

**MEGUG FALL CONFERENCE | Baxter State Park, Millinocket | Friday, September 21, 2012**

**8:30 – 9:00      Registration**

**9:00 - 9:15      Welcome**

**9:15 - 10:00     GIS in Forest Management**

Presented by: Chris Huston, Irving Woodlands LLC

Chris is the GIS Specialist for Irving Woodland LLC, a leader in the East Coast Forest Industry. He has also completed grant work with NMDC for a state level parcel project. Chris has an Associate's Degree in Forest Technology and a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Maine at Fort Kent. When he is not working Chris enjoys spending time in the outdoors and blogging about it.

This session will discuss utilizing customized GIS technology to manage our lands with sound forestry principles in the forefront.

**10:00 - 10:45    The Use of GIS for Determining Lynx Home Range and Habitat Use in Northern Maine**

Presented by: Amy Meehan, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Megan has a M.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) and a B.S. in Wildlife Management from the University of Maine. She has worked for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife since 1999. Prior to that her work included the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences on a project examining species/habitat relationships of songbirds in ME's northern forests. She learned GIS at the University of Maine and she has been using it in her wildlife work ever since.

Canada Lynx (*Lynx Canadensis*) were listed as a federally threatened species in 14 states at the southern extent of their geographic range in March 2000, with Maine being the only state in northeastern United States known to support a resident population. Relatively little information was known about the ecology of lynx living at the southern edge of their range, including range requirements, movements, and spatial organization. Basic knowledge of lynx ecology is needed for federal recovery planning efforts. Between 1999 and 2004, we trapped and radio collared 43 lynx (21 M, 22F) in Northern Maine in an intensively managed and predominantly early succession forested landscape. We used GIS (ArcView, ArcMap and various extensions) to estimate yearly and seasonal home-range sizes, home-range overlap and habitat use using telemetry data and forest type layers.

**10:45 – 11:00    Break**

**11:00 - 12:00    When the Point They're Looking for is You: Airborne Search and Rescue**

Presented by: Jason Wise, Wright-Pierce

Jason studied Earth Science and groundwater hydrology at Northland College and New Mexico Tech. He previously worked on an Indian reservation in Minnesota and for the City of Portsmouth, NH. He now works as the GIS Manager for Wright-Pierce, where he develops software and GIS data bases for municipal and utility clients.

You break your leg in the woods and activate a distress radio beacon, or your spouse reports that you haven't returned home....What happens next? How do searchers navigate, communicate and plan search patterns? Jason, who volunteers with the Civil Air Patrol when he's not working at Wright-Pierce, will describe the role that air crews play in the search. We'll also discuss the technology behind radio beacons, which have some of the same limitations as GPS receivers and often go off accidentally. Learn how you can help find the most important coordinates – yours!!

**12:00 - 1:30**      **Lunch and Networking**

**1:30 - 2:15**      **Assessing the Feasibility of Forest Inventory Predictions in Northern Maine**  
Presented by: Rei Hayashi, Maine Image Analysis Laboratory, University of Maine

Rei holds a B.S. degree in Forest Management from Oregon State University and a M.S. degree in Forest Resources from University of Georgia. Since 2010, he has pursued a Ph.D degree in Forest Resources at University of Maine. Also, he has a professional background regarding field forest inventory and FIA data utilization at a private forest industry and nonprofit research organization. His goal is to utilize specialty in GIS and remote sensing, assisting in the determination of optimum natural resource and ecosystem management regimes.

This session will test the ability of operational LiDAR to predict forest inventory variables across a range of silvicultural treatments and species compositions in Maine's forests.

**2:15 – 2:30**      **Break**

**2:30 – 3:30**      **Resource Management and Data Management in Baxter State Park**  
Presented by: Richard Morrill, BSP

Rick has the great privilege of serving as the Baxter State Park Resource Manager. In this capacity he oversees forest management activities in the Scientific Forest Management Area; a FSC certified ~30,000 acre demonstration forest in the NW corner of the Park. He also maintains the Park's spatial datasets ranging from trail locations and maintenance to alpine botanical monitoring.

Rick earned a BA in Environmental Studies from Bates College in 2003 and a Master of Forestry from the University of Maine in 2009. He currently serves as a member of the Forest Guild Board of Directors, a national organization of forestry professionals. When he isn't scratching his head about forest management and GIS questions he can be found enjoying the woods, waters, and mountains of Maine and the northeast with his wife.

This session will provide an overview of Baxter State park utilization of spatial data, GIS and GPS to manage trail maintenance, forestry and conservation activities within the 209,000+ acre Park.

