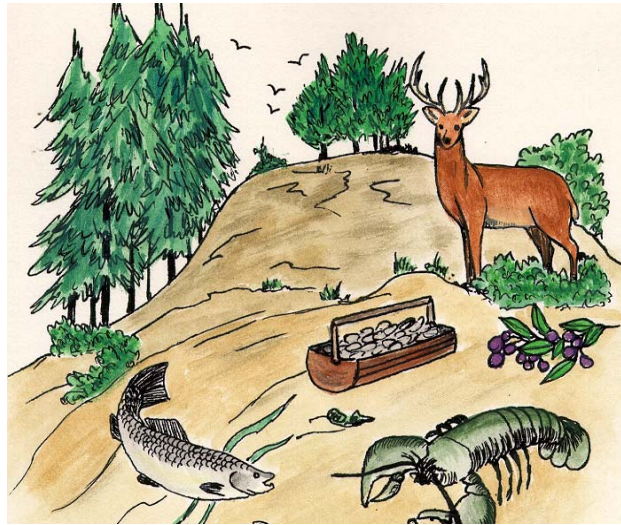


Down East Resource Conservation & Development Area

Annual
Plan of Operations

FY 2010



Serving Washington and Hancock Counties

2010

**Maine's Down East RC&D Council
Plan of Work**

Council President

DATE

State Conservationist

DATE

Downeast RC&D verifies that this FY 2010 Plan addresses the Chief's Priorities.

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PHILOSOPHY

The RC&D program is based on the philosophy that local people, working together and provided with proper facts, some technical and occasional financial assistance, can best develop and carry out an action-oriented resource conservation and development plan for the enhancement of their area.

THE MISSION

of Down East RC&D is

"resource conservation through systematic wise usage of our natural and human resources to improve the economy while maintaining quality in the natural resource base".

VISION

TO HAVE A HEALTHY ECONOMY BASED ON THE NATURAL RESOURCES IN WASHINGTON AND HANCOCK COUNTIES WHILE PROTECTING AND IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT.

DownEast RCD Area
FY 2010
Current Projects

Area Plan Goal	Project Name	Project Number	Sponsor/Partners	Council Member	Project Time Line	Description	Est. Cost (\$)	Est. Staff Time (hours)	Est. Volunteers (hours)	Date Adopted	Proposed Completion Date	Progress Notes	Actual Completion Date
Land Conservation - DERC&D will support the efforts of government and non-profits that work with landowners to reduce erosion and sedimentation from forest, agricultural and residential properties by providing workshops on Best Management Practices (BMP's).													
Objective 1, Strategy 1 (listed also under Land Management and Community Development)	Hancock County Community Planning Workshops	23-6004-009-221	HCPC	Gary Edwards	2 years	Providing technical assistance to this latest round of workshops geared to assisting planning boards and towns to deal with current planning issues	\$4,000	15	30	8/27/2009	9/15/2011	Four regular workshops per year.	
Objective 1, Strategy 2 (listed also under Community Development)	Washington County Conservation Association	23-6004-029-189	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	4 years	Providing technical assistance, seed money and grant writing to this association that is working to conduct plantings in the 160 acre area along the power line right of way and maintain wildlife habitat	\$500	25	25	2/23/2006	5/30/2010	Has been on hold - recent activity	
Water Management - DERC&D will work with local, State and Federal organizations to develop and complete 3 projects to help improve water quality in three impaired water bodies in the Down East Area by 2013.													
Objective 1, Strategies 1, 2 and 3	Down East Salmon Stream Natural pH Enhancement	236004999230	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	3.5 years	One of the issues affecting salmon populations in Down East waters is low pH. Many methods have been suggested to raise the pH, most being costly, some controversial. Clam shells are found in abundance as a waste product of the shellfish industry. It has been suggested that the calcium that makes up the shell may be a natural source of an alkaline material to offset the acidity in the rivers and streams. This project is designed to work with a number of partners in the salmon recovery work to do scientific tests on selected streams as a test of these theories.	\$ 5,000.00	30	250	2/28/2008	7/21/2011	First phase of testing has begun after delay in DEP permitting.	

