

February 24, 2005

### Special points of interest:

- Linda Alverson hired as Executive Director
- CASWCD office moves to the USDA Service Center
- Water Quality Improvement dollars spent to match City of Presque Isle efforts in Echo Lake road stabilization project
- NRCS cost share spending totals \$714,446
- 2004 budget ends fiscal year in the black

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# Annual Report 2004

## Linda Alverson Joins CASWCD As Executive Director

The District was fortunate to hire Linda Alverson as the new Executive Director on January 26, 2004. Linda is a certified forester and wildlife biologist. She earned a B.S. degree in Biology from Nazarene College of Wollaston, Massachusetts and worked for fourteen years for Seven Islands Land Company.

Linda lives with her husband, George McPherson, and dog, Sadie, on a small farm, *East Ridge*, in Oxbox. There they all enjoy outdoor activities, especially birding.

In addition to coordinating the move to a new office location, Linda has proven to be very competent and energetic in managing District projects and balancing the budget. We look forward to her guidance and efforts in conservation work in the future.



## Office Moves To The USDA Agriculture Service Center

During July of 2004 the District office moved from the Harley D. Welch Center to 99 Fort Fairfield Road at the USDA Service Center. An offer extended by the local NRCS office to share space was accepted and will save the District significant money on overhead costs. Thanks goes out to the Maine Potato Board for past assis-

tance at the Welch Ag Center.





**Amelia Scott, member of a Stream Team, Kennedy Brook.**

*Kennedy Brook/*

*Mantle Lake*

*Project:*

*Thirty local citizens*

*formed "Stream*

*Teams" to conduct*

*survey*



**Dick Gardiner measures Kennedy Brook water level.**

## Highlights For 2004

### Smith Nutrient and Sediment Control Project:

This project was officially closed out and the final report approved by MDEP.

### Echo Lake Watershed Implementation Project:

The City of Presque Isle implemented BMP's around Echo Lake by replacing and armoring culverts, reshaping ditches and armoring with coarse rock. Progress is being made at Aroostook State Park. NRCS completed a design and a contractor was selected to reshape and stabilize a gravel bank.

### Prestile Stream Watershed Plan:

A very active Stewardship committee identified and developed information on issues in the watershed. A draft plan is nearing completion. As part of the planning grant, Foster and Allen Brooks, tributaries to the Prestile, were surveyed in the spring by professional soil conservationists and foresters.

### Irrigation Guide for Maine:

A draft of the guide is being recreated by a graphic designer and should be printed in early 2005. The Guide will also include a web-linked permitting guide for irrigators.

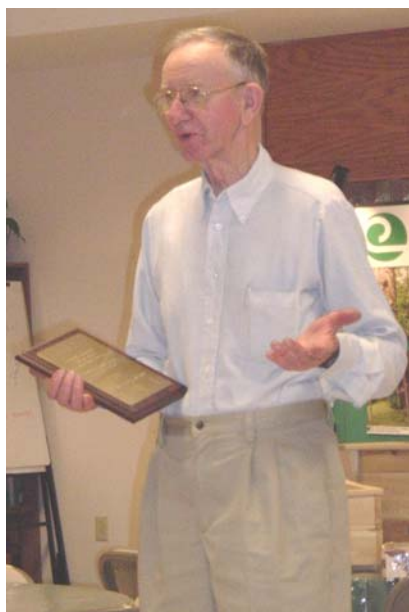
### Kennedy Brook/Mantle Lake Watershed Survey:

Thirty local citizens formed Stream Teams to survey Kennedy Brook in the fall.

### Education Activities:

The district co-sponsored or hosted several education programs including a BMP workshop on the new Forestry Guidelines and an adult education class for small woodlot owners.

