

# CHAPTER 9.0

## COORDINATION WITH CONSERVATION PARTNERS

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*Great discoveries and improvements invariably involve  
the cooperation of many minds.  
I may be given credit for having blazed the trail  
but when I look at the subsequent developments  
I feel the credit is due to others rather than to myself.*

Alexander Graham Bell

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### 9.1 HISTORIC AND ONGOING COLLABORATION EFFORTS

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Maine has a long history of successful collaboration among federal, state, and local agencies and the tribes, as well as many non-governmental organizations, to manage and conserve the state's wildlife resources and the lands and waters that provide their habitats. These previous collaborative efforts, and their accomplishments, now provide the foundation on which Maine's CWCS is built. Hence, it is not an accident that Maine's historical and current collaborative efforts cut across all five program components identified in its Strategy: surveys and monitoring, research, population management, habitat conservation, and education and outreach.

Maine has decided not to present herein a specific cataloging of the existing programs and funding sources currently available to federal, state, and local agencies and the tribes to manage and conserve Maine's wildlife resources and its lands and waters. Rather, we have prepared a series of tables (Tables 47-51) that depict the nature and breadth of the historic and current collaborative efforts in Maine, using Maine's five program components and their respective sub-strategies as the basis for our tabular depiction of on-going collaborative efforts.

We prepared a specific table for 1) federal agencies, 2) state agencies, 3) local agencies, 4) tribes, and 5) non-governmental organizations. Across the top of each table, we have listed all of the appropriate agencies or entities present in Maine; down the left-hand margin of each table, we have provided an outline of Maine's program components and their respective sub-strategies. Maine's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy assumes that its primary constituent agencies are: the USFWS, Maine's 4 Native American tribes, MDIFW, the Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission (MASC), and the Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR). Therefore, the tables assess 1) how Maine's primary constituent agencies have collaborated and are collaborating with each other, and 2) how they have collaborated and are collaborating as a *group* with other conservation partners in Maine. The following key describes the level of collaborative efforts.

- D - Daily - daily collaboration for the particular super strategy and sub-strategy;
- R - Regularly - weekly or monthly collaboration;
- P – Periodically – semi-annual or annual collaboration;
- X - irregular collaboration;
- Blank cell – either no jurisdictional nexus for collaboration or that no collaboration is occurring.

**Table 47. Summary of Historic and Current Coordination and Collaboration with Federal Agencies in Maine.**

Coordination and Collaboration with FEDERAL Agencies	Dept. of Defense	Maine Military Bases	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Environmental Protection Agency	Federal Aviation Administration	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	National Marine Fisheries Service	National Park Service	Acadia National Park	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	APHIS – Wildlife Services	APHIS – Veterinary Services	Natural Resources Conservation Service	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Ecological Services Field Office	National Wildlife Refuge System	Gulf of Maine Project	USFWS, Region 5	U.S. Geological Survey / BRD	Maine Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit					
<b>Survey and Monitoring</b>																										
Ecoregional Surveys																P										
Fish and Wildlife Survey, Inventory, Evaluation, and Monitoring		X	X	X	X	X		D		D						D	D	D	D		D					
<b>Research</b>		X	X	X		X		D		D						D	D	D	D		D					
<b>Population Management</b>																										
Animal Damage Control / Nuisance Wildlife		P		X	P			D		P		D	P			D	D	X	P		X					
Environmental Review / HMAP		X	R	R	X			D								D	X	D	D		X					
Oil Spill Planning and Response		X		P	X			R		X						P	P	P	P		X					
Population Regulations – Federal								D								D	D	D	D		P					
Population Regulations – Tribes								X								P			P		X					
Population Regulations – Maine								P								R	R		P		P					
Species Planning		X						R		X				X		R	R	R	X		R					
Fish and Wildlife Disease and Parasite		X		X				D		P		D	P			D	D		D		P					
Fish and Wildlife Permits (falconry, depredation, importation)		X			P											R			D							
Fish and Wildlife Re-Introductions		X								X						X	X	X	X		X					
<b>Habitat Conservation</b>																										
Beginning with Habitat				P										D		R		R			P					
Cooperative Habitat Management Agreements		X			X	X								D		D	X	X	D							
Environmental Review / HMAP		X	R	D	X	P										D	P	D	D		X					
Habitat Regulations – Federal		X	R	D	X	P		D						D		D	P	D	D		P					
Habitat Regulations – Tribes			X	X				X								P	P		P		X					
Habitat Regulations – Maine		X			X			P						D		P	P		P		P					
Habitat Regulations – Municipal														D		P					X					
Northern and Eastern Maine Landscaping Planning																P	P	P			P					
Oil Spill Planning and Response		X		X	X			P		X						P	P	P	P		X					
Habitat Management – Federal Land / Waters		P						D		D						D	D	D	D		P					
Habitat Management – Tribal Land / Waters								X								P	P	X	P		P					
Habitat Management – State Land / Waters								P								P	P	X	X		P					
Habitat Management – Private Land / Waters			X		P	X								D		D	R	X	X		X					
Land Acquisition		X	X							X						R	D	R	D		X					
Landowner Incentive Program [LIP]																R	X	P	R							
<b>Education and Outreach</b>																										
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Information and Education / Public Appearances			X					D		R		D		D		D	D	D	D		D					
<b>Level of Historic and Current Collaborative Efforts</b>																									Total	Percent
D = Daily		0	0	2	0	0	0	9	0	3	0	3	0	7	0	12	8	8	12	0	3	D		67	30.59%	
R = regular: weekly, monthly		0	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	3	1	0	1	R		21	9.59%	
P = Periodically: semi-annually, annually		2	0	2	3	2	0	4	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	10	9	4	8	0	11	P		59	26.94%	
X = irregularly		14	6	6	8	4	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	6	4	0	10	X		72	32.88%	
<b>TOTAL</b>		16	9	11	11	6		18		11		3	2	8		29	24	21	25		25	Total		219		

Table 47. Summary of Historic and Current Coordination and Collaboration with Federal Agencies in Maine.																					
	D	R	P	X																	
Federal	67	21	59	72																	
State	105	33	74	71																	
Local	10	20	28	25																	
Tribes	0	44	36	12																	
NGOs	2	52	141	30																	
TOTAL	184	170	338	210																	

