

# PRESS RELEASE: WATERMAN FUND ANNOUNCES 2007 GRANT RECIPIENTS, UPCOMING ANNUAL DINNER

9 February 2007

For Immediate Release

For More Information:

Carl Demrow, President, Waterman Fund

Phone: (802) 439-6773

E mail: [info@watermanfund.org](mailto:info@watermanfund.org)

*Media Note: Digital alpine photos from our partners are available upon request. Complete copies of the funded proposals are available online at [www.watermanfund.org](http://www.watermanfund.org). Please contact [info@watermanfund.org](mailto:info@watermanfund.org) for details.*

At its recent board meeting, the Waterman Fund announced its 2007 alpine stewardship grant recipients. This year's grants represent a broad geographic range, a diversity of projects, and a total of \$11,000 in funding.

The Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK), based in Lake Placid, New York, will receive funding for a botanical alpine steward, who will conduct surveys of rare alpine plants and communities during the upcoming summer season. The goal is to obtain an accurate picture of the overall health of the alpine vegetation found in the Adirondack High Peaks. The data collected by the botany steward will become the baseline for future monitoring projects. Information gathered by the steward will also provide the ADK's Summit Steward Program with a more intimate knowledge of the alpine zone resulting in the hiking public receiving more accurate information.

Acadia National Park received funding for the 2007 Northeastern Alpine Stewardship Gathering. The purpose of the Northeastern Alpine Stewardship Gathering, organized and hosted by different organizations every two to three years, is to share and improve the knowledge and management of alpine areas of the Northeastern U.S. This year's conference will take place on June 8 and 9, and will feature speakers from around the country, included noted ecologist Tom Wessels and Recreation Ecologist Dr. Jeff Marion.

The Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), based in Boston, Massachusetts, will receive funding for an alpine plant-monitoring program in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. AMC's program uses volunteers to track such factors as numbers of plants, locations, flowering dates and related data. Changes in the health of sensitive alpine plants may be an early indicator of climate change. By using citizen scientists, the program also hopes to increase interest in natural resource stewardship.

The Randolph Mountain Club, in Randolph, New Hampshire, will receive funding for alpine trail work and photo documentation on the popular Lowe's Path, on Mount Adams in the Northern Presidential's. The project will include construction of natural, erosion-preventing structures on the historic, heavily-used path. Rock cairns which mark the trail above treeline will also be rebuilt, to help keep hikers on the trail and off the fragile alpine tundra.

The Fund is also announcing the date and location of its upcoming annual dinner. The dinner will be held Saturday evening, March 31, starting at 5:30 pm at the Perfect Pear Cafe, Main Street,

Bradford, Vermont. The annual event is open to the public and will feature the presentation of this year's Guy Waterman Alpine Steward Award. Due to limited seating, reservations are required. The cost of the dinner is \$50. To make a reservation, please email [valstori@yahoo.com](mailto:valstori@yahoo.com) or call (802) 439-3079.

At the close of 2006, the Waterman Fund had raised over \$300,000 for alpine stewardship projects across New England. The Fund, named in memory of the late climber and outdoors writer Guy Waterman and in honor of his wife Laura, has the goal of strengthening the human stewardship of the open summits, exposed ridgelines, and alpine areas of the Northeast. The Waterman Fund is a 501c(3) non-profit. All donations are tax deductible. New supporters are encouraged to contact the Fund via the web site at [www.watermanfund.org](http://www.watermanfund.org) or via Waterman Fund, PO Box 1064, East Corinth VT 05040.