

**Upper Frenchman Bay Stakeholder's Meeting  
November 10th, 2010  
MDI Biological Laboratory (MDIBL)  
Salisbury Cove, ME 04672**

**Final Report  
Jane E. Disney**

**Executive Summary**

A stakeholder meeting was convened on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to learn about conservation planning, and make a decision about moving forward with a conservation plan for upper Frenchman Bay. Stakeholder groups that were represented included researchers, educators, representatives from local land trusts, bay-dependent business owners, town officials, commercial harvesters, and property owners from around Frenchman Bay. We heard from a number of speakers about their experiences with conservation planning; these speakers shared their insights during a panel discussion and question and answer session. Stakeholders discussed the advantages of moving forward with a bay planning process at this time and identified the challenges that would be faced in doing so. Ultimately, stakeholders decided to move forward with bay planning and agreed to consider a watershed-wide scope for the project. A sub-group of nine people volunteered to serve on a bay planning committee to establish next steps.

**Goals of the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Stakeholder Meeting:**

- 1. Learn more about conservation planning from a panel of experts**
- 2. Weigh the pros and cons of developing a conservation plan for upper Frenchman Bay**
- 3. Make a decision about moving forward on bay planning.**
- 4. Plan next steps for sustaining the future of Frenchman Bay**

**Participants:**

In all, 25 people participated in the Upper Frenchman Stakeholder Meeting (Table 1). Participants represented the towns around the upper portion of Frenchman Bay: Bar Harbor, Trenton, Lamoine, Hancock, Sorrento, and other parts of Maine. The meeting was facilitated by Natalie Springuel of Maine Sea Grant.

**Table 1: Upper Frenchman Bay Stakeholder Meeting Participants 11/10/10**

Barbara	Arter**	Friends of Blue Hill Bay
John	Bennett*	Trenton Harbormaster
Ken	Cline	College of the Atlantic
Jock	Crothers	Frenchman Bay Conservancy
Robert	Cushman*	Commercial Harvester
Fiona	de Koning*	Acadia Aqua Farms
Bob	DeForrest	Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Jane	Disney	MDI Biological Laboratory
Peggy	Forster	Property Owner
Tom	Henderson**	Greater Lovell Land Trust
Lisa	Heyward	Frenchman Bay Conservancy
John	Kelly	Acadia National Park
George	Kidder	MDI Biological Laboratory
Liz	McMullen	Bar Harbor Harbor Committee
Chris	Petersen	College of the Atlantic
Robert	Pulver	Lamoine Conservation Commission
Georgianna	Pulver	Lamoine Conservation Commission
Brian	Reilly	Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Tom	Sidar	Frenchman Bay Conservancy
Geoff	Smith**	The Nature Conservancy
Tin	Smith**	Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve
Natalie	Springuel	Maine Sea Grant
Julee	Swanson	Trenton Selectman
Jake	Van Gorder	MDI Biological Laboratory
Mark	Ward**	Conservation Planning Consultant
		* commercial harvester
		** invited speaker

**How did we get here? Where are we going?**

The day started with an introduction by Jane Disney. She reviewed the goals and outcomes of the last stakeholder meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010, and provided updates on the eelgrass restoration effort in upper Frenchman Bay. An outcome of the last meeting was the formation of two work groups: an eelgrass work group and a conservation action planning work group. The eelgrass work group focused on restoring eelgrass in areas identified as priority areas at the last meeting. Restoration experiments were set up near

Thomas Island and in Berry Cove (see figure 1) after agreements were negotiated with local mussel harvesters in the summer of 2010.

A conservation action planning work group met on two occasions and decided that more stakeholders were needed to move forward with a bay planning effort and that a variety of approaches to bay planning should be explored. An extensive effort was made to draw in more stakeholders to this second meeting including more town representatives, more fishermen, additional organizations, and other state agencies. One fourth of the stakeholders who registered for the second meeting were new or different from those who registered for the first meeting.

