

## MEMORANDUM

To: Paul Mercer, DEP Commissioner, MNRCP Approval Committee Co-Chair  
Ruth Ladd, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, MNRCP Approval Committee Co-Chair

From: Alexandre Mas, TNC Associate State Director-Conservation, MNRCP Manager

Re: **2016 Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program Funding Allocations**

The Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program (MNRCP) was created in 2007 to manage the allocation of funds collected by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) through its In Lieu Fee Compensation Program. This voluntary program allows entities that are impacting natural resources, primarily wetlands, to make a payment directly to DEP as an alternative to the traditional mitigation process. Fees collected by DEP are deposited in a Natural Resource Conservation Fund administered by The Nature Conservancy in Maine (TNC). To date, a total of \$15,563,287 in resource compensation fees have been received.

On November 2, 2016 the MNRCP Review Committee was convened by DEP to evaluate 14 full proposals that were received in response to an RFP posted in June 2016. The Review Committee evaluated the proposals for consistency with core program requirements, and ranked all proposals based on the review criteria included in the RFP. They also developed recommendations for grant funding from MNRCP.

On November 30, 2016 the MNRCP Approval Committee was convened by DEP and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (the Corps) to consider the Review Committee recommendations and to approve the eighth round of funding from MNRCP. Attached is the resulting list of projects approved to receive funding, and the funding amounts, for your concurrence.

Upon receipt of this signed authorization by the Approval Committee Co-Chairs, and prior to the release of any MNRCP funds, TNC will enter into project agreements with each of the approved project sponsors. The project agreements shall be in general conformance with the sample "Agreement" included in Appendix C to the "State of Maine In Lieu Fee Program Instrument" between DEP and the Corps, unless otherwise authorized by DEP and the Corps.

Attachment

Concur:

  
Paul Mercer

Date: 12-8-2016

Concur:

  
Ruth Ladd

Date: 11/30/16

## Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program 2016 Funding Allocations

Region	Project	Sponsor	Funds Requested	Funds Awarded
<b><u>Central &amp; Western Mountains</u></b>				
	Hunter Cove-Lewin	Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust	\$160,000	\$160,000
			Region Totals:	<b>\$160,000</b>
<b><u>Central Interior &amp; Midcoast</u></b>				
	Meadow Brook Wetlands Protection 2	Maine Coast Heritage Trust	\$146,500	\$95,000
	Muddy & Cathance River Conservation Corridor-Tardiff	Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust	\$225,000	\$220,000
	Outlet Stream Restoration: Lombard Dam Removal	Maine Rivers	\$200,000	\$193,777
	Sherman Marsh Headwaters-Louderback	Damariscotta River Association	\$178,000	\$173,000
	Surry Forest Wetlands	Blue Hill Heritage Trust	\$550,000	\$495,000
	Junction Project	Kennebec Estuary Land Trust	\$110,000	\$0
	Serpentine Wetlands Project	Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance, Inc.	\$162,000	\$0
			Region Totals:	<b>\$1,571,500</b>
<b><u>Downeast Maine</u></b>				
	Beaverdam Stream Fish Access Restoration	Downeast Salmon Federation	\$80,000	\$80,000
	Old Pond - Dembska	Maine Coast Heritage Trust	\$110,000	\$110,000
			Region Totals:	<b>\$190,000</b>
<b><u>Southern Maine</u></b>				
	Mt. Agamenticus Road Wetlands Habitat Connection	Great Works Regional Land Trust	\$340,000	\$275,000
	Ogunquit Headwater Wetlands 2	Great Works Regional Land Trust	\$134,150	\$134,150
	Suckfish Brook II - McDermott Way	Town of Falmouth	\$245,260	\$245,260
	Hansen Pond	Three Rivers Land Trust	\$416,510	\$0
			Region Totals:	<b>\$1,135,920</b>
<b>Total Number of Full Proposals considered for funding</b>		14	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,057,420</b>
				<b>\$2,181,187</b>