FOMB Speaker Bios 2017-2018

Thanks for series support and door prizes from Patagonia, Inc.–Freeport

All talks 7:00pm at Curtis Memorial Library, Brunswick, unless noted

October 11, 2017
Be Tick Smart
Emer Smith

"Be Tick Smart: Prevention Starts with You"

Emer Smith, MPH, is a Field Epidemiologist for the Infectious Disease and Epidemiology Program of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. She investigates cases of reportable infectious diseases and conditions, including various vector-borne illnesses, in the Cumberland District of Maine. Prior to her current role, she was employed with the Maine CDC HIV, STD, & Viral Hepatitis Program, the Rensselaer County Department of Health (NY), and Bangor Region Public Health and Wellness. She earned her MPH and BS (Human Biology) from University at Albany (SUNY). She currently resides in Windham with her bearded partner and her cat, Clue.

Most Mainers are no strangers to ticks, but what can you do about them and the diseases they carry? In this we will learn about far more than Lyme disease. "Tick Talk" attendees will learn about ticks, common tick-borne diseases and how frequently they occur, and what you can do to prevent ticks from affecting you and your loved ones.

November 08, 2017 (Beam Classroom-Visual Arts Bldg. , Bowdoin College)
Of Sturgeon, Crocodiles & Ice
Jon Turk

Photo: Erik Boomer

Jon grew up on the shores of a wooded lake in Connecticut, attended Phillips Academy, Andover and then Brown University. He earned a Ph.D. in organic chemistry at the University of Colorado, in 1971. The same year, in honor of Earth Day 1, Jon co-authored the first environmental science textbook in the United States. It sold well over 100,000 copies and spearheaded the development of environmental science curricula in North America. At the same time, hounded by restless spirits, Turk began wandering the globe, visiting people and places that were so far from his childhood upbringing.

Now 70 years old, still blessed with good health and slowing down considerably, Jon still lives in a world of "walking meditation." Body, Mind, and Nature. Hunter, Shaman, and Tundra.

Turk has two daughters, **Reeva Saria** a veterinarian and **Noey Turk** an organic farmer as well as three grandchildren. In the spring, summer, and fall, Jon and his wife, Nina Maclean, live in a wondrous house/cabin in the Montana forest, eating fresh vegetables from Nina's garden. In winter, they live in a two-bedroom apartment in Fernie, B.C., amid great skiing.

In all the glory and tragedy, the focus and the synchronicity, the serenity and the madness, Jon's life has become a journey seeking sanity within this oil-soaked, internet-crazed, consumer-oriented modern world. This journey is reflected in his relationship with family, as well as, **writing**, **public speaking**, and **expeditions**.

From Merrymeeting Bay to the arctic and the jungles far beyond, we are all connected. Over many decades, noted expeditioner Jon Turk has kayaked across the North Pacific and around Cape Horn, mountain biked through the Gobi desert, made first climbing ascents of big walls on Baffin Island and circumnavigated Ellesmere Island by ski and kayak. Jon's life and times; people and places, in the far north and other remote areas, has become a journey he loves to share and all the more relevant with our climate changing at a pace unprecedented in modern times. In this illustrated lecture, Turk will reflect on interconnections between the North Atlantic, Arctic, and other regions of the globe.

Cosponsored by Friends of Merrymeeting Bay and the Bowdoin College Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum.

http://www.jonturk.net/crocodiles-and-ice/

December 13, 2017
The Amazing Sea Lamprey
Steve Coghlin

Dr. Coghlan is an Associate Professor of Freshwater Fisheries Ecology at UMO. He joined the faculty of the Wildlife Ecology Department in September 2006, with research interests encompassing individual- and community-level processes relating to applied fisheries ecology and management. He is working closely with state and federal agencies in building a collaborative research program around issues important to the ecology and management of Maine's freshwater fish and aquatic habitats, focusing on the interactive ecology of native and exotic species, the effects of land-use patterns on aquatic communities and habitats, niche partitioning and interspecific competition, and bioenergetic implications of resource selection.

