



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: November 2, 2021
Comment Period Ends: December 2, 2021
File Number: NAE-2005-01143
In Reply Refer To: Mr. Taylor Bell
Phone: (978) 318-8952
E-mail: taylor.m.bell@usace.army.mil

SUBJECT: This notice announces a request to modify the Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program In-Lieu Fee ("ILF") Program Instrument for the addition of 30 individual projects.

ILF PROGRAM SPONSOR: Maine Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

BACKGROUND: The Maine ILF program is authorized by the New England District, Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). A copy of the signed ILF agreement entitled "State of Maine — In Lieu Fee Program INSTRUMENT" dated August 17, 2011, includes details about the ILF Program goals and objectives in general, and can be found at the following link:
<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/docs/regulatory/Mitigation/ME/NRCP/ILFP ME.pdf>

Thirty projects have been submitted as proposed additions to the ILF Instrument pursuant to 33 CFR 332, Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources (Federal Register: April 10, 2008, effective June 9, 2008). Pursuant to 33 CFR 332.8 (d), the District Engineer will provide public notice of the proposed addition of ILF program mitigation sites. As such, we are issuing a public notice to solicit comments for the instrument modification due to the proposed addition of ILF mitigation sites.

The Maine ILF Program accrued funds from the Corps and The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) permitted impacts in the State of Maine. The funds were made available through a competitive grant process for the preservation, restoration and enhancement of wetland and watercourse resources with associated upland buffers in the State of Maine.

PURPOSE: The 30 proposed projects would provide compensatory wetland and stream mitigation for permitted impacts to the following Service Areas: Central and Eastern Lowlands, Downeast, Central Interior & Midcoast, and Southern Maine.

GENERAL INFORMATION: An ILF program involves the restoration, establishment, re-establishment, enhancement, rehabilitation and/or preservation of aquatic resources through funds paid to a governmental or non-profit natural resources management entity to satisfy compensatory mitigation requirements for Department of the Army permits. Similar to a mitigation bank, an ILF program sells compensatory mitigation credits to permittees whose obligation to provide compensatory mitigation is then transferred to the ILF program sponsor. The operation and use of an ILF program are governed by an ILF program instrument. A group of federal and state regulatory and resource agency representatives known as the Interagency Review Team (IRT) oversee the

establishment and management of the program. The IRT is chaired by the Corps and the MDEP. The primary role of the IRT is to facilitate the establishment of the ILF program through the development of an ILF Instrument. The IRT also reviews ILF mitigation proposals and provides comments to the Corps. The approval of the use of the ILF program for specific projects is the decision of the Corps pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and/or Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Corps provides no guarantee that any particular individual or general permit proposing to use the ILF program for compensation mitigation would be authorized.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Each project has a map showing the location of the project with a summary. Additionally, information consistent with a prospectus is located here:

https://ribits.usace.army.mil/ords/f?p=107:378:3065123861890::NO::P378_PROGRAM_ID:261

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Essential Fish Habitat describes waters and substrate necessary for fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity.

The District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that the site-specific adverse effect will not be substantial. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH recommendations is being conducted and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT: Based on the initial review, the District Engineer has determined that none of these projects may affect properties in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Additional review and consultation to fulfil requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, will be ongoing as part of the proposal review process and the permit review process for those requiring Corps authorization.

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION: The New England District, Army Corps of Engineers, has reviewed the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, that might occur at the project sites. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed projects, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect any federally listed endangered or threatened species or their designated critical habitat. By this Public Notice, we are requesting that the appropriate federal agency concur with our determination.

EVALUATION: After the end of the comment period, the district engineer will review all comments received and make an initial determination as to the potential of the proposed project to provide compensatory mitigation for activities authorized by DA permits. That determination will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. Factors relevant to the proposal will be considered including conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food, and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

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FILE NO. NAE-2005-01142

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; American Indian Tribes; and other interested parties to consider and evaluate the proposed activity. All comments received will be considered by the Corps during the formulation of the initial determination of potential for the proposed activity.

COMMENTS: In order to properly evaluate the proposals, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Taylor Bell at (978) 318-8952, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.

Taylor Bell

for Robert DeSista
Deputy Chief
Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices by email, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program

2021 Proposals

MNRCP Region	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Town	Total Cost	Funds Requested	Total Acres	Compensation Type
Central & Eastern Lowlands	Burnt Land Lake Outlet Road Crossing	Project SHARE	T35 MD BPP	\$130,000	\$100,000	2,400 lf	Restoration, Enhancement
Central & Eastern Lowlands	Seboeis Plantation	Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands	Seboeis Plantation	\$562,500	\$537,500	860	Preservation
Downeast Maine	Old Pond Marsh	Maine Coast Heritage Trust	Hancock	\$31,500	\$29,500	19.1	Enhancement
Downeast Maine	Schoppee Salt Marsh	Downeast Salmon Federation	Machias	\$747,650	\$555,570	67.7	Preservation, Restoration
Central Interior & Midcoast	Curtis Bog - Camp Gustin	Androscoggin Land Trust	Sabattus	\$433,200	\$383,000	86.2	Preservation
Central Interior & Midcoast	Conservation Mooring & Eelgrass - Brunswick	Town of Brunswick	Brunswick	\$235,893	\$223,187	13.7	Restoration, Enhancement
Central Interior & Midcoast	Conservation Mooring & Eelgrass - Harpswell	Town of Harpswell	Harpswell	\$233,999	\$224,406	76.2	Restoration, Enhancement
Central Interior & Midcoast	Frost Gully Brook Dam Removals	Trout Unlimited	Freeport, ME	\$337,518	\$162,518	19.4, 2350 lf	Restoration, Enhancement, Preservation
Central Interior & Midcoast	Half Moon Pond	Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust	Bristol	\$281,200	\$200,000	215.5	Preservation
Central Interior & Midcoast	Long Cove & Beaver Pond	Kennebec Estuary Land Trust	Westport Island	\$673,791	\$600,000	99.4	Preservation
Central Interior & Midcoast	Maquoit Bay - Eckert	Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust	Brunswick	\$189,200	\$170,000	24.8	Preservation
Central Interior & Midcoast	Oyster River Bog	Georges River Land Trust	Rockland	\$664,195	\$598,730	517.2	Preservation
Central Interior & Midcoast	Passagassawakeag Headwaters	Coastal Mountains Land Trust	Knox	\$112,832	\$112,832	109	Preservation
Central Interior & Midcoast	Salmon Lake Narrows	7 Lakes Alliance	Belgrade	\$545,000	\$545,000	50	Preservation
Central Interior & Midcoast	Swett Marsh Restoration	Kennebec Estuary Collaboration	Georgetown	\$476,438	\$403,895	125	Enhancement
Central Interior & Midcoast	Tondreau Project	Harpswell Heritage Land Trust	Harpswell	\$1,714,935	\$265,000	61.8	Preservation
Central Interior & Midcoast	Walden Parke Preserve 2	Bangor Land Trust	Bangor	\$413,500	\$406,000	55.2	Preservation
Southern Maine	Cox's Pond Wetlands	Great Works Regional Land Trust	South Berwick	\$85,400	\$51,200	35.4	Preservation
Southern Maine	Cutts Ridge Brook - Wollerscheid	Kittery Land Trust, Inc.	Kittery and Eliot	\$450,000	\$440,000	89.5, 2150 lf	Preservation, Restoration
Southern Maine	Kezar Corridor - Angelo Celtic	Greater Lovell Land Trust	Lovell	\$702,500	\$430,000	955	Preservation

MNRCP Region	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Town	Total Cost	Funds Requested	Total Acres	Compensation Type
Southern Maine	Kezar Corridor - Chadbourne	Greater Lovell Land Trust	Lovell	\$492,200	\$200,000	368.5	Preservation
Southern Maine	Little River Estuary	US Fish and Wildlife Service	Wells	\$378,088	\$259,838	141	Enhancement
Southern Maine	Nonsuch River - Libby	Scarborough Land Trust	Scarborough	\$508,950	\$250,000	16.5	Preservation
Southern Maine	Norton Heirs	York Land Trust, Inc.	York, York County	\$100,900	\$91,400	46.2	Preservation
Southern Maine	Porter Heath	Francis Small Heritage Trust, Inc.	Porter	\$155,705	\$127,305	133.5	Preservation
Southern Maine	Rolfe Hill	Loon Echo Land Trust	Casco	\$1,074,000	\$784,000	439	Preservation, Enhancement
Southern Maine	Salmon Falls Tidal Waters	Great Works Regional Land Trust	South Berwick	\$1,906,000	\$751,450	66.3	Preservation
Southern Maine	Twin Bridges - Cummings	Western Foothills Land Trust	Otisfield	\$54,085	\$46,085	54.1	Preservation
Southern Maine	Twin Bridges - Edward Mills	Western Foothills Land Trust	Norway	\$1,630,000	\$655,000	722.6	Preservation
Southern Maine	Twin Bridges - Robinson	Western Foothills Land Trust	Otisfield	\$47,367	\$16,367	25	Preservation

