



## **Gulf of Maine Council 2016 Award Winners**

## **Susan Snow-Cotter Leadership Award**

The Susan Snow-Cotter Leadership Award honors a coastal management professional who exemplifies outstanding leadership or exceptional mentoring in the Gulf of Maine watershed. This special award is bestowed in memory of Susan Snow-Cotter, a long-time friend and supporter of the Gulf of Maine Council. This award is given to an individual from one of the five states and provinces bordering the Gulf of Maine.

### **Marianne Janowicz, New Brunswick**

Marianne Janowicz is being recognized with the Susan Snow-Cotter Award as a committed coastal environmentalist and conservationist whose leadership and dedication have made a significant difference in the Gulf of Maine. Over the span of several decades, Marianne Janowicz has been an exemplary leader in the Bay of Fundy region on issues affecting the Bay and its watersheds. She was a member of the Gulf of Maine Council's Working Group representing the New Brunswick government while she worked in its Department of Environment. During that time, she led a regional effort under the Canadian National Program of Action on Land-based Activities, focused on reducing nonpoint pollution from septic systems and other sources around the Bay.

While with the provincial government, she was an active member of the Council's working group, and a keen member of the Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership (BoFEP). Eventually she became vice chair of BoFEP, coordinating research and communications efforts for several of its working groups. Marianne has been Chair of BoFEP since 2012, providing guidance to many projects, tirelessly preparing submissions for funding, and chairing various meetings and workshops addressing Fundy issues.

Marianne has shown exceptional leadership and professionalism in all of her work. She has especially excelled at including First Nations people in several initiatives such as Talking Circles, and at finding support for original initiatives such as the Ocean Health Index for the southwest part of the Bay of Fundy.

## **Longard Awards**

The Longard Award is bestowed each year in memory of Art Longard, a founding member of the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment and long-time Working Group member. This Award is given to an individual or group of individuals from one of the five states and provinces bordering the Gulf of Maine to recognize volunteer commitment to environmental protection and sustainability within the Gulf of Maine.

### **Bailey Bowden, Maine**

Bailey Bowden is receiving a Longard Award for his exemplary volunteer efforts in the protection and sustainability of the Bagaduce watershed. Bailey resides in Penobscot, Maine where he has fished recreationally and commercially in the Bagaduce River watershed for years. By sharing his vision for the Bagaduce with others and working tirelessly to restore the resource, he has demonstrated a true commitment to the ecological integrity of the Gulf of Maine. Bailey has been particularly active in the conservation of anadromous alewives and smelt, combating invasive species and restoring and enhancing critical clam flats.

Never fearful of getting his hands dirty, Bailey has personally dipped countless alewives over dams and other barriers to sustain dwindling runs of fish. Also adept at advocacy he has engaged others through the creation of a municipal Alewife Advisory Committee, which he now chairs.

A keen observer of the natural world, Bailey knows his efforts are bigger than just one river and the people and animals that call it home. His efforts support local lobstermen by providing critical bait, the local tradition of smoked alewives, and a hope of rebuilding groundfish stocks in the Gulf of Maine ecosystem.

### **Walter Emrich, New Brunswick**

Walter Emrich is being honored with a Visionary Award for his exemplary volunteer activities with the Nature Trust of New Brunswick. Walter's love of the environment extends deep into his childhood and has continued into his adult life. Walter worked as a forester in New Brunswick for thirty years. At the age of 53, he retired from the industry to dedicate time to the things he loves most -- volunteering in environmental conservation, guiding kayak tours and his family. He and his wife Margo live in Rothesay, New Brunswick and enjoy spending time with their three daughters, Teri, Katie and Andi, three grandsons, and one grand-dog.

