More than a year has passed since the NRCM community celebrated one of the biggest achievements in Maine’s environmental history: the creation of the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument (KWW). NRCM members and staff were vital to building public support for the designation, which was signed into law by President Barack Obama on August 24, 2016. Since then, thousands of visitors from around the country have trekked to the new National Monument, giving Katahdin-area businesses a much-needed economic boost. Some of the Monument’s most vocal opponents have now become its strongest supporters.

Time is a great healer—and revealer. With enough of it, we can achieve boundless success. Who would have imagined decades ago that the lower reaches of the dam-choked Penobscot River would again run freely? Last summer was the culmination of the successful Penobscot River Restoration Project. Along with other members of the Penobscot Trust, the Penobscot Nation, and governmental agencies, NRCM helped remove the Veazie and Great Works dams and constructed a nature-like bypass at the Howland Dam. Nearly 4,000 shad and more than a million alewives were tracked this year, an increase from virtually no fish in previous years. The waters of the Kennebec have been telling similar stories of fish revivals since removal of the Edwards Dam in 1999.

Even in the face of the seemingly impossible, NRCM and members like you have stood up to Governor LePage’s anti-environment policies and bullying tactics. As a result, we continue to make progress on many fronts.

Had we not persisted, the Maine Legislature would have gutted the state’s mining rules. Instead, it passed the strongest metallic mining law in the country. The mining issue reared its head five years ago when an international company, J.D. Irving, attempted to weaken existing rules so that it could mine for minerals at Bald Mountain in Aroostook County, with little accountability for the pollution it was sure to create. NRCM and hundreds of citizen advocates fought for strong mining regulations. We succeeded in passing the law and overturning Governor LePage’s veto.

Persistence pays off because it is rooted in strong beliefs—yours, ours, and that of many legislators and other elected officials. You share our commitment to protecting the environment our children and grandchildren will inherit.

Still, there are those who refuse to see the value of science and who side with polluters over people. Unfortunately, one of those people is our country’s highest public servant, the President of the United States. When President Trump turned his back on the most urgent environmental issue of our time—climate change—millions of Americans responded by taking their beliefs to the streets. NRCM was proud to help organize science and climate marches here in Maine, and we were heartened to see so many of you at these events.

Since 1959, we have gone up against many opponents and won. Today, we are stronger than ever. Our members and supporters have grown to more than 20,000, which includes people of all professions and political parties. NRCM members come from more than 400 Maine towns. We are buoyed by those of you who treasure Maine from afar. We also have expanded our reach into the next generation. In addition to our strong NRCM Rising group that engages young professionals, we are now in our third year of offering small grants to middle school teachers eager to develop hands-on projects to help students learn more about the nature of Maine. Our Sustainable Maine program is working with a growing number of schools to reduce food waste, which contributes to climate change and other environmental problems. We even partner with the Girl Scouts, which now offers an NRCM Sustainable Maine patch!

Given the challenges facing our environment, in Maine and across the country, there is no better time for action, and there is much you can do. On our website, we list the how-to’s for writing a letter to the editor and provide contact information for news media here in Maine. Perhaps the time is right for you to lead the effort to ban single-use plastic bags or polystyrene containers in your town, as more and more communities are doing. Our online Community Toolkits can help. If you are a member who lives outside of Maine, I invite you to learn what we are doing—and ways you can help—at the national level under the direction of our new Federal Project. Stay informed by signing up for our enews and electronic Action Network.

We have seen difficult times before, and there are many ahead. Big companies will continue to lobby our elected officials. The governor will continue to twist legislators’ arms, as he did this past session on an important solar bill and many other bipartisan bills. But for every roadblock, there is a response: when the solar bill failed, we decided to sue the Public Utilities Commission to stop the reckless rules that favor utilities over Maine people. The work goes on.

Thank you for being a part of the NRCM community. We will persist, and we will do so together. Your engagement will make the difference: letters to your legislators and local newspapers, phone calls, emails, and financial support—this is what keeps us so powerful. From our twenty-plus year Allagash members to our next-generation NRCM Rising supporters, NRCM is always strong because of you.

I am so proud of our shared successes this year. Together, we have made history! I look forward to what we will accomplish together in the months and years ahead.

