

A land trust conserving ribbons of green in southeastern New Hampshire.



BEAR-PAW PRINT

NEWS & INFORMATION ABOUT BEAR-PAW REGIONAL GREENWAYS

MEMBER TOWNS CANDIA DEERFIELD EPSOM NORTHWOOD NOTTINGHAM RAYMOND STRAFFORD

Our MISSION

Bear-Paw Regional Greenways is a land trust established by resident volunteers who are concerned about the loss of open space lands. Bear-Paw envisions a series of greenways comprised of private and public lands that connect large conservation areas. Protection of this land network will safeguard important wildlife habitat and travel routes; surface waters, groundwater, and wetlands; scenic resources and recreational opportunities.

Bear-Paw is committed to ensuring that the region's most important natural features continue to be available for future generations and is working to accomplish this goal through landowner outreach, education, land protection, community assistance and partnerships.

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Unique Natural Features

Pawtuckaway Rocks By Sherry Godlewski

On one of these recent late summer days I jumped onto my mountain bike and headed off to pedal the back roads of Pawtuckaway State Park. Along the way I could see families, rock climbers, other bikers all appreciating the natural beauty around them. And Pawtuckaway's famous rocks are part of that natural beauty!

Although there are larger boulders in other places, Pawtuckaway's boulder field is the largest collection of big ones in the world. What happened to Pawtuckaway to leave all these gigantic boulders strewn about?

The story starts 355 million years ago when the region was under a great inland sea. Layers of limy muds and muddy sands accumulated as bottom sediments which cemented into rocks. Tectonic forces raised the land and exposed these layers to erosion. Continued subterranean forces buckled and folded the layers while deep magma

intruded into the layers injecting itself into cracks and crevasses forming pegmatite dikes which cooled slowly to form large crystals of quartz, feldspar and mica. The heat and pressure metamorphosed the original sedimentary rocks into quartzites, schists, micas and granulites.

About 275 million years ago, another episode of tectonic pressure created circular fractures in the area and another swell of magma was forced up creating what is known as a ring dike. Nearby volcanoes spewed lava and ash, long since eroded. But the ring dike remains and forms the outer circle of the Pawtuckaway Mountains. This is one of three ring dikes in New Hampshire; Ossipee and Gunstock are home to the other two.

Continued on page 4

The New Maps Are Here

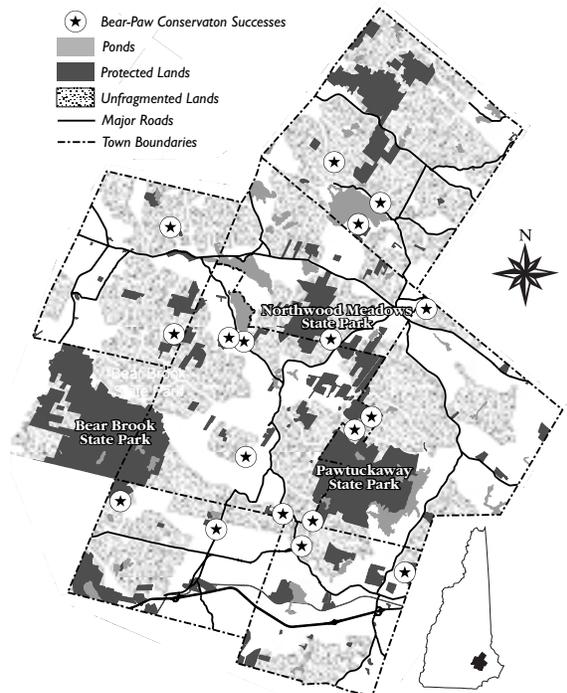
By Betsy Kruse

The much anticipated map project was completed on June 24th at the Bear-Paw Roundtable in Raymond, as Bear-Paw presented to each member town its own set of six large-scale, full color maps.

Bear-Paw's \$5,000 grant from the NH Estuaries project financed the work, though with the efforts of Dave McGraw of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Bear-Paw's return was a group of maps worth much more.

Each town's set, produced with the latest Geographic Information System (GIS) data includes a recent aerial map, a water resources map, a map that shows

Continued on page 2



A simplified black and white version of one of the full color regional maps. Dark areas show already protected land; stippled areas show remaining large unfragmented areas.

A Note FROM THE CHAIR

I love this time of year. The seasons are changing, there's a crispness to the air, the birds are migrating, and members of the Bear-Paw land Protection Committee have the exceptional opportunity to wander around conservation lands fulfilling our annual monitoring responsibility. We are obligated to visit

each property to ensure that the terms of the Conservation Easement are not being violated.

The Bear-Paw Board members have spent a lot of time recently discussing the importance of easement monitoring and the significant responsibility assumed by towns and land trusts when they accept conservation easements.



Cody Cramer

We feel strongly about educating our members and volunteers as well as local communities in the finer points of monitoring and record

keeping for easements. To that end, we are hosting an Easement Monitoring Workshop on Saturday, November 15th at Fine Nest Farm in Raymond, NH.

