

White Mountain National Forest
2006 A Year in Review

The employees of the White Mountain National Forest are proud to provide a brief update on the many programs, activities, and projects we have worked on in 2006. It is a privilege that we have the opportunity to serve the many people who come to the Forest for various pursuits, while it is also humbling to know we share the responsibility to sustain these lands for future generations.

This year marks the first year of implementation of a newly-revised Land and Resource Management Plan that provides long-term direction for resource management efforts on the Forest. Plan revision required years of public involvement to help build understanding and support among the diverse groups and individuals that value these public lands in New Hampshire and Maine. This publication, our yearly detailed monitoring report, and other site-specific documents are an effort to continue this open communication on the management of your National Forest.



Many of the projects that are detailed in this publication would not have been possible without the help of volunteers, partners, and contractors, and the cooperation of other agencies and individuals. I would like to express my appreciation for everyone who actively assisted us this last year; your efforts truly provide the needed energy to sustain the Forest over time. If you haven't had the opportunity to work with us, and you are interested in becoming involved with your National Forest, I suggest you visit one of our offices or explore our website <www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/white_mountain>.

I look forward to working with you in 2007 on the White Mountain National Forest.

TOM WAGNER

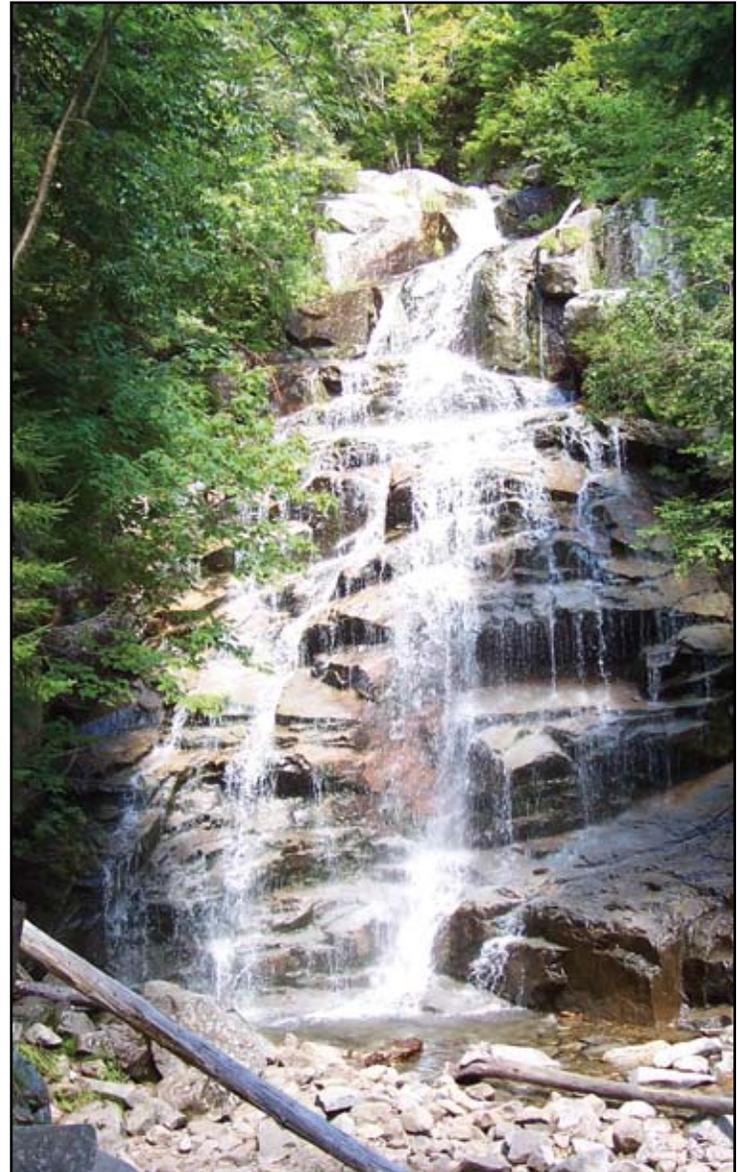
Forest Supervisor

A sustainable future, a legacy of restoration ... a vision for the eastern region

Sharing in stewardship regardless of boundaries includes sharing conservation leadership with partners and the public by drawing on our collective strengths to protect and manage natural resources; contributing to local economies, knowing that people, communities, and the environment are all connected; providing opportunities for people to understand and experience their land and the cultural story it has to tell; working with partners on challenges that transcend boundaries; and recognizing our role in the global community.

