

## Responsibility & Authority

*The Upper Delaware Council is unique in the world of river conservation and management because it represents the formal partnership of local, state, and federal governments and agencies who have joined together to manage the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, a true national treasure.*

The Council's existence evolved from special provisions in the 1978 legislation which designated the Upper Delaware River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and called for development of a management plan and a program providing for the coordinated implementation and administration of the plan. To that end, the Upper Delaware Council was formed in 1988.

What sets this River Management Plan apart is the commitment to local land use controls and voluntary actions by landowners to protect the resources on their own private property, as opposed to federal ownership of the land in the river corridor. The Council membership operates under a long-term cooperative agreement with the National Park Service.

The Upper Delaware Council is classified as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code, and is incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.



*A partnership for land, water, and people working together to conserve the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River in New York and Pennsylvania*

*On the cover:* Upper Delaware River view from the Hawk's Nest, July 1997. (Photo by David B. Soete, UDC Senior Resource Specialist)

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# Upper Delaware Council

## Annual Report



**Fiscal Year 1997**  
October 1, 1996 --  
September 30, 1997

## The View from the Chair...

Charles Wieland  
1997  
UDC Chairperson  
Town of Tusten, NY



To chair an organization which thinks the same as you do is indeed a pleasure and makes the year fly by.

The accomplishments of the Upper Delaware Council extend over a period of more than one year, so the chairman's job is mainly to keep things going on the path toward resolution. The actions of the committees, sub-committees, and staff are the chairman's biggest ally, and the reason the transition from one chairman to the next has always been a smooth one.

In 1997 a change in the staff occurred. Also, one of my pet projects, which is to get more information to the river users and visitors, has been moved along to the point of being part of the revised "UDC Visitor Information Map and Guide For Touring the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River," to be printed in the spring of 1998. The past year also saw the signing of a third Five-Year Cooperative Agreement with the National Park Service.

I am proud of the progress made during my term as chairman and I am confident that the Council will continue to support what is best for all concerned in the river valley.

## Technical Assistance Grants

The Upper Delaware Council awarded seven Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) totaling \$13,969 to member towns and townships for projects which further the goals of the River Management Plan.

**Town of Tusten, NY** - Update the town's Master Plan with a 1998 supplement, review the entire Zoning Law, and recommend appropriate changes. A town-wide zoning map based on property lines will be produced. TAG \$4,400.

**Town of Deepark, NY** - Add an index to the town's Zoning Law, undertake its review and recommend appropriate changes. TAG \$2,500.

**Town of Lumberland, NY** - Develop a new Town Subdivision Law. TAG \$2,500.

**Town of Delaware, NY** - Amend the Town's Zoning Law to address inconsistencies, with the

goal of improving land use regulations. TAG \$2,125.

**Lackawaxen Township, PA** - Update the township's Building Code to conform with existing and anticipated Pennsylvania state regulations. TAG \$1,250.

**Town of Lumberland, NY** - Print a minimum of 100 copies of the town's revised Zoning Law, including a new zoning map. TAG \$750.

**Shohola Township, PA** - Generate traffic count data on roads in and leading to the River corridor to determine future needs. TAG \$444.

## Major UDC Accomplishments in FY97:

◆ Entered into a third Five-Year Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior - National Park Service to continue the UDC's operation and funding from Oct. 1, 1997 to Sept. 30, 2002.

◆ Charted the UDC's future in a June 21 all-day workshop to aid in drafting a Five-Year Strategic Plan.

◆ Successfully negotiated with NPS-Washington to compromise on Upper Delaware business customer and income reporting requirements for Incidental Business Permit licensees in recognition of our uniqueness.

◆ Facilitated the publication of an "Emergency Response Guide for the Upper Delaware River Valley" produced by Conrail and the Delaware Riverkeeper Network by arranging meetings with involved parties.

◆ Completed a capital improvement project to reconstruct the UDC building's roof and create an attic.

◆ Passed Resolution 97-04 supporting the authorization and appropriation of funds for the proposed National Park Service Visitor Interpretive Center following feasibility reviews of the site originally called for in the River Management Plan and by the UDC's Mongaup Subcommittee.

◆ Co-sponsored 3rd Annual Delaware River Sojourn; and participated regularly in meetings of the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council, Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC), Upper Delaware River Safety Commt., Delaware River Basin Fish & Wildlife Management Cooperative Fisheries Technical Commt., NY/PA Joint Interstate Bridge Commission, D & H Canal & Gravity Railroad Site Managers, Sullivan County Water Quality Coordinating Commt., Sullivan First, and Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance.

◆ Initiated work on a UDC Flows Position Paper and attended the DRBC's Flows Management Technical

Advisory Committee in anticipation of a DRBC study which will conduct a flow needs analysis for the main stem of the Delaware River and its major tributaries.

◆ Advocated 1997 water releases from the Pepacton Reservoir to help prevent downstream flooding; witnessed the installation of new flow valves at the Cannonsville Dam as long-recommended by the UDC.