Walter Emrich is a true steward of the ecosystems and natural resources of the Gulf of Maine's marine, near shore and watershed environments. He has been a dedicated volunteer with the Nature Trust of New Brunswick for the past 15 years. Walter supports the Nature Trust in all aspects of their mission to conserve, steward and educate within the province. He serves as an active board member, participates in the land acquisition committee, chairs the stewardship committee, and is a volunteer land steward for coastal and nearshore nature preserves within the Bay of Fundy region.

Walter has been an integral part of the successful conservation of hundreds of hectares of land within the Gulf of Maine watershed. He is always willing to explore new potential properties

for conservation and help guide the board's decision-making on acquisitions. He spends many hours leading trail days and installing signage, and has been known to mediate land-use issues when they arise. Always keen to get others outside in the natural world, Walter has instilled the conservation ethic within many people by guiding hikes and kayaking tours for the community.

### **Sustainable Communities Award**

The Gulf of Maine Council's Sustainable Communities Award recognizes a community, or group within a community for exemplary work in achieving sustainable outcomes related to the environment and economy within the Gulf of Maine.

#### **Town of Durham, New Hampshire**

The Town of Durham, New Hampshire, is a municipal leader that challenges itself to think deeply about its vision for achieving long-term sustainability. This forward-thinking vision incorporates modern strategies, such as Smart Growth Principles, into every aspect of its community development. Durham has achieved many Smart Growth successes including substantial investments in improving the downtown, strong support for preservation of natural and historic resources, numerous stormwater projects, and progress towards economic security and energy independence.

While maintaining an innovative vision of the future, the Town takes great care to reflect on its past to ensure that, as the Town grows and adapts to social, economic, and environmental changes, the distinctive characteristics and core values of the community remain. The Town's commitment to the past, present, and future can be seen in the work of the Planning Board and Master Plan Advisory Committee, in coordination with the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, in capturing the ideas of local residents to address local issues, including housing, natural and cultural resources, recreation, land use, zoning, business and industry, and infrastructure for their master plan.

Given the complexity of the planning and the level of citizen involvement, the Committee had to be creative, nimble, and, at times, firm to keep the process moving. Crafting the plan was an ever-evolving dance among the planning organizations, topic committees, staff, and citizens.

This commitment to public engagement has empowered the town of Durham to work towards a sustainable and prosperous future that retains the core values and principles of a town with an engaged community, a vibrant downtown, and an abundant, accessible natural environment.

## VISIONARY AWARDS

Gulf of Maine Council Visionary Awards are presented to individuals or organizations within each of the five Gulf of Maine jurisdictions of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia. These Awards recognize innovation, creativity, and commitment to promoting a healthy Gulf of Maine.

### **Visionary Awards – Massachusetts**

#### **Glorianna Davenport and Evan Schulman of Tidmarsh Farm**

Thanks to the vision and dedication of Glorianna Davenport and Evan Schulman of Tidmarsh Farm, their property has been restored and is now a living laboratory for students and salt marsh restoration practitioners to learn from.

The Tidmarsh Restoration Project involves comprehensive ecological restoration across 250-acres of retired cranberry bogs and supporting lands in Plymouth Massachusetts. The project area consists of 202-acres of coastal wetlands and 48-acres of adjacent upland. The site makes up a significant portion of the Beaver Dam Brook watershed, and benefits include improved water quality, increased biodiversity, and reduction of contaminated sediments.

This project is the largest coastal freshwater wetlands restoration effort to date in Massachusetts, and is supported by Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration. There are 20 partnering organizations involved, including Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program, and the restoration includes a cutting-edge, monitoring and educational component (called the Living Observatory) led by Evan and Glorianna. The Living Observatory partners with Massachusetts Institute of Technology and many other organizations.

Although primarily a freshwater wetland restoration effort, the site which is less than a mile from the coast, will also be suitable for salt marsh migration as sea level rises, making this ecological restoration project an extremely valuable example of strategies for promoting coastal resiliency and climate change adaptation.

