



Baxter State Park Annual Operational Report

For the Year 2006

To the Baxter State Park Authority

June 15, 2007



BAXTER STATE PARK
2006 OPERATIONAL REPORT
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In Recognition of and Dedication to Richard Holmes, Baxter State Park's First Seasonal Ranger

Richard Holmes, the first seasonal ranger hired for Baxter State Park, passed away January 16, 2006, in Caribou, Maine. Dick was hired in 1939 and recalled his many experiences of that year with fondness. He donated his personal journal to the Park and in it, he mentions the search for Donn Fendler:



" Monday, July 17. Fair. Went to Millinocket for grub. Started Fendler Hunt at 8 p.m.. Of the first 60 hours I slept an hour in each 10 and averaged more than a mile an hour. John and I worked together with Jr. York, Henry Soucie and Harry Kearney (and Gene McClain) worked together until the following Tuesday when Fendler came out at Lunksoos. July 25"

Richard also accompanied renowned entomologist A.E. Brower on outings on Katahdin.. At the Park's invitation, Richard journeyed from his home in Presque Isle to Millinocket in 2000 to join Donn Fendler and Park Director Buzz Caverly in the Park's participation of the Millinocket Centennial Parade. Richard was thrilled to finally "find" and meet Donn; an opportunity denied him in the flurry of search duties in 1939! Richard remained a fan of the Park and nature throughout Maine all his life. We are thankful to his contributions and take inspiration from his life of outdoor adventures and civic activities.