Albany South Comment Period Now in Progress

ollowing the release of Albany South's draft Environmental Assessment (EA), a 30-Day Comment Period began on May 6.

In the 288-page draft EA, the Forest Service reviews each of the five alternatives being considered for Albany South to "determine whether implementation of the proposed activities may significantly affect the quality of the human environment."

KLWA has concerns about Albany South, including the potential size and scope of the Project within our Watershed; the inadequacy of certain protections; the additive impacts of Climate Change; and impacts on recreation.

KLWA will continue to press for the mapping of all streams within impacted areas, and for increased stream buffers.

KLWA will submit comments on behalf of its membership, but encourages people to send individual comments and concerns as well. The deadline for submitting comments is June 6.

Please visit the KLWA Web site (www.klwa.us) for more information about Albany South, the Draft Environmental Assessment, and KLWA's concerns. We'll also post some guidance



To accommodate large logging trucks, a 25-foot-wide gravel road will replace the current State Snowmobile Trail. (see red flags). Though still termed "reconstruction," the proposed road actually swings east of the existing trail for quite a distance. This road is scheduled for reconstruction under all of the Albany South proposed alternatives except for Alternative 1, which is no action.

on how to comment. Comments can be e-mailed to: comments-eastern-white-mountain-androscoggin@fs.fed.us.

Water Quality 2015

by HEINRICH WURM

am happy to report that our lake, ponds and streams were considered in good general health last year. Please take some time to study the report our friends at FB Environmental wrote for us on our Web site (www.klwa.us). You will not only find results, maps and graphs, but also historical comparisons and easy to understand explanations of terms and issues.

We had a memorably long and snowy winter in 2014-15 — with ice-out occurring on April 24th as compared to this year's March 29. Lake scientists prefer long ice covers and worry more about early warm-ups, where the lake breaks up into layers of different temperatures, something all of us have experienced when diving into the lake in June when there is only a relatively thin layer of warm surface water. During the height of summer, the separation of layers, also called stratification, becomes more pronounced and the bottom layer of the lake — generally at a depth

below 10-15 feet, becomes effectively insulated from the top layer. Even light no longer reaches into the deeper layers and photosynthesis ceases. Oxygen consumption by fish and microscopic lifeforms, including bacteria continues, however, and oxygen starvation may occur. Low oxygen levels threaten our

Please take some time to study the report our friends at FB Environmental wrote for us on our Web site (www.klwa.us).

cold water fish who spend the summer at these depths. Oxygen starvation can also release unwelcome chemicals like phosphorus and mercury from the lake bottom.

Three of our ponds and sporadically the Upper Bay have a history of low dissolved oxygen or DO numbers. This means dissolved oxygen was below 5 milligrams per liter measured with a submersible instrument 2-3 times a year continued on page 6

President's Message

by JIM STONE



We have continued a dialogue with the US Forest Service (USFS) on their timbering project called Albany South. On May 6, the USFS released the draft Environmental Assessment (EA), which outlines areas they propose to timber and how it will be done. After release, the public has 30 days to provide comments and the USFS is required to review those comments before issuing a final plan. We have begun to analyze the EA to identify operations we perceive as posing risks to the health of our watershed and will provide comments back to the USFS. We will post information to our Web site (klwa.us) and communicate via e-mail to our members for whom we have an e-mail address. You can view the EA directly at www.fs.usda. gov/projects/whitemountain/ landmanagement/projects.

Water Quality

In March, we published the results of the 2015 Water Testing program on our Web site. This effort now encompasses Kezar Lake, Great and Boulder Brooks, plus the six ponds in the watershed. Results broadly in line with previous years and are generally very good to excellent, except for the continuing decline in alkalinity. Alkalinity is needed to neutralize acids and to buffer increases in phosphorous that can enter the watershed from storm water run-off, fertilizers and leaking or faulty septic systems. As many of you will recall, last year we funded a culvert study to help the Town of Lovell identify culverts needing repair or replacement.

This year, the Board has created a flyer outlining responsible shoreline conservation practices, which will be distributed over the summer. And in conjunction with the GLLT, we have also arranged for Maggie Shannon, Program Director for the Maine Lakes Society, to give a talk at the Charlotte Hobbs Library on July 12 at 7:30pm entitled "The Vital Shorelands; little known facts and everyday acts that can preserve Maine's Lakes."

