

Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund

Grant Awards Round 24-1

Grants Awarded on May 2, 2024

Category 1 Fisheries & Wildlife & Habitat Conservation

241-01-01	DMR	Medomak River Capacity Study Town of Waldoboro <i>Conducting a capacity study on portions of the Medomak River to see viability of aquatic life.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$16,700 <i>Requested:</i> \$16,700	Waldoboro
241-01-02	ACF	Ash and Hemlock Stewards Northeast Gulf of Maine Research Institute <i>Engages youth in building understanding of forested ecosystems, contributing to forest pest monitoring, and leading local stewardship action.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$13,889 <i>Requested:</i> \$13,889	Statewide
241-01-03	IFW	California Fields Grassland Restoration Poland Spring/Blue Triton Brands <i>Restoration of 20 acres of rare, high value grassland bird habitat on land owned by Poland Spring that has been transitioning to red and white pine forest.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$18,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$18,000	Hollis
241-01-04	SWCD	Watershed Stewardship Program in Southern Maine York County Soil and Water Conservation District <i>Conduct level 1 invasive aquatic plant surveys at 10 "orphaned" water bodies in York County and 6 boat launch sites along the Saco River.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$11,500 <i>Requested:</i> \$11,500	York County
241-01-05	ACF	Allagash Wilderness Waterway - Coldwater Fishery Habitat Temperature Monitoring Allagash Wilderness Waterway Foundation <i>Continue monitoring thermal conditions in AWW tributaries, locate coldwater areas in the Allagash River, and assess late summer thermal characteristics of AWW headwater lakes.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$8,750 <i>Requested:</i> \$8,750	Allagash Wilderness Waterway
241-01-06	IFW	Rangeley Region Wild Brook Trout and Landlocked Salmon Habitat, Spawning, and Survival Telemetry Project. MDIFW <i>Track Brook Trout and Landlocked Salmon over multiple years to learn vital behaviors that will allow us to better protect these coldwater fish during a time of changing use, pressure, and weather predictability.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$25,990 <i>Requested:</i> \$25,990	Rangeley
241-01-07	SWCD	Natural Resource Education Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District <i>Provide unique learning experiences to students that focus on protecting Maine's freshwater ecosystems, forests, and farmlands.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$53,061 <i>Requested:</i> \$53,061	Cumberland & York
241-01-08	DEP	Helping Homeowners Restore and Enhance Climate-Resilient Native Plant Buffers Maine Lakes Society <i>This pilot program improves lake health, water quality, and wildlife habitat by working directly with lakeshore property owners to design and install vegetated buffers, prioritizing LakeSmart properties not yet meeting shoreline buffer standards.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$20,928 <i>Requested:</i> \$20,928	Statewide

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241-01-09	ACF	Mitigating Effects of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid in North Bath Conserved Lands Kennebec Estuary Land Trust <i>Conduct management actions at Sewall Woods and Thorne Head to mitigate the effects of hemlock woolly adelgid and ensure continued access and enjoyment.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$5,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$5,000	Bath
241-01-10	IFW	American Woodcock Migration and Offshore Wind Energy in the Gulf of Maine University of Maine <i>Evaluate woodcock migratory crossings of the Gulf of Maine and relate to wind energy development.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$15,119 <i>Requested:</i> \$15,119	Maine, Nova Scotia
241-01-11	IFW	Expanding Plant and Marine Species of Greatest Conservation Need in Maine's State Wildlife Action Plan MDIFW <i>This effort will update information related to marine species and habitats and integrate SGCN plants into the 2025 revision of Maine's State Wildlife Action Plan.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$37,715 <i>Requested:</i> \$37,715	Statewide
241-01-12	IFW	Common Loons as Monitors of Maine's Environmental Health College of the Atlantic <i>Common loons are important environmental monitors and used to study contaminants like mercury and lead. This study continues these long-term efforts and expands monitoring to include other contaminants, emerging disease, and potential links to climate change.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$20,625 <i>Requested:</i> \$20,625	Statewide
241-01-13	IFW	Developing and Utilizing Automated Radio Telemetry to Quantify Songbird Migration Habitat Use in Maine Biodiversity Research Institute <i>Refining tracking approaches for assessing songbird migratory corridors and stopover habitat.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$24,440 <i>Requested:</i> \$24,440	Statewide
241-01-14	IFW	Developing a New Method for Subalpine Bird Monitoring Through Community Science University of Maine - School of Biology & Ecology <i>A test of how bird surveys conducted with mobile recording devices in Maine's subalpine habitats compare to professional human observers or autonomous recording units (ARUs).</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$24,615 <i>Requested:</i> \$24,615	Western Maine Mountains
241-01-15	IFW	Stream Smart Crossing Replacement on Tributary to Olney Brook Town of Dixmont - Dixmont Conservation Commission <i>Replace an undersized culvert to restore stream connectivity for aquatic organisms.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$35,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$35,000	Dixmont