## Awards At 2004 Annual Meeting



**Larry Park received the 2003 Conservation Forest Landowner of the Year Award.**



**Kyle Blackstone and his family received the 2003 Conservation Farmer of the Year Award.**

## Proposed 2005 Plan Of Work

### Prestile Stream Watershed Management Plan:

- A. finish a Prestile Stream Management Plan.
- B. form a permanent Stewardship Committee to direct further study and improvement of water quality in the Prestile and its tributaries.
- C. pursue a Conservation Partnership Initiative Grant.

### Echo Lake Watershed Implementation Project :

- A. provide technical assistance and implement BMP's for non-point source sites in Aroostook State Park, private roads and residences around Echo Lake.
- B. partner with Aroostook State Park as part of a Trails grant application to prevent sediments from entering Echo Lake from the trailhead parking lot.
- C. train potential Lake Smart landscapers to design shoreland buffersco-sponsor a Lake Smart training for shoreland owners in Aroostook County.

### Kennedy Brook/Mantle Lake Watershed Survey:

- A. complete the Kennedy Brook Watershed Survey with a spring survey coordinated with Presque High School Biology Class.
- B. work with MDEP and the City of Presque Isle to improve water quality in Mantle Lake.

### Phosphorous Loading Studies

- A. collect data for TMDL studies on Christina Reservoir and Trafton Lake as a subcontractor to MACD.

### Maine Irrigation Guide:

- A. complete and distribute an Irrigation guide for Maine in both paper and CD format.

### Trafton Lake Watershed Improvement Project:

- A. assist Limestone with reapplying for a 319 grant to control sediment and phosphorous loading to Trafton Lake.

### Conservation Specialty Equipment:

- A. partner with SJARC&D and Maine Forest Service to pursue the concept of providing temporary skidder bridges to small logging contractors.
- B. investigate the need for specialty conservation equipment in addition to the current no-till seeder.

### Education:

- A. cosponsor with SWOAM, St. John-Aroostook RC&D and Maine Forest Service an In-The-Woodlot class on forest management.
- B. host the Aroostook County Mock Envirothon.
- C. host a seminar on Septic Training.
- D. work with MACD Employee Committee to coordinate conservation education programs.
- E. continue contractor inspections for Erosion and Sediment Control Certification.
- F. update and reactivate the CASWCD web site.

### Farm Bill Assistance to NRCS:

- A. provide wildlife and forestry assistance to the Central Aroostook NRCS office through a Contribution Agreement.



**Steering committee session for the Prestile Steam Watershed Management Plan.**

*The CASWCD 2005*

*Plan of work covers major projects that will meet the*

*District's mission: "to protect, conserve and improve our area's natural resources for future generations by utilizing available technical, financial and education resources".*



**Kennedy Brook Girl Scout Stream Team.**

## Echo Lake Water Quality Improvement

Echo Lake 319 Water Quality Improvement Grant funds of more than \$14,000 were spent to improve and stabilize ditches and culverts on roads around Echo Lake. Total project costs were over \$24,000 and much of the matching costs were borne by the City of Presque Isle Public Works Department. The road crew did an excellent job implementing best management practices in numerous areas along the roadway. It is estimated that the result of this work will prevent FIVE TONS of sediments from entering Echo Lake each year.



**Before.....**



**After.**

## Cost-sharing Highlights of NRCS Farm Bill Programs

### 2004 in Central Aroostook SWCD:

EQIP - Cull Disposal - 19 plans/contracts - \$261,737.00

Winter field spreading of culls - generally spread in March of 2004.

EQIP - Cropland - 2 plans/contracts - \$69,037.00

Improved rotation, cover crop, nutrient management, grassed waterway, tile drainage, upland wildlife management.

EQIP - Water Use/Water Conservation - 1 plan/contract - \$77,200.00

Center pivot irrigation system, buried irrigation pipe, pump.

EQIP - Livestock Waste - 1 plan /contract - \$46,800.00

Waste storage, heavy use area, well, watering facility, comprehensive nutrient management plan.

EQIP - Ground & Surface Water - 2 plans/contracts - \$164,188.00

Improved rotation, cover crop, grassed waterway, center pivot irrigation, nutrient mgmt, tile drainage, upland wildlife mgmt, buried irrigation pipe, pump.

