

## 20th Annual Natural Areas Conference

"Conservation in Working Landscapes" was the theme of the 20th Annual Natural Areas Conference, convened by the Natural Areas Assn. in cooperation with the Maine State Planning office and held June 22-26 at U/ME in Orono. More than 500 attendees (the most thus far) came from as far away as Poland and Brazil. Topics ranging from natural areas aesthetics to sampling design were covered in about 143 papers. The 66

conference sponsors included Georgia Pacific and L.L.Bean, and underwriters were BLM, NPS, NOAA, EPA, USFWS, USFS, and the Canadian Wildlife Service.

More than 40 posters and 21 symposia covered inventory and monitoring, biological diversity, marine ecosystems, wildlife conservation, communications and landowner contact, fire management, botanical conservation, rare and endangered species, land aesthetics, old-growth, and global perspectives. Fifteen field workshops, pre- and post-conference field trips, and round-table lunch

discussions allowed extended access to speakers. An address by Dr. George Woodwell, Director of Woods Hole Research Center, was followed by a question and answer session on the status of the National Biological Survey. Eight NPS people gave papers, talks, or acted as moderators, and Acadia NP staff hosted 2 of the field workshops.

The 21st Annual Conference is scheduled for southern Florida.

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