

Islesboro Islands Trust

2022-2023

Annual Report





Mission

*Enhance the quality of residents' lives through
the preservation of open space,*

*Educate all residents as to
the value of the islands' natural ecosystems, and*

*Act as an environmental advocate on behalf of Islesboro
and the surrounding Penobscot Bay region*



*Photo Credits: Michael Hutcherson, Corrina DSchotto, Lesley Glotzl, Chloe Joule,
Steve Miller, Dan Tutor, Robyn Congdon*

Letter from Our President

As I reflect on the last year, I am extremely proud of all that IIT has accomplished. I am also excited about a vision for the future that is beginning to take shape.

We continued our educational programming with hosted events on topics ranging from astronomy to amphibians and lichens as well as numerous walks and talks on our Preserves - with an additional 150 feet of elevated bridging through the Lily Guest and Broad Point Preserves.

Regarding land conservation, we continue to work with landowners on new, strategically-located easements while Sue Stafford and her team continue to successfully monitor our existing 33 conservation easements, representing 764 acres and 9.7 miles of shoreline.

I was very happy about the success of our third Annual IIT Trail Day on July 30th with a record number of participants and business sponsorships. We are expanding that committee and looking to encourage even broader community participation in the future.

We continued our advocacy work:

- Monitoring the Nordic Aquafarms development proposal
- Helping build alliances with other environmental groups in the region (such as the Alliance for Sears Island and a new Penobscot Baykeeper that is being formed later this year)
- Offshore Wind:
 - Participating in the State's Offshore Wind Advisory Group;
 - Working with the Governor and her staff;
 - Meetings with Sprague Energy and other interested parties helping to site Offshore Wind Energy on existing brownfields at Mack Point rather than Sears Island.



I am hoping that we will finally protect all of Sears Island from industrial development.

In our vision for the future, I am looking forward to enhancing our relationships throughout Penobscot Bay and sharing the burden of protecting the future of the Bay with others, such as the new Penobscot Bay Keeper

IIT began the important work of planning its new headquarters. Unfortunately, IIT has outgrown its current location. The new headquarters, planned at Blueberry Hill, will provide a permanent home for IIT, be a model for sustainable building and greatly enhance IIT's educational opportunities.

Imagine workshops on composting; learning about invasive species and solutions; organic gardening practices and pesticides; Islesboro's natural history; sustainable aquaculture; water quality monitoring and many more. We will welcome local experts and nearby scientists from organizations like Hurricane Island Center for Science and Leadership.

By working with others on our bay-wide advocacy initiatives, IIT will be able to focus on enhancing these and other educational initiatives.

I am fortunate to be able to work with Steve Miller, Chloe Joule, Robyn Congdon, Dan Tutor, and our talented Executive Committee and Board of Trustees as well as all the Advisory Council and committee members who work on behalf of IIT each day. Steve Miller, who has worked as the Executive Director of IIT for the past 38 years, transitioned to a part-time role to better focus on the most important aspects of IIT. We are very pleased to have hired Dan Tutor last winter to be able to look after each of our 9 preserves (and 70+ bridges) and get more involved in our conservation initiatives.

Chris Allen

Executive Director's Report

Do we have a right to a clean and healthy environment?

Do we have a right to a clean and healthy environment? Is the State of Maine obligated to honor and uphold that right when making decisions, including decisions that involve the environment's ability to absorb carbon emissions – decisions directly affecting Green House Gas (GHG) atmospheric concentrations?

As 2023 heat waves, massive wildfires, freaky storms and rising and warming seas across our country and the world irrefutably degrade life and liberty and cause deep distress, despair and loss, especially among young citizens, should the State of Maine incorporate the clear and obvious climate crisis ramifications of policy and land decisions, such as where to locate a proposed offshore wind port?

On August 14, 2023, Judge Kathy Seeley, First Judicial District Court of Montana, ruled in favor of 16 youthful plaintiffs, finding that the climate crisis injures and harms the young plaintiffs. The judge wrote, *"Montana's climate, environment and natural resources are degraded and depleted due to the current atmospheric concentration of [greenhouse gases] and climate change."* This case highlights governmental obligations to dramatically reduce carbon emissions and draw down excess atmospheric CO₂.