Total Amount Funded for Category: 1 \$331,332

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

241-02-01	IFW	Nonesuch River Preserve Scarborough Land Trust <i>Conserving 30 acres for watershed protection and connectivity to conserved lands.</i>	<i>Funded: \$24,000</i> <i>Requested: \$24,000</i>	Scarborough
241-02-02	ACF	Brunswick-Topsham Outdoors - A Map and On-Line Guide to Regional Outdoor Recreation Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust <i>Increase the availability and quality of outdoor recreation information for a rapidly growing service area specifically highlighting facility accessibility and use opportunities.</i>	<i>Funded: \$10,000</i> <i>Requested: \$10,000</i>	Sagadahoc County
241-02-03	IFW	Back River Access Arrowsic Conservation Commission <i>Acquisition and development of a hand-carry boat access on the tidal Back River in Arrowsic.</i>	<i>Funded: \$20,000</i> <i>Requested: \$20,000</i>	Arrowsic
241-02-04	ACF	Langlais Art Preserve Woodland Trail Georges River Land Trust <i>A new 2-mile woodland trail on the preserve to expand with place-based art experiences.</i>	<i>Funded: \$15,000</i> <i>Requested: \$15,000</i>	Cushing
241-02-05	IFW	Mingo Springs Woodlands and Meadows Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust <i>Purchase the Mingo Springs Woodlands, Meadows, and birding trail</i>	<i>Funded: \$25,000</i> <i>Requested: \$25,000</i>	Rangeley
241-02-06	ACF	Promoting Access and Recreation in Portland's Newest Park Portland Parks Conservancy <i>The Portland Parks Conservancy will coordinate a partnership to improve trails and signage in the new North Deering Park.</i>	<i>Funded: \$20,000</i> <i>Requested: \$20,000</i>	Portland
241-02-07	ACF	Rapid River to Moosehead Lake Northern Forest Canoe Trail <i>Engage volunteers and stewardship interns in two weeks of service leading to the establishment of a new campsite along the Moosehead Lake and recreational improvements to the Cedar Stump campsite (Umbagog Lake) and Rapid River Carry.</i>	<i>Funded: \$6,919</i> <i>Requested: \$6,919</i>	Northeast Carry & Magalloway
241-02-08	ACF	Louds Island Land Conservation Louds Island Conservancy <i>Acquire and conserve 5 acres on Louds Island in Muscongus Bay as an ecological reserve.</i>	<i>Funded: \$20,000</i> <i>Requested: \$20,000</i>	Louds Island
241-02-09	ACF	Trail for All - Buck's Ledge Community Forest Woodstock Conservation Commission <i>Buck's Ledge Community Forest in Woodstock has built a Trail for All. This trail, with fantastic views, accessible for all disabled and less abled people.</i>	<i>Funded: \$25,000</i> <i>Requested: \$25,000</i>	Town of Woodstock