If you are interested in attending, please contact the Bear-Paw office for details and directions by telephone at 463-9400, or by e-mail at Bear-Paw@worldpath.net.

As always, if you know of land that should be protected, or would like to make a contribution to our cause, we'd love to hear from you.

My best regards,

Cody Cramer

Cody Cramer
Board Chair

Pawtuckaway State Park An Island of Serenity in a Sea of Changing Landscapes

By Eric Orff

Thursday, 9/11/03, 3:38 pm. I had glanced at my watch to check the time, but my eyes settled on the date – 9/11. I was perched on a sun-drenched rock on the north shore of Round Pond in Pawtuckaway State Park. The surface of the water perfectly reflected the serene



PHOTO BY SHERY GODLEWSKI

landscape of the northern slopes of Middle and South Mountains hemming the pond to the south. All was quiet, save for a gentle breeze that tickled the distant trees into a murmur. It was a great place to reflect upon world events, and made me appreciate even more the beauty that lay before my eyes.

Pawtuckaway State Park is the second largest state park in southeast New Hampshire with about 5,500 acres of permanently protected habitat. It lies in the county with by far the fastest human growth in the state. About 10,000 acres a year are developed in Rockingham County. Each acre devoured by humans makes this park, and the wildlife in it,

ever more significant.

The very nature of this unique park, with nearly 1000-foot peaks to the north tumbling down boulder strewn ridges to the lake at 250 feet in elevation, lends itself to a wide diversity of wildlife found in the park. In fact, a recent study of Vermont and New Hampshire showed that this section of the two states had the greatest diversity of vertebrate wildlife.

Beavers abound in the park with a pond tucked into nearly every nook. And where there's a beaver pond, wildlife overflows into the surrounding woodlands. The immense size of the park and sun dappled south facing rock outcroppings have been favored by even the elusive bobcats. Deer, moose, bear, fisher, and coyotes dodge one another among the ragged peaks. On a drive along Burnham Marsh a great blue heron is likely to be seen gliding into a perch at the water's edge in search of a tasty fish or frog. A careful search of the roadside will show ample evidence of turtles that laid eggs in the soft shoulders only to have a raccoon or skunk feast on them leaving behind a sprinkling of white paper shells. You may not be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of these wild and secretive creatures that are so good at playing hide and seek. But a little bit of detective work will give you plenty of evidence that they abound in the park. 🐾

The New Maps are Delivered, continued from page 1

remaining blocks of unfragmented land and wildlife habitats, and a co-occurrence map. The co-occurrence map shows ten natural resource features overlaid, creating shadings that indicate increasing natural resource importance. The set also includes a town tax map overlay, a co-occurrence map of all seven towns, and a disk of the data.

Several towns have held public meetings to display the maps and explain their uses for town planning. Many towns have ordered second sets so the maps may be available to more groups. Check with your Conservation Commission to find out where your maps may be on display. 🐾



PHOTO BY ERIC ORFF

Farewell, Susan

Retiring Executive Director, Susan Zankel, opens gifts as the Bear-Paw board wishes her a fond farewell at the September 6th meeting.

A New Easement in Candia

Bear-Paw's newest completed project, registered in August, is the Lindsey Conservation Easement which protects nearly 30 acres in Candia. The parcel is important in many ways. It contains a beaver pond, provides scenic enjoyment for the general public with its 500 feet of undeveloped road frontage on North Road, preserves open space in cooperation with Candia's Master Plan goals, and enhances and expands on the wildlife habitat in nearby Bear Brook State Park. The easement was created with the help and guidance of Bear-Paw and the Candia Conservation Commission. 🐾



The beaver pond on the newly protected Lindsey Conservation Easement in Candia.

PHOTO BY JUDI LINDSEY

Meet the New EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The right time and the right place seems to describe Sherry Godlewski's process of becoming Bear-Paw's new executive

director. Sherry had worked for the NH Department of Environmental Services since 1994, most recently managing the Water Supply Land Grant program. As a Deerfield resident, she saw the Bear-Paw directorship as

"We need to balance growth and development by minimizing its impact on the environment."

– Sherry Godlewski

a perfect way to work in her own community and experience first hand, locally, the fruits of her labors. The hours will fit well with her other work, a part time massage therapy practice.

Sherry comes to us with a Master of Science degree in Environmental Communication and Administration from Antioch University. Her mission is to get more people involved and to help them understand the finality of development – that it can't be undone.

She also welcomes the opportunity to work with both landowners and town officials.

"I feel honored to be associated with Bear-Paw," beams Sherry. "We have such an incredible Board, and the organization is very well respected around the state." Judging by her energy and enthusiasm, the Bear-Paw office will continue in very good hands.

Welcome aboard, Sherry!

