



Fall 2007

SAVE MOOSEHEAD



Photo © Jym St. Pierre

ATTEND THE PUBLIC HEARINGS!

SAVE MOOSEHEAD from wilderness sprawl

All hearings run 10 am - 1 pm and 2 pm - 6 pm; sign-up starts at 9 am

Saturday	DECEMBER 1, 2007	Greenville High School
Sunday	DECEMBER 2, 2007	Augusta Civic Center
Saturday	DECEMBER 15, 2007	Portland Holiday Inn by the Bay
Sunday	DECEMBER 16, 2007	Greenville High School

The Moosehead Lake region is an area of awe-inspiring beauty. The pristine waters, remote mountain peaks, extensive unbroken forests, clean air, native fisheries and diverse and endangered wildlife make this region an extraordinary place. The Moosehead region is the very essence of the Maine Woods. Preserving the nature of the Moosehead region is also critical to the economic well-being of the state and region.

Plum Creek corporation of Seattle, Washington, the largest private landowner in the United States, is proposing massive development that would change the region forever. In 1998, the company bought over 900,000 acres of forestland in Maine for \$200 per acre. Now Plum Creek is proposing a rezoning around Moosehead Lake

that would enable the development of more than 2,300 housing units plus commercial and industrial development.

The decision of whether or not to approve this project in the hands of the seven citizen members of Maine's Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC). They have set public hearings to receive input from citizens on the rezoning application. LURC will also accept letters from the public. If you care about the future of the Maine Woods, this is your chance to make a difference. You can help to stop Plum Creek's wilderness sprawl. Let LURC know your views! Please attend and testify at one of the public hearings and write a letter.

- Development zones would be larger than the land area of Portland
- Thousands of new residences - more than in Greenville and Rockwood today
- Hundreds of acres of new commercial/industrial development zones
- The development would stretch for nearly 60 miles - longer than I-95 from New Hampshire to Portland

RESTORE:



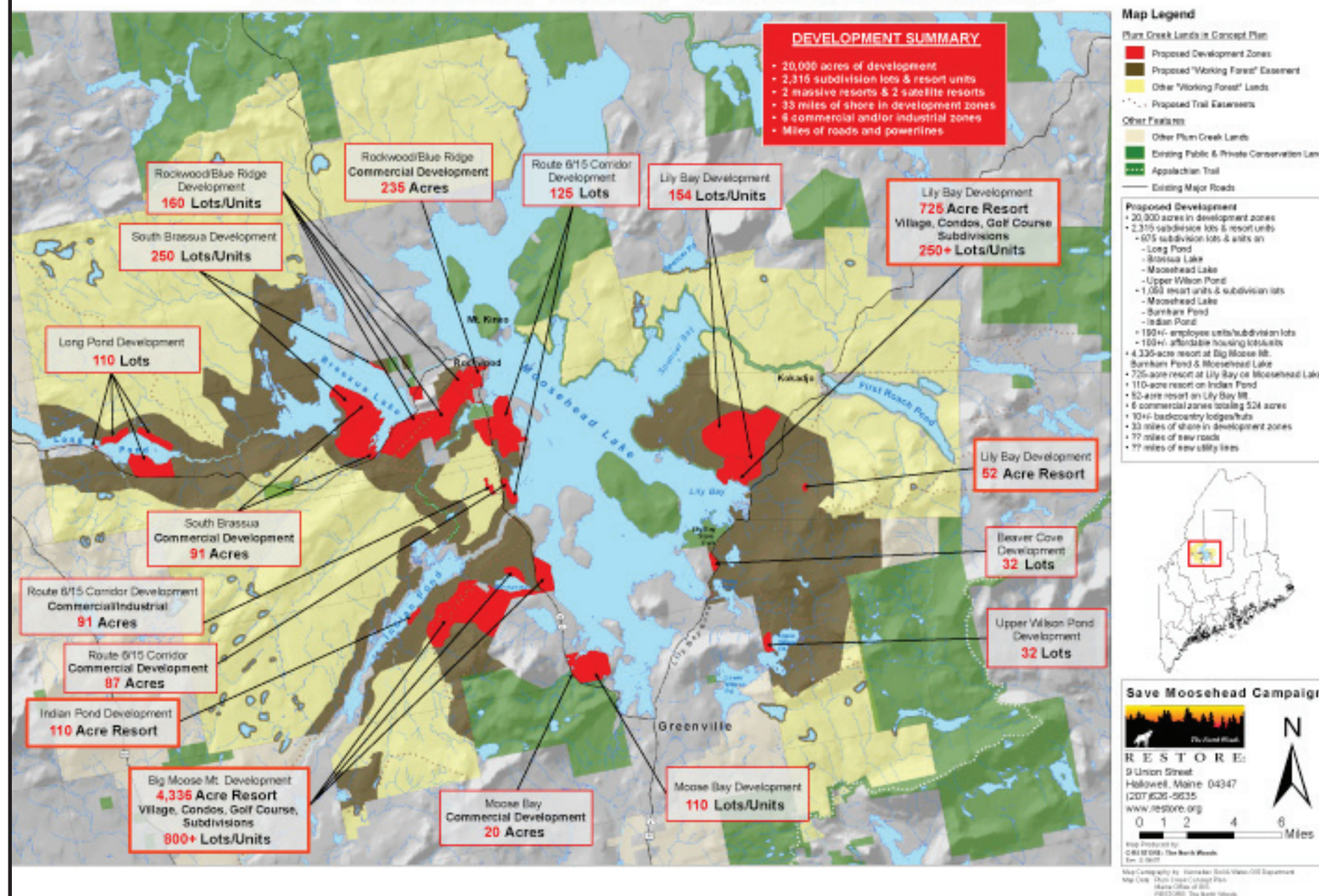
9 Union St
Hallowell, ME 04347

Non-Profit
U.S.Postage
PAID
Permit No.65

SAVE MOOSEHEAD

Stop Plum Creek's Plan for Sprawling Development

2007



PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- **20,000 acres zoned for development** (nearly double the development acres of Plum Creek's previous plan)
- **2,315 subdivision lots and resort units**
 - 975 subdivision lots
 - approximately 300 shorefront lots on Moosehead Lake, Brassua Lake, Long Pond, Upper Wilson Pond
 - approximately 675 lots not directly on shorelines
 - 1,050 resort units and subdivision lots
 - Unlimited employee subdivision lots & units
- **4,443-acre resort on Big Moose Mt., Moosehead Lake, and Burnham Pond with 800+ housing units**
- **725-acre resort on Moosehead Lake at Lily Bay**
- **2 remote satellite resort development zones** (162 acres on Indian Pond and Lily Bay Mountain)
- **33 miles of lake shoreline in development zones**
- **90-acre industrial/commercial development zone**
- **5 development zones for commercial uses (433 acres)**
- **Miles of roads to access subdivision lots and miles of utility lines to service new houses and resorts**

Photo © Jym St. Pierre



Canada Lynx and Other Wildlife



Photo © corbis.com

Part of the treasure of the Moosehead region is the abundant wildlife. There are several hundred Canada lynx in the Maine woods, the only lynx population in the eastern U.S. Most of these are found around Moosehead and to the

north. The lynx is supposed to be protected as a threatened species under the national Endangered Species Act.

Despite scientific studies that show the Moosehead region to be critical habitat for lynx, Plum Creek lobbied to have its land excluded from additional protection. A political appointee resigned after it was revealed she ordered that Plum Creek lands be removed from critical habitat designation. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will start a new rule-making process for the lynx in 2008. In the meantime, lynx habitat in the Moosehead region needs to be protected from development.

Canada lynx is not the only wildlife species that would be affected. The bald eagle, pine marten, moose, loon, salmon and other species would also be impacted by the increase of people, buildings, roads, jet skis, large outboard motorboats, and other changes in the Moosehead region, which Plum Creek's development would cause.

Please Testify and Write to LURC

When testifying or writing to the Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) opposing Plum Creek's development plan for the Moosehead Lake region...

It is important that your letter and testimony express your own thoughts. The key points below are meant to help you think about what to say, but should not be copied verbatim. Focus on the issues that are most important to you. Written testimony or letters to LURC can be as long and detailed as you want. Letters to newspapers usually have a limit of about 250 words. Time allowed for testimony at the hearings will be limited, probably 3 minutes per person.

