

Late last fall, 700 NRCM supporters responded to our member survey. You told us which public lands you visit and how you live greener every day. You shared your concerns for the future of Maine's environment. You told us why you give generously to NRCM and what you entrust us to do with those dollars.

When I read your responses, I am so proud to be part of this organization and to work on your behalf. NRCM brings together the voices of so many people who share the same environmental ethics. NRCM also turns that strength of numbers into meaningful action to protect wildlife, human health, and our treasured landscape.

NRCM staff members refer back to the member survey many times throughout the year to help guide our work. Let me share some of the common threads with you:

A. We asked you what the most pressing environmental issue is facing the state of Maine today.

By far, the two most pressing environmental issues cited by members are **climate change** and the **anti-environmental policies of Governor Paul LePage**.

Fifty percent of respondents mentioned their concern with the effects of climate change. More specifically, many of you mentioned the need for forward motion on the clean energy front with the need for investments in solar in Maine rising to the top of the list.

Members are concerned that measures to curb climate change (such as solar) are thwarted by the governor. Members also voiced concerns about Governor LePage (and his allies) rolling back environmental laws and loosening critical regulations.

After the leading issue areas of climate change and our governor, many of you are concerned with **protecting land from development**. Of those who responded this way, many mentioned the critical need for habitat protection and nature protected for future generations of Mainers. Several of you specifically mentioned the need to protect the newly designated National Monument and our Land for Maine's Future program.

There are many of you who are concerned about **clean water** in Maine. Of those concerned with water issues, loosening mining regulations that could pollute Maine waters was the top concern.

Rounding out the list of major concerns is the **threat to Maine's environment** and beyond posed **by the Trump Administration**.

B. We asked you why you support NRCM. Your answers were split quite evenly into these three categories:

- I share NRCM's environmental values.
- NRCM is an effective advocate for the nature of Maine.
- NRCM is protecting the environment in the state of Maine specifically.

There were a few recurring subthemes, including: NRCM is necessary in the current political climate of LePage and Trump; NRCM is necessary to fight corporate greed; I want to be a part of the collective voice; I am concerned about the future; NRCM keeps us informed of

environmental issues in Maine; NRCM makes a connection between a clean environment and the economy.

C. We asked if you are satisfied with the broad range of issues that NRCM is working on, or are there other issues you believe should be a priority for our attention?

In response to this question, an overwhelming 87% of you stated that you are satisfied with the issues that we work on now. Another 11% would like NRCM to concentrate even more effort on specific projects on which we are currently working. Two percent of you named issues on which we are not working currently, and we will review those suggestions carefully.

D. We asked you to rank project areas separately on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being “not important” and 5 being “extremely important.” The vast majority of you who responded to the survey ranked most project areas as very important (either a 4 or a 5).

	Average Response
Protecting Lake Water Quality	4.7
Opposing Inappropriate Development in North Woods	4.7
Reducing Carbon Pollution from Power Plants	4.7
Supporting Land for Maine's Future (LMF)	4.7
Defeating Weak Mining Rules	4.6
Increasing Energy Efficiency	4.6
Increasing Solar	4.6
Protecting Maine's Public Forestlands	4.6
Improving Fish Passage and Protecting Maine Rivers	4.5
Increasing Recycling and Reducing Waste	4.5
Promoting Producer Responsibility	4.4
Supporting Community Sustainability Work	4.3
Promoting Katahdin Woods & Waters National Monument	4.3
Reducing Food Waste; Promoting Composting	4.3
Promoting Electric Vehicles	3.6

Thank you for sharing with us your highest concerns regarding our natural resources and how NRCM best works to address these concerns on your behalf. Together, we make a real difference.