

# Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund

## Grant Awards Round 26-1

Grants Awarded on May 7, 2026

### Category 1 Fisheries & Wildlife & Habitat Conservation

261-01-03	SWCD	<b>From Biathlon to Bloom: Trails for Pollinators</b> Central Aroostock SWCD <i>Once used for Biathlon competitions, the firing range will become native pollinator crops and outdoor classrooms.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$12,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$16,000	Presque Isle
261-01-05	IFW	<b>Identifying Important Tree Species and Key Habitat Characteristics for Forest-Breeding Birds in Maine</b> Appalachian Mountain Club <i>Assess the relative importance of tree species and other habitat metrics for forest birds in Maine.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$18,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$20,000	Statewide
261-01-06	DEP	<b>Kennebago Watershed Monitoring and Management</b> Kennebago Science Initiative <i>Deploy a sensor network to facilitate flow management and monitor temperature, level, and dissolved oxygen in critical trout habitat.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$27,815</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$30,906	Kennebago Watershed
261-01-13	DMR	<b>Marine Mammals as Sentinels in the Gulf of Maine</b> University of New England <i>Marine mammals as sentinels of Gulf of Maine food webs to track short- and long-term shifts and inform protection of key habitats.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$21,105</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$24,829	Gulf of Maine
261-01-14	IFW	<b>Maine LoonWeb</b> Maine Audubon Society <i>Maine LoonWeb is a new online platform for volunteer and data management for the annual loon count and monitoring.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$9,080</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$13,163	Statewide
261-01-15	DMR	<b>Rising Tides: Marine Life Film and Education Videos</b> Moosey Productions <i>Engaging short documentary film addressing some of the biggest challenges of Maines' marine life.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$15,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$21,000	Statewide
261-01-17	DMR	<b>Beaverdam Stream Strategic Wood Addition</b> Downeast Coastal Conservancy <i>Habitat enhancement and creation for Atlantic salmon and brook trout.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$15,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$15,998	Beaverdam Stream
261-01-18	DMR	<b>Quantifying Post-Release Mortality in the Commercial-Sized Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fishery</b> University of Maine <i>An investigation on the post-release mortality of commercial sized Atlantic bluefin tuna</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$18,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$23,889	Gulf of Maine

**Total Amount Funded for Category: 1                    \$136,000**

## Category 2 Acquisition & Mgmt of Public Lands, Parks, Wildlife Conservation Areas & Pub

261-02-01	SRCC	<b>Recreation, Habitat, and Water for Biddeford</b> Maine Coast Heritage Trust <i>Maine Coast Heritage Trust seeks funds to manage the 257-acre Biddeford Forest Nature Preserve for public access, water quality, and wildlife habitat</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$25,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$40,000	Biddeford
261-02-02	WNERR	<b>Wetland Restoration at Sanford Community Forest</b> Three Rivers Land Trust <i>Restore vital wetlands and enhance recreation opportunities at the Sanford Community Forest.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$25,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$25,000	Sanford
261-02-04	ACF	<b>Blue Hill Heritage Trust Outdoor Education Program</b> Blue Hill Heritage Trust <i>Connects regional people with outdoor learning and adventure.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$10,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$10,000	Blue Hill Peninsula
261-02-05	DMR	<b>Mill Brook Preserve - navigation and education</b> Presumpscot Regional Land Trust <i>Improve navigational and accessible educational signage at Mill Brook Preserve to support the protection of alewives and habitat.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$9,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$20,000	Westbrook
261-02-07	IFW	<b>Gilman Stream Forest</b> Somerset Woods Trustees <i>Acquire 175 acres of managed woodlands, securing traditional water access, multi-use trail and habitat for threatened and special concern species.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$15,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$15,000	New Portland
261-02-08	ACF	<b>Maine State Trails Plan</b> Bureau of Parks and Lands <i>A comprehensive statewide trails plan will incorporate data, public input, and guidance to set sustainable trail development strategies.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$25,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$25,000	Statewide
261-02-10	IFW	<b>Blueberry Preserve</b> Scarborough Land Trust <i>Purchase of 58-acres for watershed and vernal pools protection and provide recreational access.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$25,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$25,000	Scarborough

**Total Amount Funded for Category: 2                    \$134,000**

### Category 3 Endangered & Threatened Species Conservation Projects

261-03-02	ACF	<b>Mapping and Protecting Maine's Old Forests</b> Maine Natural Areas Program <i>Work with willing landowners and partners to identify, assess, and document Maine's old forests to leverage voluntary conservation.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$22,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$22,000	Statewide
261-03-05	IFW	<b>Overwintering Ecology of Maine Wood Turtles</b> FB Environmental Associates <i>Assess overwintering habitat selection and site fidelity of wood turtles across three existing Maine research sites located in separate stream systems</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$10,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$22,958	Central & Western Maine
261-03-06	IFW	<b>Baldwin Blanding's Turtle Crossing Project</b> Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife <i>Install wildlife fencing to reduce road mortality of Blanding's Turtles (State Endangered) at a critical hotspot in Baldwin.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$10,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$15,000	West Baldwin
261-03-07	IFW	<b>Monitoring Maine's Threatened Species</b> Friends of Maine Coastal Islands NWR <i>Two technicians on Petit Manan Island will monitor seabird productivity rates, chick diet, and implement predator control.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$15,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$15,000	Petit Manan Island
261-03-08	IFW	<b>Supporting Declining Aerial Insectivores</b> Maine Natural History Observatory <i>This project will provide nest structures to facilitate collection of critical insights on the biology of declining aerial insectivores.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$6,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$6,000	Statewide

**Total Amount Funded for Category: 3            \$63,000**

### Category 4 Natural Resources Law Enforcement and Protection of Public Health

261-04-02	DMR	<b>Maine Marine Patrol Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for Search, Rescue, and Recovery</b> Dept. of Marine Resources - Bureau of Marine Patrol <i>Maine Marine Patrol Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for Search, Rescue, and Recovery</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$20,231</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$20,231	Statewide
261-04-03	DEP	<b>Water Quality Monitoring of Maine Beaches</b> University of New England <i>Two water quality monitoring buoys will be deployed on Maine beaches to support public health.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$21,769</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$25,000	York County
261-04-04	DEP	<b>Protecting Public Health on Androscoggin Lake</b> 30 Mile River Watershed Association <i>An environmental assessment to identify management strategies that will help prevent harmful algal blooms and protect public health.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> <b>\$25,000</b> <i>Requested:</i> \$25,000	Androscoggin Lake

**Total Amount Funded for Category: 4            \$67,000**

**# of Grants Awarded: 23**

**Total All Categories:            \$400,000**