**Table 48. Summary of Historic and Current Coordination and Collaboration with State Agencies in Maine.**

Coordination and Collaboration with STATE Agencies	Baxter State Park	Dept. of Agriculture	Atlantic Salmon Commission	Dept. of Conservation	Alagash Wilderness Waterway	Bureau of Parks & Lands	Land Use Regulation Commission	Maine Forest Service	Maine Geological Survey	Maine Natural Areas Program	Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife	Dept. of Environmental Protection	Dept. of Marine Resources	Dept. of Public Safety	Dept. of Transportation	State Planning Office / Executive Dept.	University of Maine System	Aquatic Biodiversity Project	Maine Colleges				
<b>Survey and Monitoring</b>										D	D												
Ecoregional Surveys										D	D												
Fish and Wildlife Survey, Inventory, Evaluation, and Monitoring	P		D	X	P	P	R		P	D	P	D		P		D		D					
<b>Research</b>	P		D	X	X	X	X		P	D	X	D		X		D		D					
<b>Population Management</b>																							
Animal Damage Control / Nuisance Wildlife	R	R	D		R	D		P			D		D	D			X		X				
Environmental Review / HMAP			D				D	D		D	D	D					X		X				
Oil Spill Planning and Response			P				P			P	P	P				X							
Population Regulations – Federal			D							R		R					X		X				
Population Regulations – Tribes			P							P		P					X		X				
Population Regulations – Maine	X		D		X	P				D		D	R				X		X				
Species Planning	P		D	X	R		P		P	D	X	D					P		P				
Fish and Wildlife Disease and Parasite	P	R	D	P	P		X			D	X	D	R				X		X				
Fish and Wildlife Permits (falconry, depredation, importation)		P	R							R		R											
Fish and Wildlife Re-Introductions			R			X		X		X		X					X		X				
<b>Habitat Conservation</b>																							
Beginning with Habitat		P	P			R	P	R		D	D	D	P		D	D	P		P				
Cooperative Habitat Management Agreements	X	X	R		X	R	P	D	X	D	D	R	P										
Environmental Review / HMAP			D				D	D		D	D	D	D		D	R	X		X				
Habitat Regulations – Federal			D				D	D	P	D	D	D	D		D	D	X		X				
Habitat Regulations – Tribes			P				P	P		X	P	P	P		X		X		X				
Habitat Regulations – Maine	P		D		P	D	D	D	P	D	D	D	D		D	D	X		X				
Habitat Regulations – Municipal			D			R		D	P	D	D	D	D		D	D	X		X				
Northern and Eastern Maine Landscaping Planning	P		R			P	X	X		P	R						P		P				
Oil Spill Planning and Response			R								R		R				P		X				
Habitat Management – Federal Land / Waters			D		X	P	X		X	P	P	R	R				P		P				
Habitat Management – Tribal Land / Waters			X		X	X	X		X	X	P	X					P		P				
Habitat Management – State Land / Waters	D		D		D	P	P		D	D	X	D					P		P				
Habitat Management – Private Land / Waters		X	D		P	D	D		D	D	P	D					P		P				
Land Acquisition	X	X	R	X	D	P	P		R	D	D	P		R	D	X		X					
Landowner Incentive Program (LIP)			P						D	D	P					R							
<b>Education and Outreach</b>																							
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Information and Education / Public Appearances	D	P	D		D	D	X	D		R	D	X	D	R			D		D				
<b>Level of Historic and Current Collaborative Efforts</b>																						Total	Percent
D = Daily	2	0	16	0	2	5	5	8	0	10	19	7	14	1	5	5	3	0	3	D	105	37.10%	
R = regular: weekly, monthly	1	2	6	0	1	4	0	2	0	2	4	1	4	3	1	2	0	0	0	R	33	11.66%	
P = Periodically: semi-annually, annually	6	3	5	0	2	5	8	5	3	4	4	7	6	0	1	1	7	0	7	P	74	26.15%	
X = irregularly	3	3	1	0	6	4	4	6	1	3	2	5	2	0	2	1	14	0	14	X	71	25.09%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>28</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>	Total	<b>283</b>		

<b>Coordination and Collaboration with LOCAL Agencies</b>	<b>Town Manager</b>	<b>Code Enforcement Officer</b>	<b>Planning Boards</b>	<b>Conservation Commission</b>	<b>Animal Control Officer</b>	<b>Regional Planning Commission</b>			
<b>Survey and Monitoring</b>									
Ecoregional Surveys									
Fish and Wildlife Survey, Inventory, Evaluation, and Monitoring	X	P	P	P		X			
<b>Research</b>									
<b>Population Management</b>									
Animal Damage Control / Nuisance Wildlife	P				D				
Environmental Review / HMAP	R	D	R	R		D			
Oil Spill Planning and Response						P			
Population Regulations – Federal									
Population Regulations – Tribes									
Population Regulations – Maine									
Species Planning									
Fish and Wildlife Disease and Parasite	X				R				
Fish and Wildlife Permits (falconry, depredation, importation)									
Fish and Wildlife Re-Introductions									
<b>Habitat Conservation</b>									
Beginning with Habitat	P	D	R	R		D			
Cooperative Habitat Management Agreements	P	P	P	P		P			
Environmental Review / HMAP	P	D	R	R		R			
Habitat Regulations – Federal	X	P	P	P		R			
Habitat Regulations – Tribes						R			
Habitat Regulations – Maine	P	R	R	R		D			
Habitat Regulations – Municipal	R	D	R	R		D			
Northern and Eastern Maine Landscaping Planning									
Oil Spill Planning and Response						P			
Habitat Management – Federal Land / Waters	X	X	X	X		X			
Habitat Management – Tribal Land / Waters	X	X	X	X		X			
Habitat Management – State Land / Waters	X	X	X	X		X			
Habitat Management – Private Land / Waters	P	R	R	R		P			
Land Acquisition	X	X	P	P		P			
Landowner Incentive Program [LIP]	X	X	X	P		P			
<b>Education and Outreach</b>									
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Information and Education / Public Appearances	X	P	P	P	D	P			
<b>Level of Historic and Current Collaborative Efforts</b>								<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
D = Daily	0	4	0	0	2	4	D	10	12.05%
R = regular: weekly, monthly	2	2	6	6	1	3	R	20	24.10%
P = Periodically: semi-annually, annually	6	4	5	6	0	7	P	28	33.73%
X = irregularly	9	5	4	3	0	4	X	25	30.12%
A blank cell indicates no activity									
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	