Respecting the land by replenishing it includes continuing to restore the land, inspiring others to restore lands around the world; supporting sustainable production of goods and services for our society; promoting actions that support healthy lands and healthy lives, enhancing the enduring bond with the land for this and future generations; and encouraging people to value all of the benefits that the forests and prairie offer to each citizen.

Inspiring good government through innovation and excellence includes striving for excellence in all that we do, affirming the best in ourselves and others; reaping the benefits of working with employees and partners, joining the strengths and perspectives of diverse people; continually innovating to improve our effectiveness, adopting new technologies and science and exploring new paths to improve public service; and promoting an ethic of wise consumption that respects the land and all the life that depends upon it.



Sharing in stewardship regardless of boundaries



Anchoring woody debris in Great Brook.

Great Brook Watershed Improvement

The Great Brook Watershed Project, coming to a close after several years of staged improvements, is an exemplary demonstration of collaboration and watershed restoration in New England. Supporting these watershed accomplishments is a network of professionals that are working together for the first time to improve watershed conditions throughout New Hampshire and Maine. Funding from the Fish and Wildlife Service provided ADM and Bailey bridges for use as temporary stream crossings.

Now that the treatments are completed, habitat conditions will be evaluated to determine the changes in both aquatic insect communities and fish abundance.

Monitoring stream morphology, wood movements, instream habitat types, wild trout populations, and aquatic invertebrates before and after management treatments allows us to learn what we can expect from future wood loadings to streams.

Maine Assistance

The fundamentals of the Great Brook project have been applied to several projects in the state of Maine. Sunday River, near Bethel, ME, requested assistance from project managers to guide them through a stream restoration project.

Fisheries specialists have also been asked by officials in Northern Maine to guide them in their restoration efforts on the Machias River system.

Bartlett Culvert Project

A culvert replacement project in the Bartlett Experimental Forest provided us with an opportunity to countersink the culvert instead of replacing the existing open bottom culvert. Countersinking entails placement of materials that replicate those in the adjacent streambed ensuring the stream habitat is consistent.

Long term monitoring will be done on both types of culverts to determine which method best meets the needs of the fisheries program — and the fish.

Soils Survey

The White Mountain National Forest, the Northern Research Station, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Plymouth State University have agreed to work together to complete a soil survey of the National Forest.

The survey, which will provide resource specialists with detailed soils resource information for use in future project analyses, is expected to start in 2007 and be complete in 2011.



*Above: Construction of Bartlett Experimental Forest culvert.
Below: Soils survey team at work.*



Above: View of Owl's Head from the Bayroot Tract.

Below: Mirror Lake Tract.



Land Acquisition

Bayroot Tract — 450.7 acres (\$365,000) — Protects approximately 5/8 mile of the Owl's Head Trail from future development, provides road access via an appurtenant easement over private lands to National Forest lands, protects approximately 3,000 feet of stream frontage, eliminates two land corners, and meets the overall support of the public to protect and enhance watersheds and ecological communities, provide for outdoor recreational uses, and provide access.

Mirror Lake Tract — 9.38 acres (\$330,000) — The USDA Northeastern Research Station requested the acquisition of this property to insure long-term protection of the Mirror Lake watershed. They consider this acquisition as critically important to protect the watershed and lakeshore from further development in order to maintain Mirror Lake's ecological integrity. Mirror Lake has been studied for almost 40 years to better understand the basic ecological and ecosystem processes and how these processes respond to disturbances. By protecting the watershed, the lake can continue to serve as an environmental barometer. The tract is managed as part of the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest within the White Mountain National Forest.