Lake Patrol

The Lake Patrol, ranked second only to water quality in importance to our membership, will again be on Kezar Lake this summer; and we have budgeted an increase in hours from last year. We will also again supplement the Town of Lovell's budget for additional Warden Service coverage to enable a stronger presence on the lake.

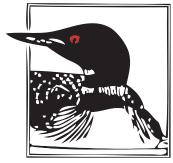
Our Membership

As you will notice, we have taken a page to acknowledge our members and other organizations who support us. On behalf of all of us who care so much about this place, we thank you. annual membership contributions are critical to our ability to fund programs to protect and preserve this unique environment. I hope everyone received my annual membership renewal letter last month. If you haven't had the opportunity to send in your dues, please use the envelope included in this Newsletter. Last year we raised \$39k and balanced our budget. We were fortunate to have average donations increase. We hope we can again count on your help. Please also encourage friends and neighbors to do the same.

I also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work and commitment of this Board of Trustees. Their project initiatives require many hours of research, communication, discussion, planning and execution. It is truly a year-round responsibility which Board has shouldered with enthusiasm and creativity.

Annual Meeting: July 9th

Finally, please plan to attend our Annual Membership Meeting on July 9th, which will be held at the VFW Hall in Lovell. We look forward to seeing you there.



KLWA Officers

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SECRETARY Bob Winship, Bradley Pond

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GLLT Representative

Ray Senecal, Lower Bay

Kezar Lake Watershed Association

P.O. Box 88 Lovell, Maine 04051 (207) 925-8020 www.klwa.us



Loons, Eagles and Fisheries

by ED POLIQUIN

t is spring on Kezar lake and the loons have returned. Loon nesting rafts were put out on April 9th and 15th. This was the earliest date since the program started. Early ice out and good weather allowed this to happen. It is important that the rafts go out as early as possible as nesting territories are established immediately after ice out.



The eagles are nesting on Lower Bay and hopefully we will have youngsters this season. Last year, the nesting eagles were unsuccessful on Kezar but we had a good production of loon chicks.

Fishing is slow on the lake for warm water species like bass as water temperatures are still too cold for them to bite aggressively. Cold water fishing for species such as salmon and lake trout is much better and will remain that way until the lake heats up in May. Early ice out does not always translate into quickly warming lake water as nights are still cold.

The lake is low for this time of year due to very little snow pack. But a big rain event could change that.



Loon platform on Kezar lake

Volunteers needed for Brook Trout Survey, August 8-10

aine supports 97% of the wild brook trout waters in the eastern United States, truly representing the last stronghold for this iconic species. Historically, brook trout were common throughout the Appalachians, from Georgia to Maine. But, today, and primarily because of introduced species, habitat degradation, urbanization, and climate change, intact and self-sustaining populations of brook trout exist in only 5% of their historic sub-watersheds (Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture). Brook trout have been named the State's "heritage fish," and we are very fortunate to have resident populations of these beautiful fish within the Kezar Lake Watershed.

In our watershed, brook trout have been documented in the following brooks and/or their tributaries: Andrews, Beaver, Boulder, Coffin, Cold, Great, Martin, Mill, Red Rock, Shirley and Willard Brooks.

In the early 2000s, the White Mountain National Forest did a significant habitat restoration project in Great Brook and some of its tributaries to improve features favorable to brook trout. They dropped and cabled large trees into the stream

In our watershed, brook trout have been documented in the following brooks and/ or their tributaries: Andrews, Beaver, Boulder, Coffin, Cold, Great, Martin, Mill, Red Rock, Shirley and Willard Brooks. to create debris dams and to increase channelization. The brook trout populations responded positively with both the number and sizes of fish increasing.

The FS last surveyed the brook trout population in 2010, and KLWA has been wanting to assess the current status of the fishery, especially in the face of accelerating climate change, the increased acidification of our waters, and proposed timber harvest projects, etc. Brook trout are



A beautiful brook trout from a Stantec trout survey

literally the canary in the coal mine for watershed health, and it's important to understand how this keystone species is presently faring in the Kezar Lake Watershed.

