

Historic Magalloway Land Conservation Effort Seeks to Conserve 78,000 Acres in Western Maine

A group of four conservation organizations

has announced a partnership to permanently conserve 78,000 acres in the Magalloway region of western Maine. The multi-faceted land conservation project will maintain existing recreational access to the lands and waters, protect forested buffers around high-priority brook trout rivers, lakes, and streams, and includes a designated 11,200-acre wilderness preserve, plus opportunities for active timber harvesting on 62,500 acres of the parcel, helping sustain the regional economy.

FULL PRESS RELEASE

Behind The Magalloway Collaborative

The Magalloway Collaborative brings together four conservation organizations in a unique partnership leveraging collective local and regional expertise.

With a decades-long track record of successful conservation in the region, The Nature Conservancy in Maine (TNC) led the dialogue with the property's owner, Bayroot LLC to produce an option agreement that allows for conservation. Forest Society of Maine **(FSM)**, having conserved more than one million acres, is one of Maine's leading forest conservation organizations. FSM will hold the conservation easement on the 62,000 acres of managed timberland on the property Based in Rangeley, Maine, Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust (RLHT) is a local land trust focused on conserving, restoring, and stewarding the lands and waters of the Rangeley Region. RLHT will own and manage 4,400 acres for public access and wildlife habitat restoration. Northeast Wilderness Trust (NEWT), an organization exclusively focused on wilderness conservation, will own and safeguard an 11,200-acre wilderness preserve in the northern section of the parcel.

Total Project Size 78,000 acres

Connects Contiguous **Conserved Lands** 500,000 acres

Globally Important Watersheds

1 of 5

Sustainably **Managed Forest** 62,500

acres

Wilderness **Preserve** 11,200 acres

Habitat Restoration 4,400 acres

High Priority Brook Trout Rivers & Streams

170 miles

Mapped Wetlands 2,400 acres





NORTHEAST







Collective Support

People have come together from multiple industries and different sectors of Maine's outdoor economy to endorse this project. Here's what they have to say.

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Our members care deeply about the lands, waters, fish and wildlife of the region. We fully endorse the Magalloway Project and are excited about its contribution to the future of the region, its people, and the natural world.

 David S. Kretzing, President, Rangeley Region Guides' and Sportsmen's Association

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The Magalloway region possesses prime wildlife habitat. Conserving these lands will safeguard wildlife from increasing environmental threats, connect them to other conserved lands, and allow for sustainable recreational traditions such as hunting and fishing to continue.

Judy Camuso, Commissioner, Maine
Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

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The Magalloway Project will be extremely beneficial to the land and waters of the area and its wildlife inhabitants, as well as to guides like myself who bring hundreds of clients to Maine's beautiful world-class rivers, like the Magalloway.

- Vic Medina, Registered Maine Guide

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The Town of Rangeley values the work of these organizations and recognizes the meaningful impact of efforts such as the Magalloway Project on the natural and economic environment in our part of Maine.

— E. Joseph Roach, Town Manager, Rangeley, Maine



Maine DEP supports the conservation of undeveloped lands for water quality protection and carbon sequestration. These are important strategies to maintain ecological health, protect one of Maine's most important economic resources, and mitigate the effects of greenhouse gas emissions. The Magalloway Project will also help Maine meet its climate action goals while continuing to support sustainable utilization of wood products.

— **Melanie Loyzim**, Commissioner, Maine DEP

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Rangeley Lakes Snowmobile Club is proud to support The Magalloway Project. This project will preserve a main section of ITS-84 that connects the Rangeley Lakes Region to New Hampshire. Maine's snowmobile industry relies on landowner cooperation and this project ensures that this corridor will remain open in perpetuity. As one of the region's largest economic drivers, snowmobiling is an important part of our outdoor economy and it allows more folks to access our beautiful western Maine mountains.

— **Jon Lewis**, Trail master, Rangeley Lakes Snowmobile Club

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At Sportsman's Alliance of Maine (SAM) we care deeply about conserving the longstanding relationship Mainers have with the land, waters, and wildlife of our state. Public access to hunt, hike, fish, and otherwise enjoy the outdoors is increasingly under threat and this project will help permanently protect a key large parcel of land. We support efforts to preserve public access like the Magalloway project.

David Trahan, Executive Director,
Sportsman's Alliance of Maine

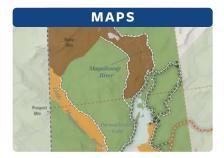


Resources

LEARN MORE AND SUPPORT magalloway.org











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