

WATERSHED VIEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE KEZAR LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2023



Before with building permit posted on door



We're On the Move

by RICK PILSBURY

KLWA is happy to announce we're setting up shop in our first permanent office. Moving into a new home is exciting, full of promise, and hard work. KLWA wants all our friends and supporters to join us in celebrating this new space. This is an important step forward for us. Without you this would not be happening. But enough of the fanfare. Let's get down to the facts.

What: A permanent structure to hold KLWA meetings and provide information about our activities and programs. A center for communication, dissemination, and much needed storage. A group of volunteers are renovating and improving the space right now.

When: We'll host a grand opening this summer when the renovation work is completed and the dust settles. Stay tuned.

Where: In the Center Lovell Market Annex, the long-idle white building right of the market, east of the gas pumps; a location some call the Time Square of Center Lovell. Physical address: 1007 Main St, Lovell. Phone unchanged: 207-925-8020. Ample parking in the rear.

Why: For most of our 54 years, KLWA did just fine without "bricks and mortar." Meeting venues were no big deal, my place, *continued on page 3*



KLWA Officers

PRESIDENT

Steve Lewis

VICE PRESIDENT

Lucy LaCasse

TREASURER

Shelley Pilsbury

SECRETARY

Amy Crowe

Trustees

Mark Bernfeld
Kathleen Birch
Chris Brink
Dave Durrenberger
Tom Gilmore
Debbie Mann
Laura Robinson
Hal Taylor
Heinrich Wurm

Rick Pilsbury
Emeritus Trustee

Staff

Emily Crockler
Outreach Manager
John "Turf" Ramsden
Lake Patrol Officer

Kezar Lake Watershed Association

P.O. Box 88
Lovell, Maine 04051
(207) 925-8020
KezarWatershed.org

President's Message—A Celebration

by STEVE LEWIS

Those of you who read KLWA Watershed Views may remember that in last fall's newsletter I mentioned we were grappling with whether to have some form of physical office/center for our organization. Well, thanks to the incredible support of the Pilsbury family and Neale Attenborough of Center Lovell Market, as well as numerous other donors, we took the plunge and are re-furbishing the Annex building at Center Lovell Market. Take a look at Rick's lead story for details.

It must be said that the Board of Trustees was fundamentally important in this decision. Initially, some trustees were skeptical as it is a big step for KLWA. Could we manage the work to prepare the space? Could we afford the costs of maintaining an office and some level of staff? Would it limit the programs we were already running? These questions made us sharpen pencils and review finances, plans, and possibilities, the result of which was solid support for going forward with the project

and hiring part-time staff as well. Read about Emlyn Crocker on page 4.

In last year's survey of what people wanted KLWA to do, one of the main issues was for us to advocate for the watershed at various levels of government. To this end, we went to Augusta to weigh in on two issues before the State Legislature.

First, we advocated to maintain current regulations on shorelands previously deemed unbuildable. We felt that such projects were too prone to lax oversight causing erosion and long-term septic system problems.

The second issue dealt with wakeboarding. We advocated establishing a 500-foot offshore wakeboarding zone and 20-foot minimum water depth. This is to protect the shores and shallow areas of lakes, as well as nesting loons, from considerable wake and propeller wash effects. This legislation was driven in no small part from the work of past KLWA Trustee, Don Griggs, who championed the issue for years. Good work, Don! As of

this writing we don't know if the Legislature enacted this legislation ... but we are crossing our fingers.

Wakeboarding is a "shared resource issue," which can be tricky to manage successfully and fairly. Some people value the peace that nature and waterways offer. Others enjoy the exciting fun of motorized water sports. I spent many an hour on a ski behind a fast boat and recall it with pleasure (a bit creaky for it now).

So, how to deal with this tension? We at KLWA encourage discussion, education, advocacy, and perhaps above all, cooperative consideration. Understanding another's viewpoint and trying to take into account the everyday shared activities on the water are key.

On a final note, the KLWA Annual Meeting is scheduled for August 9th at the Old Saco Inn and it will be different from past meetings. We received valid feedback that we were a bit, well ... "long winded" last year. (I certainly was!) This year we will pare it down significantly. Part of the value of the Annual Meeting is the social aspect; the chance to connect, to get to know KLWA Trustees, meet Emlyn Crocker, our staff person, and ask questions.

