

Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument Fact Sheet

(1) Establishment – On August 24, 2016, President Barack Obama designated approximately 87,500 acres as Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument. The president’s designation occurred one day before the 100th anniversary of the founding of the National Park Service (NPS) and during the summer of the 100th anniversary of the creation of Sieur du Monts National Monument. Sieur du Monts would later become Acadia National Park.

(2) Establishment – Elliotsville Plantation, Inc. (EPI) donated the land included in the designation to the American people for the purpose of conserving the area as a national monument. Along with the land, EPI donated \$20 million to establish an endowment for the monument. EPI also pledged to raise an additional \$20 million to donate to the endowment.

(3) Management – Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument is managed by the National Park Service, an agency within the United States Department of the Interior. The National Park Service is tasked with managing 413 of our nation’s most treasured places. These magnificent areas range from places like Grand Canyon and Acadia National Parks, to Gettysburg National Military Park or Stonewall National Monument.

(4) Management Plan – All National Park Service units operate under “Management Plans”. These plans form the overarching vision for the care of the areas managed by the NPS. The NPS has committed to completing the management plan for Katahdin Woods and Waters within three years of its designation. The management plan process is inclusive; the NPS has and will continue to receive public input by hosting listening sessions in local communities, etc.

(5) Access – There are two main points of access for Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument. To access the southern portion of the monument, visitors travel east from Staceyville on the Swift Brook Road. The northern portions of the monument are accessed by following the Grand Lake Road from Mt. Chase to Mattagamon, turning south just after crossing over the East Branch of the Penobscot River.

(6) Recreation – The NPS manages the property to allow for a diverse array of recreation activities, including hiking, canoeing, biking, fishing, skiing, hunting, and snowmobiling (see below). At the time of designation, the monument lands contained hiking, biking, and ski trails. Additional recreational infrastructure will be developed in accordance with the management plan.

(7) Hunting – Hunting, in accordance with Maine laws, will be allowed in the National Monument lands east of the East Branch of the Penobscot.

(8) Snowmobile Trails – As prescribed by deed, access to snowmobile trails on the east side of the East Branch of the Penobscot are guaranteed forever, generally along the routes followed by the existing ITS 85 (from Millinocket to Matagamon), the existing ITS 83 (from Medway to Sherman Station) and the existing Club Trail 114 (from the intersection with ITS 85 to Shin Pond).

(9) Celebrate Logging and Paper-Making History – The NPS has a long history of excellence in interpreting the historical and cultural context of lands in the agency’s care. Already, NPS has set up an information center at the Patten Lumberman’s Museum. Since the designation on August 24, 2016, the museum has seen more visitors than any time in its history.

If you have other questions, please contact Ryan Parker at (207) 430-0144 or rparker@nrcm.org or visit the [National Park Service, Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument website](#).



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