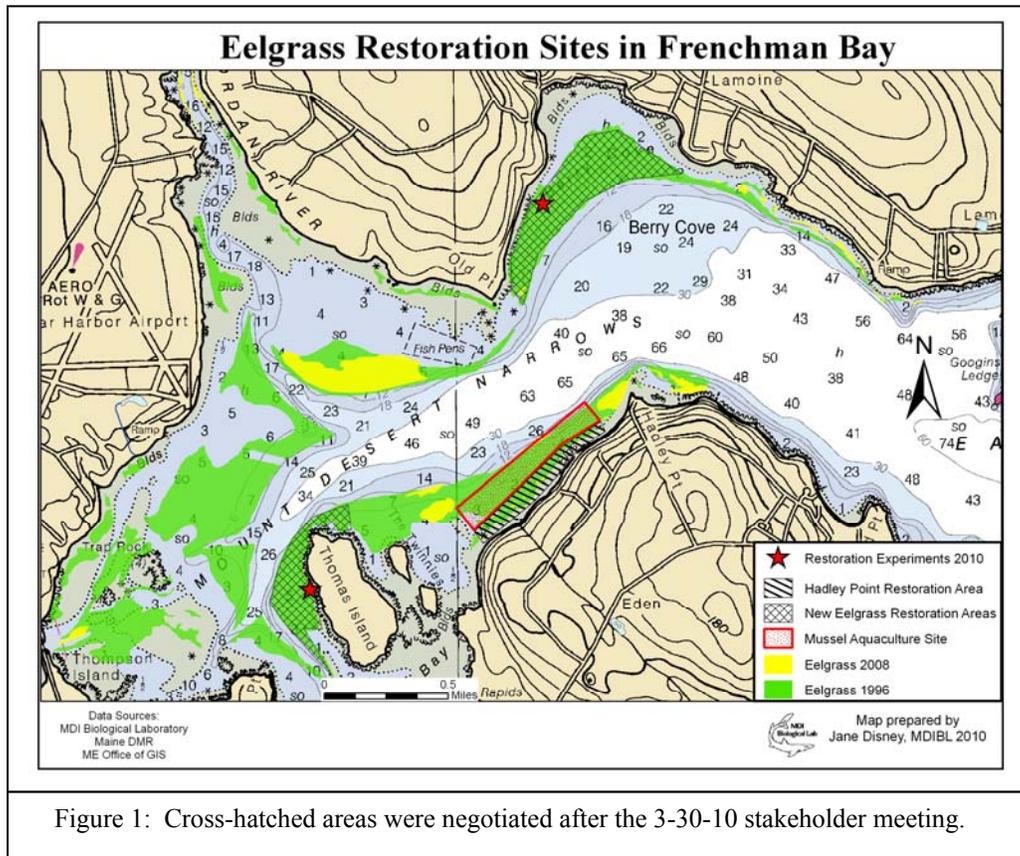


Figure 1: Cross-hatched areas were negotiated after the 3-30-10 stakeholder meeting.

## **Presentations by Invited Speakers (Speaker biographies are appended to this report.)**

### ***Planning 101***

#### ***Barbara Arter, BSA Consulting and Friends of Blue Hill Bay***

Barbara provided an overview of types of environmental planning that have different names but operate with the same process and objectives. These included ecosystem-based management, watershed management, bay management, and conservation planning. Barbara focused on watershed planning, defining a watershed plan as a “strategy and a work plan for achieving water resource goals that provides assessment and management information for a geographically defined watershed. The watershed planning process uses a series of cooperative, iterative steps to characterize existing

conditions, identify and prioritize problems, define management objectives, and develop and implement protection or remediation strategies as necessary”. Watershed Planning provides a lot of benefits including the *process* of planning which leads to:

- **Partnership building**
- **Learning about the Watershed**
- **Problem Solving**

And the production of a custom-made, well-researched, and substantiated document which:

- **Provides guidance**
- **Can be quoted to substantiate other causes (press, grants, decision- making, etc)**
- **Can be revised**

Barbara reviewed the elements of the planning process which include:

- **Characterizing the watershed, using a sound scientific approach**
- **Building Partnerships through communication and outreach**
- **Setting Goals with stakeholders and partners**
- **Designing Implementation**
- **Adopting and Implementing the Plan**
- **Measuring Progress and Making Adjustments**
- **Improving the Plan**

Barbara emphasized the need for continual communication and the inclusion of diverse stakeholders. She introduced the concept of nested rings of communication which include the planning committee (innermost ring), a monthly e-mail list of stakeholders, technical reviewers, and the public (outermost ring). She also provided insight into goal setting, which should include objectives (description of the goals), strategies (approaches you will use) and implementation actions or tasks that are realistic and specific. She followed up with implementation suggestions. There are a lot of questions to be considered such as: who has authority? Who are partners? And who are implementers? How much will the plan cost? What is the time frame for planning? It is important to consider how the plan will be adopted in the end. And measuring success of the plan will involve identifying measurable milestones. Adjustments can be made to the plan if things aren't moving along as anticipated. This is called adaptive management and is at the heart of The Nature Conservancy's Conservation Action Planning model. Barbara gave good advice on starting the planning process and instructed us to:

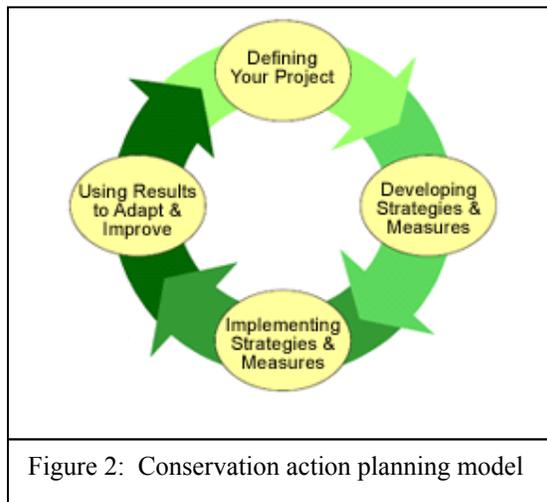
- **Write a proposal stating the need for a plan – use statements from your initial inventory/symposia**
- **Apply for funding.**
- **Hire a qualified planner/writer/organizer**
- **Plan for about 10 meetings over 12-18 months**
- **Create a list of stakeholders and partners**
- **Start a buzz.....**

***Conservation Action Planning***  
***Geoff Smith, The Nature Conservancy***

Geoff provided an overview of The Nature Conservancy model of Conservation Action Planning emphasizing:

- **It's a process, not a product**
- **It must be stakeholder driven in order to succeed**
- **It should be adaptive and iterative**

Geoff emphasized that he was not here to convince us that this was the best model or only model that we should consider as we begin making decisions about bay planning. He provided an overview of the bay planning process as depicted in Figure 2.