AMA - 1 plan/contract - \$87,998.00

Center pivot irrigation system, buried irrigation pipe, pumps.

WHIP - 3 plans/contracts - \$7,486.00

Delayed mowing to facilitate upland bird nesting and fledging.

### Summary:

Total of Cull Winter Spreading - \$261,737.00

Total of Irrigation Practices - \$275,148.00

Total of all other conservation practices - \$177,561.00

**Grand total of all conservation practices: \$714,446.00**

*Grand Total of  
NRCS Farm Bill  
Cost Share  
Programs in the  
District:  
\$714,446*



**Skip Babineau,  
NRCS District Conservationist.**

## **CASWCD Supervisors**

**Bruce Wilkins**, Chair, P.O. Box 988, Presque Isle, ME 04769. Tel 764-4728, bwilkins@maine.rr.com

**Jon Durepo**, Vice-Chair., RR2 Box 136, Fort Fairfield, ME. 04742, Tel. 473-7022, jsdurepo@aroostook.net

**Leigh Morrow**, Treasurer, P.O. Box 157, Easton, ME. 04740 Tel. 488-1246, leigh.morrow@mccain.com

**Bruce Roope**, 69 Reach Road, Presque Isle, ME. 04769, Tel. 764-5355, roopefarms@ainop.com

**Raymond Harris**, 1482 Parsons Road, Washburn, ME. 04786, Tel. 764-3217, lharris@mf.net

### Associate Supervisors:

**William Cleaves**, 31 Quaggy Jo Lake Road, Presque Isle, ME. 04769 Tel. 762-7701, billcleaves@hotmail.com

**Albert Brewer**, 80 Parkhurst Road, Presque Isle, ME. 04769 Tel. 769-3021, no e-mail

**Tim Scott**, P.O. Box 86, Mapleton, ME. 04757 Tel. 435-6039, tscott@sevenislands.com

**Laurence A. Park**, 32 Echo Lake Road, Presque Isle, ME. 04769 Tel. 764-0582, edithandlarry@juno.com

**Tim Hobbs**, 45 Barton Street, Presque Isle, ME. 04769 Tel. 768-6023, hobbs@mainepotatoes.com

**Brent Flewelling**, 306 Houlton Road, Easton, Me 04740, Tel. 488-5031, no e-mail

**Hugh Crammond**, State Road, Presque Isle, Me. 04769. Tel. 762-3182, Crammond.hugh@jdirving.com

**Mike Bragdon**, Houlton Road, Presque Isle, Me. 04769. Tel. 768-5211, mbragdon@ainop.com

**Matt Porter**, 12 Story Street, Washburn, ME 04786, Tel 455-4320, porterfarmsinc@yahoo.com

**George Howe**, Economic and Community Development, City of Presque Isle, 12 Second Street, Presque Isle, ME 04769, Tel. 764-2570, ghowe@presqueisleme.us