When the Forest Service heard of our intention to survey the brook trout population, they offered to collaborate on the project. That made sense to us: they have the equipment; we'd be using the same protocol as previous surveys for ease of comparison; and it would provide an opportunity for positive engagement with the FS, which is a dominant landowner in our watershed.

To insure credibility to our membership, the Forest Service suggested that KLWA provide an independent fisheries biologist to assist with the survey. Thanks to a gift to KLWA's Great Brook Fund, Jake Riley of Stantec has been hired to work with KLWA and the Forest Service to establish the survey sites, to participate in the survey, and to prepare a summary report for KLWA. Ideally, these surveys will be conducted for three consecutive years to account for inter-annual population variability.

If you have any questions or are interested in helping with this important and interesting field work on August 8, 9 or 10, please contact Lucy LaCasse: wnder@aol.com. Thank you.

KLWA Volunteers Needed

he Kezar Lake Watershed Association needs volunteers to help with our on-going activities and new initiatives. Please read about these opportunities and let us know if you are interested.

Climate Change

The KLWA Climate Change Observatory (CCO) observes, measures and analyzes long-term climate change trends and addresses their impact on waters, lands and wildlife of the Kezar Lake watershed. Volunteer activities may require some training in the use of instruments. Basic computer skills are desirable, but not required. If you have an interest in climate change and its effect on our community and environment, you will find this activity fascinating.

Membership Development & Fund Raising

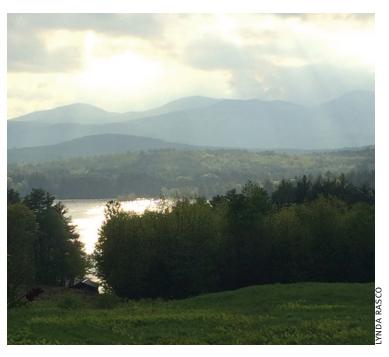
Become involved in the creation of KLWA's membership development and fund raising programs. Help plan and execute contact programs designed to grow our member base and local business sponsorships. Help us formulate programs which encourage expanded annual giving and longer-term legacy gifts. We also need help in seeking grants and preparing grant applications.

Fisheries & Loon Activity

To help protect our loons from adverse weather conditions when they are reproducing each spring and early summer, we seek volunteers to monitor the platforms during the breeding season. Also, due to the significant decline in the smallmouth bass fishery on Kezar Lake over the past decade, volunteers are needed to help us do our annual spring "bed count" of spawning smallmouth bass. Water Quality

We need volunteers to help in ongoing water quality activities, such as measuring the lake and ponds for clarity and taking water samples to measure water quality. Volunteers may help

also with data collection and assist in identifying the source



and cause of unexpected disturbances, particularly after severe weather events. We also need volunteers we can train to be shore land 'consultants' who would provide advice to homeowners on "lake smart" practices to minimize erosion and run-off.

Communications & Education

Keeping the community informed of the critical need for all of us to protect our watershed through KLWA newsletters, our Web site, and informational meetings, we seek volunteers with skills, such as writing and editing short articles, updating our Web site and helping with community educational meetings.

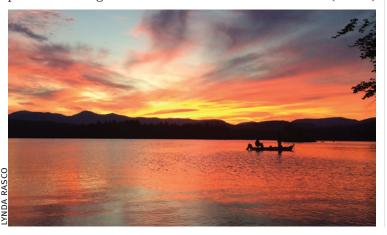
To volunteer or for more information, please visit our Web site, www.KLWA.us, or send an email to info@KLWA.us.

Lake Patrol

by dan ouellette

shifts for the Lake Patrol officer(s). And yes, it may be a shared responsibility this year to allow greater flexibility in scheduling and more effective coverage.

The Lake Patrol officer has been a visible presence on the lake for more than twenty years. It's a role that can be both challenging and rewarding. Without formal law enforcement authority, the officer is there to encourage safe and responsible practices among all recreational users of the lake. He (or she)



is asked to provide guidance on basic boating protocols such as annual registration, and speed restrictions in the no-wake zones and within 200 feet of the shore. He must be responsive to the needs of those who are familiar with the unique characteristics of Kezar Lake and those who are not. Last season, T.J. Herlihy, provided tows to a number of disabled vessels, and offered frequent advice on avoiding the lake's hazardous areas. He was a lender of life jackets when needed and in quieter moments collected stray fishing line along the shore.

