

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Imost half a century ago, four visionary scientists visited Hubbard Brook, a remote 7,800-acre forested valley in the White Mountains of New Hampshire which had been set aside by the U.S. Forest Service for research on forest-management practices and hydrology. They recognized that the valley presented a unique opportunity to conduct a grand experiment using the forest as a "living laboratory." They set up weirs on individual watersheds to measure inputs and outflows of stream water. They collected and recorded data on the chemical makeup of streams and Mirror Lake. Over time, other scientists joined them, carefully recording measurements of precipitation, soils, trees, birds, bedrock, and more. A new science, ecology, began to take root at Hubbard Brook as scientists realized, decades ahead of their time, the enormous need to document and understand complete ecological systems, including changes over time. This remote forest provided the perfect place. And so the Hubbard Brook Ecosystem Study was born.

Forty-seven years later, a broad and long-term picture is emerging of how human-induced and natural stresses have adversely impacted the forest. That early vision of four scientists—Herb Bormann, Gene Likens, and Noye Johnson from Dartmouth College, and Bob Pierce from the Forest Service—has grown over time into an internationally renowned research study involving dozens of researchers from over 40 colleges, universities, government agencies, and other research institutions. Major discoveries here about acid rain, climate change and carbon sequestration, migratory songbirds, harmful timber cutting practices, and much more have been reported in over 1,400 published scientific papers and eight books. Other similar studies have been launched around the world based on the Hubbard Brook model.

Our job at the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation is to support this scientific enterprise and to convey its findings in usable ways to help craft sound, science-based environmental policy. We also seek to educate the public about the importance of ecosystems. And we maintain residential and laboratory facilities at the forest for researchers.

It is heartening to report that the support of individuals, foundations, and government agencies (listed on pages 6 and 7) has remained strong despite the economic downturn in recent years. Now more than ever, we as citizens know that we must listen to and learn from engaged scientists to build a more sustainable future. HBRF thanks our supporters and we welcome newcomers to join us in our mission to communicate the lessons of ecosystem science to a wide audience.

Sincerely,

David Sleeper, Executive Director



The mission of the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation (HBRF) is to promote the understanding

and stewardship of ecosystems through scientific research, long-term monitoring, and education. Founded in 1993, HBRF works to sustain and enhance the Hubbard Brook Ecosystem Study in New Hampshire, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service/Northern Research Station, the National Science Foundation's Long-Term Ecological Research Network, and many colleges, universities, and other research institutions.





Special thanks to Jordan Jessop, a student at UNH who took the cover photo and many others throughout this report during the summer of 2009 when he participated in the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program at Hubbard Brook.

SCIENCE AND POLICY

Almost since the first water samples were collected from headwater streams in the Hubbard Brook valley, scientists have been thrust into the unaccustomed role of communicating complex science to non-scientists. To meet this challenge, HBRF launched its flagship Science Links program, which convenes teams of scientists and policy advisers around critical public policy questions affecting the northeastern forested landscape. Science Links teams analyze and synthesize scientific data, evaluate the relative effectiveness of various policies, and work with HBRF staff to translate and disseminate the findings to decision makers, the media, and the public. In its hallmark formula, HBRF publishes the science in both peer-reviewed journals and companion policy reports. Science Links has

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United States by Chanty
2307 Estimates

a proven track record on issues such as acid rain. nitrogen pollution, and mercury pollution, and will release its newest project on forest carbon in 2010. Funding for Science Links comes from the Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust. John Merck Fund. Merck Family

Fund, Northeastern States Research Cooperative, Orchard Foundation, Sudbury Foundation, and the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation. The **Hubbard Brook Roundtable** convenes a broad range of stakeholders in a facilitated setting, utilizing an "ecosystems approach" to identify and discuss threats to the Northern Forest region. In 2009, a Hubbard Brook Roundtable focused on the role of wood biomass as a viable replacement for fossil fuels at a community scale, making recommendations in a white paper entitled *Our Carbon, Our Communities*, released in October. Future roundtables will explore winter climate change, environmental threats to forest birds, and other timely topics.

HBRF recently received funding from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to establish a science-based marketplace for vital **watershed ecosystem services** in the Northern Forest. Such services including water purification, flood control and abatement, accessibility of recreational resources, and habitat protection. HBRF will conduct a pilot project in the Upper Connecticut River watershed, while project partners will do a similar effort

in Maine's Crooked River watershed. The creation of marketplaces for ecosystem services is seen by many as the next powerful tool in the conservation toolbox, offering landowners a new suite of options for generating additional revenue while at the same time providing a critical service to the community. HBRF will conduct this three-

year project in partnership the American Forest Foundation, White River Partnership, Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, and Western Foothills Land Trust.



HUBBARD BROOK CONSORTIUM

The Hubbard Brook Consortium, founded in 2008, is a group of research and educational institutions that supports the work of HBRF and the Hubbard Brook Ecosystem Study. A special emphasis of Consortium programs is to support efforts to attract underrepresented populations of students to the field of ecology. The 2009 annual meeting of the Hubbard Brook Consortium, held at Dartmouth College, featured a public lecture by Dr. William Schlesinger, President of the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, on the increasing use of nitrogen fertilizer and its effects worldwide. Institutional members of the Hubbard Brook Consortium include the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Dartmouth College, Plymouth State University, Syracuse University, the Urban Ecology Institute, U.S. Forest Service/Northern Research Station, and Wellesley College.