Although the *Held v. State of Montana* decision considered only a narrow scope of state law, legal observers point to important implications for future climate decisions. In essence, the Court found government decisions that ignore climate change endanger citizens, especially young people and future generations.

Other court cases involving climate change continue to arise, some in response to so-called state constitutional "green amendments" that aim to clarify the public's right to a healthy environment.

A Pennsylvania constitutional article, ratified in 1971, for example, says:

"The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."

Maine carried forward a proposed green amendment to the state constitution this year, leaving hope it may pass in the 2023-2024 session and then go to voters. The proposed Maine constitutional article read:

"The people of the State have the right to a clean and healthy environment and to the preservation of the natural, cultural and healthful qualities of the environment. The State may not infringe upon these rights.

The State shall conserve, protect and maintain the State's natural resources, including, but not limited to, its air, water, land and ecosystems for the benefit of all the people, including generations yet to come."

Another federal case, *Juliana v. United States*, claims that US government actions and decisions violate the 21 young plaintiffs' constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property, as well as fail to protect essential public trust natural resources.



The long-established, common law Public Trust Doctrine recognizes that numerous natural and cultural resources such as clean water, wildlife and certain fully functioning open space locations provide fundamental public benefits. Under this doctrine, *Juliana v. United States* asserts that the government acts as Trustee to protect and maintain these resources for the public. Government actions that exacerbate or knowingly fail to mitigate climate change cause “irreversible harm to the natural systems critical to Plaintiffs’ rights to life, liberty, and property” and “unconstitutionally favor the present, temporary economic benefits of certain citizens, especially corporations, over Plaintiffs’ rights...” according to filings in the case.



Meanwhile, since at least 2017, the State of Maine recognizes that climate change is an urgent, existential threat. The State’s policy response to climate change fully acknowledges the compelling need (1) to reduce emissions of GHG’s and (2) draw back carbon from the atmosphere. For example, the Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap includes these steps when addressing climate change:

- *protect the unique Gulf of Maine ecosystem,*
- *protect our state’s environment for future generations,*
- *protect people, communities, and the environment, and*
- *minimize ecosystem impacts.*

Further, the Maine Climate Council, created and authorized by 38 MRSA §577, establishes that:

- Maine’s natural and working lands and waters are key to the state achieving its carbon neutrality commitment by 2045. Protecting natural and working lands from development maintains their potential to draw back carbon from the atmosphere, as well as provide important co-benefits. Maine’s coastal and marine areas also store carbon, while supporting our fishing, aquaculture, and tourism industries.
- Maine’s carbon neutrality goal of net-zero emissions by 2045 will require our natural and working lands — such as forests, farms, and coastal lands — to store carbon (or sequester that carbon in natural materials) for decades to come. Enhancing these systems for greater carbon storage capacity, while continuing to provide critical economic, recreation, and habitat benefits and drinking-water protection, will help Maine reach our goals and support healthy natural and working forests, farmland, and coastal lands.

These crucially important policy statements support removing consideration of Sears Island as the location for development of any Penobscot Bay offshore wind facility.

Sears Island in its current undeveloped state supports Maine’s climate policies and objectives, especially because the intact Sears Island ecology sequesters carbon. To develop an offshore wind port at Sears Island would remove terrestrial, freshwater and marine vegetation that sequesters carbon and provides numerous benefits. This significant loss of climate stabilizing ecological characteristics on Sears Island would, in fact, contribute to, not reduce or mitigate, climate change!

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Executive Director's Report... *continued from page 3*

Maine Department of Transportation, however, appears poised to ignore the state's climate change policies and develop an offshore wind port on Sears Island that would remove all vegetation from more than 75 acres, harvest over one million cubic yards of soil from the cleared area, and fill 25 acres of tidal and subtidal area, causing permanent ecological damage and forever eliminating current upland and marine environmental benefits in that area, despite the availability of a viable site for such an offshore wind facility at Mack Point that does not provide these ecological services.

Further, Sears Island's current undeveloped, natural condition provides a wide range of additional, important ecological services to the region and state, especially for fisheries and publicly accessible recreation. Mack Point does not provide these ecological services.