He explained that in defining your project, you must consider

- **People involved**
- **Project Area/Scope**
- **Focal Targets**

In developing strategies and measures, you must consider

- **Target viability**
- **Stresses/threats**
- **Objectives**

In Implementation, you must

- **Develop Work plan**
- **Take Action**
- **Measure Success**
-

In order to adapt and improve, you must

- **Evaluate actions**
- **Learn from results**
- **Adapt project based on evaluations**
- **Share findings**

Geoff provided some examples of success with this approach.

*Conservation Action Planning Case Study: Mt Agamenticus to the Sea  
Conservation Initiative  
Tin Smith, Wells Estuarine Research Reserve*

Tin provided us with a specific example of how conservation action planning was successful in protecting land from Mt. Agamenticus to the coast. He used facts to build the case for why this initiative was important. He shared the wide array of coalition partners who helped this project become a reality. And he shared the history of the project and described the purpose which included:

- **Understanding the resources**
- **Identifying the threats**
- **Focusing attention**
- **Explaining the project**
- **Providing structure**

Tin explained the protection priorities that were identified for their area. These included:

- **Contiguous forest**
- **Water quality & quantity**
- **Working landscapes**
- **Blandings and spotted turtles**
- **Rare and sensitive habitat**
- **Early successional habitat**
- **Recreational and educational opportunities**
- **Cultural and historic landscape**

**Tin encouraged us to identify those things that have most meaning and advised us to “keep your eye on the prize”**

***Conservation Action Planning: A Consultant’s View***  
***Mark Ward, Planning Consultant***

Mark Ward shared with us the Conservation Action Planning process from a consultant’s point of view. He shared his experiences and urged us to find someone who could be neutral in their approach and help with planning, as well as guide the process. The consultant is not typically responsible for implementation, and that is the real work of the plan. Writing the plan is only the start. And the plan should be flexible, up-dated and changed as necessary.

Mark suggested that the individuals involved might change over time, but the effort is cumulative, and builds over time, as well as evolves. Mark emphasized that everyone has a stake in the success of a planning process.

Mark was involved in both the Mt. Agamenticus to the Sea and the Greater Lovell Land Trust projects presented at this stakeholder meeting.

***A Conservation Plan for Kezar River, Kezar Lake, and Cold River Watersheds***

***Tom Henderson, Greater Lovell Land Trust***

**Like the previous two speakers, Tom Henderson has been engaged in conservation action planning to address issues in his watershed. Tom provided concrete examples so that we could see how his project played out. His conservation targets were:**

- **Lakes and Ponds**
- **Streams and Rivers**
- **Agricultural Lands**
- **Geographic and Historical Features**
- **Un-fragmented Forest Blocks**
- **Wetland Communities**

Among all potential threats to lakes and ponds that were considered the threats that were identified to pose the greatest risk were the following:

- **Residential development/shoreline development**
- **New/existing roads**
- **Lawn and landscape maintenance activities**
- **Homeowner products and practices**
- **ATV use**
- **Introduction of non-native species (plants and fish)**
- **Boat wakes**

Strategies to address these threats were:

- **Inventory & research needs**
- **Engage & educate policy makers**
- **Educate the public**
- **Develop public policy**
- **Restore habitat**
- **Prevent species loss and habitat destruction**
- **Enforce laws**
- **Begin new initiatives**

Key players in the project were:

- **Watershed Associations**
- **Conservation Organizations**
- **Town Officials**
- **State/Federal Agencies**
- **Private Landowners**
- **General Public**

A unique feature of this plan was the way that strategies or actions were assigned to specific key players. For example under the strategy to inventory and research needs, watershed associations were assigned the following tasks:

**Watershed Associations (Kezar Lake and Five Kezar Ponds)**

*Inventory & Research Needs*

- **Identify public viewsheds in the three watersheds and develop a plan to prioritize these features for preservation**
- **Inventory and monitor invasive species in the watersheds for the following classes: aquatic plants, introduced fish species, & forest pests**
- **Utilize volunteer crews on large lakes and ponds to identify shoreline alterations**
- **Assess the number and availability of public access points to water**
- **Identify surface waters threatened by over-extraction and work with towns to adopt regulations and address abuses.**

Tom gave examples of particular key players picking up pieces of the plan and implementing strategies. This approach has led to the mitigation of problems (such as road culvert drainage); Tom explained that road quality was a huge priority that got immediate attention, and implementation of new projects (Wildlife Corridor Project), and participation in existing programs (DEP Lake Smart Program) also resulted from the planning process.

## **Panel Discussion and Question and Answer Period**

**Tom Henderson, Barbara Arter, Geoff Smith, Tin Smith, Mark Ward**

The following is an overview of questions for and comments from panelists. Overall, four topics became the focus of the panel discussion. The first topic involved specific examples of action items that were accomplished. Roads were discussed in detail, as this was an area where a lot of progress has been made in watersheds where conservation action plans were implemented. Second, a question was raised about how to define the scope of a conservation project. This sparked a bit of discussion. Prominent landmarks help people to orient themselves in the landscape, but the boundaries around the landmarks can be challenging to define. The Nature Conservancy has used ecological boundaries to define projects, but there are examples of groups that work backwards from identifying threats—the extent of the threat can define the extent of a conservation project. It is important to consider that people upstream will want a voice in a process that might impact how they use land or water resources. Next we discussed tactics for getting people involved. Some tactics included “painting a picture” of what things will be like if no action is taken. Build-out scenarios and economic forecasts can help people “see the future” and make wise land and water use decisions. Last, we had a good discussion about the importance of leadership, both in the development of the overall plan and in implementation of a variety of actions. This plays out differently in different communities. Specific examples of groups taking on increased responsibility, or local groups joining state-wide organization were cited. But in each case, leaders must emerge who have a clear vision with regard to the actions that need to happen for the plan to be successful.