Specifically, current research projects include the interactive ecology of smallmouth bass, Atlantic and landlocked salmon, and brook trout; effects of dam removal on fish community structure and function of the Sedgeunkedunk Stream watershed; effects of riparian forest structure on brook trout bioenergetics in the Northern Forest; utility of CWD placement and fish relocation in conserving headwater populations brook trout; reconstructing migratory history of putative anadromous brook trout in Acadia National Park; and migratory ecology of riverine populations of round whitefish.

Dr. Coghlan teaches courses in Freshwater Fisheries Management and Statistical Ecology, and is the faculty advisor for the university's Student Subunit of the American Fisheries Society and the departmental Graduate Student Seminar Committee.

His undergraduate and graduate studies at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry focused on the juvenile ecology of landlocked Atlantic salmon in Lake Ontario tributaries, including competition with exotic salmonines, bioenergetics, feeding patterns, and demographic responses along pollution and landscape gradients. He also studied the distribution and abundance of fish and insects across central New York streams and Adirondack ponds, and taught courses in fisheries biology, ichthyology, aquatic entomology, and Adirondack field ecology. As a post-doctoral researcher, Dr. Coghlan and colleagues at Arkansas State University used otolith chemistry to infer life-history, migratory patterns, and population structure of trout in Arkansas tailwaters, and have applied these techniques towards investigating natal homing in mayflies.

Coghlan CV

Photo: Ted Lawrence/Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Among the most primitive of all vertebrate species, the sea lamprey is a parasitic fish native to the northern and western Atlantic Ocean. Due to their similar body shapes, lampreys have sometimes inaccurately been called "lamprey eels," but they are actually more closely related to sharks!

Unlike "bony" fishes like trout, cod, and herring, lampreys lack scales, fins, and gill covers. Like sharks, their skeletons are made of cartilage. They breathe through a distinctive row of seven pairs of tiny gill openings located behind their mouths and eyes.

But the anatomical trait that makes the sea lamprey an efficient killer of lake trout and other bony fishes is its disc-shaped, suction-cup mouth, ringed with sharp, horny teeth, with which it latches on to an unfortunate fish. The lamprey then uses its rough tongue to rasp away the fish's flesh so it can feed on its host's blood and body fluids. One lamprey kills about 40 pounds of fish every year.

In Maine, sea lamprey are one of our native anadromous fish. They are no longer parasitic as they ascend Maine rivers to spawn. All lampreys are anadromous. From their lake or sea habitats, they migrate up rivers to spawn (followed by the death of the spawning adults); females deposit a large number of eggs in nests made by males in the substrate of streams with moderately strong current. Larvae burrow in sand and silt bottom in quiet water downstream from spawning areas and filter-feed on plankton and detritus.[1]

After several years in freshwater habitats, the larvae undergo a metamorphosis that allows young post metamorphic lampreys to migrate to the sea or lakes and start the hematophagous feeding.[7] Some individuals can start the hematophagous feeding in the river before migrating to the sea,[8] where sea lampreys prey on a wide variety of fish.[9]

The lamprey uses its suction cup-like mouth to attach itself to the skin of a fish and rasps away tissue with its sharp, probing tongue and keratinized teeth. Secretions in the lamprey's mouth prevent the victim's blood from clotting. Victims typically die from excessive blood loss or infection. After one year of hematophagous feeding, lampreys return to the river to spawn and die, a year and a half after the completion of metamorphosis.[10]

Lampreys are considered a delicacy in some parts of Europe, including south-western France, but are not commonly eaten in the Americas.

The genome of *Petromyzon marinus* was sequenced in 2013.[15] This sequencing effort revealed that the lamprey has unusual GC-content and amino acid usage patterns compared to other vertebrates. The full sequence and annotation of the lamprey genome is available on the Ensembl genome browser.

