



## Denbow Point Preserve

### DCC Opens a New and Much Anticipated Public Property

On the Bold Coast of Downeast Maine jutting out into the Cobscook Bay in Lubec sits a hidden gem of conserved land, one of DCC's most spectacular coastal properties, Denbow Point. In 2000, the late Dr. Mark Boyer and long-time DCC member, conveyed this stunning peninsula to The Nature Conservancy (TNC). TNC later transferred the property to Quoddy Regional Land Trust, predecessor of the Downeast Coastal Conservancy. TNC retained a conservation easement that ensured an additional layer of land protection. From that easement began a lasting partnership between DCC and TNC.

This remarkable property includes forests, low-lying wetlands, and an

undeveloped shoreline along both the South Bay and Morrison Cove sides. The predominant forest cover is red spruce and northern white cedar; it's interspersed with mature sugar maples and loads of apple trees! Ruffed grouse, red fox, moose and deer can be found on the property. Eagles, loons, and shore birds can be observed as they stop to feed or rest.

Historically, Denbow Point was pasture land. A stone wall and old fences mark that use; its second growth forest has now filled in. As with other rocky outcrops in Lubec, Denbow Point was mined for lead ore. While the mine is no longer active, old rock

*continued on page 4...*

### Inside This Edition

- 2 Looking Forward. Looking Back.
- 3 Staff Transitions
- 5 Meet Our New Board Members
- 6 Dealing with Winter
- 8 Learning New Skills, Opening New Horizons
- 9 Nurturing a Conservation Ethic
- 10 5th Annual Trail Run
- 11 Thank you to our 2021 Community Partners in Conservation





# Looking Forward. Looking Backward.

A Note from Executive Director Jon Southern



Let's face it; this pandemic has persisted longer than most of us ever imagined. Few of us remain untouched by loss -- family members, friends, way of life, that old sense of security. Nonetheless, we continue to lean into that cold wind in front of us. We feel a sense of pride that DCC has turned challenges into new and innovative ways of working and coping. As 2022 approaches, the DCC staff and volunteers continue to examine how to face the next new set of challenges. We also take this end-of-the-year moment to evaluate this summer's work and the lessons learned. How should we grow to meet our present and future conservation needs -- rising sea levels, increasing storm damage, altered precipitation patterns and wear and tear on our preserves?

This year, DCC effected a major re-envisioning of our strategic plan. We aim to expand our mission and refocus our role to confront broader ecological challenges both from within and beyond our region. This plan embraces a targeted expansion into Environmental Education. It also highlights the need for stronger, more effective, fundraising, particularly

to raise monies essential to meet the stewardship needs of our growing portfolio of conserved lands. Through this planning process, we welcome closer relationships with other conservation partners where we share overlapping areas, match limited resources, and merge energies.

DCC's Board of Directors has added three highly talented new members this year with Chris Bartlett, marine scientist from Maine Sea Grant; Lyman Holmes, probate judge from Washington County; and Matt Mandino, finance and accounting specialist from the Anchorage Capital Group. These new members bring added depth, knowledge, and energies to our Board and will help us move strongly forward in the third decade of the 2000s. DCC has also expanded its supporting committees. The Outreach Committee, with its new focus of Outreach and Education, now sees more community members joining its ranks. Each of them brings fresh ideas with which to engage families, youth and adults in the outdoors. Likewise, others are volunteering to help us steward trails and monitor our proper-

ties. We celebrate this enthusiasm and shared passion for our environment!

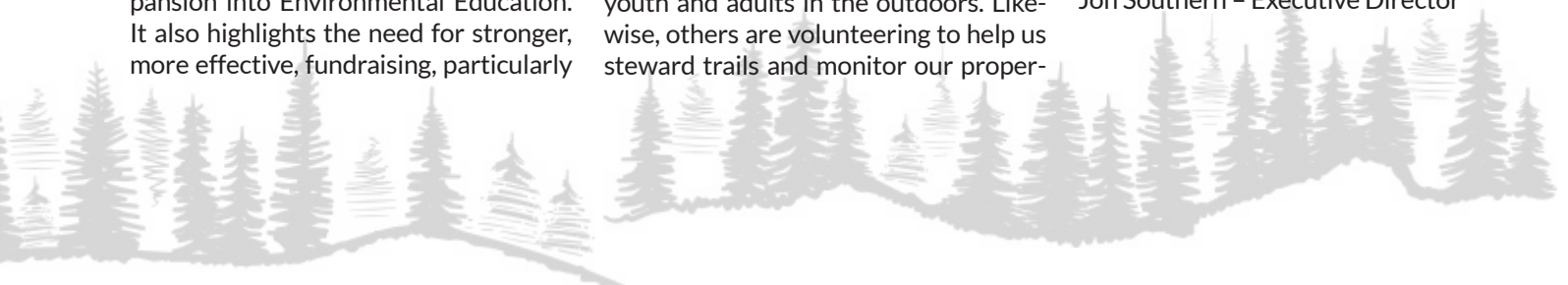
DCC's biggest change this year is the departure of Stewardship Director Kyle Winslow. Kyle has accepted the exciting new position of Regional Steward for the Maine Coast Heritage Trust, one of our partners in conservation. Kyle's commitment and service to DCC over the past three years was nothing short of exceptional. We wish him success in his new position and look forward to working with him in a different capacity. Joining the DCC team in November in the position of Stewardship Director is Ryan Mola. We are so pleased to welcome him! Ryan is excited to take on this rewarding role. DCC is fortunate to be able to recruit such talented team players.

