods of variable-leaf milfoil in

Maine lakes. Ms. Michaud's project includes collecting multiple populations of milfoil, including a hybrid population, from five known infested lakes in Maine, and comparing their DNA sequences to determine if they are the result of vegetative or sexual reproduction. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is currently using management strategies for milfoil based on the theory that it is spreading via vegetative reproduction. If this study determines that milfoil can reproduce sexually, then Maine lake associations and the DEP must develop strategies to prevent the spread of milfoil via seeds. Furthermore, this study will help to examine the pattern of spread to date and potentially help identify the original sources of Maine infestations.

One of the 2006 MAWS stipend winners was Tara Goodrich, who at the time was a graduate student at the University of Maine, Orono. Ms. Goodrich was unable to present her research project to the membership last year and will be joining us this year to tell us about measuring changes in eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) distribution over time. She used various techniques including aerial photography and ground truthing to quantify eelgrass changes in Taunton Bay; she identified the initial conditions (1955-1975), and the change in patch size and distribution over time (to 2005). Ms. Goodrich is now employed at the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and is the Pollution Prevention Specialist for the state.

Attend the annual meeting to learn more about this exciting research!

Legislative Report for 2007

Eugenie Francine, Legislative Chair

This past year saw a number of amendments to the Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA), MRSA Title 38, Ch. 3, §480 and some new Regulatory Guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). The following presents some of the adopted and proposed amendments to natural resource regulations in 2007 and 2008 respectively.

Federal

Rapanos/Clean Water Act

In February 2006, the Supreme Court handed down a decision in the consolidated cases Rapanos v. United States and Carabell v. United States (herein referred to as Rapanos). In Rapanos, the Supreme Court addresses where the Federal Government can assert jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act (CWA), specifically as it pertains to whether a wetland or a tributary is a water of the United States. This was a fractured decision, meaning that there was no majority opinion presented by the Supreme Court Justices.

In a plurality decision by four justices, it was concluded that the federal agencies' regulatory authority should extend only to "relatively permanent, standing or continuously flowing bodies of water" connected to traditional navigable waters, and to wetlands with a continuous surface connection to such relatively permanent waters. Justice Kennedy, while agreeing with the plurality, offered yet another opinion and standard for evaluating the CWA jurisdiction. Justice Kennedy concluded that:

"wetlands possess the requisite nexus, and thus come within the statutory phrase 'navigable waters,' if the wetland, either alone or in combination with similarly situated lands in the region, significantly affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of other covered waters more readily understood as 'navigable.'"

When there is no majority opinion in a Supreme Court case, the controlling law may be derived from those principles espoused by five or more justices. As it stands now, regulatory jurisdiction under CWA exists over a water body if either the plurality's or Justice Kennedy's standard is satisfied. The June 5, 2007 joint EPA and Army Corps guidance following the Rapanos decision requires the application of the two standards by

the Justices as well as a greater level of documentation, to support an agency Jurisdictional Determination (JD) for a particular water body. The guidance also required the EPA and the Corps to develop a revised JD form to be used by field staff for documenting a ‘significant nexus’ in assertion or declination of CWA jurisdiction.

Summary of Key Points

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over the following waters:

- Traditional navigable waters;
- Wetlands adjacent to traditional navigable waters;
- Non-navigable tributaries of traditional navigable waters that are not relatively permanent where the tributaries typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically 3 months);
- Wetlands that directly abut such tributaries; and,
- Every waterbody that is not a Relatively Permanently Water (RPW) if the waterbody is determined to have a significant nexus to a Traditional Navigable Water (TNW).

The agencies will decide jurisdiction over the following waters based on a fact-specific analysis to determine whether they have a significant nexus with traditional navigable waters:

- Non-navigable tributaries that are not relatively permanent;
- Wetlands adjacent to non-navigable tributaries that are not relatively permanent; and,
- Wetlands adjacent to but that do not directly abut a relatively permanent non-navigable tributary.

The agencies generally will not assert jurisdiction over the following features:

- Swales or erosional; features (e.g., gullies, small washes characterized by

low volume, infrequent, or short duration flow); and,

- Ditches (including roadside ditches) excavated wholly in and draining only uplands and that do not carry a relatively permanent flow of water.