Buildout at Sears Island opens the door to industrialization of up to 330 acres, a Maine Department of Transportation goal for nearly fifty years, which would forever change the entire Penobscot Bay region.

A groundswell of public opinion supports protecting Sears Island's ecological resources. Federal agencies have long recognized the value of Sears Island's undeveloped condition.

Choosing to build an OSW facility in Penobscot Bay must be governed by these principles:

1. Pursue the least environmentally damaging plan,
2. Favor repurposing outdated and unused industrial energy sites,
3. Avoid damaging undeveloped and ecologically significant locations, and
4. Evaluate thoroughly the impacts on climate, wildlife and fisheries.

Stephen Miller



Why I Go Outside

By Chloe Joule

There is not an element of my life uninfluenced by what's happening outside my window. From the morning chores to evening chores and all the fun, work and solace I find in between – access to the outdoors shapes my life. One of the marvels of living in coastal Maine is that every day outside your window looks a little different from the one before. I have always found this slow creep from season to season energizing and awe-inspiring. Indeed, some of the most celebrated holidays in my family are the transitions from one season to the next. Every Solstice and Equinox is greeted with excitement, reflection, gratitude and revelry and is shared with family and friends.

One of the things I find most enjoyable about leading IIT's educational programs is the ability and privilege in being able to interweave what I do with IIT with my family life. What better way to know the reaction I might get with an educational activity than to test it out on my own kids? Similarly, when looking for inspiration for events, workshops and talks, I can draw on the interests of friends and family and some of the traditions we find there – from candle-dipping to wreath-making; maypole celebrations and stargazing to winter bonfires and blueberry picking – there's a never-ending list of ways to celebrate the turning of our Earth and sharing the wonder of our island home. There lies the basis for what draws me outside: the enjoyment of nature, the desire to learn from it and to share that with others.

IIT's Education and Community Outreach Committee is a group of outstanding volunteers who are tasked with the job of helping with special events and giving assistance and direction to IIT's educational programs. One of the most challenging tasks can sometimes be deciding on subject matter for IIT's regular column in the Islesboro Island News: Trust Topics. This year, at the inspired suggestion of the Committee, there has been an ongoing theme of "why I go outside" for our Trust Topics column. We have had conversations with folks from all over the community telling their story of what brings them outdoors. Whether that's a shared love of recreational activities, like "cold water swimming;" an enjoyment and desire to nourish oneself through gardening or hunting; a profession that keeps you on the water, in the woods or on the farm; or the simple practice of sharing the outdoors with your family. There are so many ways we connect with the natural world.



Public Art on Broad Point

By Dan Tutor

It's not often we encounter something unexpected on the IIT trails. Maybe you will see a new animal or plant, or perhaps a new piece of bridging, more often someone's lost hat. This summer IIT experimented with something new, and a little surprising, on the Broad Point trail - a public art installation by the sculptor and artist Corinna DSchotto. Her piece, *interior*, fresh from its debut at the Center for Maine Contemporary Art in Rockland, was installed on the site of the old cabin on Broad Point looking down Gilkey's Harbor. You may remember, there's an old stone fireplace which is all that's left of the cabin.

I came across Corinna's work in February of this year, through my friend Rachel Romanski, who was the assistant curator for CMCA at the time. Corinna is a professor of sculpture at Mass Art, and runs 10b, Boston's only alternative art lab for artistic experimentation. Living in a city where storage space is a luxury, she was looking for a home for the large steel sculpture after the CMCA show closed. Her idea was that it could be experienced by the public in an outdoor setting. Rachel floated this proposal to a group of friends. When I heard about it I was immediately interested. I was intrigued by the geometric lines of the piece. It looked like a drawing made in two-point perspective rendered in three dimensions.

The sculpture is based on the architectural drawings for a widely available modular home design. It consists of a number of rectangular frames, which, when viewed from different angles, suggest the lines and planes of the proto house they take their inspiration from. In a gallery setting, these frames create an experience akin to the inverse of looking at static art on walls. As the viewer walks around the piece, each rectangle frames a different angle of the gallery and its art and occupants, shifting with the viewers changing perspective.