This summer, DCC coordinated with one of our conservation partners, the Butler Conservation Foundation, to create a stunning new recreation opportunity. Public access has now been added through the construction of a very impressive trail at our Denbow Point Preserve in Lubec. The new trail provides the visitor a lovely walk through apple groves and wetlands out to expansive views of the Cobscook Bay at the far north end of the preserve.

Even as we get caught up in the growing whirlwind of pandemic, holidays, and wintry weather challenges, I hope you will join me in reflecting on the amazing accomplishments this small team has achieved because of your ongoing support of DCC. Please join us for a hike, a canoe trip, a family exploration at one of our many wonderful preserves. We thank you as always for your ongoing support and wish you the best for the holiday season. May 2022 keep you in good health and bring you better times.

Regards

Jon Southern – Executive Director



## Staff Transitions at DCC!

This fall, we said farewell to our hard-working Stewardship Director Kyle Winslow. Kyle has served DCC since summer of 2018. Kyle has lovingly cared for, maintained, and improved every single property in the DCC constellation. We will miss his energy, passion, and drive! Saying goodbye is never easy but all of us at DCC are excited for Kyle in his new position as a Regional Steward at Maine Coast Heritage Trust. We wish Kyle the best and look forward to working with him in his new role. Kyle has done a wonderful job in taking DCC's Stewardship to a strong position! We will continue to build upon Kyle's accomplishments with a new and expanding stewardship team.



Cam Leavitt, DCC's summer intern, has accepted a part-time Stewardship Assistant position with DCC for the fall of 2021. In addition to completing his senior year at UMaine Machias, Cam has been working hard this fall to continue annual monitoring and maintenance of DCC properties and preserves. Read more about Cam's accomplishments in his article on page 8.

**We are also excited to announce our new Stewardship Director, Ryan Mola!**

Ryan is an avid outdoorsman who resides in Dennysville, Maine. His love for wildlife began while fishing as a child,



and has continued to build through years of hunting, hiking, and camping. Originally from Andover, Massachusetts, Ryan first traveled to Washington County for college. Here, he completed his Biology degree with a Wildlife Concentration from the University of Maine at Machias in 2020. Ryan first began working outdoors with the Lincoln Conservation Department in Massachusetts, where he created trails and helped manage multiple properties for a summer. Following his time in Lincoln, he spent 2 years working as a wildland firefighter in South Idaho, including a season with Twin Falls Helitack. Ryan is now back to living in Downeast Maine and is excited to conserve the land with DCC.

**We asked Ryan, "Why is Downeast Maine the place where you want to put down roots?"**

I have had the opportunity to work in and travel to a wide variety of locations around the United States. Some of the most memorable places I have been able to work at (besides in New England) include Alaska, Wyoming, and Idaho. I enjoy observing the diverse ecosystems throughout the country, in addition to creating lasting friendships along the way. Washington County Maine has so much to offer, and in my opinion, no other place in the country can match it.

The local community here is filled with like-minded outdoorsmen like me. The culture of the area makes it easy to make friends and find activities to enjoy with one another. I am fortunate to have made so many friends at UMM, and I continue to partake in my favorite hobbies with them.

In addition, the landscapes and wildlife here are hard to beat. The cliffs and spruce-fir forests along the Bold Coast are among the most beautiful places I've seen. I enjoy spending time in these forests because they are unique and full of different types of life. While outdoors, one of my favorite things to experience is the smell of the fir trees while hunting or hiking. It just feels right to me.

