



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 14, 2007

CONTACT: Alan Hutchinson, Executive Director
207-945-9200

**FOREST
SOCIETY
of MAINE**

860 ACRES IN ARGYLE DONATED TO THE FOREST SOCIETY OF MAINE

[BANGOR] – A recent gift of land by a forest management company will help conserve other important forestlands in Maine. G & D Properties of Carmel, Maine, donated 860 acres of forestland in Argyle, Maine to the Forest Society of Maine (FSM). Located just 20 miles from Bangor, this parcel is bounded in part by Rt. 116 and Hemlock Stream, an important tributary to the Penobscot River. This donation was made by company owners David Woodhead and Gayle and Gary Pomeroy. Mr. Woodhead stated: “We believe in the mission of the Forest Society of Maine, which works to keep Maine’s forestlands open, undeveloped, and productive, while also conserving their traditional recreational values. We wanted to help by making this gift of land.”

Alan Hutchinson, executive director of FSM added, “We are deeply grateful to David, Gayle, and Gary for their generous gift.” He continued, “This gift is especially significant in that it comes from a forest management business in support of forestland conservation. FSM intends to manage this property in a sustainable manner for forest products, and to use the proceeds to support our work in conserving other, important forestlands in Maine.”

All the values FSM works to conserve are embraced on this property. The forestlands provide important habitat for an array of wildlife, including vital deer wintering areas, and numerous vernal pools and wetland important to waterfowl and wading birds. Hemlock Stream, in addition to its scenic character, provides fishing opportunities for brook trout and smallmouth bass, and a recent report by the Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission identifies it as a salmon rearing area, as well. This property abuts the Penobscot Trust Lands, and historically, this area is considered within the traditional homelands of the Penobscot people. In addition to these ecologic and cultural values, these lands also offer a multitude of outdoor recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, and hiking.

Sherry Huber, FSM’s board president said, “We are so fortunate to have landowners in Maine, like G & D Properties, who understand the many values productive forestlands provide us all. Their gift is the kind that will continue giving long into the future, to the benefit of generations to come.” The donors had previously worked with FSM on a project to conserve important forestland in Amherst, and, said David Woodhead, “We thought FSM would be a good match for the Argyle property.”

The Forest Society of Maine is a statewide land trust based in Bangor. Established in 1984, FSM has helped conserve more than 400,000 acres of productive forestlands across Maine, including all or parts of more than 100 lakes and ponds. Their conservation projects maintain traditional forest uses—sustaining economic returns from the land while preserving ecological values and traditional recreational opportunities. For more information, visit www.fsmaine.org or call 207-945-9200.