The Board and Staff of the Downeast Coastal Conservancy are pleased to announce that on February 15, 2018 the Downeast Coastal Conservancy achieved national recognition as an accredited land trust through the Land Trust Accreditation Commission (LTAC), joining 398 accredited land trusts across the nation. Achieving accreditation means that DCC has demonstrated its commitment to national best practices standards for nonprofit management and land conservation excellence. Being able to display the seal of accreditation means that DCC deserves the public’s trust in DCC’s delivery of high quality, permanent land conservation work.

The process of becoming accredited required DCC to make a significant commitment in time, lasting over three years, and money. DCC undertook a rigorous review and revision of all of DCC’s policies and practices, and provided extensive documentation in an application which filled three large three-ring binders. The LTAC examined DCC’s accreditation application, interviewed DCC and evaluated multiple sources of information. To become accredited, DCC successfully demonstrated its compliance with each of the twenty-six accreditation indicator practices based on LTA’s Land Trust Standards and Practices, a set of ethical and technical guidelines for the responsible operation of a land trust.

The LTAC is an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance (LTA), the national land conservation organization, which represents 1,000 member land trusts and 4.6 million members nationwide. LTAC’s award of accreditation to DCC recognizes DCC’s commitment to sound finances, ethical conduct, responsible nonprofit governance, permanent stewardship of its conservation properties, and continuous quality improvement in its work as a land trust. To continue to meet national standards, DCC will have to renew its accreditation status every five years.

The arduous process of becoming accredited made DCC a stronger organization. Accreditation will result in even greater confidence in DCC by our members, donors, partners and communities. Accreditation confirms DCC’s capacity to conserve special lands in Downeast Maine for present and future generations.
As we carry on about our increasing desire to enjoy such beauty in nature here. Spring reminds us of how lucky we are summer is almost upon us. All of the flora and fauna of spring, the beautiful and diverse landscapes, so vital to so many aspects of life in Maine to protect much of our natural environment. We are in a unique position here in Maine to protect much of our natural environment. We are in a unique position here in Washington County where we have the last remaining 100 miles or so of relatively undeveloped Atlantic Seaboard watershed. We still have a chance to protect that which is so critical to our way of life and our rural economy. We may possibly be the last generation able to save such a threatened resource. Increasing threats from development, climate change and associated weather patterns, and political threats to land trusts and conservation, all elevate the importance of our critical mission here at DCC. In my role, I will never lose sight of the fact that our critical work in conservation must be a never ending effort, however this effort is only possible with the network of supporters. Is there a more worthwhile legacy we can leave than ensuring our magnificent natural wonders are protected for many generations to come? I ask that you continue support of DCC’s work and take some time to enjoy the properties you have helped to protect. Pack a lunch, bring your friends and family, and make time for yourself. Lose yourself in the wonders of our properties! Lastly, be proud of the fact that we have protected these lands because of supporters like you. It is with the greatest pride that I now serve as Executive Director of DCC. Thank you and I look forward to meeting with as many of you as possible, or seeing you out on the trails. We always welcome visitors to our office, or I can be reached at any time at (207) 214-5860.

By Jon Southern

A Note from the Executive Director

“Is there a more worthwhile legacy we can leave than ensuring our magnificent natural wonders are protected for many generations to come?”

DCC Welcomes 4 Incoming Board Members

DCC is thrilled to welcome Cat Cannon, Becky Lee, Anne Baker, and Paul Reinstein to the DCC board! While each of them brings to the table a diverse background of knowledge, skills and experience; they all share a passion for the natural world. You can learn more about Cat, Becky, Anne, and Paul by visiting the DCC website.

Volunteer Voices

How to Love a Beach...