Another often overlooked and remarkable quality of this area is the night skies. The northern coast of Maine has the darkest night skies I have seen. The abundance of stars lights up the sky so bright that you could almost read a book beneath them. When the conditions are right, you may even see the northern lights.

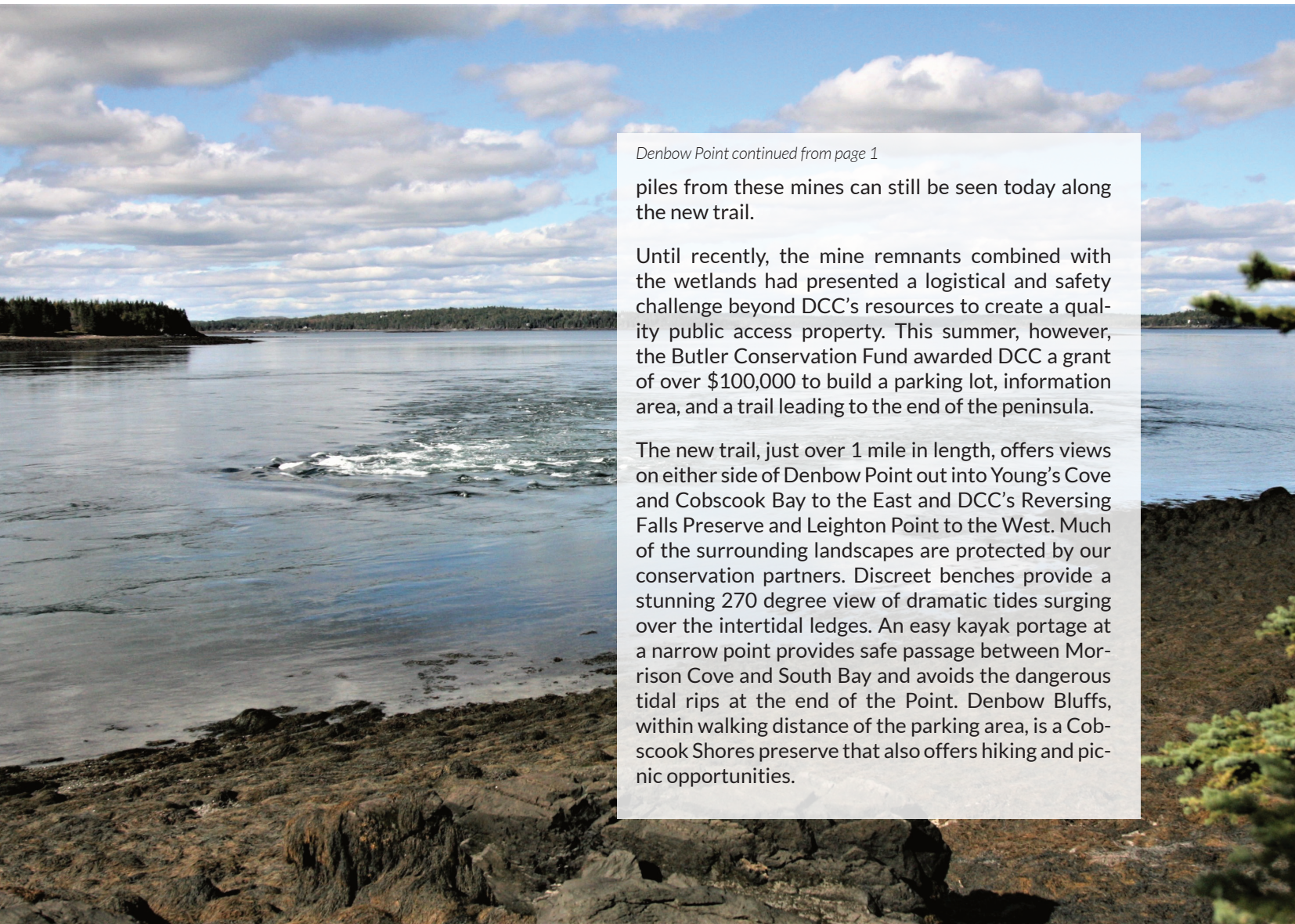
Downeast Maine has abundant wildlife, friendly supportive people, and is heavily forested and remote. I am excited to settle in here for the long run.

**What influenced your decision to join our team at DCC?**

It's been my goal to conserve wildlife in Washington County since I began college. I am passionate about conservation, building trails, studying wildlife, and managing ecosystems. When I saw that DCC was in need of a Stewardship Director, I knew it would be the perfect position for me to express those work interests. With experiences gained from other jobs, I believe I can positively influence DCC as a whole.