Wildlife Expert to Give Workshop

Saturday, October 25th • 10am – 1pm • Nottingham Elementary School

Coyotes, fishers, bobcats and more! Which of these critters regularly sneaks through the woods in the dark just beyond your back door? Come immerse yourself in this outdoor lore and learn to interpret the clues they leave.

Bear-Paw will sponsor nationally-known wildlife tracker and skilled photographer Susan Morse's program Keeping Track® at the Nottingham Elementary School on Saturday, October 25th, from 10am to 1pm. This program has been featured on NPR's "Morning Edition," and Susan Morse's photographs have appeared in national magazines



including Audubon and Smithsonian.

She will have on display dozens of animal exhibits including mammal mounts, track molds, pelts, teeth, claws, skulls, and examples of animal signs. The workshop will also include a slide show of Susan's stunning animal photographs.

Tickets are available at the door or use the pre-registration card below: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under, or free with a \$30 new Bear-Paw membership. Bear-Paw members may pre-register for a special \$7 fee. For information call the Bear-Paw office at 463-9400.

Keeping Track® Pre-Registration

Please indicate number of attendees:

- _____ \$7 Bear-Paw current member pre-registration discount
- _____ \$30 New or renewal Bear-Paw membership and workshop (includes admission of family up to 5 people)
- _____ Non-member(s): \$10 adults, \$5 children 12 and under

Enclosed is my check in the amount of: _____

NAME(S) _____

 MAILING ADDRESS _____

Paid Pre-Registration must be received at the Bear-Paw office by Monday, October 20th.

Please make your check payable to Bear-Paw Regional Greenways, and send to PO Box 19, Deerfield, NH 03037

Calendar of Events

Down From the Hill #3

October 11 • 7-11pm • Deerfield Town Hall

An evening of homespun music with seven "up and coming" bluegrass, Celtic, and folk bands. Admission is \$10 at the door, children under 10, \$5. Refreshments will be provided. Bring a mug and a lawn chair and make it feel like summer!

Land Conservation Workshop

October 22 • 7-9pm • Northwood Town Hall

Open space protection information. Hosted by the Northwood Community Resources Committee and presented by

Phil Auger of UNH Cooperative Extension. \$7 family fee to cover take-home materials. Please register by calling 679-5616.

Keeping Track® Wildlife Event

October 25 • 10am-1pm • Nottingham Elementary School

See article and pre-registration form on page three. The Bear-Paw quilt will be raffled off at this event.

Easement Monitoring Workshop

November 15 • 9am-Noon • Fine Nest Farm, 38 Ham Road, Raymond

Call the Bear-Paw office for more information.

Pawtuckaway Rocks, continued from page 1

The story of the boulders is just a couple million years old. Four episodes of continental glaciation spread across northern North America and retreated. When the last glacier began to melt back beginning about 30,000 years ago, it left behind all the sands, gravels and boulders the grinding ice had picked up in its advance. Boulder Trail is a testament to the glacier's power as it dropped rounded boulders and plucked away huge blocks leaving today's ledges where bobcats may prowl.



PHOTO BY SHERRY GODLEWSKI

A hiker explores the Boulder Trail

mass of the glacier the land has risen leaving the landscape of today – a landscape formed by molten magma and ice. When you wander the trails of Pawtuckaway, pay extra attention to the rocks. Look for the large mica crystals in the pegmatite dikes and the glacial grooves on the ledges.

Pawtuckaway State Park gave us the "Paw" in Bear-Paw, as Bear Brook State Park provided the "Bear." We've linked the names of the parks, and work to link them with additional protected land. 🐾



Contact Bear-Paw Regional Greenways at PO Box 19, Deerfield, NH 03037. Call us at 603.463.9400, e-mail us at bear-paw@worldpath.net, or visit www.bear-paw.org

Wildlife Habitat

Board OF DIRECTORS



Cody Cramer, Chair, Raymond
Wini Young, Vice-Chair, Northwood
Erick Berglund, Treasurer, Deerfield
Betsy Kruse, Secretary, Candia

Harmony Anderson, Strafford
Phil Auger, Strafford
Sam Demeritt, Nottingham
Al Jaeger, Deerfield
Judi Lindsey, Candia
Frank Mitchell, Deerfield
Eric Orff, Epsom
Al Pratt, Strafford
Mark West, Nottingham

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sherry Godlewski

ILLUSTRATIONS

Al Jaeger



PHOTO BY SHERRY GODLEWSKI

Bear-Paw and the Arts

On August 23rd the 1st Stock Art Gallery in Deerfield celebrated the opening of the "Arboreal Musings" exhibit featuring artists Tamsin Whitehead and Richard Evans, above. The owner of the gallery, Dan Bush, and the artists donated part of the proceeds from the evening to Bear-Paw. We appreciate the support of local artists.

Details Inside!

Down from the Hill #3
Saturday, October 11, 2003

Keeping Track® Wildlife Event
Learn about animal tracking and habitats.
Saturday, October 25, 2003



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