**Question:** In terms of managing roads [in the Kezar Ponds area]: What were some of the changes that were made? Give us some examples.

**Henderson:** We had one-on-one informal conversations with the road agents so they would divert ditches before they got to streams and seed ditches when reconstructing or adding culverts.

**Tin Smith:** Issues like this can be presented to selectman who will address issues with road agents. Road commissioners can be involved.

**Henderson:** Private roads are an issue. A watershed survey raised awareness on the issues affecting water quality, including how poor road maintenance affects water quality.

**Arter:** Water quality, fish passage and habitat are directly related to road crossings and roads not planned properly : There is an organization called Project S.H.A.R.E—that has worked on over 100 road passage issues; often private roads. They will bring issues related to state roads to appropriate people. Most roads here are often private, many landowners don't have the money or connections- do not know there are options

available. [Project S.H.A.R.E. (Salmon Habitat And River Enhancement) —mission is to conserve and enhance Atlantic salmon habitat and populations in the Downeast (primarily Washington County) region of Maine. They encourage the voluntary participation of area landowners and businesses, local, state and federal agencies, academia, conservation organizations, and other interested parties. They support cooperative resource management, research, and educational activities that will enhance the healthy functioning of these riverine ecosystems.  
<http://www.salmonhabitat.org/>]

**Question:** - There are a couple of ways of defining a project. An ecological boundary can define the project; others will adopt another definition. How is this played out? How does the stakeholder aspect alter the way you think about the project?

**Geoff Smith:** From TNC perspective, ecological boundaries are used. Scope is also defined by stakeholder and public interest. You have to look upstream in the watershed. TNC has used ecological boundaries primarily. Local groups may have other issues but they should look at ecological boundaries as well.

**Ward:** You will see from the Mt. Agamenticus to the Sea initiative that the scope of the project can change; you may change your mind after the first iteration. The focus area and scope of project changes over time.

**Tin Smith:** Mt. Agamenticus was chosen as a focus because it was a prominent landscape feature. [Later the project moved out toward the coast, creating the Mt. Agamenticus to the Sea plan]

**Arter:** The key is identifying threats; tease out where threats are originating from. “Discovery” and “Research” is imperative: you need to really, really learn about your project. Upper Frenchman Bay group needs everyone involved to identify the scope. We have a small subset of stakeholders in the room. This group does not represent the upper parts of the Frenchman Bay Watershed. How far upstream do you need to go? In a watershed approach, you need to think about threats that are found upstream.

**Question:** There are a lot of streams and rivers that flow into Frenchman Bay (such as Eddie Brook, Northeast Creek, Skillings River, Jordan River). How would we frame this in if we decide to go with a conservation action plan?

**Henderson:** Defining what your area is going to be is determined by how you want to look at it. Your scope must include those upstream. You need to include people upstream from the beginning. How effectively can you implement a plan if you leave some people out?

**Question:** With regard to the “them and us” polarization in the beginning of your project, did you see that diminish or lessen?

**Henderson:** In our community the ‘us and them’ mentality will never go away because people have way too much fun with it. The selectman will take any opportunity to tell [stakeholders] they are doing the wrong thing for the town. But

when it comes to accountability on the action items in the conservation plan, we can come together.

**Question:** Have any of you used the “what if we don’t do it?” approach with town officials? This can be a bigger motivation than anything else.

**Henderson :** Mark Ward uses a series of visuals of a forested area of Maine with a species list describing [habitat fragmentation] and species reduction. The last list is rodents. That is all you have left (like my parent’s property in Portland). That kind of visual is important. We should use all of the laws that are available to protect the land. If we do not, then shame on us.

**Arter:** I have written several economic reports. The economic losses when habitat is lost [can all be powerful persuaders of the importance of planning]. Loss of commercially important species, loss of recreation, impacts of poor water quality on tourism, even sales of gasoline and beer and ice are affected by declining water quality. There are good data to show what is lost economically [when habitat is disrupted]. The top ten things that people do when they visit Maine are related to water quality. People will not swim or eat a lobster from polluted water. At Ogunquit Beach, just closing a parking lot at the beach due to a beach closure could cost \$1 million dollars.

**Ward-** In dealing with threats, build out scenarios are powerful- “if we don’t think about what we are doing, this is what things might look like”. This might be a strategy—look at current zoning, and see what might happen if we build out to full capacity.

**Tin Smith:** At the reserve we use the concept of “Protecting our Children’s Water”. The actions we take today will affect the water quality for our children in the future.

**Henderson:** In the town of Lovell—we do build-out scenarios. Selectman complain, asking how far the [land trust is willing to go to convince people that land should be conserved, that development should be curtailed]—but I say “Tell me how much you are willing to lose, and we will stop there.” An example is snowmobiling. The snowmobilers don’t want conservation, believing that they will lose access to the land—but they do have access to conserved lands. Private landowners have posted their land, but the conserved area is available for local use. That is what protection can do for people.

**Question:** Have you experienced that a new group forms that takes ownership of implementing strategies in the plan?

**Henderson:** No new groups formed, but some restructuring did occur.

**Arter:** The formation of a group may get identified as a need. This is why you need very specific actions in the plan. In the Taunton Bay project, the local alewives group joined a larger state-wide group—the Alewives Harvesters Association. Clam harvesters got involved in creating a multi-town clam ordinance.