The lamprey genome may serve as a model for developmental biology and evolution studies involving transposition of repetitive sequences. The lamprey genome undergoes drastic rearrangements during early embryogenesis in which about 20% of the germline DNA from somatic tissues is shed. The genome is highly repetitive. About 35% of the current genome assembly is composed of repetitive elements with high sequence identity.[15]

January 10, 2018 (Cram Alumni House, Bowdoin Coll., 83 Federal St., 6pm Potluck, 7pm Presentation)

A Tale of Three Privies

Lee Cranmer

Leon (Lee) Cranmer is a historical archaeologist who retired in August 2010 from the staff of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. He has a BS from Stockton University, and a BA in anthropology and MA in history/historical archaeology from the University of Maine. Lee has worked in archaeology in Maine for almost 30 years and has conducted archaeology for the state of Maine for well over 20 years. Prior to this, he spent two seasons in England doing archaeology. He has written one book and numerous articles on Maine historical archaeology and is currently working on another book on Fort Halifax, a French and Indian War period fort in Winslow, Maine. He has excavated hundreds of Maine sites for which he has written or co-authored site reports. Prior to his archaeology career, Lee spent 7 years in the Navy and is a Vietnam veteran. He lives in Somerville, Maine, with his wife Liz.

A Tale of Three Privies looks at the archaeological excavation of privies on three diverse sites, an 18th-century fort, a 19th-century farmstead, and a 19th-century urban house. From the large quantity of nearly complete artifacts from these privies, a picture of the lifestyles of the sites' occupants can be developed along with an understanding of the material culture of the time. We can also determine when these privies were filled in and even speculate as to why they were filled.

February 14, 2018

We Love Maine Bats

Steve Pelletier

Steve does bugs and bunny work in an ever changing world of technology. He's a Certified Wildlife Biologist and Licensed Forester who's made a living for over 30 years looking at trees, plants, and muddy places, as well as a whole host of furry, feathered, scaly - sometimes dead, sometimes crawly - critters. Steve has worked as a Wildlife Biologist for the US Forest Service, conducted enforcement work for the Maine DEP, and was co-founder & owner of a local ecological consulting company, Woodlot Alternatives, for 20 years until it was acquired by the Canadian, Stantec, where he continues to work today.

Steve's regularly involved in habitat & rare species assessments for a variety of development and conservation purposes and has provided expert witness testimonies and third-party reviews in both the US and Canada. He's designed and managed avian and bat studies throughout the US utilizing a variety of tools and techniques including x-band and NEXRAD radars, infra-red, thermal, and acoustic technologies. Steve designed and served as Principal Investigator of a 6-year offshore acoustic bat study in the Gulf of Maine, mid-Atlantic coast, and Great Lakes regions on behalf of the US Department of Energy. He currently serves as a Senior Principal and US Ecological Lead for Stantec, and in an advisory capacity on several local, state, and national Boards. Steve is a former FOMB Board member and former member of our Research and Advocacy Committee.

In 2015, The Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society awarded Steve its Award of Professional Achievement, the society's highest professional honor. The award recognizes Maine wildlife professionals who have distinguished themselves through a long-term commitment to the profession and advancing wildlife conservation, management, research, and public education.

"*Steve's work as a consultant not only requires him to tackle controversial issues, but also requires that he resolves those issues with practical and useful solutions that benefit natural communities and the species they support*," says Mao Teng Lin, president of the Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society. "*Steve never strays far from the core biological questions that are important. He has always done the right thing and unquestionably made a difference to our industry*."