Blanchard Tract — 25 acres (\$17,000) — The acquisition of this inholding on top of Grandview Mountain resolved access issues and eliminated four boundary corners and over a mile of boundary line maintenance.



Backcountry ranger talks with hikers in the Alpine Zone.

Recreation and Wilderness

The last year provided the Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Program with opportunities to expand on previous work, to enhance partnerships, and to increase our capacity to accomplish goals.

The Forest Plan set some ambitious goals for the program. Most notable among our accomplishments in this regard is that we were able to manage our five Wildernesses to standard in Fiscal 2006. This was due primarily to implementing the Wilderness Management Plan, which will allow us to exceed those standards in future years.

Fiscal 2006 was an excellent year for our efforts to expand capacity through work with external partners. We were able to strengthen our relationships with existing partners such as the Appalachian Mountain Club, the White Mountains Interpretive Association, and the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. In addition, we strengthened our partnerships with local snowmobile clubs, with the Swift Water Council of the Girl Scouts, and with the Student Conservation Association.

We continued implementation of the Recreation Enhancement Act, which establishes a standard collection of amenities our visitors can expect in our recreation fee sites.

We also completed a plan to streamline our outfitter and guide program, such that permitted groups can more efficiently navigate the application process, and Forest Service representatives can better assure that applicants meet our safety and training standards.



Cyclists take a break on the Kancamagus Highway.



Canada Lynx

On the night of January 26, 2006, a Canada lynx crossed Rt. 2 heading north. A team from the NH Audubon tracking project spotted the tracks in fresh snow the next morning, and followed them to the road and found them again on the other side. Based on the characteristics of the trail, the trackers were confident the lynx was just passing through the area.

During the revision of the White Mountain National Forest Plan, biologists anticipated the likelihood of Canada lynx being identified on National Forest land. In consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, appropriate standards and guidelines were prepared and included in the final Plan.

At about 3 feet long and 15-30 pounds, the Canada lynx is at least twice the size of the average house cat. It has long, strong legs; a short tail; prominent ear tufts; and long, sideburn-style hair on the sides of its face. Lynx are often recognized by their huge, furry paws, which help them travel over deep snow.



Capital Improvement Projects

Two bridge projects were completed in 2006. The Zealand Road Bridge over the Ammonoosuc River entailed complete superstructure replacement of the 105 foot long bridge. The York Pond Road Bridge at the fish hatchery (see photo above) included installation of a Bailey bypass bridge and minor reconstruction of the first road bridge on the site. Uses of both bridges include public access to recreation sites, timber haul, and water works traffic.

The York Pond Road reconstruction from the Forest boundary to the Fish Hatchery was also completed. This included recycling existing pavement and replacing culverts.

Respecting the land by replenishing it

Invasives

Non-native invasive species are plants or animals whose origin is generally somewhere other than North America. They may be harmless or even beneficial in their native environments, but when introduced elsewhere they can disrupt the established order and function of the ecosystem and become especially aggressive or difficult to manage (Pimentel et al., 1999).

The goal of the Forest Service invasive species program is to reduce, minimize, or eliminate the potential for introduction, establishment, spread, and impact of invasive species across all landscapes and ownerships.

Key accomplishments in 2006 include an agreement signed with the NE Wildflower Society to conduct an invasive plant inventory of the recently designated Wild River Wilderness and the addition to the Sandwich Range Wilderness.

Work continued with both Maine and New Hampshire departments of transportation to contain the spread of invasives near the borders of the Forest. Maine DOT conducted an environmental assessment to apply herbicides along roadsides in Evans Notch as part of their highway clearing project. NH DOT agreed that when plants such as Japanese knotweed are identified along a



Purple Loosestrife

main thoroughfare to the Forest the plants will not be mowed and spread further along the roads.

All heavy equipment operators are cooperating by washing equipment before moving onto or between sites on the Forest and to use weed free mulch.

Forest employees have been trained in identification of key species. Select personnel have been trained and certified in pesticide application in anticipation of several key projects.



