

## Damariscotta River Association Staff Biographies



**DRA Staff (left to right): Steve Spencer, Darryn Kaymen, Sarah Gladu and Steven Hufnagel.**

### **Steven Hufnagel, Executive Director**

Steven has served as Executive Director of DRA since December 2009. He was previously the DRA's Director of Lands and Stewardship, having been hired in October 2003. Steven grew up along the Mianus River in Bedford, New York. During high school he became active in the Mianus River Gorge Preserve and associated land use planning activities, serving as the first junior member of the Town of Bedford Conservation Board. He attended Williams College, where he majored in Geology and Environmental Studies, took part in the Williams-Mystic Maritime Studies Program, taught telemark skiing, sang in the Williams Octet and managed the Outing Club's extensive trail system.

Steven spent the next four delightful years in Seattle as a project manager at the Cascadia Consulting Group assisting public agency clients in their outreach efforts to promote watershed stewardship and waste reduction. He went on to earn a Master of Science degree from the School of Natural Resources and Environment at the University of Michigan, and his land use planning focus took him from Ann Arbor to Belize to study collaboration at a watershed scale among local land trusts and international NGO's.

When the stewardship position became available at DRA seven years ago, Steven and his wife Liza Fleming-Ives were thrilled to move to the Midcoast, where they had both spent summers since

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childhood - Steven in Owls Head and Liza in New Harbor. They now live with their two young children in Damariscotta just two blocks from the river.

### **Steve Spencer, Stewardship Director**

Steve most recently worked his third season as a wilderness fishing guide in the Tongass National Forest in Ketchikan, Alaska and will join the DRA staff as Stewardship Director/Lands Associate this fall. Prior to his Alaska work Steve spent 6 months in the Marshall Islands consulting on alternative energy, land conservation and tourism. He also spent 3 months in 2008 training sea kayak guides and traveling in Nicaragua. This work was done for Paso Pacifico, a conservation organization working on a project to protect sea turtle populations by providing alternative income sources for turtle egg harvesters.

Steve had a career of over 25 years with the Maine Department of Conservation, mostly with the Bureau of Parks and Lands. During this period Steve had the opportunity to represent BPL extensively with DRA on the acquisition, management planning, development and stewardship of the Dodge Point Management Unit. Steve designed the hiking trails on the property and supervised the Maine Conservation Corps crews that developed them. Steve has had the lead role in developing and implementing the recreation component of the management plans for most of BPL's 31 Public Reserved Lands units. In addition to the nearly 100 miles of hiking trails he has designed and supervised construction, Steve has a strong interest and background in water trails. He represented BPL in the initial and ongoing development of the Maine Island Trail and the Northern Forest Canoe Trail. Steve lives in Whitefield with his wife Libbey Seigars.

### **Darryn Kaymen, Office Manager**

Darryn, her husband Christopher Covell, and son Mattias moved to Maine in 2008 to be closer to her family. They moved from New Hampshire, where for 9 years Darryn and her husband owned and operated Covell & Associates, *Earth Science for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, an environmental consulting firm specializing in geophysics, groundwater and natural resource management. Darryn has a Bachelor of Arts in Geology from the University of New Hampshire and a Master of Education from Antioch University New England.

Most of Darryn's childhood was spent in New England on organic farms. One of those farms evolved into Stonyfield Farm, Inc., where she later worked making yogurt. Her ideals about caring for the environment were formed during her childhood when her family grew their own food, raised animals and heated with wood. Darryn, her husband Chris and son live in Jefferson.

### **Sarah Gladu, Education Coordinator**

Sarah Gladu has been the DRA's School for Field Naturalists Education Coordinator since 2005 and has worked in environmental education since 1992. Previously she worked for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension coordinating state-wide water quality monitoring programs. She has a B.A. from Brandeis University in Environmental Policy where she also got a Teaching Certification and a Wildlife Management Certificate. In 1998, she received a Masters in Environmental Learning and Leadership from the University of Minnesota. Sarah lives in Waldoboro with her two daughters, her husband Tim, five Norwegian Elkhounds, two horses, chickens, sheep and one cat.