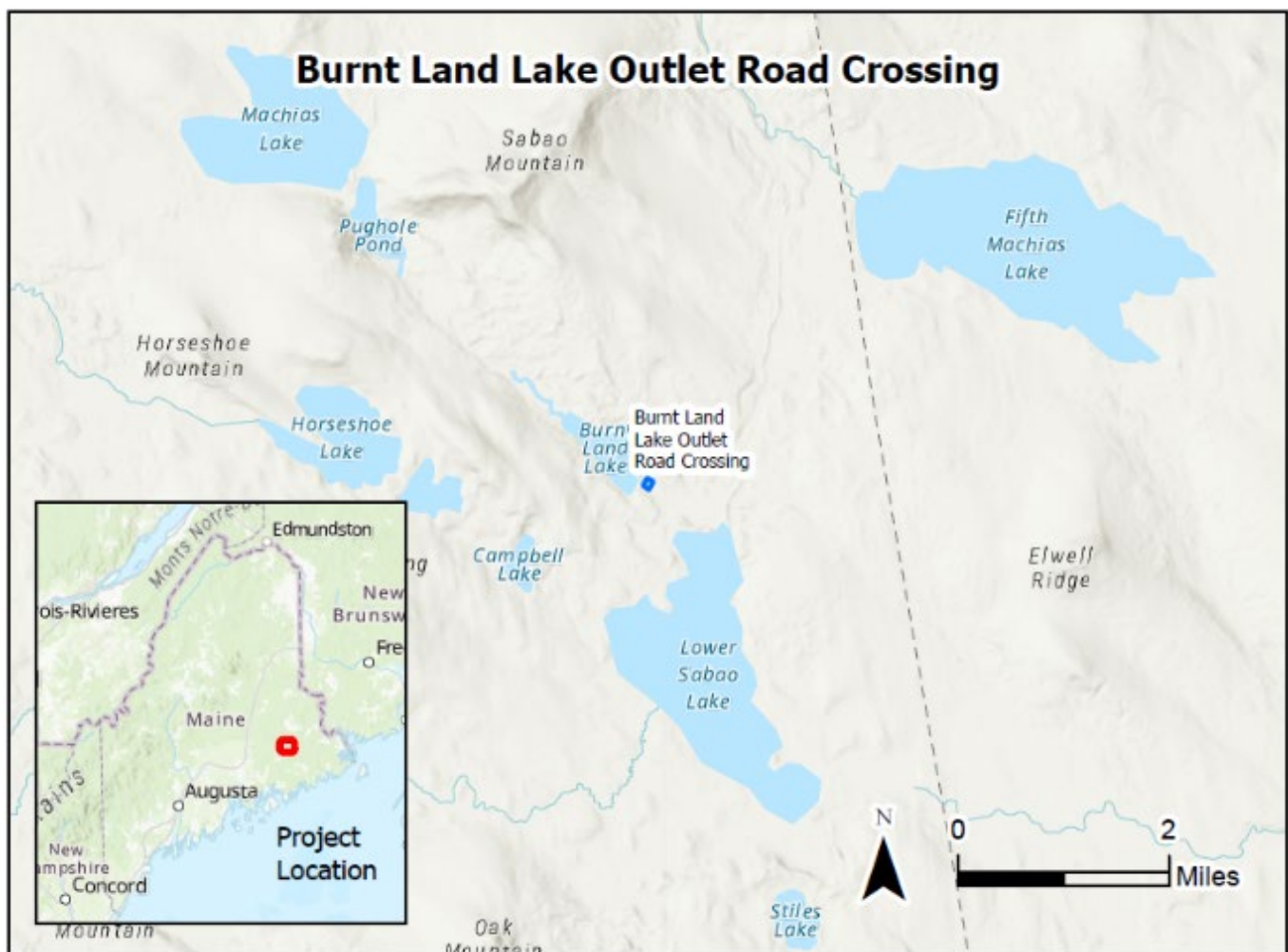
Central & Eastern Lowlands Region

Project: Burnt Land Lake Outlet Road Crossing

Applicant: Project SHARE

Location: T35 MD, Hancock County

The project site consists of multiple undersized round culverts that often are blocked. Upstream of the site, the stream backwaters flooding the riparian buffer and creating a non-natural wetland area. The culverts also act as a barrier to fish passage. The proposed project will remove the multiple culverts and replace them with an open bottom plate arch culvert that spans the stream. The restoration site is in the Machias River Watershed which is designated as an outstanding river by the State of Maine. The site is situated in a riverine reach midway between Burnt Land Lake and Sabao Lake. The undersized culverts disrupt natural stream processes as well as presenting a fish passage barrier. Replacement of the undersized culverts with a bankfull spanning open bottom structure will remove the hydraulic check and begin the passive restoration of natural stream process. High flow events will be able to pass through the structure unaltered restoring sediment transport. The current upstream backwater condition will draw down returning the stream to its natural channel. Once drained, the riparian buffer will be revealed, water table will return to the correct elevation and soils will re-oxygenate. Over time the riparian buffer will again vegetate to the natural stream bank and the site will return to a natural, shaded riverine reach.

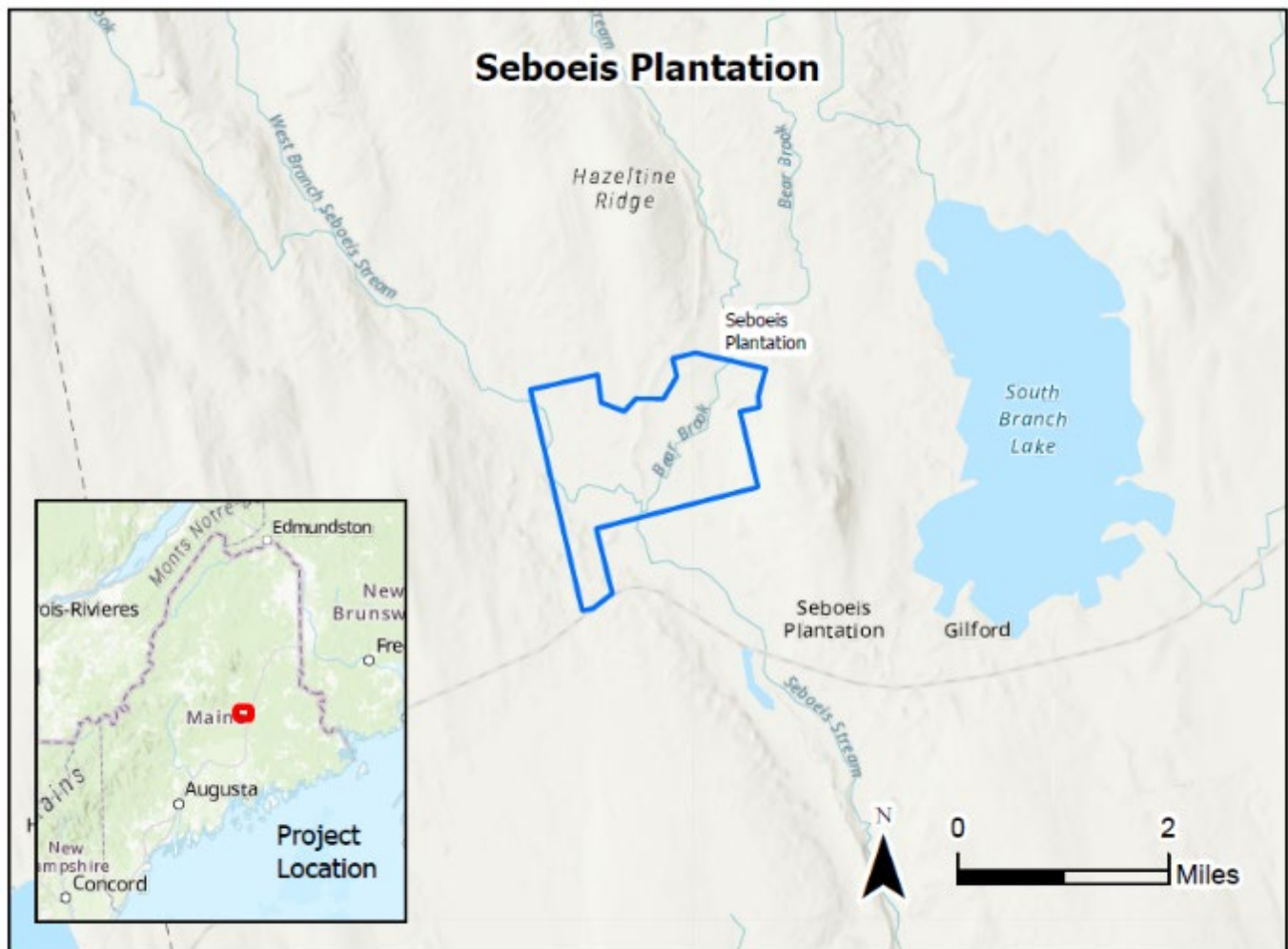


Project: Seboeis Plantation

Applicant: Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands

Location: Seboeis Plantation, Penobscot County

The project consists of fee acquisition of the 860-acre Seboeis Plantation parcel which will preserve in perpetuity significant wetlands, riparian habitat, and undeveloped upland forest at the confluence of the east and west branches of Seboeis Stream. The property has been extensively managed for timber over the last 30 years, with some degradation of fish habitat resulting from harvests in the early 1990s. Acquisition of the property by the Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL) will allow habitat to recover, protect it from further subdivision and development, and provide for future sustainable forest management that will ensure wetland and natural resource protection in perpetuity. The parcel sits between an existing Public Lot (owned and managed by BPL) and residential lots of the Seboeis Road Homeowners Association. Wetlands form the core of the project area, with an upland ridge through the center and forested uplands along the perimeter. Wetland and aquatic features cover ~350 acres and Inland Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat is mapped throughout much of the contiguous wetland complex.