Only a few months into my job with IIT, I was apprehensive about bringing up the bold concept of installing a public art piece in one of the preserves, but Steve, Chloe, and Robyn received the idea enthusiastically and encouraged me to move forward. I contacted Corinna and she came out to tour some of the preserves. There were several locations that I thought could be good candidates for a sculpture. The Hinkle Preserve came to mind, with its easy access and short, neatly looping trail. I imagined the surprise and wonder if hikers came across it on Hutchins Island. But the most intriguing idea to me was the old cabin site at Broad Point. As it turned out this was Corinna's favorite spot too. Coincidentally, the footprint of interiors is precisely the same size as the foundation of the old cabin that once stood there.



Once we had the spot located, the next challenge was getting all the materials out to the end of Broad Point. This was no easy task. The deconstructed sculpture was in 14 steel frames of various sizes, with the largest being 8 feet by 10 feet. We considered carrying the frames out one by one but this would have been a considerable physical challenge. After some thought, we decided to use the IIT canoe as a kind of barge to float all the frames

out in one trip. To accomplish this, we laid all the frames flat across the canoe, then gathered 4 pieces of blue dock-foam from around Broad Cove, and lashed them to each corner of the stacked frames where they hung off the sides of the boat. This created a kind of outrigger craft, with the frames balanced on the canoe and held stable by the foam. Our plan was to load the canoe up near the Mill Creek bridge at high tide and ride it out to Broad Point with the tide. We partially succeeded. Loading up took a little longer than anticipated and the first part of the voyage consisted of dragging the cargo-laden canoe across the shallow mudflat until we had enough water to paddle. From there it was a short cruise to the point where we unloaded and carried it all up the bank to the chimney.



Cleaning up the site was our next challenge. The old cabin had been intentionally demolished by controlled fire, but what Corinna found when she started to dig channels for the base of the sculpture was a layer of broken and melted glass, along with hinges, door knobs, and other household hardware. We collected several buckets of glass and artifacts in the process of putting up the sculpture.

The sculpture was installed in July, and piqued the interest of many who walked the trail. On August 5th, a reception was held out on the point. Approximately 50 people showed up to see the piece in its new home and hear Corinna talk about its genesis and journey to the preserve. Rachel Alexandrou, a local forager and food artist based in North Haven, made the evening magical by preparing a feast of locally collected flora and fauna. The tasting menu included such delicacies as black trumpet jam, local oysters with lovage mignonette and pickled magnolia flower, spruce tip Irish moss pudding with chokeberry sauce, and green crab broth with wild greens.

In contrast to the gallery setting, out on Broad Point the lines of the sculpture become frames for the stunning natural setting. As the viewer walks around the installation, these “windows” hold views of fern fields, a grove of hardwoods, oak and apple trees hanging over the beach, the view down Brackets Channel, and our ubiquitous gaunt-but-charming spruce forests and the response from the community has been enthusiastic.



Third Annual Trail Day

By Robyn Congdon

Sunday, July 30: It was a fresh, sunny morning - not too cool, not too hot. A Kick-Off event was planned for 9am at the Blueberry Hill parking area. Trail Day (TD) Committee volunteers were ready with hot coffee, juice, muffins and pastries from the Island Market. Right on cue, about a minute before 9am, the cars started rolling in and ten minutes later the parking area was full to overflowing. IIT's third Annual Trail Day was off to a GREAT start!

The TD Committee meetings last spring resulted in a bigger and better event. This year there was a silent auction of beautiful walking sticks crafted by local artisans Gregg Sessler and Steve Miller. The walking sticks were displayed throughout the month of July at IIT's booth at both the ICC Farmers Market and the Up-Island Farmers Market. Bids were entered and several patrons returned to "up their bid" if it looked like there was a chance they might not get their walking stick of choice. Folks could also sign up for TD at these markets.

There were "Clue Hunts" at the Hinkle and Herbert Preserves. In the TD Passport, that all participants receive, were clues for kids and their families to follow so they might observe and discover the nuances of nature - from finding the Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker's circles of small, shallow holes on the apple tree at Hinkle to locating the owl decoy surveying its hunting territory on the Herbert Preserve.

All Preserve trails were well prepared for hikers by our hardworking trail steward, Dan Tutor. Given the rain this summer it is safe to say that despite Dan's best efforts there was some mud to contend with here and there. However, from my observation, hikers took it in their stride.