<b>Table 50. Summary of Historic and Current Coordination and Collaboration with Native American Tribes in Maine.</b>							
<b>Coordination and Collaboration with TRIBES</b>	<b>Aroostook Band of Micmacs</b>	<b>Houlton Band of Maliseet</b>	<b>Passamaquoddy Nation</b>	<b>Penobscot Nation</b>			
<b>Survey and Monitoring</b>							
Ecoregional Surveys							
Fish and Wildlife Survey, Inventory, Evaluation, and Monitoring	R	R	R	R			
<b>Research</b>							
Research	R	R	R	R			
<b>Population Management</b>							
Animal Damage Control / Nuisance Wildlife	R	R	R	R			
Environmental Review / HMAP	R	R	R	R			
Oil Spill Planning and Response			P	P			
Population Regulations – Federal	P	P	P	P			
Population Regulations – Tribes	R	R	R	R			
Population Regulations – Maine	P	P	P	P			
Species Planning	P	P	P	P			
Fish and Wildlife Disease and Parasite	R	R	R	R			
Fish and Wildlife Permits {falconry, depredation, importation}	R	R	R	R			
Fish and Wildlife Re-Introductions	X	X	X	X			
<b>Habitat Conservation</b>							
Beginning with Habitat							
Cooperative Habitat Management Agreements							
Environmental Review / HMAP	R	R	R	R			
Habitat Regulations – Federal	P	P	P	P			
Habitat Regulations – Tribes	R	R	R	R			
Habitat Regulations – Maine	P	P	P	P			
Habitat Regulations – Municipal	P	P	P	P			
Northern and Eastern Maine Landscaping Planning							
Oil Spill Planning and Response			P	P			
Habitat Management – Federal Land / Waters	P	P	P	P			
Habitat Management – Tribal Land / Waters	R	R	R	R			
Habitat Management – State Land / Waters	P	P	P	P			
Habitat Management – Private Land / Waters	X	X	X	X			
Land Acquisition	X	X	X	X			
Landowner Incentive Program [LIP]							
<b>Education and Outreach</b>							
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Information and Education / Public Appearances	R	R	R	R			
<b>Level of Historic and Current Collaborative Efforts</b>						<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
D = Daily	0	0	0	0	D	0	0.00%
R = regular: weekly, monthly	11	11	11	11	R	44	47.83%
P = Periodically: semi-annually, annually	8	8	10	10	P	36	39.13%
X = irregularly	3	3	3	3	X	12	13.04%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	



Tables 47-51 reveal that there are 902 on-going collaborative interactions among the primary constituent agencies and other conservation partners in Maine<sup>1</sup>. About 40% of the total interactions among all collaborators working to effect wildlife conservation in the State occur either daily or regularly. Habitat Conservation activities account for more than half (53%) of the total collaborative interactions; and more than a third (37%) of these habitat conservation interactions occur either daily or regularly. An additional third (30%) of the total on-going collaborative efforts occur within the Population Management program component, and 37% of these interactions occur either daily or regularly. Research, Survey and Monitoring, and Education and Outreach account for the final 17% of the total on-going collaborative efforts in Maine. Table 52 provides an overview of these 902 interactions as they relate to five program components identified in Maine's CWCS.

**Table 52. Frequency of Collaborative Interaction among Five CWCS Program Components.**

Program Component	Frequency				Total	Percent
	D	R	P	X		
Surveys and Monitoring	14	11	20	11	56	6%
Research	12	8	13	12	45	5%
Population Management	45	57	103	68	273	30%
Habitat Conservation	95	83	186	113	477	53%
Education and Outreach	18	11	16	6	51	6%
Total	184	170	338	210	902	100%
Percent	20%	19%	38%	23 %		100%

D = Daily                      R = Regularly                      P = Periodically                      X = Irregularly

Tables 47-51 also document that the state agencies and then the federal agencies play the prominent roles in effecting Maine's wildlife population and wildlife habitat conservation strategies. The tables also demonstrate that the state's non-governmental organizations play an important role in these strategies; the Maine Audubon stands out as being particularly important. The tribes and local agencies represent an important, although tertiary role.

Again, nearly 40% of the 902 on-going collaborative interactions among all of the partners occur at least regularly.

Table 53 provides an overview of the number and frequency of interactions by the primary constituent agencies and other conservation partners. Fifty-six percent of interactions occur among state and federal agencies. Interactions among non-governmental organizations, Native American tribes, and local agencies comprise 25%, 10%, and 9% respectively.

<sup>1</sup> The data in the tables are subjective. The frequency values for the super-strategies will be influenced by the amount of "lumping" or "splitting" that occurs within each. Nevertheless, the authors believe that it represents a reasonable assessment of Maine's collective, collaborative efforts currently and in the recent past.

Number of Interactions	Frequency				Total	Percent
	D	R	P	X		
Federal Agencies	67	21	59	72	219	24%
State Agencies	105	33	74	71	283	32%
Local Agencies	10	20	28	25	83	9%
Native American Tribes	0	44	36	12	92	10%
Non-governmental Organizations	2	52	141	30	225	25%
Total	184	170	338	210	902	100%
Percent	20%	19%	38%	23%		100%
<b>% of Total Interactions</b>						
Federal Agencies	8%	2%	6%	8%		
State Agencies	12%	4%	8%	8%		
Local Agencies	1%	2%	3%	3%		
Native American Tribes	0%	5%	4%	1%		
Non-governmental Organizations	0%	6%	16%	3%		
D = Daily                      R = Regularly                      P = Periodically                      X = Irregularly						

In summary, Tables 47-51 document that Maine has strong collaborative interactions to effect its Habitat Conservation and Population Management program components, and that these interactions are occurring regularly. The prominence of the Research and Survey and Monitoring components are likely under-represented due to the “lumping” and “splitting” that occurred within the program components.

The level of collaborative effort to effect Maine’s Education and Outreach component represents Maine’s best opportunity to increase and promote collaboration among the primary constituent agencies, and other conservation partners, to more fully and broadly achieve its wildlife habitat and population conservation strategies. Maine will explore enhancements during this planning period. In addition, there may be opportunities to improve upon the collaboration among the primary constituent agencies and conservation partners in areas of Research and Surveys and Monitoring. Maine will explore opportunities to improve collaboration in these areas as well.

Tables 47-51 also document the existence of frequent collaborative efforts among the state agencies, the federal agencies, and Maine’s non-governmental organizations. Maine will continue to look for opportunities to build upon these collaborative efforts. We can improve upon our collaboration with the tribes and with local agencies, and we will consider opportunities and methods to expand collaboration during this planning period and will implement them as appropriate.

But having said all of the above, the point to be made is that the collaborative efforts accomplished in Maine, and depicted in Tables 47-51, are making full use of the existing, available programs and funding sources dedicated to wildlife and habitat conservation. As documented in the CWCS, many Maine species and habitats continue to require additional conservation actions and funding. Current wildlife conservation funding in Maine is dedicated (e.g., USFWS Section 6 funding for Threatened and Endangered species) or “uncertain” and “unstable” (e.g., Maine conservation license plates, Chickadee income tax check-off, and Maine

Outdoor Heritage Fund lottery ticket) or is already fully allocated (e.g., Pittman-Robertson funds and Dingell-Johnson funds) or “competitive” and “uncertain” (e.g., Landowner Incentive Program and competitive State Wildlife Grants). Despite Maine’s excellent collaborative efforts, these funding constraints compromise our ability to adequately address those species of greatest conservation need.

This summarizes Maine’s historic and current collaboration efforts with conservation partners. Our efforts to involve federal, state and local agencies, tribes, and other conservation partners in the development, implementation, review, and revision of its CWCS are described in Chapter 8.0.