Downeast Maine Region

Project: Old Pond Marsh Restoration Project

Applicant: Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Location: Hancock, Hancock County

The Old Pond Marsh Restoration Project encompasses approximately 19 acres of *Spartina* Saltmarsh that extend across two Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) Preserves (Old Pond and Carrying Place East) in the Upper Skillings River/Old Pond in Hancock, Maine. The marsh shows evidence of significant impairment associated with over two centuries of human alterations. Primary alterations to the site hydrology include an abandoned rail causeway (owned by Crabtree Neck Land Trust), which is a tidal restriction; and an artificial channel at the Carrying Place, which provides an artificial hydrological connection to Taunton Bay at mid-tide and higher. Secondary hydrological modifications include numerous modifications to the marsh surface itself associated with historical agricultural practice. These include evidence of dikes, berms, and ditches. These surface alterations are causing ponding on the marsh surface and loss of salt marsh vegetation, in a pattern referred to by marsh restoration practitioners as a “mega-pool trajectory.” This project focuses primarily on addressing the agricultural modifications to the marsh surface to interrupt the “mega-pool trajectory.” MCHT proposes working the US Fish and Wildlife Service Salt Marsh Adaptation & Resiliency Team (SMARTeam) and a private contractor to design and implement a project that will restore the natural single-channel hydrology in impacted areas of the marsh and restore salt marsh vegetation on site. Restoration will halt the subsidence of the saltmarsh by fixing the hydrology and improve accretion which will build platform elevation at a higher rate than sea level rise.

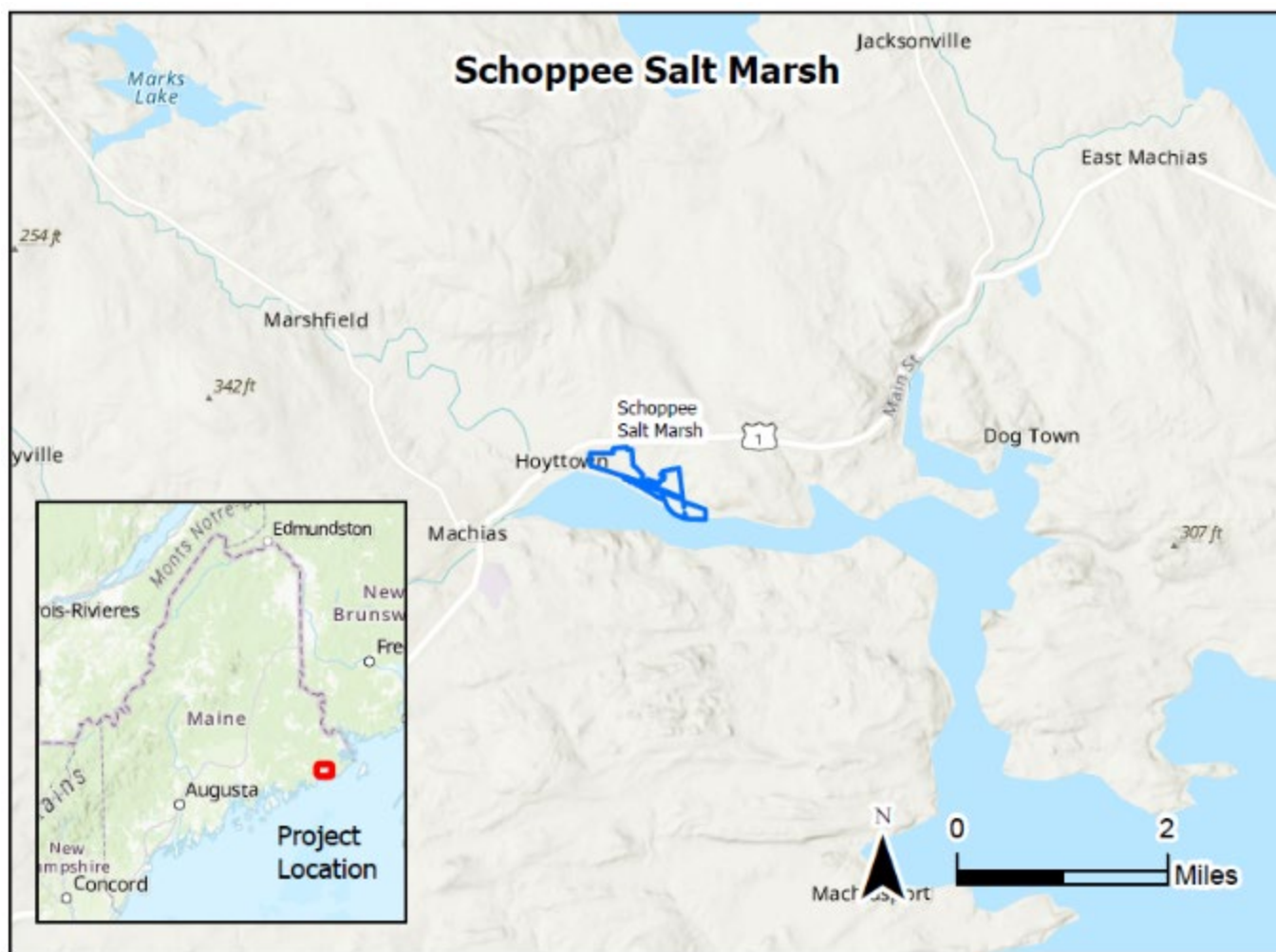


Project: Schoppee Salt Marsh Restoration Project

Applicant: Downeast Salmon Federation

Location: Machias, Washington County

The Downeast Salmon Federation (DSF) is in the process of restoring Schoppee Marsh, a 40-acre salt marsh at the head of Machias Bay. Tidal flows into the marsh were restricted in the early 1900s when a railroad was built between it and the bay. A single 42-inch diameter culvert with a top hinge tide gate preventing salt water from entering but allowing water to exit the marsh was built through the railroad bed. The only saltwater to enter the marsh flows from an adjoining marsh over a height of land at high tide. A preliminary hydrological survey of the marsh indicates that the marsh bed has subsided. Non-salt marsh plants have colonized some areas and large areas have reverted to mudflats and are devoid of any plant life due the impaired hydrology, unlike the adjoining marsh which, with full tidal flows, is lush with salt marshgrasses and other halophilic plants. DSF proposes to acquire the properties within the marsh through a combination of conservation easements and fee title acquisitions and restore the salt marsh by reestablishing full tidal flows and applying adaptive management strategies for habitat enhancement to include some or all of the following: design a new tidal flow structure; deposition of thin layer substrate to raise marsh bed; transplanting *Spartina* plugs and other salt marsh vegetation; construction of tidal flow structure; returning tidal flows to marsh; and on-going monitoring to chart progress as salt marsh recovers.