The agencies will apply the significant nexus standard as follows:

- A significant nexus analysis will assess the flow characteristics and functions of the tributary of itself and the functions performed by all wetlands adjacent to the tributary to determine if they significantly affect the chemical, physical and biological integrity of downstream traditional navigable waters; and,
- Significant nexus includes consideration of hydrological and ecological factors.

For a more comprehensive discussion of the *Rapanos* decision, the key points, and the procedures for determining a significant nexus see the Corps’ website at: www.nae.usace.army.mil/ and click on *Regulatory/Permitting* at top of the web page.

For a review of the Corps Regulatory Guidance Letter (RGL) regarding JD documentation and determinations, go to: www.nae.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/rglsindex.htm and for the JD Instructional Guidebook go to www.nae.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/cwa_guide/cwa_guide.htm .

On July 4, 2007, the Corps issued a RGL regarding exemptions for construction or maintenance of irrigation ditches and maintenance of drainage ditches under Section 404 of CWA. The guidance is intended to clarify permitting exemptions of 404(f) regarding discharges of dredged or fill material into Waters of the US associated with the construction or maintenance of irrigation ditches and maintenance of drainage ditches. If the discharge is not part of an activity that would convert an area of Waters of the US into a use to which it was not previously subject to,

and the activity does not impair the flow or circulation of Waters of the US or reduce the reach of such waters, the activity is exempt under 404(f)(1) and not 'recaptured' under 404(f)(2).

Compensatory Mitigation Updates

On December 18, 2007, the Corps issued an addendum to the *New England District Compensatory Mitigation Guidance: Compensation for Impacted Aquatic Resource Functions*. This document reflects changes made after receiving comments during the comment period. Upon examination of their aquatic resource mitigation requirements for the past decade, the New England District Corps has decided to implement compensatory mitigation ratio guidance as part of the ongoing process to improve the overall success of aquatic resource mitigation. The guidance is intended to establish performance standards and criteria for the use of permittee-responsible compensatory mitigation and mitigation banks, and to improve the quality and success of compensatory mitigation projects authorized by the Corps. The ratios provide guidance for all aquatic resource where compensatory mitigation is required by the Corps. Note that while the ratios are designed for direct impacts additional mitigation may be required for indirect impacts. Also note that there continues to be flexibility on a project-by project basis in order to achieve the most appropriate mitigation for a specific project. For a more comprehensive overview of the Addendum, responses to comments and the recommended ratios table go to: www.nae.usace.army.mil/reg/index.htm and scroll down to the section entitled: Mitigation. Also available at the same web site are the most recent *Mitigation Plan Checklist* and the *Mitigation Plan Checklist Guidance* that were issued on January 12, 2007.

Regional Supplements to the '87 Manual

Also of note is the development of regional supplements to the Corps 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual, used in the CWA Section

404 program. Currently, a supplement is being drafted for the Northeast Regions. A peer-review committee will be responsible for evaluating the reliability and scientific validity of the draft supplement for the Northeast supplement. The National Committee intends to form the peer-review committee by April 2008 and to provide this review committee with a draft of the supplement by June 2008. A draft of the supplement should then be available for public comment by August 2008. Questions can be directed to Katherine Trott at 202-761-4229 or Katherine.l.trott@usace.army.mil or go to: www.nae.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/reg_supp.htm.

Maine

NRPA/MDEP

There were a number of amendments to 38 M.R.S.A. §480 et seq. that include:

- The definition of "permanent structure" for the natural resources protection laws is further clarified; "Permanent structure" means any structure that is designed to remain at or that is constructed or erected with a fixed location or that is attached to a structure with a fixed location for a period exceeding 7 months ~~each year~~ within any 12-month period, including, but not limited to, causeways, piers, docks, concrete slabs, piles, marinas, retaining walls and buildings.
- The section concerning identification by maps was amended to be consistent with previous amendments to the definition of "significant wildlife habitat" in the natural resources protection laws by qualifying the mapping requirement through a reference to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 480-B, subsection 10, paragraphs A and B. The changes also remove out-of-date language concerning jurisdiction and mapping requirements that applied to

wetlands of 10 acres or more when section 480-B was amended in 1995.

