WOOD-PAWCATUCK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

2017 ANNUAL REPORT





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Published May 2018

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear Members,

This year I celebrate a decade of leadership of your fine conservation organization. It is you our members who inspire me each and every day to continue to strive for excellence in all the work we do together to protect the beautiful resource that is the Wood Pawcatuck Watershed. In 2017 WPWA continued to grow in its mission fulfillment from top to bottom.

We completed a major multi-year collaborative initiative thanks to the hard work of WPWA and its partners along with needed funding from The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The Pawcatuck River Flood Resiliency & Management Plan brought together all the constituents from Rhode Island and Connecticut to develop a unified strategy to prepare and protect against future flooding. This plan was developed as a multi-faceted approach to ensuring both the health of the watershed and protection for developed area. This plan now serves as the penultimate guiding document for the municipalities and states to use in updating their comprehensive and emergency management plans and elevates their standing to receive grant funding to improve flood resiliency and riverine habitat.

In addition, WPWA continued to charge ahead in compiling the Wild & Scenic Stewardship Plan authorized by the US Congress in late 2014. This process was first taken up in the early 1980's by WPWA but later laid dormant for decades. It was revived in 2013 at the urging of our conservation partners and program coordinator Denise Poyer jumped at the chance to take the lead on this prestigious designation from National Park Service. Today she often asks "What was I thinking?"

Simply put, she wasn't. It was her love and devotion to the natural resources of the Wood Pawcatuck Watershed that drove her to take up the challenge. Denise has risen to the occasion and has invested every ounce of her knowledge and passion into this crown jewel of her career. Her hard work is paying off and we expect Congress will accept the selected rivers into the Wild & Scenic Rivers system in late 2018. Sadly, the congressional passage will likely mark the end of Denise's career and her steadfast watershed contributions will be sorely missed by all. We will wish her well as she enters retirement and finally has time to fully enjoy the blessings of her grandchildren and more time hiking with her husband Ed.

Most Sincerely,

Chris Fox

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

During 2017 the WPWA board continued rethinking and restructuring the organizational model WPWA operates within. Core functions of mission accomplishment continue to be water quality monitoring, educational programming, and outreach to local municipalities. Critical need for success continues to be fiscal sustainability.

During 2017 membership opportunities continued to be refined to provide an expanded benefit package to our members, with particular focus on drawing them to use watershed resources by making facilities and accessories, such as the WPWA fleet of kayaks and canoes, available for use. 2018 sees the addition of paddleboards for member use.

Business membership has been redefined, and a business membership campaign designed to provide support for WPWA water quality monitoring efforts was kicked off. In 2017 four businesses joined in support of water quality monitoring—Grey Sail Brewing, The Malted Barley, Cunningham Associates, and Fuss & O'Neill Engineering. The enthusiasm of this core group of business supporters is invigorating.

Our goal for 2018 is to bring on six new business members, which will provide complete support of 2018 water quality monitoring stations. We will be working with our new business members to improve our business membership package so that we can effectively interest further expansion while ensuring that we keep existing business supporters for the long-term.

Today's environment is encapsulated in new mechanisms for communications—Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Flickr, Yelp, Google—to list only a very few. To effectively communicate with existing members, and to reach out to audiences that have potential members, we need to know how to broadcast on the wavelengths they monitor, and we need to speak their language and be able to catch their attention.

To improve communications effectiveness, the board is actively seeking to expand its membership with a younger demographic. We have been successful in attracting some younger, highly energized board members who have already provided incredible insight and vigor into the process of directing WPWA's future—Ian Willets, Jon Waldstein and Matt Dowling. A focus for 2018 will be continued development of the WPWA board with the enthusiasm of a younger generation.

WPWA is entering a very exciting time in its history. Wild and Scenic status is nearly at our doorstep and we are hopeful that delivery is a success. We have dedicated, capable staff whom effectively and efficiently manage WPWA's operations. Businesses are becoming partners in supporting better understanding of watershed resources through monitoring. The board is expanding its abilities to understand and reach out to individuals and families that have the most to gain from continuing stewardship of watershed resources.

I thank members of the board for their dedication, enthusiasm, willingness to work hard for WPWA, and to WPWA staff who consistently go above and beyond the call of duty in all that they do.

And I of course thank you, our members, for your continuing support of the WPWA mission to be the leading steward of the resources of the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed.

I encourage any and all that may be interested in serving on the WPWA board, committee, or in another volunteer capacity, to contact me. I would love nothing more than to have a conversation with you about WPWA.