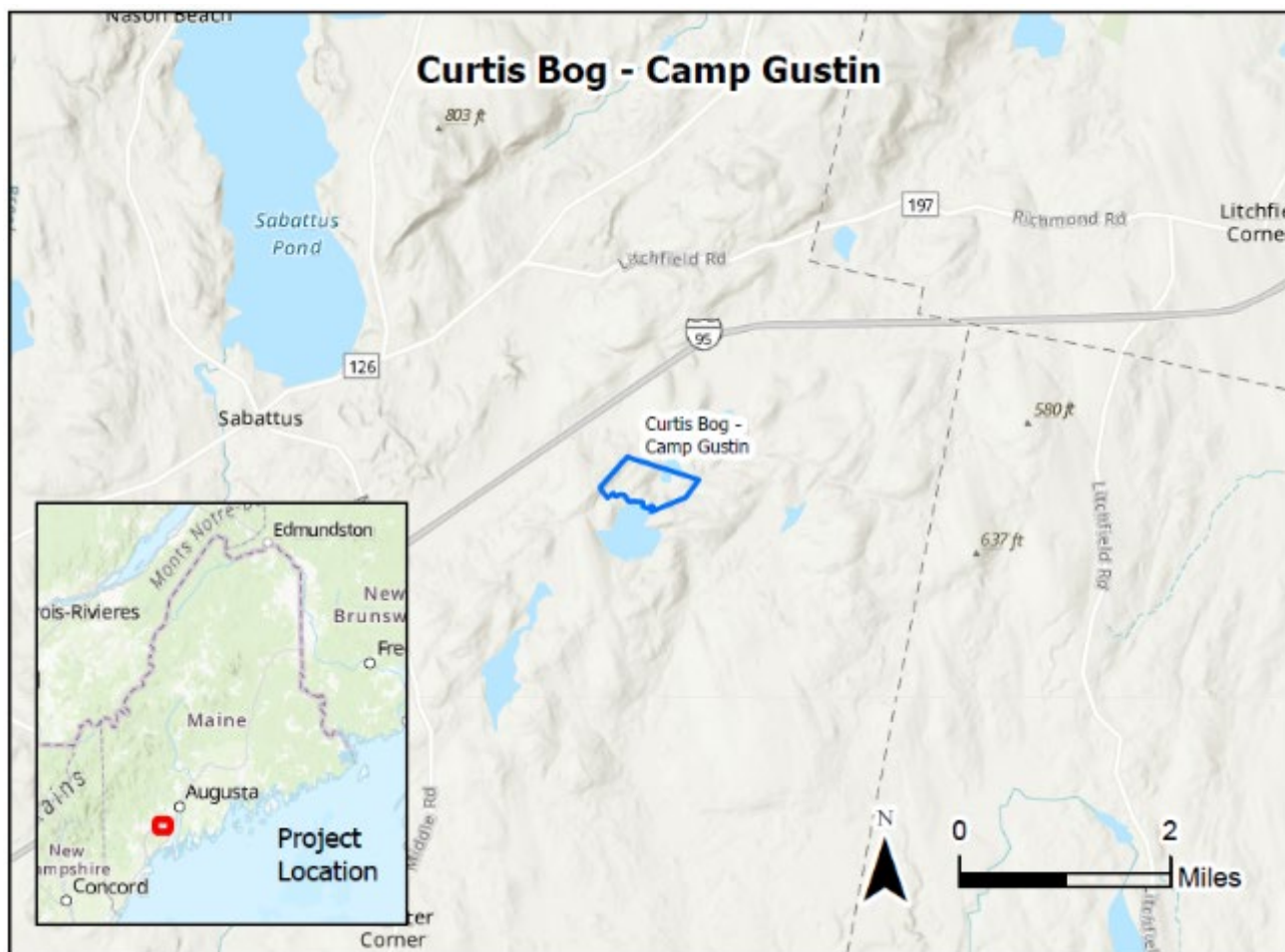
Central Interior & Midcoast Region

Project: Curtis Bog – Camp Gustin

Applicant: Androscoggin Land Trust

Location: Sabattus, Androscoggin County

Androscoggin Land Trust (ALT) proposes to protect and preserve 87 acres of land adjacent to the 334-acre Curtis Bog property, 114 acres owned by ALT, and 220 additional acres under conservation easement. This project aims to permanently protect the Camp Gustin Property, 87 acres of sensitive shoreline along Loon Pond, wetland, and upland forest resources in Sabattus, Androscoggin County. The property includes 760 feet of undisturbed shoreline along Loon Pond. This property is at great risk for development being easily accessible from the north or south and only 4 miles from Interstate 95 exit 86 on Middle Road Sabattus. This area is a popular destination and is experiencing intense residential development pressure. The property consists of 16 acres of forested, scrub and emergent wetlands and 71 acres of forested upland buffer. The property provides substantial wildlife habitat because of its mix of wetland and upland areas and contiguous undeveloped habitat block. Much of the area around Camp Gustin has been logged and the area is becoming increasingly more developed, making this property much more valuable to protect. Development or timber harvest on this property would fragment this undeveloped corridor, compromise the ecosystem, reduce biodiversity, risk the spread of invasive species, increase impervious surfaces, and diminish water quality. ALT is a land trust that has the capacity to permanently protect the property and is an accredited land trust through Land Trust Accreditation Commission (LTA). The property is a key component in protecting and preserving a 421-acre connective corridor.

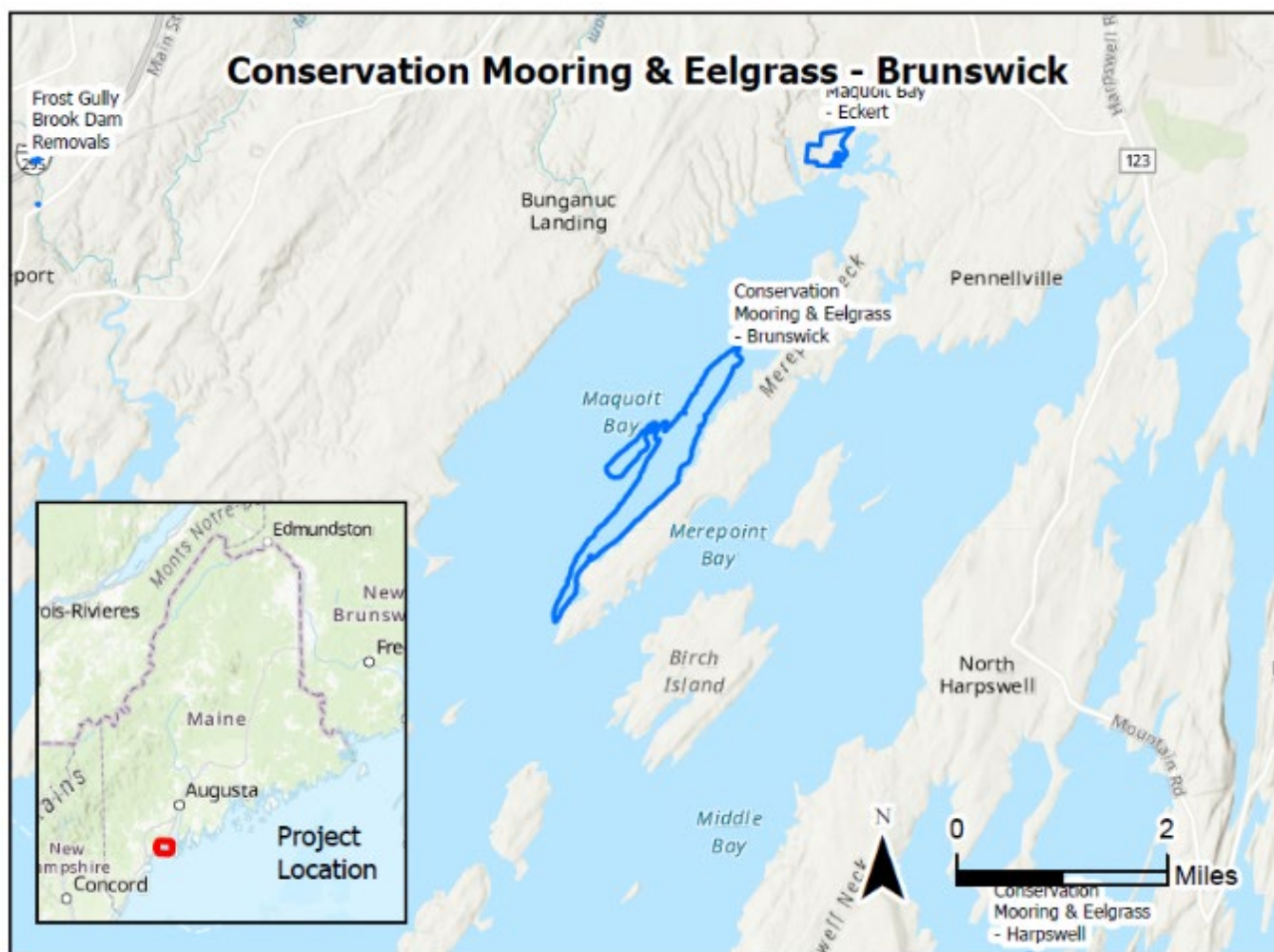


Project: Brunswick Conservation Mooring and Eelgrass Restoration Project

Applicant: Town of Brunswick

Location: Brunswick, Cumberland County

Traditional block and chain moorings located in eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) have been identified by state and federal natural resource agencies as one of the significant stressors to eelgrass in Casco Bay. As the traditional mooring chain drags on the bottom, a barren mooring scar is created within the eelgrass bed. Conservation moorings are an improved alternative to traditional block and chain moorings that utilize a helical anchor and tether system, eliminating bottom chain and associated eelgrass impacts. Conservation moorings have been successfully installed to restore eelgrass beds throughout New England. Eelgrass projects associated with this mooring conversion have a high likelihood of restoration success because the habitat conditions that support eelgrass already exist and eelgrass can re-populate scar areas both by natural vegetative and reproductive growth and expansion. The Town of Brunswick (Town) is proposing to convert 20 traditional moorings located directly within established eelgrass beds to conservation moorings with helical anchors. The western shore of Mere Point (Project Area) was selected as the target location for the conservation mooring program due to the abundance of eelgrass and the presence of traditional block and chain moorings with associated eelgrass impacts. The Town permits all moorings in Town waters and currently does not permit new moorings in eelgrass beds. As part of this conservation mooring program, the Town will update their mooring regulations to prohibit conversion of conservation moorings back to block and chain. For initial eelgrass impact area estimates, a scar area of 437 square feet per traditional anchor is assumed, resulting in a total of approximately 8,740 square feet of restored eelgrass habitat, along with enhancement to the surrounding eelgrass bed.