- Add an applicability section to be consistent with previous amendments to the definition of "significant wildlife habitat".
- Amends Title 38, sections 490-D and 490-Z, as they relate to borrow pit and quarry law, of the borrow pit law to provide that the MDEP may allow excavation in a significant wildlife habitat provided a permit is obtained pursuant to the protection of natural resources laws.
- Enacts a section to allow the MDIF&W to determine that an area is not a significant wildlife habitat due to the impact of development in existence on June 8, 2006 and continuing in existence on the date of the determination, although the area otherwise conforms with significant wildlife criteria adopted by the MDEP for shorebird nesting, feeding and staging areas or high and moderate value inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat. Certain factors and requirements are specified; For purposes of this section, "development" means the area of property altered, including, but not limited to, buildings, roads, driveways, parking areas, wastewater disposal systems and lawns and other nonnative vegetation as determined by the department.
- Chapter 355, Significant Wildlife Habitat, Section 9, **Significant Vernal Pools** became effective on September 1, 2007. Please refer to the MDEP Natural Resource Protection Act, Chapter 335, Significant Wildlife Habitat, June 8, 2006 for the rules governing significant vernal pools. As a result Permit By Rule Chapter 305, Section 19, *Activities in, on or over Significant Vernal Pool Habitat* also became effective.
- **Shorebird feeding and roosting areas:** Significant wildlife habitat as defined in section 480-B, subsection 10 includes shorebird nesting, feeding and staging areas

that are in conformance with criteria adopted by the department or are contained within another protected natural resource except as provided in this section and section 480-DD. As used in this section and section 480-DD, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. "Shorebird feeding area" means a shorebird feeding or staging area that is not a roosting area. "Shorebird feeding area" includes a 100-foot-wide surrounding buffer referred to as "the feeding buffer". "Shorebird roosting area" means a shorebird feeding or staging area that is also a roosting area. "Shorebird roosting area" includes a 250-foot-wide surrounding buffer referred to as "the roosting buffer. For a complete overview and the revisions to the high and moderate value inland waterfowl and wading bird habitat, shorebird habitat and high and moderate value tidal waterfowl and wading bird habitat go to www.maine.gov/dep/blwq and type in the search term "birds".

Shoreland Zoning

An Act To Require the Replacement of Trees Cut in Shoreland Areas issued May 2, 2007 amended to read: C-1. Notwithstanding paragraph C, for violations of the laws and ordinances set forth in subsection 5, paragraph Q, the violator shall be ordered to correct or mitigate the violation unless the correction or mitigation results in: (1) A threat or hazard to public health or safety; (2) Substantial environmental damage; or (3) A substantial injustice. Correction or mitigation of a violation that involves the cutting of a tree or trees must include replacement of each cut tree with a tree of substantially similar size and species.

Note, all municipalities are required to revise their SLZ ordinances by summer 2008 (to include coordination with changes to Chapter 335: Significant Wildlife Habitat).

In Lieu Fee Mitigation Program/Natural Resource Mitigation Fund

The MDEP, the U.S. Army Corps and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) recently entered in an in-lieu fee agreement. Mitigating adverse environmental impacts is an integral part of the NRPA. The methods for resource mitigation are outlined further in the MDEP issue profile: *Wetlands Compensation: Techniques for Restoring Lost Functions and Values*. If a development project fills or degrades protected natural resources, the MDEP and/or Corps may require a compensatory mitigation project to offset the loss of functions and values resulting from the impacts. The compensation may include the design, implementation, and maintenance of a mitigation project; the purchase of credits from a mitigation bank; or payment into a compensation fee established to provide compensation (i.e., an in lieu fee program). A permit applicant may request to pay an in-lieu compensation fee (ILF) of a value equivalent to the compensation value to be used for the purpose of restoring, enhancing, creating, or preserving other resource functions or values that are environmentally equal to or preferable to the functions and values of impacted resources. Upon authorization, the ILF funds will be paid directly to the MDEP and will be placed in a 'Natural Resource Mitigation Fund'. The Natural Resource Mitigation Fund will be administered by TNC. TNC's role is to identify priorities for wetland conservation in the same area or biophysical region as the project. The priorities are presented to a Review Committee made up of state and federal agencies and non-governmental partners. The Review Committee makes recommendations as to where the in-lieu fee should be applied. Final decisions are made by MDEP and the Corps in consultation with resource agencies. TNC is responsible for overseeing the execution of the project and that long-term stewardship and protection is in place.