Steve and Stantec have done extensive work on Maine bats, much of it offshore or otherwise associated with wind farms. They have expanded our knowledge of bats in Maine dramatically. We know a lot about bats in Maine, including personal observations of the influence of White Nose Syndrome (WNS) since it hit Maine 7-8 years ago. Steve will also describe more local (than wind farms and offshore data) observations, including those in and around the

Pownalborough Courthouse in Dresden. Included in the presentation will be information on the general ecology of bats, differences between hibernating and migrating species, their vulnerability to development, wind energy, and WNS. On Valentine's Day, what's not to love about bats?

March 14, 2018
Solar Energy for ME
Dylan Voorhees & Seth Berry


Dylan Voorhees


Seth Berry

Dylan Voorhees is Climate & Clean Energy Director for the Natural Resource Council of Maine. Dylan earned a B.A. from Columbia University and a master of public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, where he concentrated in environmental and energy policy. He has worked on wind power for the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs in Massachusetts, and on sustainable land use for the Vermont Forum on Sprawl. Previously he taught 8th grade.

Growing up in Vermont and being outdoors hiking and skiing, developed Dylan's love of the natural world and as a teenager he aspired to become an archaeologist. A lot of the work Dylan does is about climate change, a long-term issue and relating to some fundamentals of how civilization will operate. And so, on top of the direct politics of it, appreciating the sweep of Western civilization, how we fit in and where we are headed are themes that are still relevant to Dylan. He lives in Augusta, within walking distance of work, with his wife and three daughters.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qeqloz_Y_0A Watch Dylan trapped in Polar Bear Suit-5min.

Rep. Seth Berry is House Chair of the Maine Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, where he works to improve Mainers' access to affordable clean energy and high-speed internet. He is also Vice President for Business Development of Kennebec River Biosciences, a Maine-owned, for-profit lab working to improve the health and sustainability of aquatic farms and fisheries worldwide.

Berry is serving his ninth year in the Maine Legislature. He has previously served as House Majority Leader, Assistant Majority Leader, House Chair of the Committee on Maine's Workforce and Economic Future, and ranking Democrat on the Taxation Committee. He proudly

represents the communities of Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, and Richmond, as well as the historic community of Swan Island.

Prior to his legislative service and career in business, Berry worked for 19 years in public education, and also served as a selectboard member in Bowdoinham for 5 years. He holds a BA from Brown University and an MA from Columbia University.

For his policy work, Berry has received the Northeast Clean Energy Council's 2017 Maine Clean Energy Champion Award, the 2014 President's Award from the Maine Development Foundation for leadership on jobs and workforce measures, the 2014 Maine Children's Alliance "Giraffe" Award given to those who "stick their necks out for kids," the 2011 Prevention Award from the Maine Alliance to Prevent Substance Abuse, the 2007 Clean Air Award from the Maine Lung Association, and others.

Berry spent the 1990s teaching in inner-city New York, and most of the next decade teaching back home in rural Maine. He also taught graduate-level courses in education in both New York and Maine. In 1999 Berry won the Hexter Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Public Education Association, and his teaching was featured in *New York City's Best Middle Schools,* published by Soho Press.

He and his wife live in Bowdoinham with their two sons, where they enjoy raising their own food and cutting their own firewood.

http://www.sethberry.org/

https://legislature.maine.gov/housedems/berrys/index.html

Maine lawmakers pull plug on bill to maintain solar incentives

The governor's veto is narrowly sustained amid warnings that L.D. 1504 would raise electricity prices, leaving a plan to phase out financial inducements for rooftop panels in effect.

By Tux Turkel, Staff Writer, Portland Press Herald

The Legislature heeded warnings from Maine's largest utility company about higher electric rates Wednesday and narrowly sustained a veto by Gov. Paul LePage of a bill that would have temporarily kept the current financial incentives in place for rooftop solar panels.

The veto override easily passed in the Senate, 28-6, but it failed in the House, 88-48, falling three votes short of the two-thirds majority needed to override.

