

Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund

Grant Awards Round 25-1

Grants Awarded on May 27, 2025

Category 1 Fisheries & Wildlife & Habitat Conservation

251-01-01	DMR	Multi-species Monitoring for Climate Resilience University of Maine, Darling Marine Center <i>Evaluating ecological relationships and fisheries trade-offs in support of climate resilience strategies.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$23,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$23,917	Statewide
251-01-02	IFW	Quantifying Migratory Habitat Use of Wetland-dependent Songbirds Using Automated Radio Telemetry Biodiversity Research Institute <i>Assess songbird migratory corridors and stopover habitat using Motus tracking technology.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$15,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$24,810	Statewide
251-01-04	DMR	Tracking Striped Bass to Inform Fisheries Conservation University of New England <i>Determine birth locations of at-risk striped bass spawning stocks to support ME fisheries.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$10,849 <i>Requested:</i> \$28,627	Statewide
251-01-08	ACF	Numerically Modeling and Simulating Erosion of Southern Maine's Vulnerable Shorelines University of New England <i>Develop a mathematical model to predict coastal erosion along Maine's southern shorelines.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$16,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$27,440	Biddeford, Saco, Kennebunkpor t
251-01-12	ACF	Protecting Ash for the Future Gulf of Maine Research Institute <i>Support educators in leading youth in a collaborative effort to protect ash trees.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$10,151 <i>Requested:</i> \$21,122	Statewide

Total Amount Funded for Category: 1 \$75,000

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

251-02-02 IFW	David Priest (Dwinal Pond) Wildlife Management Area Addition MDIFW <i>Acquire a 55 acre parcel adjacent to the David Priest WMA.</i>	Funded: \$17,287 Requested: \$20,000	Lee
251-02-04 SWCD	2025 Rehabilitation & Reroute of Georges Highland Path Midcoast Trails Stewardship <i>Reopen a segment of the GHP (mile 2.4 - 3.05) that was previously closed due to unsustainable trail tread, and include rerouting (2.700ft) of trail to improve sustainability.</i>	Funded: \$15,073 Requested: \$20,000	Rockland Bog Preserve
251-02-06 IFW	Beech Ridge Preserve Scarborough Land Trust <i>The purchase and management of 60 Acres for watershed protection, wildlife, and recreation.</i>	Funded: \$16,687 Requested: \$25,000	Scarborough
251-02-08 ACF	Homestead Nature Education Center 7 Lakes Alliance <i>Provide new recreational resources that are family friendly and accessible to all users including those with limited mobility. It will also be a venue for 7 Lakes to host nature-based educational programming.</i>	Funded: \$27,178 Requested: \$33,305	Rome
251-02-11 ACF	Improving Trail & Bridge Infrastructure for Safety and Accessibility at the Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center Tanglewood 4-H Camp and Learning Center <i>Enhance safety and accessibility, creating a more welcoming and safe hiking experience for Maine.</i>	Funded: \$8,000 Requested: \$8,000	Lincolnville
251-02-12 ACF	Biological Monitoring on Maine's Ecological Reserves: Into the Next Era Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation-& Forestry- MNAP <i>Upgrade the State's ecological reserves database and ensure ongoing monitoring</i>	Funded: \$23,513 Requested: \$25,521	Statewide
251-02-14 ACF	Collaborative High Peaks Conservation Ranger Corps High Peaks Alliance <i>The High Peaks Conservation Ranger Corps is being piloted by the High Peaks Initiative to address region trail maintenance through the implementation of a shared seasonal trail crew, establishment of a robust centralized volunteer network, and a year-round trails specialist position.</i>	Funded: \$17,573 Requested: \$25,000	High Peaks Region
251-02-15 ACF	Maine Forest Collaborative Rural Aspirations Project <i>Maine Forest Collaborative empowers students to actively contribute to the vitality of our forest communities today and in the future, facilitating authentic place-based learning.</i>	Funded: \$19,833 Requested: \$20,000	Statewide
251-02-16 ACF	Rehabilitating Characteristics of the Northern Acadian Forest Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust <i>Updating Forest Ecosystem Management Plans with a renewed focus on ecological health and managing to increase the area in older forest condition.</i>	Funded: \$22,798 Requested: \$25,930	Statewide

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

251-02-17 ACF	Growing the Deer Meadow Brook Corridor for Community and Wildlife Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust <i>Conserve 256-acres of habitat including 1,600 feet along Deer Meadow Brook.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$27,058 <i>Requested:</i> \$35,500	Newcastle
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Total Amount Funded for Category: 2 \$195,000

