As 2007 came to a close, Northeast Wilderness Trust marked its fifth year in operation as the first and only regional land trust dedicated exclusively to wilderness, and there was no shortage of things to celebrate.

By December, we protected over 4,000 acres of exceptional wildlands in the eastern Adirondack’s Split Rock Wildway, from the Squam Range to the Wapack Trail of southern New Hampshire, and in the remote spruce-fir and hemlock forests of central Maine.

These preserves are an investment in the health of our communities; they foster biodiversity, grant us refuge from urbanity, and help humans and wildlife to adapt to climate change.

The triumphs of the past year have spurred momentum as we expand conservation initiatives in the Adirondacks, the Northern Greens, the Wapack Range and in central Maine. We hope you’ll join us as we work to advance these exciting projects!

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**Northeast Wilderness Trust Preserves Over 4,000 Acres in 2007**

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**Take Action!** Double your dollars for Nature! The Merck Family Fund has pledged to match all new contributions in 2008. Help build support for this region’s magnificent wildlife and wild places—become a member or give a gift membership today! Please fill out the enclosed envelope or donate online at: www.newildernesstrust.org.
Greetings,

I joined the Northeast Wilderness Trust this past November because I am inspired by the tremendous potential for wilderness protection in the Northeast. And because I believe NWT’s high conservation standards and reputation for putting planning to action are what is needed in this race against the clock.

For many years, I worked on land use policy and preservation in New York—with some victories and some defeats. During this time, I became convinced that the last best hope for saving wilderness—wild places, wildlife and wild processes—lay farther north, in the Northern Forest, the 20 million acres stretching across northern New York and New England.

If we’re to succeed in saving nature for our children, it will be here—the largest temperate forest on the planet, and perhaps the only place on earth that is becoming wilder each day.

As science tells us, it takes large, very large, blocks of connected lands for ecosystems to really function—to preserve biodiversity for its own sake and ours, to cleanse the air of smog and greenhouse gases, to let wildlife rebound, and to ensure places for quiet recreation.

As large forested areas grow back, wildlife once extirpated is also returning. Just last year Canada lynx were confirmed in Vermont, martens are back in New Hampshire, and moose are thriving in the Adirondacks.

But development and pollution threaten this renaissance.

That’s where you and I come in. Using conservation science, we can stitch together wilderness areas and create room for wild nature to thrive.

And we’re doing exactly that—the Northeast Wilderness Trust has preserved over 6,000 acres in just the last five years! With only 4% of the Northeast protected as wilderness, the vast majority of the region remains at risk of development, fragmentation, unsustainable forestry practices, and motorized vehicles. Now is the time to protect this rich natural heritage.

That’s why we are active across the Northern Forest (see map on page 5)—why we’re working to preserve another 100 acres in the Split Rock Wildway, our sixth project in the eastern Adirondacks. And why we’re negotiating an option on 1,300 acres on the Vermont-Canada border—a project whose completion would protect a binational habitat corridor for moose, black bear, lynx and marten and mark one of the first successful transboundary projects anywhere on the continent.

Nature has given us a rare second chance. With your support we can take advantage of it. Thank you.

James F. Nordgren

Protected! 2007 Conservation Projects at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Boquet Mountain</td>
<td>Hersey Mountain</td>
<td>Howland Research Forest</td>
<td>Wapack Wilderness</td>
<td>Metcalf Preserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Essex, New York</td>
<td>New Hampton and Sanbornton, New Hampshire</td>
<td>Howland, Maine</td>
<td>Rindge and New Ipswich, New Hampshire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size</td>
<td>105 acres</td>
<td>2,100 acres</td>
<td>550 acres</td>
<td>1,400 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat</td>
<td>Northern hardwood forest</td>
<td>Northern hardwood forest</td>
<td>Transitional boreal forest</td>
<td>Wetlands, rare natural communities, rocky ridges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife</td>
<td>Bobcat, osprey, songbirds, rattlesnake, otter, mink</td>
<td>Black bear, fisher, mink, otter, gray and red fox, moose, warblers</td>
<td>Black bear, beaver, river otter, pine marten, bald eagle, brook trout</td>
<td>Moose, bobcat, fisher, beaver, otter, warblers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values</td>
<td>Habitat connectivity, rich in biodiversity, under-represented in regional conservation landscape, wildlife habitat</td>
<td>Illustrates compatibility of abutting woodlands and wildlands conservation</td>
<td>Long-term climate change studies underway, virgin forest, wildlife habitat</td>
<td>Wildlife habitat, watershed, protection, over a mile of the historic Wapack Trail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threats</td>
<td>Logging and subdivision for development</td>
<td>Timber harvest</td>
<td>Timber harvest</td>
<td>Development and habitat fragmentation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
With each new project, NWT has built partnerships with conservation practitioners, scientists and wilderness advocates from across the Northeast, attracting new expertise and support for our work. The Northeast Wilderness Trust is delighted to welcome six new individuals to our staff and boards and would like to extend our gratitude to the staff and interns who have made our past successes possible. Thank you!