Lisa Pohlmann, Executive Director
IN THEIR OWN WORDS
NR CM MEMBERS SHARE WHY THEY SUPPORT OUR WORK

“This is an amazing and effective organization. We are lucky to have them making a difference on our behalf, researching the issues, reporting the issues to us, and organizing us to act. Thank you for saving Maine from turning into a wasteland!”
—Polly Cockrill, Cumberland Center

“I support NRCM’s outstanding efforts to save Maine’s natural resources.”
—Linda Shaffer, New Harbor

“This is more important than ever to be vigilant about keeping our air clean, and increasing our use of wind and solar power. I know that NRCM is always at work to protect Maine’s environment. I want to do what I can to help.”
—Betty Hartley, Brunswick

“NRCM is keeping hope alive. It is a bastion against destruction of the state.”
—Susan Schnur, Islesboro

“Please keep up your excellent work! Keep up the pressure. I grew up in Maine, and it’s hard to watch [Gov. LePage] attempt to undo 65 years of environmental progress.”
—Jim Kelley, Dover, NH

“A great organization that works hard to protect Maine’s environment for future generations to work in and enjoy.”
—Adam Turner, Hallowell

“Thank you so much for the noble work you do in protecting our lovely Maine.”
—Jeanie Piecara, New York, NY

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“Like” us!
Tune in and subscribe!
www.nrcm.org

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Tune in and subscribe!
www.nrcm.org
NRCM thanks and congratulates the following individuals, families, and organizations, all recipients of our Allagash Award, established in 2014 to honor members who have supported our NRCM and our work for 20 years or more. Your financial support has helped protect the nature of Maine. Thank you!
Anonymous (36)
Leslie Abrons
Mr. and Mrs. Philip D. Allen
Dan and Joani Amory
Stephen O. and Janet Andersen
Allen E. and Elissa Armstrong
Ellen Asherman, in memory of Adrian Asherman
Lise Aubry
Mr.* and Mrs. William M. Backer
Colin W. Baker and Elaine C. Cinciva
Mary Barnes and Peter Neill
Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Bass
Stephen and Paula Birmingham
Mr. James G. Blaine
M. Sylvia Blake
Peter and Sofia Blanchard
John H. Boomer and Susan Radomski
Peter P. Bradley
Jane and Frank Bragg
Sandra E. Brawders
Dr. Samuel B. Broaddus and Ms. Sandra Jensen
Willard and Nancy Brown
Marion W. Brown
Alexander K. and Anne Buck
Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Butler
Mr. Charles Butt
Amy and Robert Campbell
Tom and Heather Carr
Senator Brownie Carson and Dana Porter Carson
Steve Cartwright
Lisa and Dick Cashin
John T. and Theresa D. Cederholm
Nat and Jessica Chamberlin
Mary P. Chatfield
George and Kris Clark
Barbara B. Clark
Andrew M. and Amy Cole
Richard L. and Sheridan Collins
Warren F. and Cathy Cooke
William W. and Martha P. Cooper
Dr. Betty Cottle
Lee and Anne Cotton
Shelby M.C. and Gale L. Davis
Victoria M. Devlin
Brian L. and Meg Dietz
Charles and Marylee Dodge
Mark and Pilar Doughty
Mr. Brad du Pont
Daniel J. Eccher and Brigid A. Mullally
Ben and Dianna Emory
Peter Enggass
Richard Estes
Susan L. Farrand
Des FitzGerald and Lucinda Zeising
Nancy J. Fox and Jon H. Edwards
Marion Freeman and Corson Ellis
Wyatt and Rachel Garfield
Robert S. and Alene H. Gelbard
Stephen and Margaret Gill
Robert G. Gorham
Judith Graber and Paul Kuehnert
Rudi and Dorothy Graf
Allen R. and Nancy H. Greenleaf
Peter and Harriette Griffen
Wallace Griffith
Martin R. Haase
Brad and Patty Hager
Cyrus and Patricia Hagge
Karen Harris and Robert L. Gips
Mrs. John A. Harris
Mrs. Frances W. Hatch
Liz Hays
Zoe K. Henriquez
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Betsey Holtzman
Cynthia D. Hyde and James J. Kinnealey
Evan T. and Cynthia G. Jones
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Dennis and Sandra King
Brigitte and Hal Kingsbury
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Eleanor H. Kinney
Lincoln F. and Gloria W. Ladd
Norton H. Lamb Jr.
Cindy Lang, in honor of Cathy Johnson
Steve and Jo Laurich
Adam and Diana Lee
Roger Lee
Bill Leecie
Thomas* and Barbara Leggat
Patricia A. Leighfield
Joan S. Leitzer and Kenneth S. Spier
Peter and Kathleen Leslie
George and Emily Lewis
Priscilla B. Linn
Robin and Laurie Lombard
Cabot and Heidi Lyman
Mrs. Jane C. MacElree
Pamela Manice
A.M. Manville II and Sandy Scholar
Kenneth and Cerie Mason
Jeanie Wilson and Thomas Mayer
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond F. McCaskey
Ms. Mary McFadden and Dr. Lawrence Stifter
Suzanne and Neil McGinn
Mary L. McGregor and Michael Ryan
Stephen E. McKay
Kelly S. McKinney-Brekwood and
Harold E. Brakewood
Todd P. Melinn and V. Wellens King
Del Merritt
Mr. and Mrs. William G. Meserve
Joseph D. Mesaler
Dr. Ross A. Metzman
Peter Millard and Emily Wesson
Fred and Avis Miller
Roger and Margot Milliken
David G. Millick
Nancy Millichen MD
Julie B. Mitchell
Lorenzo Mitchell
Alix L. and Mark F. Morin
Wayne and Caroline Morong
Marta N. Morse
David Moskovitz and Bambi Jones
Kathryn U. Mochay
Taylor Mudge
David and Jennifer Mummford
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin R. Neilson
P. Andrews Nixon
David and Gayle Noble
Jennifer and Jay Nolan
Walter* and Helen Norton
Buck O’Herin and Lisa Newcomb
Sally and Ted Oldham
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Nicholas W. Owens
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Seldenfleur
Russell B. and Lisa Pierce
Jake Plante and Marcia Harrington
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Stephen and Bonnie S. Wood
Frances Woodring
Luther F. Black and Christina Wright
Dr. James and Helen G. Wright
Thomas K. Yoder