◆ Opposed a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) proposal to require Orange & Rockland Utilities to schedule and publicly announce two-turbine releases on the Mongaup River, and met with representatives of the American Whitewater Affiliation and American Canoe Association over those safety issues.

◆ Analyzed potential impacts of a New York Court of Appeals case, pertaining to the Salmon River, on private property rights issues in the Upper Delaware River so as to include that information in a planned revision the UDC's Visitor Information Map & Guide.

◆ Heralded the opening of the new NYS DEC Highland Fishing Access as initiated by the UDC; and urged the PA Fish and Boat Commission to exempt Upper Delaware and West Branch non-commercial, non-motorized boats to be registered to use their accesses.

◆ Wrote letters on behalf of area dairy farmers calling for reform of the national milk pricing system.

◆ Monitored Norfolk Southern Corporation's proposed buyout of Conrail's Southern Tier rail line.

◆ Kept abreast of studies by the U.S. Geological Survey (water quality), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (watershed needs), and State University of New York (watercraft users survey), involving the Delaware River.

◆ Sought information on the American Heritage Rivers Initiative and NYS Scenic Byways program, and commented on significant projects impacting the corridor.

## The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

*"It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations."*

## UDC STAFF

**Executive Director**.....William E. Douglass  
**Public Relations**.....Nancie Robertson (to 1/24/97)  
   Laurie Ramie (as of 4/21/97)  
**Senior Resource Specialist**.....David B. Soete  
**Secretary**.....Carol Coney  
**Bookkeeper**.....Wm. McAllister/Nancy Daub

## UDC ANNUAL AWARDS - FY97

**Distinguished Service Award**.....George H. Frosch  
**Oaken Gavel Award**.....Lewis J. Schmalzle  
**Volunteer Award**.....Chris Nielsen  
**Cultural Achievement Award**.....Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
**Community Service Award**.....Andrew Bartsch (posthumously)  
**Outstanding Community Achievement Award**.....City of Port Jervis  
**Recreation Achievement Award**.....Anthony Ritter, Gone Fishing Guide Service  
**Certificate of Merit**.....Delaware River Basin Commission  
**Award of Recognition**.....Donald (D.J.) Jahn  
**Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Award**.....Matthias Southwick; Paul Pratti  
**Keynote Address**.....Irene B. Brooks, PA Representative on the DRBC

The 9th Annual Awards Banquet was held April 6, 1997 at Ehrhardt's Waterfront Banquet & Conference Center on Lake Wallenpaupack near Hawley, Pa. The UDC believes it is important to publicly recognize those individuals, organizations, communities, and agencies that have contributed to the protection and enhancement of the Upper Delaware River Valley.

## Revenues and Expenditures -- Fiscal Year 1997

### REVENUES

NPS Cooperative Agreement.....\$300,000  
 Contributions.....0  
 Interest Income.....11,351  
 Other Income.....100  
**Total Revenues**.....**\$311,451**

### EXPENDITURES

	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Special Projects/ Program Services</u>	<u>Operations</u>	<u>Interest Payable</u>	<u>Investment in Plant</u>	<u>Total by Function</u>
Substantial Conformance	\$ 1,032	\$ 120	\$ 338	--0--	--0--	\$ 1,490
Project Review	18,798	2,254	6,378	--0--	--0--	27,430
Technical Assistance Grants (Net)	7,322	11,207	2,294	--0--	--0--	20,823
Water Use/Resource Mgmt.	50,748	5,697	16,121	--0--	--0--	72,566
Public Affairs/Education	48,345	30,894	19,369	--0--	--0--	98,608
Fund Raising	646	64	180	--0--	--0--	890
Friends of the Upper Delaware	113	10	29	--0--	--0--	152
Interest Due NPS	--0--	--0--	--0--	\$6,640	--0--	6,640
Hazardous Materials	32	4	12	--0--	--0--	48
Administration	34,607	4,815	13,622	--0--	--0--	53,044
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$161,643</b>	<b>\$55,065</b>	<b>\$58,343</b>	<b>\$6,640</b>	<b>--0--</b>	<b>\$281,691</b>
Capital Expenditures	--0--	--0--	--0--	--0--	\$36,208	36,208
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$161,643</b>	<b>\$55,065</b>	<b>\$58,343</b>	<b>\$6,640</b>	<b>\$36,208</b>	<b>\$317,899</b>

## Statement of Fund Balances

	Year Ending 9/30/97	Year Ending 9/30/96
<b>REVENUES</b>		
NPS Cooperative Agreement	\$300,000	\$300,000
Restricted Grants	--0--	--0--
Contributions	--0--	398
Interest Income	11,351	10,914
Other Income	100	2,720
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$311,451</b>	<b>\$314,032</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Personnel	\$161,643	\$162,392
Special Projects & Program Services	55,065	51,838
Operations	58,343	59,968
Interest Refund--NPS	6,640	5,202
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$281,691</b>	<b>\$279,400</b>
Revenues in Excess of Expenses	\$29,760	\$34,632
<b>TRANSFER</b>		
Capital Expenditures	(\$36,208)	(\$7,294)
Capital Expenditures Capitalized	36,208	7,294
Net Change in Fund Equity	29,760	34,632
Fund Equity--Beginning	175,261	140,629
Fund Equity--Ending	\$205,021	\$175,261

