

#I Can See LWCF FROM MAINE



The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is America's premier federal program that reinvests offshore energy revenue into conservation to ensure that we all have access to the outdoors. Whether it is a local community park or playground, or the vast expanses of our federal public lands, Congress created the LWCF over a half-century ago to guarantee America's natural, historical and outdoor recreation heritage.

TELL YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS ABOUT YOUR CONNECTION TO THESE LWCF PLACES NEAR YOU.

Project overviews courtesy of the LWCF Coalition. lwcfoalition.com

Project Name/Unit: Acadia National Park (NPS)

LWCF Contribution: \$24,765,500

Stakeholders Involved: Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Friends of Acadia

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, drinking water, finishing our parks/trails

Short Description: Acadia National Park is one of America's most beloved and visited National Parks. People are drawn to Maine's rugged coastline for its beauty and natural diversity. Playing an integral role in its creation and growth, LWCF acquisitions have helped expand and connect Acadia so visitors can hike its granite peaks, bike historic carriage roads, and enjoy amazing scenery. In 2014, the addition of 37 acres at Lower Hadlock Pond opened up 1,600 feet of lake frontage and a network of trails. LWCF funding has ensured public access to the pond and trails and protected the water supply for the community of Northeast Harbor.



Acadia National Park
Credit: NPS/Kristi Rugg

Project Name/Unit: Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

LWCF Contribution: \$23,135,000

Stakeholders Involved: The Trust for Public Land, Kennebunkport Conservation Trust

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, wildlife habitat, development pressure

Short Description: Consisting of meandering tidal creeks, coastal upland, sandy dunes, salt ponds, marsh, and productive wetlands, the Rachel Carson NWR provides critical nesting and feeding habitat for a variety of migratory birds along the Atlantic Flyway. The salt marsh habitat found at Rachel Carson NWR is relatively rare in Maine, which is better known for its dramatic, rocky coastline. Upland portions of the landscape in and around the refuge host a unique, unusually dense concentration of vernal pools that provide habitat for several rare plant and animal species. Acquisitions at the refuge also provided an important buffer between the intense development pressure along the southern Maine coast and its fragile coastal estuaries.



Rachel Carson NWR
Credit: USFWS

Project Name/Unit: Cold Stream Forest (Forest Legacy Program — state grant program)

LWCF Contribution: \$5.5 million

Stakeholders Involved: The Trust for Public Land, Sportsmen's Alliance of Maine, Trout Unlimited

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, habitat conservation, working forestlands, water resource protection

Short Description: The Cold Stream Forest project added 8,000 acres of high value forest lands and riparian habitat to Maine's largest block of conserved working forests and public lands – a 2 million-acre block in the Moosehead Lake to Katahdin Region. These conserved lands provide a critical base for Maine's two largest economic sectors: forest products and tourism. The Cold Stream tract is an actively harvested commercial forest that contains 9 ponds providing exemplary wild native brook trout habitat; critical habitat for the threatened Canada lynx; and important deer wintering areas. The project is a State priority for protection and protects more intact wild brook trout pond populations than exist in MA, VT, and NH combined. The parcel adds to The Forks region's recreational economy which contains the highest concentration of whitewater rafting and recreational outfitters in Maine. Conservation of the property guarantees public access, ensure continued timber supply to local mills, and protect more than 38 miles of undeveloped streams and pond shorelines.



Cold Stream Pond surrounded by industrial timberland in Maine's Northern Forest, ME
Credit: Jerry and Marcy Monkman/EcoPhotography, TPL

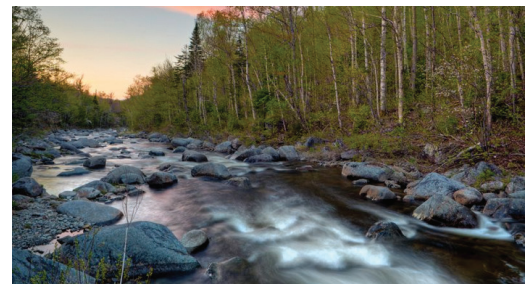
Project Name/Unit: Orbeton Stream (Forest Legacy Program — state grant program)

LWCF Contribution: \$1,285,044

Stakeholders Involved: Trust for Public Land

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, habitat protection, working forest

Short Description: 5,808 acres in Maine's western mountains region were protected through the Forest Legacy Program. The conservation easement on a family-owned forest supports a local pellet mill, while protecting endangered Atlantic salmon streams and the viewshed of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. Recreational opportunities include hunting, fishing, paddling, hiking and snowmobiling, with public access to a 6.4-mile section of the Maine snowmobile trail system.



Dusk on Orbeton Stream
Credit: Jerry and Marcy Monkman, TPL

Project Name/Unit: Appalachian National Scenic Trail (NPS, USFS)

LWCF Contribution: over \$10 million across the entire trail

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access

Short Description: The "granddaddy" of the National Trails System is the Appalachian National Scenic Trail envisioned by Benton MacKaye in the 1920s and 1930s and stretching 2,180 miles from Georgia to Maine. The Appalachian Trail (AT) is a centerpiece of conservation efforts throughout the East. Acting as a spine that connects large tracts of forests, wilderness and more developed parkland, it traverses 14 states, runs through 88 counties, connects more than 75 public land units (federal, state and local) and has upward of 2.5 million visitors each year. The trail is managed and maintained by volunteers, providing substantial cost savings to federal agencies. To date, LWCF has helped protect nearly 200,000 acres of the highest valued lands within the Appalachian Trail corridor, from the birthplace of the AT in New York's Bear Mountain State Park, to Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee, up the Blue Ridge Parkway to George Washington National Forest in Virginia and beyond. Recent trail protection projects at Crocker Mountain in Maine and Rocky Fork in Tennessee were funded in part through LWCF. Future projects are targeted in Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Vermont to protect the remaining unprotected miles of trail and lands along its corridor.

Project Name/Unit: Katahdin Forest (Forest Legacy Program — state grant)

LWCF Contribution: \$8.1 million

Stakeholders Involved: The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, The Conservation Fund

Keywords/Characteristics (eg. rec access, drinking water, consolidating maintenance): Recreation access, working forests

Short Description: The Katahdin Region, anchored by Baxter State Park, represents Maine's largest block of contiguous conservation lands (over 500,000 acres) including 194,751 acres of easement lands protected through the Katahdin Forest

Project (FY'05 FLP) which protected sustainably managed private forest land connecting several state owned lands west and south of Baxter State Park. The Katahdin Forest Expansion seeks to add five critical parcels, totaling 19,647 acres, to these conservation holdings. The three northern tracts (East Branch tracts) are located east of Baxter Park near the spectacular East Branch of the Penobscot River. Acquisition of the East Branch tracts will secure critical snowmobile trails and recreational access. Further to the south, BPL seeks to acquire two tracts totaling 8,044 acres surrounding Seboeis Lake. The Seboeis tracts (Seboeis South and West), which include 19 miles of shore and island frontage would complete the State's conservation ownership around Seboeis Lake, a wilderness lake offering outstanding views of Mount Katahdin. All five properties have traditionally been under active commercial forest management and are key contributors to the local wood products industry.



A man paddles his canoe on Seboeis Lake near Millinocket, Maine. Mount Katahdin is in the distance
Credit: Jerry and Marcy Monkman, TPL

LWCF EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

TELL YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS WHY THE FUND IS SO IMPORTANT TO OUTDOOR RECREATION AND HOW PROTECTING PLACES TO PLAY OUTSIDE DIRECTLY FUELS YOUR BUSINESS. #SAVELWCF