

# Support the Maine Trails Bond

"The Maine Trails Bond will help reaffirm Maine's status as a national leader in outdoor recreation and further boost our \$3 billion outdoor recreation economy.

Investments in trails are an investment in our entire state, helping make Maine a desirable place to live, work, visit, and do business."

—Jenny Kordick, Executive Director, Maine Outdoor Brands

For more information, please contact NRCM at (207) 622-3101 or nrcm@nrcm.org



3 Wade Street Augusta, ME 04330 (207) 622-3101 nrcm.org Passing a first-ever Trails Bond will help make Maine a national leader in recreational and multi-use trails that bolster local economies, strengthen community connections, and improve our quality of life.

## **Trails Funding is Needed to Meet Demand**

- Maine's trails are experiencing record levels of use, and many are falling into disrepair because of extreme rain and other weather impacts.
- Communities across the state are developing plans for expanded trail networks but require funding to make them a reality.
- Improving accessibility of trails to people of all ages and abilities should be a top priority. As local groups seek to create more accessible trails, they will need funding to design and build them.
- Maine invests almost no funding in our trails even though they are a vital part of our outdoor recreation economy and a resource for walking, biking, snowmobiling, skiing, and everything in between. The \$30 million Trails Bond will provide sorely needed funding to design, build, and maintain trails of all types statewide.

## **Trails Create Economic Opportunity**

- Maine's trails support a wide range of uses that contribute hundreds of millions of dollars annually in economic activity, especially in Maine's rural communities.
- The Trails Bond will provide grants to community groups, trail clubs, and municipalities for trail projects that will help make Maine a national leader in high-quality trails.
- Trails bring Maine residents and visitors to all parts of the state, creating opportunities for small businesses that wouldn't exist without trails being there.

### Protecting the Nature of Maine | nrcm.org

### Broad, Bipartisan, Statewide Support for Trails Funding

- More than 500 businesses, towns, and organizations have signed a statement of support for the Trails Bond, including Maine's largest outdoor businesses, rural towns, and ATV/snowmobile clubs.
- The Trails Bond was sponsored by Republicans and Democrats from all parts of Maine, reflecting strong bipartisan support for improving our trails networks.

#### **How the Trails Bond Will Work**

- Provide \$30 million over four years in competitive grant funding to towns, organizations, and clubs
- Support design, maintenance, or construction of trails, prioritizing accessibility and sustainable design standards
- 25% of funds distributed to motorized, 25% to non-motorized, and 50% to multi-use trails
- Funding can be used to leverage other sources of public or private funding
- Administered by the Bureau of Parks and Lands

**More than 500 organizations, businesses, and towns** signed a letter supporting the Maine Trails Bond. A partial list of those who signed the letter:

Adaptive Outdoor Education Center Appalachian Mountain Club

Aroostook Partnership

Associated General Contractors of

Maine ATV Maine

Bangor Regional Chamber of

Commerce

Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce

Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Can-Am Crown Inc.

City of Calais

City of Caribou City of Ellsworth

City of Lewiston

City of Presque Isle

Dennysville Snowmobile and ATV Club

Discover Downtown Westbrook
Downeast Sunrise Trail Coalition
Katahdin Chamber of Commerce

Kennebec Valley Council of

Governments

Kennebunk-Kennebunkport-Arundel

Chamber

Kittery Trading Post

Lake Moxie ATV Riders Club Lakes Region ATV Club L.L. Bean

Lyman Parks and Recreation

Main Street Skowhegan Maine ATV Coalition

Maine Audubon

Maine Council on Aging

Maine Municipal Association

Maine Outdoor Brands

Maine State Chamber of Commerce

Maine Recreation and Parks

Association

Maine Public Health Association

Maine Snowmobile Association

Maine Tourism Association

Maine Trails Coalition

Maine Youth Camping Association

Moosehead ATV Riders

Moosehead Economic Development

Corp.

Moosehead Riders Snowmobile Club

Moosehead Outdoor Alliance

Natural Resources Council of Maine

New England Mountain Bike

Association

Northern Maine Development

Commission

Northern Timber Cruisers

Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce Piscataquis Chamber of Commerce

Portland Regional Chamber of

Commerce

Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust

Saddleback Ski Area

Sebago Lakes Chamber of

Commerce

St. Croix Valley Chamber of

Commerce

Sugarloaf

Sunrise County Economic Council

Teens to Trails

Town of Belgrade

Town of Bethel

Town of Carrabassett Valley

Town of Frenchville

Town of Greenville

Town of Guilford

Town of Jay

Town of Kingfield

Town of Madawaska

Town of Madison

Town of Millinocket

Town of Rangeley

Town of Rumford

Town of Skowhegan



Natural Resources Council of Maine

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