

*Convergence: a network of complementary activities drawn to a region by its primary assets.*

**CONVERGENCE 2012:**  
***The Value of Conservation in Down East Maine***

**Friday 8 June 2012**  
**Gates Community Building**  
**College of the Atlantic**

**The Down East Research and Education Network (DEREN) welcomes you to** this unique discussion on the value of our collective conservation efforts and how we can better articulate this value to the public and the conservation community.

*The mission of DEREN is to promote communication and collaboration opportunities among researchers, educators, landowners, conservation organizations, managers, and academic institutions in Hancock and Washington counties, Maine. The goal of the network is to enhance local scientific and cultural knowledge, land and resource conservation and management, youth participation, and the local economy and governance in the two-county region. Learn more at [www.downeastresearchnetwork.org](http://www.downeastresearchnetwork.org).*

**Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
8:00-9:00	Continental Breakfast & Registration
9:00-9:20	Welcome & Introduction: <b>Tom Sidar</b> , Frenchman Bay Conservancy: <i>"Welcome to CONVERGENCE 2012!"</i> <b>Barbara S. Arter</b> , Down East Research and Education Network: <i>"DEREN - A Year Later"</i> <b>Darron Collins</b> , President, College of the Atlantic: <i>"The Value of Conservation"</i>
9:20-10:00	<b>Jessica Sargent</b> , The Trust for Public Land: <i>"Return On the Investment in Land for Maine's Future: Implications for the Down East Region"</i>
10:00-10:30	<b>David Vail</b> , Bowdoin College: <i>"Spreading Prosperity to all of Maine- Protected Lands and Sustainable Tourism"</i>
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45 - 11:15	<b>Davis Taylor</b> , College of the Atlantic: <i>"Reflections of Rural Maine: Economic, Social, and Demographic Trends in the Upper Union River Watershed"</i>
11:15-11:45	<b>Kevin Athearn</b> , University of Maine at Machias: <i>"Regional Economic Losses from Pollution Closure of Clam Harvesting Areas in Machias Bay."</i>
11:45-12:00	<b>Group Discussion</b>
12:00-1:00	Lunch and Networking Session
1:00-1:30	<b>Rob Lilieholm</b> , University of Maine: <i>"Alternative Futures Modeling: Understanding the Past, Envisioning the Future."</i>
1:30 - 2:30	<b>Panel Discussion:</b> <i>"Land Conservation Impacts &amp; Solutions for Local Municipal Budgets."</i>
2:30-3:30	<b>Break and Poster Session:</b> <i>"Conservation Research in Down East Maine"</i>
3:30-4:00	<b>Closing summary</b> on regional economic drivers and needs identified during the conference
4:00	Adjourn