One of the most important roles of the Lake Patrol officer is to be a strong personal representative of the KLWA. For many Lovell residents, seasonal property owners and visitors, he is the face of KLWA on the water. He is there because our members have said it's important and because you, along with our local business sponsors, have been generous in your support. We hope that you find an opportunity to meet our patrol officer at some point over the course of the season and get to know him/her a little better.

Responsibility for safety on the lake is something we share with the Maine Warden Service. Unlike our Lake Patrol, the Wardens bring full law enforcement and citation authority to the lake. Last season and continuing in 2016, the Town of Lovell provided direct funding to secure additional Warden time on Kezar. And because we believe these services are different but complementary, KLWA also contributed to this effort. It's not possible to formally coordinate schedules, but our goal is to achieve an appropriate balance of both Lake Patrol and Warden service on the water. At the end of the season we'll engage Town officials and the Wardens to assess the year's experience and plan for the future. Your views on this are important and we hope you'll share them with us.

Climate Change Observatory in Action

by DON GRIGGS

ow entering its third year of activity, KLWA's Climate Change Observatory (CCO) had a busy winter. Our goal is to provide relevant information and guidance on how our climate is changing, its impact on people and wildlife, how we might adapt, and what is likely to happen in the future.

KLWA/CCO Web Site

Over the past year, CCO has developed Web content for the KLWA site that tells the story of climate change within our watershed in a format that is both accessible and understandable. This site now summarizes data collected over several decades, clearly illustrating major trends as well as the effects on many wildlife and plant species. Another key document to communicate CCO results is our 2015 Annual Report, which is posted on the Web site. One of the climate change trends we track is ice out dates. This chart shows the data from 1901 to 2016, where the ice out date for this year was among the earliest, March 29th. It is easy to see that average ice out date is getting earlier.

New Flyer: "A Healthy Watershed Starts with You"

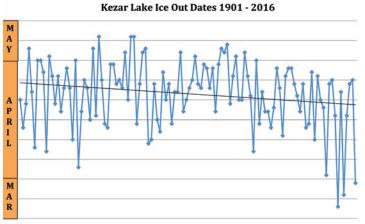
CCO continues to brief the Lovell Selectmen and Planning Board on the status of climate change observations and their implications for town leaders. In conversations late last fall, the Selectmen and Planning Board both suggested producing

a brochure or flyer specifying very concrete steps that residents and visitors can perform to take care of the lake and ponds, and mitigate the effects of climate change on our watershed.

The result is publication of an 8 X 14-inch laminated document that encourages all homeowners, renters and boaters in the area to take care of the watershed. One side presents a graphic checklist of best practices for improving and safeguarding our surface waters and the fish and

There are opportunities for those who love the outdoors and would enjoy being part of a team doing field-based monitoring of plants and other wildlife for reaction to changes in climate or water quality.

wildlife around them. Twenty-six recommended actions range from maintaining a buffer with native vegetation to avoiding use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides within 150 feet of all streams, ponds and the lake. Readers are asked to check off actions they are already doing and start planning to complete others.



1901 1911 1921 1931 1941 1951 1961 1971 1981 1991 2001 2011



These flyers will be available in June at the Lovell Town Office, the marina, public launch sites, and other key locations in Lovell and Stoneham.

2016 Summer Intern Recruitment

The CCO has arranged to hire a summer intern again from the Environment Sciences graduate program of Plymouth State University. This year's Fellow will be with us for six weeks. Responsibilities include measuring various water quality parameters in the lake, ponds and streams, researching Webbased data for climate change trend lines, and developing content for CCO Web pages, publications and presentations.

Core Sampling Results in Process

Many residents participated in the core sampling of lake sediment--some cores were taken in February 2015, and several longer cores were taken in June 2015. Since then, sets of samples have been analyzed in labs at Plymouth State University and the University of Maine Orono. The analysis and dating of the core samples is just about finished and a final report will be available in May 2016. Stay tuned for briefings about our results during the summer and in our fall newsletter.

Finding Volunteers for Future Projects

There are opportunities for those who love the outdoors and would enjoy being part of a team doing field-based monitoring of plants and other wildlife for reaction to changes in climate or water quality.

