

When: Thursday Jan. 20, 2000
Where: Houlton USDA Service Center
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Agenda

- 1) Chairperson/Vice-Chair election
- 2) Watershed Boundary Signs - See Young
- 3) Historic Map
- 4) 319 Grant update - Tom Berry
- 5) Stream Landfill
- 6) Other

** This is a tentative agenda, contact Andrea Newman at 532-2997, ext. 101 if you would like to be added to the agenda. If you need instructions to the location regarding the Meduxnekeg Watershed Coalition meeting, please call 532-2997, ext. 101.



This map project was funded by a grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Front illustration by: Susan J. York
 Graphic Design Courtesy: Brown Dog Ink
 Printing by: Aroostook Printshop, Houlton, ME

Story of Houlton, by Cora Carpenter Putnam, 1958
 "At that time (1826) the principal employment of the inhabitants was lumbering on a small scale, clearing land, hunting and trapping for furs..."
 Major changes in the... began with the arrival of 11... in the mid-1780s.
 Meduxnekeg Watershed Classification Project, George Peabody, Simon J. Mitchell, 2006

535-4504

MAIN BRANCH WATERSHED MEDUXNEKEG RIVER AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE

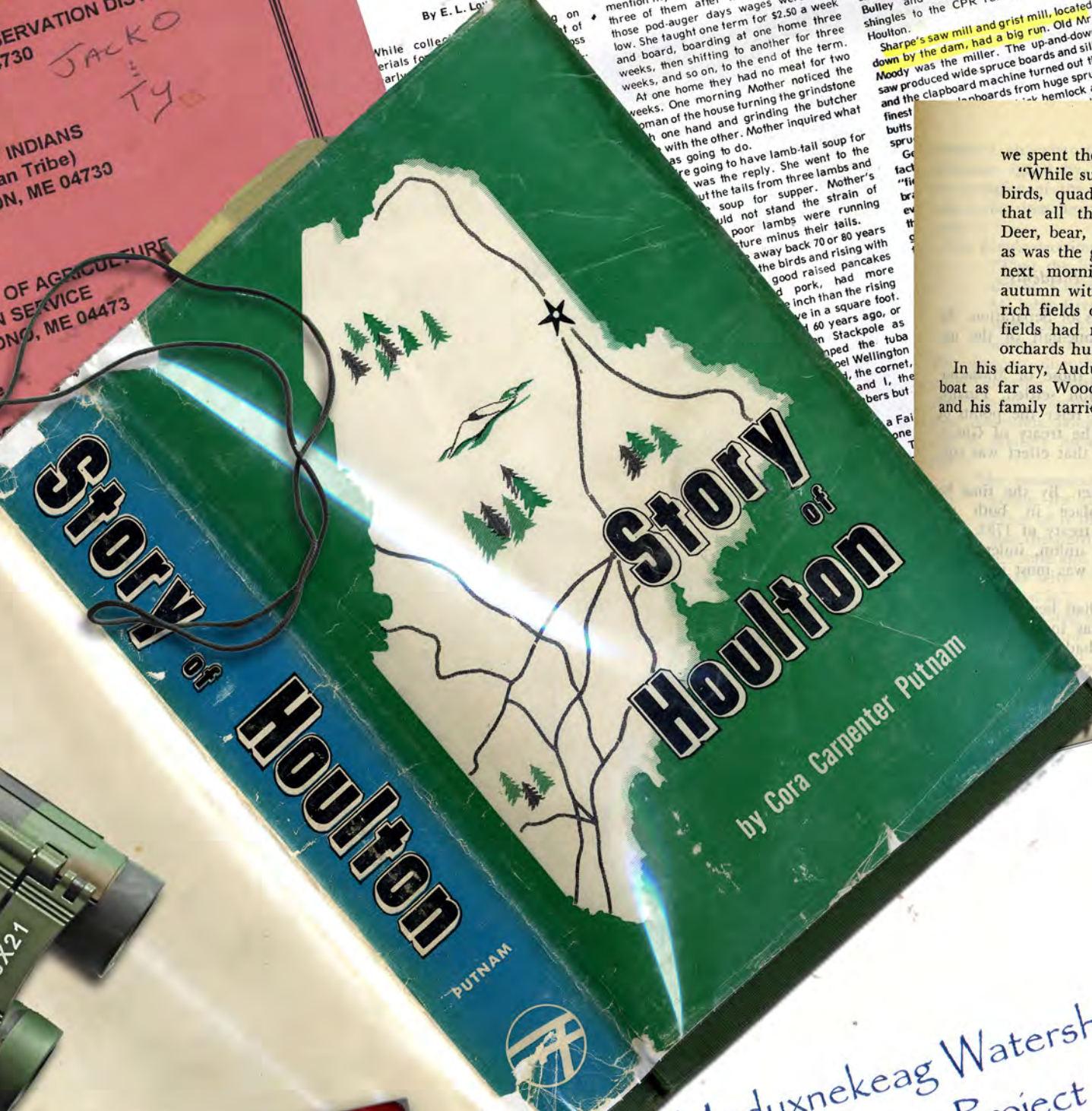
FINAL WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN / ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