Proposed legislative changes and/or amendments to natural resources:

LD 1952 – “*An Act to Streamline the Administration of Significant Vernal Pool Habitat Protection*” was referred to the Natural

Resource Committee in December 2007. A Public Hearing was scheduled for February 7, 2007. MAWS EC prepared an opinion and provided the Committee with some recommended changes. The MAWS EC's statement can be found at www.maine-wetlands.org.

LD 2016: *Act to Safeguard Imperiled or Critically Imperiled Natural Communities within Protected Natural Resources* was referred to the Natural Resources Committee on December 19, 2007. This bill provides protection under the Natural Resources Protection Act for imperiled or critically imperiled natural communities, as identified by the Department of Conservation, that are located within protected natural resources. A Public Hearing was held on January 30, 2008.

For the status of these bills, go to: www.maine.gov/legis/opla.

Land Use Regulation Commission

The Maine Land Use Regulation Commission's revision of its Comprehensive Land Use Plan has been pushed back. The public workshops scheduled for winter 2008 have been postponed. Dates for the workshops as well as the Public Hearings and Formal Adoption have yet to be set. Updates are posted at: www.maine.gov/doc/lurc.

Please direct any questions regarding this information to Eugenie at eug@maine.rr.com.

THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU! – a request from the Legislative Chair

Tracking and keeping ahead of ever-evolving regulations & legislation seems to be a full-time job that could benefit from a number of people scanning the horizon. I am hoping to find some interested people who would participate on the MAWS Legislative Committee. I envision the role and responsibilities of the committee as:

☺ Act as a watchdog making note of new or pending legislation or issues that are germane to our profession. The information can be routed to the sitting Legislative Chair to be disseminated to the membership via email and posted on the MAWS web site.

☺ Help the EC to formalize responses or comments for Public Notices, Public Hearings, and proposed legislation on behalf of MAWS.

☺ Meet as necessary to review policies, regulations, or pending legislation.

The primary objectives, as I see them, are to stay abreast of legislation that directly affects our profession and natural resources, disseminate the information to the membership and be in a position to take a stand on a issues affecting our profession before the starting gun is fired.

Since this will be a new committee, any input regarding the structure, organization, and function is most welcome. If you are interested, please send me an email at eug@maine.rr.com. Thanks!

Program Chair Report

By Jennifer West

Due to a busy field season, MAWS hosted only one workshop on February 7, 2008. Ruth Ladd, from the New England Army Corps of Engineers office, gave a presentation on Rapanos, as well as brief update on the proposed regionalization of the 1987 *Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual* (Manual). Copies of the power point presentation, handouts and an electronic copy of the Corps Jurisdictional Determination (JD) Form are available for download from the MAWS website. Copies of the JD Instructional Guidebook and related materials can be obtained from the following website:

http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/cwa_guide/cwa_guide.htm

The US Supreme Court made two important decisions in 2006. Rapanos determined if

wetlands having a surface hydrologic connection to man-made ditch that drains into traditional navigable waters are waters of the US. Carabell determined if a wetland is “adjacent” if separated by a man-made berm from a tributary (i.e. man-made ditch) to navigable waters. Because of these two decisions, the Corps developed a JD form and accompanying guidebook. The form is lengthy and often has conflicting statements, which can frustrate users, so review the guidebook and related materials.

It is important to note that the Corps does not require completion of a JD form(s) if the project comes under a state (ME, NH, VT and inland CT) program general permit (PGP). A JD form(s) will need to be completed for individual permit applications and for PGP permits if the State does not take jurisdiction.

The Corps is in the process of the regionalization of the Manual, in which a regional supplement will provide hydrophytic vegetation indicators, hydric soil indicators, wetland hydrology indicators and guidance for “difficult wetland situations”. New England is in the North Central and Northeast region. The targeted date for publication of the interim version is 2009, according to Paul Minkin from the Corps. The major changes anticipated are:

- The use of the USDA NRCS *Field Indicators of Hydric Soils* (FIHS) rather than the New England Hydric Soils Technical Committee *Field Indicators for Identifying Hydric Soils in New England* - The Hydric Soil Technical Committee is currently working on incorporating indicators specific to New England to the FIHS;
- More detailed wetland hydrology indicators;
- Moving away from growing season concept and possibly using on-site methods; and,
- Possibly the use of the prevalence index calculation for the determination of dominance of hydrophytic vegetation.

