



Governor's Task Force Regarding the Management of Public Lands and Publicly-Held Easements Public Listening Sessions November 27&28 2007

Background Information

OVERVIEW

On February 20, 2007, Governor John E. Baldacci issued an Executive Order creating the Task Force Regarding the Management of Public Lands and Publicly-Held Easements.

The purpose of the Task Force is to develop recommendations to improve the accuracy and availability of information regarding management of public lands in Maine and to ensure that decisions regarding management of public lands are made in a fair manner that meets the full array of recreational interests in Maine now and into the future.

Inventory information:

State-owned public lands and public access easements:

- DOC public lands owned in fee > 575,000 acres
- DOC public access easements > 1.1million acres
- DOC State Park lands > 84,000 acres
- IF&W lands > 106,000 acres
- Baxter State Park lands > 200,000 acres

Total acreage available for public access through State ownership or easement >2,065,000

Current Recreational Opportunities:

- Hunting, fishing, trapping – on more than 95% of DOC and IF&W lands
- More than 700 miles of snowmobile trail on public lands (more than 13,000 total miles of state-supported trails most of which is on private lands)
- More than 500 miles of ATV trail on Public Lands (more than 5000 total miles of state-supported trails most of which is on private lands)
- More than 200 miles of multiple-use rail trail
- More than 575 miles of hiking trails on public lands (more than 850 total miles including the Appalachian Trail)
- More than 460 state-owned or State-assisted boat launch sites

See more at <http://www.maine.gov/doc/parks/taskforce/index.html>