#### **William S. Spitzer, Massachusetts**

Billy Spitzer is the Vice President for Programs, Exhibits, and Planning at the New England Aquarium where he develops mission-driven exhibits and programs and oversees exhibit design, visitor experience, volunteer and education programs, and strategic planning.

Since 2005, Billy has served the New England Ocean Science Education Collaborative, first as Chair and then as host institution liaison. This regional entity brings together diverse marine education organizations around collective work and learning. Two outstanding leadership qualities define Billy's most significant contributions. First, his steadfast belief in the value and power of a network and the "exceeding-the-sum-of-its-parts" collective impact they have. Second, Billy has generously provided invaluable mentoring to members of the collaborative's rotating executive leadership and governing council. This has built tremendous capacity among current and emerging leaders in marine education around the Gulf of Maine.

As a standing member the Executive Committee, Billy has continuously garnered the commitment of the New England Aquarium to remain a backbone of the Collaborative in both flush and lean times, which is no small feat.

As principal investigator of the National Network for Ocean and Climate Change Interpretation, Billy is also a leader in climate change education in the Gulf of Maine and beyond. This effort has benefitted numerous local marine education organizations and their staff over the past five years, and brought national attention to New England-based resources and expertise on these critical issues.

Billy Spitzer has demonstrated outstanding leadership over many years, graciously providing invaluable mentoring and professional development throughout the marine education community, the impacts of which will surely continue to percolate throughout the Gulf of Maine watershed for a long time to come.

### **Visionary Awards – New Hampshire**

#### **Carroll Brown, Jr., New Hampshire**

Since 2002 Carroll Brown of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, has been tireless in his effort to plan for and make sure the region is equipped for a release of oil to the coastal waters of New Hampshire and Southern Maine.

Following the disbanding of the Piscataqua River Cooperative Carroll was instrumental in continuing the coastal oil spill preparedness efforts by helping to form the Portsmouth Oil Spill Response Workgroup. Carroll has chaired this group as well as acted as the New Hampshire chair for the Maine/New Hampshire Area Committee. When the Cooperative disbanded, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services retained the Cooperative's spill response equipment; Carroll ensured that this equipment was accounted for, repaired and kept in service to continue a high level of response readiness in the region.

Carroll heads a committee that designs and updates geographic response plans for New Hampshire and parts of Maine. When faced with the task of protecting Great Bay and provided with strategies that were unworkable, Carroll spent endless hours creating and overseeing testing of new response strategies. His creativity and dedication have resulted in a working strategy able to be deployed in a short amount of time, consisting of over a mile of Boom.

Carroll's outreach efforts and coordination have led to strong partnerships between different agencies and stakeholders. His effort to create a Memorandum of Understanding with the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has not only improved coordination in planning but was put successfully into practice during a release this past year. During this event the agreement with the Navy and coordination with the Coast Guard resulted in a swift response and the mutual use of equipment providing responders with tools necessary to quickly contain the spill and effectively remove the oil.

The region's response capabilities have been greatly increased by Carroll's dedication, his creativity and the relationships that he has been able to build.

#### **Linda Schier, New Hampshire**

In her work as the Executive Director for the Acton Wakefield Watersheds Alliance, Linda Schier brings lakes in the Acton-Wakefield region of Maine and New Hampshire to the attention of many including municipalities, local businesses, educational institutions, governmental agencies, residents, visitors, and students. Lakes and communities in the region have benefited greatly from Linda's dedication and patience.

In 2005, Linda founded a Youth Conservation Corps in the watershed to provide summer jobs in lake conservation for local youth. Under Linda's guidance, the Corps has installed over 750 stormwater management practices that have prevented tons of sediment and many pounds of phosphorus from reaching lakes. She has also served as the leader for two significant watershed management planning efforts for Province Lake and the Salmon Falls headwaters lakes. During the projects, Linda brought diverse stakeholders together to analyze watershed data and recommend specific actions for reducing pollutant loads to the lakes.