To further engagement with the wider watershed community, CCO's Steering Committee is looking for community organizations interested in hosting a presentation for their members about climate change in Maine and in our watershed. We are also interested in working with elementary and middle schools to incorporate more hands-on activities involving kids directly in climate change observations.

To learn more and see how you personally can participate in the Climate Change Observatory activities, contact Don Griggs (griggsd@aol.com), Ray Senecal (ray.senecal@comcast.net), Lucy LaCasse (wnder@aol.com) or Heinrich Wurm, (whwurm@gmail.com).

KLWA to benefit from a Patagonia Sponsored Environmental Internship Program

In late March, local resident Andy Chakoumakos contacted KLWA about possibly creating a Patagonia sponsored internship. As Andy described, "Patagonia has a strong environmental ethic and supports many groups through grants and sponsored environmental internship is a program where employees can volunteer time to a group, like the KLWA, and still earn their salary for those hours." As a part-time employee, Andy can commit up to 160 hours of time to KLWA over the next twelve months.

Andy had wanted to get more involved with the local environmental groups in the Lovell area and after reading about KLWA's work with the Albany South project, the Climate Change Study, and other projects, he wanted to see how he could help. Andy has spent a lot of time in the field working as an Outward Bound instructor, is an avid birder, and loves exploring the landscape via hiking, canoeing and cross-country skiing.

KLWA is excited to work with Andy; we'll have plenty to keep him busy! We are grateful for his interest in KLWA and for Patagonia's generosity. Thank you, Andy, and thank you Patagonia.





$continued\ from\ page\ 1$

by our experts from Portland. In order to obtain a broader data profile, we will start more frequent measurements using our own DO probe and one certified volunteer this year. In the future, we hope to have more certified volunteers as well the potential of data loggers — electronic data collectors that stay in place all season. For more information, give us a call.

Low oxygen conditions is just one potential threat to our lake's and ponds' health, and it is one that we cannot do much about. What we can do is step up our monitoring effort and improve our understanding of the factors at work. This is where KLWA's water quality effort works hand in hand with our Climate Change Observatory toward the goal to recognize, understand, and eventually adapt to or even mitigate events that affect the health of our watershed. We are becoming increasingly aware that the future of our waters' quality is up to us. Because there are so few interventions and remedial measures we can undertake once things go badly, our focus will be education and collaborative protection of our lake, ponds and streams. And we want you to be part of this collaboration.

Two Excellent Summer Programs

Tuesday, July 5, 7:30pm Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library Our Vital Shorelines Co-sponsored by KLWA and GLLT

Maggie Shannon of the Maine Lakes Society and the director of Maine's Lake Smart Program will discuss practical steps to help protect and preserve the water quality of our lake and ponds. Her presentation should be very informative and helpful for all lake, pond, and stream-front property owners within our watershed.

Tuesday, August 16, 7:30pm Charlotte Hobbs Memorial Library Movie Night: "The Messenger" Co-sponsored by GLLT and KLWA's Climate Change Observatory

This documentary film explores our deep-seated connection to birds and warns that the uncertain fate of songbirds might mirror our own. Through fabulous photography, you'll see that on one level, "The Messenger" is an engaging, visually

stunning, emotional journey that mixes its elegiac message with hopeful notes and unique glances into the influence of songbirds on our own expressions of the soul. On another level, "The Messenger" is the artful story about the mass depletion of songbirds on multiple continents, and about those who are working to turn the tide. In ancient times, humans looked to the flight and songs of birds to predict the future. Today, once again, birds have something to tell us. Popcorn and lemonade will be served.



LOVELL OLD HOME DAYS IS SATURDAY, JULY 16

KLWA will have a booth and we hope to see you there!

News From LIPPC

by DIANE CARACCHIOLA, CHAIR

The Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) program started inspections on the first weekend in May. Once summer is in full swing, we will inspect boats seven days a week, 11-14 hours per day.

When out on the water if there is any plant that seems suspicious, please let the CBI on duty know the location or bring a small sample for us to examine.

Over the course of the summer, our education committee is planning some really fun and informative ways to raise awareness about invasive plants and the importance of inspecting boats before launching.

