

## DCN Convergence 2018 economic breakout groups – NW Hancock County

1. Hancock County and MDI have more tangible results, yet acreage is more Downeast.
  - a. Focus on more non-tangibles
  - b. Sense of place to value is needed to communicate this economic impact of blueberry, small and large – organic farms
  - c. Forestry crucial
  - d. Not as much tourism value
2. Bank on tourism market
  - a. Less crowded
  - b. Plan for goods and services
3. Make Benefits feel more tangible
  - a. Year-round employment
  - b. Provide pristine experience with public access to water and hiking/cycling
  - c. Water quality is better
4. Barriers
  - a. Resource/infrastructure
  - b. Communicating effectively the value of conserved lands
  - c. To not become Boothbay and Bar Harbor
  - d. Looking at the region as a whole
  - e. Employment needs
  - f. Paper company land – what happens?
  - g. Valuation of blueberry and forestry markets
  - h. More state support
5. What do we need to do?
  - a. Study the potential to know what and how to finance
  - b. Transportation issues
  - c. What is the market for eco-tourism – what do we have now?
  - d. Communicate what's there beyond Acadia
  - e. What does the next generation of traveler want – demographics
  - f. How can we manage visitation to not lose what we have?