MAWS Financial Statement -- F.Y. 2007

(For period of January 26, 2007 to February 13, 2008)

Respectfully submitted to MAWS Membership 13 February 2008 - Dale Knapp, Treasurer

	Balance 02/13/2008	\$4,791.47	
	Balance 01/26/2007	\$4,481.75	
Income		Projected	Actual
	2007 Membership/Annual Meeting	\$2,365.00	\$4,588.00
	Other Workshops	\$1,400.00	\$1,100.00
	Other Sources of Income	\$500.00	\$35.00
	Total Income	\$4,265.00	\$5,723.00
Expenditures			
	2007 Annual Meeting	-\$1,000.00	-\$2,664.22
	Postage and Copying	-\$300.00	-\$357.19
	P.O. Box Rental	-\$60.00	-\$132.00
	2007 Workshops (not including mailing)	-\$1,000.00	-\$545.58
	Non-Profit Registration	-\$35.00	-\$70.00
	Student Research Grant(s)	-\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00
	Web Hosting	-\$130.62	\$130.62
	Bank Fees (incl. balance discrepancies)	-\$120.00	\$0.00
	Other (Envirothon)	-\$500.00	-\$1,000.00
	Total Expenditures	-\$4,145.62	-\$5,638.37
	Total Projected Income 2006-2007	\$120.60	
	<i>Projected Balance, January 2008</i>	\$4,601.13	
	<i>Actual Balance, February 13, 2008</i>		\$4,791.47
	Difference between Projected and Actual	\$190.34	
	Total Net Gain 2007	\$84.63	

Maine Association of Wetland Scientists

Business Meeting Agenda

March 21, 2008

2:45 – 4:30 p.m.

- Legislative Report – Eugenie Francine
- Membership – Richard Jordan
- Program – Jennifer West

Executive Committee Reports

- Secretary's Report – Alex Finamore
Reading and Acceptance of the Minutes
of the 2006 Annual Meeting
- Treasurer's Report – Dale Knapp
- Ethics Report – Lauren Leclerc

Floor Discussions

- 2008 Stipends
- Suggested topics for 2008 workshops
- Envirothon Support

Election of Executive Committee Officers

(please see Obligate 2008, page 11)

MAWS Standing Committee Chair Positions

The MAWS EC is in the process of updating the job descriptions of the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees of the MAWS Executive Committee. As they are written and accepted by the EC they will be provided on the MAWS website, and eventually integrated into the constitution. Position duty descriptions can also be found on the MAWS website.

Duties of the Ethics Committee Chair

The MAWS Ethics Chairperson shall serve a two-year term and: Act to uphold the MAWS Code of Ethics; organize and chair the MAWS Ethics Committee; announce the MAWS annual wetlands research stipend(s) to the departments of colleges and universities in Maine involved in wetland-related studies; notify the stipend winner(s); and coordinate their attendance and presentations at the annual membership meeting.

Duties of the Membership Committee Chair

The Chairperson of the Membership Committee shall serve a two-year term, as described in the MAWS Constitution (*Section G, Item 4*) and be responsible for the following tasks and items:

- Collect membership applications and make recommendations to the Executive Committee as to the whether or not the applicant has adequate qualifications to meet the membership level for which they are applying;
- Contact and inform applicants as to the acceptance or denial of their applications for membership;
- Work with the Treasurer to maintain annual dues payment status for all members;
- On or by June 01 of each year, contact members to request payment of Annual Dues if not yet received;
- Maintain the membership database, including updating the membership level, dues payment status, and contact information for all members;
- From time-to-time, provide an updated spreadsheet to the webmaster with all

membership and dues payment status for publication on the website;

- Maintain the mailing list to include all members, as well as all courtesy recipients, libraries, groups, and other non-members to whom MAWS sends notifications;
- Attempt to increase membership and interest in MAWS by notifying colleges, towns and other professional groups of upcoming workshops and MAWS news;
- Maintain historical membership records in an orderly and easy to access fashion;
- Attend Executive Committee meetings; and
- Meet with and provide the successive Membership Chairperson with all necessary and updated electronic and paper file information within 30 days following the Annual Meeting.