Conservation is important work. It is a tool which allows local wildlife and the community to grow together. I hope that people many years from now will have the same experience hiking, fishing, hunting, and birdwatching as I do





*Denbow Point continued from page 1*

piles from these mines can still be seen today along the new trail.

Until recently, the mine remnants combined with the wetlands had presented a logistical and safety challenge beyond DCC's resources to create a quality public access property. This summer, however, the Butler Conservation Fund awarded DCC a grant of over \$100,000 to build a parking lot, information area, and a trail leading to the end of the peninsula.

The new trail, just over 1 mile in length, offers views on either side of Denbow Point out into Young's Cove and Cobscook Bay to the East and DCC's Reversing Falls Preserve and Leighton Point to the West. Much of the surrounding landscapes are protected by our conservation partners. Discreet benches provide a stunning 270 degree view of dramatic tides surging over the intertidal ledges. An easy kayak portage at a narrow point provides safe passage between Morrison Cove and South Bay and avoids the dangerous tidal rips at the end of the Point. Denbow Bluffs, within walking distance of the parking area, is a Cobscook Shores preserve that also offers hiking and picnic opportunities.

*Staff Transitions continued from page 3*

today. In addition, I hope that the wilderness in the local area stays abundant and lively. I am excited to be a part of the DCC team, and look forward to working hard as the Stewardship Director!

### **What is your favorite Outdoor Activity?**

Fishing is my favorite outdoor activity. Many people would probably say that I am obsessed with it, and they are probably right. When I was a kid, I always struggled to catch fish. One day, I vividly remember going out with my dad

and catching a bunch. I caught more this day than I did my whole life, and just like that, my passion for fishing began. I asked people questions, did research, and fished as much as I could. Being about 10 years old, I didn't really have many other responsibilities anyways.

I eventually started learning about the different species of fish (both fresh and saltwater) and set goals to catch them. The more I went out to different lakes, ponds, rivers, and bays, the more I came to appreciate the outdoors. I not only started to enjoy fishing for catching

fish, but also for being in the woods surrounded by wildlife.

To this day I continue to fish whenever I possibly can. I enjoy catching a variety of fish from haddock to catfish, and my favorite spot is on the Merrimack River in Massachusetts. There is a wide variety to catch there, and I most commonly fish the bottom for the carp and catfish.

Ryan can be reached at [ryan@downeastcoastalconservancy.org](mailto:ryan@downeastcoastalconservancy.org).



## New Board Members Join DCC's Conservation Mission



**Lyman Holmes**

Lyman Holmes grew up in Bangor but visited his grandparents frequently in Machias. Since 1964, Lyman has lived in Machias most of his adult years. He graduated from Machias Memorial High School and the University of Maine. In the early 1970s, he spent three summers working as a ranger in Glacier National Park. After Vanderbilt University School of Law, Lyman maintained a private practice in real estate until retirement in 2018. He continues to serve as Judge of Probate for Washington County.

Lyman holds deep connections to Machias at many levels. His ancestors ar-

rived in Machias in 1765. Three of them later served during the Revolutionary War. Unsurprisingly, Lyman maintains a long-standing interest in history, historic preservation, and land conservation.

"My children loved to sled at what is now Middle River Preserve. I was impressed that DCC too saw great value in preserving that property -- once threatened with subdivision and development. Now this special place can be enjoyed by all of us today as well as those next generations to come."



**Chris Bartlett**

Chris Bartlett grew up in midcoast Maine and moved to Eastport shortly after college. Chris, Connie, and their three children continue to call Eastport home. Together they explore the wilds of Washington County.

Chris says, "My first involvement with DCC was assisting with a preliminary bird survey on Rodgers Island in Cobscook Bay. I enjoyed my interactions with DCC staff and wanted to look for more opportunities to support this organization's efforts. Jon Southern must have read my mind and asked me to join the board this summer.

My experience in marine research and education for the University of Maine Sea Grant Program fits well with DCC's mission to conserve essential habitats and engage people in the stewardship of our natural resources. As a board member, I want to make more people aware of the public opportunities that DCC's conservation efforts provide for all of us. My favorite places in Downeast are conserved lands and I want to ensure that they will be accessible for generations to come."



**Matt Mandino**

Matt Mandino was born and raised in Connecticut but has deep roots on Cape Split. He fell in love with the rugged beauty of the Downeast coast during family visits each summer. He is looking forward to becoming more deeply involved with DCC and doing his part to help preserve and protect the timeless natural wonder of Washington County for future generations to enjoy as he has for many years.