Solar backers were unhappy with L.D. 1504's defeat. "Clean energy in Maine has once again fallen victim to Gov. LePage's and utilities' anti-progress stance," said Emily Green of the Conservation Law Foundation. Staff photo by Ben McCanna

LD1504 had won strong initial support in both chambers, but that support faded in the House as Republican allies of the governor cast doubt about the bill's impact on electric customers, and even its constitutionality.

Had it survived, it also would have directed the Maine Public Utilities Commission to study the costs and benefits of solar.

The vote capped months of debate and lobbying and in many ways became a political litmus test for renewable energy. It marked the second year in a row that LePage has seen his veto of a key solar bill sustained by a narrow margin.

The vote also was a significant victory for Central Maine Power Co. The state's largest utility company had mounted a multifaceted effort to convince lawmakers of the harm that would befall electric customers if the bill became law.

Solar supporters expressed their disappointment.

"Despite the bill's overwhelming passage in June and widespread public support, clean energy in Maine has once again fallen victim to Gov. LePage's and utilities' anti-progress stance," said Emily Green, an attorney at the Conservation Law Foundation.

The Natural Resources Council of Maine, which worked hard to build support for the bill, also cited the influence of utilities in the outcome.

"Today, too many lawmakers turned their back on jobs of the future for Maine and bowed to pressure from the Governor's Office, Central Maine Power, Emera, and other utility and fossil fuel industry groups from across the nation," said Dylan Voorhees, the group's climate and clean energy director. "They failed to support the small businesses that are struggling to create and sustain jobs from Kittery to Fort Kent, and they ignored the need and desire to transition to cleaner, renewable energy sources."

A VICTORY FOR CONSUMERS?

Glen Brand, director of Sierra Club Maine, said the vote means that Maine will continue to lag behind other states in developing local, reliable and affordable solar power.

"It also means more carbon and toxic air pollution and dependence on dangerous, dirty and expensive fossil fuels," Brand said.

Unlike nearby states such as Vermont and Massachusetts, Maine doesn't offer solar incentives such as state-backed credits and rebates, or property and sales tax exemptions on solar units.

LePage declined to comment after the vote. But his communications director pointed to the governor's veto letter last month, in which he said solar incentives shift costs to the poor and elderly.

A spokesman for CMP said the vote was a victory for consumers, by protecting those who have already installed solar systems while starting to rein in costs that CMP says are shifted unfairly to non-solar customers.

"This will benefit all customers," John Carroll said.

House Republican Leader Ken Fredette, who was instrumental in marshaling opposition within his party, echoed the comments about cost shifting and said it was critical to keep power costs as low as possible for all Mainers.

"People are free to put solar on their rooftops if they choose, but other Maine ratepayers should not be forced to pay for it," he said.

Fourteen members of the House were absent for the vote, and seven Republican representatives who supported the measure when it originally passed 105-41 changed their position and voted against overriding the veto: Richard Bradstreet of Vassalboro, Rich Cebra of Naples, Carol McElwee of Caribou, Heidi Sampson of Alfred, Stedman Seavey of Kennebunkport, Tom Skolfield of Weld and Nathan Wadsworth of Hiram.

Wednesday's outcome also sets the stage for a pending rule approved by the PUC, which will gradually phase out a key financial incentive for homeowners who install solar-electric panels. That rule, which has been criticized for elements that include a requirement that new panel owners have two electric meters to record generation and use, is set to kick in Jan. 1.

But environmental activists confirmed Wednesday that they will challenge the rule in court, adding further confusion to the future of rooftop solar in Maine.

Sean Mahoney, executive vice president of the Conservation Law Foundation, said briefs are due in two weeks at the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. The suit, which will be joined by the Natural Resources Council of Maine, industrial customers and solar installers, will specifically challenge provisions in the rule that would assess a transmission charge on solar customers for the electricity that they generate and use at home.

"It's like Hannaford trying to charge me for the tomatoes and lettuce I grow at home and therefore don't have to buy from their store," Mahoney said.

