



Press Release

For Immediate Release

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DOWNEAST LAKES LAND TRUST WELCOMES DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Grand Lake Stream, ME -- May 30, 2007 -- The Downeast Lakes Land Trust (DLLT) announced today that it has hired William A. Bayreuther to fill its recently-created position of Development Director. Bayreuther, formerly the Grants Director for the Natural Resources Council of Maine and an independent grant writing consultant, will coordinate DLLT's fund raising efforts, public outreach, and other external communications. His fund raising responsibilities will range from obtaining day-to-day operating support to coordinating major capital campaigns, working with charitable foundations, businesses, government agencies, and individual donors.

DLLT President Lindsay Wheaton, in announcing Bayreuther's hiring, said, "We are delighted to add Bill to our staff. We have been very successful fundraising with a consultant's assistance, but we realized that it was time to bring a development professional on staff." Executive Director Mark Berry added, "Bill's skills and experience will be a very valuable addition to our small staff. He will help us make efficient use of donors' funds and continue our great conservation accomplishments."

The Downeast Lakes Land Trust is a nonprofit organization contributing to the long-term economic and environmental well-being of the Downeast Lakes region through the conservation and exemplary management of its forests and waters. It is Maine's largest local land trust in terms of acres owned: its 27,080-acre Farm Cove Community Forest includes the Fourth Machias Lake Ecological Reserve and other forestland sustainably managed for wildlife habitat, forest products, and public recreation. As a member of the Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership, with the New England Forestry Foundation and the Woodie Wheaton Land Trust, DLLT has helped protect another 312,000 acres of timberland through conservation easement, and it is developing a conservation strategy for additional lands in the region.

Of his new job, Bayreuther says, "On my first day with DLLT, after doing the necessary paper work, reviewing my work plan, and setting meetings with Board members, I planted chestnut trees in the Community Forest. After supper, I caught my first Grand Lake Stream salmon. The close connection between this organization, its community, and the landscape and waters we all are working to protect is obvious and inspiring. I am excited to be part of this ambitious effort."

A University of Vermont graduate, Bayreuther did graduate work in nautical archaeology at Texas A&M University. His career includes archaeology, museum curation (of the USS Constitution Museum in Boston and the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport) and non-profit

leadership (serving as Executive Director of the Spring Point Museum in South Portland). His grant writing experience and interest in natural resource conservation led to a decade-long tenure with the Natural Resources Council, and more recently to consulting for growing Maine environmental groups.

Bayreuther is telecommuting from his office in Readfield, where he lives with his wife Gari Smith-Bayreuther, owner of Maranacook Yarns, and children Russ and Addie. He is linked to the DLLT office by phone and email and he drives to Grand Lake Stream every other week for two days at the organization's "home office."

For more information, contact Mark Berry at 207-796-2100 or visit www.downeastlakes.org.