

**Maine Association of Wetland Scientist Executive Committee Meeting  
December 8, 2005**

Meeting attended by Kathleen Miller, Jen West, Stephanie Swiezynski, Lauren Stockwell, Karol Worden, Eugenie Francine, and Don Phillips.

The EC meeting was held at the Senator Inn following a well attended MAWS sponsored workshop; *Wetland Policy and Regulations Summary Panel Discussion*. Kudos to Jen for putting together a very informative panel discussion that covered the issues of mitigation from the both the State and Federal levels.

**Certification Subcommittee**

Don Phillips was asked to attend the EC meeting to provide a brief overview and update of the Certification Subcommittee's work on the issue of credentialing wetland scientists in Maine. Don explained that at the Certification Subcommittee's last meeting held on October 14<sup>th</sup> was intended to put that the final touches on the preliminary report so that the EC could review and comment on prior to presentation to the membership at the Annual Meeting in March 2006. The report presents the possible avenues and the pros and cons to pursue certification for wetland scientists in Maine. It was hoped that the EC would review the paper and suggest what the next course of action should be so that the membership could vote on it.

At the time of the meeting the paper had not been completed and Gary Emond was still awaiting some comments from subcommittee members and was having difficulty retrieving those electronic comments. He would attempt to get the paper out to the EC prior to the holidays. *The paper has subsequently been sent to the EC for review.*

Given the deadline for placing articles and information in the *Obligate* it was decided that the best way to get the information to the membership for review prior to the Annual Meeting was to place a notice in the *Obligate* that the *Exploratory Paper on the Issue of Credentialing Wetland Scientists in Maine* will be posted on the MAWS website for review and is to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. A brief overview of the process taken by the Subcommittee and the possible credentialing avenues will appear in the *Obligate*. Although comments and discussion regarding the document will be entertained there needs to be a time limit on the discussion prior to the vote. In addition an insert will be placed in the *Obligate* explaining the motion for a vote by the membership.

**Annual Meeting**

The proposed date for the 2006 MAWS Annual Meeting is Tuesday March 14<sup>th</sup> at Augusta Elks Lodge, Augusta, Maine. The meeting will run from 8:00 am – 2:30 pm, and will be immediately followed by a MAWS Executive Committee Business Meeting.

Possible topics for presentations were discussed and the following topics were agreed upon pending availability of presenters:

- *Wetlands of Special Significance (WSS)*: how they are defined and determined in the field and what is the consultant's responsibility (1 hour)

\*Rich Jordan will post the letters MAWS has received to date from the MDEP regarding the interpretation of WSS on the MAWS website.

- Certification Subcommittee update:  
Gary Emond or Don Phillips (1 hour)
- Stormwater Management Law: overview of latest revision.  
Bill Laflamme;MDEP (1 hour)
- *Habitat Selection for Spotted and Blanding's Turtle Population* – Frederick Beaudry, University of Maine, Orono, MAWS 2004 Stipend winner. (45 minutes)

*Myriophyllum heterophyllum: Distribution, Vegetation Reproductive and Control in Southwestern Maine*- Jacolyn Bailey, University of Maine, Orono MAWS 2005 Stipend winner (45 minutes)

Proposed MAWS Annual Meeting Agenda:

8:00 – 8:30 Registration  
8:30 – 9:30 WSS  
9:30-10:00 Certification Subcommittee update  
10:00 – 10:15 Break  
10:15 – 11:15 Stormwater Law Revisions  
11:15 – 12:15  
12:15 – 1:00 Lunch  
1:00 – 2:30 Stipend Winners  
2:30 – 3:30 MAWS Business Meeting

**Nominations For Open Positions**

The following positions are open:

Treasurer; Dana Valteau  
Ethics; Stephanie Swiezynski  
Membership; Rich Jordan

Possible nominations include:

Jay Raymond  
Rod Kellshaw  
Dale Knapp, Woodlot Alternatives [dknapp@woodlotalternatives.com](mailto:dknapp@woodlotalternatives.com)  
Kathleen will e-mail regarding the nomination and the positions that are open.

Nominations should be mailed to Kathleen no later than January 1, 2006 so that they can be placed in the Obligate.

Karol Worden will submit a brief overview of the legislative actions regarding recent changes within MDEP and the Corps; i.e. vernal pools, WSS, reissuance of Maine PGP, etc...

Rich will post Roberts Rules of Order on the MAWS web site.

The issue of non-paying MAWS members was revisited. Mailings need to be sent out to those whose dues are not paid stating that they are being dropped from the membership.

The next Executive Committee will meet on January 5, 2006,  
5:30, Romeos in Topsham, Maine.

Agenda: Review *Exploratory Paper on the Issue of Credentialing Wetland Scientists in Maine*.