PREPARED AND SPONSORED BY:
 SOUTHERN AROOSTOOK SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 RR 3, BOX 45, HOULTON, ME 04730
 and the
 HOULTON BAND OF MALISEET INDIANS
 (A Federally Recognized Indian Tribe)
 BOX 748, BELL ROAD, HOULTON, ME 04730

ASSISTED BY:
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
 5 GODFREY DRIVE, ORONO, ME 04473

and the
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

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Southern Aroostook Soil and Water Conservation District
 RFD #2, Box 45 - Houlton, Maine 04730 - Phone (207) 532-2997

**Minutes from the Meduxnekeg Watershed Coalition
 Jan. 21, 1999 Meeting
 Held at the Houlton Water Company**

Attendance: Tom Berry, Tim Peters, Shari Verno, Urban Hughes, Brian Longstaff, Don Collins, Cathy Hoppe, Mark Cassidy, Don Collins, Carol Willette, Angie Reed, John Schaub, Bill Grady.

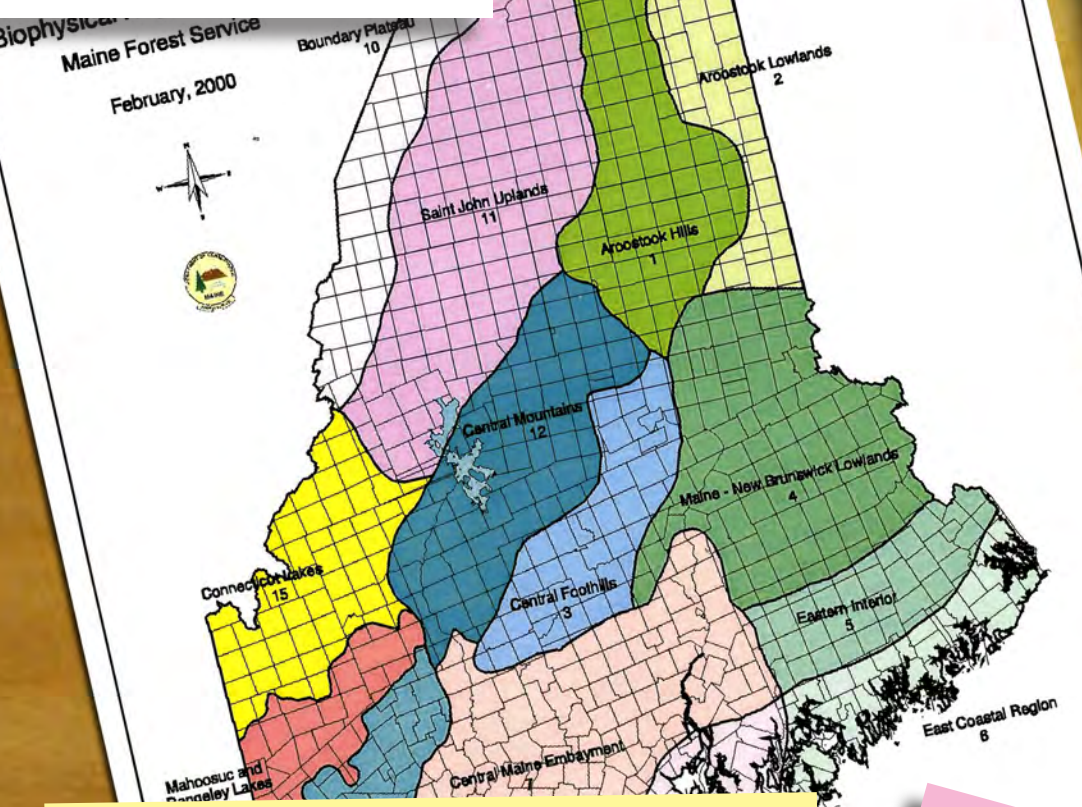
A. The group reviewed the by-law protocol for electing the Chair and Vice-Chair. Don Collins nominated Shari Verno for Chair and Mark Cassidy for Vice-Chair. Tom Berry seconded the nomination. Don Collins qualified his nomination with his own experience with the by-law protocol during the Coalition's current "growth spurt" and would help with continuity. A vote was taken at the next meeting.

B. Angie Reed reported on the results of her map of the watershed and will have more information next month.

C. A committee to develop an historic map of the watershed was formed and consists of: Mark Cassidy, Tom Berry, Dave Saunders, Brian Longstaff, and Garth Gooding (if interested). Shari Verno reiterated her finding that the range of cost for the map would be between \$1000 and \$3000. The committee will ask Mr. York (York's Bookstore) for his help and have some samples of historic information for the Coalition to review next month.