*passed away during FY17

The Katahdin Circle recognizes NRCM members who give $1,000 or more during our fiscal year (April 1 to March 31) to support our mission. NRCM thanks the following Katahdin Circle donors for your generosity.
In these times of political and societal turbulence, we tend to revisit those moments in our past that helped shape the values we rely on as we face today’s challenges. We all have stories in our vast and varied experiences being drawn to environmental advocacy. Here is one of my stories, which I had the pleasure of sharing at the NRCM President’s Luncheon this year:

I was 14 years old, living in Ontario, and I was spending my second summer volunteering at Long Point Bird Observatory on the north shore of Lake Erie, banding and counting birds. We caught the birds in mist nets, a standard tool used by bird banders to safely catch birds. I learned how to quickly disentangle them as soon as they were snared. One day I was manning the nets and found that a Ruby-throated Hummingbird had just been caught. This was not supposed to happen to hummingbirds, based on the nets we were using, and though I freed the hummingbird, it went into shock. The ornithologist at my side told me not to move, not to disturb the bird at all, not to set him down. I was just to hold him in my palm. While holding him in my hand I stared awestruck at this form of life, dutifully holding my palm still, sitting on the back stoop of the banding station, taken in by the fragility of life, and also its power: I could feel the bird’s heart in my palm; I saw all of the tiniest details and every color of the rainbow in the feathers. The awe that I felt was mixed with worry, a sense of responsibility, of fault, and of fear that suddenly the bird’s life would go out. The hummingbird was in my hand for probably only half an hour, but it felt like a whole morning. And then, in the absolute blink of an eye, zoom, it flew away—faster than my eye could even follow.

This story reflects for me an early moment in my life when I began to realize that I have a vital role to play, a job to do. We all do. It was my role then to create a safe place for that tiny life...
**Events in the Spotlight**

**Rising for the Solstice** The young professionals who make up NRCM Rising joined Portland Paddle to celebrate the summer solstice with a paddle around Casco Bay in Portland. The weather was perfect and included a stunning sunset on the bay.

**Power of the People** Emmie Theberge, NRCM’s federal project director, led Mainers to Washington, D.C., to meet with Senators Collins and King to share their concerns about the Trump Administration’s assault on environmental protections. The Senators said they are concerned about the effects proposed EPA cuts would have on Maine’s air and water. Meanwhile in Maine, NRCM joined with other groups to host “Resist” training around the state. Hundreds of people participated to become more engaged in defending Maine’s environment.

