

Responsibility & Authority

The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. is unique in the world of river conservation and management because it represents a formal partnership of local, state, and federal governments and agencies which 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 (UDC) 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 UDC is classified as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3). It is incorporated in the Commonwealth of PA and registered to do business in NYS as well. 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: An eagle takes flight over Narrowsburg, NY's Big Eddy Pool on the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River in this December 2004 composite photo by UDC Senior Resource Specialist David B. Soete.

Upper Delaware Council

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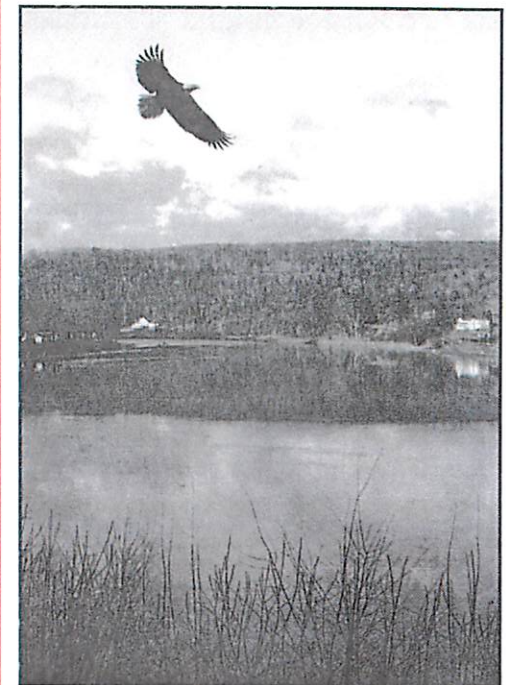
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Upper Delaware Council

Annual Report



Fiscal Year 2004

**October 1, 2003 to
September 30, 2004**

The View from the Chair ...

Nadia Rajsz

**2004 Chairperson
Town of Lumberland, NY**



Serving as the Upper Delaware Council chair this past year has certainly been a pleasurable experience.

Although a year might seem like a long time, in reality, it passed by much too quickly. However, it did leave me with a greater respect for what we have and for what we are doing.

Members of the Council, along with a very professional UDC staff, have all made it a very cooperative and memorable experience. I appreciate everyone's help and support.

Reflecting over some of this year's issues, there were some which not only kept recurring but recurred with a certain intensity: smart growth; planned development; flows; flood management; and exportation of water, to name a few.

These are all very important issues and must be addressed sooner rather than later. It's a tough challenge to balance the needs of people with those of the environment.

We have a tremendous asset in our beautiful and scenic river valley - the Delaware River - along with the surrounding areas. It is a great resource - economically, environmentally, and recreationally.

We need to take a look at where we are and where we want to be years from now and plan accordingly so that we can protect and preserve all our treasures for future generations.

Congratulations to the new UDC officers of 2005.

~ Nadia Rajsz

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 Activity Highlights in FY 2004

- ⇒ Reviewed and issued comment letters on numerous development proposals, zoning changes, and permit applications with potential impacts on the river corridor.
- ⇒ Co-sponsored a Nov. 5, 2003 public workshop on the threat posed by Hemlock Woolly Adelgid invasive insects to Eastern Hemlock trees in the river valley region.
- ⇒ Celebrated the 25th anniversary of President Jimmy Carter's 1978 signing of the federal law that established the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River at a Nov. 9, 2003 public program in Lackawaxen, Pa. coordinated by the National Park Service UDS&RR.
- ⇒ Testified at a Nov. 14, 2003 public hearing on the Village of Kiryas Joel's draft Environmental Impact Statement for its proposed 13-mile pipeline connection to the Catskill Aqueduct, and continued expressing concern over the impact that exporting water from the New York City reservoir supply could have on the Delaware River.
- ⇒ Facilitated a Nov. 24, 2003 meeting between the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Town of Highland regarding leachate collection problems at the Barnes Landfill.
- ⇒ Continued gathering information on a proposal by Pegasus Transmission Company to install a 500kV Direct Current electric transmission line on the railroad right-of-way through the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River corridor.
- ⇒ Supported a Delaware River Basin Commission resolution to establish a 2004-2007 experimental augmented conservation release program for the New York City Delaware Basin reservoirs.
- ⇒ Updated the "Visitor Information Map and Guide for Touring the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational

Upper Delaware Council Staff

Full-time Employees:

Executive DirectorWilliam E. Douglass
Senior Resource Specialist.....David B. Soete
Public Relations/Fundraising Specialist
.....Laurie Ramie
Office ManagerCarol Coney

Contractors:

BookkeeperWilliam McAllister, CPA
AuditorsEckersley & Ostrowski, LLP, CPAs
Attorney.....John J. Keating, Esq.

River" and began distributing 30,000 copies of the newly revised brochure in March 2004.