Prescribed and Wildland Fire

There are two major components to the White Mountain National Forest fire program: prescribed fire and wildland fire support.

Prescribed Fire

Prescribed fire is used to reduce hazardous fuels, restore ecosystems and to maintain and improve wildlife habitat. One hundred twenty-two acres were treated across the Forest during the 2006 field season.

Moat Prescribed Fire and Thinning Project

The Moat Project exemplifies how prescribed fire and thinning are used to improve habitat and increase the health of forests in the urban interface. A rare, fire-adapted plant community was identified in Conway, NH, by botanists from the White Mountain National Forest and New Hampshire Natural Heritage Inventory. The 150-plus acres of mixed pine and oak woodlands was slowly being replaced by other species.

The project goals incorporated a prescribed burn and thinning to increase growing space for the desired pine and oak species, and to reduce the amount of burnable material that could support a wildfire near adjacent residential communities. Post-fire monitoring is underway, and initial reports are very positive.

Wildfire/Incident Support

Support for national incidents continues to be a priority.

For the second year, a fire engine and crew were sent to Arizona to support early season activity. Twelve crew members rotated duty over an 8 week period.

Four wildland fire crews, one five person initial attack squad, four individual firefighters, and 56 individual resources were dispatched to incidents in Arizona, California, Ohio, Minnesota, Oregon, Oklahoma, Nevada, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Montana, Texas, Mississippi, Maine, New Mexico, Washington, Wyoming, and Pennsylvania during the 2006 fire season.

One hundred eight people were pack tested, and 121 received fireline refresher training. An additional 20 employees received basic firefighting training. Task-related training, such as chainsaw training and refreshers, was also completed.

Cascade Fire

On April 21, 2006, Forest fire personnel were advised that there was a human-caused wildfire burning on the east side of the Androscoggin River between Berlin and Gorham, NH. Crews had been working on two prescribed fire units nearby, and were able to respond to provide assistance. Forest Service personnel constructed fireline and monitored conditions through the night; state crews resumed duty the following morning. The fire was held at 98 acres.

Forest crews also assisted in suppression of four additional fires adjacent to or on the White Mountain National Forest. On-Forest, 2.11 acres burned, with a total of 140.11 acres for the five fires.



Above: The Forest sent firefighters to the Stanley fire in Idaho.

Below: WMNF crews also assisted with suppressing the Cascade Fire near Berlin and Gorham, NH.



Forestry Management

Approximately 35 percent of the Forest has been identified as suitable for the production of forest products. Sustainable forestry practices are used to provide many benefits that the public expects, including maintaining or enhancing biodiversity, assisting state wildlife agencies in meeting wildlife population goals, contributing to the economic needs of communities, providing a sustainable



and predictable level of quality sawtimber and other forest products, and demonstrating sustainable forestry practices for both public and private landowners.

Forestry activities can occur on approximately 3,400 acres annually, representing less than one percent of the overall forest land base. The maximum harvest level in the revised Plan will be 24 million board feet. Within the 3,400 acres, approximately 1,000 would be regeneration harvests designed to create brushy and young forest conditions that favor specific wildlife species, and to perpetuate the presence of aspen and birch habitats on the Forest.

In FY 2006, timber sale contracts were issued, covering approximately 2,000 acres and producing 13.6 million board feet. They were valued at over \$1.9 million, \$475,000 of which will be returned to local communities as Payment to States. New Hampshire law also requires successful bidders to pay a 10 percent yield tax on all timber harvested, making these sales a substantial impact on the state's economy. The amount was, however, significantly below 2005 totals, due to appeals on three projects late in the year.

Ore Hill Reclamation

The abandoned Ore Hill mine site in the town of Warren, New Hampshire, has been under Forest Service management since 1937.

A variety of minerals including copper, zinc, lead, iron, and silver were mined from the site in the 1800s, leaving several piles of tailings and a pile of waste rock. A small drainage with poor water quality ran through the site and impacted water quality and aquatic species downstream in Ore Hill Brook.