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## 9.2 KEY CONSERVATION PARTNERS

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Numerous agencies and organizations contribute to conserving and managing our state’s natural resources. Key agency and non-profit groups who were invited to participate in the development of Maine’s CWCS are highlighted below. There are no significant military holdings in the State.

### 9.2.1 STATE AGENCIES



#### **Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW)**

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife was established to ensure that all species of wildlife and inland aquatic resources in the State of Maine are maintained and perpetuated for their intrinsic and ecological values, for their economic contribution, and for their recreational, scientific, and educational use by the people of the State. Pursuant to this mission, Department biologists conduct a variety of conservation and management activities including: surveys and inventories, population monitoring, and research; habitat management on public and private lands; and acquiring lands and public access sites. Additional Department mandates include establishing and enforcing rules and regulations governing fishing, hunting, and trapping; propagating and stocking fish; acquisition of wildlife management areas; registering recreational vehicles; safety programs for hunters, snowmobiles, and watercraft; and issuing licenses (hunting, fishing, trapping, guide, etc.) and permits. <http://www.state.me.us/ifw/index.html>.



#### **Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR)**

The Maine Department of Marine Resources provides leadership in marine policy, the management of marine resources, the development of sustainable marine resource based business and the protection of the marine environment. The Bureau of Administration performs the administrative functions of the Department and advises government agencies concerned with development or activity in coastal waters. Duties also include coordination of public hearings for regulation changes and aquaculture leases following Administrative Procedures Act procedures. The Bureau of Marine Patrol is one of the oldest law enforcement agencies in the State and was established to protect, manage and conserve the renewable marine resources within the territorial limits of the State of Maine. The Bureau of Resource Management is engaged in marine education, shellfish sanitation and public health, and scientific research and monitoring to conserve, restore and manage the marine and estuarine resources of the State.

The Division of Community Resource Development is responsible for other focused programs including watershed development, primarily municipal soft-shelled management.

<http://www.maine.gov/dmr/>.



### **Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission (MASC)**

The mission of the Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission is to protect, conserve, restore, manage and enhance Atlantic salmon habitat, populations, and sport fisheries within historical habitat in all (inland and tidal) waters of the State. To achieve its mission, MASC works closely with local, state, national, and international organizations and agencies to manage the wild Maine Atlantic salmon population. <http://www.maine.gov/asc/>.



### **Maine Department of Conservation (MDOC)**

The Department of Conservation is a natural resource agency whose bureaus oversee the management, development, and protection of some of Maine's most special places: 17 million acres of forestland, 10.4 million acres of unorganized territory, 47 parks and historic sites and more than 480,000 acres of public reserved land. Created in 1973, the Department of Conservation's mission is to benefit the citizens, landowners, and users of the state's natural resources by promoting stewardship and ensuring responsible balanced use of Maine's land, forest, water, and mineral resources. <http://www.state.me.us/doc/index.shtml> .



### **Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL)**

The Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation oversees the management, development and protection of 47 parks and historic sites and more than 480,000 acres of public reserved land in Maine. Public Reserved Lands are managed for multiple-uses under a "dominant use" system, which ensures that sensitive resources such as rare plants and backcountry recreation areas are not disturbed by more intensive management activities. There are 29 "units" of Public Reserved Lands ranging in size from 500 to more than 43,000 acres and many other smaller, scattered lots. <http://www.maine.gov/doc/parks/programs/prl.html>.



### **Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP)**

The Maine Natural Areas Program within the Maine Department of Conservation, serves Maine citizens as the most comprehensive source of information on the State's important natural features. With landowner permission, the Program inventories lands that support rare and endangered plants and animals, rare natural communities, and outstanding examples of common natural communities. MNAP also provides objective and comprehensive information to equip decision-makers with the necessary tools to make informed and responsible decisions. The Maine Natural Areas Program is a part of an international network of natural heritage programs overseen by NatureServe. This network contributes important information on Maine's native plant and animal species whose ranges extend beyond Maine's borders. In addition, MNAP works closely with the Maine Field Office of The Nature Conservancy and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on conservation efforts. <http://www.mainenaturalareas.org/index.php> .



### **Maine Forest Service (MFS)**

Established in 1891, the Maine Forest Service's mission is to protect and enhance our state's forest resources through forest fire prevention; technical assistance; and education and outreach to the public, forest landowners, forest products processors and marketers, and municipalities. Located within the Department of Conservation, Maine Forest Service offices are found throughout the state and provide Maine's citizens with a wide range of forest-related services. <http://www.maineforestservice.org>.



### **Maine Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC)**

The Maine Legislature created the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission within the Department of Conservation in 1971 to serve as the planning and zoning authority for the state's townships, plantations, and unorganized areas. LURC has land use regulatory jurisdiction over these areas because they have no form of local government to administer land use controls, or they have chosen not to administer land use controls at the local level. The Commission was established primarily in response to a recreational building and land development boom in these areas during the late 1960's. Its purpose is to extend the principles of planning and zoning to preserve public health, safety, and welfare; to encourage the well planned, multiple use of natural resources; to promote orderly development; and to protect natural and ecological values. The jurisdiction stretches over half the state, encompassing more than 10.4 million acres, and includes the largest contiguous undeveloped area in the Northeast. <http://www.maine.gov/doc/lurc/about.html>.



### **Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP)**

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection is responsible for protecting and restoring Maine's natural resources and enforcing the state's environmental laws. The agency can trace its roots back to the Sanitary Water Board that was created in 1941. The purpose of that Board was to study, investigate, and recommend means of eliminating and preventing pollution in waters used for recreational purposes. The Board was renamed the Water Improvement Commission in 1951. In 1969, the Commission's title was abbreviated to the Environmental Improvement Commission. On July 1, 1972, legislation re-designated the Commission as the Board of Environmental Protection and created a new Department of Environmental Protection, consisting of a commissioner and three program bureaus: Air Quality, Land Quality Control, and Water Quality Control. Over the years, the Department has continued to evolve to its current organization consisting of the Board of Environmental Protection (appointed by the Governor), the Commissioner's Office and three bureaus which administer the Department's environmental programs: Air Quality, Land and Water Quality, and Remediation and Waste Management. <http://www.maine.gov/dep/overview.htm>.



### **Maine State Planning Office - Coastal Program**

The Maine Coastal Program was established in 1978. Administered by the Maine State Planning Office, the Coastal Program is a partnership among local, regional, and state agencies. It also collaborates with many private organizations, such as local land trusts and economic development groups. Through this networked program, no one agency or department is responsible for the entire coast. Rather, all partners help ensure its proper

management. The result of this balanced approach is a healthier coast--and a better future for communities. Maine's coastal zone encompasses all political jurisdictions in Maine that have land along the coast or a tidal waterway, such as a river or bay. It includes 5,300 miles of coastline, encompassing 136 towns, two Plantations, 10 unorganized townships, and one Indian Reservation. Thousands of islands, 4,613 to be exact, are also in the coastal zone. The zone encompasses Maine's territorial waters, which extend three miles out to sea. The Coastal Program undertakes or supports projects that promote sustainable economic development, encourage environmental stewardship and education, conserve and manage marine fisheries, reduce coastal hazards, and improve public access.  
<http://www.state.me.us/spo/mcp/>.