## **Other Conservation Personnel**

### Natural Resource Conservation Service:

**Skip Babineau**, District Conservationist, 764-4153 ext.124, skip.babineau@me.usda.gov

**Scott Englund**, Soil Conservation Technician, 764-4143 ext 129, scott.englund@me.usda.gov

**Kenneth Hill**, Soil Conservation Technician, 764-4153 ext.127, ken.hill@me.usda.gov

**Keith Roble**, Agricultural Engineer, 764-4153 ext.125, keith.roble@me.usda.gov

**Robert Cullins**, Civil Engineering Technician, 764-4153 ext.126, Robert.cullins@me.usda.gov

### St. John—Aroostook Resource Conservation & Development:

**Don Collins**, Coordinator, 764-4153 ext.132, don.collins@me.usda.gov

**Stephanie Landry**, Program Assistant, 764-4153 ext.131, Stephanie.landry@me.usda.gov

## Budgets 2004 & 2005

### Income

	2004 Budget	2004 Actual	2005 Budget
State of Maine District Grant	16775	17400	14600
Municipal Assessment	6415	8175	7000
Flag Sales ( less cost and sales tax)	1335	2423	3000
Ag Building Rental from MFB including electricity	1720	946	0
No-Till Seeder Rental	800	193	500
Interest	0	1131	1000
Memberships and Donations	0	6050	6000
Grant Income, Estimate	18510	15607	10000
Contractor Certifications	0	800	400
Septic Seminar	0	0	500
Coop Agreement with NRCS	0	0	7800
TMDL Studies Christina and Trafton lakes	0	0	5000
Equipment Sales	0	1675	5000
<b>Total</b>	<b>45555</b>	<b>54400</b>	<b>60800</b>



Monthly meeting of the CASWCD at the USDA Service Center conference room on the Fort Fairfield Road.

## Expense

	2004 Budget	2004 Actual	2005 Budget
Salary, E.D. and Erik	26000	23921	29300
Executive Director prior year bonus	0	0	700
Insurance Stipend. E.D.	5400	4632	5400
Payroll Taxes, etc.	6500	6339	7000
Financial Services, Audit, etc.	2500	145	6700
MACD Meetings	700	922	1500
Mileage, Office	1500	109	700
Telephone	1600	1175	0
Office Rental	4092	2387	0
Office Equipment and Support	1000	374	500
Postage	500	281	500
Office Supplies	500	825	500
Permits, License Fees, etc	60	0	0
Workers Comp and Liab. Ins.	650	659	700
Dues: MACD	1300	1300	1300
Dues: NACD	775	775	775
Dues: SJASWCD	22	22	22
Dues: MFB	55	55	55
Dues: AGCOM	75	75	0
Awards and Education	200	167	300
Internet	1000	374	500
Annual Meeting & Report	150	135	200
Election of Supervisors	0	546	450
VISA		30	30
Envirothon		38	500
Northern Maine Fair		128	100
Equipment repair (no-till and grinder)		169	200
Electricity	1040	545	0
Misc.	0	75	100
Ag Center Loan Repayment	0	1000	0
Total	54579	47203	58032
NET	-9024	7197	2768

CENTRAL AROOSTOOK SOIL AND  
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

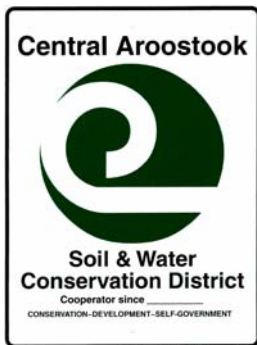
**CASWCD**

Linda Alverson, Executive Director  
99 Fort Fairfield Rd  
Presque Isle, Maine 04769

Phone: 207-764-4153 ext. 130

Fax: 207-764-5289

Email: linda.alverson@me.nacdn.net



**Please consider becoming an individual financial supporter of the Central Aroostook Soil and Water Conservation District. For a \$25 donation you will receive this 9" X 12" weather resistant sign for your property. Thank you to all our past supporters.**

## Soil And Water Conservation Districts

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are subdivisions of State Government, but they are operated by private citizens, particularly a 5-member Board of Supervisors, Associate Supervisors, employees and volunteers. There are 16 SWCD's in Maine which generally correspond to county boundaries, with a few exceptions, such as multiple districts in Aroostook County. SWCD's establish local priorities for conservation efforts. Emphasis is on agriculture and forestry, although urban development is a priority in some districts, SWCD's hold workshops, set up demonstrations, offer educational programs, review development plans, and set priorities for one-on-one technical assistance at the request of land occupiers.

The Central Aroostook Soil and Water Conservation District was created in 1941 and was one of the first Districts in the State of Maine. From its inception, the District has been deeply concerned about, and heavily involved in the natural resource issues that directly affect agriculture, forestry and local communities in Central Aroostook County.



99 Fort Fairfield Rd  
Presque Isle, Maine 04769