In 1984, the Forest Service re-contoured the tailings piles and capped the area with a thin layer of limestone and several inches of topsoils tailings, diverted flow, lined channels with limestone, improved the appearance of the site, and somewhat improved water quality.

The reclamation work completed in 2006 was done under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The tailings and rock excavated, treated with a phosphate-based material, tested, and then hauled to an on-site repository. The treatment material binds any remaining heavy metals, rendering them virtually insoluble.

Long-term monitoring of the site will be done through a cooperative agreement with the Plymouth State University Center for the Environment.



*Above: Looking south toward the tailings area before excavation.
Below: Preparing the repository area.*



Forest Plan Implementation

The revised Forest Plan was signed into effect by Regional Forester Randy Moore in late 2005, and the appeal period ended — without appeal — in early 2006. This milestone could not have been reached without long-term partnerships and strong relationships with the thousands of individuals and scores of organizations who worked with us over the years of revision, and whose continued interest is vital as we implement the Plan to manage this public land.

Monitoring

Monitoring was a topic of interest during the revision process. A monitoring guide has been developed, released for public comment, and reviewed by the Northern Research Station and Plymouth State University Center for the Environment.

The Forest monitoring program has several components. The monitoring plan (Chapter 4 of the Forest Plan) identifies required monitoring and outlines key questions that monitoring on the Forest will address over time. The monitoring guide identifies specific monitoring items, including data collection and analysis protocols. Each year a monitoring schedule is developed

based on priorities and timing in the monitoring guide and the annual budget. Each year, a wide array of employees, partners, and volunteers accomplish the funded monitoring, increasing our understanding of natural resources, Forest use, and the effectiveness of the Forest Plan.

The annual monitoring report is a critical component of the Forest's monitoring program. In it, the Forest Service typically describes what monitoring work was accomplished that year, shares findings from those monitoring efforts, and discusses how those findings may affect management on the Forest.

The fiscal year 2006 monitoring report, which will be available in early 2007, will describe the types of monitoring work being done across the Forest and detail our accomplishments on 20 monitoring items. Many of those items are new, identified as needs during Forest Plan revision. Others are long-term monitoring topics. As a result, this year's monitoring report will emphasize protocol development and data collection efforts. It will explain where our monitoring program is headed and how we intend to find answers to the questions posed in the monitoring plan.

Inspiring good government through innovation and excellence

Partnerships

Partner support flows through the accomplishments in this report. As you read each project chosen as a feature this year, think about the long term culture of the area and how people have joined together since the creation of the National Forest to maintain and restore this land.

We continue to increase our partnership opportunities, and in FY 2006 entered into 28 new agreements that implement the Forest Plan through a variety of programs. We anticipate even more emphasis will be placed on working with others in the next few years.

We are actively managing a total of 82 agreements. Work accomplished through these agreements include: inventory, monitoring and research, road and trail maintenance, cooperative roads, law enforcement and fire, and conservation education in a variety of formats.

Urban Connections and Future Pathways

On June 16, the Urban Connections and Future Pathways program sponsored over 15 workshops for Boston school children. Nine White Mountain employees traveled to Franklin Park in Boston to share their program area expertise and discuss potential natural resource career paths. Topics included trails and trail building, wildlife,

soils, recreation, tree health, photography and reporting, archeology, and fire and fire management.

This program, held in conjunction with the Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont and State and Private Forestry from Durham, NH, provides us with an outreach opportunity in the greater Boston area.

Students in the Urban Connections and Future Pathways program learned about many Forest skills, including soils survey (right).



Forest for Every Classroom

A Forest for Every Classroom: Learning to Make Choices for the Future of Our Forests is an educational program developed by the National Wildlife Federation, Shelburne Farms, the Green Mountain National Forest, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, and the National Park Service's Conservation Study Institute. This professional development model is being replicated by the New Hampshire partners with permission and support of this founding collaborative.

The NH Partners are: New Hampshire Project Learning Tree, Hubbard Brook Research Foundation, Northeast Natural Resource Center — The National Wildlife Federation, White Mountain National Forest, USDA Forest Service's State and Private Forestry Branch, Northeastern Area, and USDA Forest Service's Northeastern Research Station.