Welcome to the Board of Advisors

Active in environmental science and conservation for over 50 years, Jerry Bertrand’s work in habitat preservation and bird conservation has been recognized with the President’s Medal by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds in England and through the President’s Medal of BirdLife International. Jerry served as President of the Massachusetts Audubon Society for eighteen years and has long been active in international conservation, traveling to more than fifty countries on behalf of the U.S. government in support of wildlife and land conservation projects. He is the co-founder of The American Bird Conservancy and The World Land Trust where he serves as Honorary President. He was the first Chairman of the Global Council for BirdLife International where he is currently a Vice-President. There is nothing that Jerry enjoys more than showing people birds and wildlife.

From its inception in 1991 until 2007 Nancy Smith served as Executive Director of Sweet Water Trust (SWT), a foundation that helps to create and fund conservation projects to safeguard wild lands and waters in the Northern Appalachian region of New England, the Adirondacks, and Canada. Sweet Water Trust works with diverse partners: land trusts, state agencies, foundations, corporations and individuals. GAP maps depicting conservation land management have been an integral tool in SWT’s collaboration with its partners. Nancy served on NWT’s founding Board of Directors and has been involved with the Sheffield Land Trust in the Berkshires of

In November 2007, Kathleen H. Fitzgerald, co-founder and founding director of the Northeast Wilderness Trust concluded her five year tenure at the organization to serve as Director of Land Conservation for the African Wildlife Foundation in Nairobi, Kenya. Under Kathleen’s direction, NWT protected a dozen properties in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine; Thank you Kathleen for your inspiring leadership and steadfast dedication to wildlands protection. We wish you the very best!

We are pleased to welcome Jim Nordgren as NWT’s new executive director. Jim brings over twenty years management experience in the private and public sectors ranging from financial management on Wall Street to several years as Town Supervisor in Lewisboro, New York. Jim’s work in land conservation includes raising over $10 million for the preservation of 800 acres of land. His environmental advocacy has spanned a range of positions, including smart growth consulting, environmental lobbying, passing wetland ordinances and the Eastern Westchester Biotic Corridor overlay zoning ordinance. Jim is co-founder of the Lewisboro Land Trust and serves on the advisory board of the Westchester Land Trust. He holds masters degrees from the Yale School of Forestry and Wharton Business School.
Massachusetts, where she served as President from 1989–95. She has written and lectured extensively about her perceptions of changes in regional land conservation, the need for conservation to be grounded in excellent science, and on her belief that non-profit and grassroots groups are true expressions of American democratic vigor.

George M. Woodwell is an ecologist with broad interests in global environmental issues and policies. Founder, Director Emeritus, and Senior Scientist at the Woods Hole Research Center, he is also a founding trustee of the Natural Resources Defense Council. He is a former board chairman and current board member of the National Council of the World Wildlife Fund, a founding trustee of the World Resources Institute, a founder and honorary member of the board of trustees of the Environmental Defense Fund, and former president of the Ecological Society of America. George has authored over 300 papers and books in ecology. He holds a doctorate in botany from Duke University and is the recipient of several honorary degrees and awards. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Welcome to the Board of Directors

Dr. Spencer Phillips is a natural resource economist with over 15 years’ experience helping people, communities and institutions realize the benefits of wildlands conservation. At The Wilderness Society, his work ranges from econometric analyses, to creating curricula and web-based tools for community economic assessments, to crafting sustainable, forest-based development programs. Spencer has served as interim director of the NorthWoods Stewardship Center, president of the Forest Stewardship Council–U.S., board member of the Global Forest Policy Project, and as an advisor to the Certified Forest Products Council, the Model Forest Policy Program, and the National Community Forestry Center. In 2006 he received the Edward A. Ames Award for Scholarship and Conservation Advocacy. Spencer is active in his community in northeast Vermont where he lives with his wife and two daughters.

