

The Obligate



MAINE
ASSOCIATION OF
WETLAND
SCIENTISTS

P.O. Box 202
Yarmouth, Maine 04096

January 1995

The Newsletter of the Maine Association of Wetland Scientists

Vol. 4 No. 4

President's Message

Greetings, fellow wetland scientists. I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming meeting where we will be able to discuss in detail some proposed changes to the wetland regulations. Those of you who have been participating on the Wetland Task Force are aware that the DEP has drafted a proposal for wetlands regulation under the NRPA. This proposal, which contains some significant changes to the existing regulations, will likely receive a thorough review and undergo changes before it is finalized (if it ever is). The DEP would regulate all freshwater wetlands regardless of size, and a three-tiered review process would be established for permitting alterations. The proposed regulations are similar to New Hampshire's, and their intent is to make permitting easier

for projects that have little if any impact on the aquatic ecosystem.

The Society of Wetland Scientists' 16th annual meeting is fast approaching. At our annual meeting, we will discuss our involvement with this important event scheduled for May 28-June 2, 1995.

A proposed slate of officers and committee chairs for 1995 is included in the newsletter. Please keep in mind that nominations from the floor will be accepted prior to the elections.

Respectfully,
John P. Lortie

Election of 1995 Executive Committee

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Betsey Day, has assembled the following list of eager candidates for office.

Elections will be held at the MAWS annual meeting on February 22, 1995 in Augusta (see Calendar of Events). Current (1995) Active Member must be present to vote, in accordance with the by-laws.

President-Elect:	Betsey Day	Program:	Josh Royte
Secretary:	Dave Cowan		Scott Fletcher
	Mike Cuomo	Legislative:	Don Witherill
Treasurer:	Alan Burnell	Ethics:	Mike Thompson
	David Marceau		Hugh Durgin
Membership:	Dale Brewer		
	Don Phillips		

Note: This is not a ballot—please do not mail in!

Amendment to By-Laws Proposed

A proposal to extend the term limits of the Executive Committee from one year to two years will be voted on at the upcoming Annual Meeting (see Calendar of Events). The proposed change would be reflected in the by-laws as follows.

Article IV, Section G - Elections. Item 2. The President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chairs of the Standing Committees

shall be elected by majority vote of the active membership present at the annual meeting of odd-numbered years. The Executive Committee shall take office immediately upon election, and shall serve a two-year term. No member of the Executive Committee may serve more than two (2) successive terms in the same office.

1994 Executive Committee

John P. Lortie, President
Colen R. Peters, President-Elect
David P. Cowan, Secretary
Alan Burnell, Treasurer
Wende Rosier, Member-at-Large

1994 Standing Committee Chairs

Ethics: Rick Jones
Legislative: Peter Tischbein
Membership: Don Phillips
Program: Sally Rooney

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**MAWS Membership
Meeting Minutes
November 16, 1994
Arey Life Sciences Building
Colby College, Waterville**

Present: J. Lortie, D. Marceau, C. Peters, S. Fletcher, S. Pelletier, D. Cowan, R. Jones, D. Phillips, S. Rooney, S. Mahaney, W. Mahaney, T. Lukas, D. O'Callaghan, J. Clement, C. Knapp, M. McCullough

Called to order 6:35 p.m. by J. Lortie

1. Treasurer's Report - J. Lortie reported that A. Burnell reported a balance of \$3,280 in MAWS's checking account.
2. C. Peters proposed that MAWS establish a student grant program. Small grants (~\$100-1,000) would be awarded on an annual basis to students conducting research projects pertaining to Maine wetlands. Recipients would be asked to give a presentation of their work to the MAWS membership. Values of program would be increased participation in MAWS by students (and academia in general), and increased exposure to ongoing research for MAWS members. Comments from membership generally positive. C. Peters will prepare written proposal for consideration at the annual meeting.
3. Upcoming SWS annual meeting in Boston. MAWS has agreed to sponsor a Maine wetlands field trip including a lobster/clam bake lunch. J. Royte and P. Tischbein are heading up the field trip effort. D. Cowan is chairing the Silent Auction Committee and is presently seeking committee members and potential donors. C. Peters proposed that MAWS prepare a poster or a booth for the meeting. Volunteers were not immediately forthcoming.
4. Delineator Certification - J. Lortie reported that guidelines have still not been published in the Federal Register. Karen Kochenboch, Coordinator for the Corps, speculates that the findings of the National Academy of Sciences Study on wetlands delineation methods are being awaited before proceeding with the Certification program.
5. J. Lortie reported that a revised draft of field indicators of hydric soil will be released early in 1995, the result of an interagency cooperative effort (Corps, EPA, USFWS, SCS). There are already indications of strong objections from New England agency representatives. New England agencies are putting together regional field indicators with the assistance of consultants and academia. MAWS will be asked to review and comment. NE agencies are hoping for a groundswell of support from practitioners which they will use to justify their proposal for regional criteria to Washington. D. Marceau, D. Cowan, D. Phillips, S. Pelletier volunteered to review on behalf of MAWS. W. Mahaney will send NE draft to J. Lortie when available.
6. Update on nominations for 1995 Executive Committee (B. Day). Volunteers: B. Day - President-Elect; D. Cowan - Secretary; S. Fletcher - Legislator; D. Phillips - Membership
7. S. Pelletier moved that an amendment to the by-laws be put to a vote at the Annual Meeting that would extend the

terms of the Executive Committee beyond the current one year. D. Cowan seconded. Motion passed.