### Maine State Planning Office - Land for Maine's Future Program (LMF)

In 1987, the Maine Legislature created the Land for Maine's Future Program to secure "the traditional Maine heritage of public access to Maine's land and water resources or continued quality and availability of natural resources important to the interests and continued heritage of Maine people." Two bonds supporting the LMF Program, a \$35 million bond in 1987 and a \$50 million bond in 1999, both passed by overwhelming margins. Most of the remaining bond funds are now committed to current land protection projects. Since its creation, the Program has assisted in the acquisition of more than 139,000 acres from willing sellers, with an additional 53,500 acres protected through conservation easements. Lands protected through the LMF Program include more than 323 miles of shorefront and 75 miles of rail-trails as well as valuable wildlife habitat, entire islands, and working forests and farms. The LMF Board, which administers the Program, consists of 11 members: six private citizens (appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate) and five commissioners representing the Departments of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Conservation, Marine Resources, Agriculture, and the State Planning Office. <http://www.state.me.us/spo/lmf/>.



### Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT)

The Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) Environmental Office leads the MDOT in proactively integrating transportation and environmental objectives and innovations as the department plans, develops, operates and maintains Maine's transportation needs. MDOT has sought to address habitat issues in a number of ways, most notably partnering with the *Beginning with Habitat* program, and using *Beginning with Habitat* as a planning tool.

## 9.2.2 FEDERAL AGENCIES



### U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS or Service)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's mission is, "working with others, to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people." The Service oversees five field units nationwide: National Wildlife Refuges, National Fish Hatcheries, Law Enforcement, Ecological Services offices, and Fishery Resources Offices. The Service's major responsibilities are for migratory birds, endangered species, certain marine mammals, and freshwater and anadromous fish. The USFWS administers 544 National

Wildlife Refuges covering about 96 million acres. It operates 69 National Fish Hatcheries that produce 150 million fish annually. The agency administers the Endangered Species Act under which 1,848 species are listed as Endangered or Threatened. <http://www.fws.gov/>.



### **Gulf of Maine Program**

The Gulf of Maine Coastal Program, established in 1991 as part of a nationwide network of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program offices, works with others to protect and restore nationally important fish and wildlife habitat in the Gulf of Maine watershed. Working in voluntary cooperative conservation partnerships, the Gulf of Maine Coastal Program has played a key role in:

- Permanently protecting more than 115,000 acres of high value fish and wildlife habitat through fee and easement acquisition -- including 48 nesting islands, 118 coastal wetlands and associated upland buffer sites, 16 uplands, and 60 areas adjacent to wild Atlantic salmon rivers;
- Protecting fish and wildlife habitat on two landscape-scale forest/wetland easement/acquisition projects totaling over one million acres that preclude residential development and ensure sustainable forestry;
- Restoring more than 5,700 acres of habitat for migratory birds -- including 78 coastal wetlands, 6 grasslands, and 12 nesting islands, completing 69 river restoration projects to benefit searun fish -- including the removal of 11 dams on rivers and the installation or repair of 14 fish passage facilities at existing dams; and
- Leveraging \$54.5 million in federal and \$95.7 million in non-federal funds for habitat protection and restoration.

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/gulfofmaine/gomp1.html>



### **Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge**

The Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge was established to preserve ten important estuaries that are key points along migration routes of waterfowl and other migratory birds. During harsh winters, the refuge's marshes provide vital food and cover for waterfowl and other migrating birds at a time when inland waters are frozen. The refuge also supports Piping Plover, Least Terns, Peregrine Falcons, Bald Eagles and other state and federally protected species. In addition to anadromous fish, many commercially and recreationally important fin and shellfish rely on these coastal wetlands as critical nursery areas. Refuge lands total approximately 4,700 acres in ten geographic units from Kittery to Cape Elizabeth, Maine. In 1989, the refuge boundary expanded to include salt marsh, freshwater wetlands and "critical edge" uplands around each of the nine divisions. In addition, the Biddeford Pool Division, the tenth division of the refuge, was created. This division serves as a key staging area in southern Maine for a large number and diversity of shorebirds. When it is completed, the refuge will be about 7,600 acres in size. <http://www.fws.gov/rachelcarson/>.



### **Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge**

The Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge (formerly the Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge) contains 47 offshore islands and three coastal parcels, totaling more than 7,400 acres. The complex spans more than 150 miles of Maine coastline and includes five national wildlife refuges -- Petit Manan, Cross Island, Franklin Island, Seal Island, and Pond Island. The

Service's primary focus at Maine Coastal Islands Refuge is restoring and managing colonies of nesting seabirds. Refuge islands provide habitat for Common, Arctic, and Endangered Roseate Terns; Atlantic Puffins; Razorbills; Black Guillemots; Leach's Storm-petrels; Laughing Gulls; and Common Eiders. Over the last 25 years, the Service has worked to reverse the decline in these birds' populations. As a result, many species have returned to islands where they nested historically. <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/petitmanan/>.



### **Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge**

Moosehorn is the easternmost national wildlife refuge in the Atlantic flyway, a migration route that follows the east coast of North America. Moosehorn's primary purpose is to protect wildlife, including migrating waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds, upland game birds, songbirds, and birds of prey. The refuge consists of two divisions. The Baring Division covers 17,200 acres and is located southwest of Calais, Maine. The 7,200-acre Edmunds Division sits between Dennysville and Whiting on U.S. Rt. 1 and borders the tidal waters of Cobscook Bay. Each division contains a National Wilderness Area managed to preserve their wild character. <http://moosehorn.fws.gov/>.



### **Sunkhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge**

Sunkhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge is located in the Town of Milford, Penobscot County, Maine, approximately fourteen miles north of Bangor. The refuge protects the second-largest and most unique peatland in Maine. It contains several raised bogs or domes, separated from each other by extensive areas of streamside meadows. Sunkhaze Stream bisects the refuge along a northeast to southwest orientation and, with its six tributaries, creates a diversity of wetland communities. Sunkhaze Meadows National Wildlife Refuge provides habitat for three plants, seven birds, two mollusks, and three invertebrates listed as Endangered or Threatened by the State of Maine. In the early 1990s, the Benton and Sandy Stream Divisions were added to the refuge under the auspices of the 1990 Farm Bill. These small areas are respectively located in the towns of Benton and Unity, Maine. Both are managed for grassland-nesting birds, some of which are rare in Maine. <http://www.sunkhaze.org/>.