⇒ Provided input at the May 12, 2004 annual meeting of the NY-PA Joint Interstate Bridge Commission on construction proposals for the Upper Delaware's 10 bridges.

⇒ Helped plan and execute the 10th Annual Delaware River Sojourn, themed "Celebrating a National Wild & Scenic River," held June 7-14, 2004.

⇒ Hosted 124 guests for the UDC's 16th Annual Family Raft Trip from Ten Mile River to Minisink Base on Aug. 7.

⇒ Awarded \$25,301 in Technical Assistance Grants to fund 10 projects by UDC member towns and townships.

⇒ Witnessed the Sept. 13, 2004 signing ceremony for the "Water Resources Plan for the Delaware River Basin" after participating for three years on the Watershed Advisory Council that helped the Delaware River Basin Commission to complete the 30-year management plan.

⇒ Finalized administration of a \$75,000 state grant initiative by Sen. Bonacic for local enhancement projects benefiting the UDC's eight NY member towns.

⇒ Provided administrative support to the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, Inc. in its implementation of projects to enhance New York State Route 97.

⇒ Continued partnerships with organizations including The Visioning Committee of the Upper Delaware River Corridor, Delaware River Water Trail Coalition, Northeast Pennsylvania Rural Transportation Planning Organization, D&H Transportation Heritage Council, and Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance.

⇒ Published a quarterly newsletter, issued news releases, distributed meeting minutes, and participated in outreach forums to keep the public aware of UDC activities.

Statement of Fund Balances

	Year Ending 9/30/04	Year Ending 9/30/03
REVENUES		
NPS Cooperative Agreement	\$300,000	\$300,000
Restricted Grants	8,312	77,500
Contributions	1,025	0
Interest Income	1,723	2,499
Other Income	0	0
Total Revenues	\$311,060	\$379,999
EXPENSES		
Personnel	\$215,981	\$202,774
Special Projects/Program Services	64,013	151,556
Operations	62,533	60,163
Interest Refund-NPS	342	916
Total Expenses	\$342,869	\$415,409
Revenue in Excess of Expenses	\$(31,809)	\$(35,410)
TRANSFER		
Capital Expenditures	\$10,352	0
Capital Expenditures Capitalized	\$10,352	0
Change in Net Assets	\$(31,809)	\$(35,410)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$221,026	\$256,436
Net Assets - End of Year	\$189,217	\$221,026

UDC Membership (as of Sept. 30, 2004)

2004 Officers: Chairperson Nadia Rajsz; Vice-Chair Alan Bowers; Secretary-Treasurer Charles Wieland

MEMBER

Town of Hancock
 Town of Fremont
 Town of Delaware
 Town of Cochection
 Town of Tusten
 Town of Highland
 Town of Lumberland
 Town of Deerpark
 Lackawaxen Township
 Shohola Township
 Westfall Township
 State of New York
 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 Delaware River Basin Commission
 National Park Service (partner)

REPRESENTATIVE / ALTERNATE(S)

F. Gerald Mackin / Jim Serio
 John B. Niflot / James A. Greier
 Harold G. Roeder, Jr. / Eric J. Nystrom
 Larry H. Richardson / John Reggero
 Charles Wieland / Ben Johnson
 Lewis J. Schmalzle / Allan Schadt
 Nadia Rajsz / John LiGreci
 Philip D. Chase / Mel Decker
 John S. McKay / Brian Stuart
 Bruce Selneck / George J. Fluhr, 1st Alt. / Nelia Wall, 2nd Alt.
 Alan Bowers / George R. Jerus
 William J. Rudge / vacant
 Vacant / David J. Lamereaux
 Carol R. Collier / vacant
 Marie Rust / David C. Forney

FY 2004 Passages: Ben Johnson replaced Richard B. Crandall as Town of Tusten Alternate in January 2004. Former Lackawaxen Township Alternate Fred Bartsch, who served from 1998-99 and 2002-03, died on Feb. 24, 2004. Commonwealth of PA Representative Marian Hrubovcak retired on June 25, 2004, after 12 years of service to the UDC. Former Town of Lumberland Representative Peter Melnyk, who served from 1988-90 and 1996-99, died on Aug. 30, 2004.

FY 2004 Revenues and Expenditures

REVENUES

NPS Cooperative Agreement.....	\$300,000
Restricted Grants.....	8,312
Interest Income.....	1,723
Contributions.....	1,025
Total Revenues	\$311,060

EXPENDITURES (Functional Allocations)

	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Special Projects/ Program Services</u>	<u>Operations</u>	<u>Interest Payable</u>	<u>Capital Expenditures</u>	<u>Total by Function</u>
Substantial Conformance Review	0	0	0			0
Project Review	50,366	4,034	14,584			68,984
Technical Assistance Grants (Net)	11,658	25,986	3,371			41,015
Water Use/Resource Mgmt.	85,569	6,853	24,780			117,202
Public Affairs/Education	67,024	25,795	19,404			112,223
Fundraising	1,364	110	394			1,868
Friends of the Upper Delaware	0	1,235	0			1,235
Interest Due Park Service				342		342
Total Expenses	215,981	64,013	62,533	342		342,869
Capital Expenditures					10,352	10,352
Total Expenditures	\$215,981	\$64,013	\$62,533	\$342	\$10,352	\$353,221