**Geoff Smith:** Identifying people who will take a leadership role—that is the most critical thing—whether it is the formation of a new group or working with an existing group.

“Never underestimate the power of just asking for help”

“People who have a complaint have an interest”

### Morning Group Session and Share-out

#### What are the advantages and challenges of bay planning? What type of bay planning process do you think will be successful in Frenchman Bay?

Stakeholders were divided into small groups; they explored these questions and then shared their conclusions with the larger group. One interesting and somewhat unexpected result of the small group work was that many of the advantages to planning were also challenges to planning (for example, it is a challenge for diverse stakeholders to define their common values, but then an advantage of planning is that those common values will be defined.) The result of the group conversations is condensed in the table below:

Advantages to Planning for the Future of the Bay	Challenges to Planning for the Future of the Bay
Articulates Action Items	Making the Process Inclusive at the Start
Provides Opportunities for Education	Deciding on Scope (Issues and Geography)
Provides Framework and Focus	Engaging Broad Array of Stakeholders
Generates Data	Defining Common Values
Provides Credibility (which may help fund projects)	Recognizing that Process ≠ Product
Engages Diverse Stakeholders	Finding Time and People Power
Focuses Stakeholders on Common Ground	Garnering Funds
Gives Substantive Voice to Individuals	Identifying Threats
Increases Economic Opportunities	Protecting Fishing Community Interests
Increases Awareness and Visibility of the Bay/ fosters “Sense of Place”	Protecting Traditional Uses
May Result in rebounding Fisheries/Access to food/food security	Using Conservation Terminology
Keeps Recreational options open	Creating Trust Among Stakeholders/ Overcoming Differences among People
May lead to Sustained or Improved Water quality	Dealing with increasing pressures and threats
Creates Trust among Stakeholders	Bay is not in a perceived crisis/there is no sense of urgency in local communities
Involves Towns in Bay-related Issues	Eelgrass Project Success Suggests a Plan is not necessary
Helps Municipalities Implement Actions	Deciding on Leadership
Provides for Restoration of Habitat (e.g. eelgrass)	Gathering Historical Information/Keeping a historical perspective
Process will result in Common Focus/Common ground	
Opens Up Funding Opportunities for Action items	

## **Afternoon Brainstorming**

Faciliator, Natalie Springuel, provided an overview of the morning work. From the morning session and discussion around advantages and challenges to planning, she identified targets or issues that might be addressed in a bay plan, factors that should be considered in our process as we move forward and actions that might be taken to ensure a successful planning process. She invited more input from the stakeholders. These are preliminary lists of bay issues and factors that may affect planning and ideas related to actions:

### **1. Issues in Frenchman Bay:**

- Eelgrass Decline
- Conflict between Users
- Water Quality
- Public Access to the Bay
- Rain Closures (of shellfish growing areas)
- Runoff (e.g. from blueberry fields)
- Roads
- Eutrophication
- Ability to do Aquaculture
- Fish Declines
- Potential impacts on swim areas
- Decreased diversity
- Threatened habitats
- Lack of historical knowledge

### **2. Factors in Planning:**

- Terminology may be misconstrued or misunderstood (like the term conservation).
- The process must inspire action.
- The process must be inclusive.
- Flexibility will be needed as we move forward.
- The plan must be adaptive, action oriented.
- The process should provide a balance between stakeholders and focused work group
- There is a need to define the scope, although it can change
- The plan will need to identify targets and threats.

### **3. Actions toward a planning process:**

- Show early success.
- Use projections, build-out scenarios, forecasts
- Include the ecological and sociological history of the bay
- Identify leaders
- Collect baseline data
- Distribute information about the ensuing process
- Develop a common vision

Organize focus groups around the bay to help define vision  
Consider what needs to be preserved, what needs to be restored

### **Should we move forward with a plan?**

The whole stakeholder group was asked whether they thought we should move forward with a planning process. Facilitator, Natalie Springuel, asked for a “blind vote”. Everyone put their heads down (so that no one felt “put on the spot” to vote one way or the other) and voted as follows:

Yes—we should move forward with a planning process: **13**

No—we should not move forward with a planning process: **0**

Yes—but I have concerns about moving forward with a process: **3**

**[A variety of stakeholders were invited to participate in an on-line survey prior to the 11-10-2010 meeting. These included everyone who had attended or had been invited to the 3-30-2010 meeting, as well as a group of 12 commercial harvesters who focus their harvesting efforts in upper Frenchman Bay. The survey was printed out and mailed to stakeholders who we thought might not have internet access. In addition, a link to the survey was sent to town clerks in Lamoine, Bar Harbor, Trenton, and Hancock, with a request that the information be forwarded to selectmen, town councilors, committee members, or other interested citizens of their towns. Twenty-seven people responded to the survey. The results are appended to this report. In brief, an overwhelming majority of 27 survey respondents feel it is important to set shared goals for the bay, have high interest in seeing the development of a consensus-based work plan for the bay, and favor a bay planning process that involves a combination of strategies including conservation action planning, ecosystem-based bay management, and marine spatial planning.]**

Once it was determined that there was overwhelming interest in moving forward with planning, the stakeholder group was asked to consider the scope of a planning process.

