

The Nature Conservancy in Maine Fort Andross, Box 22 14 Maine Street, Suite 401 Brunswick, ME 04011

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## **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: 2011 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 \$6,398,914 in resource compensation fees from DEP.

On November 16, 2011 the MNRCP Review Committee was convened by DEP to evaluate 24 full proposals that were received in response to an RFP posted in July 2011. 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 December 14, 2011 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 third 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

Concur:

Ruth Ladd

12/4/2011



## **Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program 2011 Funding Allocations**

Region Project	Sponsor	<b>Funds Requested</b>	Funds Awarded
Central and Eastern Lowlands	f		
Mattawamkeag River/Eagle Pond	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	\$130,000.00	\$115,000.00
Varnum Farm	Maine Farmland Trust	\$200,000.00	\$100,759.00
Amazon Brook	GLS Woodlands, LLC	\$26,000.00	\$0.00
Central and Western Mountains			
Seven Mile Stream	Androscoggin Land Trust	\$21,633.00	\$21,633.00
Sucker Brook West Shore	Greater Lovell Land Trust	\$261,000.00	\$95,000.00
Central Interior and Midcoast			
Head of Maqouit Stream Restoration	Maine Dept of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	\$425,000.00	\$425,000.00
Pushaw Lake Fishway	Atlantic Salmon Federation, Maine Council	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Sebasticook River parcels	Sebasticook Regional Land Trust	\$395,492.00	\$308,616.00
Wallamatogus - Great Heath	Blue Hill Heritage Trust	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Jam Black Brook culvert replacement	Trout Unlimited	\$69,700.00	\$69,700.00
Upper Cathance River Wetlands - Perry	Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
Little Cobbossee Lake - Oatway	Kennebec Land Trust	\$175,000.00	\$155,000.00
St George River Tidal Conservation	Georges River Land Trust	\$245,000.00	\$170,000.00
Westport Landing	The Trust for Public Land	\$350,000.00	\$0.00
Spruce Mountain Conservation Area	Androscoggin Land Trust	\$148,426.00	\$0.00
Hales Pond Access	Town of Fayette	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
outhern Maine			
Boulter Pond Wetlands	York Land Trust, Inc.	\$244,500.00	\$244,500.00
Mt Agamenticus Wetlands II	Great Works Regional Land Trust	\$175,140.00	\$73,180.00
Suckfish Brook	Town of Falmouth	\$182,800.00	\$182,800.00
Merriland River Corridor - Highpine	Town of Wells	\$159,000.00	\$119,250.00
Chadbourne Robie Meadows	Western Foothills Land Trust	\$220,000.00	\$69,500.00
Biddeford Forest	Boyle Associates	\$300,000.00	\$0.00
Saco River Conservation and Education Center	Saco River Recreational Council	\$300,000.00	\$0.00
Fotal Number of Full Proposals considered for	r funding 23 Totals	\$4,333,691	\$2,419,938