Many thanks to all of the community who came out for this event. Also, a big thankyou to the Business Sponsors - all local businesses owned by members of the community who enthusiastically supported this event. The TD Committee is growing. Listen out for more "peeps" and look out for posters next summer promoting the Fourth Annual Trail Day.



BUSINESS SPONSORS

Cates Real Estate - Ginnie Hess,
401 222-9583, ginnie@catesre.com

Clayton Builders, 207 734-8164

Dark Harbor Shop, 207 734-8878

Greyfeather Woodcraft -
steve.miller@greyfeatherwoodcraft.com

Hatch Landscaping
hatchlandscaping@gmail.com

Island Market, 207 734-6672

Jett Set Lobster, 207 323-9547

Maine Point Books, 484 686-6210,
mainepointbooks@gmail.com

Pendleton Yacht Yard, 207 734-6728
pendletonyachtyard.com

The Summer Shop, 207 734-0905
thesummershop.com

**Sustainable Housing &
Development Foundation**: John Kauer
207 734-8191, www.shadf.org

Throwing Stones Earthwork
Silas Babbidge, 207 706-9359

Tricia Ladd Photography
617 413-4770 / 207 734-2288
tricialaddphotography.com

IIT at a Glance



102 Volunteers



Trails - 13.5 miles



Preserves - 333 acres



280 Members



**Protected Shoreline
15.3 miles**



**Land Protected by
Conservation Easements
764 acres**



Islesboro Islands Trust Financials 2022-2023

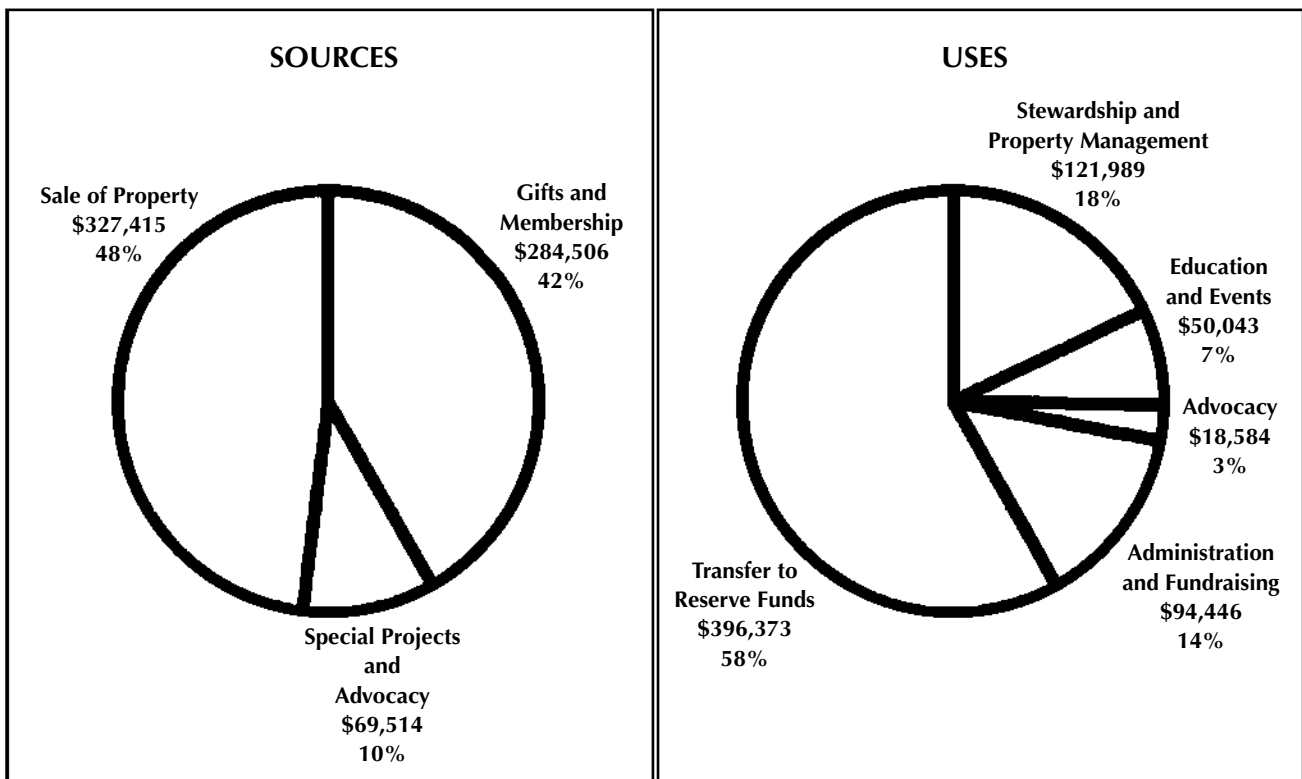
SOURCES

Gifts and Membership	\$284,506	41.8%
Special Projects and Advocacy	\$69,514	10.2%
Sale of Property	\$327,415	48.0%

USES

Stewardship and Property Management	\$121,989	18%
Education and Events	\$50,043	7%
Advocacy	\$18,584	3%
Administration and Fundraising	\$94,446	14%
Transfer to Reserve Funds	\$396,373	58%

Sources of funds	\$681,435
Uses of funds	\$681,435



Grantors of Conservation Easements 1986-2023



Dudley Ladd
2011 & 2021

Jeri Hamlen
2013

Pat Derian & Hodding Carter III
2011 & 2014

Sue & Taz Stafford
2012

Mary & Pyam Williams Family
2012

Dr. and Mrs. Robert McNeil
2011

The Phyllis Frame Family
2008

Ethan & Haven Ladd
2011

Pam MacBrayne & Denis Moonan
2007

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Lamb
2007

Sue Hatch & Tom Tutor
2007

Missy Hatch & Vern Spinosa
2007

Gary & Greg Yeaton
2007

Harriet Bering & Larry Hoder
2007

Members of IIT
"The Field"
2006

Turtle Head Cove LLC
2004

Rev. & Mrs. Ned Sunderland
2001

Mr. & Mrs. E.T. Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pike
2002

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Berg
2000

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Burgess
1998

Ginny & Lynn Hall
1996

Mildred Stanley
1993

The Hawker Trust
1996

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1995

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1993

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1992

