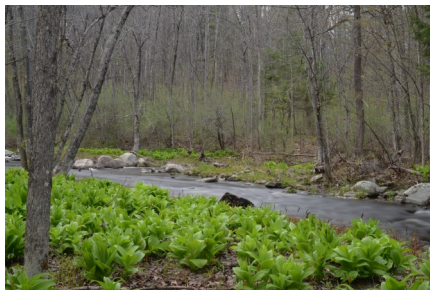


## Geology, Soils, Ecological Diversity, and Wildlife Habitats

### Geology and Soil

The Reynolds property, including the Diehl addition, is underlaid with layered metamorphic rocks of the Waterville and Vassalboro Formations, but these rocks are only exposed intermittently along Goff Brook. As the last glacial ice sheet melted from this area, the sea inundated the region and deposited a thick blanket of marine mud, called the Presumpscot Formation. The fields on the Reynolds property are developed on this mud which is often incised with deep channels. The multi-channeled Goff Brook floodplain is periodically flooded by the spring melt and by storm events. Heavier floodwaters shape and flatten the floodplain through scouring action, while quieter floodwaters deposit soil and organic materials. This enriched environment supports a diversity of plant species, some of which are uncommon in Maine.



Zach Harder

Goff Brook Floodplain with False Hellebore

### Ecological Diversity

This conservation property provides visitors with opportunities to see a diversity of floodplain and upland plant species, and many views of Goff Brook with its foaming water roaring over exposed rocks into stone-lined pools. The brook joins the Kennebec River approximately 500 feet below the Reynolds Forest property line. Part of the property not visible from the trail has seen an increase in invasive Japanese knotweed and non-native bush honeysuckle, and has served as a field research site for Colby College students studying invasive plant control methods.

### A partial list of bird species:

American Kestrel	Tree Swallow
Red tailed Hawk	Red-Eyed Vireo
Broad-winged Hawk	Blue-headed Vireo
Barred Owl	White-breasted Nuthatch
Osprey	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Veery	Indigo Bunting
Hermit Thrush	Eastern Bluebird
Bobolink	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Brown Creeper	Scarlet Tanager
Downy Woodpecker	Common Yellowthroat
Hairy Woodpecker	Northern Parula
Northern Flicker	American Redstart
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Black-throated Blue Warbler
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Black-and-white Warbler
Common Raven	Blackburnian Warbler
Song Sparrow	Chestnut-sided Warbler
Great Crested Flycatcher	Pine Warbler
Chipping Sparrow	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Savannah Sparrow	Yellow Warbler



Phil Downes

Common yellow throat

### A partial list of Plant Species

American trout-lily <i>Erythronium americanum</i>
Blue flag iris <i>Iris versicolor</i>
Columbine <i>Aquilegia Canadensis</i>
Eastern bottle-brush grass <i>Elymus hystrix</i>
False hellebore <i>Veratrum viride</i>
Jack-in-the-pulpit <i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>
Ostrich fern <i>Mattenucia struthiopteris</i>
Royal fern <i>Osmunda regalis</i>
White cut grass <i>Leersia virginica</i>
American honeysuckle <i>Lonicera canadensis</i>
Ironwood <i>Carpinus carolinia</i>
Brown ash <i>Fraxinus nigra</i>
Green ash <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>
White oak <i>Quercus alba</i>

## KLT and Land Conservation



Phil Downes

### 2023 Leann Diehl Donation

At the time of her gift, Leann Diehl noted:  
*As soon as the Kennebec Land Trust secured the Reynolds Forest, I knew I wanted to add my adjacent seven-acre open land to the preserve. The Reynolds Forest brought our family much joy. We are extremely grateful to KLT for its efforts to keep wild places wild, and we hope visitors will enjoy exploring this new addition to the Reynolds Forest.*



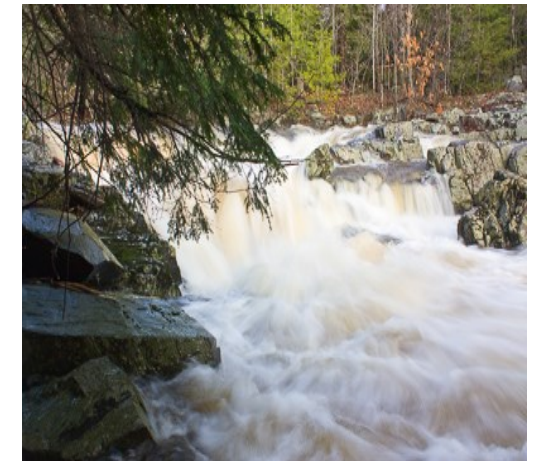
KLT works cooperatively with landowners and communities to conserve the forests, lakes, streams, wetlands, fields, and wildlife that help define central Maine. KLT protects and stewards land permanently, offers access to conserved properties, provides opportunities for people to learn about and enjoy the natural world, and works with partners to support sustainable forestry and farming.

*Thanks to those who contributed their time and expertise:  
 Phil Downes, Ron Joseph, Arthur Haines, Native Plant Trust;  
 Howard Lake, Robert Marvinyne, Janie Matrisciano,  
 Jean Luc-Theriant & Don Whitaker.*

*Text: Theresa Kerchner July 2023*



# REYNOLDS FOREST AND DIEHL ADDITION



Jane Davis

Goff Brook



**KENNEBEC LAND TRUST**  
 PO Box 261 • 331 Main Street  
 Winthrop, Maine 04364  
 207-377-2848 • [www.tkl.org](http://www.tkl.org)

## Welcome to the Kennebec Land Trust's Reynolds Forest

We hope you enjoy your visit!