Matt earned his bachelor's degree in history and economics at the College of William and Mary in Virginia and a

master's degree in accounting from the University of Southern California. He began his career in public accounting with Deloitte & Touche in New York, serving a range of clients primarily in the asset management industry. Matt is currently employed by Anchorage Capital Group; he has held a variety of roles in finance and investment research since joining the firm in 2014. Matt is a licensed CPA and a CFA charterholder. He spends most of his time in Addison with his partner where he is able to embrace his lifelong love of nature and the outdoors.



# Dealing with Winter

By DCC's Board President Anne Baker

Winter in Maine can be challenging for those who live here year-round. We humans may complain about the short days, cold nights, and snow and ice, but compared to other Downeast inhabitants we have it pretty easy. We get out our lined jeans and woolen sweaters, make sure the pantry is well-stocked and the woodpile is sufficiently large, and hunker down until spring.

Mammals and birds, who are warm-blooded just like us, face two major challenges during winter, finding food and staying warm. Lacking lined-jeans, woolen sweaters, and woodpiles, they stock up on body fat, eating as much as they can in the fall, then, for some, go to sleep for a long winter's nap.

Little brown bats, the most common bat Downeast, are insect eaters, and insects are scarce in the winter months. The bats deal with this by going into a deep sleep (hibernating) in small clusters in caves, unused barns and storage sheds, and anywhere else they can find suitable cover. They begin accumulating fat during the months leading up to winter, often adding 20 – 30% of their body weight. While in hibernation they can slow their heart rate to as low as ten beats per minute (it's normally closer to 300-400 beats per minute). Their metabolism slows down and body temperature drops to just a few degrees above air temperature. Hibernating bats may not even take a breath for up to an hour! Clumping together during hibernation helps them conserve body heat, which conserves energy, as does lowering their

body temperature and heartbeat. Thus bats can survive on just a few grams of stored fat for five to six months until spring arrives.

Chipmunks make the most of food when it's readily available in the late summer and early fall, storing nuts, seeds, and mushroom in areas that are part of an underground system of tunnels and chambers. Carpeting one of the chambers with a deep bed of leaves provides a warm place to slumber during the winter months. Although they drop

defecate during the time they're in the den. However female bears will give birth to and nurture young throughout the denning period and can wake readily if disturbed.

Raccoons don't hibernate, but exhibit periods of dormancy, staying asleep in their winter dens for a month or more at a time, particularly during the harshest winter weather. During warmer days they may leave their dens to feed on acorns and other nuts, but as a cautionary tactic put on as much as 30% extra body fat as winter approaches.



Snowshoe hare at Ingersoll Point  
by Paul Powers

Red squirrels, snowshoe hares, white-tailed deer, and native deer mice are active throughout the winter and have various adaptations for finding food and staying warm. Squirrels put on additional fat throughout the fall, and store nuts and cones for the winter in large caches in hollow trees, underground dens, or hollows at the base of trees. They supplement this winter food store by feeding on terminal buds of conifers and bark, both available year-round. During the worst winter days, they hole up in tree cavities and even spend time in burrows beneath the snow.

For the snowshoe hare a combination of changing coat color (the insulating qualities of its white coat are about 27% better than those of its brown summer coat); putting on weight beginning in Oct; and switching from a summer diet of grasses other green plants, and young leaves of shrubs to a winter diet of twigs and buds of cedar and pine allow it to stay active all winter long.

White-tailed deer also put on weight in the fall in preparation for winter. Grazers on grass, forbs, and fruit during the summer when food is abundant, they

their body temperature and decrease their breath rate to conserve energy, they are able to wake periodically to visit their food "kitchens" for a mid-winter snack.

Bears are sometimes described as "mid-level hibernators". They increase their body weight in the fall, sometimes as much as doubling it before going into their dens. Once in the den their body temperature decreases and their heart rate drops from 40 to 10 beats per minute. They won't eat, drink, urinate or



turn to browsing on winter buds and twigs of maples, birches, viburnums, and white cedar in the winter. Bedding down together in deer yards helps conserve body heat during winter's cold.