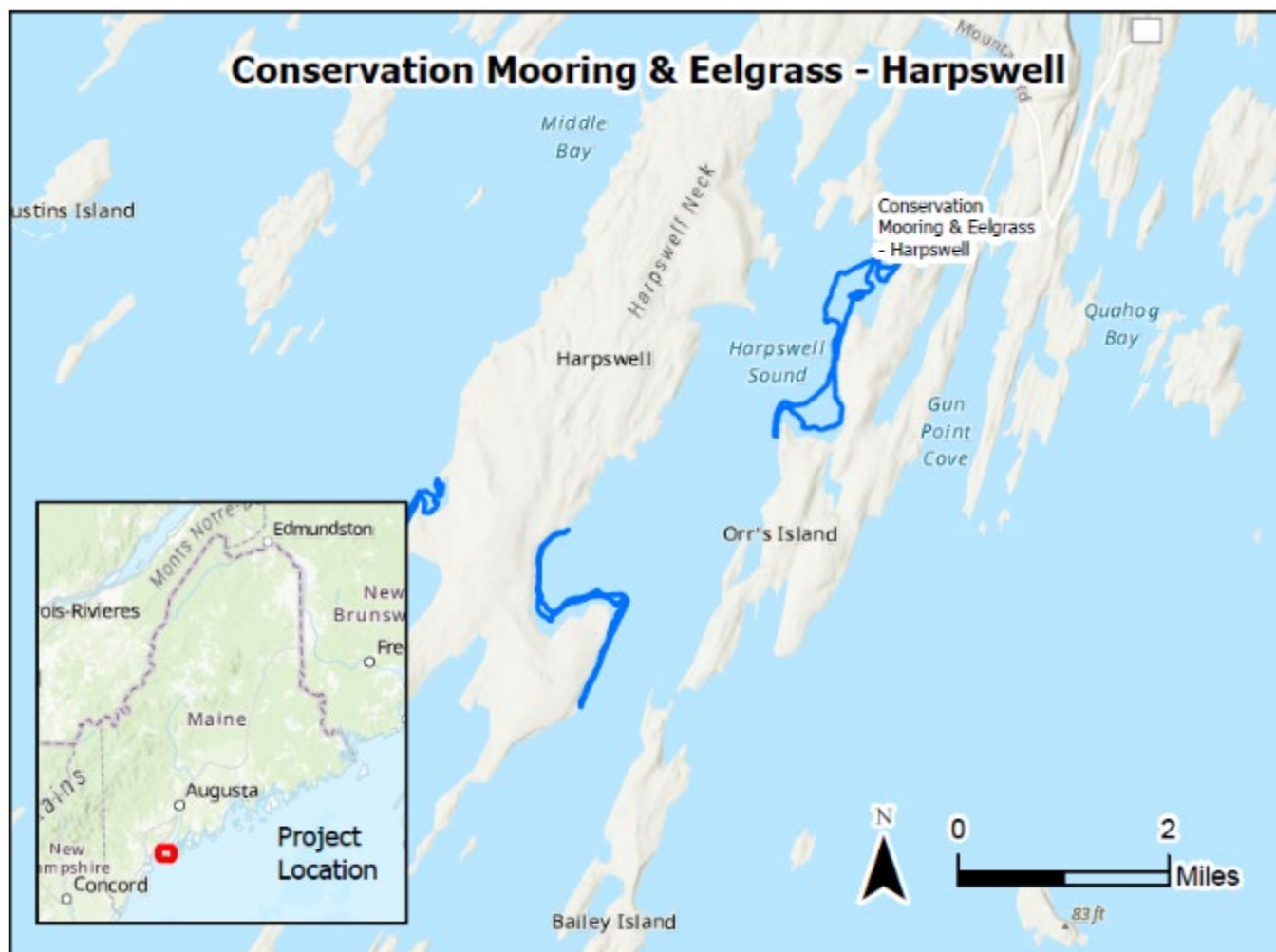


Project: Harpswell Conservation Mooring and Eelgrass Restoration Project

Applicant: Town of Harpswell

Location: Harpswell, Cumberland County

Traditional block and chain moorings located in eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) have been identified by state and federal natural resource agencies as one of the significant stressors to eelgrass in Casco Bay. As the traditional mooring chain drags on the bottom, a barren mooring scar is created within the eelgrass bed. Conservation moorings are an improved alternative to traditional block and chain moorings that utilize a helical anchor and tether system, eliminating bottom chain and associated eelgrass impacts. Conservation moorings have been successfully installed to restore eelgrass beds throughout New England. Eelgrass projects associated with this mooring conversion have a high likelihood of restoration success because the habitat conditions that support eelgrass already exist and eelgrass can re-populate scar areas both by natural vegetative and reproductive growth and expansion. The Town of Harpswell (Town) is proposing to convert 20 traditional moorings located directly within established eelgrass beds to conservation moorings with helical anchors. Curtis Cove, Stover's Cove, and Dipper Cove were selected as the target location for the conservation mooring program due to the abundance of eelgrass and the presence of traditional block and chain moorings with associated eelgrass impacts. The Town permits all moorings in Town waters and currently does not permit new moorings in eelgrass beds. As part of this conservation mooring program, the Town will update their mooring regulations to prohibit conversion of conservation moorings back to block and chain. For initial eelgrass impact area estimates, a scar area of 437 square feet per traditional anchor is assumed, resulting in a total of approximately 8,740 square feet of restored eelgrass habitat, along with enhancement to the surrounding eelgrass bed.