The venue of the Old Saco Inn will be a great place to do this and to celebrate the opening of the Water Shed. We hope you'll join us at the meeting! And check out the Water Shed office the next time you are at the Center Lovell Market. Just remember to park up the hill behind the Water Shed. ♡



Putting President Steve to work

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Kezar Lake Watershed Association Annual Meeting

August 9th, 5:30 PM
Old Saco Inn, Route 5, Fryeburg

Major news and a snappy new format

Help us to keep lead tackle out of our lakes and ponds

by LAURA ROBINSON

Ingesting lead tackle is the second most common cause of loon deaths in Maine. Last year, Kezar's most prolific breeding male was lost to lead poisoning and its chick died from entanglement in a lure.

If you see discarded mono-filament or tackle, please pick it up. We have collection boxes at the town office and library to dispose of any suspected lead you may find or have your own tackle box. Thank you. ♡



continued from page 1

your place, the library, whatever. As we grew, we teamed up with Greater Lovell Land Trust (GLLT) and shared space and staff with them in Lovell Village near the post office. GLLT added staff. We had only volunteers who could meet on the fly. So we flew and GLLT grew.

How: We are very grateful to you. The renovation is fully funded by our donors. KLWA reserves won't be touched. Programs will continue at full strength. Gratitude also goes to the Attentive family, owners of the Center Lovell Market and Annex. They embraced our vision and worked closely with us on the many details of property use and our lease, which has generous terms.

What's next: There's lots of renovation underway. The Annex interior was never completed as its use was limited to storage. We're building walls, adding insulation, wiring, flooring, plus painting and more before it's home. We'll keep you informed as we go.

Name: Glad you asked. We're calling it "The Water Shed." What'd you expect? ♡





Meet our Outreach Manager

Please join us in welcoming Emlyn Crocker as our new Outreach Manager. Emlyn joined us as a year-round staff member this winter. Some of you may remember her from LakeSmart evaluations last summer.

Emlyn is a resident of Norway and enjoys canoeing on Kezar Lake, where her partner's family has a small camp. She has a background in field work and environmental education and completed her bachelor's degree in conservation biology at St. Lawrence University.

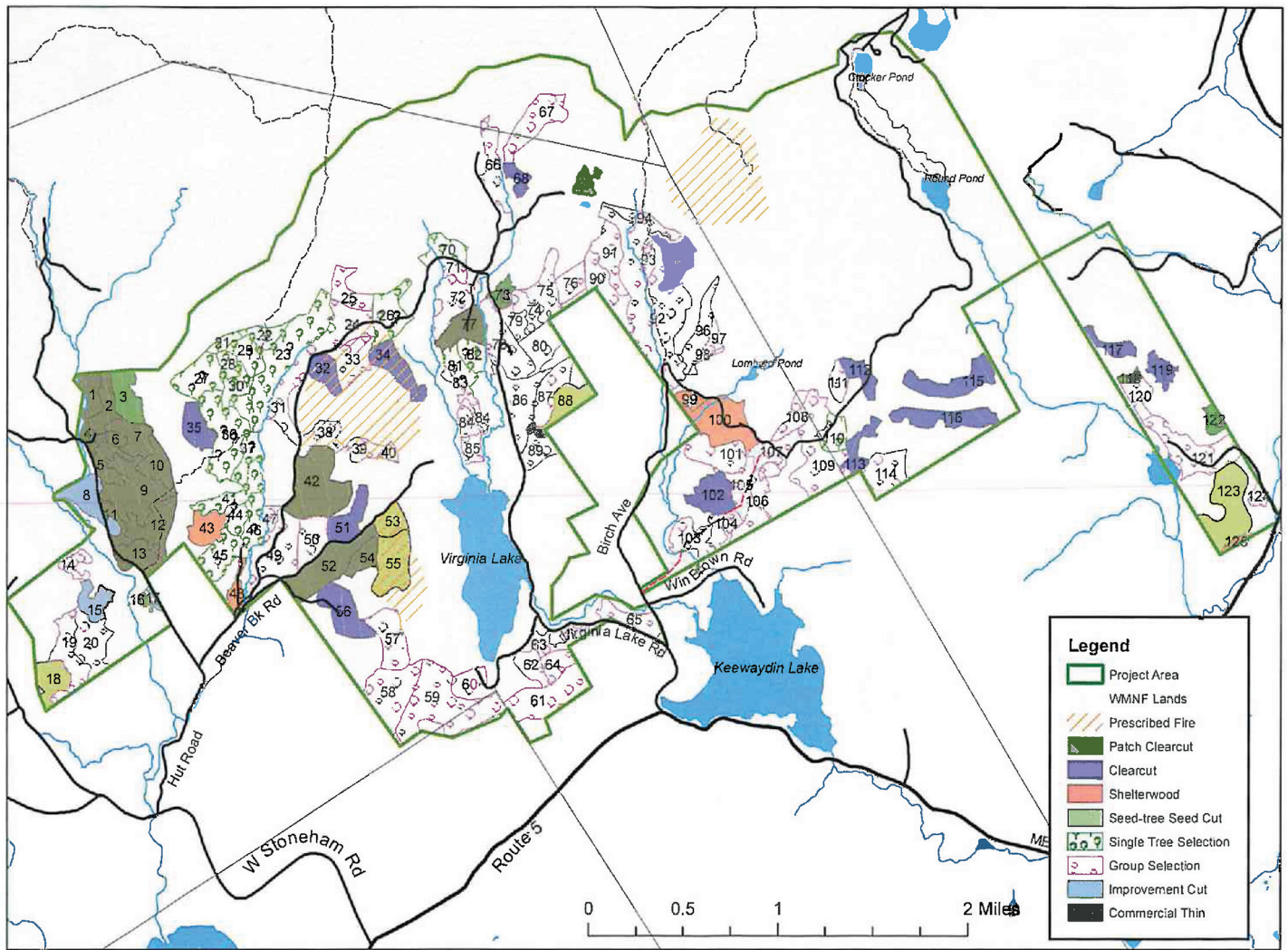
Her past roles include serving as the Monadnock Biologist for the Loon Preservation in New Hampshire and working with the Appalachian Mountain Club. She recently attended the University of Connecticut for a master's in natural resources and is currently finishing thesis research examining collaborative forest management across the state.