8. Evening Program - Jackie Sartoris of the Maine State Planning Office presented an overview of the Wetland Conservation Priority Plan process. Invited MAWS members to participate on Task Force and Technical Working Groups. Several members volunteered to participate in TWG's as follows:

Mitigation: J. Lortie, D. Cowan, B. Day

Regulatory: C. Peters, R. Jones

Assessment: S. Fletcher, S. Pelletier, R. Bryan, C. Peters, D. Phillips

Inventory: M. McCullough, S. Rooney, C. Knapp, T. Lukas
Adjourned 8:40 p.m.

**MAWS Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 16, 1994
Waterville Pizza Hut**

Present: J. Lortie, D. Cowan, R. Jones, S. Rooney, D. Phillips, C. Peters, W. Mahaney, S. Mahaney

Called to order 5:15 p.m. by J. Lortie

Discussion Items:

1. C. Peters suggested that MAWS consider establishing a scholarship/grant program that would provide small research grants to students investigating wetland issues in Maine. Students would provide a presentation of their ongoing work/findings to the MAWS membership as a stipulation of the grant. Discussion followed regarding funding levels and sources of future revenue. Support expressed by committee members. C. Peters agreed to develop the idea further and seek comments at the evening membership meeting.
2. J. Lortie initiated a discussion regarding MAWS's participation in the SPO Wetlands Task Force and Technical Working Groups. Several MAWS members have been attending meetings and providing input. Executive Committee agreed that a more organized approach was desired, as well as increased participation by MAWS members. J. Lortie and C. Peters elaborated on the ongoing process and existing MAWS's involvement. Several EC members agreed to participate in Working Groups on behalf of MAWS. Tonight's membership meeting includes a presentation by Jackie Sartoris of SPO which will include an invitation for involvement of MAWS members. Attempt should be made to focus efforts in areas where need for technical input is greatest.
3. Committee discussed pending revisions to field indicators of hydric soils. W. Mahaney reports that the national revisions appear to be headed toward significantly reducing the extent of wetlands jurisdiction. New England experts and regulators are working on regional indicators that they hope will be adopted in lieu of the national criteria. Wendie will keep the Executive Committee posted on this issue.

Meeting adjourned 6:10 p.m.

Wetlands and Groundwater Book Available

The Audubon Society of New Hampshire (ASNH) is offering *Wetlands and Ground Water in the United States* by Andrew W. Stone, Executive Director of the American Ground Water Trust, and Amanda J. Lindley Stone, former director of the

Wildlife and Wetlands Department of ASNH. The 100-page book, published by the American Ground Water Trust, is available for \$12.00, plus postage, from ASNH, 603-224-9909.

Calendar of Events

MAWS

MAWS Annual Meeting

Wednesday, February 22, 1995

Meeting Place: Augusta Grange (see map)

Time: 3:00-8:00 p.m.

Program:

- 3:00-4:00 Afternoon Program - Linda Gregory, botanist with Acadia National Park, will speak on her work regarding control of purple loosestrife in Acadia's wetlands
- 4:00-5:00 Business Meeting
- 5:00-5:30 Social half hour
- 5:30-6:30 Dinner - Rebecca's Catering will be serving lasagna, salad, dessert, and coffee. Charge will be \$8.00. Notify Steve Pelletier at 729-1199 by Monday, Feb. 22, to reserve your dinner.
- 6:30-8:00 Evening Program - Jay Clement of the Maine Project Office of the Army Corps will update us on new federal wetlands regulations and their effect in Maine.

Society of Wetland Scientists Annual Meeting

May 30 - June 3, 1995, Boston, MA

For more information, contact Doug Sparrow

(401) 521-5980 or Mickey Marcus (413) 256-0202.

National Interagency Workshop on Wetlands:

Technology Advances for Wetlands Science. April 3-7, 1995, New Orleans, LA. Contact U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station (601) 634-2569/4217.

Abstracts invited for 1995 Estuarine and Marine Shallow Water Conference. Topics: Shoreline Erosion Control, Dredging, Functions and Values of Shallow Water Habitats, Impacts and Assessments, and Current Management Practices. Scheduled for April 3-7, 1995 in Atlantic City, NJ. Contact Ralph Spagnalo (215) 597-3642 or Edward Ambrogio (215) 597-3697.

For more listings, see the SWS Quarterly Bulletin.

