

Responsibility & Authority

The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. was unique in the world of river conservation and management when established in 1988 because it represented 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: The Delaware Aqueduct connecting Lackawaxen, PA and Minisink Ford, NY was built in 1848 by engineer John A. Roebling to alleviate the bottleneck of traffic on the Delaware and Hudson Canal. The National Park Service purchased the cable suspension bridge in 1980 to preserve as part of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. (UDC Infrared Effect Photo by David B. Soete)

Upper Delaware Council

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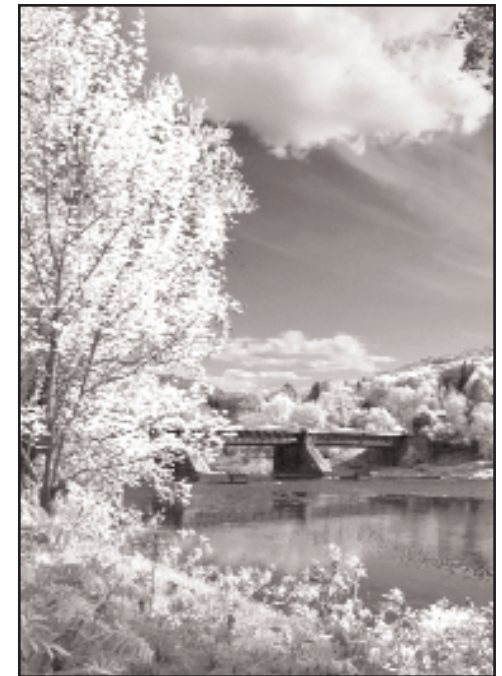
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Upper Delaware Council Annual Report



Fiscal Year 2007

October 1, 2006 to
September 30, 2007

The View From the Chair ...

F. Gerald Mackin
2007 Chairperson
Town of Hancock, NY



It has been an honor to serve as Chair of the Upper Delaware Council (UDC) for the year 2007. I am grateful to the professional staff of the Council and our Council members for their efforts to educate me on the issues we face and to strengthen my knowledge in areas less familiar to me.

The year 2007 was not as turbulent as the year 2006 and my tenure was blessed with that. NYRI was and still is on the landscape. The Council will need to maintain its vigilance to sustain our ideals for our beautiful Delaware River while seeking ways to support our nation's drive for "energy independence". I like to think these concepts are not incompatible.

In 2007 we also continued to address River flow management. The 2006 flood devastated much of our area, but perhaps the "good" which came out of this was the joint efforts of the States (New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware) to address River flows and flood control as a REGIONAL concern and the re-emergence of the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) as a lead player and potentially OUR champion in the ongoing struggles with New York City over its use of OUR water resources for ITS needs, often with little regard (sometimes even contempt) for OUR needs.

My disappointment at the Council has been the continued resistance of the Wayne County townships to join us. Participation in and support of the River Management Plan has not always been easy for my town, the Town of Hancock, but we have not boycotted the Council because of that and I had hoped I could help win over those Townships. However, the flood of 2006 intervened at the precise moment that we had been invited to Buckingham Township to urge their participation. In 2007 we just could not get this back on track.

I wish my successor in 2008 the best of luck addressing these and all other issues which will arise to confront the Council and I thank all the Officers, the Director, Staff and Members of the UDC for making my tenure as Member and Chair an enjoyable and memorable one. You and the UDC mission will always be in my heart.

Gerry Mackin

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 2007

10/5/06 - Expressed concerns to the U.S. Department of Energy that its proposed designation of National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors (NIETCs) could circumvent state jurisdictions over the siting of new power lines.

12/20/06 - Allocated \$10,000 toward the Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition's legal fight against New York Regional Interconnect (NYRI), as a share of a \$50,000 grant secured for the UDC by Senator John J. Bonacic to study and review the impacts of the NYRI electric transmission line.

Winter 2007 - Two surveys conducted as part of the East Central Wayne County (PA) Comprehensive Plan revealed that citizens in Damascus (67%) and Manchester (45.1%) favored their townships joining the UDC. Damascus, Manchester, Berlin, and Buckingham Townships would complete the UDC's full membership eligibility roster.

4/1/07 - Senator John J. Bonacic named the UDC to administer a \$75,000 FY 2007-08 Aid to Localities grant program for NY town members. The FY 2005-06 \$60,000 round of projects was completed by the 8/31/07 deadline.

4/17/07 - Accepted a plaque during a local press conference denoting the #4 ranking of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on American Rivers' national list of the Most Endangered Rivers of 2007 due to the risk from NYRI.

5/3/07 - Urged the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to cap New York City's Filtration Avoidance Determination at five years rather than 10 and to repair aqueduct leaks.

5/7/07 - NYS Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther announces a \$10,000 operational grant for the UDC to assist with the development of a website, sponsorship of a land use training workshop, and office maintenance projects.