During this year-long team teacher training program, each participating team of educators will be responsible for developing a curriculum unit that meets NH's curriculum frameworks and the literacy needs of their school. Units must be based on real-world learning experiences within their local communities. Each team of teachers will develop a service-learning project that brings the school and the community together, where teachers and students learn about local forestry issues and



pertinent forest research, and become involved in a viable community-based project.

Place-based education is the process of using the local community and environment as a starting point to teach concepts in language arts, math, social studies, science, and other subjects across the curriculum.

The 2006-2007 program includes 11 teachers from private and public middle and high schools. The program of study includes place-based education, soils, forestry and silviculture, land management, plant and animal identification, air quality, global effects, and others.

White Mountains Interpretive Association

The White Mountains Interpretive Association has worked with Forest staff to provide educational and interpretive support for 20 years. This year, they were recognized by the National Association for Interpretation as the recipient of the 2006 Excellence in Interpretive Support Award.



In calendar year 2006, this small volunteer organization returned more than \$30,000 to the White Mountain National Forest for speakers' fees, publications, training, interpretive exhibit design and fabrication, historic site repair, living history programs, and more.

Through their support of the campground talks, we are able to reach out to hundreds of Forest visitors, sharing information about firefighting, wildlife, timber management, recreation, and safety.

The board is made up of volunteers with a wide variety of backgrounds. They include a retired executive from Polaroid with a masters from the Harvard Business School, a former Vice President from Sedgwick Insurance in Boston, MA, a teacher, an interpreter, the Director of Research at the Mt. Washington Observatory, and an industrial engineer from Proctor and Gamble — who serves not only on this board but the board of RSVP, a local volunteer organization.

If you want to know more about the work done by this organization, or want to be involved, contact them through the Saco RD, 33 Kancamagus Highway, Conway, NH 03818.

*Above: Members program at abandoned community of Hastings, NH
Below: Living interpretation at Russell-Colbath homestead*



Forest Discovery Trail

Programs on the Discovery Trail continue to evolve and more people are learning the basics about National Forest vegetation management. This year, in collaboration with Plymouth State University, a summer intern guided the public around the Trail.

An interpretive planning class from Plymouth State University spent a day walking the trail with Forest Service interpretive planners discussing the planning process, message development, interpretive media design and the benefits of on-site guides.

In collaboration with Project Learning Tree, curricula for K-4, 5-8, and 9-12 were updated to include relational information and correlated to the NH State Education standards. More pre- and post- visit information as well as background information was included as well as improved worksheets and educational activities. Trainings with teachers were held in October 2006.



2 WEST ELEVATION
 1/8" = 1'-0"
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White Mountain National Forest Administrative Complex

This new office complex will combine two district offices and the Supervisor’s office at one location. The relocation itself will produce significant savings in transportation costs and in reducing carbon emissions.

Our analysis shows the potential for an energy savings of more than 60 percent for the office, heated warehouse, and boiler house. Much of this is realized through the physical orientation of the building and by using sustainable and efficient products, such as super efficient windows and building materials. Plans also call for taking advantage of natural and controlled lighting, using composting technology to reduce water usage and wastewater generation, recycling grey water, minimizing

site runoff, and numerous other “green” technologies. With the heating, cooling, and power requirements reduced, the design further reduces energy needs by heating the entire complex with wood chips at one third the annual cost for oil or propane. The Forest is currently aggressively exploring the cutting edge technology of biomass gasification as a way to heat and power not only this complex, but also to provide power for the other two district offices on the Forest. This system is highly desirable as the gasification process will radically reduce carbon emissions — virtually to zero. Biomass (wood) gasification is much more environmental friendly than combustion systems.