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1990

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1989

Veronica Pendleton
1989

Mr. & Mrs. James Rowan
1989

Mary Anne & Chuck Verrill
1987

Anne Owsley
1988

Valerie & Lang Smith
1986

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(July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023)

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Kate and Christopher Allen
Lucy A. Burr
Rebecca and Samuel Campbell
Cohen Family - Arete Foundation
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Eric Weintz - Harbor Lights Foundation
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Hilary and Jacob Elkins
Karen and Bayard Hollins
Jockey Hollow Foundation
Judith and Joseph Kaminski
Molly and Haven Ladd
Mallory Marshall and Peter Haffenreffer
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Janet and Thomas Willson

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Lawson and Lars Albright
Lee and Nile Albright
Madelaine Alexander and Jon Kerr
Kathy and Scott Bieler
Alexander Brigham
Christina Boothe and Paul Kazilionis
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Maud Cabot
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James Hamlen
Margery Hamlen and Joseph Hammer
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Laurie and Mark Keating
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Roxanne Leighton
Kim and Patrick Nettles
Elizabeth Redmond

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Peter Rothschild
Martha Verrill Schlager and Ivan Schlager
Marc V. Schnur
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Pam Schreiber
Betsy and David Sessions
Eliza and Matthew Sharp
- LaBoiteaux Sharp Family Foundation
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Audrey Browne and James Weiss
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Elinor and William Rosenberg
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Andrea and Peter Truslow
Cynthia Whitaker

White Pine

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Jennifer Galambos
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White Pine *continued*

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Derreth Roberts
Gitta Robinson and Richard Grisaru
Marilyn Rye and Martin Gliserman
Denise and Kenneth Sauter
Audrey and Kenneth Senior
Hilary and Harry Tower
Thomas L. Tutor
Christina and John Vest
Mary Zimmerman

Timber Spruce

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Elizabeth Atcheson
Sara Babbidge
Silas Babbidge
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The Island Market
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Alex Wolff and Noah Peffer
Catherine Wood