Alan Desbonnet, President

Dear Friends of WPWA,

Sadly, WPWA emeritus board member and outstanding contributor, Dr. Saul B. Saila, passed away on December 10th 2017 in Vallejo, California at the age of 94, his wife, Jennifer, by his side. Saul had a long and distinguished career as a professor at the URI Graduate School of Oceanography. One of his proudest accomplishments was that he advised and enabled more graduate students than any other professor at URI.

Saul's extraordinary mind, quick wit, gentle humor, and eclectic interests will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Years ago, former WPWA executive director Lori Urso created the Saul B. Saila Endowment at the Rhode Island Foundation to honor this great man. Proceeds from the fund are used to support education at WPWA.

After his retirement from teaching in 1988 Saul continued to pursue scientific research as WPWA Science Advisor for over 30 years. Saul was keenly interested in quantifying brook trout habitat and developed several projects with WPWA. With his amazing capacity for statistical analysis he was able to use a neural network program to extrapolate factors that contribute to ideal brook trout habitat.

Thanks to Saul's projects, WPWA was able to purchase an electro backpack fish shocker which is still being used today by middle and high school students to sample fish. Talk about making science fun! His work also allowed WPWA to be instrumental in developing a volunteer fish monitoring program for urban watersheds.



Saul authored six scientific papers under WPWA's banner. Funding obtained to conduct these studies allowed us to hire several interns during Saul's tenure. Ever the educator, Saul made sure to include WPWA interns in all aspects of the studies and credit them on the published papers. It was an incredible experience to be able to work beside someone who could describe neural networks in one breath and patiently explain the difference between a blue gill and a pumpkin seed fish in another. Saul treated everyone as an equal out in the field. All who worked with Saul came away with a better understanding of the scientific process and a little bit of his awe for the natural world.

In addition to all the volunteer work that Saul did for WPWA, both on the board of trustees and in the field, Saul was also instrumental in recruiting our current Executive Director, Chris Fox. For years Chris had worked for Saul outside of WPWA when the position became available. Saul and emeriti director Urso encouraged Chris to apply, recognizing his potential to manage the historic Pawcatuck River Fish Passage Projects that have since garnered WPWA national and international notoriety.

The world is a slightly less colorful place now in the absence of this great man.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

COOL, CLEAN ABUNDANT WATER

WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY

Flood Resiliency Management Plan – WPWA completed the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Flood Resiliency Management Plan in August. WPWA worked cooperatively with many project partners including the watershed municipalities, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council, the RI Emergency Management Agency, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the United States Geological Survey, and the Army Corp of Engineers to develop a flood and storm resiliency watershed-based management plan for the Wood and Pawcatuck Rivers. Much of the flooding and erosion in the watershed and its root causes – floodplain development, stream corridor modifications, and impervious cover – have also impacted water quality and fish and wildlife species and habitat. Mitigation of flooding and erosion through strengthening natural ecosystems will also benefit the overall ecological health of the watershed.

The project's objectives are to: (1) assess the vulnerability of the watershed to the growing risks from flooding and associated storm-related threats; and (2) develop a comprehensive, watershed-based management plan that will protect and enhance the resiliency of the watershed communities against future flood damage and improve river and stream ecosystems, including water quality and habitat.

Part of the funding was used to expand WPWA's water quality monitoring to include collecting specific conductance near the outlet of all ten sub-watersheds. WPWA also had a consultant expand the URI Watershed Watch database to be able to store and analyze the tens of thousands of data points collected from the specific conductance loggers and temperature loggers. This project is expected to be completed in spring of 2018

This project was funded by a \$720,000 grant from the Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grants Program. The engineering firm of Fuss & O'Neill, Inc along with WPWA interns conducted the field assessments and