5/23/07 - Attended a U.S. Department of Energy public hearing and citizen groups' rally in New York City on the Mid-Atlantic NIETC proposal which would encompass 100,000 square miles and a population of 50 million, and participated

Upper Delaware Council Staff

Full-time Employees:

Executive Director.....William E. Douglass
Senior Resource Specialist.....David B. Soete
Public Relations/Fundraising.....Laurie Ramie
Office Manager.....Carol Coney

Contractors:

Bookkeeper.....Michael Poska, CPA
Auditors.....Eckersley & Ostrowski, CPAs
Attorney.....John J. Keating, Esq.

in numerous forums sponsored by federal officials to testify against the Upper Delaware's inclusion in the boundaries.

5/31/07 - Offered comments on several revisions of the Delaware River Basin Commission's Flexible Flow Management Plan for operation of the Cannonsville, Pepacton, and Neversink Reservoirs as an agreement to replace the existing releases, fisheries, and temporary spill mitigation programs that were to expire on this date.

6/6/07 - Participated in the New York-Pennsylvania Joint Interstate Bridge Commission's annual meeting to review capital construction and maintenance plans for the Upper Delaware River's 10 crossings, and an 8/23/07 Consulting Parties meeting on the Pond Eddy Bridge status.

6/24-30/07 - Served on the Steering Committee for the 2007 Delaware River Sojourn: "A Celebration of Native American Culture", with Upper Delaware paddling from Ten Mile River to Minisink Ford and on a section of the Lackawaxen River.

8/5/07 - Hosted the 19th Annual Family Raft Trip in which 131 participants rafted from Pond Eddy, NY to Matamoras, PA.

8/11/07 - Convened a Strategic Planning Workshop for the UDC board to discuss and rank priority issues to include in its fifth Five-Year Operating Program for FY 2008-2012, which was formally adopted on 9/6/07.

9/12-13/07 - Participated in a tour of flood-devastated areas by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and others to prepare for a federal study to identify causes and future flood prevention measures in the Upper Delaware River watershed.

Ongoing - Maintained a listserv network targeted to various subject areas to share information on threats, opportunities, and challenges facing the Upper Delaware River Valley.

Ongoing - Reviewed local ordinances, variances, zoning appeals, federal and state permit or license applications, and attended meetings to stay abreast of any initiatives that could pose adverse environmental impacts on the river corridor.

Technical Assistance Grants

Since 1988, the Upper Delaware Council has awarded \$609,692 in Technical Assistance Grants funding for 173 projects by member towns and townships or their counties. Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) are available for research, planning, and studies. The UDC approved eight grants totaling \$25,400 on Sept. 6, 2007, as follows:

Town of Lumberland, NY - \$6,500 to review and update the Town's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Law.

Town of Hancock, NY - \$5,000 to revise the 1986 Town Subdivision Law, and to develop driveway and road standards.

Town of Tusten, NY - \$4,500 to convert the Town's laws, ordinances, and archival records into an electronic format and make these documents publicly available at www.tusten-narrowsburg.org.

Town of Lumberland, NY - \$2,500 to prepare a written and pictorial document chronicling over 100 years of history of the Eldred Central School District located in the Towns of Lumberland and Highland.

Town of Delaware, NY - \$2,200 to purchase, install, and conduct training on new Building and Codes Enforcement Software.

Town of Cochection, NY - \$2,000 to survey and map the boundary lines of the Town Hall property in order to situate Highway Department operations to prevent pollutants from entering the watershed.

Shohola Township, PA - \$1,700 to identify potential, safe, and convenient public access areas along the Delaware River within the Township for boating, fishing, swimming, and emergency situations.

Town of Fremont, NY - \$1,000 to print 750 copies of the Town's Comprehensive Master Plan.

2007 Annual Awards Ceremony

The Upper Delaware Council's 19th Annual Awards Ceremony was held on April 29, 2007 at Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA, with 85 guests attending. Pennsylvania State Representative Michael T. Peifer (139th District) served as keynote speaker. Awards were presented in the following categories to:

Distinguished Service Award.....**Michael F. Reuber**,
Chief of Resource Management, National Park Service
Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River
Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Award.....**Robert W. Weber III and Patrick Connolly, National Park Service; Callicoon Volunteer Fire Dept.; Welcome Lake Fire & Dive Rescue Team; Equinunk Volunteer Fire Co.**
Outstanding Community Achievement Award.....**Shohola Township, PA Volunteer Award**.....**Upper Delaware Preservation Coalition, Inc.**
Recreation Achievement Award.....**Delaware River Water Trail Guide**
Cultural Achievement Award.....**Norma Schadt, author of "Hawk's Nest: Newspaper History of the Road"**
Partnership Award.....**NYS Department of Transportation Region 9**
Community Service Award.....**Equinunk Watershed Alliance**
Special Recognition Award.....**Narrowsburg Beautification Group**
Special Recognition Award.....**Boy Scout Troop #122, Damascus, PA**
Oaken Gavel Award.....**Charles Wieland, Town of Tusten, NY,**
2006 UDC Chairperson