D. Shari Verno will continue to work with Angie Reed on the map project through the New Brunswick project.

Aroostook Hills Region -
 Characterized by gently rolling terrain with elevations averaging between 500' and 1000'. Unlike the Saint John Uplands and Aroostook Lowlands, lakes and peatlands are abundant. Bedrock is almost entirely composed of weakly metamorphosed interbedded pelites, sandstones, and some limestone. Climate varies considerably from north to south. Forest ecosystems are more diverse in the Aroostook Hills Region than in western portions of Aroostook County.

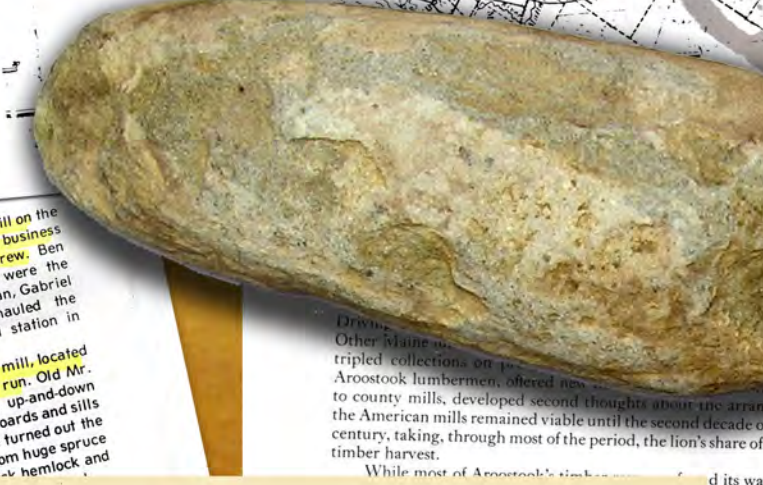


Aroostook Lowlands Region
 Elevations are relatively low (approximately 600' to 800') except for a few scattered monadnocks which rise above gently rolling terrain. Bedrock [types] represent the most extensive calcareous formations in the state. Igneous rocks are limited to two small granitic plutons west of Houlton. The climate is relatively uniform. The frost-free season is longer than other regions in northern Maine. The entire region is covered with till - much of it weakly calcareous. Deep till deposits contribute to the region's undulating topography. A number of colostriches occur here; these are rare or do not occur elsewhere in Maine. A number of woody species reach range limits (both northern and southern) in the region. Woody species richness is the highest of the four northern regions.

Maine-New Brunswick Lowlands Region
 Elevations generally range from 400' to 600'. The landscape is one of low relief and contains the largest concentration of peatlands, marshes, and swamps in the state. The climate is transitional between that of the coastal zone to the north and west. Glaciolacustrine deposits are extensive throughout, while glaciomarine clays are prominent in the St. Croix and Penobscot river basins. These deposits have given rise to mineral soils that are generally well drained, and depressions are frequently filled with dense vegetation. The greatest variety of peatland ecosystem in the state occurs here. A number of woody species reach their northern limits.

"While supper was preparing, I made inquiry concerning birds, quadrupeds and fishes, and was pleased to hear that all these animals abounded in the neighborhood. Deer, bear, trout, salmon, and grouse were quite plentiful as was the great gray owl. When we resumed our journey next morning nature displayed all her loveliness, and autumn with her mellow tints, her glowing fruits and her rich fields of corn, smiled in placid beauty. Many of the fields had not been reaped; the fruits of the forest and orchards hung clustering around us."

In his diary, Audubon told of coming up the St. John River on a towboat as far as Woodstock on his way to Houlton. While in Houlton, he and his family tarried at "Uncle Jimmie's" Inn on the hill.



Axe head Abbe Museum

Meduxnekeg Watershed Classification Project

George Peabody
 Simon J. Mitchell

Thanks to those who signed on to help:

Angie Reed, OWL/MWC
 Brian Stewart, MWC
 Cara O'Donnell, HBMI
 David Lombard, HBMI

David Putnam
 David Saunders, MWC
 Donald Collins
 George Peabody, MRA

Kay Bell, Houlton Historical Society
 Rhonda Jewell-Smart, HBMI
 Simon Mitchell, MRA
 Shari Verno, HBMI
 Susan Young, HBMI

Minutes from the Meduxnekeg Watershed Coalition's April 15, 1999 meeting held at the Houlton Water Company

Attendance: Shari Verno, Jessica Schaub, John Clark, Torrey Sylvester, Dave Saunders, Don Collins, Holly Violette, Tom Berry, Brian Longstaff, Tim Peters, Urban Hughes, Andrea Newman.