BATTLING FACTIONS

The pros and cons of L.D. 1504 had been hotly debated, with supporters and detractors citing statistics about the costs and benefits of solar incentives. The parties made their case through various means, including on social media and in newspaper op-ed columns. Most recently, lobbyists on both sides of the issue stepped up efforts to influence how lawmakers would vote.

As with many energy issues, details matter, and supporters and opponents presented their own calculus, coming up with figures that were millions of dollars apart. The division became increasingly stark in recent days.

While LePage has long been the public face of the opposition, recent actions by CMP made the utility an even more influential player in working to torpedo the bill.

Tensions mounted when Sara Burns, CMP's president and chief executive, wrote a column published in the Portland Press Herald on July 18 that asserted incentives for rooftop solar owners could cost customers $150 million more through 2035. That and other factors led to lawmakers putting off a vote on the veto override when they convened to consider outstanding bills on July 20.

Solar supporters accused Burns of scare tactics, and she later acknowledged that her $150 million figure reflected a worst-case scenario. It contradicted estimates from the Maine Office of the Public Advocate that the bill would actually provide customers with a modest savings.

The episode contributed to a climate of mistrust that only intensified this week, when the bill's Republican sponsor, Sen. Tom Saviello of Wilton, arranged a meeting with CMP lobbyists, solar advocates and Senate President Mike Thibodeau to seek a compromise. But CMP declined to support proposed amendments, leading Saviello to vent his frustration Wednesday in a Press Herald column.

CONTROVERSIAL CREDITS

The debate over state government's role in encouraging solar electric generation in Maine has grabbed a lot of attention in recent years. Advocates of continued or expanded financial incentives see them as investments that pay off in clean, locally produced energy and jobs that are the foundation of a growing industry. Critics, including LePage and CMP, the state's largest utility, say the incentives increase rates and shift costs onto other electric customers.

At the heart of the dispute has been what to do about net metering. Also known as net-energy billing, this arrangement gives solar panel owners a 100 percent credit for the retail value of excess power that they feed back into the electric grid.

Net metering was devised in the 1990s to encourage renewable energy development. Opponents say its obsolete in an era when the cost of solar panels has fallen dramatically. But homeowners have come to expect net metering, and it has become part of the business model for rooftop solar installers. For these and other reasons, net-metering rules are being debated and modified across the country.

Last year, a broad solar bill that would have set up a new form of compensation failed by two votes when the Legislature couldn't override a veto by LePage. That set the stage for a proceeding at the PUC, which ended in the pending net-metering rule that would gradually reduce the incentive beginning in 2018.

That rule was widely criticized. Solar installers said the rollback and other elements would cripple their industry and stunt the

April 11, 2018
Rewilding the East
John Davis

John Davis cofounded Wildlands Network 25 years ago and served as editor of Wild Earth for several years. His current priorities include advocating for carnivore recovery and critical wildlife corridors through outreach and ultra-trekking.

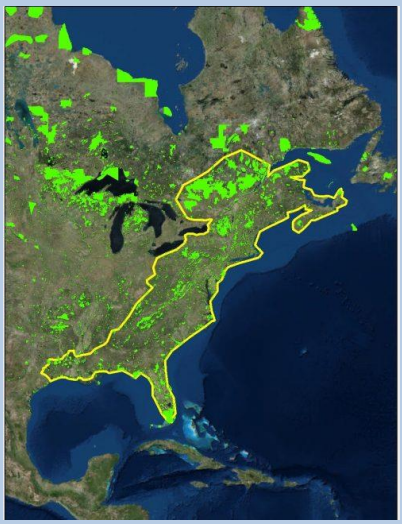
An avid naturalist, John spent much of his childhood exploring eastern forests, having grown up in a family devoted to the natural world. His mother (Mary Byrd Davis) researched and wrote about old-growth forests; his father taught him to hike, camp, row, and ski; and his aunts, uncles, and grandmothers gave him many books about nature. He has also been greatly influenced by

conservation mentors, especially Dave Foreman and Michael Soulé. With sponsorship and guidance from Wildlands Network, Rewilding Institute, and other conservation partners, John completed TrekEast in 2011 (subject of his book Big, Wild, and Connected, published by Island Press) and TrekWest in 2013.