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Community Development - DERC&D will work with council sponsors and other partners to complete 10 projects that will improve the infrastructure, grow the economy and improve the health and well-being of Washington and Hancock counties.													
Objective 1, Strategies 1, 2 and 3 and Objective 3, Strategy 2 (also listed under Land Management)	Caterpillar Hill Initiative	236004-009-119		Gary Edwards	3 years	Assist the Caterpillar Hill initiative with organizations and capacity building	\$100,000	35	120	12/14/2006	12/31/2009	CHI board is making progress.	
Objective 1, Strategies 1, 2, and 3	Cherryfield Public Library	23-6004-029-195			2 years	Library needs to expand its facility and build an endowment fund. Needs technical assistance	\$200,000			2/28/2008	9/23/2010	Expansion of building is complete. RC&D provided technical assistance for Rural Development Equipment Grant of \$30,000 which has been accepted to buy furniture and computers for the new addition. Good progress being made.	
Objective 2, Strategy 1, Objective 4, Strategies 1 and 2	DART 2010/2012	23-6004-999-237	DART	Fred Cook	3 years	RC&D to serve as grant manager (MTMPP Grants 2010-2012) and fiscal agent for DownEast & Acadia Regional Tourism to promote the region to tourists.	\$270,000	50	300	8/27/2009	7/31/2012	Good project, good partner.	
Objective 2, Strategy 2 and Objective 4, Strategy 2	DESTINY 2010 Implementation: Nature Based Tourism Initiative, Outreach and Training	23-6004-999-238	SCEC	Jennifer Peters	3 years	Provide technical assistant to Vacationland Resources Committee and its work to provide training to tourism businesses, education and outreach to promote sustainable tourism in the area and promotion of nature based tourism sites identified in the area.	\$8,000	60	180	8/24/2009	9/15/2011	Continue to work on sustainable tourism in DE RC&D Area. Recently began newsletter to over 1200 tourism related stakeholders in the region. Training needs being assessed for future sessions. Nature based tourism signage and next steps being worked on.	
Objective 2, Strategy 2 (also listed under Land Management)	Grass & Grain Seminar	23-6004-999-235	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	2 years	Request from agricultural producers to have an educational session to provide basic information on growing grains and restoring degraded grass lands. Expressed interest in brining together procuers that grow grains and have grass lands to share ideas and information.	\$7,000	50	50	3/26/2009	9/30/2010	Workshop held with about 40 participants. Plans underway for follow up workshop summer of 2010.	
Objective 1, Strategies 2 and 3	Greenland Point Outdoor Education Center	23-6004-999-222	Sunrise County Economic Council	Jennifer Peters	6 years	Provide technical assistance in the formation of a non-profit organization to own and operate the Greenland Point outdoor education center to continue the property as an education facility.	\$40,000	40	1200	8/23/2004	6/1/2010	Working on obtaining grant funds for continued growth of GPC.	

