

Geology, Soils, Ecological Diversity, and Wildlife Habitats

Geology and Soil

The bedrock at Hales Pond is layered metamorphic rock of the Sangerville Formation, Silurian in age (419-444 million years). Thinly bedded micaceous schist of this formation is well exposed along the southwestern shore of the pond on KLT property where the layering is tilted steeply to the west. Beds were originally layers of silt and mud deposited in a deep ocean. During the last ice age, the rocks were draped with glacial till, an unsorted mixture of materials from clay size to boulders left by the glacier as it melted. There are also a few erratic boulders scattered through the woods.



Fisher— January 9, 2023 MDIFW camera

Wildlife – MDIFW Mammal survey

MDIFW conducted a mammal survey on the Preserve in January 2023. They documented many species, including fisher, bobcat, red fox, gray fox, white-tailed deer, and gray squirrel. All of these species are abundant in the area, but predators can be harder to spot since they are more active at night. Gray foxes are a relative newcomer to our area. Historically, they occurred in York and Cumberland County, but have expanded into central Maine in recent decades. Fisher and bobcat populations have also grown in recent years, likely a result of ample forested habitat and food resources.

A partial list of Bird Species:

Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Hermit Thrush
Turkey Vulture	Wood Thrush
Red-shouldered Hawk	Ovenbird
Barred Owl	White-breasted Nuthatch
Belted Kingfisher	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Scarlet Tanager
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Common Yellowthroat
Downy Woodpecker	Northern Parula
Hairy Woodpecker	American Redstart
Pileated Woodpecker	Black-throated Blue Warbler
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Black-and-white Warbler
Common Raven	Pine Warbler
Great Crested Flycatcher	Black-throated green Warbler
Brown Creeper	



Phil Downes

Common yellow throat

A partial list of Plant Species

American beech <i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
White pine <i>Pinus strobus</i>
Eastern hemlock <i>Tsuga Canadensis</i>
Black ash <i>Fraxinus nigra</i>
Highbush blueberry <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>
Cinnamon fern <i>Osmundastrum cinnamomeum</i>
Rice cut grass <i>Leersia oryzoides</i>
Ditch stonecrop <i>Penthorum sedoides</i>
Marsh mermaid-weed <i>Proserpinaca palustris</i>
Mountain holly <i>Ilex mucronata</i>
Blue-flag iris <i>Iris versicolor</i>
Silvery false spleenwort <i>Deparia acrostichoides</i>
New York fern <i>Paratheapteris novaboracensis</i>
Red trillium <i>Trillium erectum</i>
Painted trillium <i>Trillium undulatum</i>
Allegheny monkey-flower <i>Mimulus ringens</i>
Hop sedge <i>Carex lupulina</i>

Land Conservation and Community

Albert and Effie Ferguson approached KLT in March of 2021 about protecting their Hales Pond property which Albert Ferguson and John Moore had purchased in 1960. In August 2022, at the time of their donation to KLT, Albert and Effie and John Moore's companion, Marilyn Donnelly, noted:

In memory of John Moore, it gives us great satisfaction to gift this land to the KLT for preservation. The beauty this land exhibits with the gorgeous pond and tall trees will forever be a peaceful place for the public to enjoy.

In recognizing the value of this conservation land to the community, Mark Robinson, Fayette Town Manager stated:

The Town of Fayette wishes to express its great appreciation to the Ferguson and Moore families for their generosity and forward thinking along with our gratitude to the KLT for its continued investment efforts to conserve special lands throughout Fayette.

These places are critical natural areas at the heart of natural resource protection.



KLT's land conservation programs are a hopeful example of how conservation organizations and private landowners are making a big difference in Maine and the world. Permanently protected and well-managed lands sequester carbon—a natural climate solution.

Thanks to those who contributed their time and expertise: Cheryl Ring, Howard Lake, Robert Marvinney, Eric Doucette, KLT trail volunteers, Ethan Ross, Tucker Schulze, Eric Stinnesford, Jean Luc-Therault, Tyler Keniston, Julie Urban, and Shenell Webb, Wildlife Biologist, MDIFW.
Text: Theresa Kerchner August 2023



HALES POND WOODLAND

PRESERVE

74 ACRES

FAYETTE, MAINE

PROPERTY DEDICATION

AUGUST 17, 2023



Marie Ring

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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.