A. The meeting opened with discussion of quorum criteria and changes to By-Laws. It was decided that a vote should be taken when there are more voting members present, perhaps at the next meeting.

B. It was decided that the Coalition would sponsor a booth at the Houlton Retail Trade Fair on May 1 and 2. Tom noted that he took care of booking a booth and ordering the materials for the fair. Volunteers were listed to help staff the booth.

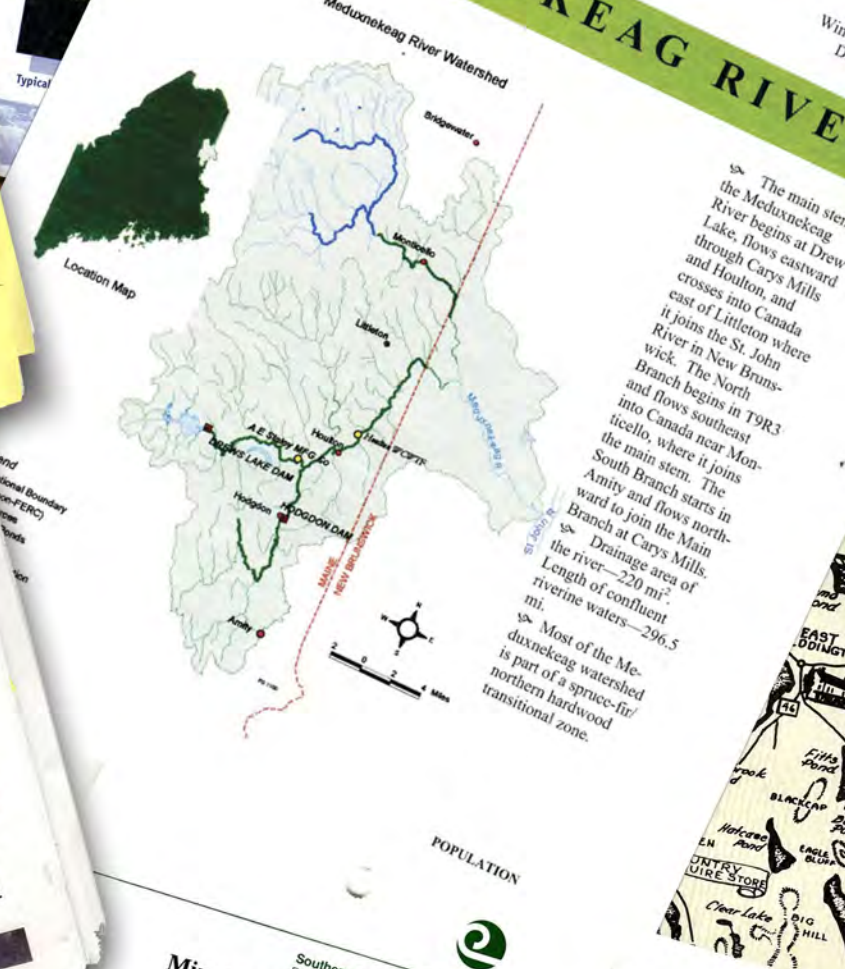
C. Discussion of the historic map project was tabled pending the return of Angie Reed from the New Brunswick project.

Meduxnekeg Watershed Classification Project

SOILS
 The soils in the watershed are of the Galton Unit. Much of the soil is highly eroded, weathered shale fragments and are among the most infertile soils in New Brunswick. These soils tend to be more compact at depth than other soils in time, or are currently in agricultural production. The steep, stony, and poorly drained soils are covered in forest.

HUMAN HISTORY
 The Meduxnekeg watershed is part of the Maliseet settlement pattern. The area has not been inhabited since the late nineteenth century. The establishment of villages at or near the mouths of major Maliseet tributaries in the watershed is well documented. The Town of Woodstock at the mouth of the Meduxnekeg and on the island which lay in the St. John length of time it existed, but the earliest surviving written historical records show an area of settlement in the 1700s.

In any event, the Maliseet presence will have had a significant shaping effect on the ecology of the watershed of the region.



Minutes from the Meduxnekeg Watershed Coalition's Nov. 19, 1998 meeting held at the Maliseet lounge Authority Building

Attendance: Dave Saunders, Shari Verno, Tom Berry, Cathy Hoppe, George Peabody, Tim Peters, Andrea Newman.

A. Tom Berry gave an update on how the Watershed Coalition's Fall Tru went. Following a delicious breakfast participants enjoyed a tour of project completion and ongoing work around the watershed.

B. The logo was approved unanimously. The logo is a stylized 'W' with a river flowing through it.

C. Shari Verno presented the idea of preparing a historical map of the watershed. The map would show the watershed's boundaries and the location of historical sites. The map would be used for educational purposes and to help in the development of the watershed's historical records. The map would also be used to help in the development of the watershed's historical records.