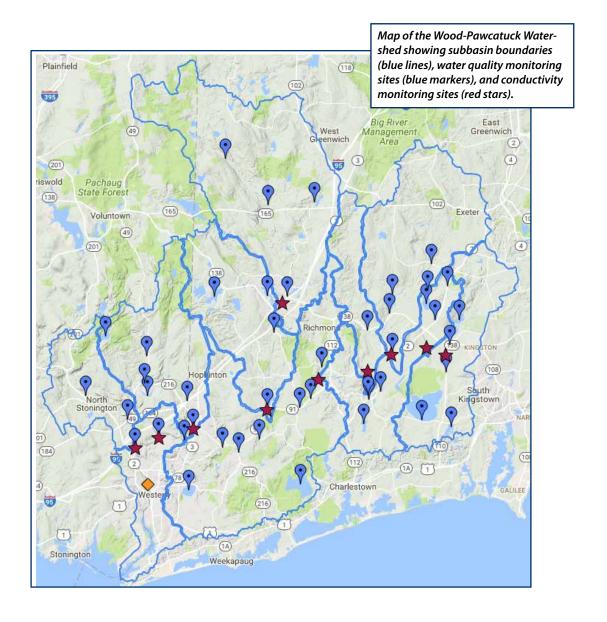
data collection to guide the development of the plan. Four public workshops were held to get comments from the local constituents. The final report includes recommendations for each town, such as replacement or repair of culverts and bridges, creating green infrastructures, or modifying regulations used by town, state, and federal agencies to better enable flood mitigation. The plan was very well received by the towns and state agencies.



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Temperature Monitoring - The Narragansett Chapter of Trout Unlimited (TU) took the lead on conducting temperature monitoring in ten streams and rivers of the Upper Wood River Watershed. TU volunteers deployed loggers at twenty-six sites that recorded temperature every other hour for three months during June, July, August and September. Due to the very warm, dry weather pattern this year many streams exhibited above normal temperatures. This can cause stress on the aquatic organisms inhabiting these streams. WPWA and TU plan to continue the temperature monitoring program in 2018.

Water Quality Monitoring - WPWA conducted our 30th year of Water Quality Monitoring through the University of Rhode Island's Cooperative Extension Watershed Watch Program. More than 40 dedicated volunteer citizen scientists monitored 10 ponds & lakes and 16 river & stream sites throughout the watershed. Besides measuring clarity, temperature and dissolved oxygen, monitors collected water samples on a monthly or bimonthly basis to be analyzed for nutrients and bacteria. Many thanks to our partners in this effort: North Stonington Citizen's Land Alliance, Trout Unlimited Narragansett Chapter, URI Watershed Watch, The Malted Barley, Greysail Brewery, Fuss & O'Neill Inc, and First Allied Financial Services.



2017 WPWA WATER QUALITY

MONITORING SITES: LAKES/PONDS

| Sampling Site Name | Site Town(s) | Sub-basin | Monitor | |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Alton Pond | Hopkinton/Richmond | Lower Wood | Carol Ann and Mark Baker | |
| Barber Pond | South Kingstown | Usquepaug-Pawcatuck | URI WW students | |
| Boone Lake | Exeter | Upper Wood | Donahue/Zaharie/Sprague | |
| Chapman Pond | Westerly | Tomaquag-Pawcatuck | Gary Palmer | |
| Hundred Acre Pond | South Kingstown | Chipuxet-Pawcatuck | Linda Forrester | |
| Locustville Pond | Hopkinton | Lower Wood | Latimer et al | |
| Meadowbrook Pond | Richmond | Tomaquag-Pawcatuck | Anne Marie Tavares | |
| Pasquisett Pond | Charlestown | Usquepaug-Pawcatuck | Tom Ferrio/Maureen McCarthy | |
| Queen R @ Usquepaug | South Kingstown | Usquepaugh | Jim Cummings | |
| Spalding Pond | North Stonington | Ashaway | Jim McCutcheon | |
| Watchaug Pond | Charlestown | Tomaquag-Pawcatuck | Virginia Wootten | |
| Wincheck Pond | Hopkinton | Lower Wood | Deb Luz/Gerri Miceli | |
| Worden Pond | South Kingstown | Chipuxet-Pawcatuck | Belgrave/Bradley/Tucker | |
| Wyassup Lake | North Stonington | Ashaway | Joe Spano | |
| Wyoming Pond | Hopkinton/Richmond | Upper Wood | Doug Jones | |
| Yawgoo Pond | Exeter/South Kingstown | Usquepaug-Pawcatuck | URI WW students | |

