INVEST IN MAINE TRAILS STATEWIDE

LD 1156 will establish a Maine Trails Bond for outdoor recreation and active transportation.

Maine has the potential to be a top-tier state in the nation with multi-use trails that support activities that contribute to our economy, environment, and quality of life.

• In every corner of the state, Maine trails are a critical resource for connecting Maine people and visitors with the natural world and for reaching destinations to work and play.



- During the pandemic, more people than ever discovered Maine trails for hiking, biking, snowmobiling, skiing, commuting, and other activities.
- Trails are an essential component of Maine's \$3 billion outdoor recreation economy, which supports 41,000 jobs. Snowmobiling alone generates \$460 million in direct spending in Maine and supports 2,200 jobs. Annual direct and indirect spending from snowmobiling exceeds \$600 million.
- According to the National Association of Realtors, nearby trails and greenways raise property values by an average of 3-5% -- and sometimes upwards of 15%.

Maine has a huge need for investment in trail design, construction, and maintenance.

- Although Maine has many exceptional and diverse trails, trail groups and communities have identified a large backlog of maintenance projects that need attention.
- Funding also is needed to build trails that are accessible to individuals across the full range of abilities.
- New trails could support active transportation, reducing our dependence on fossil fuels.
- Existing state, federal, and private funding is insufficient to make Maine a nationally recognized destination for trails.

A Maine Trails Bond will strengthen Maine's economy and help protect our environment.

- A \$30 million Maine Trails Bond would provide grants to nonprofits, municipalities, and other divisions of government statewide to support non-motorized, motorized, and multiuse trails.
- Funding would be distributed over a 4-year period, and applicants would be required to demonstrate at least 20% in matching contributions.
- Funding would be managed by the Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL), which has experience managing the federal Recreation Trails Program.





Broad Statewide Support for the Maine Trails Bond (LD 1156)

We support the Maine Trails Bond (LD 1156) to invest \$30 million in the design, development, and maintenance of non-motorized, motorized, and multi-use trails statewide. This investment will contribute to Maine's economy and environment and our quality of life.

In literally every corner of the state, trails are a valued resource for connecting Maine people and visitors with the natural world and reaching destinations to work and play. Trails are an essential component of Maine's \$3 billion outdoor recreation economy, which supports 31,000 jobs. Snowmobiling alone generates more than \$600 million for Maine's economy each year.

Although Maine currently has many exceptional and diverse trails, trail groups and communities have identified a large backlog of trail projects that need attention, and new funding is needed to build and maintain trails that are accessible to individuals across the full range of abilities.

We urge the Legislature to support the \$30 million Maine Trails Bond.

Adaptive Outdoor Education Center

Appalachian Mountain Club

Aroostook Partnership

Associated General Contractors (AGC Maine)

ATV Maine

Bath-Brunswick 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 Gardiner

City of Westbrook

Downeast Sunrise Trail Coalition

Environmental Priorities Coalition

Greater Franklin Economic and Community

Development

High Peaks Alliance

Island Institute

Katahdin Chamber of Commerce

Kennebec Valley Council of Governments

Kennebunk-Kennebunkport-Arundel Chamber of

Commerce

Kittery Trading Post

L.L. Bean

Main Street Skowhegan

Maine Association of Planners

Maine Audubon

Maine Council on Aging

Maine Outdoor Brands

Maine State Chamber of Commerce

Maine Recreation and Park Association

Maine Public Health Association

Maine Snowmobile Association

Maine Tourism Association

Maine Trails Coalition

Maine Youth Camping Association

Moosehead Economic Development Corp

Natural Resources Council of Maine

New England Mountain Bike Association

Northern Maine Development Commission

Orono Economic Development Corporation

Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce

Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce

River Valley Chamber of Commerce

St. Croix Valley Chamber of Commerce

Sunrise County Economic Council

Teens to Trails

Town of Belgrade

Town of Brunswick

Town of Frenchville

Town of Greenville

Town of Rumford

Town of Carrabassett Valley Wells Chamber of Commerce

York Region Chamber of Commerce

(Additional Supporters as of 4/19/23)

122 Corson

201 Power Sports, Inc.

30 Mile River Watershed Association

7 Lakes Alliance

Acadia Mountain Guides Climbing School

Addison Recreation Committee Allagash Brewing Company Alpenglow Adventure Sports

Alpine Shop

Androscoggin River Watershed Council

Andy Gagne Photography Arnold Trail Snowmobile Club Back Country Excursions of Maine

Basin Pond Outdoors

Bath Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Baxter Brewing

Bigelow Brewing Company

Bike BS

Black Mountain of Maine Blue Hill Heritage Trust Bold Coast Runners

Bonney Woods Corporation

Bradford Camps

Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust

Build Maine Busytown Bikes

Cadillac Mountain Sports
Cait Bourgault Photography

Camden Rockport Pedestrian and Bicycle

Committee

Caribou Parks and Recreation Department

Carrabassett Valley Recreation Department

Carrabassett Valley Trails

Carter's XC Ski Shop and Ski Center

Casco Bay Trail Alliance

Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust

Chewonki Chimani

Chris Bennett Photography
Coastal Mountains Land Trust
Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust

Confluence Collective

Dedham School Outing Club

Dennysville Snowmobile and ATV Club

Destination Moosehead Lake

Disability Rights Maine

DownEast Acadia Regional Tourism Downeast Coastal Conservancy Downeast Lakes Land Trust Downeast Salmon Federation East Coast Greenway Alliance

Eastern Trail Alliance Elliotsville Foundation Falmouth Land Trust First Push Syndicate

Flowfold

Forest Society of Maine Fort Kent Outdoor Center Freeman Ridge Bike Park Frenchman Bay Conservancy

Friends Camp

Friends of A Fierce Chase Cross Country Ski Trails

Friends of Acadia Friends of Casco Bay

Friends of Hope Cemetery & Woods

Friends of Taunton Bay Friends of Wells Dog Park

Fryeburg Conservation Committee

Georges River Land Trust

Giri Hotel Management (Bethel Inn; Sebasco Resort)

Go Beyond The Fence

Good To-Go

Granite Backcountry Alliance

Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust

Great Works Regional Land Trust

Greater Lovell Land Trust

GrowSmart Maine

Harpswell Heritage Land Trust

Hawks Nest Lodge

Healthy Community Coalition, Franklin

Heart of Ellsworth High Peaks Alliance Hills & Trails Co.

Hirundo Wildlife Refuge

Hostel of Maine Maine West Collaborative

Hüga Heat Maine Wilderness Guides Organization

Hurricane Island Outward Bound School Maine Youth Action

Hyperlite Mountain Gear Maine Youth for Climate Justice Inland Woods + Trails Midcoast Conservancy

International Appalachian Trail Monroe Conservation Commission

Jung RestorationMoose Alley Riders ATV ClubKatahdin Area TrailsMoosehead Outdoor AllianceKatahdin Tourism PartnershinMountain Division Alliance

Katahdin Tourism Partnership Mountain Division Alliance
Kennebec Estuary Land Trust Mountain Valley High School
Kennebec Land Trust Mousam Way Land Trust

Kennebec Messalonskee Trails Mt. Abram High School Outing Club

Kennebec Trail Company NaviTour

Kennebec Valley Council of Governments New England Mountain Bike Association, Central

Kennebunkport Conservation Trust Maine Chapter

Knife Edge Brewing New England Mountain Bike Association, Midcoast

Lake George Regional Park Maine Chapter

Lake Moxie ATV Riders Club New England Mountain Bike Association, Penobscot

Life Enrichment Advancing People (LEAP) Region Chapter

Little Something Co.

Loon Echo Land Trust

Mahoosuc Guide Service

Mahoosuc Land Trust

North Pond Association

North Star Adventures LLC

Maine Adaptive Sports & Recreation

Maine Appalachian Trail Club

Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust

Northern Forest Canoe Trail

Northern Forest Center

Maine Association for Health, Physical Education, Northern Outdoors

Recreation, and Dance Off The Beaten Path Trailworks, LLC Maine Beer Company Orono Brewing Company

Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Maine Conservation Voters

Orono Land Trust

Osborne Media

Maine Environmental Education Association

Oterra Designs

Maine GearShare Outdoor Sport Institute

Maine Huts & Trails

Oxford County Mental Health Services

Maine Island Trail Association Oxford County Wellness Collaborative

Maine Lakes

Maine Lakeside Cabins

Maine Outdoor Brands

Maine Outdoor School, L3C

Maine Bivers

Patagonia Freeport

Patten Area Outdoors

Peace House Studio

PeopleForBikes

Maine Rivers
Pine Island Camp
Maine Sports Commission
Portland Paddle
Maine Trail Builder
Portland Trails

Maine Trail Finder Presumpscot Regional Land Trust

Maine Trail Riders Association, Inc (Equine) Quarry Road Trails

Quimby Family Foundation

Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust Rangeley Lakes Trails Center

Red River Camps

REI Co-Op

Resilient Communities, L3C

River Valley Healthy Communities Coalition

Rolling Fatties

Royal River Conservation Trust

RSU4

Rusted Rock LLC

S & S, LLC

Saco Pathfinders Snowmobile Club

Saint Joseph's Nature Sanctuary

Scott and Sunny Townsend Team of Keller Williams

Sebago Stonework

Sebasticook Regional Land Trust

She Summits Co

Sidecountry Trails

Sierra Club Maine Chapter

Sisters of St. Joseph of Lyon

Somerset Woods Trustees

Southern Maine Conservation Collaborative

Spencer Pond Camps

The Birches Resort

The Nature Conservancy in Maine

The Trust for Public Land

Three Rivers Land Trust

Three Rivers Whitewater

Town 4 Trail Services, LLC

Town of Farmington Parks and Recreation

Department

Town of Readfield Trails Committee

Town of South Berwick Economic and Community

Development Office

Trail & Earth, LLC

Trail Services LLC

Twin Pine Rentals

Twin Pine Snowmobile Club

Upper Saco Valley Land Trust

Valley Riders Snowmobile Club

W3 Adventures, LLC

Warren Excavation Inc.

Waterville Community Land Trust

Weatherby's Lodge

Westbrook Trail Blazes Snowmobile Club

Western Foothills Land Trust Wildfire Cycles, LLC Women for Healthy Rural Living Woods and Waters Gear Exchange

York Land Trust