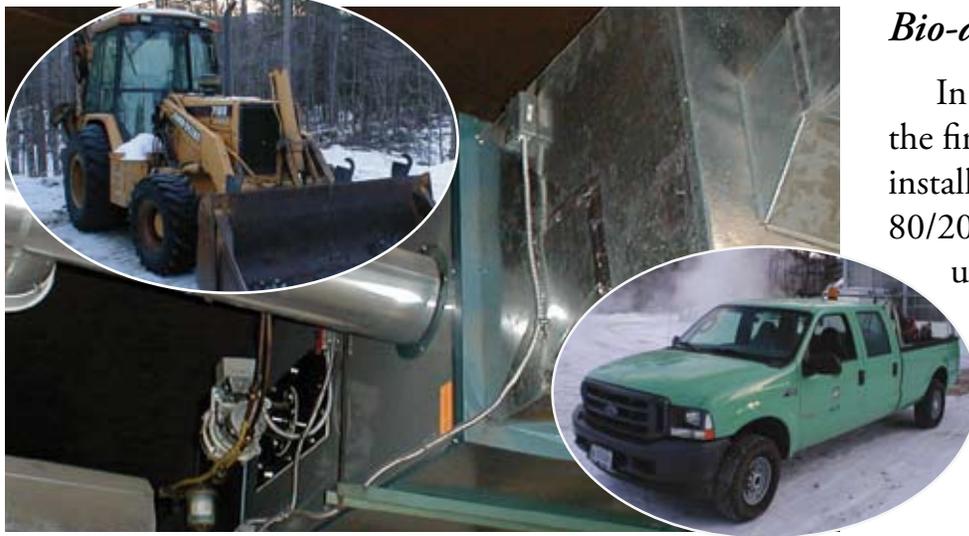
Solar Power

Solar power in a variety of applications has been adopted forest wide, reducing our reliance on the power grid and providing an extraordinary level of previously unavailable customer service and improved communications for a safer and more efficient work environment. Most of the Forest's solar applications are at day use and trailhead areas, such as Rumney Rocks (a popular climbing area) and the Welch/Dickey trailhead. Here and at numerous other locations, toilets are ventilated and lighted at night using solar power. The remote Lincoln Woods Visitor Center and Wilderness entrance station uses solar power for lights, water, flush toilets, and recharging cell phones and radios, allowing for communications where none were previously available.



Above: Solar panels at Passaconaway Campground toilet.

Below: Bio-diesel use at Bartlett — furnace, heavy equipment, vehicles.



Bio-diesel

In 2005, thanks to the initiative of Forest employees, the first 1,000 gallon bio-diesel tank and furnace were installed at the Bartlett compound. Starting with an 80/20 bio-diesel/regular diesel mix in 2005, and, in 2006, upgrading to a 50/50 mix, bio-diesel is now used in all the Forest's heavy equipment and in two pickup trucks. The plan for 2007 is to install bio-diesel tanks at all district offices and to begin replacing existing gas-fueled pickups with diesels, further reducing the Forest Service's carbon footprint.

Relationship with Research

We continued our work with both the Bartlett Experimental Forest <<http://www.fs.fed.us/ne/durham/4155/bartlett.htm>> and Hubbard Brook Ecosystem Study <<http://www.hubbardbrook.org/>>.

Research projects include long term calcium depletion and nutrient uptake of plants, climate change at the ecosystem level, fire effects monitoring, and long term bird population studies.

The ability of staff to interact routinely with researchers adds to our project planning and implementation capability.

Research Requests

More than 70 student or individual research projects are ongoing at this time. Seventeen new research requests were received this fiscal year. They cover a variety of topics including, butternut canker, hiker impact on vegetation and soil, frost susceptibility on roads, red spruce and global climate, and black throated blue warbler.



GeoBook

One version of the 2005 Forest Plan available to the public is an innovative electronic document called a GeoBook. Not only does it allow for rapid searching within the text and extensive use of color in headings and illustrations, it also has a very powerful map component that lets the user view Forest maps with a choice of several different overlays (layers) and degrees of magnification. When the final Plan documents were released, a new “Maps GeoBook” was included that provides map data beyond what is contained in the Plan. It is possible for us to provide new layers that can be viewed within the Maps book. The GeoBooks can be downloaded from the Forest Web site at <www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/white_mountain/projects/forest_plan_revision/Downloads.php>.