John does not follow clocks very closely, with his work and play often merging into wildlands exploration and promotion. He bikes, hikes, and paddles thousands of miles each year in an effort to better understand wildlife movement and the impediments wild animals face in human-dominated landscapes. When not far afield, John lives in a cabin by a beaver pond in the eastern Adirondacks.

Once as wild as anywhere on Earth, Eastern North America is now a patchwork of protected lands sown into a human-dominated landscape. Conservationists have long dreamed of restoring a vast network of wildlands in this region, from the Acadian forests of Maritime Canada to the subtropical Everglades of Florida. In the early 1920s, wilderness visionary Benton MacKaye imagined an "Appalachian Trail" running the length of the Appalachian spine. Millions of hikers have since explored this trail as a portal to wildness.

Wildlands Network launched its first blueprint for a wilder East in 2002, when we released our Maine Wildlands Network Vision—a detailed, scientific approach to reconnecting the landscape of New England's largest and most heavily forested state. This ambitious report set the stage for the 2006, From the Adirondacks to Acadia, an even bolder Wildlands Network Design comprising the entire Greater Northern Appalachians region.



Zoom InMap of eastern North America showing the rough extent of the Eastern Wildway in yellow, and lands under some form of protection in green. Source: ESRI, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, GIS User Community

Today, we are making significant progress toward creating a continental-scale Eastern Wildway—an extensive wildlife corridor linking eastern Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. The Eastern Wildway contains some of North America's most beloved national parks, preserves, scenic rivers, and other wild places, from the wilderness of Quebec, the Adirondacks, and the Shenandoah Valley, to the Great Smoky Mountains and Everglades National Park. Protecting and expanding these and other key core areas is crucial to rewilding the East.

The Eastern Wildway also traverses a wide array of eco-regions and climates, with the latter ranging from arctic to tropical. An equally broad diversity of wildlife inhabits these eco-regions, including wolves, cougars, American martens, and other native carnivores. Many resident plants, birds, fish, salamanders, and butterflies are found nowhere else on Earth—particularly those in the southeastern U.S., which was recently identified as one of the world's biodiversity hotspots.

Eastern Wildway Network

Our ongoing work in the Western Wildway has shown us that partnerships are key to bringing a wildway to life. In 2015, we formed the Eastern Wildway Network (EWN) to advance our efforts in eastern North America—more than 30 conservation leaders working to restore, reconnect, and protect regional habitats, and to help native species move safely through the landscape and adapt to climatic change. We're also promoting the recovery of keystone species like wolves and cougars.

Aerial view of Moosehead Lake, Moose Island, and Squaw Bay, Maine. Photo: George Wuerthner

Through EWN, we are building a strong coalition of conservation organizations, academic institutions, and state and federal agencies to map conservation and land acquisition priorities in the East. We are also developing an outreach strategy to address the importance of large-landscape conservation and the need to restore apex carnivores. We hope to incorporate these ideas into law and policy, and most importantly, to inspire more conservation activity on-the-ground.

Challenges Ahead

Although scientists and conservationists have conducted extensive planning, data analysis, and mapping throughout the Eastern Wildway, these efforts have not kept pace with habitat degradation. Eastern mountain ranges are located so close to mega-population centers that development has spread into once-remote places. Notably, the cities of Montreal, Quebec, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Atlanta are all located within the Eastern Wildway.

To further complicate matters, many rural landowners are selling off large land parcels for development, logging, and resource extraction as rural economies continue to stagnate. And with a growing number of Easterners building first or second homes in relatively wild places, people are collectively destroying the natural environments and solitude they seek.