Although some birds, such as chickadees, grouse, and turkeys, are resident throughout the winter, many others head south for the worst winter months, along with the human "snowbirds" who also migrate to warmer climes. Feathers are good insulation and chickadee plumage is denser than that of any other bird their size. Finding a sheltered perch, or perching in a tree cavity, tucking its head under its wing, and fluffing up its feathers help keep the chickadee warm at night. But it also has to burn fat to keep its body temperature up, and studies have shown that chickadees are able to consume enough food during the day to replenish the body fat they lose during cold winter nights. Turkeys also build up fat stores in the fall, but must fly to a roost each night, so they can't get too fat to fly. They manage by storing enough fat to get them through short spells when there's snow cover, and they replenish their fat stores once they can forage through the leaf litter to find seeds, nuts, and dormant invertebrates. Grouse do a poor job of storing fat, which means that they must keep eating throughout the winter. Buds, twigs, and catkins make up a ruffed grouse's winter diet, but dining in the winter exposes them to predators like hawks and owls. To minimize their exposure, the grouse eat fast. A ruffed grouse can eat enough buds in 20 minutes to make it through the day. During times when it's cold and there's little snow cover, ruffed grouse stay warm by roosting within the dense needles of conifers. Deep snow makes life easier for the ruffed grouse. When the

snow is a foot deep or more and fluffy, ruffed grouse plunge into it head first from a tree. Using its wings and feet the grouse extends the tunnel, sometimes to as much as 10 feet. The temperature in this snow igloo may warm to 32 degrees Fahrenheit and it rarely falls below 20 degrees—even when it is much colder outside. This tunnel helps the grouse conserve energy, so it needs



*White-tailed Deer at Middle River Park  
by Mikki Van Hoose*

less food. Less time spent in the open also means less time being exposed to predators.

Cold-blooded animals such as reptiles and amphibians have body temperatures the same as that of their surroundings. This means that in winter they must find places where it isn't freezing. Snakes find shelter from freezing temperatures in holes, under rocks or logs, or in tree stumps. As temperatures

drop a snake's body temperature drops, slowing its heartbeat and breathing and depressing its metabolism until it's using very little energy. When in this state, termed brumation, snakes will sleep for long periods of time. Aquatic turtles dig into the mud at the bottom of ponds where the water doesn't freeze and dramatically slow down their metabolism, thus reducing both their energetic needs and their need for oxygen. Aquatic frogs such as the leopard frog and American bullfrog also typically spend the winter in water bodies that don't freeze, lying on top of the mud or only partially buried. Terrestrial toads burrow deep into the soil, safely below the frost line. The common red-backed salamander uses existing cracks and burrows, sometimes going down as far as three feet. Wood frogs, spring peepers and toads are not adept at digging and instead seek out deep cracks and crevices in logs or rocks, or just dig down as far as they can in the leaf litter. These hibernacula are not as well-protected from frigid weather and may freeze, along with their inhabitants. And yet frozen frogs don't die. Though ice crystals form in the body cavity, bladder and under the skin, a high concentration of glucose in the frog's vital organs acts as antifreeze and prevents them from freezing. A partially frozen frog will stop breathing, and its heart will stop beating.

A frog in this condition really is one of the living dead! When the hibernaculum warms up above freezing, the frog's frozen portions will thaw, its heart and lungs will resume activity, and it will be alive again!

So the next time you're tempted to complain about Maine's winter, think about how easy your life is compared to the other residents of Maine's winter world.



# Learning New Skills and Opening New Horizons

By Cam Leavitt

Hello, my name is Cam Leavitt. I am a fourth year student at the UMaine at Machias and currently studying recreation and tourism management and I worked as a Rockefeller Conservation intern under Kyle Winslow this summer for DCC.

I began my internship in June. My first big project was at the Machias River Preserve. Kyle and I met a number of volunteers on the Homestead Trail and together we cleared out one of the historic cellar holes for interpretation. Trees and shrubs had been filling the rock foundation over the years to the point where one could barely see the hole. I was grateful to meet our volunteers, because I worked with many of them a lot more throughout the summer. I learned how to operate a line trimmer that day; it would become a skill I would use almost every day after.

Once I became more familiar with DCC properties, I began helping Kyle to maintain them. I cut back trails, mowed grass, and addressed small management issues like touching up blazes on trails and correcting signage. Sometimes I worked with Kyle on these projects and sometimes I set out on my own to brush out a trail. This kind of work would eventually extend all the way up to Lubec to

places like Mowry Beach and Pike Lands Preserve. While this work could be exhausting, I always walked away from each project with a strong sense of accomplishment.

The most memorable day of my summer was the day we monitored some of our coastal properties by boat. Kyle and I met Board member, Robin Pinto, and her husband, Philip, at the Roque Bluffs boat launch. We went out on the water for the day to take a look at some hard-to-access properties. It was a beautiful day, and I'd never been out on the water in that area before. I remember being blown away by how fast we could travel from Roque Bluffs to Jonesboro over the water as opposed to traveling by car via Route 1! I have been able to explore so many new places in the area I grew up in thanks to this internship.