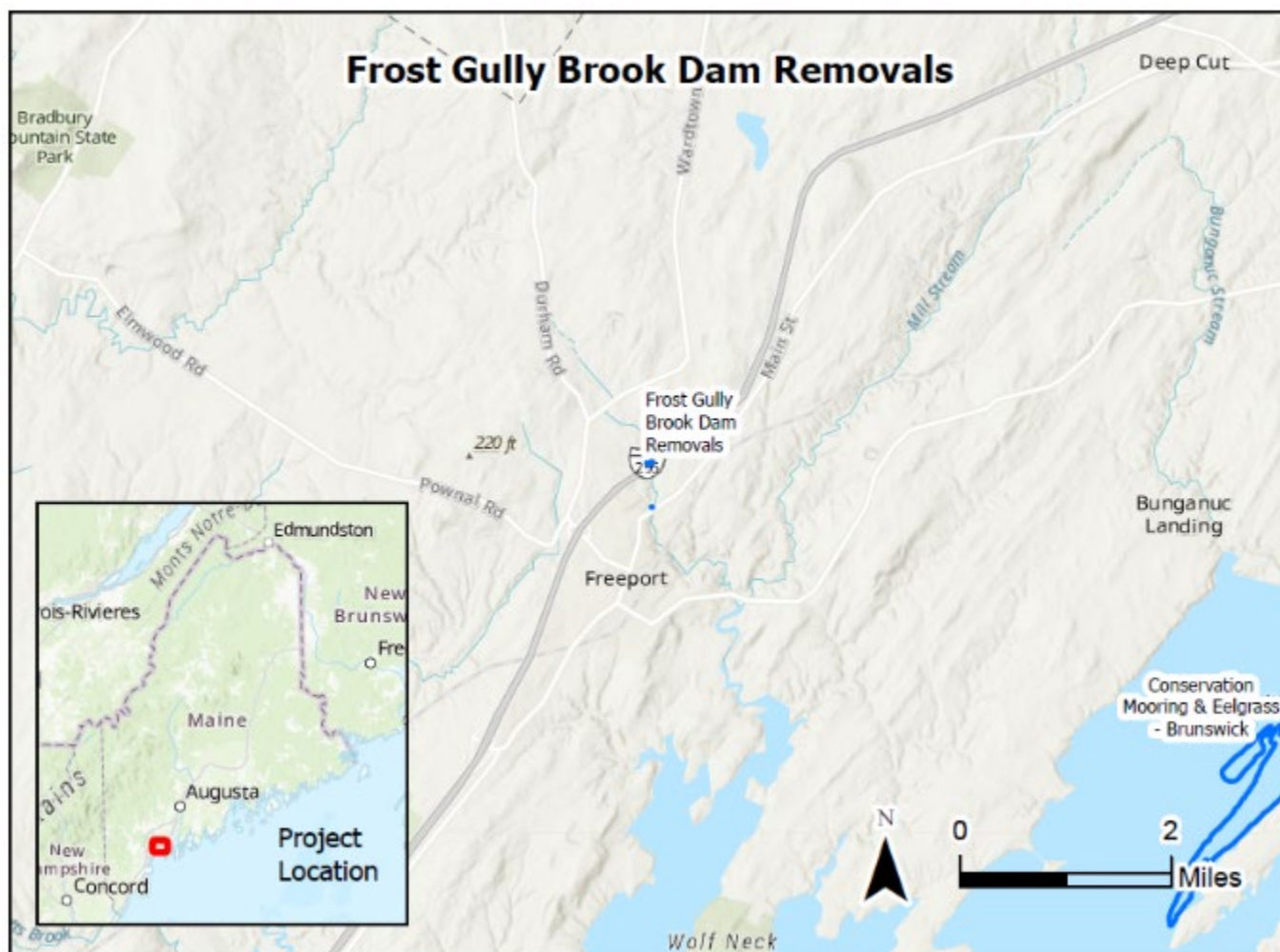


Project: Frost Gully Brook Dam Removals

Applicant: Trout Unlimited

Location: Freeport, Cumberland County

Frost Gully Brook is a small coastal stream in Freeport, Maine, with abundant cold groundwater inflow that has recently been documented to support native brook trout from its headwaters to tidal habitat in the Harraseeket River. Salter or sea-run brook trout are rare within their native range from Maine to Long Island, and especially rare in Casco Bay. Three dams—two on Frost Gully Brook, and one on an unnamed spring-fed tributary—were built to supply municipal water for Freeport and have served no purpose since the water system converted to wells. Burr Pond Dam and Fire Pond Dam are on a 13-acre permanently conserved parcel owned by the Freeport Conservation Trust. The Maine Water Dam is located on a 23.5-acre parcel owned by the Maine Water Company. The three existing dams impede aquatic connectivity, convert 1,550' of free-flowing stream to impoundments, have significant impacts on wetland functions and values, and raise water temperatures significantly. Trout Unlimited proposes to remove all three dams, replant native riparian vegetation as appropriate, control invasive plants, and enter into a formal project agreement to protect wetlands, Frost Gully Brook, and 18 acres of adjacent upland buffer on the Maine Water Property. These actions will restore aquatic connectivity, reduce thermal loading, improving groundwater-surface water connectivity and enhance riparian wetlands, restoring and enhancing natural riverine, floodplain and wetland function. The reconnection between the Frost Gully Brook watershed and the intertidal Harraseeket River will benefit a variety of native fish and wildlife including resident and sea-run brook trout.

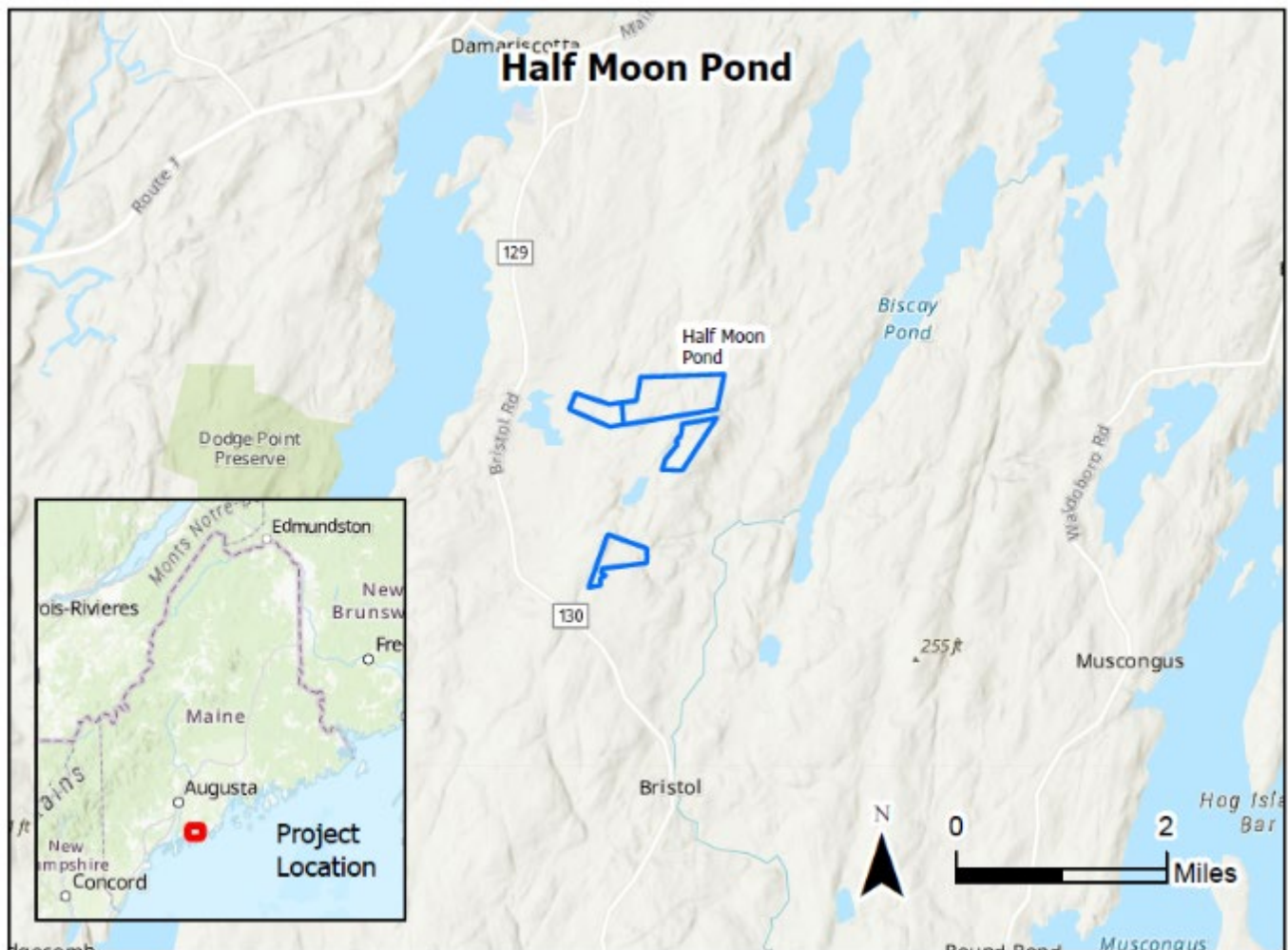


Project: Half Moon Pond

Applicant: Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust

Location: Bristol, Lincoln County

Having secured from a single landowner an Option to Purchase 476 acres across eighteen neighboring parcels in a large forest and wetland complex at the heart of the Pemaquid Peninsula, Coastal Rivers seeks the support of MNRCP to complete a Fee Purchase of four of these parcels totaling 215 acres and representing a variety of wetland types. They border another 245 acres of existing Coastal Rivers conserved lands and are part of the largest unfragmented forest block on the Pemaquid Peninsula, at nearly 4,400 acres, the conservation of which is a top priority for both Coastal Rivers and the Town of Bristol. Wetland and aquatic features on the Hunt property include just over 47 acres of forested, scrub shrub, and emergent wetlands, multiple vernal pools, and headwater streams. The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has mapped Inland Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat on Lower Pond, and a portion of the IWWH lies within the Hunt-MNRCP project area. The goal is to conserve the land, complete minor restoration around vernal pools and wetlands, and enhance existing trail systems, while keeping the property interiors primarily wild and untrammelled.



Project: Long Cove and Beaver Pond

Applicant: Kennebec Estuary Land Trust

Location: Westport Island, Lincoln County

This project will conserve 99 +/- acres along East Shore Road in Westport Island, Maine through fee acquisition. This property, consisting of two separate but abutting parcels, would conserve more than 30 acres of wetland (forested, scrub-shrub, unconsolidated bottom, and estuarine intertidal) as well as nearly 3,000 feet of shoreline. This property is adjacent to the Beginning with Habitats Kennebec Estuary Focus Area of Statewide Significance, as well as KELT's Hockomock Bay-Squam Creek focus area. Amid a competitive housing market where raw land is being sold and developed rapidly, KELT is interested in permanently protecting this land for its habitat value (tidal waterfowl & wading bird habitat, vernal pools), potential for low-impact recreation and traditional use, and influence on surrounding water quality.

