



# NEWSLETTER

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter  
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## CPAWS

## Coordinator's note

*Dear Fellow CPAWS Members,*

You'll notice some changes with this newsletter: we've decided to make it briefer and to provide only short updates of what we have been doing. Further information may be accessed on our web page or by calling our office.

Since Tanya Edwards left us to work with the Oceans section at DFO, we have had several employee changes. Brooks Pilgrim and I started out as co-conservation coordinators...Brooks then moved on to TRINAV fisheries consulting. Briar Bennett worked with us for two months organizing the Parks Stewardship program. Danielle Gregory took over from her in March and organized the Three Rivers Tour program in April. Since then, Danielle has been working on the Marine Protected Areas Atlas and brochure. Over the summer we have hired seven students and they are involved in environmental education programs in the Conche area, the Clarenville area, and the northeast Avalon. I worked half time over the winter months. We are

currently looking for a full time Executive Director; please see the attached job ad.

We've had a number of projects on the go: marine protected areas meetings, the Three Rivers Tour, south west coast exploration, visits with DFO Oceans division, visits with the NL Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, the nomination of Jon Lien for the provincial environmental lifetime achievement award, David Suzuki's visit, radio programs on CHMR, presentations at Lunch & Learn at the Environmental Gathering Place, Oceans Day activities, and the Environment and Art collaboration.

We are always looking for dedicated volunteers. Your time commitment can be a few hours a week or a few hours a month. Please contact us with your areas of interest and thank you for your interest in the environment.

We need your action to help conserve Newfoundland and Labrador!

*Julie Huntington*

## CPAWS NL at the National Meeting

The nation-wide meeting of CPAWS Directors and Chapter Reps was held in Cantley, QC, and was attended by CPAWS-NL trustee Brooks Pilgrim.

Nationally, there was a lot of excitement regarding the work that CPAWS has conducted over the past year and about ongoing work happening across the country. The meeting involved a review of the CPAWS 10-Year Conservation Plan and an update on conservation policies. There was discussion about the position that CPAWS would take regarding climate change and how to incorporate this issue into the 10-Year Plan.

CPAWS-NL had the opportunity to discuss ongoing marine work here in the province. We discussed our efforts in developing a marine atlas and our work towards establishing a Parks Canada NMCA along the southwest coast of the province. These efforts and the continued ongoing work of CPAWS-NL were well received and supported by all the National office members in attendance.

## New staff!

### **Danielle Gregory – Marine Coordinator**

I began my position with CPAWS-NL in March of 2007. I was hired as a Marine Protected Areas Researcher and am currently working on the Marine Protected Area Atlas project. I attended the Marine Environmental Technology Program at the Marine Institute in St. John's, Newfoundland. The Marine Environmental Program educates students about how to develop environmentally sound projects and it also stresses the importance of working together to create area response plans for marine pollution or degradation. I gained a lot of experience in the classroom and in the field, and this environmental knowledge has helped me with my job here at CPAWS.

### **Patrick Leveque – summer student**

I recently completed a B.A. in Political Science, and I'm currently doing a B.Sc. in Geography at MUN. After I finish my Geography degree, I plan on completing a Masters in Environmental Science.

I'm especially interested studying the effects of climate change in Newfoundland and Labrador.

My responsibilities this summer include coordinating other summer students (as part of the environmental education campaign), assisting Danielle Gregory with the Marine Protected Areas Atlas project, and assisting with general office work.

## CPAWS NL goes to SAMPAA

CPAWS NL attended the SAMPAA (Science and Management of Protected Areas Association) meeting held in Wolfville, NS at the end of May. There was a CPAWS marine and freshwater program meeting with Laura Hussey (NS), Sylvain Archambault (QC), Roberta Clowater (NB), Sabine Jessen (National Director), and NL reps Danielle Gregory and Julie Huntington. We discussed the need for more information to be provided to local communities about the benefits of protecting the marine environment, the need to build on general marine conservation issues such as values and threats, and the need for communities to understand the different MPA structures.