Patti Downes

This permanently protected conservation property features woodlands and wetlands, 1,150 feet of stream frontage along Goff Brook, excellent birding, and productive hayfields.

Bea Reynolds of Sidney, Maine, donated the beautiful 35-acre Walter W. and Alice B. Reynolds Forest to KLT in 2004. In 2023, former Sidney resident Leann Diehl donated an additional seven acres on the Goff and Dinsmore Roads to KLT. The Diehl Addition will greatly enhance the conservation values of the contiguous Reynolds Forest, especially for field habitat, ten acres of which will be hayed by a Sidney dairy farmer.

Two trails on the property wind past scenic views of floodplain habitat, impressive waterfalls, hayfields, and an old cellar hole. KLT manages this land to protect wildlife habitat and water quality as well as for low-impact outdoor recreation, including nature observation, hiking, and fishing.

Flowing through the Reynolds Forest is Goff Brook. Originally known as Marsh Brook, it was once an important source of energy for water-powered mills. Visitors can view the foundations of a grist mill (next to West River Road) and a sawmill (upstream beyond the falls).

## People and the Land

### Wabanaki

The natural environment you see around you—the wildlife, wetlands, waters, and woodlands—have long been valued by the Wabanaki, Maine's indigenous peoples. Native Americans fished, foraged, and hunted in this region long before the first European farmers arrived in Sidney. Many of the natural resources found here, including brown ash trees (*Fraxinus nigra*) along Goff Brook are of cultural significance to the Wabanaki. Today we recognize the Wabanaki people's long stewardship of the lands that we call Maine and the ongoing and important role they have in shaping the future.



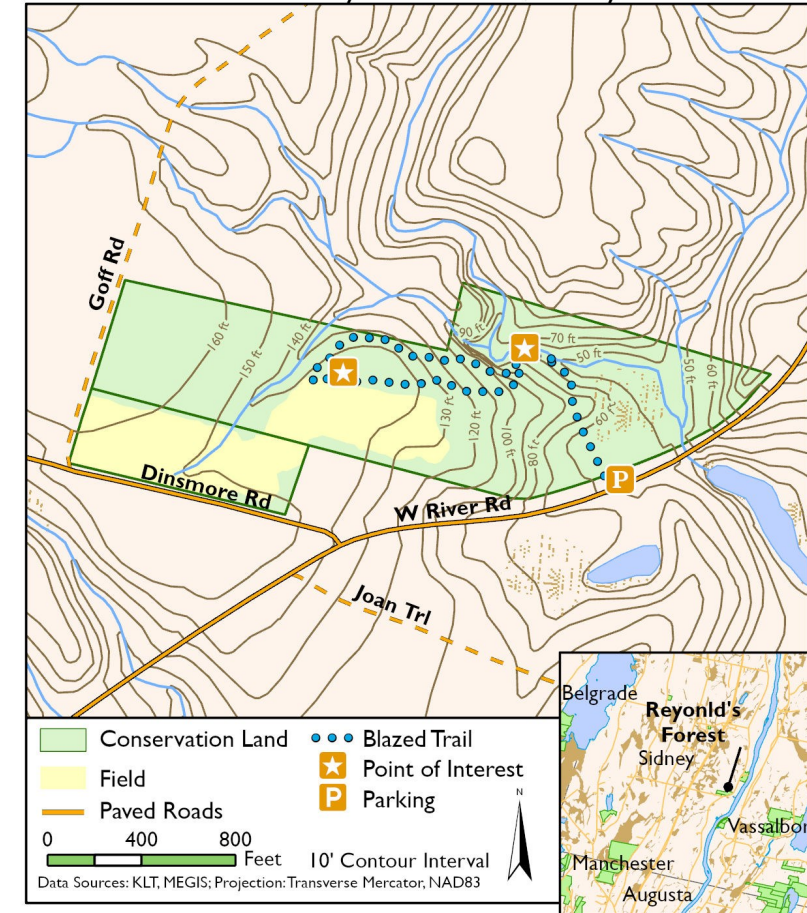
Brown Ash

Native Plant Trust, Arthur Haines

### Europeans

In 1763 John Marsh became one of the first Europeans to come from Massachusetts to what is now Sidney, Maine. He harnessed the waterpower of Marsh Brook for saw and grist mills, the foundations of which are still visible from trails within today's Reynolds Forest. Portions of his original 250-acre tract of land were passed down through five generations to Walter W. Reynolds and his daughter, Beatrice K. Reynolds. Seven generations later, one of Marsh's descendants donated a portion of the original Marsh holdings to the Kennebec Land Trust.

## Walter A. and Alice B. Reynolds Forest, Sidney



**Trails:** The Streamside Trail features floodplain habitat and impressive waterfalls, the 0.15 mile easy path follows along the brook to a view of the falls. Stop for a summer picnic on the rocks before the trail turns back to the woods. The 0.36 Old Farm Loop Trail starts at the largest waterfall and passes by hayfields and an old cellar hole.

**Public uses:** The Conservation Area is open to the public for nature observation, hiking and snowshoeing.

Hunting and motorized vehicles are not allowed.

**Dogs:** For the protection of wildlife habitat and hikers, dogs should be under voice command or on a leash. Please pick up after your pets and carry out waste.

**Directions:** From Augusta take the River Road (Route 104) north towards Sidney. Once in Sidney, look for the Dinsmore Road on your left. Shortly after passing the Dinsmore Road you will see the KLT sign on your left, just before the road crosses Goff Brook. Park along the road.

Beware of poison ivy near the trail entrance.