

## *Mountain Lions in Maine: Rewilding the Maine Woods*

**Date:** JUNE 28

**Time:** 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**Cost:** \$8 in advance & \$10 at the door

**Where:** DRA's Darrow's Barn, Damariscotta

**Website:** <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2958371>



Maine residents live in one of the wildest states in the East, yet the beauty of our natural environment makes it easy to forget we have lost many of our iconic wildlife species. “Mountain Lions in Maine: Rewilding the Maine Woods” is a panel discussion about the challenges involved in bringing large, apex predators, specifically the cougar (mountain lion, puma, panther) and other wildlife back to their native habitat in the Northeast corridor, and how human communities can adapt to co-exist with and even benefit from them.

### **Panelists:**

- Environmental journalist and author **Will Stolzenburg**, whose recent book, *Heart of a Lion*, retraces one male mountain lions 2,000-mile journey from the American West to the North Atlantic coast in search of a mate
- **Mark McCollough**, endangered species specialist in the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Maine Field Office and USFWS's lead eastern cougar biologist
- DRA vice president **Peter McKinley**, research ecologist and conservation planner with The Wilderness Society
- **Chris Spatz**, President of the Cougar Rewilding Foundation. Moderator John Davis is a wildways advocate and conservation athlete for the Wildlands Network and The Rewilding Institute, and author of the *Big Wild and Connected* book series.

### **The Venue:**

Darrows Barn is a 1929 converted hay barn to support community and musical events. It is owned and operated by Damariscotta River Association, a nonprofit conservation land trust celebrating 40 years of conservation, connecting our community and the Damariscotta River estuary to secure the continued vibrancy of both. Known for its excellent acoustics and located less than 1.5 miles from the town center of Damariscotta, the barn is surrounded by 15 acres of riverfront hayfields, with public hiking trails down to picnic tables by the river and to the Whaleback Shell Midden State Historic Site.

A wine reception will follow the discussion, with books available for purchase and signing.

### **Get Tickets:**

Tickets for the event can be purchased online through [Brown Paper Tickets](http://www.brownpapertickets.com) for \$8 per person. A limited number of tickets will be also available at the door for \$10.00.

No online access? Call Brown Paper Tickets to order by phone: 1-800-838-3006.

*Mountain Lions in Maine: Rewilding the Maine Woods* is hosted by BookSpeak, a non-profit organization presenting theme-based literary events in Maine to encourage conversation and cultivate reading in our diverse society. The event is sponsored in part by Damariscotta River Association, Pemaquid Watershed Association, Medomak Valley Land Trust, Midcoast Conservancy, and 12 Rivers Conservation Initiative.

FMI: Nicole Olivier, Founder/Director, BookSpeak - (207) 350-6823