EDUCATION

Educating the public is a large part of HBRF's mission. Our educators work to coordinate and promote opportunities that open the world of scientific study at Hubbard Brook to students of all ages, but with a focus on middle school students through undergraduates. HBRF's **Environmental Literacy Program (ELP)**, done in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, conducts teacher professional-development workshops, develops curricula based on Hubbard Brook research, and sponsors public outreach events and tours of the forest.

A highlight of 2009 was the Research **Experience for Undergraduates (REU)** program, which supported 12 college students from around the country. In an intensive 10week summer program, students conducted their own research projects, benefitting from close working relationships with researchers. They also collaborated with nonprofit and agency partners to create projects to translate and communicate their research to non-scientific audiences—a unique component of the REU program at Hubbard Brook. The REU program is administered by HBRF and Plymouth State University, with funding provided by the National Science Foundation and the Hubbard Brook Consortium.

FACILITIES

HBRF manages two sets of facilities adjacent to the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest to serve the community of scientists, especially during the busy summer research season. Pleasant View Farm includes dormitory-style accommodations for 15 people, a laboratory, storage facilities, and a much-used volleyball court. The Mirror Lake Campus comprises eight cottages (with accommodations for up to 60 people), a multi-use classroom, and a popular swimming beach. When not occupied by researchers, HBRF's facilities are available for nonprofit groups for long-term rentals, field schools, and retreats. Please inquire about availability and rates.





Hubbard Brook Research Foundation

Statements of Financial Position

December 31, 2009 and 2008



| Assets | 2009 | 2008 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 89,228 | \$ 203,095 |
| Pledges receivable | 12,235 | 7,900 |
| Grants receivable | 10,389 | 42,354 |
| Other receivables | 1,232 | 4,785 |
| Deferred expenses | 1,116 | - |
| Prepaid expenses | 2,908 | 2,908 |
| Total current assets | 117,108 | 261,042 |
| Property and equipment: | | |
| Buildings and improvements | 1,905,857 | 1,854,914 |
| Equipment | 68,867 | 67,952 |
| Land | 470,200 | 470,200 |
| | 2,444,924 | 2,393,066 |
| Less: accumulated depreciation | 393,124 | 334,922 |
| Total property and equipment | 2,051,800 | 2,058,144 |
| Total Assets | \$ 2,168,908 | \$ 2,319,186 |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | | |
| Current Liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ 9,461 | \$ 20,345 |
| Deferred income | 8,763 | 26,092 |
| Accrued interest | 819 | 773 |
| Total current liabilities | 19,043 | 47,210 |
| Note Payable | 707,934 | 667,976 |
| Net Assets: | | |
| Unrestricted | 1,300,182 | 1,323,668 |
| Temporarily restricted | 141,749 | 280,332 |
| Total net assets | 1,441,931 | 1,604,000 |
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$ 2,168,908 | \$ 2,319,186 |
| Revenue & support | | |
| Contributions and grants | \$ 338,476 | \$ 498,979 |
| Rental Income | 69,560 | 81,628 |
| HBRF Consortium dues | 77,829 | 49,008 |
| Other Income | 6,831 | 4,632 |
| Total revenues and support | 492,696 | 634,247 |
| Expenses | | · |
| Program costs: | | |
| Facilities | 213,886 | 229,660 |
| Education | 259,888 | 289,356 |

Statements of Activities and Changes in **Net Assets**

Note: These schedules should not be confused with HBRF's audited financial statements. That report, including footnotes and the auditor's opinion, is available upon request or may be found on the HBRF website.

Support ecosystem science on-line at www.hubbardbrookfoundation.org/donate

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| Expenses | | |
| Program costs: | | |
| Facilities | 213,886 | 229,660 |
| Education | 259,888 | 289,356 |
| Total program expenses | 473,774 | 519,016 |
| Supporting services expense: | | |
| Management and general | 134,800 | 132,087 |
| Fundraising | 46,191 | 87,038 |
| Total supporting services | 180,991 | 219,125 |
| Total expenses | 654,765 | 738,141 |
| Change in net assets | (162,069) | (103,894 |
| Net assets, beginning of year | 1,604,000 | 1,707,894 |
| Net assets, end of year | \$ 1,441,931 | \$ 1,604,000 |

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A heartfelt *thank you* to all of our donors who made donations in 2009 to support the mission of the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation!

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John Battles and Janis Ching

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The following colleges, universities, government agencies, and other research institutions have one or more scientists participating in the Hubbard Brook Ecosystem Study in 2009:

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2009 Hubbard Brook Cooperators Meeting

Hubbard Brook Research Foundation

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Hanover, NH 03755 *Tel:* 603-653-0390

Fax: 603-653-0391

www.hubbardbrookfoundation.org



Pleasant View Farm and Mirror Lake Campus

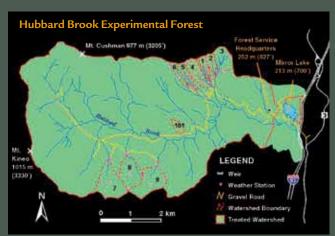
25 Dobson Hill Road Thornton, NH 03285 *Tel:* 603-726-8911

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Robert S. Pierce Laboratory
Owned and operated by the
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Ian Halm, Site Manager
Tel: 603-726-8902





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