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Community Development (cont.) - DERC&D will work with council sponsors and other partners to complete 10 projects that will improve the infrastructure, grow the economy and improve the health and well-being of Washington and Hancock counties.													
Objective 1, Strategy 1 (also listed under Land Conservation and Land Management)	Hancock County Community Planning Workshops	23-6004-009-221	HCPC	Gary Edwards	2 years	Providing technical assistance to this latest round of workshops geared to assisting planning boards and towns to deal with current planning issues	\$4,000	15	30	8/27/2009	9/15/2011	Four regular workshops per year.	
Objective 2, Strategy 2	Hancock County Leadership Institute	23-6004-009-120	DART	Fred Cook	2 years	There are many businesses, non-profits and governmental organizations that have shown an interest in having a leadership training program for their members and employees. RC&D will provide technical assistance through evaluating the level of interest and if sufficient, to help develop the program.	\$5,000	20	40	4/23/2009	5/31/2009	Planning sessions held to develop structure and design of this institute. Surveys have gone out to the community to identify specific needs.	
Objective 1, Strategy 1	Hancock County Regional Shellfish Collaboration	23-6004-009-222	Towns of Sullivan and Ellsworth	Gary Edwards and Janet Toth	2 years	The issue is that red tide closures around the state have brought many non-resident clambers to unaffected areas, thereby depleting the resource. Project includes technical assistance in developing a regional shellfish ordinance.	\$2,000	10	30	9/24/2009	9/30/2011	Meetings among the 7 affected towns have been held. Discussions about the actual ordinance have begun including ways to ensure enforcement	
Objective 1, Strategies 1, 2 and 3	Indian River Community Association	23-6004-029-199	WCCoG	Judy East	3 years	Upgrade and preservation of a historic building to enable further use as a community building. Project is for RC&D to provide technical assistance and grant writing assistance for the project.	\$50,000	20	100	9/24/2009	7/15/2012	Project will begin in earnest in spring when president returns to area. Meanwhile discussion on possible grants and other fundraising activities has begun	
Objective 1, Strategies 1, 2 and 3	Indian Township Value Added Forestry Project	23-6004-029-175	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	6 years	Providing technical assistance to the Passamaquoddy Tribe regarding their forest lands.	\$40,000	(2009) 25	40	2/26/2004	9/1/2010	Project has been on hold and is now getting on track again.	

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Objective 1, Strategies 1 and 2.	Jonesboro Grange	23-6004-029-200	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	3 years	Provide technical assistance for upgrading the historic grange building for today's standards to use as a community building.	\$50,000	10	30	10/22/2009	10/30/2012	Grant of \$46,000 applied for to paint interior	

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Community Development (cont.) - DERC&D will work with council sponsors and other partners to complete 10 projects that will improve the infrastructure, grow the economy and improve the health and well-being of Washington and Hancock counties.													
Objective 3, Strategy 1	The Julio Society	23-6004-999-219	City of Calais	Jim Porter	8 years	Helping a non-profit to organize for the purpose of recognizing good citizenship by local youth and awarding scholarships.	\$1,000	25	75	10/24/2002	10/1/2011	Provided one scholarship in 2009. Fundraising for 2010. Goal is to raise enough over time to make the scholarship self-sustaining	
Objective 2, Strategy 3 and Objective 3, Strategies 1 and 2 (also listed under Land Management)	Organic Milk Producer Technical Support	23-6004-999-236	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	2 years	There are a number of organic milk producers that are losing the wholesale market that buys their milk. This project is designed to provide coordination for efforts to develop a business plan to find new markets and/or production capacity for the milk. The Council will act as fiscal agent for grant funds acquired to help with the effort.	\$15,000	20	50	5/28/2009	6/30/2011	\$6000 grant received from Maine Community Foundation to write a business plan which was completed by RHR Smith.	
Objective 1, Strategies 1, 2 and 3	Outdoor Adventure Center	23-6004-029-198	DART	Fred Cook	2 years	Washington County Community College (WCCC) has an outdoor adventure center that is part of the college program. They would like to expand the program to make it more effective as a lab situation for their students and as a recreational opportunity for both WCCC students and the general public. RC&D will provide technical assistance	\$3,000	20	20	10/23/2009	9/30/2010	Meetings held with WCCC to establish best organizational structure to apply for funding	
Objective 1, Strategies 1, 2, and 3. Objective 3, Strategy 2	Sunrise Trail Technical Support	23-6004-999-237	WCCoG and Towns along the trail	Judy East, Gary Edwards, Nate Pennell	4 years	The Down East Sunrise Trail is being developed through Hancock and Washington Counties. Town and non-profit organizations along the trail will be expanding local facilities and services to complement the trail and be participating in operation and maintenance of the trail. There will be need for these organizations to find and submit grants for equipment and capital improvements. This project is for the Council and staff to provide technical assistance to the organizations.	\$5,000	25	50	5/28/2009	5/31/2012	Good project getting started as trail opens throughout the two county region.	

