

BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
&
EARTHWATCH INSTITUTE
2012-2013

Presentation to School Committee

May 8, 2012

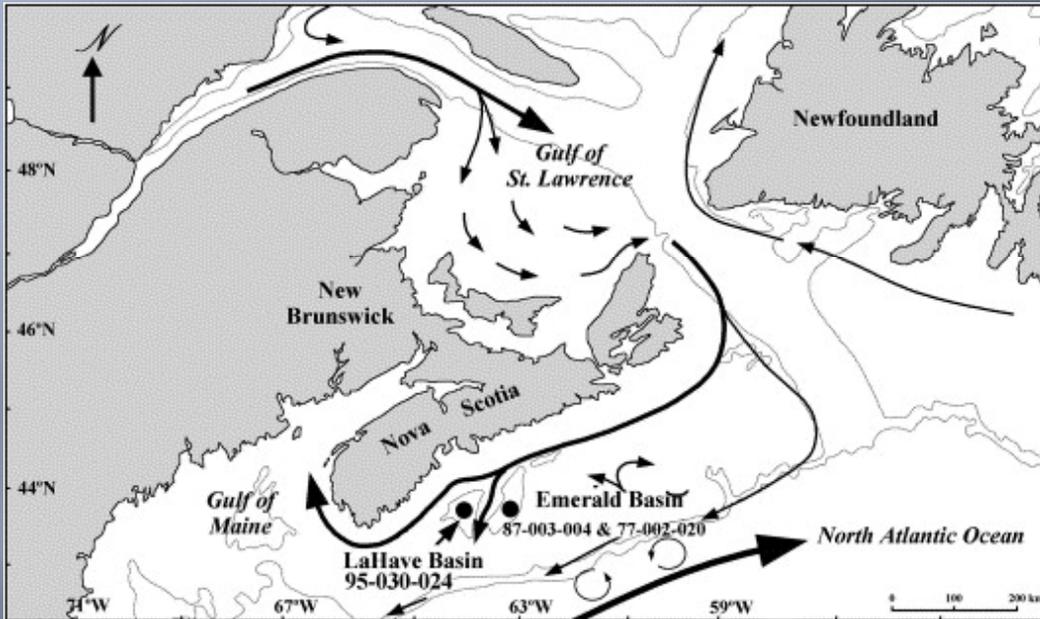
Program

- ▣ Live from the Field Expeditions
- ▣ March 24-April 5, 2013
 - Elementary educator
 - Middle school educator
- ▣ Teen Expedition
 - June 23-July 5, 2013
 - For students just completing junior year
 - Two high school educators
- ▣ Community Action Project
 - 2013-2014

The “Mammals of Nova Scotia” Earthwatch Expedition

▣ Climate change

- Focus of many Earthwatch Expeditions
- Nova Scotia is on the “frontline” of climate change due to its location near Gulf Stream, and bordering both temperate and boreal forests.



Mudie, Rochon and Levac, 2002

The “Mammals of Nova Scotia” Earthwatch Expedition

▣ What is being studied at this location?



- Since 2007 researchers have been monitoring mammal populations, which are sensitive to logging, farming, other human impacts as well as climate change.
- Mammal species that are monitored include the white-tailed deer, snowshoe hare, eastern gray coyote, red-backed vole and other small mammals.
- Researchers are also collecting data on the effectiveness of volunteer “citizen scientists.”

All photos from previous Earthwatch expeditions

The “Mammals of Nova Scotia” Earthwatch Expedition

- ▣ What do volunteers do?
 - ▣ Small mammal trapping
 - ▣ Remote camera trapping
 - ▣ Field Sign Surveys
 - ▣ GPS surveying
- ▣ Teams also have the opportunity to visit Kemjimkujik National Park



How will students in Belmont benefit from this partnership?

- ▣ Live From the Field
 - During the March expedition, teachers will be able to connect directly with classrooms using Skype.
 - Teachers also communicate with classes using daily blogs.
- ▣ Teen Expedition
 - Following the June 2013 trip, students will spend their senior year developing an education or conservation project to take place in Belmont.
- ▣ **Teachers and students will return having done real scientific field work.**

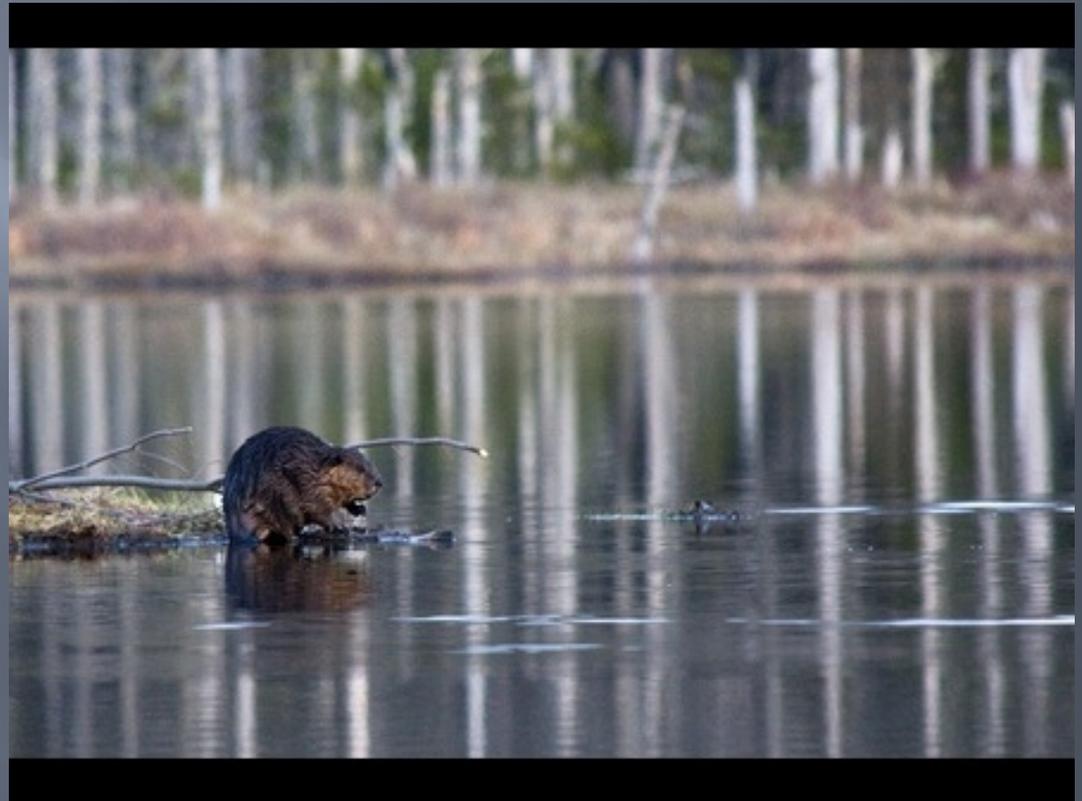
Connections to the Curriculum

- ▣ Elementary Science Units
 - Growing Things
 - Soils
 - Animal Adaptations
 - Water
 - Landforms and Earth Materials



Connections to the Curriculum

- ▣ Middle School Science Units
 - Ecosystems
 - Ferry Beach
 - Diversity of Life
 - Ecology and Biomes
 - Weather
 - Climate and Earth Structure



Connections to the Curriculum

- ▣ High School Science Courses
 - ▣ Biology: CP, H, and AP
 - ▣ AP Environmental Biology
 - ▣ Science Ethics
 - ▣ AP Statistics