**Earth Day Hope** NRCM’s Lisa Pohlmann (second from left), former U.S. Congressman Tom Allen (second from right), Maine Attorney General Janet Mills (right), and American Lung’s Paul Billings (left) joined Maine Public’s Susan Sharon (center) for an Earth Day discussion on Society, Environment, and Our Common Future. Sponsored by the University of Southern Maine’s Muskie School, the event focused on current environmental issues including proposed EPA budget cuts, rollback of the Clean Power Plan, and threats to Maine’s new National Monument. The group also shared their hopes for the future.

**Waste Not** NRCM’s “Food Guy” Ryan Parker worked with nine schools across Maine to help them tackle the problem of food waste. This includes Sebasticook Valley Middle School in Newport (shown), where Ryan led the students in a garden revitalization project that will include using compost generated from the school cafeteria’s food waste.

**Celebrating Conservation Leaders** A special thank you to all who joined us in South Portland to celebrate our 2016 Conservation Leadership Award winners: Quimby/St. Clair family & Katahdin-area community leaders for their work to create the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument, the Penobscot River Restoration Trust, and People’s Choice winner, the Larouche family, for the beautiful and ecologically important Hirundo Wildlife Refuge.

**Hiking Katahdin Woods and Waters** Views from Barnard Mountain, in Maine’s new National Monument, are so breathtaking, we made the hike twice: once with our general membership and once with our young professionals group, NRCM Rising.

**Patch Work** We’re teaming up with the Girl Scouts of Maine to promote the PaintCare paint recycling program and held a press conference unveiling the first-ever “Sustainable Maine” patch. (Left to right: Sam Lott Hale and Joanne Crepeau of the Girl Scouts, and NRCM’s Lisa Pohlmann.)
Dippin’ and Dashin’ for Climate Protection
Hundreds of brave people earned bragging rights in this year’s NRCM Polar Bear Dip & Dash at Portland’s East End—and helped us raise nearly $20,000 for our climate and clean energy work. Sign up now for this year’s event, New Year’s Eve at noon!

Feeding the 5,000
NRCM co-hosted Maine’s first-ever Feeding the 5000 Portland, Maine. Many groups contributed to its success through planning, promotion, gleaning, chopping, cooking, serving, and offering a hand on the event day. This true community effort highlighted the problem of wasting food—and the delicious solutions to tackle it.

Puffins Galore
As Eastern Egg Rock came into full view during our puffin cruise aboard the Hardy Boat, so did puffins—lots of them! Nearly 100 NRCM members enjoyed this perfect evening along Maine’s coast, with Atlantic Puffins and other birds dazzling us, graced by a glorious sunset on our way back to New Harbor.

People’s Climate March
In conjunction with the People’s Climate March in D.C., NRCM helped organize a satellite event in Augusta. Supporters poured through the streets around the state capital to send a strong message to elected officials that Maine wants—and needs—actions to address the biggest environmental threat of our time, climate change.

Plastic Bag Patrol
NRCM’s Sustainable Maine Project Director Sarah Lakeman, shown here in Belfast, gave presentations to communities around Maine interested in taking on the issue of single-use plastic bags, as a way to discourage waste and prevent windswept plastic litter that poses health problems to wildlife.

Go, Solar!
The entrance to the Cross Building at the State House was vividly yellow when solar supporters joined NRCM Climate and Clean Energy Project Director Dylan Voorhees and others to call on the Legislature to stop the PUC’s backwards solar policies and get our state back on track for solar power.

Marching for Science
In coordination with the massive event in Washington, hundreds of concerned Mainers took part in the Earth Day March for Science at the University of Maine in Orono. NRCM helped organize the event, where Staff Scientist Nick Bennett (right) rallied the crowd. NRCM supporter Lucy Hull (left) attended the Orono event, one of more than 600 March for Science locations across the country.
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Tony Owens, MD, Cape Elizabeth
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Sarah Short, Portland
Anne Winchester, New Harbor²
Lois Winter, Portland¹

¹ Completed Service, Fall 2016
² Elected, Fall 2016

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Thomas E. Stegman, Ohio
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Edward Z. Walworth, MD, Maine

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Project Director
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Beth Comeau, Public Affairs and eCommunications Manager
Pete Didisheim, Senior Director of Advocacy
Alexandra Fabian, Social Media and Creative Services Coordinator
Fiona Gordon, Associate Director of Philanthropy
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Sophie Janeway, Climate and Clean Energy Outreach Coordinator
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Toby Kilgore, Grants Associate
Sarah Lakeman, Sustainable Maine Project Director
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Todd Martin, Grassroots Outreach Coordinator and NRCM Rising Director
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Kathy Thompson, Senior Director of Finance and Administration
Jordene Trueh, Philanthropy Assistant
Dylan Voorhees, Climate and Clean Energy Project Director
Gretta Wark, Senior Director of Philanthropy
Allison Childs Wells, Senior Director of Public Affairs