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Community Development (cont.) - DERC&D will work with council sponsors and other partners to complete 10 projects that will improve the infrastructure, grow the economy and improve the health and well-being of Washington and Hancock counties.													
Objective 3, Strategy 1 (also listed under Land Conservation)	Washington County Conservation Association	23-6004-029-189	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	4 years	Providing technical assistance, seed money and grant writing to this association that is working to conduct plantings in the 160 acre area along the power line right of way and maintain wildlife habitat	\$500	25	25	2/23/2006	5/30/2010	Has been on hold - recent activity	
Objective 3, Strategy 2	Washington County: One Community	23-6004--029-193	WCCoG, SCEC	Judy East, Jennifer Peters	3 years	County/Community-wide Strategic Planning to help the community build its resources. RC&D providing technical assistance and outreach efforts	\$85,000	300	800	12/14/2006	9/30/2010	Good project and partnerships. Recipient of RCDI Grant. Making good progress for final year of the three year grant.	
Objective 1, Strategies 1 and 2	Whitneyville Regional Library	23-6004-029-186	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	4 years	Provide technical assistance in grant writing to assist the library in providing funding to purchase land and build a new structure to serve the community.	\$400,000	40	1000	2/23/2006	9/30/2010	Making good progress. Very active client	
Land Management - DERC&D will provide support for 3 educational opportunities and complete 3 projects that support the efforts of landowners and governmental organizations to protect the natural land base of the Down East Area.													
Objective 2, Strategy 3 (also listed under Community Development)	Caterpillar Hill Initiative	236004-009-119		Gary Edwards	3 years	Assist the Caterpillar Hill initiative with organizations and capacity building	\$100,000	35	120	12/14/2006	12/31/2009	CHI board is making progress.	
Objective 2, Strategies 1 and 2 (also listed under Community Development)	Grass & Grain Seminar	23-6004-999-235	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	2 years	Request from agricultural producers to have an educational session to provide basic information on growing grains and restoring degraded grass lands. Expressed interest in bringing together producers that grow grains and have grass lands to share ideas and information.	\$7,000	50	50	3/26/2009	9/30/2010	Workshop held with about 40 participants. Plans underway for follow up workshop summer of 2010.	
Objective 1, Strategy 1 (Also listed under Land Conservation and Community Development)	Hancock County Community Planning Workshops	23-6004-009-221	HCPC	Gary Edwards	2 years	Providing technical assistance to this latest round of workshops geared to assisting planning boards and towns to deal with current planning issues	\$4,000	15	30	8/27/2009	9/15/2011	Four regular workshops per year.	

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Objective 2, Strategies 1 and 3 (also listed under Community Development)	Organic Milk Producer Technical Support	23-6004-999-236	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	2 years	There are a number of organic milk producers that are losing the wholesale market that buys their milk. This project is designed to provide coordination for efforts to develop a business plan to find new markets and/or production capacity for the milk. The Council will act as fiscal agent for grant funds acquired to help with the effort.	\$15,000	20	50	5/28/2009	6/30/2011	\$6000 grant received from Maine Community Foundation to write a business plan which was completed by RHR Smith.	
Objective 2, Strategies 1 and 3	Washington County Food Alliance	23-6004-029-197	WCSWCD	Nate Pennell	2 years	There is a need to help producers and consumers of locally grown foods to organize in order to develop a more efficient delivery system for the benefit of all concerned. RC&D will provide technical assistance and fiscal agent services to growers and consumers of locally grown foods. A working system of local foods delivery with organizations for growers and consumers would be the desired outcome.	\$5,000	10	40	4/23/2009	6/30/2011	Meetings held with agricultural producers in the off season to discuss needs and explore avenues of collaborations such as marketing, distribution, storage, etc. Initial grant from Maine Community Foundation received.	