Administrative Functions

During 2006, the Forest Service continued seeking ways to consolidate business functions. In the past, each forest employed a number of people to provide budget, travel, and human resource work. The bulk of that work is now being done in Albuquerque, NM, where a smaller workforce serves employees, contractors, and vendors across the country. This affects Forest employees and our customers. It's a time of change, and we ask that each of you work with us as we make adjustments.

Competitive Sourcing

In an effort to further improve the efficiency of the agency, communications positions were studied in 2006, with photography and web management selected for additional review. We are awaiting final determination about how this work will be done in the future: within the Forest Service or under a private sector contract.

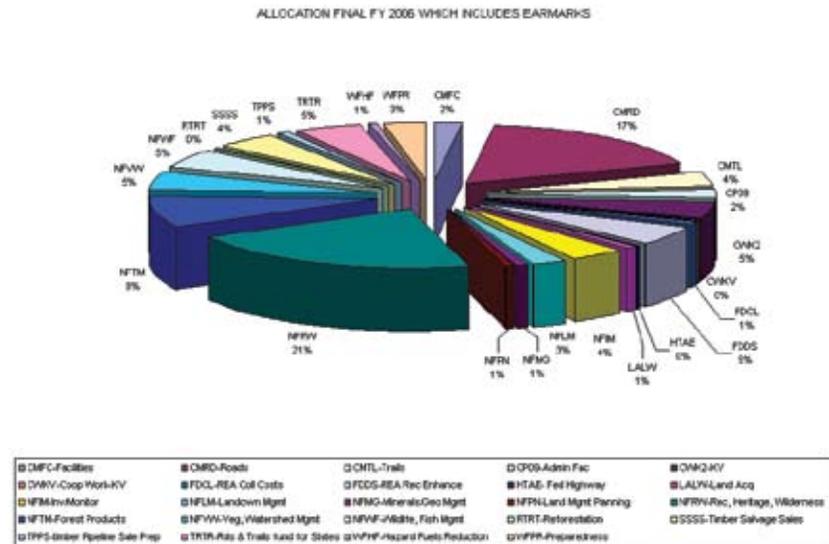
Environmental Compliance Audit

A voluntary environmental compliance audit was held on the Forest in August. Its objective was to ensure that our operations and administrative/recreation facilities meet regulatory and environmental standards outlined in state and federal law.

The findings and recommendations show that we are addressing issues related to management of facilities, handling and disposal of hazardous wastes, and air and water standards, but we still have areas in need of improvement. Our participation in the audit shows our firm commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all users of the Forest. A Corrective Action Plan will be developed in FY 2007 and accomplishments will be tracked.

Budget

We continue to refine our budget process, working within the allocations in the President's budget. Our primary goal is to implement the Forest Plan. The chart depicts our 2006 allocations by program area.



Diversity Outreach

We are working with Latino community leaders in Manchester and Nashua, NH, to provide information about careers in natural resource management. We participated in the seventh annual Latino Festival in Manchester, NH, for the second year, providing information about careers in natural resources to almost 1,000 people.

As part of our efforts to expose non-traditional students to future career options in the Forest Service, two of our four Student Conservation Association (SCA) crews were comprised of urban youths from the Hispanic community in southern NH.

The Student Career Experience Program (SCEP)

This program is one of the ways for young professionals to enter public service. The program provides work experience that is directly related to the student's academic program or career goals. SCEP students may be non-competitively converted to career, term, or career-conditional appointments. SCEP gives students exposure to their future work environment while enhancing their educational goals.

In 2006 two students were converted to permanent positions on the Forest. Additionally, an Ecologist/Soil Scientist SCEP student started working with our Soil



SCA crew rehabilitates Lost Pond campsite.

Scientist. This position is a cooperative effort with the University of New Hampshire and Northern Research Station. Projects identified for her include carbon sequestration issues and possibly carbon accounting.

Photo Credits

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