Emlyn is delighted to bring her passion for conservation and place-based education to Kezar Lake Watershed Association. ♡



RICK PILSBURY

Almost Ice Out. April 13 marked the official date



Albany South project proposed harvest units

Albany South Update: The Value of Relationships, Communications and Patience

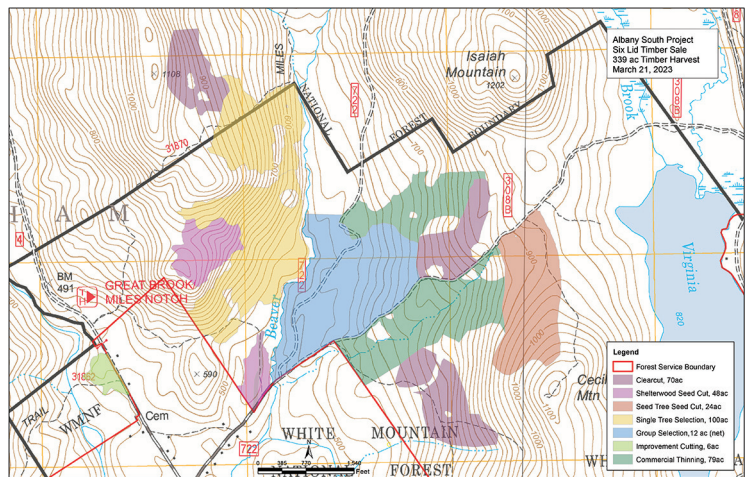
by LUCY LACASSE

Albany South is an Integrated Resource Management Project of the White Mountain National Forest (WMNF), which basically translates to a large land management project that involves a lot of logging.

Albany South was first proposed in 2011 and KLWA got involved very early by meeting with WMNF and submitting comments. A final decision for the project was reported in 2016. They gave us some concessions: winter harvest only; no logging on weekends; and reasonable protections for streams. But the size did not get reduced, so this major logging project was going to impact about 1,000 acres in the Kezar Lake Watershed.

For various reasons, however, Albany South was delayed for several years. This worked in our favor because, during that time, regulations changed regarding environmental requirements for bridge construction for large logging trucks. The project had included a major crossing over Beaver Brook (a tributary of Great Brook), and that had now become economically prohibitive: a good thing for the watershed.

Because of that regulation change, WMNF contacted us early last year to say that they had dropped hundreds of acres on the east side of Beaver Brook from the project. Then in early June, they let us know they had eliminated all the harvest units along Hut Road



because of many small stream crossings: a really good thing.

At this point, Albany South has been reduced to 339 acres of logging in our watershed—a huge change from nearly 1,000 acres.