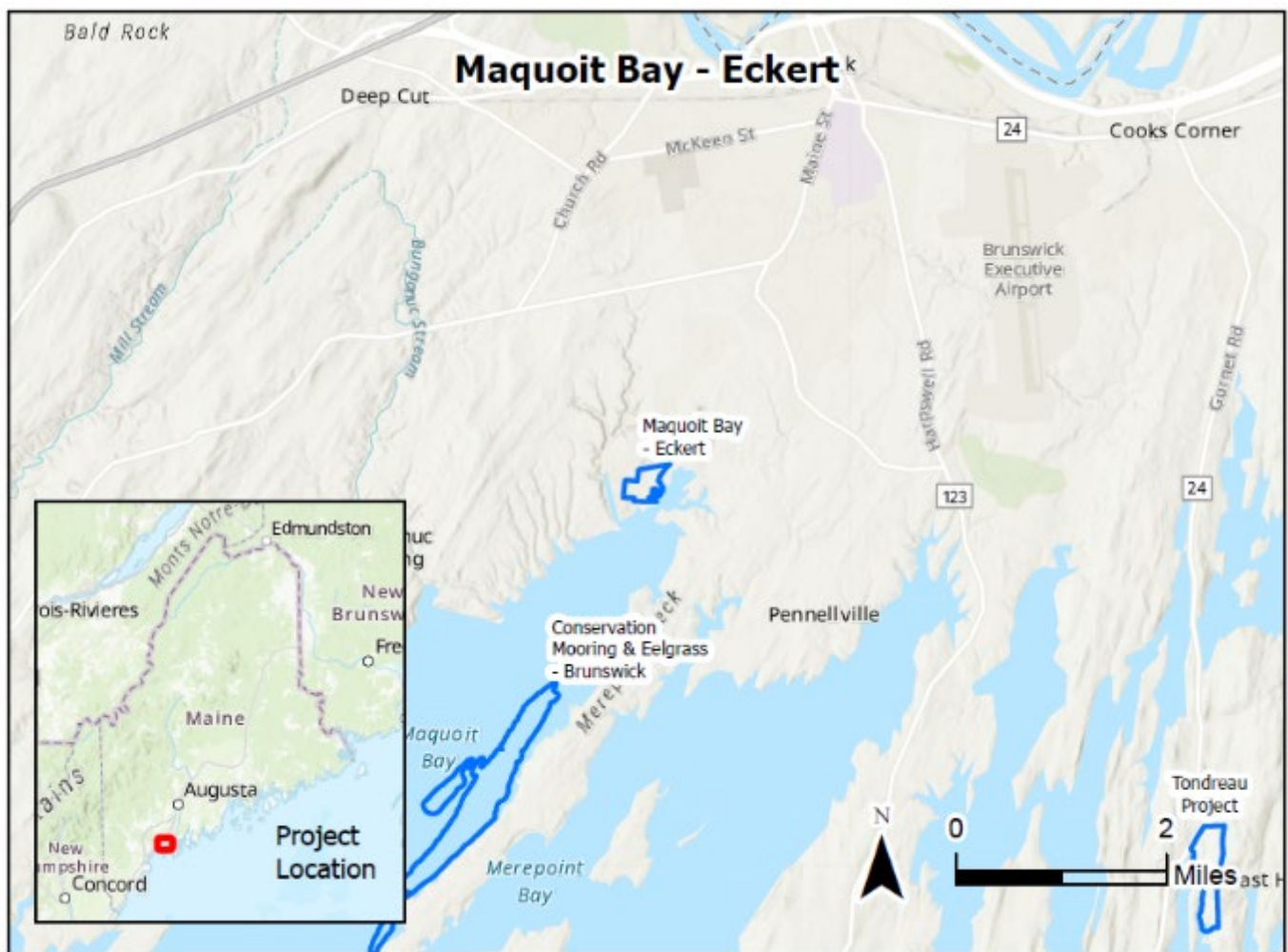


Project: Maquoit Bay - Eckert

Applicant: Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust

Location: Brunswick, Cumberland County

The proposed project will be a fee simple purchase and long-term preservation of the Eckert tract, a ~25 acre coastal property that includes 2,850 feet of shoreline abutting an extensive (> 50 ac.) salt marsh at the head of Maquoit Bay. The property will be managed as a preserve by the Brunswick Topsham Land Trust (BTLT). The objectives of this project are to: prevent shoreline hardening that would keep the extensive adjacent salt marsh from migrating onto the property as sea level rises; prevent future development that could impair the functions and values of the 19.4 acres of existing forested (PFO) wetlands and their associated stream drainages, which feed freshwater to the marsh; protect the buffer along the adjacent salt marsh system that hosts a full suite of salt marsh bird species (including the Salt Marsh Sparrow); and provide for low impact nonmotorized recreation, primarily on existing trails and woods roads already located on the Eckert property. The marsh is expected to migrate onto the property as sea levels rise and Maine Coast Heritage Trust identified the Eckert parcel as a priority in its coastwide analysis of marsh migration, due to its ability to accommodate future marsh

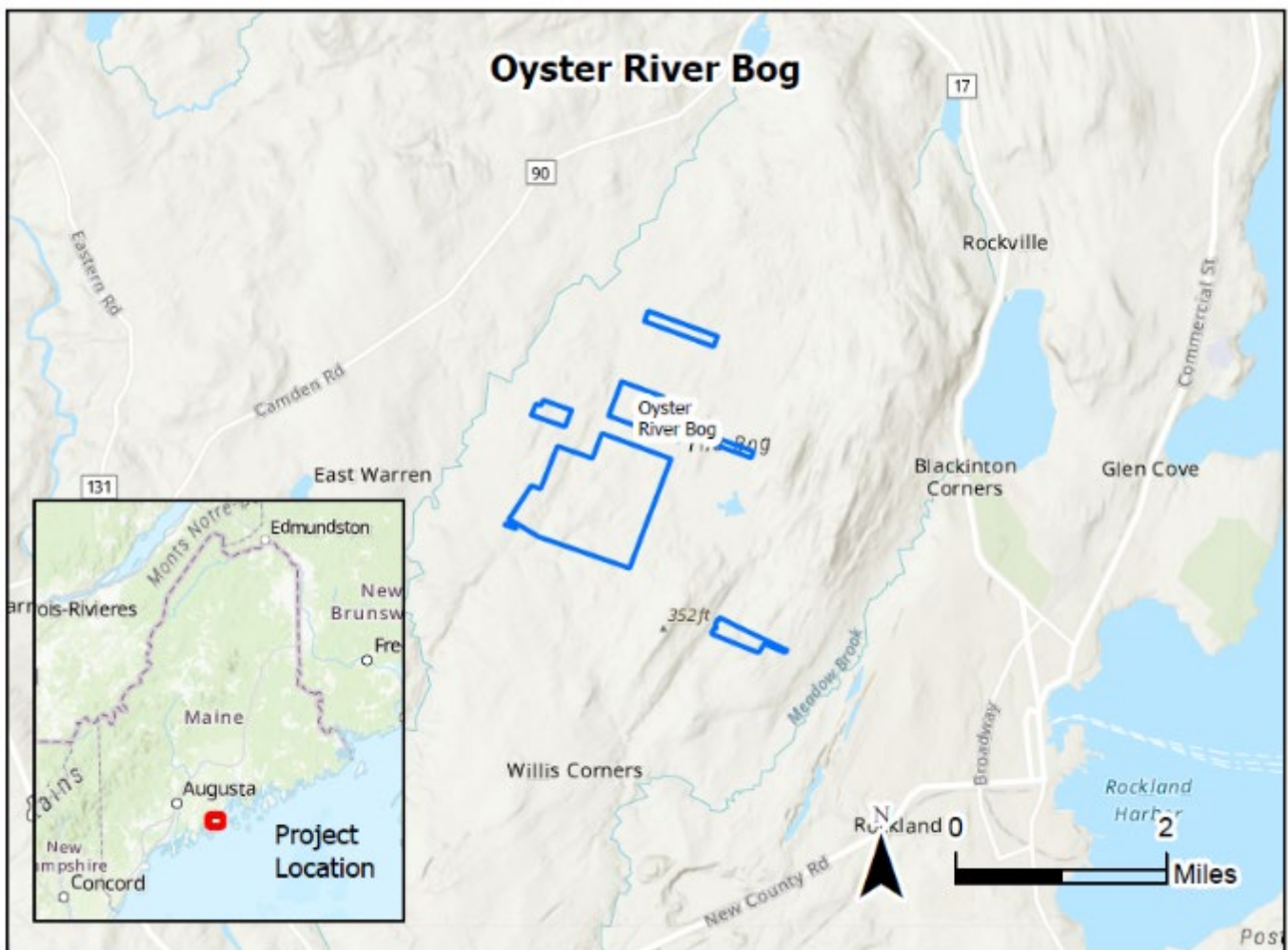


Project: Oyster River Bog

Applicant: Georges River Land Trust

Location: Rockland, Knox County

This project is a 519-acre preservation project that encompasses upland woodland buffer to the Rockland Bog, important wetlands, and a section of the unpatterned fen bog. It is identified within the Rockland Bog Focus Area of Statewide Ecological Significance and within a focus area identified by the Georges River Land Trust. The project area, including freshwater emergent wetlands, freshwater forested wetlands, freshwater shrub-scrub wetlands and inland wading bird and waterfowl habitat, will increase the conservation land in the Bog watershed by 50%. This project is surrounded by other conservation lands including those owned by the City of Rockland, Oyster River Bog Association (fee and easement), and Southern Maine Wetlands Conservancy. In total of the 5880-acre bog watershed, 940 acres is already conserved, and this acquisition project would increase the conserved lands to 1,457 acres. The bog is noted for being the largest peatland complex in Mid-Coast Maine. The project area has been heavily harvested causing a decline in biodiversity and impacts to the onsite wetlands and watershed of the Oyster River. The Bog overall is also a place used by the community for decades for low impact recreation and hunting. Natural regeneration of the wetland complexes and upland will improve habitat conditions, best accomplished through permanent conservation. Georges River Land Trust intends to hold the fee title and manage the property for its diverse habitat values, and wetland functions primarily along with supporting traditional low impact trails, including our own existing Georges Highland Path.

