



Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust electronic newsletter June 2007

As a friend of the Appalachian Trail in Maine, we hope you will find this e-newsletter informative and useful. If you do not wish to receive future newsletters from us, please respond to this e-mail with the word "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Ecological Study of the High Peaks region of Maine's Western Mountains

The Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust has recently released an *Ecological Study of the High Peaks Region of Maine's Western Mountains*, developed by Peter McKinley, Ph.D. of McKinley Conservation Biology and Planning, and Stephen Engle of the Quebec Labrador Foundation Community Mapping project. This report details the unique natural significance of the High Peaks region and makes recommendations for additional protection.



The Study identified a high diversity of ecological communities, a high proportion of rare plants and animals, a lack of fragmentation by development, and a significant role this region plays in necessary landscape connectivity between New York's Adirondacks, northern Vermont and New Hampshire, and the Canadian Maritimes.

This economically and ecologically important area, with opportunities for forestry, recreation, and natural resource based tourism, is in need of significantly more conservation protection than it currently enjoys and is MATLT's highest priority.

Praise for MATLT's Ecological Study of the High Peaks Region from Pamela Underhill, Park Manager, Appalachian National Scenic Trail

"It is beautifully done and presents a compelling case for conservation. Congrats to all of you for this fine piece of work. I would think it will prove to be a valuable tool as you move forward with your efforts."

The full study report is available on our website at www.matlt.org. Printed copies cost \$25 and will be available only if demand is such that we print additional copies. Contact Carole Haas at our office if you are interested chaas@matlt.org

Bob Cummings elected President of MATLT



At our annual meeting on June 5, Bob Cummings, long time advocate of the Appalachian Trail and land conservation in Maine, was elected President of the Board of Directors.

Bob is one of the founding board of directors of the Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust, We ran a story on Bob in the fall of 2005 when he was awarded the Appalachian Trail Conference highest award for service to the Appalachian Trail.

This excerpt from Dave Field's presentation of that award sums up the great respect and appreciation we all have for Bob.

"At a recent Maine Legislative hearing regarding wind power, a well-known Representative rose after one person had completed his testimony to comment on the testifier's character and contributions to Maine and its wild lands. The Representative said that there had been three people who had profoundly affected the wild lands of Maine during the twentieth century. The first was Percival P. Baxter, benefactor of Baxter State Park. The third person identified by the speaker, because of his efforts to recover the Public Lot lands for Maine people, was our first nominee. After the Representative had spoken, the hearing room exploded with a standing ovation to honor a quiet, humble man with a passion for wild lands protection."



Carole Haas named MATLT's first executive director

Carole has worked for MATLT as Administrative Director since August 2003. She has been active in the conservation community for the more than a decade, serving as a board member of the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust and the Cape Elizabeth Conservation Commission as well as serving as chair of the Maine Sierra Club and the National Sierra Club Wildlands Campaign Committee. Her previous professional experience includes 10 years working with Non-Profits as a computer software developer specializing in software for membership and contribution management. She has recently been awarded a graduate level certificate in Non-Profit management from the Muskie School of Public Service.



New members of our board of directors

Please Visit our web site at www.matlt.org for more detailed information about MATLT and our activities.