This reduced timber sale area is called Six Lids and WMNF intends to put it out to bid this spring or summer, with logging to begin during the winter of 2023/24.

We will keep you posted, but bottom line is that this is all excellent news for our watershed. KLWA has developed a great working relationship with the WMNF officials. Besides regular emails and phone conversations, we meet with them in person on an annual basis. We are especially grateful for this solid relationship since WMNF is the largest landowner in the watershed. 💧



DEBBIE MANN

Where in the Watershed

by LUCY LACASSE

Congratulations to Sandra Bell who is the winner of KLWA's inaugural Where in the Watershed Contest! Sandy is clearly an intrepid explorer of our watershed as she correctly named the location of these gorgeous falls as being along Red Rock Brook, a tributary of Great Brook. Here is what she submitted to KLWA:

My answer is Red Rock Falls

Several years ago I asked David Sears, who had been a Maine Guide, to accompany me to the head of the valley beneath Red Rocks. We went out the first week of May before the leaves opened. I took several photographs, and later painted an oil on canvas of the scene.

The remarkable Red Rock Falls are about a one-hour tromp

from the end of Hut Road. Grab your map, compass, water, and bug dope, and start bushwhacking! For a more impressive flow, we suggest going in late spring or after a big rain.

Red Rock Brook is one of four named tributaries of Great Brook. The other brooks, all of which are worth exploring, include Beaver Brook, Shirley Brook, and Willard Brook.

Many thanks to all who participated in KLWA's first Where in the Watershed contest. Most folks thought that the falls were along Great or Cold Brooks, both of which are beautiful streams, but not the home of Red Rock Falls.

This next photo represents another example of splendor from within the 56 square miles of the Kezar Lake watershed. Do you know where it is? Please email your answers to kezarlakewatershed@gmail.com and we will pick the "best" correct response to publish in the next KLWA newsletter.

Good luck and happy exploring. 💧

Good Data and Watchful Eyes Keep Water Quality High

by STEVE LEWIS

Klwa works with the environmental consulting organization FB Environmental for water quality data gathering and evaluation. As pointed out in previous reports, there are hundreds of measurements taken over the summer in all of our lakes and major streams. It's important that we work with a specialized organization to obtain correct data evaluated with professional knowledge. The summary of the lake water quality for 2022 is displayed in the chart.

Important data points are red indicating last year's findings that are below the previous year. Overall, our waterbodies compare favorably to Maine lakes but we will continue efforts to maintain water quality and pay extra attention to phosphorus, which is typically the trigger for algal and phytoplankton growth. Small amounts can lead to major problems.

It is understandable that waterbodies with higher Phosphorus levels also have lower water clarity, possibly due to increased algae. The lower reading in alkalinity in Trout Pond, a measure of Calcium and Magnesium, is not of significant concern unless it gets much lower over time and/or the pH starts dropping.

These readings are based on two samples in June and July, except for Kezar Lake, where three are taken, with the additional sample in September. There could have been a weather event that affected the readings. The correlation of lower clarity with the higher Phosphorus suggests there was *not* an error in the Phosphorus readings, which are a very sensitive measurement. It is measured in parts per billion, a very low value, but sufficient to contaminate.

As a result, this summer we are going to take more Phosphorus readings in the affected lakes to see if this is a problem or just a blip in the data. We will work with Lakes Environmental Association (LEA) in Bridgton, which has the capability to measure Phosphorus at very low levels. This will build data confidence and make it considerably easier as previously samples had to be either driven immediately to Augusta or express shipped in an iced container to be evaluated at the Maine Health and Environmental Tasting Labs (HETL). Now we can drive a few miles to Bridgton with the