MONITORING SITES: RIVERS/STREAMS

| Sampling Site Name | Site Town(s) | Sub-basin | Monitor | |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Ashaway R @ Rte 216 | Hopkinton | Ashaway | Harrison Gatch/Elise Torello | |
| Beaver R @ Rte 138 (#3) | Richmond | Beaver | Tom McCormick | |
| Chickasheen Bk @ Mi- skiania Trail | Exeter | Usquepaug-Pawcatuck | URI WW students | |
| Chickasheen Bk @ Rte 2 | Exeter | Usquepaug-Pawcatuck | URI WW students | |
| Chipuxet R @ Rte 138 (Taylor's Landing) | South Kingstown | Chipuxet-Pawcatuck | URI WW students | |
| Falls R @ Step Stone Falls (D) | West Greenwich | Upper Wood | Trout Unlimited | |
| Falls R @ Twin Bridges (A) (#2) | Exeter | Upper Wood | Trout Unlimited | |
| Green Falls @ Rte 184/I 95 Exit 93 | Hopkinton | Ashaway | Harrison Gatch/Elise Torello | |
| Pasquisett Trib @ Rte 2 | Charlestown | Usquepaug-Pawcatuck | Laura Craver-Rogers | |
| Pawcatuck R - Upstr of Boombridge Rd. bridge | North Stonington/West- erly | Lower Pawcatuck | Ramon Garcia | |
| Pawcatuck R @ Biscuit City Rd | Charlestown/Richmond | Usquepaug-Pawcatuck | Bruce Burns | |

$2017 \ WPWA \ WATER \ QUALITY$

MONITORING SITES: RIVERS/STREAMS, CONTINUED

| Sampling Site Name | Site Town(s) | Sub-basin | Monitor | |
|--|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Pawcatuck R @ Bradford Fishing Access | Hopkinton/Westerly | Tomaquag-Pawcatuck | Judith Kaplin | |
| Pawcatuck R @ Burdick- ville Rd | Charlestown/Hopkinton | Tomaquag-Pawcatuck | Elise Torello | |
| Pawcatuck R @ Potter Hill | Hopkinton/Westerly | Tomaquag-Pawcatuck | Harrison Gatch/Elise Torello | |
| Pawcatuck R @ Rte 91 | Charlestown/Richmond | Tomaquag-Pawcatuck | Mike Marconi | |
| Pawcatuck River Below Kenyon Industries | Charlestown/Richmond | Usquepaug-Pawcatuck | Sandy Neuschatz | |
| Pendelton Hill Bk @ Grindstone Rd. | North Stonington | Ashaway | Charlie Morgan | |
| Pendleton Hill Bk @ Rt 49/16 | North Stonington | Ashaway | Harrison Gatch/Elise Torello | |
| Queen R @ Mail Rd (QR#5) | Exeter | Usquepaugh | Barbara Kennedy | |
| Sherman Bk @ Glen Rock Rd (QR#1) | South Kingstown | Usquepaugh | Peter Stack | |
| Shunock R @ Hewitt Rd | North Stonington | Shunock | Bruno Hancock and Sheri Sham- blin | |
| Shunock R @ I-95 off Rt 49 | North Stonington | Shunock | Charlie Morgan | |
| Shunock R @ Rt 184 | North Stonington | Shunock | Harrison Gatch/Elise Torello | |
| Tomaquag Bk @ Chase Hill (Rte 216) | Hopkinton | Tomaquag-Pawcatuck | Elise Torello | |
| Usquepaugh R @ Rte 2 | Richmond/South Kings- town | Usquepaugh Bruce Burns | | |
| White Bk @ Pine Hill Rd (Pond Inlet) | Richmond | Tomaquag-Pawcatuck Harrison Gatch/Elise Tore | | |
| White Horn Bk @ Min- isterial Rd | South Kingstown | Chipuxet-Pawcatuck | Anne Sheffield | |
| Wood R @ Switch Road | Hopkinton/Richmond | Lower Wood | Frances Hinteregger | |