The full list of Linda's accomplishments is extensive, including projects such as Weed Watcher Programs, organizing water quality monitoring volunteers, hosting special interest workshops, advocating for lake protection at town board meetings, organizing educational events and lake clean ups, conducting watershed assessments and leading hands-on school programs.

Linda does not shy away from the technical, environmental, and social challenges inherent in lake protection work. Through Linda's enthusiasm and curiosity, she motivates others to care about lakes too. Her passion, creativity, and deep knowledge and understanding of lakes and people have earned her the respect of many.

### **Visionary Awards – Maine**

#### **Laura Rose Day, Maine**

As Executive Director of the Penobscot River Restoration Trust, Laura Rose Day has worked diligently over a decade to guide the Penobscot River Restoration Project which is one of the largest, most creative river restoration projects in our nation's history.

In an unprecedented collaboration, the Penobscot Indian Nation, seven conservation groups, hydropower companies PPL Corporation and Black Bear Hydro, LLC, and state and federal agencies, worked together over a dozen years to restore 11 species of sea-run fish to the Penobscot River, while maintaining energy production. Successful implementation of the project will revive not only native fisheries, but social, cultural, and economic tradition of New England's second largest river, the Penobscot.

Laura Rose Day has worked diligently over a decade to maintain the collaboration and see to the removal of Great Works Dam in Old Town, Veazie Dam, and the construction of a functioning bypass channel around Howland Dam. Additional fish passage enhancements were made on other dams, notably at Milford Dam, by Black Bear Hydro, LLC and its successors, new public access was created at old dam sites, and a comprehensive fish passage and effectiveness monitoring plans are in place. Now that the major construction and fish passage work has concluded, the staff will hand over management of the Trust back to the seven conservation groups. To quote, "Laura Rose Day is a true Gulf of Maine Visionary leader, and she will be able to look back on a most remarkable accomplishment."

#### **Elaine Jones, Maine**

Elaine Jones has dedicated her life to science education, and marine science in particular. Since 1991, she has led the Maine Department of Marine Resources Education Division and touched tens of thousands of Maine students and residents with the programs she has developed and initiated. In the early 1990s she researched, designed, built, and supervised the construction of the Maine State Aquarium, at the Division of Marine Resources laboratory in Boothbay Harbor. This aquarium, and the associated educational programs, attracts more than 35,000 visitors every summer.



In 1998 Elaine spearheaded the efforts to secure Burnt Island for the Department and restored and transformed the Burnt Island Light Station into an educational and recreational facility unequalled in New England; initiating a living history program on site in 2003 that gave visitors a taste of what the life of a lighthouse keeper was like in the 1950s. Thousands of people visit the island every summer either on their own or as part of an organized school adventure.

Going beyond Boothbay, Elaine conducts outreach programs to schools and colleges around the State of Maine. This ranges from supplying classroom aquarium systems with marine animals, to working on educational programs with the Marine Patrol as “Officer Salty”, to establishing aquarium based internships for students at the University of Maine that involve training the next generation of marine educators who will continue Maine’s and Elaine’s legacy of leadership in the field of marine education.

### **Dwayne Shaw, Maine**

Dwayne Shaw has been with the Downeast Salmon Federation since 1989, serving as Executive Director since 2001. He has overseen the growth of the organization into a powerhouse for fisheries restoration in eastern Maine. First came removal of the dam on the Pleasant River and conversion of the hydro facility into a salmon hatchery, research center and the organization’s headquarters. Next came removal of the dam on the East Machias River and conversion of that hydro facility into a state of the art salmon conservation hatchery, a demonstration site for alternative energy, a community center, and a hub for conservation activities in eastern Maine.