Technical Assistance Grants

Since 1988, the Upper Delaware Council has awarded \$542,992 in Technical Assistance Grants funding for 153 projects by member towns and townships or their counties. Ten grants totaling \$25,301 were approved in FY 2004:

Town of Lumberland - \$4,831 to prepare minor zoning law revisions and a supplement to the Comprehensive Plan, and to conduct two training sessions on the administration of land use regulations.

Town of Delaware - \$3,986 to update the town's Comprehensive Plan.

Town of Lumberland - \$3,136 to prepare a digitally-enhanced compilation and assessment of historical marker sites.

Town of Tusten - \$3,049 to survey and prepare a restoration plan for the Lake Erie dam and spillway in the Hamlet of Narrowsburg.

Town of Cohecton - \$2,643 to update boundary definitions of zoning districts using Geographic Information Systems technology.

Town of Highland - \$2,625 to develop a town web site to post governmental documents and to promote the town's historical, cultural, recreational, and economic aspects to the on-line public.

Shohola Township - \$2,131 to create a plan to develop a historic walking trail for the township's donated property at Rohman Park.

Town of Fremont - \$1,104 to develop a Geographic Information Systems-based tax parcel mapping system for the town.

Town of Deerpark - \$1,000 to print bound, color copies of the town's new Zoning Law for public distribution upon request.

Town of Deerpark - \$796 to update and print a Town of Deerpark informational map and brochure.

2004 Annual Awards Ceremony

The Upper Delaware Council's 16th Annual Awards Ceremony was held on April 25, 2004 at The Eldred Preserve in Eldred, NY, with 88 guests in attendance. The Hon. Maurice D. Hinchey, Jr., U.S. Congress, New York State 22nd District, served as keynote speaker. Awards were presented in the following categories:

Distinguished Service Award.....**Douglas N. Hay**
Partnership Award.....**The Visioning Committee of the Upper Delaware Corridor**
Recreation Achievement Award.....**Sullivan County Community College Fall 2003 Graphic Arts Class & Prof. Tom Ambrosino**
Cultural Achievement Award.....**Braman Arts Conservatory**
Community Service Award (individual).....**Richard B. Crandall**
Community Service Award (organization).....**The Lackawaxen River Conservancy**
Volunteer Award.....**George T. Krause**
Special Recognition Award.....**Colin Apse, chairperson, Subcommittee on Ecological Flows**
Oaken Gavel Award.....**Bruce Selneck, Shohola Township, PA, 2003 UDC Chairman**

Upper Delaware Council Objectives for Fiscal Year 2005

⇒ Support the National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's request for an increase in its base operating budget, including a raise in the UDC's annual allocation, to address long-range financial needs. Identify existing programs, such as the UDC's Technical Assistance Grants, that could be funded by other sources to reallocate those budget expenses to operational functions.

⇒ Convene a public education conference on river flows and fisheries issues.

⇒ Monitor the development of proposed legislation for a 'Delaware River Greenway' and determine the UDC's potential role in such an organization.

⇒ Oversee administration of the third round of Community Projects State Grants secured by Sen. John Bonacic for the UDC's eight NYS town members.

⇒ Support efforts to establish a scientifically-based flow needs criteria for the Upper Delaware River, and gather documentation to justify the request for a minimum flow and optimum temperature target at the Callicoon gage.

⇒ Maintain vigilance in reviewing local projects, ordinances, variances, and zoning appeals, as well as federal and state permit and license applications, to determine

any potentially adverse environmental impacts on the river corridor.

⇒ Monitor a proposal to install a high-voltage, direct-current (HVDC) electric transmission line through the Upper Delaware River Valley.

⇒ Keep abreast of any out-of-basin water transfer proposals to offer comments.

⇒ Prepare an inventory and map reference of all public lands and commercial accesses fronting on the Upper Delaware River. Work with the states and NPS to develop new public accesses, river rest stops, and fishing accesses, as appropriate.

⇒ Serve on the planning team for the proposed NPS Mongaup Visitor Center.

⇒ Regularly inform local, state, and federal legislators about Upper Delaware issues through the UDC's Government Officials Liaison Subcommittee and staff efforts.

⇒ Explore the feasibility of establishing an Upper Delaware Valley Museum.

⇒ Advance the development of an Upper Delaware Council web site.

⇒ Encourage the four non-participating Wayne County townships to join the UDC.

⇒ Develop the organizational procedure to undertake the 20-year review of the Final 1986 River Management Plan that will commence in FY 2006.