We will once again host the



Lovell Old Home Days Boat Show and Plant Derby on July 16. We also plan to have an On the Water Plant Paddle on July 6, location to be determined. In an effort to reach every age group, we will repeat our Science in the Sand at the Lovell Recreation swimming lessons as well. We hope you will come out and support us at one of these events. Updates on all events will be on our page on the town's Web site: www.lovellmaine.us. Thank you for your support and have a wonderful summer!

News From GLLT

by tom henderson, executive director

he Greater Lovell Land Trust (GLLT) is pleased to offer two summer internships this year. The program is designed to introduce two young people to the full extent of the work that we do. They will learn about the drafting of conservation easements and how to conduct an effective monitoring program



for the lands currently under easement. They will work with me to assess the conservation values of lands currently under consideration and do various stewardship projects on the lands we own. Environmental education is a big part of what we do and they will work with Leigh Macmillen Hayes and the docents to deliver those programs. Our interns this year are Aidan Black of Sweden and Hannah Rousey of Lovell. Make a point to get to meet them and welcome them aboard.

You still have a chance to reserve a get-a-way to Whitney Pond! As an extension of its Environmental Education Program, the GLLT is offering 3-7 night stay at the cabin on Whitney Pond in Stoneham. The cabin is a 20x30-foot, two-story, off-the-grid building. It provides rustic but comfortable accommodations in a peaceful remote setting, nestled in the middle of the GLLT's 64-acre Whitney Pond Reserve. The pond is a shallow, warm water pond suitable for swimming, especially if you are accustomed to such waters. The water is weed free and seven feet deep off the dock. Take family and friends to Whitney Pond and immerse yourselves in nature. More information can be found at these Web sites: www.gllt.org or by going directly to: www.unpluggedmainevacation.com.

This year, our Annual Education Meeting will be held on Saturday morning, August 13, beginning with a social. Join us for light refreshments and beverages. This year's speaker will be Esperanza Stancioff of the UMaine Cooperative Extension Service. Her topic will be Signs of the Season: New England Phenology. I look forward to seeing you there.

Each year, we post signs for a self-guided interpretive trail. You'll find the signs along the red trail on the northern side of Heald Pond at the Heald and Bradley Ponds Reserve. Plant identification placards placed along the path will guide you from July 1 through Labor Day. I hope you get to enjoy this and the many trail offerings on the GLLT properties.

Corporate Sponsors

The KLWA has enjoyed a long tradition of partnership with local business. Each of these Corporate Sponsors has made a much-valued contribution to the financial stability of our organization and to the programs that we support. We are most grateful for their continued commitment and for their recognition of the many benefits that a vibrant and sustainable watershed brings to our community.

ARMINGTON PLUMBING

51 Armington Road Lovell, ME 04051 Telephone: (603) 828.3661

B&L OIL AND PROPANE

389 Portland Street Fryeburg, ME 04037-1611 Telephone: (207) 935.2064

BOAT MD

PO Box 19, 350 Main Street Lovell, ME 04051 Telephone: (207) 925.1177

CHALMERS INSURANCE GROUP

100 Main Street Bridgton, ME 04009 Telephone: (207) 647.3311

EBENEZER'S RESTAURANT & PUB

44 Allen Road Lovell, ME 04051 Telephone: (207) 925.3200

FB ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATES

97A Exchange Street Portland, ME 04101 Telephone: (207) 221.6716

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Main Street Center Lovell, ME 04016 Telephone: (207) 925.6502

KEZAR LAKE MARINA

219 West Lovell Road Lovell, ME 04051 Telephone: (207) 925.3000

KEZAR REALTY

224 Main Street Lovell, ME 04051 Telephone: (207) 925.1500

LOVELL PLUMBING & HEATING

Public Works Road Lovell, ME 04051 Telephone: (207) 925.3045

LOVELL VILLAGE STORE & RESTAURANT

234 Main Street Lovell, ME 04051 Telephone: (207) 925.1255

NEW IMAGE COATINGS

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125 Old Saco Lane Fryeburg, ME 04037 Telephone: (207) 925.3737

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548 Main Street Fryeburg, ME 04037 Telephone: (207) 935.3442

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42 Quisisana Drive Center Lovell, ME 04016 Telephone: (207) 925.3500



PO. Box 88 Lovell, Maine 04051

Kezar Lake Watershed Association