Professional Training Services

Institute for Wetland & Environmental Education & Research (IWEER), P.O. Box 331, Sherborne, MA 01770-0331

The State University of New Jersey - Rutgers, Cook College Office of Continuing Professional Education, P.O. Box 231, New Brunswick, NJ 08903-0231

Environmental Concern, Inc., P.O. Box P, St. Michaels, MD 21663, (410) 745-9620

Wetland Training Institute, P.O. Box 1022, Poolesville, MD 20737-0099, (301) 972-8112

National Wetland Science Training Cooperative, 221 First Avenue West, Suite 415, Seattle, WA 98119, (206) 283-0673

Regional

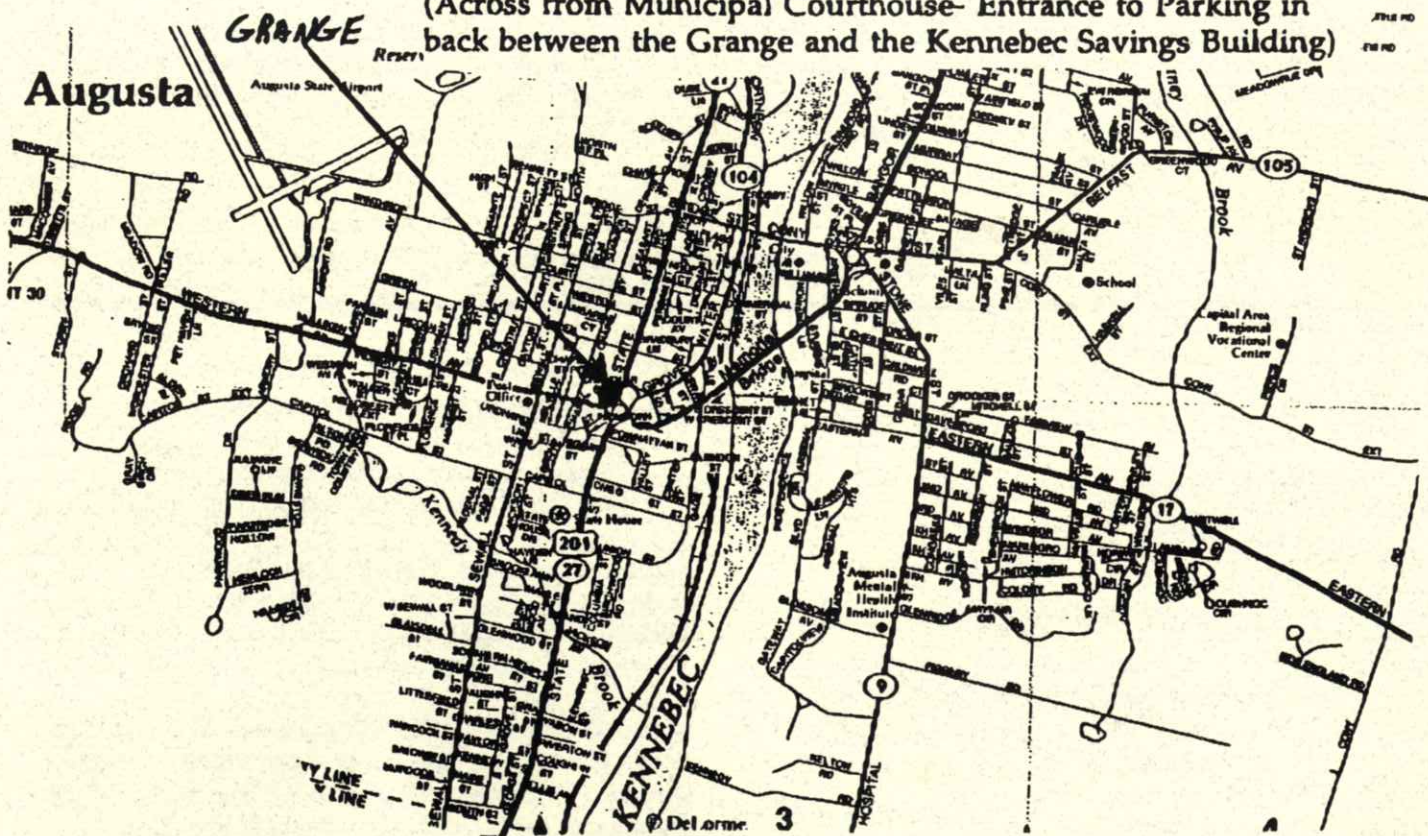
NHAWS

Annual Membership Meeting - February 11, 1995 at the New England Center in Durham, NH. Full-day conference titled The Role of Wetlands in the Broader Landscape. For more information, contact Richard Cook at (603) 224-9909.

National

Twenty-sixth Annual Conference of the International Erosion Control Association. Erosion Control, Streambank and Shoreline Stabilization, and Bioengineering. Technical sessions, workshops, and short courses. February 28-March 3, 1995. Atlanta, GA. IECA 800-455-4322.

Maine State Grange, 146 State Street Augusta 3:00 - 9:00 pm
(Across from Municipal Courthouse- Entrance to Parking in
back between the Grange and the Kennebec Savings Building)



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