A group of us here in Washington County and Campobello Island were looking for an opportunity to put our beliefs into action and find a way to help care for the earth. We are a small group of Zen practitioners and decided to approach DCC and ask if we could help them in their care of one of their preserves in our lovely area. Richard Bard suggested that we help at Mowry Beach as it is a place often used by local folks, clammers, and tourists. It suited our objective in helping care for Earth and so we began. Now here’s my confession…I’m from away, The beaches of Downeast are a far cry from the lush beaches I have known in Puerto Rico, Kenya, Mexico, Dominica, and Southern California. The sand at Mowry Beach isn’t even white and there are no lovely crashing breakers! In fact, there is no water at all at low tide and it’s a poor swimming spot. But the Zen group had adopted it and I happily joined in. One of us attacked the broken boards of the boardwalk. One of us contacted a group of birdwatchers on Campobello Island who agreed to update us on their avian sightings. One brought grabbers to pry things out of sand and water. One found a trove of bags to fill with trash. One took the picked up trash to her local recycling station. We all cut and chopped weeds (defeated only by Japanese Knotweed), and all picked up bottles, cigarette Butts, plastic, sandwich wrappers, styrofoam, dog poop, shoes, boots, and of course, lobster claw bands. So, after this experience do I love Mowry Beach now? Yes! I have read that caring for something brings you to love and appreciate it just for itself. I now love the tidal flats which are alive with life and beauty, including seaweed, sponges, clams, sea and marsh birds, and special wetland birds at the boardwalk. Caring for Mowry Beach regularly gives me the chance to see it in many forms. It’s sometimes stormy, peaceful, windy, high tide, or low tide. Mowry Beach is every bit as lovely as those beaches at other places I know. Its connection to local history is also special through its history with the native tribes, the French and English explorers, the growth of the fishing and lumbering and shipping industries. In our days of being there as a group, I got to meet all sorts of local folk and tourists who enjoy and explore it too. So, how do you learn to love a place? You get involved and take care of it! Thanks to Rich and DCC for providing a place to learn this firsthand.

Karen Burnett, member of Boundless Way Zen Downeast, Roque Bluffs, ME and Central, SC

Downeast Coastal Conservancy

Board of Directors
President: Ellen Hostert, Machias
Vice President: Kara McCormick, Trescott
Treasurer: Les Coleman, Addison
Assistant Treasurer: Thad Dol ley, Machias
Secretary: Shertime Sprangers, East Machias
Assistant Secretary: Roger Clapp, Addison
Julia Arnold, Whitefield
Anne Baker, Jonesboro
Cat Cannon, Machias
David Dowley, Roque Bluffs
Becky Lee, Machias
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Paul Reinstein, Beals
Dick Sturgeon, Steuben
Bill Schlesinger, Lubec
Helen W. Walm, Westport

Advisory Council
Tom Boutumrnea, Freeport
Mark Boyer, Pembroke
Alan Brooks, Lubec
Ben Emory, Salsbury Cove
Tori Johnson, Machias
Craig Sprague, Steuben

Staff
Jon Southern, Executive Director
Matt Saccia, Land Steward
Holly Byers, Outreach Director (until April 2018)
Kyle Winslow (as of May 2018)

Karen Burnett, member of Boundless Way Zen Downeast, Roque Bluffs, ME and Central, SC
2017 Community Partners in Conservation

As members of DCC’s Community Partners in Conservation program, these businesses are helping to protect the natural landscapes and wildlife that make Downeast Maine special and significantly benefit the public. Our specific goals include conserving lands that protect public access to natural areas, recreational resources, scenic views and landscapes, biological diversity and ecological corridors, as well as climate change mitigation projects, and support the productive working landscape of our region.

Camden National Bank, Machias
Cohills Inn, Lubec
Down East Community Hospital, Machias
EBS Building Supplies, Ellsworth
Froose Title Research, LLC, Addison
Helen’s Restaurant, Machias
Kennedy Marine Engineering, Steuben
Lubec Brewing Company, Lubec
Machias Savings Bank, Machias
Phillips Investments, Lubec
Peacock House Bed & Breakfast, Lubec
Sunrise Canoe & Kayak, Machias
Tom Hitchins Architecture, Steuben
Whitney Originals, Inc., Whiting

How Does DCC Protect Land?

DCC is focused on conserving lands that make Downeast Maine special and significantly benefits the public. Our specific goals include conserving lands that protect public access to natural areas, recreational resources, scenic views and landscapes, biological diversity and ecological corridors, as well as climate change mitigation projects, and support the productive working landscape of our region.

The process of conserving land for the public often begins with someone simply motivated to protect a special place they own in Downeast Maine. Important steps that are regularly part of conveying a piece of property to a conservation organization include surveying the boundaries of the property, obtaining a professional appraisal of the real value of the property, and having an environmental hazard assessment conducted.

Our professional staff can help you decide if certain conservation option may be appropriate for you and your property.

