**St. Lawrence River Research & Educational Fund Grant**

**Final Progress Report**

*“Woods & Water” Learning Project*

Submitted 10/26/10 by Mary Danboise, Dir.

**Introduction**

During this final reporting period, the Friends of the Robert Moses State Park Nature Center, Inc. has focused on the tasks associated with the development of the “Woods & Water Learning Project.” As outlined in our SLRREF proposal, these tasks were to develop a “Woods & Water” brochure, plan BOCES outreach to educators, initiate teacher promotion through BOCES and plan and hold grand opening event.

**Methods**

*“Woods-n-Water” brochure designed*

A double-sided promotional brochure was designed and printed. The brochure features the “Woods-n-Water” Learning Project and includes many photos of the trail and learning equipment funded through the grant. Program information and hours of operation were also included. Two of these photos were even used on our Nature Center’s page of NYS Park’s website.

*BOCES outreach to teachers*

Brochures have been sent to St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES for distribution to all county public school principals. A smaller number will also be distributed through the Nature Center to specific teacher contacts at area schools. A hard copy was sent with the Interim Final Report.

*Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting planned*

The Ribbon Cutting of the “Woods-n-Water Learning Project” was planned and executed with success. The event was held on Saturday, August 29, 2009. It was publicized through the news media as well as personal invitations sent out to key individuals involved in this project. Children from the most recent Nature Day Camp performed a song about the Earth, the president of the Friends of the Nature Center spoke, the ribbon cutting took place, a short guided walk was given along the trail and refreshments were served. Photos of this event were included with the hard copy of the Interim Final Report, as well as a copy of the poster and advertisement used.

**Milestones**

- The “Woods-n-Water Learning Project” was completed in full.

**Unexpected Events/Problems**
The Nature Center was closed due to a fire on March 2, 2010. Since then, we have been moved from temporary locations numerous times. We are awaiting a move at this time also. We have successfully continued programming in as regular a fashion as possible. Unfortunately, without these moves being planned with a sufficient amount of time, we are unable to plan school programming because we do not know where we will be. We do hope to fix this problem in the near future so we can plan more successfully. The community truly enjoys our trail system and especially, the Woods & Water Trail.

**Conclusion**
The funds in this grant were well-used and continue to be appreciated for years and years to come by all who visit the Nature Center at Robert Moses State Park.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,
Mary Danboise, Dir.