WATERSHED WATCH MONITORS

| Monitor(s) | Waterbody | # Years |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Linda Green | Yawgoo Pond | 30 |
| Madeline Jeffery | N. Ston. Ct. Land Allnc. | 29 |
| Anne Marie Tavares | Meadowbrook Pond | 26 |
| Denise Poyer | Pawcatuck River sites | 24 |
| Al Ball | Falls River | 23 |
| Jim Latimer | Locustville Pd & Pawcatuck R | 22 |
| Peter Stack | Sherman Brk, Queen R. | 19 |
| Gerri Miceli | Wincheck Pond | 18 |
| Jim Cummings | Queen River @ Usquepaugh | 17 |
| Keith Manning | Pawcatuck River | 15 |
| Virginia Wooten | Watchaug Pond | 15 |
| Deb Luz | Wincheck Pond | 14 |
| Sandy Neuschatz | Pawcatuck River | 14 |
| Anne Sheffield | White Horn Brook | 14 |
| Carol Ann & Mark Baker | Alton Pond | 13 |
| Ben Bradley | Worden Pond | 11 |
| Bruce Burns | Pawcatuck River | 11 |
| Judy Kaplin | Pawcatuck River | 11 |
| Tom Ferrio | Pasquisett Pond | 10 |
| Maureen McCarthy | Pasquisett Pond | 10 |
| Jaimie Holmes | Yawgoo Pond | 7 |
| Becky Sprague, Tony Zaharie | Boone Lake | 7 |
| Jim McCutcheon | Spaulding P. & Green Falls R. | 6 |
| Paul Donahue | Boone Lake | 5 |
| Ron & Nathan Guilemette | Locustville Pond | 5 |
| Ron Marafioti | Falls River | 5 |
| Gary Palmer | Chapman Pond | 5 |
| Clyde Belgrave | Worden Pond | 4 |
| Linda Forrester | Hundred Acre Pond | 4 |
| Doug Jones | Wyoming Pond | 4 |
| Cindy Drake | Locustville Pond | 3 |
| Elwood Johnson | Locustville Pond | 3 |
| Madeline Amarante | Barber Pond | 2 |
| Ramon Garcia | Pawcatuck R | 2 |
| Harrison Gatch | Ashaway R & Pendleton Bk | 2 |
| Bruno Hancock, Sheri Shamblin | Shunock River | 2 |
| Frances Hinteregger | Wood River | 2 |
| Barbara Kennedy | Queen River | 2 |
| Mike Marconi | Pawcatuck River | 2 |
| Tom McCormick | Beaver River | 2 |
| Robert McCusker | Tucker Pond | 2 |
| Charlie Morgan | Pendleton Hill Bk, Shunock R. | 2 |
| Miranda Peyton | Barber Pond | 2 |
| Joe Spano | Wyassup Lake | 2 |
| Elise Torello | Pawcatuck R, Shunock R, etc | 2 |
| Laura Craver-Rogers | Pasquisett Trib @ Rte 2 | 1 |

THRIVING NATIVE PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Biodiversity

Wild and Scenic Rivers Study - To promote biodiversity, WPWA has taken the lead on obtaining a federal Wild & Scenic designation for portions of the watershed. This congressional designation will forever bring attention and funding to protect habitat, allowing for the best possible long term biodiversity in the watershed. In order to accomplish the three year study a cooperative agreement was developed between WPWA and the National Parks Service (NPS). Denise Poyer took on the task of Study Coordinator, which involved convening a Study Committee and coordinating the process. The committee consisted of representatives appointed by the towns of Charlestown, Exeter, Hopkinton, Richmond, South Kingstown, North Kingstown,



Westerly, and West Greenwich, RI; North Stonington, Sterling, Stonington, and Voluntown CT. It also included representatives from the RI Department of Environmental Management, CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, The RI Nature Conservancy, Save The Bay, Audubon Society of RI, and the NPS. The committee documented Outstandingly Remarkable Values for seven rivers in the watershed: Beaver, Chipuxet, Green Fall-Ashaway, Queen-Usquepaugh, Pawcatuck, Shunock and Wood Rivers. At the same time they developed a Stewardship Plan to protect the rivers' values. During this time the committee also conducted outreach to their towns to keep them abreast of the work and start to develop support for Wild and Scenic designation.

The study will be completed in spring of 2018. The committee will reach out the towns and state agencies for letters of support. They are expected to ask the RI and CT congressional delegates to submit a bill in October 2018 that will amend the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to include the seven rivers of the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed.

Statewide Climate Resiliency Action Strategy – In 2017 Rhode Island launched this initiative to address climate change adaption priorities across the state in addition to focusing on climate change mitigation. This work will promote resiliency to the shocks and stressors caused by climate change that affect our wildlife communities and biodiversity. With a statewide approach and a commitment to stakeholder engagement, this work will position Rhode Island as a national leader in resiliency action and lead to a more prepared Ocean State.