- If you have a connection to the Moosehead region, work that into your letter.
- It is important to **maintain the undeveloped character** of the Moosehead region for:
 - wildlife and fisheries
 - traditional recreation
 - quality of place
 - nature-based tourism
 - local economies
 - wilderness character
- Plum Creek's sprawling development is just **too big** for Maine. It would change the character of the Moosehead region forever. The subdivision of undeveloped lakeshores and construction of a resort at Lily Bay are especially inappropriate.
- Plum Creek's sprawling development would have a **negative impact** on:
 - scenic areas
 - historical resources
 - local economies
 - recreation activities
 - nearby public lands (e.g., Lily Bay State Park)
 - traditional uses (e.g., sporting camps)
- Much of the Moosehead region has been identified as **critical habitat** for the threatened Canada lynx. Plum Creek's development would destroy thousands of acres of lynx habitat.
- Plum Creek's plan would **not provide enough permanent conservation** to balance the development, as required by LURC's rules.
- Appropriately scaled **nature-based tourism facilities** in existing communities and near existing development could have long-term economic benefits. However, large-scale resorts and housing subdivisions spread all over the landscape will destroy the character that is essential to the future of the Moosehead region.

For more details: www.restore.org/Maine/plumcreek_watch.html or www.savemoosehead.org



Photo © Bridget Besaw

Letters should be sent to:

Catherine Carroll, Director
Land Use Regulation Commission
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Catherine.M.Carroll@maine.gov

THE CHOICE IS CLEAR



We can save Moosehead...

To the left is an aerial photo of Lily Bay on Moosehead Lake. This area is just across from Lily Bay State Park and other public lands. Moosehead was one of the top rated lakes in the LURC Wildland Lakes Assessment. Plum Creek's sprawling development is just too big. It is completely out of scale for the Maine wildlands. The subdivision of undeveloped lakeshores and construction of a resort such as proposed for Lily Bay are especially inappropriate.

Photo simulation by Terrance DeWan for Natural Resources Council of Maine-Maine Audubon

...or ruin this Maine gem.

To the right is a photo simulation of the same area showing a golf course, condos and a marina. Appropriately scaled nature-based tourism facilities in existing communities and near existing resorts could have long-term economic benefits. However, large-scale resorts and housing subdivisions spread all over the landscape, as proposed by Plum Creek, will destroy the character of the Moosehead region.



What You Can Do to Help

- Attend and testify at the LURC public hearings.
- Write letters to the Land Use Regulation Commission.
- Write letters to your local newspaper.
- Recruit others to attend and testify at the LURC public hearings.
- Circulate a Save Moosehead petition; download at www.restore.org/Maine/Petition_PC.html
- Join the SAVE MOOSEHEAD activist list to get updates at www.restore.org/Maine/what_you.html or www.savemoosehead.org/take_action.html
- Work for permanent conservation, for instance, the proposed Maine Woods National Park & Preserve.
- Contribute to RESTORE: The North Woods and to the Forest Ecology Network

Plum Creek’s Conservation is Too Weak

LURC requires Plum Creek to offer permanent conservation to balance its proposed development. Plum Creek is proposing 91,000 acres of industrial working forest easement as a balance. However, this includes no new public land and would not offset 20,000 acres of new development zones.

A proposed working forest “Balance Easement” would allow logging and any forestry related activity that Plum Creek “deems useful and expedient.” It would also allow Plum Creek to mine, spread sewage and to construct utility lines, cell towers, roads and bridges, trail lodges, sawmills, etc.

A separate “conservation framework,” which would cost \$35 million in public and private contributions, is not part of the offset balance. Plum Creek says it will not sell this unless the Land Use Regulation Comission approves the development, but the “conservation framework” cannot legally be considered by LURC.



Photo © Bridget Besaw

There is an Alternative to Plum Creek’s Development Plan

- LURC should deny Plum Creek’s private plan
- LURC needs to formulate a public plan for the region (as called for in LURC’s 1997 Comprensive Land Use Plan)
- More public land should be acquired in the Moosehead area

___YES! I want to help SAVE MOOSEHEAD

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Enclosed is my contribution:
☐ \$500+ ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50
☐ \$35 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$_____

Method of payment:

- ☐ My check, made payable to RESTORE or to FEN, is enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge my ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

CARDHOLDER’S NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

THANK YOU!

Send checks to either:

RESTORE: Save Moosehead Campaign, 9 Union St., Hallowell, ME 04347
FEN: Save Moosehead Campaign, 336 Back Rd., Lexington Twp, ME 04961

RESTORE:



© RESTORE: The North Woods & Forest Ecology Network

RESTORE: The North Woods, 9 Union Street Hallowell, ME 04347
Tel 207-626-5635 ~ www.restore.org
email: ken@restore.org

FEN, 336 Back Road, Lexington Twp, ME 04961
Tel 207-628-6404 ~ www.forestecologynetwork.org
email: fen@207me.com