Towards the end of the summer, Kyle and I focused more on monitoring properties. That's something we do to keep tabs on the land we preserve. It's useful to have that data because if something happened on the property like a forest fire, we could look back on the reports

and take the most appropriate steps for rehabilitation. Kyle and I would visit three or four properties a day while monitoring. We'd usually check the boundaries of a property and note any "problem spots" that might be present. A

problem spot could look something like an eroding shoreline or a muddy section of trail that we like to check up on every year to record further change.

The biggest projects Kyle and I worked on were at Vining Lake Preserve to get it ready for the grand opening in August. We built bridges, leveled out an entire section of trail, and maintained the trail system for the event. We

definitely worked our hardest at Vining, and it was worth it to see everyone at the opening enjoying the preserve and having a good time.

Even though my internship has ended, I am still working for the DCC as a part-time staff member of the team. I can't even explain how awesome that is! I'm very fortunate to have gotten the chance to work with DCC as an intern and even more so to stay on with this organization now as a steward.



Cam Leavitt

## New Vining Lake Trail Now Open!



Our formal trail system that highlights the ecological and recreational features of Vining Lake Community Preserve is now complete. With the help from professional trail builder, Pete Coleman, our staff and a few hardy volunteers have completed the woods trail that fully loops around the lake. Built with sustainability in mind, the 1.4 mile trail features several sections of bog bridging and construction projects. The trail carries you through a mixed forest of beautiful cedar, hemlock, spruce, and fir, home to a diverse array of species. Hikers

will experience numerous glimpses of the 26-acre lake. Recreational users on the lake will still enjoy the beautiful, undeveloped lake essentially alone, a quintessential Maine experience since you cannot see the new trail from the lake.

Experience Vining's new trail for yourself! Join us at our upcoming "A Downeast Day on the Ice" hosted in partnership with Downeast Lakes Land Trust on January 29th at Vining Lake Community Preserve.

*Escape to Vining Lake by Photo Contest Finalist Robin Hadlock Seeley.*



## Nurturing a Conservation Ethic

*Family Nature Club at Machias River Preserve*

*By DCC's Membership and Outreach Director  
Cathy Lookabaugh*

A major priority for DCC is to get our kids out on the land. We are building our environmental education programming slowly, taking small steps to create a larger initiative that will endure. We believe that in doing so, we will cultivate the next generation of stewards.

In 2021, we engaged youth in a number of innovative projects including bi-weekly outdoor classroom programs. "I found salamander eggs!" shouted one fifth grade student during her outdoor lesson on biotic and abiotic factors of the ecosystem. "I know this is a Balsam Fir... because it has short needles, that are soft, and growing flat!" exclaimed another when studying his dichotomous key during a tree ID lesson.

We recognize that our reach can be the greatest when we deliver meaningful programs within our local schools in

tandem with their classroom curriculum. Starting with only two fifth grade cohorts, our programming has expanded to a true partnership in which multiple educators utilize us as a resource to encourage students to deepen their learning through outdoor observation and investigation. While this learning happens gradually, we have provided over 50 hours of outdoor lessons to over 100 students since our pilot effort in September of 2020.

We also recognize that cultivating the inherent strengths of young people is best done through the power of long-term relationships and with the willingness to meet youth in a wide range of aspects of their lives. In addition to school programming, we have led scouting groups, worked with community centers, conducted volunteer workdays, hosted a community-based family nature club and created a self-guided StoryTrail. These programs have attracted over 150 youth to DCC preserves this year.

Nature can be a transformative experience for kids both in school and at home. Our hope is to educate and empower them over time to develop a deeper connection to nature. If today's youth have regular opportunities to go outside, collect bugs, identify trees, watch a bird fly overhead or walk quietly through the woods, when they become our leaders, they will choose to safeguard our natural world.

This programming is supported by the generosity of both grantmakers and our membership. You can help bring outdoor education opportunities to youth with a gift to DCC!

*Youth Explorers Program at LCOC*







## Downeast Coastal Conservancy

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Cathy Lookabaugh  
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Photo by David Kennedy

## 5th Annual Trail Run

On a cool fall Sunday morning, 55 runners and walkers took part in the 5th Annual Bad Little Trail Run hosted by Downeast Coastal Conservancy and Bold Coast Runners. The race kicked off at 9 am for the 7-mile runners and the 2.5 mile runners started close behind at 9:10 am. Both began in Whitneyville on the Sunrise Trail and crossed the Machias River on the historic railroad bridge. Runners then explored the Machias River Preserve on mostly single track trails with stretches along the river, under giant hemlocks, around a 65-acre marsh, through long-abandoned tree plantations and the Meadow Farm homestead. Runners raced over roots and rocks, traversed bog bridges, dodged a few recreational ATVs, and navigated wet holes in their efforts to cross the finish line.