### **What should be the geographic focus of a Frenchman Bay Plan?**

One person suggested that we should determine the issues affecting the bay before defining the boundaries of the project. A number of other stakeholders concluded that a bay planning project should include the entire Frenchman Bay Watershed. A discussion ensued. Some people felt that for early success, the area should be smaller. Others suggested that if the plan is about clean water, it must include the whole watershed. It was suggested that if we did not include the whole watershed, it might create an “us vs. them” situation, with people further up in the watershed feeling disenfranchised. Eventually, there will be actions that need to be taken up in the watershed to protect the bay itself. It was acknowledged that taking on the whole watershed is a monumental task—from a practical point of view we may need to focus actions on the bay itself. Tin Smith, from Wells Estuarine Research Reserve, offered out his take on the situation: “I don’t think it will be difficult to do a watershed plan, the implementation process may be on a smaller scale, but the vision should be bigger.” Tin suggested we call the plan something like “Save the Bay” rather than a watershed plan. That way we can focus on those issues that most directly threaten the future of the bay. Bob DeForrest from Maine Coast Heritage Trust offered to create Frenchman Bay Watershed maps to help

stakeholders see the scope of the proposed bay planning initiative (maps have been appended to this report). We discussed having focus groups rather than whole stakeholder meetings in the future. Several meeting participants agreed to be part of a bay planning group to get the ball rolling. The following people signed up to be part of this group at the meeting or immediately after the meeting:

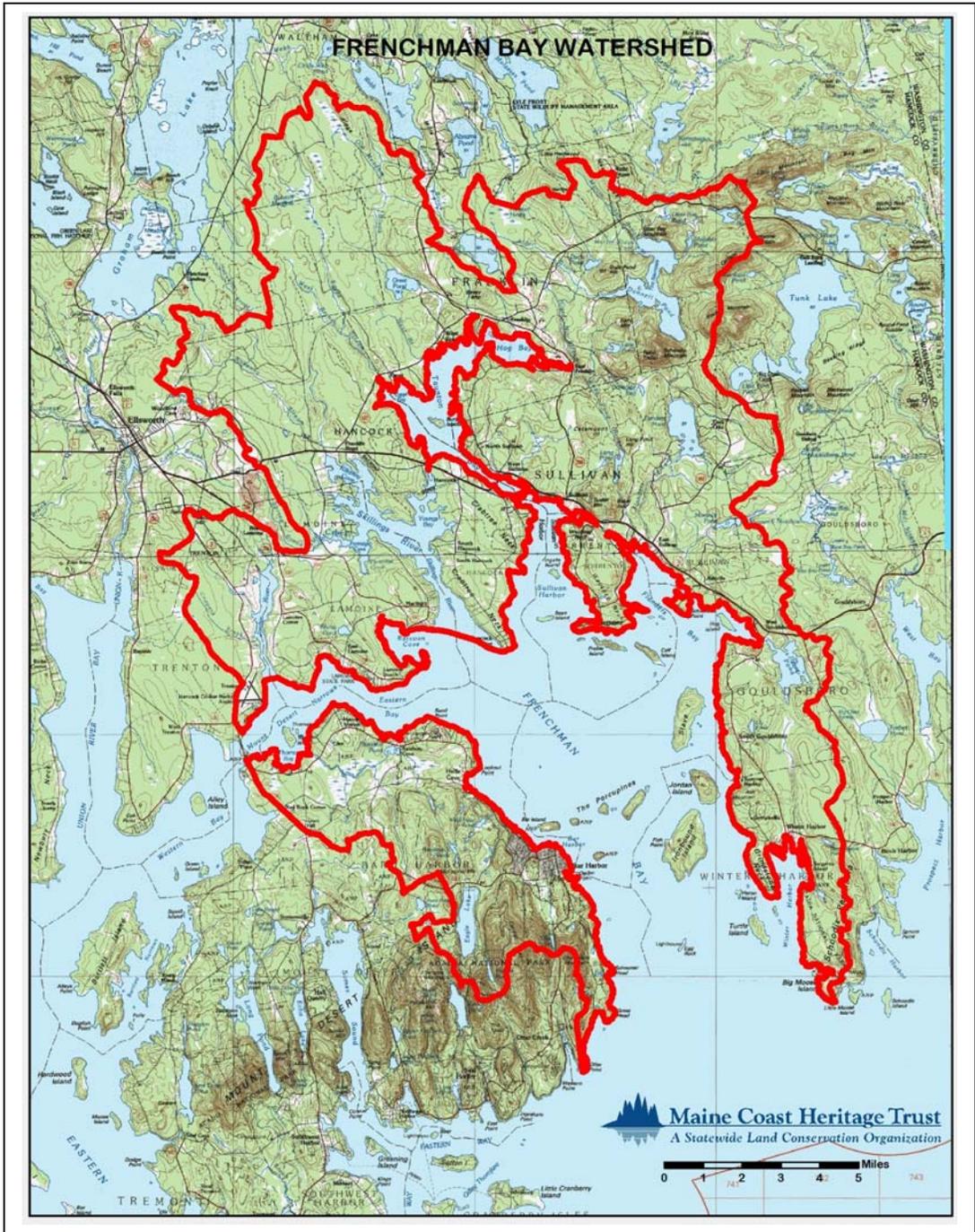
### **Frenchman Bay Planning Group**

- John Kelly
- Brian Reilly
- George Kidder
- Jane Disney
- Wendy Norden\*
- Chris Petersen
- Bob Pulver
- Carol Korty\*
- John Bennett
- Fiona de Koning
- Barbar Arter
- Natalie Springuel
- Antonio Blasi\*