Total Amount Funded for Category: 2 \$165,919

Category 3 Endangered & Threatened Species Conservation Projects

241-03-01	ACF	Biodiversity Report Card: Maine's Rare Plants Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation-& Forestry- MNAP <i>Determine the status of rare plant biodiversity across the state and plan for its future.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$24,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$24,000	Statewide
241-03-02	IFW	Using Fine-scale Telemetry to Monitor Saltmarsh Sparrow response to Restoration University of NH - <i>Project will reveal impacts of marsh restoration on endangered Saltmarsh Sparrows.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$25,200 <i>Requested:</i> \$25,200	York County
241-03-03	IFW	Rusty Blackbird Survival, Movements, and Habitat Use During the Non-breeding Period Audubon Society of New Hampshire <i>Document movements, landscape use, and survival of fledgling and adult Rusty Blackbirds during the post-fledging/pre-migration and fall migration periods.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$15,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$15,000	Oxford County
241-03-04	IFW	Developing Chemical Markers as a Conservation Tool to Protect Maine's Threatened Turtles Center for Wildlife Studies <i>Using chemical markers to build a multi-species anti-poaching tool for Maine turtle conservation.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$20,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$20,000	Statewide
241-03-05	IFW	Documenting Migratory Connectivity, Travel routes, and Habitat Use Patterns of ME's UPSAs Biodiversity Research Institute <i>Identifying threats to ME's UPSA population throughout the annual cycle using Satellite Transmitters</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$25,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$25,000	Statewide
241-03-06	IFW	Expanding Nightjar Research in Remote Areas of Maine Maine Natural History Observatory <i>Gathering critical insights into the biology of Maine's declining nightjar species.</i>	<i>Funded:</i> \$23,000 <i>Requested:</i> \$23,000	Statewide

Total Amount Funded for Category: 3 \$132,200

Category 4 Natural Resources Law Enforcement and Protection of Public Health

241-04-01	DMR	Development and Validation of Analytical Methods for the Detection of Marine Biotoxins in Shellfish Maine Dept. of Marine Resources <i>Seeking funding for supplies needed for the development and validation of methods used to detect marine biotoxins using LC-M5/M5 and HPLC to be used for public health shellfish testing in Maine. These include validating a new method for detection of Diarrhetic Shellfish Poisoning (DSP) and Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning (ASP).</i>	Funded: \$15,204 <i>Requested: \$16,075</i>	Boothbay
241-04-02	DEP	The Blue-Green Knowledge Gap: Addressing and Emerging Threat to Public Health Through Monitoring and Messaging Midcoast Conservancy <i>The Maine Cyanobacteria Group seeks funding to broaden the State of Maine's understanding of cyanobacteria and cyanotoxin risks and distribution, and to create consistent messaging tools to communicate risks of cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins to the public.</i>	Funded: \$29,440 <i>Requested: \$29,440</i>	
241-04-03	IFW	Operational Communications for the Wilderness Search and Rescue Team (WRT) Wilderness Rescue Team <i>Enable the Wilderness Rescue Team to purchase radios, repeaters, and a solar powered command center to provide the volunteers with the ability to communicate vital information during rescue missions.</i>	Funded: \$46,296 <i>Requested: \$47,167</i>	Statewide
241-04-04	DEP	A Regional Assessment and Inventory of High-Risk Roads, Stream Crossings, and Culverts to Improve Climate Resiliency and Water Quality in Rural Maine. 30 Mile River Watershed Association <i>Improve road management and resiliency by 1) identifying infrastructure most at risk of failure due to climate change, and 2) developing a prioritized inventory of those infrastructure needs.</i>	Funded: \$20,892 <i>Requested: \$20,892</i>	30 Mile River Watershed
241-04-05	IFW	Fish Lead Free with the Addition of a Retailer Lead Tackle Buyback Maine Audubon Society <i>Maine Audubon will enhance current Fish Lead Free efforts and expand the Fish Lead Free initiative by partnering with fishing tackle retailers throughout the state to buy back their inventory of illegal, small-sized lead tackle. This effort will coincide with a new ban on the sale of small-sized painted lead jigs beginning September 1, 2024.</i>	Funded: \$24,544 <i>Requested: \$25,415</i>	Statewide
241-04-06	DEP	Facilitating Access to PFAS Testing for Private Wells to Understand Geographic Patterns in Contamination Shaw Institute <i>Provide access to low-cost PFAS testing for private wells in Blue Hill, ME to empower residents to manage their exposure and to provide the data needed to inform the town's water management plans.</i>	Funded: \$21,624 <i>Requested: \$22,495</i>	Blue Hill

Total Amount Funded for Category: 4 \$158,000

of Grants Awarded: 36

Total All Categories: \$787,451