Waterbody	Water Clarity (m)		Total Phosphorus (ppb)		Chlorophyll-a (ppb)	
	Historical ^b	Recent 2022 ^c	Historical ^b	Recent 2022 ^c	Historical ^b	Recent 2022 ^c
Kezar Lake - Upper Bay	7.8	9.0	5.0	6.0	2.0	1.0
Kezar Lake - Middle Bay	7.3	9.8	5.0	5.0	2.0	2.0
Kezar Lake - Lower Bay*	3.2	3.2	9.0	8.0	2.3	2.0
Bradley	5.2	4.7	9.0	12.0	4.0	5.0
Cushman	5.5	4.8	7.0	9.3	2.3	2.8
Farrington*	4.3	3.7	14.0	16.0	5.8	5.5
Heald	4.7	4.8	10.0	12.0	4.0	4.0
Horseshoe	6.8	6.0	7.0	8.5	3.3	2.5
Trout	7.3	6.8	5.0	6.0	2.0	2.0
Maine Lakes ^a	4.8		12.0		5.4	
Waterbody	pH		Alkalinity (ppm)		Color (PCU)	
	Historical ^b	Recent 2022 ^c	Historical ^b	Recent 2022 ^c	Historical ^b	Recent 2022 ^c
Kezar Lake - Upper Bay	6.7	6.6	4.0	4.0	10.0	10.0
Kezar Lake - Middle Bay	6.6	6.5	4.0	4.0	10.0	9.0
Kezar Lake - Lower Bay*	6.7	6.6	4.0	4.0	13.0	9.0
Bradley	6.4	6.4	4.0	4.0	22.0	22.5
Cushman	6.7	6.5	5.0	5.0	11.0	11.8
Farrington*	6.7	6.6	4.5	5.0	16.0	17.0
Heald	6.7	6.5	5.0	5.5	23.0	23.0
Horseshoe	6.7	6.6	3.0	3.0	10.0	10.5
Trout	6.6	6.6	4.0	3.5	9.0	8.5
Maine Lakes ^a	6.8		11.8		28.0	

Red cells indicate median values from 2022 showing worse water quality compared to the historic median
 Dark blue cells indicate median values from 2022 showing better water quality when compared to the historic median
 Light blue cells indicate median values from 2022 showing no change or within one standard deviation of the historic median
 For complete details go to the KLWA website under: Projects > Water Quality.

samples. Stay tuned to see what we learn from the LEA testing.

This summer, we will continue monitoring Mercury levels to see if we can learn why the loons in some areas have high Mercury levels. We do this by catching small perch in the areas of concern. The young perch tend to stay put and are a favorite food of loons. Perch Mercury levels are indicative of the Mercury levels in the local environment. We will also test a few larger fish for levels of the infamous Fluorine chain "forever" chemicals; PFOS, PFOA, etc.

You may notice the absence of the monitoring buoy in Kezar Lake's Lower Bay this summer. We are not placing it this year because it is not needed to continuously gather data there. They can be properly monitored with manual measurements taken every month.

If you want to learn how to take the basic measurements of clarity, temperature, and Dissolved Oxygen, come into the Water Shed and learn how you can get involved. ♡

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.

BLISS & ASSOCIATES

PO Box 113
Lovell, ME 04051
(207) 925.1468

CENTER LOVELL MARKET

1007 Main Street
Center Lovell, ME 04016
(207) 925.1051

CHALMERS INSURANCE GROUP

100 Main Street
Bridgton, ME 04009
(207) 647.3311

CROWELL CONSTRUCTION

34 Housely Road
Harrison, ME 04040
(207) 583.6450

EBENEZER PUB

44 Allen Road
Lovell, ME 04051
(207) 925.3200

ESSEX PAINT AND SIP

12 Main Street
Essex, CT 06426
(860) 916.4386

FB ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATES

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

GILMORE CAMPS ON KEZAER LAKE

32 Pigeon Point Road
Lovell, ME 04051
(508) 209.3694

HARVEST GOLD GALLERY

Main Street
Center Lovell, ME 04016
(207) 925.6502

JORDAN CUSTOM CARPENTRY

993 Main Street
Lovell, ME 04051
(207) 925.9057

KEZAR LAKE MARINA

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

KEZAR REALTY

224 Main Street
Lovell, ME 04051
(207) 925.1500

LAKE REGION ENERGY LLC

79 New Portland Road
Gorham, ME 04038
(207) 839.5536

MABBETT & ASSOCIATES, INC.

105 Central Street, Suite 4100
Stoneham, MA 02180
(781) 275.6050

NORWAY SAVINGS BANK

261 Main Street
Norway, ME 04268
(207) 743.7986

OLD SACO INN

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

OXFORD HOUSE

548 Main Street
Fryeburg, ME 04037
(207) 935.3442

QUISISANA RESORT

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

TAYLOR INTERNATIONAL LLC

25 Grace Road
Canton, CT 06019
(860) 836.2191

THE LODGE AT PLEASANT POINT

145 Pleasant Point Road
Lovell, ME 04051
(207) 925.3008

Kezar Lake
Watershed Association
P.O. Box 88
Lovell, Maine 04051