A one day workshop was held at SAMPAA about how Canada can meet its 2012 target of having an established network of marine protected areas. Representatives from Environment Canada, Parks Canada, and the DFO were there, as well as academic specialists and other ENGOs. The day was too short. CPAWS hosted a session on existing obstacles and how these obstacles could be overcome (through leadership, by training local people to be environmental leaders, through creating more media attention, and by finding Canadian champions for the marine environment). WWF led a session on developing a timeline by which we could meet our goals. CPAWS strongly believes that the federal government needs to create (and fund) an action oriented plan and engage ENGOs in the development of this plan.

## Marine Protected Areas & the MPA Atlas

A Marine Protected Area is an area with long-term legal protection. MPAs can range from small, highly-protected “no take” areas to large, zoned areas in which some uses are allowed.

We here at CPAWS NL have created a Marine Protected Areas brochure explaining what an MPA is, and how MPAs can help marine conservation. We are hoping to use the brochure in conjunction with other pamphlets and presentations in order to inform and educate communities about the importance of MPAs.

We’re also in the process of creating an atlas of sites that should be considered for MPA protection. There is currently no consensus on which marine zones should be considered special and representative. This lack of consensus makes even the first steps of protection work difficult. The atlas is being created in conjunction with the DFO, Parks Canada, and MUN professors; when complete, it will identify hotspot and other priority areas that are in need of protection.

The completed atlas will serve as a valuable guide for decision makers, scientists, offshore oil companies, and fishers. It will be a discussion document that will open the door to much debate, and it will be an important step towards the creation of the MPA network that Canada hopes to have in place by 2012.

## Conservation Co-ordinator needed

CPAWS NL is seeking a Conservation Co-ordinator to support a volunteer board of directors, provide leadership to staff and volunteers, guide effective environmental stewardship activities, and build relationships with community and business partners.

As a leader with this vibrant and diverse environmental group committed to environmental protection, your responsibilities will include:

1. Liaising with individuals, industries, community groups, businesses, non-governmental agencies, and governments to build formal and informal partnerships
2. Providing support and coordination for the Board of Directors and volunteer Stakeholder Committee
3. Overseeing the administrative and financial management of all programs and projects under the control of CPAWS NL
4. Managing and supervising staff
5. Designing and implementing projects based on CPAWS NL’s comprehensive mission and Vision Statements
6. Promoting and marketing the organization

Your most important skills are team leadership, collaborative management and a proven ability to communicate effectively on behalf of CPAWS NL and the environment of Newfoundland. Relevant educational experience and credentials and an extensive knowledge of environmental issues in Newfoundland and Labrador are assets.

Salary and benefits will be competitive with those of environmental NGOs, and commensurate with your qualifications and experience. Submit your letter of application, a current CV and the names and addresses of three references by August 18th, 2007 to [nlcoordinator@cpaws.org](mailto:nlcoordinator@cpaws.org) Attention: Conservation Coordinator Selection Committee. Contact CPAWS NL is at [cpawsnl.org](http://cpawsnl.org) and at 709.726.5800.

## World Oceans Day

On World Oceans Day, 8 June 2007, CPAWS NL—at the invitation of the DFO — worked to create an awareness of oceans issues among NL youth. Elementary students from local St. John’s schools came to the Marine Institute where Julie Huntington guided them in trying to think about connections between local and international waters. The goal of the activity was for students to realize that protecting the waters in Newfoundland and Labrador would benefit areas all around the world. The children drew water conservation ideas on recycled paper, and these drawings were pinned to a large blue sheet. This “waves of action” display is now being featured at different environmental events, and more children continue to add new ideas about how to protect our waters.

## Coral conservation initiative

On May 3, 2007 Canada’s offshore shrimp and groundfish harvesters announced the creation of a 12,500 square kilometre Coral Protection Zone in the northern Labrador Sea. This zone is part of new measures to conserve coral concentrations in the Arctic and Atlantic Oceans. The area that is being protected is near the meeting of the Hudson Strait and the Atlantic Ocean. Under the protection program, the harvesters have agreed to chart areas and to circulate information about coral concentrations in order to avoid setting fishing gear in those areas. The information being gathered could lead to additional closures in the future. CPAWS NL hopes that this voluntary industry closure will encourage other communities, fishing groups, and ENGOs to work with the Canadian Association of Prawn Producers, the Groundfish Enterprise Allocation Council, and the Northern Coalition to take action in locating and creating other marine Protection Zones elsewhere in the province.