## UDC Membership

### MEMBER

Town of Hancock  
 Town of Fremont  
 Town of Delaware  
 Town of Cochecton  
 Town of Tusten  
 Town of Highland  
 Town of Lumberland  
 Town of Deepark  
 Lackawaxen Township  
 Shohola Township  
 Westfall Township  
 State of New York  
 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
 Delaware River Basin Commission  
 U.D. Citizens Advisory Council  
 National Park Service (partner)

### REPRESENTATIVE & ALTERNATE(S)

George H. Frosch  
 John B. Niflot, Walter Sipple  
 Eric J. Nystrom, Harold G. Roeder, Jr.  
 Larry Richardson, Nicholas Michaels  
 Charles Wieland, George Burkle  
 Lewis Schmalzle, Allan Schadt  
 Tom Hill, Peter Melnyk 1st Alt., Paul Brennan 2nd Alt.  
 Phil Chase, Mel Decker 1st Alt., Robert Cunningham 2nd Alt.  
 John S. McKay, Edward DeFebo 1st Alt., Brian Stuart 2nd Alt.  
 George J. Fluhr, Henry Prigge  
 Alan Bowers, Diane Banach  
 Bruce MacMillan, Fred Gerty  
 Marian H. Hrubovcak, David Lamereaux  
 Gerald M. Hansler, David B. Everett  
 Martin Borko, Peter Wulforth 1st Alt., Geraldine Howson 2nd Alt.  
 Marie Rust, Calvin F. Hite

The Upper Delaware Council mourns the loss of **Thomas Hill** (Lumberland Representative), Aug. 25, 1997; **Andrew Bartsch** (Shohola Alternate), Jan. 26, 1997; **Larue J. Elmore**, (Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council Representative), Jan. 12, 1997; and **C. Fred Tegeler** (Tusten Alternate), Aug. 15, 1996.

## Objectives for Fiscal Year 1998

- ◆ Complete the UDC's third Five-Year Operating Plan and initiate a review of the first 10 years of the River Management Plan's implementation.
- ◆ Actively participate in "Celebrate '98" activities in the river valley, including the 10th anniversary of the UDC, 20th anniversary of Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River designation, 30th anniversary of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, 100th anniversary of the closing of the D & H Canal, 150th anniversary of Roebbling's Delaware Aqueduct, and the bicentennials of eight area municipalities.
- ◆ Update and publish 25,000 copies of the UDC's popular "Visitor Information Map and Guide for Touring the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River."
- ◆ Develop a Position Paper on Flows and monitor flood control measures in the Delaware River Basin.
- ◆ Keep abreast of President Clinton's American Heritage Rivers Initiative and the status of the main stem Delaware River's nomination under this program.
- ◆ Monitor proposed projects which could impact the river corridor, such as: the designation of Route 97 as a New York State Scenic Byway; Columbia Gas Transmission Millennium Pipeline; the takeover of Conrail's Southern Tier rail line; and NYS DOT's rockcut on Rt. 97 near Hankins.



- ◆ Serve on the 4th Annual Delaware River Sojourn Steering Committee; co-sponsor the DRBC's "Water Snapshot '98" basin-wide water quality monitoring project.
- ◆ Seek and secure state funding, foundation grants, private donations, and/or other monies to augment the static annual allocation received from NPS.
- ◆ Continue the Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) program which has awarded 74 grants totaling \$387,241 since 1988.
- ◆ Take appropriate steps to encourage non-participating Wayne County townships to join the UDC.
- ◆ Complete the Substantial Conformance evaluation for the Town of Hancock, NY; continue to review ordinances, significant projects, variances, and zoning appeals in participating town/ships; and provide technical assistance as requested.

- ◆ Monitor federal and state permit and license applications to assess the potential for adverse environmental impacts.
- ◆ Inventory all public lands and river accesses in the corridor with the ultimate goal of producing a brochure describing these available sites and services.
- ◆ Monitor the drafting of the Unit Management Plan for the NYS DEC's Mongaup Valley Wildlife Management Area.
- ◆ Monitor the closure and remediation plans for the Cortese Landfill and Barnes Landfill, and any regulatory or enforcement actions regarding landfill management and sewage treatment plants in the corridor.
- ◆ Review plans, as they develop, for the proposed NPS Visitors Center on Route 97 near the Mongaup River.
- ◆ Assist emergency response personnel with river corridor disaster planning, including training in HAZMAT spills.
- ◆ Define the UDC's policy with respect to economic development consistent with the River Management Plan.
- ◆ Maintain contact with elected officials on a regular basis.
- ◆ Host the UDC's annual awards banquet and river rafting trip & picnic, participate in educational forums, and focus on public outreach through *The Upper Delaware* quarterly newsletter, press releases, public speaking, and appearances at appropriate local fairs and festivals.