From left to right:
Top row: Lisa Pohlmann, Todd Martin, Leslie Burhoe, Gabby Grunkemeyer, Nick Bennett, Beth Comeau, Toby Kilgore
Second row: Sarah Lakeman, Emmie Theberge, Nancy Murray, Fiona Gordon, Dylan Voorhees, Joyce Gracie, Leisa Hodgkins
Third row: Jordene Trueh, Gretta Wark, Kristin Jackson, Ryan Parker, Judy Berk, Kathy Thompson, Alexandra Fabian
Bottom row: Pete Didisheim, Sophie Janeway, Stacie Haines, Allison Wells, Cathy Johnson, Gail LaRosa Thompson
Statement of Financial Position
for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current assets</td>
<td>$1,290,580</td>
<td>$1,048,348</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net property and equipment</td>
<td>$427,532</td>
<td>$457,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$5,771,488</td>
<td>$5,307,745</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>$156,751</td>
<td>$139,148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$7,646,351</td>
<td>$6,952,704</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>$277,806</td>
<td>$248,912</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted net assets</td>
<td>$6,371,394</td>
<td>$5,812,712</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted net asset</td>
<td>$812,151</td>
<td>$706,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted net assets</td>
<td>$185,000</td>
<td>$185,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$7,368,545</td>
<td>$6,703,792</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statement of Financial Position
for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Revenue, Gains, &amp; Other Support</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions, membership gifts, and grants received</td>
<td>$2,696,276</td>
<td>$2,295,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events, merchandise, and other revenue</td>
<td>$20,625</td>
<td>$14,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-kind contributions</td>
<td>$152,617</td>
<td>$172,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment appropriated for operations</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>$166,550</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Revenue, Gains, &amp; Other Support</strong></td>
<td>$3,069,518</td>
<td>$2,649,797</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operating Expenses
Program Services
Climate & Clean Energy | $339,264 | $357,007 |
Sustainable Maine | $198,654  | $156,517  |
Forests and Wildlife | $433,571  | $280,622  |
Healthy Waters | $290,000  | $246,934  |
Lobbying | $139,551  | $102,326  |
Emerging Issues | $366,733  | $360,407  |
Communications | $395,395  | $620,332  |
Outreach and Education | $125,805 | $0         |
Federal | $23,184   | $0         |
| **Total Program Services** | $2,312,157 | $2,124,145 |

Supporting Services
Management and general | $250,747  | $181,688  |
Development and Fundraising | $240,068 | $268,882 |
| **Total Supporting Services** | $490,815 | $450,570 |

**Total Operating Expenses** | $2,802,972 | $2,574,715 |

Change in Net Assets from Operations | $266,546  | $75,082   |

Non-operating Income
 Contributions restricted for Tomorrow's Leaders | $49,094  | $25,000   |
Contributions board-designated | $7,500  | $10,199   |
Change in value of gift annuities and donations | $(8,139) | $40,124   |
Net investment income gains (losses) | $349,752 | $(320,651) |
Total Non-operating Income | $398,207 | $(245,328) |

**Total Change in Net Assets** | $664,753  | $(170,246) |

Net Assets
Beginning balance | $6,703,792 | $6,874,038 |
Ending balance | $7,368,545 | $6,703,792 |

Notes to Financial Statements
The Natural Resources Council of Maine is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.
Protecting the Nature of Maine

Our Mission

The Natural Resources Council of Maine is our state’s leading nonprofit membership organization protecting, restoring, and conserving Maine’s environment, now and for future generations.

NRCM works statewide to improve the quality of Maine’s rivers, lakes, streams, and coastal waters; promote sustainable communities through initiatives that reduce toxic pollution and waste; decrease air and climate-changing pollution through energy efficiency and renewable sources; and conserve Maine lands and wildlife habitat, including our treasured North Woods. We harness the power of science, the law, and the voices of more than 20,000 members across Maine and beyond to protect our air, waters, forests, and way of life. Since 1959, NRCM has led efforts to keep Maine a special place. Together, we are making a difference.