### **Acadia National Park (ANP)**

Located on the rugged coast of Maine, Acadia National Park encompasses over 47,000 acres of granite-domed mountains, woodlands, lakes and ponds, and ocean shoreline. Such diverse habitats create striking scenery and make the park a haven for wildlife and plants. George B. Dorr, the park's first superintendent, devoted 43 years of his life, energy, and family fortune to preserving the Acadia landscape. Thanks to the foresight of Dorr and others like him, Acadia became the first national park established east of the Mississippi. Today, the park offers scientific, educational, and recreational activities unparalleled along the east coast. <http://www.nps.gov/acad/>.



### **National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries)**

NOAA Fisheries is responsible for the management, conservation, and protection of living marine resources within the United States Exclusive Economic Zone. NOAA Fisheries

also plays a supportive and advisory role in the management of living marine resources in coastal areas under state jurisdiction, provides scientific and policy leadership in the international arena, and implements international conservation and management measures as appropriate. Under this mission, the goal is to optimize the benefits of living marine resources to the Nation through sound science and management. This requires a balancing of multiple public needs and interests in the sustainable benefits and use of living marine resources, without compromising the long-term biological integrity of coastal and marine ecosystems. <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/what/mission.htm>.



## **U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**

Since 1935, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (originally called the Soil Conservation Service) has provided leadership in a partnership effort to help America's private landowners and managers conserve their soil, water, and other natural resources. NRCS offers a variety of incentives-based programming aimed at species and habitat conservation including: the Wetlands Reserve Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, and Conservation Reserve Program, among others. NRCS provides assistance to landowners for developing and implementing conservation plans on their lands. The National Resources Inventory, a nationwide survey conducted annually by the NRCS, is the federal government's principal source of information on the status, condition, and trends of soil, water, and related resources in the United States. <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>.

### **9.2.3 NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES**

#### **Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians**

The majority of the 965 members of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs live within Aroostook County, located in Northern Maine. From time immemorial, the Micmacs have occupied the lands south and east of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, the Maritime Provinces and other regions along the Atlantic Seaboard of Northeastern America. The Micmac Nation, today, is composed of seven districts of 29 bands with a population of approximately 30 thousand. On November 26, 1991 the Aroostook Band of Micmacs achieved Federal Recognition with the passage of the Aroostook Band of Micmacs Settlement Act. This act provided the Community with acknowledgment of its tribal status in the United States. The Aroostook Band of Micmacs have succeeded in rejuvenating a part of the Micmac Nation. <http://www.micmac-nsn.gov/>.

#### **Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians**

The Maliseet tribe belonged to the loose confederation of eastern American Indians known as the Wabanaki Alliance, together with the Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Mi'kmaq, and Abenaki Indians. The Maliseet live primarily in Canada, especially New Brunswick, with one band across the border in nearby Houlton, Maine (the US granted official recognition to the Maine tribe in 1980).



### Passamaquoddy Indian Township Reservation

The Pleasant Point Passamaquoddy Reservation also known as SIPAYIK is located on the downeast coast of Maine between the town of Perry and the city of Eastport.

<http://www.wabanaki.com/>.



### Penobscot Nation

The Penobscot Nation Department of Natural Resources works to forward their people's goal of protecting the natural resources given to them by the creator for living, sustenance, and the spirit. They have exclusive jurisdiction over wildlife on Penobscot Indian Nation (PIN) territory and utilize the best technology available to monitor the health and status of our environment. The PIN is comprised of over 130,000 acres of tribal land in Maine. Their current management projects include the Penobscot River Restoration Project (dam removal along the Penobscot to promote recovery of native fish species in the Penobscot River), water quality assessment and monitoring along the Penobscot River, as well as lakes and streams in PIN territory, air quality monitoring on the reservation, the management of big game on PIN land, and forest management. <http://www.penobscotnation.org/>.

## 9.2.4 NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS



Maine Chapter

### Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC)

Founded in 1876, the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) is the nation's oldest conservation organization. Their 90,000 members include 3,600 residents of the State of Maine. AMC's work in Maine dates back to the early years of the club. AMC members were the first to map Mount Katahdin, and AMC trail crews built many early trails in Baxter State Park. The AMC has also been active in Maine conservation efforts as a leader of the Northern Forest Alliance, and as active members of the Maine Forest Biodiversity Project, the Tumbledown Conservation Alliance, and the 100-Mile Wilderness Project Oversight Committee. With its purchase of the 37,000-acre Katahdin Iron Works property in 2003, the club made a long-term commitment to enhancing conservation in the 100-Mile Wilderness region.

<http://home.gwi.net/amcmaine/main.htm>.



### Coastal Conservation Association Maine (CCA)

Coastal Conservation Association is an organization of strong state chapters comprised of avid recreational fishermen who have banded together to address conservation issues nationally and within their respective states. The group had its beginning in 1977 in Texas; Maine's chapter was formed in 1994. CCA chapters are watchdogs of fishing activities and are also valued as cooperative partners with state wildlife and fisheries agencies in developing programs and legislation that protect and enhance the marine resource. CCA and its state organizations are engaged in a multitude of programs and projects relating to conservation, including: scientific studies, scholarship funding, artificial reefs, hatcheries, contaminant studies, hydrology studies, fresh water inflows, and support of local enforcement agencies. <http://www.ccamaine.org/>.



### **Defenders of Wildlife (Defenders)**

Defenders of Wildlife is dedicated to the protection of all native wild animals and plants in their natural communities. They focus their programs on two of the most serious environmental threats to the planet: the accelerating rate of extinction of species and the associated loss of biological diversity, and habitat alteration and destruction. Long known for their leadership on endangered species issues, Defenders of Wildlife also advocates new approaches to wildlife conservation that will help keep species from becoming endangered. Their programs encourage protection of entire ecosystems and interconnected habitats while protecting predators that serve as indicator species for ecosystem health. <http://www.defenders.org/>.



### **Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU)**

Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl. Maine Ducks Unlimited is a volunteer driven, membership-based, grassroots organization that supports Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU) through over 30 fund-raising events annually. <http://www.ducks.org>.



### **Forest Society of Maine (FSM)**

The Forest Society of Maine was established in 1984 through the efforts of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests to accept a substantial gift of an easement and conservation lands comprising 18,000 acres in Attean Township. While legally a Maine corporation, FSM operated as a subsidiary of SPNHF from 1984 to 1997. In 1994-95, Maine forestland owners and land conservation professionals initiated a study and a series of meetings to address the absence of an in-state organization dedicated to conservation of large tracts of working forest. Specifically, they explored the potential for a "North Woods land trust" that would provide forestland owners with conservation alternatives that meshed with their ownership objectives. From this effort came a recommendation and an action plan to transform the Forest Society of Maine into a staffed, Maine-based, fully operational land trust. The mission of FSM is to protect and conserve Maine's forestlands, including important natural areas such as lakes, rivers, and mountains. Working cooperatively with landowners FSM seeks to maintain the economic, ecological, cultural, and recreational values of the Maine woods. <http://www.fsmaine.org/>.