Category 3 Endangered & Threatened Species Conservation Projects

251-03-01 IFW	Exploring Carbon Incentives to Conserve Listed and At-risk Species in Managed Forests New England Forestry Foundation <i>Organize consultations and dialogue events between landowners, ecologists, regulators and other stakeholders about balancing timber income, habitat management and climate outcomes in Maine's working forests. Particular focus will be put on activating new resources, such as the carbon market, to make balanced management more feasible.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$23,739 <i>Requested:</i> \$35,000	Statewide
251-03-02 ACF	Reintroduction of the American Chestnut in Maine Center for Wildlife Studies <i>Assess the cold tolerance of chestnut trees by comparing survival and growth of a variety of American and Chinese genotypes planted as seeds in two locations in Maine.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$20,261 <i>Requested:</i> \$20,261	Statewide
251-03-03 IFW	Documenting Diet and Productivity in Maine's Threatened Seabird Species Friends of Maine Coastal Islands <i>Hire a seabird technician on Petit Manan Island to focus on collecting fecal samples for eDNA analysis to document seabird diet, and to pay for sample analysis. Fecal analysis allows us to document diet of adults and chicks, and diet composition is thought to be critical to annual productivity rates of Atlantic puffins, razorbills, and common and Arctic terns.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$8,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$8,000	Petit Manan, Ship and Metinic Islands
251-03-05 IFW	Managing the Genetic Health of New England Cottontail University of NH - <i>Evaluate the genetic health of New England cottontail from reintroduced and wild.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$16,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$25,200	York and Cumberland
251-03-06 IFW	Indian Point Restoration Project Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust <i>Restoration of the Indian Point shoreline on Chebeague Island in Casco Bay will benefit nesting endangered piping plovers, other shorebirds and wildlife and improve safe public access.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$23,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$25,000	Chebeague Island
251-03-07 IFW	Conserving Sandplain Grassland Habitat Brunswick - Topsham Land Trust <i>Conserving 84 acres of sandplain grassland habitat to support documented endangered species.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$25,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$25,000	Brunswick

Total Amount Funded for Category: 3 \$116,000

Category 4 Natural Resources Law Enforcement and Protection of Public Health

251-04-01	DEP	<p>Revising the Lake Book: A Handbook for Lake Protection</p> <p>Maine Lakes Society</p> <p><i>Revise the current edition of The Lake Book, focusing on updating references to outdated regulations (e.g., lead-headed jigs, clean, drain, and dry; wake surf operations) and new scientific findings around lakes in order to keep the handbook current.</i></p>	<p>Funded: \$7,815</p> <p><i>Requested: \$9,735</i></p>	Statewide
251-04-02	ACF	<p>Brownville Fire Department Wilderness Rescue and Fire Suppression Project</p> <p>Brownville Fire Department</p> <p><i>Obtain an off road side by side utility vehicle, upfitting with rescue and fire suppression skid units, an enclosed trailer for storage and trans. Project includes training.</i></p>	<p>Funded: \$22,000</p> <p><i>Requested: \$32,000</i></p>	Brownville
251-04-03	IFW	<p>Avian Influenza Virus Prevalence, Transmission, and Evolution in Maine Waterfowl</p> <p>University of Maine System Acting Through the University of Maine</p> <p><i>Understand avian influenza virus distribution, transmission and evolution in 4 waterfowl species to better understand risk and prevent spillover to humans and domestic livestock in Maine.</i></p>	<p>Funded: \$27,745</p> <p><i>Requested: \$39,637</i></p>	Statewide
251-04-04	DEP	<p>Real-time Monitoring of Cyanobacteria in Webber and Threemile Ponds to Protect Public Health & Safety</p> <p>Webber Pond Association (WPA)</p> <p><i>Two probes will be added to Webber Pond with sensors that provide continuous monitoring and reporting to quantify cyanobacteria as well as green algae. This, combined with satellite and heat map monitoring of Webber and Threemile ponds, will enable quicker response to potential cyanobacteria toxin events that can impact public health and safety.</i></p>	<p>Funded: \$18,450</p> <p><i>Requested: \$18,450</i></p>	Vassalboro
251-04-05	IFW	<p>Maine Warden Service: Thermal Optics for Search and Rescue and Resource Protection</p> <p>Maine Warden Service</p> <p><i>Outfitting Maine Game Wardens with thermal optics to provide critical tools used for Search and Rescue as well as assist in the pursuit of violators of Maine's natural resource laws and regulations.</i></p>	<p>Funded: \$20,000</p> <p><i>Requested: \$22,090</i></p>	Statewide
251-04-06	DEP	<p>Adams Pond Road Re-alignment and Buffer Project</p> <p>Boothbay Region Water District</p> <p><i>Move 1000' of road increasing the buffer by nearly one acre.</i></p>	<p>Funded: \$17,990</p> <p><i>Requested: \$37,480</i></p>	Boothbay

Total Amount Funded for Category: 4 \$114,000

of Grants Awarded: 27

Total All Categories: \$500,000