More specifically, this work aims to:

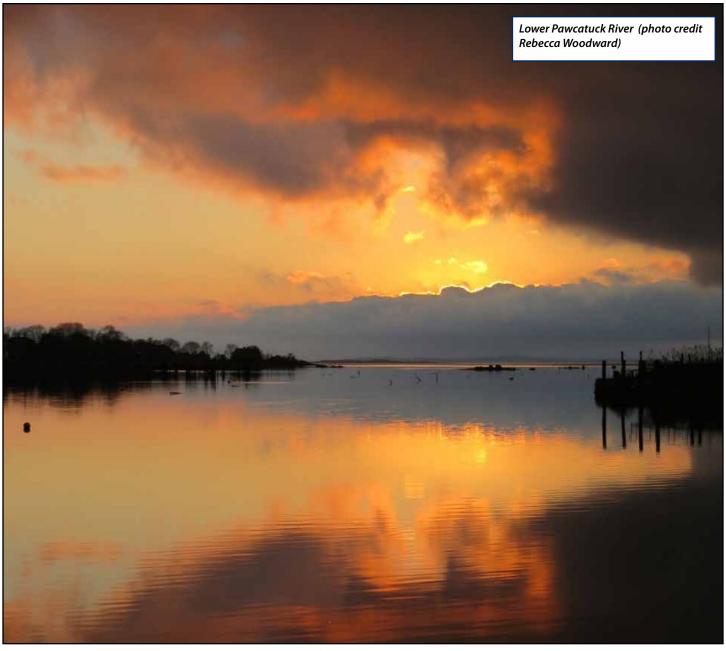
- 1) Create a prioritized strategy based on both the latest literature and the best local knowledge and experience
- 2) Support and coordinate existing resiliency projects across the state
- 3) Catalyze new action to meet near-term needs
- 4) Plan for longer term effects and on-going support of projects

To accomplish this, the RI Infrastructure Bank was charged by the legislature to obtain stakeholder input and compile a strategy report by July 2018. Because of our leadership role within the watershed, WPWA was selected as one of the host organizations for a series or Resiliency Roundtable meetings. The purpose of the meetings was to identify key local shocks and stressors across three "dimensions"; Critical Infrastructure & Environment, Economic Development, and Community Health & Equity. WPWA was pleased to promote this effort within the community and serve as facilitator for the State in gathering the vital information needed to develop the strategy.

HEALTHY SALTWATER ENVIRONMENT (ESTUARY)

Attaining free passage throughout the Pawcatuck River supports a healthy saltwater environment by restoring the natural interactions between the salt and fresh water environments. Now that river herring are free to range throughout the system and have 1300 acres of new grounds in which to spawn , their population will dramatically increase. In addition to supporting the commercial fishing industry, this population growth will provide additional forage for salt and fresh water fish as well as raptors like the bald eagle and wildlife like river otters.

But restoring access to the Pawcatuck River's headwaters at Worden Pond in S. Kingstown, RI doesn't mean the work is complete. In 2017, WPWA supported partner organization's efforts to complete the White Rock Dam removal and begin the replacement of the Bradford Dam with a naturelike fishway. Both will reduce flooding risks while facilitating better passage by migratory fish on their journey to the ponds associated with the Pawcatuck River system. You can expect even more improvements in river connectivity on the Pawcatuck River in 2018.



PLENTIFUL ACCESS TO RECREATION

Opening the Rivers for People Passage - While WPWA prefers to keep the rivers as wild and natural as possible, trees often fall across the full width of the river and present a danger to paddlers. Paddlers can alert WPWA to the presence of these obstructions right on the spot from their smartphones or from the comfort of their homes using WPWA's interactive River Conditions Map. Check out the map and its capabilities here www.wpwa.org/river.php.

Each year WPWA hires a contractor to search out these trees and remove only sections of each tree to allow safe passage in high and low water. Leaving the majority of the tree preserves wildlife habitat, reduces the sun's warming affect on the water, and encourage "meanders" which are a natural function of a healthy river. Thanks in part to membership dues along with a small grant from the RI Trail Advisory Committee, WPWA removed 26 trees in 2017. That's a lot less portages for paddlers in the watershed.

Dow Field River Access - WPWA provided technical assistance to the Hope Valley Grange and Community Center toward their ongoing effort to create a formal river access area at the popular Dow Field baseball parks. The ball fields do currently feature a State of RI fishing access point to the river with an informal parking area. But the site could be used by a much wider range of recreationalists and have a lower water quality impact on the Wood River if it were improved. IN 2017 WPWA assisted the Grange volunteers to secure a \$100,000 grant and provided technical input toward the development of a permit application to make this project a reality in 2018.



HELPING PEOPLE CARE ABOUT THE WATERSHED

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Membership - Membership is the core of WPWA's educational efforts. Our best opportunity to cultivate the current and future stewards of the watershed is through educating our members. We hope you will continue to help spread the word about our new "why buy when you can borrow" membership development initiative. Special thanks to all our members for helping make all the great educational work we do possible.

