

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Alexandre Mas, TNC Director of Strategic Partnerships, MNRCP Manager

Re: **2013 Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program Funding Allocations**

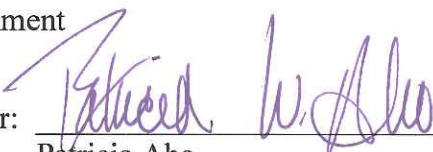
The Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program (MNRCP) was created in 2007 to manage the allocation of funds collected by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) through its In Lieu Fee Compensation Program. This voluntary program allows entities that are impacting natural resources, 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, TNC has received a total of \$9,782,674 in resource compensation fees from DEP.

On November 20, 2013 the MNRCP Review Committee was convened by DEP to evaluate 25 full proposals that were received in response to an RFP posted in June 2013. 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 January 15, 2014 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 fifth 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: 
Patricia Aho

Date: 1/20/2014

Concur: 
Ruth Ladd

Date: 1/21/14

Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program 2013 Funding Allocations

Region	Project	Sponsor	Funds Requested	Funds Awarded
<u>Aroostook Hills & Lowlands</u>				
	Van Buren Forest Conservation Project	Maine Farmland Trust	\$81,855	\$0
		Region Totals:	\$81,855	\$0
<u>Central & Western Mountains</u>				
	Witt Swamp Preserve Extension	Western Foothills Land Trust	\$100,500	\$100,500
		Region Totals:	\$100,500	\$100,500
<u>Central Interior & Midcoast</u>				
	Mill Pond Tidal Restoration	The Nature Conservancy	\$20,150	\$20,150
	Kate Furbish Preserve Stream Restoration	Maine Coast Heritage Trust	\$136,000	\$136,000
	Etna Pond Fishway	Atlantic Salmon Federation, Maine Council	\$62,000	\$62,000
	Morse Pond III Project - Barabe	Kennebec Estuary Land Trust	\$195,500	\$199,500
	Sherman Marsh to Salt Bay Linkage	Damariscotta River Association	\$107,000	\$107,000
	Middle Bay Wetlands Partnership: Liberty Farm West	Harpwell Heritage Land Trust	\$115,000	\$115,000
	Wallace Shore Road Tidal Restriction Restoration	Casco Bay Estuary Partnership	\$115,236	\$115,236
	Sewall Pond Restoration Project	Kennebec Estuary Land Trust	\$166,200	\$166,200
	Upper Cathance River Wetlands - Karonis	Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust	\$60,000	\$30,000
	Middle Bay Wetlands Partnership: Skolfield	Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust	\$70,000	\$0
	Ingham Pond Project	Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance	\$350,000	\$0
	Hidden Valley, MOJO, LLC	Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association	\$750,000	\$0
	Branch Bog Wetlands	Medomak Valley Land Trust	\$62,800	\$0
	Runaround Pond Landscape: Colson	Royal River Conservation Trust	\$40,700	\$0
	Runaround Pond Landscape: Chesley	Royal River Conservation Trust	\$145,700	\$0
	Orono Designated Growth Area & Vernal Pools	Town of Orono	\$400,000	\$0
	Sheepscot Headwaters Wildlands Project	Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance	\$40,000	\$0
	Bomazeen Wetlands Project	Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance	\$192,500	\$0
		Region Totals:	\$3,028,786	\$951,086
<u>Southern Maine</u>				
	Perley Pond/Northwest River Project	Loon Echo Land Trust	\$236,500	\$136,000
	Salmon Falls Wetlands - Tuckahoe	Great Works Regional Land Trust	\$90,000	\$90,000
	Knight's Pond & Blueberry Hill	The Trust for Public Land	\$150,000	\$0
	Smithfield Meadows - Gelardi 2	Saco Valley Land Trust	\$298,750	\$0
	Salmon Falls Wetlands - Baxter	Great Works Regional Land Trust	\$110,000	\$0
		Region Totals:	\$885,250	\$226,000
Total Number of Full Proposals considered for funding	25	Totals	\$4,096,391	\$1,277,586