2008 Executive Committee Members

President: Lauren Stockwell (through 2008)
President Elect: Gil Paquette (through 2008)
Past President: Kathleen Miller (through 2008)
Secretary: Alex Finamore (through 2008)
Legislative: Eugenie Francine (through 2008)
Program: Jennifer West (through 2008)

Elections will be held for these Executive Committee positions at the 2008 Annual Meeting.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor. **All Active members are encouraged to run for office.** All positions are 2-year terms.

Open EC Position:	Current Nominees:
Ethics Chair	Lauren Leclerc
Membership Chair	
Treasurer	Dale Knapp

Maine Association of Wetland Scientists

Annual Meeting

Friday, March 21, 2008

Maple Hill Farm B&B, 11 Inn Road,
Hallowell, ME

The Maine Association of Wetland Scientists will be holding its annual meeting at Maple Hill Farm in Hallowell. For directions go to <http://www.maplebb.com/>. Registration for MAWS members is \$35 (not including annual dues); for non-members, \$40, and for students, \$20. Members, please take this opportunity to continue your support of MAWS by paying your annual dues. Please complete the attached registration form and return to MAWS no later than March 13th.

AGENDA

- 8:00 – 8:30** *Registration*
- 8:30 – 8:45** *Welcome, Introduction of Speakers*
- 8:45 – 9:15** *Field Exposure to Infectious Diseases- Charles Lubelczyk, Field biologist, Maine Medical Center Research Institute, Vector-borne Disease Lab*
- 9:15 –10:00** *Distinguishing Reproductive Methods of Variable-leaf Water Milfoil in Maine Lakes- Katelyn Michaud, University of Maine Farmington, MAWS 2007 Stipend Winner*
- 10:00– 10:20** *Break*
- 10:20-10:50** *Hydric Soil Technical Committee Update- Dave Rocque, State Soil Scientist and Chris Dorion, MAPSS*
- 10:50–11:35** *In Lieu Fee Program and Vernal Pool Updates- Jim Cassida, DEP*
- 11:35-12:00** *Corps Updates- Peter Tischbein, Corps*
- 12:00 – 1:00** *Lunch*
- 1:00 – 1:45** *Shoreland Zoning Updates- Rich Baker, DEP*
- 1:45 – 2:30** *Measuring Changes in Eelgrass (Zostera marina) Distribution Over Time- Tara Goodrich, University of Maine Orono, MAWS 2006 Stipend Winner*
- 1:45 – 2:30** *Certification Committee update*
- 2:30- 2:45** *Break and Handout Ballots*
- 2:45 – 4:30** *Business Meeting*

If you have any questions, contact MAWS Program Chair, Jennifer West @ (207) 797-7717, or by e-mail jwest@normandeau.com.

Attendees of the meeting will receive 1CEU for NH Certified Wetland Scientists and 1CEU for NH Certified Soil Scientist.

REGISTRATION FOR MAWS ANNUAL MEETING

**Please mail registration form and payment to: MAWS c/o Dale Knapp, Stantec, 30 Park Drive
Topsham, ME, 04086. (207) 729-1199 ext. 153, email: dale.knapp@stantec.com.**

Registration and check should be received no later than March 13, 2008.

Make checks payable to "MAWS"

Name: _____ Company/Affiliation: _____

Address: _____ City/State: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail address: _____

Registration fee, which includes food and facility charges:

MAWS member:	\$35*	_____
non-members:	\$40	_____
student:	\$20**	_____

* Membership dues must be paid in full to receive membership rate for this event. Membership runs from January 1 to December 31. Your current membership status is shown in parentheses next to your name on the mailing label that came with the Obligate. "Unpaid" means we have no record of dues payment for 2007. "Former" means we have no record of dues payment going back to, at least, 2006. For additional membership information, please check www.mainewetlands.org.

** Proof of student status must be provided with registration.

Annual Dues:

MAWS member:	\$25	_____
Affiliate:	\$15	_____
Student:	\$10	_____

Total Payment: _____

Attendees of the meeting will receive 1 CEU for NH Certified Wetland Scientists and 1 CEU for NH Certified Soil Scientist. Please indicate if you need a certificate of attendance: Yes No

No Refunds for Cancellations

RETURN TO:
Dale Knapp (re: MAWS)
Stantec (*formerly Woodlot Alternatives*)
30 Park Drive
Topsham, ME, 04086

TO:
