

INVEST IN LAND, WATER, AND PARKS

Invest in Maine's people, communities, economy, and future through State Parks and Land for Maine's Future.

Maine's natural resources promote health, boost our economy, and offer climate solutions.

- The COVID-19 pandemic has drawn Mainers and visitors to the outdoors in record numbers, creating demand for recreational infrastructure like trails, parks, and boat launches.
- Our traditional industries—fishing, farming, forestry, and tourism—depend on Maine's extraordinary environment.
- Climate change is impacting us today and threatening our future. Conserving forests, open space, and farmland is a critical strategy to slow climate change.

State Parks and Land for Maine's Future have an outstanding record of success preserving special places and protecting Maine's natural legacy.

- Maine's 48 State Parks and Historic Sites attract 2 million visitors each year to enjoy unparalleled beauty and recreational opportunities—from sandy beaches and scenic hiking trails to family camping.
- State Parks generate \$100 million annually for Maine's economy, yet they have an estimated \$50 million backlog of basic infrastructure maintenance. Antiquated facilities do not meet visitors' needs and preferences, placing us at a disadvantage to neighboring states.
- Land for Maine's Future secures public access to beloved mountains, lakes, rivers, and shorelines in all 16 counties. Because LMF funds are depleted, we risk losing access to these special places.
- LMF supports Maine's traditional industries, and has conserved 315,000 acres of working forest, 9,700 acres of productive farmland, and two dozen working waterfront sites from York to Lubec.

There has never been a better time to invest in Maine State Parks and Land for Maine's Future.

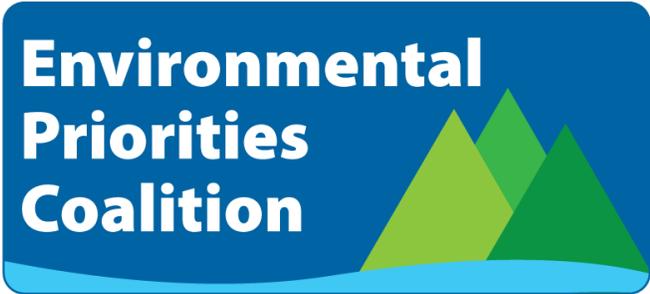
- Every dollar of LMF funding is matched by other funds.
- The Great American Outdoors Act makes \$900 million available to conserve working forests and ensure access to outdoor recreation for every American. Maine stands to draw as much as \$40 million per year in federal funds, but those funds require a match, which LMF can provide.
- Maine's Climate Action Plan calls for conserving 30% of Maine's land by 2030.
- Open space, trails, and access to recreation are factors when people decide where to live. At a time when many people seek to relocate, investing in our communities can attract new residents and benefit the whole state.
- Bond interest rates are currently low, making this a good time to borrow.
- The Land for Maine's Future program has long enjoyed strong bipartisan support from voters.



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SUPPORT THE LAND FOR MAINE'S FUTURE BOND.

For more information, please contact Melanie Sturm, Natural Resources Council of Maine, at (207) 430-0109 or msturm@nrcm.org; or Eliza Townsend, Appalachian Mountain Club, at (207) 699-9815 or etownsend@outdoors.org.



Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition is a partnership of 32 environmental, conservation, and public health organizations representing over 100,000 members who want to protect the good health, good jobs, and quality of life that our environment provides.

We are counting on Maine policymakers to take the important steps needed to protect Maine's extraordinary environment so Maine people and Maine communities can thrive.

