

## 2011-2012 Annual Report of the Black Woods Scenic Byway Corridor Management Committee

The Corridor Management Committee of Black Woods Scenic Byway is happy to report on our progress in 2011 and the start of 2012.

### **Transportation Improvements**

- ♦ The Town of Cherryfield completed construction of a new sidewalk on Maine Street using Community Development Block Grant Funds and support of the Washington County Council of Governments.

### **New and Improved Visitor Facilities**

- ♦ A new trail head parking facility was constructed for hikes to Tunk Mountain and the “hidden ponds”. The facility includes parking for a dozen cars, a privy and an informational kiosk. This facility was built by the Bureau of Parks and Lands with technical support from MaineDOT and HCPC.
- ♦ A new parking area for three vehicles was built on the Dynamite Brook Road for hikes on Caribou and Catherine’s Mountain. The site requires approximately ½ mile walk.
- ♦ A new camp site was created at the Tunk Stream outfall of Spring River Lake with a picnic table and privy.
- ♦ A new boat ramp and parking area was constructed on the shore of Long Pond with parking for approximately six cars with trailers and an informational kiosk. The old facility was closed.
- ♦ Significant trail improvements were made during the autumn of 2011 on the Tunk Mountain trail.
- ♦ The Franklin Historical Park continues to improve under local leadership.
- ♦ New directional signage was installed highlighting the new recreational facilities.

### **Funding for Future Improvements**

- ♦ A modest fund balance remains for byway improvements. Proposed projects for 2012 include creating interpretive signs for Tunk Mountain and the Narraguagus River in Cherryfield..
- ♦ The Black Woods Byway applied in 2012 for \$20,000 planning funding through the National Scenic Byways program. These funds would pay for writing and updated corridor management plan in 2012-2013.
- ♦ The State of Maine designated the Bold Coast Scenic Byway in 2011. This byway connects Milbridge, Cherryfield, Machias and Eastport, and includes significant loop roads to Jonesport and Cutler. A substantial grant was awarded to Washington County Council of Governments for Corridor planning. The Black Woods Byway and the Bold Coast Byway meet at the junction of Route 1 and Route 182 in Cherryfield.

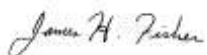
### **Public Information and Participation**

- ♦ Corridor planning meetings were held in Cherryfield. Future meetings will be held in Franklin as well.
- ♦ A number of new small-size interpretive panels were produced this year as part of our geo-tourism initiative. Samples are posted to [www.downeastexplorer.org](http://www.downeastexplorer.org).
- ♦ [www.blackwoodsbyway.org](http://www.blackwoodsbyway.org) continued to attract attention of prospective visitors and area residents.
- ♦ The Sunrise Trail held several meetings and events including Franklin and Cherryfield. These events built awareness of the region and raised funds for local charitable causes.

We thank the Cherryfield and Franklin select boards, planning boards, staff, historical societies and other organizations for their advice. We also thank the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Maine Department of Transportation for their technical and financial support.

The Black Woods Byway Corridor Committee is a collaboration of the towns of Cherryfield, Franklin, unorganized Townships 9 and 10 and state agencies to protect and promote this scenic corridor. Area residents are always welcome to attend byway meetings. You can learn more at [www.blackwoodsbyway.org](http://www.blackwoodsbyway.org), or by calling Jim Fisher, Hancock County Planning Commission at 667-7131.

Respectfully Submitted,



James H. Fisher, AICP  
Hancock County Planning Commission