Education – Twenty-four area schools and youth groups participated in educational programs, which primarily focused on kayaking on the Wood River. Ages ranged from fourth graders to undergraduates from URI who came to learn about macroinvertebrate sampling. The schools were: Chariho ESY program, Chariho Middle School, Compass School, Coventry High School, Wheeler School, Woonsocket Middle School, Met School, and URI. Youth groups included Adventure Camp, John Rollins Recreational Center, Providence After School Program, Roger Williams Park Zoo, Audubon Society of RI, Woonsocket Connects, and Operation Military Kids. A total of 320 kids and young adults took part in twenty-eight WPWA education programs.

Programs – WPWA offered a variety of programs for our members and the general public including a Map and Compass Workshop, Fly Tying and Fly Fishing lessons, Fly Rod Building workshops, a walk with the RI Wildplant Society, a paddle with the Tomaquag Museum, five Bioluminescent Paddles, and several Learn to Paddleboard classes. A total of 136 people took part in one or more programs.

Committee and Board Affiliations:

RI Environmental Education Alliance Board
RI Trail Advisory Committee
Richmond Land Trust Board
Land Trust Healthy Community Meeting
South County Tourism Council



VOLUNTEERS

Jay Aaron

Boze & Penny Arnold

Peter V. August

Carol Ann & Mark Baker Albert & Sandra Ball

Ted & Jo-Ann Bates

Wendy Beck Clyde Belgrave

Thomas & Kristina Boving

James & Mary Boyer

J. Benjamin Bradley Ginger Brown Antonia Bryson Kenneth Burke

Bruce Burns

John Buscaglia & Susan Shaw

Rachel Calabro

Doug & Susan Carocari Lawson M. Cary III Nina Rooks Cast

Jim Cole

James Cummings

Sam Curry Alan Desbonnet

E. Richard Diamond, Jr.

Joseph DiBrino Wade A. Diehl Paul Donahue Matt Dowling

Sharon Ann Dragon

Cindy Drake
Jon Ericson
Tom Ferrio
Janice H. Fifer
Linda Forrester

Ayla Fox Walter Galloway Harrison Gatch Roger Gibson

Kelsi Goyette

Linda T. Green Christopher Grube William Hahn

Bruno Hancock & Sheri Shamblin

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Sean Henry

Elizabeth M. Herron

Nancy Hess
Elly Heyder
Bill Hixson
Janet Huntley
Madeline Jeffery
Doug Jones

Maureen Kennelly

Meg Kerr

Diane Laderoute James Latimer Raoul Lefebvre James Leigh James E. Less

Bruce Loeckler

Deb Luz & Gerri Miceli Joseph MacAndrew Jennifer Mackenzie Paige MacKenzie Ron Marafioti Hugh Markey Vivian Maxson

Maureen McCarthy Thomas McCormick William P. McCusker James McCutcheon Joseph McElroy

Henry Meyer Michael Migdail-Smith Samantha Migdail-Smith Dennis Migneault Roger F. Nadeau, Jr.

Glen Northup John O'Brien

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RI Deptartment of Environmental Management

Shed Light Productions, LLC

Trout Unlimited, Narragansett Chapter

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Wood River Fly Fishing Club



Members

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MAJOR GRANTS AND GIFTS BY FOUNDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Charitable Foundations:

Forrest & Frances Lattner Foundation: \$48,000 Brightman Hill Charitable Foundation: \$2,000

Federal Agencies:

National Park Service: \$39,040 US Fish & Wildlife Service c/o

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation: \$81,538

State Government:

RI Trail Advisory Committee: Urban Youth Paddles and River Trail Tree Removal Grant \$5,000

FUND DRIVE GIFTS AND INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

2017 Annual Fund Drive

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Irene Rieder

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Appalachian Mountain Club

Aquatic Resource Education Center (RIDEM)

American Rivers

Avalonia Land Conservancy

Chariho Middle School

CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection

Coventry High School

Curtis Corner Middle School (SK)

ecoRI

Federal Emergency Management Agency The Friends of the Hopkinton Land Trust

Gateway Health Center, Youth Programs

HopArts

Hopkinton Conservation Commission

Hopkinton Historical Association

Hopkinton Land Trust Kenyon Industries

Kenyon Grist Mill

MA Dept. of Environmental Protection

Narragansett Bay Estuary Program

Narrow River Preservation Association National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

National Park Service

National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Adm.