### **Maine Aquatic Biodiversity Project (MABP)**

Maine Aquatic Biodiversity Project is a collaborative effort of The Nature Conservancy, and the Maine Departments of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, and Environmental Protection. One component of MABP is the development of a detailed catalogue of available information on the species of aquatic plants, invertebrates, fish, amphibians and reptiles that inhabit Maine's ponds and lakes, streams and rivers. Integrating this information with other environmental data sets, MABP is working to enhance our understanding of how Maine's freshwater communities are structured and where there are key information gaps. MABP is also reviewing major management and conservation issues associated with freshwater biodiversity in our State. Data syntheses include species distribution maps, reviews of data collection efforts, and spatial analyses of the composition of lentic and lotic

communities. MABP is also working closely with The Nature Conservancy to develop and test a GIS-based classification system for freshwater ecosystems throughout Maine.

<http://www.mainebiodiversity.org/>.



### **Maine Audubon (MAS)**

Maine Audubon works to conserve Maine's wildlife and wildlife habitat by engaging people of all ages in education, conservation, and action. Support for Maine Audubon comes from its 11,000 members and supporters, including individuals, foundations, and corporations. Members are automatically members of their local Maine Audubon chapter and National Audubon Society, Inc., of which Maine Audubon is an affiliate. Maine Audubon maintains some of the most productive, science-based conservation and research programs in the region. Initiatives such as the Maine Loon Project, the Maine Cooperative Owl Surveys, and ongoing programs to monitor and protect the endangered Piping Plover and Least Tern are made possible through partnerships with volunteers, public agencies, universities, and other conservation organizations. <http://www.maineaudubon.org/>.



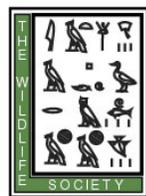
### **Maine Chapter of the Izaak Walton League (IWLA)**

Founded in 1922 as a national organization of hunters, anglers, and other conservation-minded outdoor enthusiasts, the IWLA supports volunteer, community-based action and education programs to ensure the sustainable use of America's natural resources. The Maine Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America was formed on May 8, 2003. The IWLA is not new to Maine. Chapters once thrived in Bangor (1925), Calais (1927), Lisbon Falls (1928) and Ellsworth (1945). Izaak Walton League programs focus on natural resource advocacy through state and federal legislation, outdoor ethics, community sustainability, energy efficiency, and sustainable agricultural practices. <http://www.iwlamaine.org/>.



### **Maine Chapter Sierra Club**

For over a century the Sierra Club has been devoted to the conservation of our forests, mountains, rivers, coasts and other natural areas. The Maine Chapter, a volunteer-run grassroots organization, is working to: protect Maine's wilderness heritage, fight global warming, promote smart growth, safeguard Maine's clean water and coastline, promote clean air and energy efficiency, hold public officials accountable, and support pro-environment candidates for public office. <http://maine.sierraclub.org/>.



### **Maine Chapter The Wildlife Society (MCTWS)**

The Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society, established in 1976, is a local membership organization of The Wildlife Society, an international, non-profit, scientific, and educational association dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. The mission of the Maine Chapter of TWS is to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure responsible use of wildlife resources for the benefit of society. MCTWS membership includes approximately 120 wildlife professionals and other concerned individuals employed by government agencies, academic institutions, private firms, and non-governmental organizations,

working to promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources throughout Maine.

<http://www.wildlife.org/chapters/me/index.cfm>.



### **Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT)**

Maine Coast Heritage Trust conserves coastal and other lands that define Maine's distinct landscape, protect its environment, sustain its outdoor traditions and promote the well being of its people. Since 1970, MCHT has helped permanently protect more than 118,000 acres. These lands include valuable wildlife habitat, bold headlands, farm and forestland, and 240 entire islands. MCHT provides conservation advisory services free of charge to landowners, federal, state, and community officials, and local land trusts throughout Maine. <http://www.mcht.org/>.



### **Maine Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (CFWRU)**

The Maine Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (CFWRU) is uniquely suited to pursue several specific research issues relevant to fish and wildlife conservation in northern ecosystems. The expertise of Unit staff and collaborators regarding forest furbearers, migratory game and non-game birds, and inland game fishes has long blended with state and federal priorities and unique geographic resources to create a dynamic research program. The primary objectives of the CFWRU are to: (1) facilitate and strengthen professional education and training of fisheries and wildlife scientists; (2) carry out research programs of fish, mammalian, and avian species and their habitats; and (3) disseminate research results through the appropriate media, especially peer-reviewed scientific articles. The main educational and training thrust is through advisement of graduate students and their research projects, formal classroom instruction, and supervision of technicians and research associates conducting coordinated research with University of Maine staff. In addition, Unit personnel will be involved with extension and technical assistance to cooperating agencies and to the general public. [http://www.wle.umaine.edu/temp\\_unit/unitpage.html](http://www.wle.umaine.edu/temp_unit/unitpage.html).



### **Maine Entomological Society (MES)**

The Maine Entomological Society (MES) was established by a group of insect and arachnid enthusiasts in 1997 to promote a forum for discussion, cooperation, and collaboration among amateurs and professionals in entomology, and to promote educational activities on Maine insects and terrestrial arthropods throughout the state. MES has a membership of approximately 130 individuals and groups. <http://www.colby.edu/MES/>.



### **Maine Forest Products Council (MFPC)**

The Maine Forest Products Council was founded in 1960 to serve the diverse needs of Maine's forest products community. Their membership ranges from landowners and loggers to truckers, paper mills, and lumber processors; in short, any one who has an interest in seeing the Maine woods remain a viable, sustainable resource. MFPC is committed to being the state's primary source of information about all the work, study, and recreation which is constantly going on throughout Maine's working forests. The Maine woods

are a special place, providing an abundant renewable resource, jobs, tax dollars, and traditional recreational opportunities. Their goal is to keep them that way. <http://www.maineforest.org/>.



### **Maine Professional Guides Association (MPGA)**

The Maine Professional Guides Association is an organization of Registered Maine Guides who strive to enhance the standards of the guiding industry. The Association is continually monitoring new and proposed legislation that affect the guiding industry, the fisheries, wildlife and the natural resources of the state, and other areas that have potential impact on the profession. <http://www.maine-guides.org/>.



### **Maine Tourism Association**

The Maine Tourism Association is a non-profit association that operates the state visitor information centers and produces the state's official travel guide for worldwide distribution. The association is more than 82 years old, and is the acknowledged, private-sector tourism leader in the State of Maine. The Association's membership is comprised of professional leadership and organizations whose goal is to promote Maine as a prime vacation destination. [http://www.maine-tourism.com/index.php?cat\\_id=220](http://www.maine-tourism.com/index.php?cat_id=220).