\*these stakeholders were not able to attend, but expressed interest in participating after the stakeholder meeting

### **Next Steps for This Group**

- Meet as soon as possible
- Reach out to other groups that could be potential partners such as Jackson Laboratory, Center for Aquaculture Research in Franklin, fishermen and towns beyond upper Frenchman Bay
- Develop a common vision
- Identify leaders
- Review a Frenchman Bay Watershed Map, agree on scope
- Review comprehensive plans of surrounding towns to help identify existing issues
- Identify other venues for sharing out the planning initiative
- Choose representatives to attend these venues (select board meetings, conservation commission meetings, Fishermen's Forum etc.)
- Plan for smaller focus groups





For the purposes of this exercise, Bob DeForrest defined Frenchman Bay as being the area between Schoodic Point and Otter Point. The watershed is approximately 109,000 acres and includes 13 towns and 3 unorganized townships.

## Pre-Stakeholder Meeting Survey Results

1. In your opinion, how important is setting shared goals for the health of Frenchman Bay and the people who depend on it?

not important	important	very important	imperative	total
1	4	13	9	27

### Comments:

1. Unless we develop a shared set of goals, we cannot move forward with plans to protect or restore bay resources.
2. Without a shared goal, one group could undo all the work of everyone else.
3. Unless all users cooperate, there is little chance for assuring protection of the resources of the Bay.
4. If we don't understand each others needs and wants, we can end up working against each other rather than together.
5. I don't believe the type and intensity of threats to FB make this effort imperative at this time.
6. As a lifelong resident of Lamoine and a part-time lobster fisherman, and as the chair of the Joint Municipal Board overseeing the new 7-town Frenchman Bay regional shellfish ordinance, I continue to be concerned about the health of the bay. I have had concern for several years about clam flat closures due to fecal coliform pollution and mussel draggers dragging off the eel grass beds that used to be so abundant off Lamoine and Trenton shorelines.
7. Shared goals are likely to lead to a higher likelihood of success in meeting those goals, finding funding, etc.
8. Future usage is everyone's problem.
9. The health of watershed is the most important goal for our region. Goals need to lead to sustainable harvests of marine resources.
10. The bay needs to benefit all people: fishermen, homeowners, boaters and recreation, etc.

2. If you think setting goals is important, what is your level of interest in seeing the development of a consensus-based work plan to address issues that people agree are impediments to achieving those goals?

none	low	medium	high	total
1	0	7	19	27

### Comments:

1. Planning will help all everyone be able to continue using and enjoying and profiting from the bay. But we must agree together on the contents of that plan to be sure no one is left out.
2. When people buy into a plan, they are much more likely to follow it than one imposed from outside.
3. My interest would be high if the planning effort addresses a range of threats and has an attainable action agenda.
4. I would have answered "high" but I have no time left to give of myself toward addressing the issues in a larger way...I'm all "tapped out".
5. Multi-town cooperation is necessary.

## Pre-Stakeholder Meeting Survey Results

3. What kind of process do you think would best secure the future of Frenchman Bay? You can make more than one choice.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ecosystem-Based Bay Management planning (EBM)--EBM considers not only the natural ecosystem but the economy and human interactions within the ecosystem.	25.9%	7
Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)--MSP is a tool that helps stakeholders to make decisions about how to use marine resources. MSP uses maps to create a more comprehensive picture of a marine area - identifying where and how an ocean area is being used and what natural resources and habitat exist.	18.5%	5
Conservation Action Planning (CAP)--CAP is a tool that helps stakeholders to identify effective conservation strategies--on land or at sea. It provides an objective, consistent and transparent accounting of conservation actions and the intended and actual outcomes of conservation projects.	25.9%	7
A combination of strategies	81.5%	22
I don't know but I think that some type of planning is important.	7.4%	2
We do not need to engage in a planning process to secure the future of Frenchman Bay at this time.	3.7%	1
We do not need to engage in a planning process to secure the future of Frenchman Bay ever.	7.4%	2

### Comments:

1. I am leaning toward conservation action planning with elements of marine spatial planning included
2. We may come up with our own plan for plans.
3. Having data about uses of and health of various species is critical to any planning process.

## Pre-Stakeholder Meeting Survey Demographics

### 1. What is your connection to Frenchman Bay? Check all that apply.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
fisherman	20.0%	5
fishing family member	8.0%	2
aquaculture lease site owner	4.0%	1
waterfront property owner	40.0%	10
recreational boater	56.0%	14
shellfish harvester	20.0%	5
state agency representative	4.0%	1
non-profit representative	36.0%	9
educator who uses the bay for education	8.0%	2
researcher with planned projects in the bay	12.0%	3
town official	32.0%	8
town committee member	12.0%	3
business owner	24.0%	6
Other (please specify)	16%	4
<i>answered question</i>		<b>25</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>2</b>

**Other:**

1. federal government representative (Acadia)
2. federal agency representative
3. commercial boat tour employee
4. I have had a mussel lease off Old Pt Lamoine since 1982, 90 acres. (This was even before much development.) I have seen the bay grow from nothing to what it is today. We do need to guide our future.