The Nature Conservancy of RI and CT

Norman Bird Sanctuary RI Blueways Alliance

RI Canoe and Kayak Association

RI Coastal Resources Management Council

RI DEM, Various Divisions

RI Emergency Management Agency

RI Envirothon Competition RI Land and Water Partnership

RI Land Trust Council

RI Resource Conservation & Development

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RI NEMO Program

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RI Salt Water Anglers Association

RI Sea Grant

Richmond Conservation Commission

Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust

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RYSE School

Safari RI

Salt Ponds Coalition

Save The Bay

South County Tourism Council

South Kingstown Land Trust

Southern New England Paddlers

Southern RI Conservation District

Tomaquag Museum Town of Charlestown

7T CII 1' .

Town of Hopkinton

Town of North Stonington

Town of Richmond

Town of Exeter

Town of Stonington

Town of Westerly

Town of West Greenwich

Trout Unlimited Narragansett Chapter

United Fly Tyers of RI

University of Rhode Island

URI Coastal Institute

URI Cooperative Extension Service

URI Watershed Watch

US Army Corps of Engineers

US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource

Conservation Service

US Fish and Wildlife Service

US Geological Survey

US EPA, Region 1

Watershed Counts

Westerly Land Trust

Wheeler Middle School, N Stonington, CT

Wood River Fly Fishing Club

Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council

TREASURER'S 2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

Dear WPWA Members,

The 2017 year-end financial reconciliation is shown on the following page.

Your organization continues to transition from the years of administering large grants for water-shed-wide projects. This has meant adapting to lower financial coverage from grants, for administrative expenses. At the start of the year we anticipated an operating deficit of \$40,000. Through the excellent cost management of our Executive Director, Chris Fox, and improved fundraising results we were able to achieve a small operating surplus. This allowed us to maintain our financial reserves.

Continuing our actions in 2016, the board reviewed our list of water quality monitoring sites and trimmed a number of sites while retaining monitoring coverage of all watershed sub-basins. The Board also created a business membership initiative to sponsor specific water monitoring sites. This has shown some initial success and we will concentrate on acquiring more business memberships in 2018.

For 2018, the development of the Wild and Scenic Rivers designation is our only large project grant. If this is approved by Congress in late 2018 it will provide important long-term funds for the maintenance and protection of the watershed.

The Board extends its thanks to the WPWA controller Ms. Kristy Armstrong, CPA, for the care she has taken in tracking our finances and the diligence she has shown in keeping the Treasurer, Executive Director, and Board informed of our financial position at all times. Thanks also go to the staff of the WPWA for their excellent work in keeping program costs down while serving the watershed and membership and working within the budget your Board established for the organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Mix

Tom Ferrio,

Treasurer

2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| | ACTUAL | BUDGET |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| INCOME | | |
| 4010 Donations | 27,096 | 39,845 |
| 4300 Gain (loss) on Securities | 2,070 | 0 |
| 4400 GRANTS | 173,679 | 176,500 |
| 4480 Indirect Public Support | 294 | 100 |
| 4700 Interest and Dividends | 21,850 | 8,500 |
| 4800 Investment/Endowment Revenue | 2,178 | 0 |
| 4900 MEMBERSHIP DUES | 34,130 | 34,385 |
| 5000 Program Fees | 4,399 | 4,200 |
| 5200 Sales | 764 | 400 |
| 5500 Special Project Revenues | 7 | 0 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 266,466 | 263,930 |
| Expenses | | |
| 7000 Administration | 52,920 | 62,214 |
| 7105 ENDOWMENT MANAGEMENT FEE | 857 | 0 |
| 7400 Educational Programs | 208 | 275 |
| 7500 Fund Raising | 0 | 4,300 |
| 7600 GRANT EXPENSES | 97,471 | 141,500 |
| 7700 Membership and Volunteers | 4,346 | 2,700 |
| 7760 OUTREACH EXPENSES | 17 | 0 |
| 7800 Payroll and Benefits | 85,257 | 80,004 |
| 7900 RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS | 582 | 850 |
| 7995 SCIENTIFIC MONITORING | 18,533 | 12,550 |
| 9700 Foreign Taxes on Investments | 7 | |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 260,198 | 304,393 |
| NET INCOME/(LOSS) | 6,268 | (40,463) |
| 4310 UNREALIZED GAINS/LOSSES | 4,561 | - · · · • |
| ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE | 0 | |
| ACCOUNTS PAYABLE | 2,314 | |
| TOTAL FUNDS INCREASE/(DECREASE) | 8,515 | |