Runners began returning to the start after about 30 minutes on the course.

Huge congratulations to Cedar Lenke Beeftink for being the overall winner of the 2.5 mile run and Peter Williams for being the overall 7 mile winner. Back in Whitneyville, a potluck celebration was waiting for everyone to enjoy.

This event is truly a community effort to celebrate conservation and raise awareness for the protection of Downeast Maine's wild places. DCC is grateful to the Bold Coast Runners who organize the logistics of the event. Financial sponsorship came from Machias Savings Bank, Downeast Community Hospital (who also donated medical supplies), Peter Knowles Chiropractic, and Hannaford who provided bananas for all! A large turnout of volunteers helped with everything from parking to course sweeping to ensure that no runners were left behind! Special thanks go to David Kennedy for taking photos of the day!



Klondike Mountain, Lubec



# Thank you to our 2021 COMMUNITY PARTNERS in Conservation!

The generosity of all of our members is vital to preserving those spectacular places that we love! Our Community Partners in Conservation are local businesses who are likewise passionate about conserving our natural areas that make Downeast Maine special. They aid our stewardship efforts, support educational programs to engage local youth and families, and sponsor large community events for residents and visitors alike. DCC could not succeed without them. Please help us thank our partners by giving them your support!



Peter Knowles  
Chiropractic



Cathance Lake Association

Atlantic Leadership Center



## Special Thanks to our Silent Auction Donors:

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Nina Bohlen  
Nina Jerome  
Orono Hotels  
Ray Carbone  
River Lily  
Robert McCollum  
Robert Miller  
Robin Pinto

Roque Island Gardner  
Homestead  
Starr Kopper  
Sweet Basil Cards  
Tide Mill Organic Farm  
The French Cellar  
Winter Harbor 5+10  
Wooleez of Maine





# DOWNEAST COASTAL CONSERVANCY

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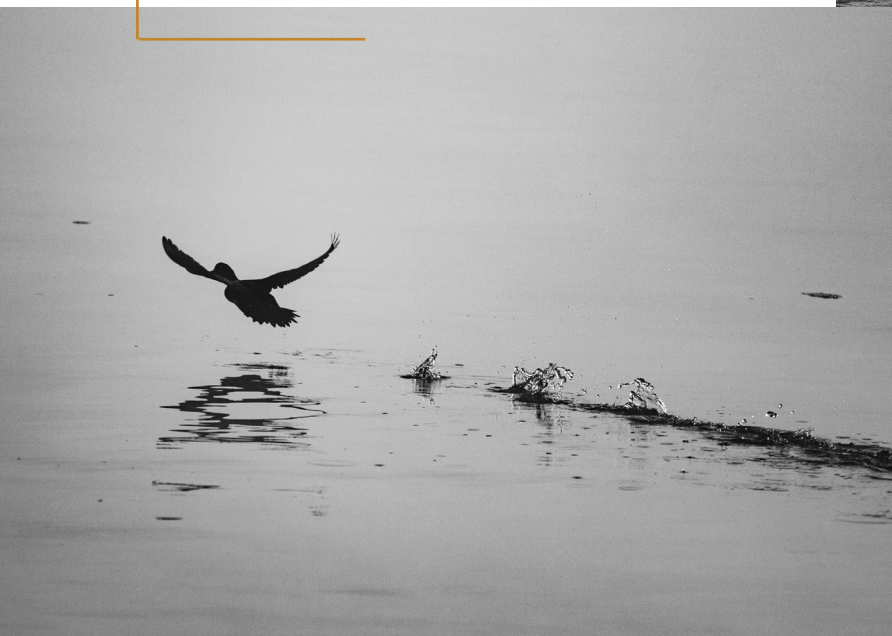
Facebook: facebook.com/DowneastCoastalConservancy

*The mission of the Downeast Coastal Conservancy is to conserve essential ecological habitats, engage the local community, and foster an environment where wildlife and people thrive in coastal Washington County, Maine.*

*Printed on recycled paper.*

## 2021 “Inspired by Nature” Photo Contest Winners

In the category “Serenity of Nature” the winner is Marc Chalufour with a photo of a hooded merganser taking flight on an early October morning at Machias River Preserve.



In the category “People Enjoying the Land” the winner is Amanda Goston with a photo of the Downeast Woman’s Book Club at Sheep Island.