Carolyn Fine Friedman is Chair of the Fine Fund, whose grants focus on environmental health and prevention, greening institutions, creating public interest in the health of the planet and landscape-scale wilderness conservation. She was an early investor in Two Countries, One Forest, an initiative that utilizes science to design large scale conservation projects across the Northern Appalachian/Acadian ecoregion. Carolyn advocates for research on the health effects of exposure to toxic chemicals. She is on the board of the Environmental Health Fund and has supported biomonitoring studies at Commonweal and the Environmental Working Group. A long-time supporter of Brandeis University’s Environmental Studies Program and the Rose Art Museum, she champions ongoing efforts to “green” the university. She holds a master’s degree in education from Harvard University and a certificate in adult education from Worcester State College. Carolyn is an avid hiker and cross-country skier and lives with her husband and three children in Newton, Massachusetts.

Interns

Jeff Bate joined the NWT staff from September through January 2008, assisting with a variety of projects ranging from baseline documentation reports to GIS projects to researching conservation initiatives in the Northern Greens. He is a recent graduate of Dartmouth College, where he majored in Geography and minored in Environmental Studies.

Yashika Dewani is a third-year student at UMass Amherst where she studies Environmental Sciences and Philosophy. She interned at NWT over winter session 2008, assisting with the LTA accreditation process by researching and drafting several policies integral to the application.

Peter Vertere served as Land Protection Intern over the summer of 2007, working on materials for the Hersey Mountain, Howland Forest, and Wapack Wilderness campaigns. Peter will be graduating this spring from Cornell University with a degree in Natural Resources. He plans to pursue a career in environmental law.
As a testament to our efficiency, in 2007 the Northeast Wilderness Trust preserved lands valued over ten times our operating budget. It is our pleasure to translate your support to direct land protection. Our members and supporters are the foundation of our land protection program. We could not do it without you. Thank you!

[1] Sandwich Wild Forest  
*Squam Range, New Hampshire*

NWT is working with partners to place a forever-wild easement on this 400-acre parcel abutting the Sandwich Range Wilderness Area. Conservation of this parcel will advance regional efforts to protect a habitat linkage between the Squam Lakes and the White Mountain National Forest. Sandwich Wild Forest marks NWT’s second project in the Squam Range.

[2] Canada View Preserve  
*Green-Sutton Wildlife Linkage, Vermont-Quebec*

NWT is negotiating an option to purchase two neighboring properties totaling 1,300 acres in Jay, Vermont. Canada View abuts U.S. conservation lands to the south and east and is situated at the U.S.-Canadian border, adjacent to a property recently conserved by Nature Conservancy Canada. Integral to the Wildlands Project’s Northern Appalachians wildlands network design, Canada View also links two of The Nature Conservancy’s Matrix Forest Blocks making it one of the most important conservation parcels in the Northern Green Mountain region, a priority corridor within the Two Countries, One Forest Conservation Collaborative. Stay tuned online and in our summer newsletter for more information on this unique and strategic binational habitat linkage.

[3] Rowe Property  
*Split Rock Wildway, New York*

A pivotal parcel in the Split Rock Wildway, the Rowe property is adjacent to the 200-acre Boquet Flats preserve (protected by NWT in 2007) and will extend the corridor westward, advancing our efforts to connect the Wildway to the Jay Range Wilderness. NWT has signed an option to purchase the property by the end of August 2008. Adjacent lands held by the same owner will also be encumbered with an easement, limiting development. Thanks to the Helen and William Mazer Foundation, Currents of Change, the New York State Conservation Partnership Program, and a generous individual, we are two-thirds of our way to raising the $146,000 we need to save this property, but we must raise the balance by the end of August 2008.

**Take Action!** Help us protect the Rowe property from development today by making a contribution in the enclosed envelopment. Your support is the foundation of our success—thank you.

*The Lay of the Land: Where We Work*
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Northeast Wilderness Trust is a regional land trust working to preserve and restore forever wild landscapes for wildlife and people in New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Please contact us to learn how you can preserve your land or become a member today.

Northeast Wilderness Trust is a 501(c)3, membership organization.

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Wild country… a means of reassuring ourselves of our sanity as creatures, a part of the geography of hope. —WALLACE STEGNER

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Save the Date!

May 3, 9am–2pm  Birding in the Wapack with the New Ipswich Conservation Commission

August 22–24  Forest Jam: A regional jam, rock and acoustic roots music festival in the White Mountains, Campton, NH • $2 of each ticket will be donated to NWT

Stay tuned for more information or visit www.newildernesstrust.org/events

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