Dwayne has championed a holistic approach to salmon restoration, fighting for restoration of aquatic ecosystems and a whole range of anadromous fisheries. His work on fisheries recognizes the importance of commercial fishing to the maintenance and stewardship of eastern Maine’s heritage fisheries and the critical role of local knowledge in their effective management. He has spearheaded Downeast Salmon Federation’s role in community outreach and education related to fisheries, running summer programs for high school students, a “hooks and ladders” classroom program, and engagement of students in fin clipping and release of juvenile salmon raised in the hatchery. Under his leadership, the annual smelt fry has grown into a regional event with over 400 visitors in attendance.

Dwayne has raised considerable funding for habitat restoration, and in particular, improvements in fish passage. Dwayne has used his considerable networking skills to assemble a powerful coalition of groups, including state and federal agencies, fisheries groups and the Passamaquoddy tribe, which are working together to ensure that fish passage is addressed in the relicensing of the hydroelectric facility on the Union River in Ellsworth. Under Dwayne’s

leadership, the Downeast Salmon Federation has become a founding partner in the Downeast Fisheries Partnership as well as founding site on the Downeast Fisheries Trail.

### **Visionary Awards – New Brunswick**

#### **Dr. Diana Hamilton, New Brunswick**

Dr. Diana Hamilton of Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, is an outstanding marine ecologist, researcher, and teacher, dedicated to understanding the ecology of the extensive mudflats in the upper Bay of Fundy, a coastal environment of global significance for millions of migratory shorebirds. Since the late 1990s, Diana has specialized in understanding interactions between migrating shorebirds such as sandpipers and plovers, and the intertidal invertebrate communities upon which they depend on for food during migration.

Diana's research has focused on shorebird distribution, behavior, and feeding ecology; community-level interactions of the intertidal invertebrates such as amphipods and mud snails; and mudflat ecology. Diana's work has contributed greatly to understanding of how tidal flats function ecologically. She has authored and co-authored more than 30 peer-reviewed publications, and contributed to workshops and working groups with the Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership and the Atlantic Canada Coastal and Estuarine Science Society.

Diana is a tremendous role model for young people interested in understanding, protecting, and conserving environmental resources in the Bay of Fundy. Through her scientific dedication, enthusiasm for teaching, and her involvement in the conservation of upper Bay of Fundy ecosystems, she has truly made a difference in promoting a healthy Gulf of Maine ecosystem.

#### **Matthew Abbott, New Brunswick**

Matthew Abbott has a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from Renaissance College at the University of New Brunswick. This unique interdisciplinary program has very competitive entrance requirements and is designed to educate the leaders of tomorrow. In Matt's case, the program has certainly fulfilled its mandate.

As Baykeeper for the Bay of Fundy, Matt is extremely well known and respected throughout the region, working with a wide variety of coastal communities and fishery associations. Matt is a team player whose efforts have included working on marine debris with the Marine Resource Committee and heading up the working group on Marine Protected Areas. In recognition of his personal commitment to the environment, Matt has been recognized by the Town of St. Andrews as volunteer of the year.

Over the years, Matt has contributed to a healthy Gulf of Maine in many ways. His accomplishments include:

- Working on the national stage to challenge legal and illegal pesticide use on Salmon farms
- Producing a report and regularly commenting on the impacts to Bay of Fundy from Energy East and Tanker traffic
- Conducting outreach and education to raise awareness about the Musquash Marine Protected Area
- Helping the group, Support Ocean Science (SOS), to promote the science necessary for good decision making in the marine environment, and finally
- Working with the organization Save Passamaquoddy Bay to address impacts of LNG development in Passamaquoddy Bay

### **Visionary Award – Nova Scotia**

#### **Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia**

The Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia is being recognized for their outstanding support for responsible aquaculture in Nova Scotia for the past 30 years. With a focus on environmental protection and community engagement, they work directly with industry members and communities to build a strong aquaculture industry and a stronger economy for Nova Scotia and the Gulf of Maine region.

The Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia has worked in partnership with community, industry, and government stakeholders to establish codes of best practice for responsible aquaculture farming in Nova Scotia. For example, an overarching code of responsibility for Nova Scotia sea farmers was developed by the Association in 2015 and has already been adopted by over 90% of their members.