### **Maine Trappers Association (MTA)**

The Maine Trappers Association was established in 1947 to provide an organization by which those with a common interest in the sport of trapping could come together to discuss their common goals. The MTA has a proud history of bringing about changes that have enhanced the image of trappers and trapping. They have been leaders in supporting the development of traps and trapping techniques that are effective and humane and have supported legislation that has made trapping more acceptable to the non-trapping public, including mandatory trapper education. <http://www.mta.homestead.com/>.



### **Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM)**

Since 1959, the Natural Resources Council of Maine has worked to protect, conserve and restore Maine's environment for present and future generations. Citizen-supported and nonprofit, the Council realizes this mission through the support and active involvement of thousands of members and volunteers. <http://www.nrcm.org/index.html>.



### **National Wildlife Federation (NWF)**

The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) represents the power and commitment of four million members and supporters joined by affiliated wildlife organizations in 47 states and territories. NWF unites Americans in their shared value of wildlife conservation. NWF has helped return wolves to Yellowstone National Park, guided efforts to protect habitat for whooping cranes and panthers in Florida, and defended America's safeguards and safe-havens for wildlife. NWF believes that education is the key to creating a world where wildlife thrives. Through their website and magazines, NWF teaches children,

families and concerned citizens how they can help protect wildlife, and connect homeowners to nature through their Backyard Wildlife Habitat™ program. <http://www.nwf.org/>.



### **Ruffed Grouse Society (RGS)**

The Ruffed Grouse Society's role in conservation of wildlife habitat is to enhance the environment for Ruffed Grouse, American Woodcock, and other forest wildlife that require or utilize early successional forests. <http://www.ruffedgrousesociety.org/>.



### **Small Woodlot Owners Association of Maine (SWOAM)**

The Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine was incorporated in 1975 as a non-profit organization under Maine law by a group of private, non-industrial woodland owners. Their primary purpose was to design a program to assist each other in learning how to manage their own woodland. The informal slogan of the group was "Feet on the ground hands on the trees." Meetings were often held on the woodlots of the members themselves. Practices, which had proved successful, as well as those which had not, were pointed out and discussed on-site. And members learned through the experience of others. SWOAM, as it is familiarly known, grew. It broadened its membership to include not only small landowners but also anyone who had an interest in Maine woodlands. To reach more people, regional chapters were started in various parts of the state. Today, SWOAM remains primarily a volunteer organization of more than 2,750 active members. In addition to assisting its members, SWOAM is concerned with public awareness. The cumulative importance to Maine's economy and ecology of a large number of managed forest units is stressed, particularly in areas experiencing development pressures. <http://www.swoam.com/>.



### **Sportsman's Alliance of Maine (SAM)**

The Sportsman's Alliance of Maine is Maine's largest sportsman's organization with a full-time headquarters and staff in Augusta. SAM was organized in 1975 as a non-profit membership organization to promote conservation of Maine's wildlife resources and to be an advocate for hunters, anglers, trappers, and gun owners throughout the state. <http://www.samcef.org/>.



### **The Nature Conservancy (TNC)**

The Nature Conservancy is a leading international, nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. TNC has developed a strategic, science-based planning process, called Conservation by Design, which helps identify the highest-priority places -- landscapes and seascapes that, if conserved, promise to ensure biodiversity over the long term. TNC has five priority conservation initiatives to address the principal threats to conservation at the sites where they work. Through these initiatives, they are advancing conservation science, developing multi-site strategies, catalyzing global partnerships

and improving policies in each of these key conservation areas: marine conservation, freshwater conservation, global warming, fire, and invasive species. <http://www.nature.org/>.



### **Trout Unlimited (TU)**

Trout Unlimited's mission is to conserve, protect, and restore North America's trout and salmon fisheries and their watersheds. TU accomplishes this mission on local, state, and national levels with an extensive and dedicated volunteer network. TU's national office, based just outside of Washington, D.C., and its regional offices employ professionals who testify before Congress, publish a quarterly magazine, intervene in federal legal proceedings, and work with the organization's 142,000 volunteers in 450 chapters nationwide to keep them active and involved in conservation issues. TU is leading a landmark effort to restore fishable Atlantic salmon runs on Maine's Penobscot River. <http://www.tu.org/>.



### **University of Maine, Department of Wildlife Ecology**

The Department of Wildlife Ecology offers programs that lead to undergraduate and graduate degrees in Wildlife Ecology. The program began in 1937 and now covers the wide breadth of wildlife science including wildlife ecology and biology, conservation biology, and wildlife management. Undergraduates also can focus on individual interests such as fisheries, management of rare and endangered species, forestry, environmental education, and many others areas. Graduate students pursue research on a wide variety of ecological and conservation issues in Maine, the nation, and internationally. The Department has seven University faculty, about 25 graduate students, and averages 100 undergraduates. There also are four federal biologists with the Biological Research Division of the U.S. Geological Survey on the faculty. Three of the U.S.G.S. faculty are part of the Maine Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, which brings together the University of Maine, the Biological Research Division, and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to foster wildlife research and graduate education. The fourth U.S.G.S.-affiliated faculty member is part of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. <http://www.wle.umaine.edu/>.



### **University of Maine, Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research**

As one of the network of congressionally-authorized water centers located at each Land Grant University, the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research has a diverse interdisciplinary mission as a focal point for environmental research, education, and outreach: to promote world-class caliber collaborative research among Maine faculty and external scientists, facilitate the quest for research funding for the University of Maine System and government scientists, enhance training of future water resource professionals through research experiences and coursework, offer information, guidance and environmental education as a public service to individuals, groups, and organizations. [http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/about\\_us/index.htm](http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/about_us/index.htm).

## Wildlands Project

Reacting to the rapid extinction of plants and animals worldwide, a group of conservation biologists and wilderness advocates founded the Wildlands Project in 1991. The Wildlands Project called on conservationists to think about innovative ways in which existing islands of protected habitat could be connected by wildlands networks - mosaics of public and private land linked together. From this mindset evolved their one hundred year vision: to create a continental-scale network of connected wildlands, linking together wildlands from Mexico to the Yukon, from Florida to Newfoundland, from Baja California to the Brooks Range and the Bering Sea. To date, in North America, the Wildlands Project and its partners have completed five Wildlands Network Designs, and a sixth will be completed for the greater northern Appalachian region in 2005. <http://www.wild-earth.org/cms/page1127.cfm>.



## Wildlife Alliance of Maine (WAM)

The Wildlife Alliance of Maine is an organization developed by Maine residents to keep the state's citizens informed about wildlife issues. They are a group of Maine citizens comprised of biologists, activists, guides, hunters, wildlife rehabilitators and others committed to equal representation and positive change for Maine's wildlife.

<http://www.wildlifealliancemaine.org/values.htm>T.