### 2. Where are you from? Check one.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Bar Harbor	55.6%	10
Trenton	16.7%	3
Lamoine	16.7%	3
Hancock	11.1%	2
Other (please specify)	39%	7
<i>answered question</i>		<b>18</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>9</b>

**Other:**

Blue Hill Bay, Seal Harbor, Portland, Sullivan, Jonesport, business located on Bar Harbor Waterfront, interests relevant to conservation properties held in multiple towns.

## **Biographic Sketches of Speakers**

### **Jane E. Disney**

Jane is a staff scientist at MDI Biological Laboratory. She directs the activities of the Community Environmental Health Laboratory, which include engaging citizens in improving and preserving water quality and assessing and restoring eelgrass habitat in Frenchman Bay. She also works with teachers and students in local schools, providing technical support and curriculum consultation for activities related to understanding local marine environments. She considers herself a Frenchman Bay stakeholder because of the research, education, and restoration efforts she oversees in the bay. She looks forward to working with other stakeholders to identify issues affecting the health of the bay and implementing actions to protect the future of the bay for its myriad users. In addition to her current work on bay-related issues, Jane serves as a town councilor in Bar Harbor.

### **Barbara S. Arter**

Ms. Arter has owned and operated BSA Environmental Consulting Company in Steuben Maine for over 13 years. She specializes in environmental and water-quality assessment, land-use planning, coastal and watershed science, and freshwater and nearshore-marine fisheries management. She has provided watershed management and sustainable resource planning services to private industry, nongovernmental organizations, municipalities, and state and federal government agencies for the past thirteen years. She excels at collaborating with state and federal agencies, university researchers, conservation organizations, land-trusts, natural-resource harvesters, industry, municipal governments, and private landowners in order to develop ecosystem-based management resources. She has been the project director of over fourteen conservation planning initiatives and the co-author or contributor of an additional eleven. Specifically, the projects involve managing development (zoning, shore stabilization, buffer assessment), fisheries (commercially and recreationally harvested species), contaminant pollution (pesticides, organochlorines, metals), enrichment and eutrophication (NPS and point source), and conservation of aquatic and riparian habitats (both freshwater and near-shore marine).

Ms. Arter has a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management and a Master of Science degree in Riparian Ecology. Prior to consulting, Ms. Arter was on the faculty of Oklahoma State University, the University of Tennessee, and the University of Maine at Machias where she taught botany, ecology, zoology, marine biology, and microbiology.

Ms. Arter's current projects include the Penobscot River Restoration Science Exchange, the University of Maine's Diadromous Species Restoration Network, and the Friends of Blue Hill Bay, where she works to manage and protect the freshwater and marine environments for the restoration of native fish species.

## **Geoff Smith**

Geoff is the Marine Program Director for the Nature Conservancy in Maine. He earned a Masters of Science in Environmental Studies and has over 15 years experience in the natural resource management field. In addition to his work at The Conservancy, Geoff serves on the New England Fishery Management Council's Groundfish and Habitat Advisory Panels, the Northeast Consortium's Collaborative Research Advisory Committee and on the Board of Trustees for the Port Clyde Community Groundfish Sector.

## **Mark Ward**

Mark is an ecological consultant based in Bristol, Maine. He has worked independently as a consultant since 2000 on a wide variety of projects ranging from ecological field studies to conservation planning projects. He has worked for state and local governments, land trusts, and private landowners. He is skilled in the identification of the plants, animal, and ecosystems of northern New England and has conducted ecological field studies on a number of organisms. As a naturalist, he is fascinated by the natural world and is keenly interested in understanding the interactions between the physical features of the landscape (e.g. geology and soils) and the biological systems that they support.

Mark is passionate about the conserving northern New England's natural heritage. His work as an ecological consultant has been directed toward conservation-related projects. A great deal of the ecological survey work that he has done has been for organizations wishing to evaluate the conservation value of particular parcels. He has worked on a number of projects focused on rare species and their protection. He has also worked on several large-scale conservation planning efforts. His excellent oral and written communication skills allow him to communicate clearly with stakeholders and facilitate the sometimes delicate task of balancing diverse interests to reach consensus on conservation priorities and strategies.

## **Tom Henderson**

Tom has served in the land trust community for 24 years as a volunteer, in many capacities and as a natural resource manager and Executive Director. He is a Maine licensed professional forester, having received a BS degree in Forest Management from the University of Maine at Orono in 1986. He is currently employed as the Executive Director of the Greater Lovell Land Trust in the Kezar Lake region of western Maine. He has also served on the Steering Committee of the Maine Land Trust Network, serving the needs of Maine land trusts statewide. Tom also serves as Chair of the Steering Committee for the Upland Headwaters Alliance, a collaborative effort of four local land trusts working regionally to advance landscape scale conservation, which is most effectively done jointly versus independently.

Tom served as the Project Coordinator in developing a Conservation Plan for 119,000 acres including the Cold River, Kezar River and Kezar Lake Watersheds. This Plan was a community based project, facilitated by the Greater Lovell Land Trust and is currently guiding multiple community efforts to preserve valued local natural and cultural resources.

Amongst a long list of interests he enjoys cooking, organic gardening, and fishing with his 7 year old son.

## **Tin Smith**

Tin Smith is the Stewardship Coordinator at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve and a volunteer with the Great Works Regional Land Trust. He has been involved in developing conservation plans for a regional collaboration, a land trust, a town, and a national estuary program using a variety of techniques including public meetings, focus groups, surveys, interviews, computer mapping, and computer modeling. He has served as project coordinator for over 50 successful conservation transactions, chaired his town's comprehensive planning committee, and developed management plans for projects and properties.

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