The Association promotes environmental stewardship as a tenant of responsible seafood aquaculture through an innovative Code of Environmental Management that calls for sustainable practices throughout the industry. The Association and its members have also broadly embraced Ocean Wise Eco-certification and standards to empower and educate Nova Scotia consumers about sustainable seafood.

Community engagement and outreach are an important part of the Aquaculture Association's efforts to build awareness throughout communities in the coastal Gulf of Maine Region. In the

past year alone, they have made over 30,000 contacts by giving presentations and participating in local events such as:

- World Oceans Day 2015
- Digby Scallop Days, and
- Acadian Day Celebration in the community of Argyle

This past year, several Gulf of Maine municipal leaders joined with the Association on an Atlantic Canada trade mission to Norway to see first-hand how aquaculture can positively change the lives of rural communities for a better future.

### **Distinguished Service Awards**

The accomplishments of the Gulf of Maine Council are made possible by many individuals who serve as members of the Council and Working Group. Thanks to their collaborative efforts, the Gulf of Maine Council makes significant strides each year toward protecting and restoring natural resources in the Gulf of Maine. Distinguished Service Awards are presented for exceptional service and contributions to the Gulf of Maine Council over the past several years.

#### **Jennifer Anderson, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

Jennifer Anderson is being recognized for her outstanding contributions as a member of the Council. During the Gulf of Maine Council's recent organizational assessment, Jen served as an active member of the Council Advisory Committee, providing numerous insightful contributions and suggestions for improving the Gulf of Maine Council's organizational structure and operations. During the current Secretariat year, Jen provided exceptional leadership as Co-Chair of the Council helping to oversee implementation of our new framework. Jen's professional and thoughtful contributions have had a significant positive impact on the Council's ability to promote a healthy Gulf of Maine watershed.

#### **Melville P. Coté, Jr. US Environmental Protection Agency**

Mel Coté is being recognized for his exceptional contributions to both the Council and Working Group. During his tenure with the Gulf of Maine Council, Mel provided long-standing leadership for advancing an effective Integrated Sentinel Monitoring Network and created many opportunities for collaboration and knowledge sharing between the Gulf of Maine Council and the Northeast Regional Ocean Council. Mel's thoughtful insights and contributions in developing strategies to streamline and improve Gulf of Maine Council operations as a member of the Council Advisory Committee were also invaluable. Most importantly, the Gulf of Maine Council appreciates Mel's enthusiasm and commitment to improving the health of the

Gulf of Maine watershed in all aspects of his work at Environmental Protection Agency and with the Council.

**Dr. Kevin Friedland, Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine**

Kevin Friedland is being recognized for his outstanding service and commitment as a Senior Science Advisor to the Council. During his time with the Gulf of Maine Council, Kevin shared his knowledge and scientific expertise to help advance our binational efforts to understand ecosystem changes and protect marine life in the Gulf of Maine watershed. The Gulf of Maine Council is also extremely grateful for Kevin's numerous contributions toward identifying opportunities to collaborate and share knowledge between the Gulf of Maine Council and the Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine where he served as Director.

**Sophia Foley, Nova Scotia Environment**

Sophia is being recognized for her outstanding service and commitment as an active member of the Working Group for the past several years. She provided exceptional leadership as Chair of the Council's Working Group during the Nova Scotia Secretariat Year. Sophie brought energy, thoughtful insights, and a 'can-do' attitude toward all of her work with the Council. Thanks to her enthusiastic leadership style, the Gulf of Maine Council had an incredibly successful 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and series of events and activities. The innovative Geocaching Project she helped launch continues to provide a wonderful opportunity for families to explore the natural beauty found throughout the Gulf of Maine. Sophia has been a true friend to the Gulf of Maine Council. She is greatly missed for her positive attitude, professionalism and personal commitment to restoring natural resources in the Gulf of Maine watershed.