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Devens Hamlen

Sue Hatch
Edward Lawrence

Steve Miller
Anne Owsley

Liberty Redmond
Lydia Rolerson

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Devens Hamlen

Edward Lawrence
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Margery Hamlen
Jewell Hausmann
Jenn Hayden
James D. Houghton
Owen Howell
Michael Hutcherson
Pam Larson
Edward Lawrence
Robert Luxembourg

Jim Mitchell
Julie Pershan
Stephen Phillips
Shar Piper
Josh Read
Dustin Reidy
Julie Reidy
Carlisle Rex-Waller
Beverley Rogers

William Rosenberg
Pam Schreiber
Philip Seymour
Frances Train
Daniel Tutor
Virginia Valentine
Jennifer West

STAFF AND CONTRACTORS

Stephen Miller, *Executive Director*
Chloe Joule, *Environmental Education Specialist*
Robyn Congdon, *Administrative Assistant*
Jon Kerr, *Trail & Property Manager*
Dan Tutor, *Preserve and Trail Steward*
Nadia Grisaru, *Summer Intern*
Grace Hartley, *Summer Intern*

Pam Brodis, Bowers CPA, *Accountant*
Madeline Tomlin Associates, *Bookkeeping*
Justin Bennett, *Legal Counsel*
TechSource, LLC, *IT Specialist*
Anne Bertulli, *Annual Report Layout*
Lincoln County Publishing Co., *Printing*
Pripet Landscaping

COMMITTEES

Executive

Christopher D. Allen, *President*
Jon Kerr, *Vice President*
Haven Ladd, *Treasurer*
Sue Stafford, *Secretary*

Advocacy

Christopher Allen	Jon Kerr
Lauren Bruce	Haven Ladd
Halsey Burgund	Eloise Lawrence
Joshua Gillespie	Stephen Miller
Archibald Gillies	Gabe Pendleton
Devie Hamlen	Beth Reeves
Margery Hamlen	Sue Stafford
Sue Hatch	Charles Verrill
Gladstone Jones	

Easement Stewardship

Sue Stafford	Kathleen & Michael Kerr
Nancy Alexander	Pam Larson &
Christopher Allen Family	Michael Hutcherson
Linda Badaoin &	Eloise Lawrence
George Lower	Molly McNamara
Lisa & Greg Beck	Suzie & Thomas Oates
Halsey Burgund &	The Provey Family
Family	Carlisle &
Mary Caulkins	John RexWaller
Kerry & Bruce Claflin	Pam Schreiber
Hilary Clark	Patricia &
Robyn Congdon	Robert Slawson
The Ben Dove Family	Marilyn &
Maria Forney	Langhorne Smith
The Glotzl Family	Sue & Taz Stafford
Sue Hatch	Barbara Talamo &
Jewell Hausmann	John Kauer
Marny Heinen	Andrea Truslow
Anita Herrick	Daniel Tutor
Owen Howell	Jennifer West
Laurie & Mark Keating	Susan West

Education

Carlisle RexWaller	Candice Provey
Sara Babbidge	Pam Schreiber
Colleen Dove	Susan West
Margery Hamlen	

Land Conservation

Harry Brigham
Halsey Burgund
Bruce Claflin
Maria Forney
Mark Haffenreffer
Devens Hamlen
Isabel Jackson
John Kauer
Jon Kerr
Haven Ladd
Stephen Miller
Sue Stafford
Thomas L. Tutor

IIT Education Center Sub-Committee

Christopher Allen
Jon Drezner
Isabel Jackson
John Kauer
Jon Kerr
Haven Ladd
Thomas L. Tutor

Nominating

Steve Miller
Julie Pershan
Candice Provey

Additional Volunteers

Laine Alexander
Helen Barrett
Lauren Bruce
C&N Apiaries
Colleen & Ben Dove
Fenrir Forest Farm
Fera Flowers
Growing Things
Margery Hamlen
Sue Hatch
Jewell Hausmann
Holy Veil Mushrooms
ICS Horticulture
Islesboro Oyster Co.
Marshall Cove Mussels
Pretty Good Farm
Candice Provey
Shar Piper
Jennifer West

2022 – 2023 Accomplishments

Conservation:

- Sold the Jean Bahrt Property with restrictions and deposited proceeds in money market account for future land conservation.
- Built more elevated boardwalk that protect wetland and enhance visitor experience at Lily Guest Trail and Broad Point, bringing total length of elevated walkways on IIT's 13.5 miles of trails to approximately 800 feet.
- Continued to rejuvenate and cultivate 4 acres of blueberries at the Blueberry Hill Preserve by testing the soil, mowing and applying 4 tons of sulfur and soil nutrients.
- Planted seven heirloom variety apple trees inside fenced area at Blueberry Hill.
- Continued effort to reclaim about 2 acres of pastureland at Blueberry Hill Preserve.
- Continued to maintain and monitor trails at Turtle Head, the Hinkle, Blueberry Hill, Hutchins Island and Marsh, the Herbert Preserve, the Narrows, Broad Point and Lily Guest.
- Continued IIT Education and Administration Center discussions with sustainable building and design company GOlogic.
- Thirty-three family and individual easement volunteers visited, took pictures and filed monitor reports on 33 conservation easements that protect more than 750 acres.
- Discussed two new conservation easements on land adjacent to already protected property.
- Responded to and satisfactorily resolved a minor easement violation and began legal defense of an easement dispute.
- Allowed hunting with permission on several IIT properties.

Education:

- Continued to provide engaging and substantive programming for all ages to the Islesboro community at no cost to participants.
- Maintained an in-person relationship with the Islesboro Preschool and Islesboro Central School throughout the school year encouraging island stewardship with children ages 3-18.
- Hosted a series of educational opportunities in collaboration with Growing Things' Pam Larson & Michael Hutcherson at IIT's Learning Garden, located at our Blueberry Hill Preserve including a once-a-month Gardening Talk geared toward adults and a weekly exploration program for kids 10-12.
- Provided eleven Nature Talks & Events both in-person and virtually, from September – May, on topics that included: Winter Skies Stargazing Event, Potato Harvest, A Wreath Making Workshop, Virtual Spring Amphibian Talk, a Stream Smart Culvert Design Talk and a Vernal Pool Talk.
- Provided ten Nature Walks, Talks & Events from June to September on topics including: Mosses & Lichens, Aquatic Reptiles & Amphibians, Preserve History Walks, Art in Nature Reception featuring a Broad Point Art Installation and locally foraged food feast, Perseid Meteor Shower Viewing Party.



- Provided six Community & Family Friendly Events throughout the year including: A Halloween-themed *StoryWalk*® Event, A Winter Beach Bonfire, Stargazing Party, May Day Celebration and an Old-Fashioned Bean-Hole Bake!
- Offered a variety of Summer Programming for Ages 3-12 including self-guided Nature Kits and a Gardening Series in IIT's Learning Garden.
- The Alice L. Pendleton Library and IIT presented an eighth year of *StoryWalk*® at IIT's Hinkle Preserve! Featuring *I Hear You, Forest*, written by Kallie George and illustrated by Carmen Mok.



Advocacy:

- Helped bring together other organizations and individuals to form the Alliance for Sears Island who support the development of an offshore wind facility at Mack Point, and oppose development of that facility on Sears Island, if any such facility is built in Penobscot Bay. Continued efforts to prevent industrialization of Sears Island, including serving on the Offshore Wind Port Advisory Group and exploring ways to make the case for Mack Point, not Sears Island, if an offshore wind terminal is built in Penobscot Bay.
- Met with members and staff of Upstream Watch to explore and support a Penobscot Baykeeper effort.
- Continued to support Upstream Watch and Friends of the Harriett Hartley Conservation Area in their work to prevent harm from a major aquaculture venture in Belfast.
- Continued to participate in and support the statewide Environmental Priorities Coalition.



IIT Trails and Preserves



Support
Islesboro
Islands Trust



PO Box 182 376 West Bay Road Islesboro, ME 04848
207-734-6907 www.islesboroislandstrust.org



Photos from some of IIT's 2022/2023 Events -
*Color Wheel Nature Activity Kits; Potato Harvest at BB Hill; Reptile and Amphibian Talk at Hutchins Marsh;
Trail Day; Halloween at the Narrows*

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