For more information on any of these conservation options, please contact DCC’s Executive Director Jon Southern at (207) 255-4500.

SAVE THE DATES!

DCC Annual Membership Meeting & Community Picnic Sunday, June 24th
Roque Bluffs State Park
Fairy Festival Sunday, July 15th
Jonesport
2nd Annual Bad Little Trail Run Sunday, October 21st
Machias River Preserve

Additional summer activities are in the works!

Keep up to date on all our events, news and volunteer opportunities by signing up for our e-newsletter, following us on Facebook or visiting our website at www.DowneastCoastalConservancy.org.

Your 2018 Guide to DCC’s Public Access Properties

Whether you are on your first visit to Downeast Maine or have lived here many years, DCC offers access to diverse variety of lands always waiting to be explored.

Tide Mill Creek consists of a 225-acre forested peninsula featuring salt marsh, tidal inlets, and freshwater creeks and coastal views. Jonesboro, ME.

Middle River Park is located conveniently in near downtown Machias adjacent to the confluence of the Machias and Middle Rivers. Machias, ME.

Orange River Conservation Area protects one of the least developed coastal river systems remaining on the east coast and is ideal for clay paddling. Whiting, ME.

More information is available for each of our properties on our website downeastcoastalconservancy.org (with printable maps & guides) and at mainetrailfinder.com/
Our numbers are growing! Please welcome new members listed in bold.

Wendell Fleming
Benefactor

Gavin Watson
Tynan Family Charitable Trust

Poppe-Tremallo

Mr. Hugh Ross

Mike Mazzaschi and Martha Gayle Kraus

Benjamin R. & Dianna Emory

Rob and Marcia Chaffee

Foundation

Machias Savings Bank

Community Foundation

Roger & Judy Clapp

C.F. Adams Charitable Trust

Barbara Millen Boyer

Dr. Markley H. Boyer and Anne McSweeney

Kate and Tony Jans Calhoun

Allan and Susan Hoben Hildebrandt

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Dewey

Terrence Connelly

Lynn Chase

Giordano Caponigro and Victoria Hamilton-Cooke

Camden National Bank

Alfred Bigelow

Susan Jordan Bennett

James and Joanne Ausprey

Julia Arnold, M.D.

Phillips

Robert Stevens and Kathleen Ramsey Wreaths

Breakfast

Matthew Schreck Rieger

Margaret Giles

GHH Jr. Living Trust

Monica Froese and Richard R. Froese

Melissa Moncavage and Daniel Ojamaa

Lapointe

John and Diane Myles

Kathleen Noon

Mart and Karen O’Flaherty

Mr. and Mrs. Panfil stan Regan

Mr. and Mrs. William and Mary Perez

Ray and Rosemary Phillips

Robert and Margaret Moses Paulson

Cindy and Murray Phillips

Leo and Edith Wheeler

Brenton K. Bundy

Mike Mazzaschi

Ann Enright

Sarah Leffingwell

Marian Dowley

in memory of Walter William Hartnett

in memory of Patrick and Mary L. Benson

in memory of Mary L. Benson

in memory of Julia L. D. Longfellow

in memory of Helen B. Wheeler

in memory of Steve Silverman

in memory of Edie Winslow

in memory of Bob Fenney

in memory of Bob Mooney

in memory of Robert Fisher

in memory of Sandy Howard

in memory of Tom Tetreau

in honor of Steve Sheehan

in memory of Caryn Lynn Wheeler

in memory of Daniel Laman

in memory of Keating Charities

in memory of Charlotte Ford

in memory of Janice Porteous

in memory of Elizabeth Rees

in memory of John Romei

in memory of John W. Page

in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Page

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You’re Invited!

2018 Annual Meeting & Community Picnic
Sunday, June 24th, 2:00pm – 6:00pm
Roque Bluffs State Park
Entertainment by the UMM Ukulele Club

We hope you can join us at this year’s annual meeting and community picnic. There will be plenty of new faces to meet and mingle with, including DCC’s new Executive Director, Jon Southern and 4 new incoming board members. We’ll kick off the afternoon with a brief meeting to update our members and guests on what’s new at DCC, followed by a potluck picnic and entertainment by the UMM Ukulele Club.

This event will be held under the tent, rain or shine. Please bring a dish to share and consider bringing someone new along to introduce to DCC. Family friendly and all are welcome!