American beaver. Photo: William C. Gladish

As a result, Eastern biodiversity is in jeopardy. In the Southern Appalachians alone, more than 190 aquatic species and 50 species of terrestrial plants and animals are formally listed as endangered or threatened under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Wolves and cougars are all but gone from eastern North America, as are their beneficial effects as keystone predators.

Establishing an Eastern Wildway will require bold and collaborative action at many levels. From creating new conservation lands, reforming policies, and providing incentives for private land stewardship to working with transportation agencies to construct wildlife underpasses and overpasses, incorporating smart growth into local planning, and passing new legislation to confront growing challenges, each and every step will bring us closer to rewilding the East. Ambitious? Absolutely. Necessary? No question!

TrekEast

Zoom InMap showing John Davis's route for TrekEast.

In 2011, Wildlands Network's wilderness explorer, John Davis, raised awareness about the Eastern Wildway by embarking on a 7,600-mile, human-powered journey—deemed *TrekEast*. John's trek entailed walking, cycling, canoeing, and kayaking for 10 arduous months, during which he identified numerous places along his route in immediate need of protection. John was accompanied and supported by naturalists, birdwatchers, hunters, foresters, farmers, hikers, and other outdoor recreationists—all critical players in making the Wildlands vision a reality.

In 2015, John published Big, Wild, and Connected , which lays out both the opportunity and the urgency for creating the Eastern Wildway.

Contact

To learn more about the Eastern Wildway Program, please contact Maggie Ernest, Landscape Conservationist, maggie@wildlandsnetwork.org or 914-536-1099.

- Eastern Wildway
  - Core Reserves in the Eastern Wildway
  - Reconnecting the Eastern Wildway
  - The Essential 16
  - Eastern Wildway Network
  - Eastern Wildway News
  - Eastern Wildway Resources
  - TrekEast Blog Archive

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May 09, 2018
Charles Allen's Kennebec in Photos: 1898-1907
Earle Shettleworth

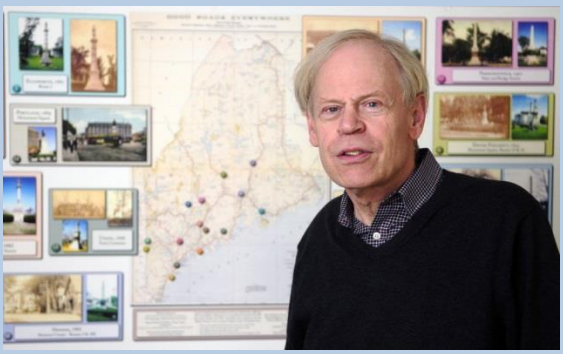

Photo: Joe Phelan, Kennebec Journal

A native of Portland, Maine, Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., attended Deering High School, Colby College, and Boston University and was the recipient of honorary doctorates from Bowdoin College and the Maine College of Art. At the age of thirteen, Shettleworth became interested in historic preservation through the destruction of Portland's Union Station in 1961. A year later he joined the Sills Committee which founded Greater Portland Landmarks in 1964. In 1971 he was appointed by Governor Curtis to serve on the first board of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, for which he became architectural historian in 1973 and director in 1976. He retired from that position in 2015. Shettleworth has lectured and written extensively on Maine history and architecture, his most recent publication being *Maine Photography: A History,*

1840-2015, which he co- authored in 2015. Mr. Shettleworth has served as State Historian since 2004.

From 1874 until his death in 1911, Charles E. Allen collected material for his “History of Dresden, Maine”, which was published in 1931. As part of Allen’s research, he assembled an album of more than 90 professionally taken photographs of the Kennebec River region made between 1898 and 1907, many of which illustrate historic buildings and sites. This lecture is comprised of a selection of these engaging images that capture views of towns along the Kennebec more than a century ago. The album is in the collection of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission in Augusta.