Upper Delaware Council Objectives for Fiscal Year 2008

- ◆ Plan commemorations of the 20th anniversary of the UDC's incorporation, 30th anniversary of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River designation, and 40th anniversary of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in 2008.
- ◆ Identify new issues, practices, and priorities to address during a review of the River Management Plan and its Land & Water Use Guidelines.
- ◆ Continue to study the impacts of New York Regional Interconnect, Inc.'s proposed development of a High-Voltage, Direct-Current electric transmission line.
- ◆ Update the "Visitor Information Map & Guide for Touring the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River" brochure, create a UDC website, continue sponsoring annual awards and a raft trip, publish a quarterly newsletter, co-sponsor training or informational programs, and issue news releases as public outreach tools.
- ◆ Provide a cost-benefit analysis of the UDC's services to its members, solicit res-

olutions of support for renewed state funding requests for the UDC, and support the National Park Service's requested increase in the UDC's federal funding allocation.

- ◆ Finalize the Town of Hancock's Substantial Conformance Review.
- ◆ Administer NYS state grants for UDC and Upper Delaware Scenic Byway (UDSB) municipalities, and provide staff support for the non-profit UDSB organization.
- ◆ Scope out critical areas in the Upper Delaware watershed to protect from potential encroachments by utilizing a Geographic Information Systems growth model analysis.
- ◆ Review the NYS legislation to create an Upper Delaware River Greenway and evaluate the UDC's potential role. Explore opportunities for cross-state NY and PA initiatives.
- ◆ Work with appropriate agencies to expand public access to the Upper Delaware River, and to increase the numbers of hiking trails and winter recreation opportunities.

Statement of Fund Balances

	Year Ending 9/30/07	Year Ending 9/30/06
REVENUES		
NPS Cooperative Agreement	\$300,000	\$300,000
Restricted Grants	125,000	60,000
Contributions	0	3,200
Interest Income	4,283	6,355
Other Income	2,575	100
Total Revenues	\$431,858	\$369,655
EXPENSES		
Personnel	\$228,236	\$221,572
Special Projects/Program Services	130,581	109,955
Operations	54,919	62,816
Interest Refund-NPS	1,573	2,090
Total Expenses	\$415,309	\$396,433
Change in Net Assets	16,549	(26,778)
TRANSFER		
Capital Expenditures	\$10,134	\$4,478
Capital Expenditures Capitalized	10,134	4,478
Change in Net Assets	16,549	(26,778)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$131,229	\$158,007
Net Assets - End of Year	\$147,778	\$131,229

UDC Membership (as of Sept. 30, 2007)

2007 Officers: Chairperson F. Gerald Mackin; Vice-Chair John S. McKay; Secretary-Treasurer John B. Niflot

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 / vacant
 John B. Niflot / Jim Rodgers
 Harold G. Roeder, Jr. / Eric J. Nystrom
 Larry H. Richardson / John Reggero
 Charles Wieland / Ben Johnson
 Vacant / Stephen Barnes, 1st Alt. / Robert Burrow, 2nd
 Nadia Rajsz / Joseph Carr
 Philip D. Chase / Melvin Decker
 John S. McKay / Brian Stuart
 Nelia Wall / George J. Fluhr
 Alan Bowers / George R. Jerus
 William J. Rudge / Michael J. Flaherty
 Dennis DeMara / vacant
 Carol R. Collier / vacant
 Dennis Reidenbach / David C. Forney

FY 2007 Changes: Town of Highland Representative Lewis J. Schmalzle died on Oct. 31, 2006. In the Town of Lumberland, alternate Joseph Carr replaced John LiGreci in January 2007. Michael J. Flaherty of the Department of Environmental Conservation was appointed as State of New York alternate in March 2007. National Park Service Northeast Regional Director Mary A. Bomar was succeeded by Dennis Reidenbach in September 2007.

FY 2007 Revenues and Expenditures

REVENUES (Cash Basis)

NPS Cooperative Agreement.....	\$300,000
Restricted Grants.....	125,000
Interest Income.....	4,283
Other Income.....	2,575
Total Revenues	\$431,858

EXPENDITURES (Functional Allocations)

	Personnel	Special Projects/Program Services	Operations	GPRA Reallocation	Capital Expenditures	Total
Public Affairs	40,354	20,868	9,710	16,303	0	87,235
Water Use/Resource Management	46,692	4,516	11,236	14,352	0	76,796
Scenic Byway	11,391	1,101	2,740	3,501	0	18,733
Project Review (includes NYRI)	75,574	7,308	18,184	23,228	0	124,294
Technical Assistance Projects	5,037	17,032	1,214	5,350	0	28,633
Substantial Conformance	55	4	11	20	0	90
Fundraising	221	22	55	70	0	368
Administration	47,343	4,578	11,390	(63,311)	0	0
Capital Expenditures	0	0	0	0	10,134	10,134
NYS Grants Administration	1,569	75,152	379	487	0	77,587
Combined Total	228,236	130,581	54,919	0	10,134	\$423,870