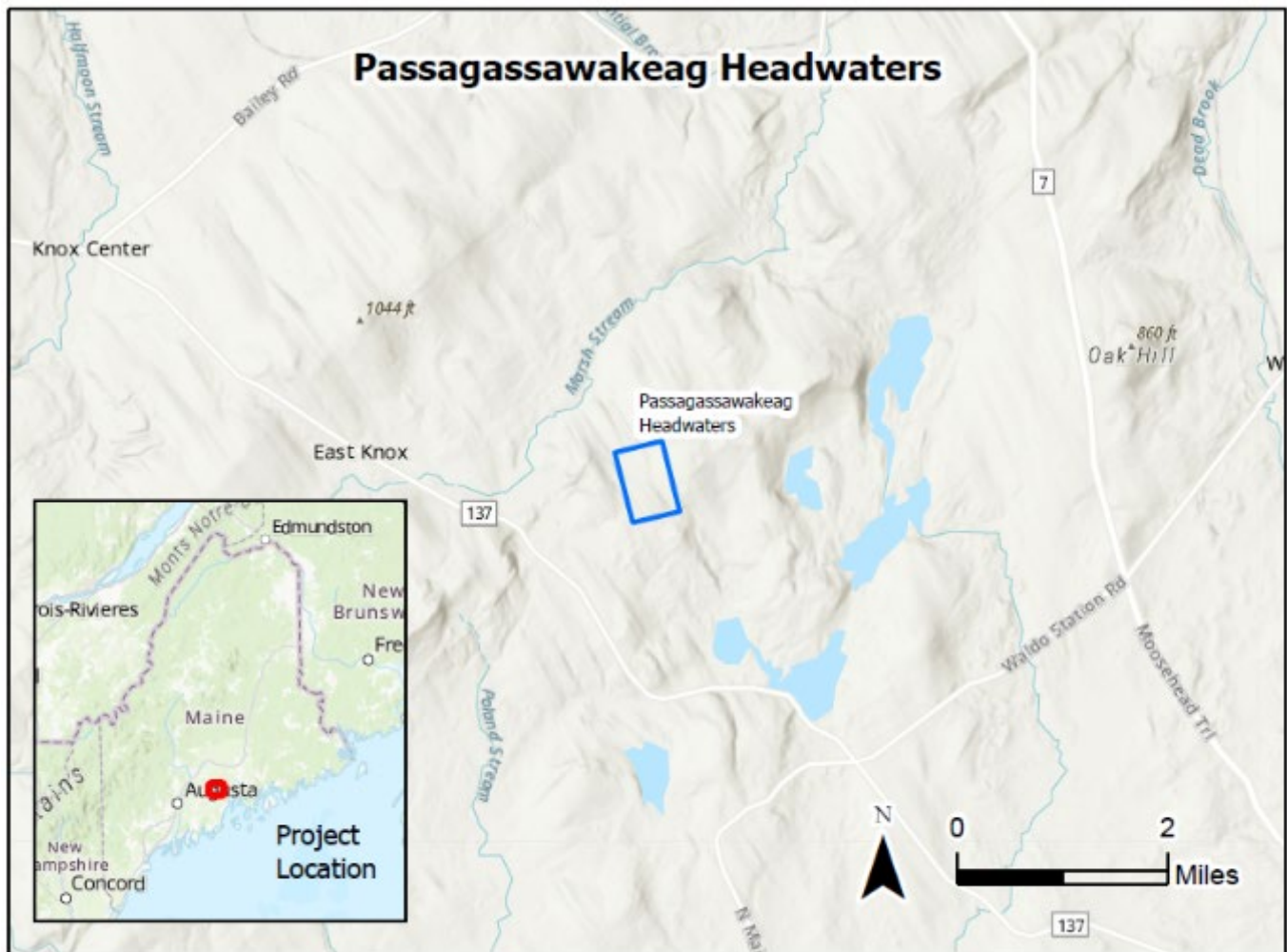


Project: Passagassawakeag Headwaters Preserve

Applicant: Coastal Mountains Land Trust

Location: Knox, Waldo County

Coastal Mountains Land Trust proposes to permanently conserve 109 acres in the Town of Knox. The property is one of the first two projects within the Land Trust's Passagassawakeag Headwaters Interest Area, and contains over 30 acres of Inland Wading Bird and Waterfowl Habitat, over 28 acres of wetlands including a rare natural community (Hardwood Seepage Forest/state rank S3), 2-4 potential vernal pools, and the southernmost population of Mink Frogs in the state. Conservation of this property would help conserve a wildlife corridor between a 3,500 acre undeveloped block to the east, (the Passagassawakeag Headwaters Interest Area) and Frye Mountain Wildlife Management Area to the west, owned by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW).

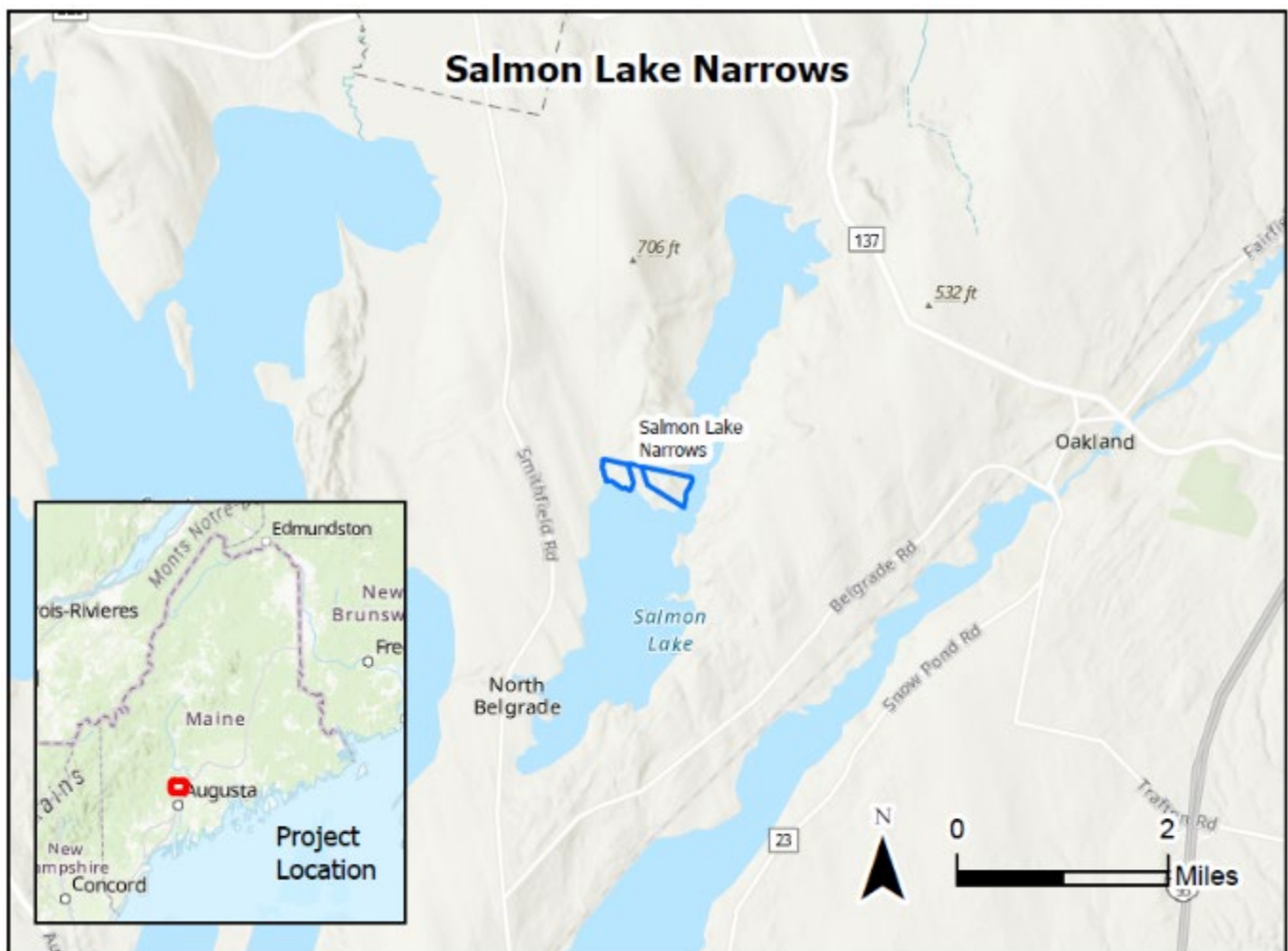


Project: Salmon Lake Narrows Preservation

Applicant: 7 Lakes Alliance

Location: Belgrade, Kennebec County

The Salmon Lake Preservation Project will preserve 50 acres of undeveloped land on Salmon Lake-McGrath Pond, Belgrade, Maine through the acquisition of a conservation easement. The goal of the project is to provide permanent protection of MNRCP Priority Resources including 19 acres of emergent and forested wetlands, 4,388 linear feet of perennial and intermittent streams, significant vernal pool critical terrestrial habitat, Inland Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat, 2,109 linear feet of lakeshore riparian habitat, and 31 acres of upland buffer. McGrath Pond and Salmon Lake, in close proximity to Augusta and Waterville, are largely developed. This is one of the few undeveloped shorelines and large properties on the lake. There is logging pressure in the area including recent logging on adjacent land to the west. The future condition of the property will be changed as a result of proposed conservation restrictions that include no development in the 50-acre conservation land, limited public access, and no logging.

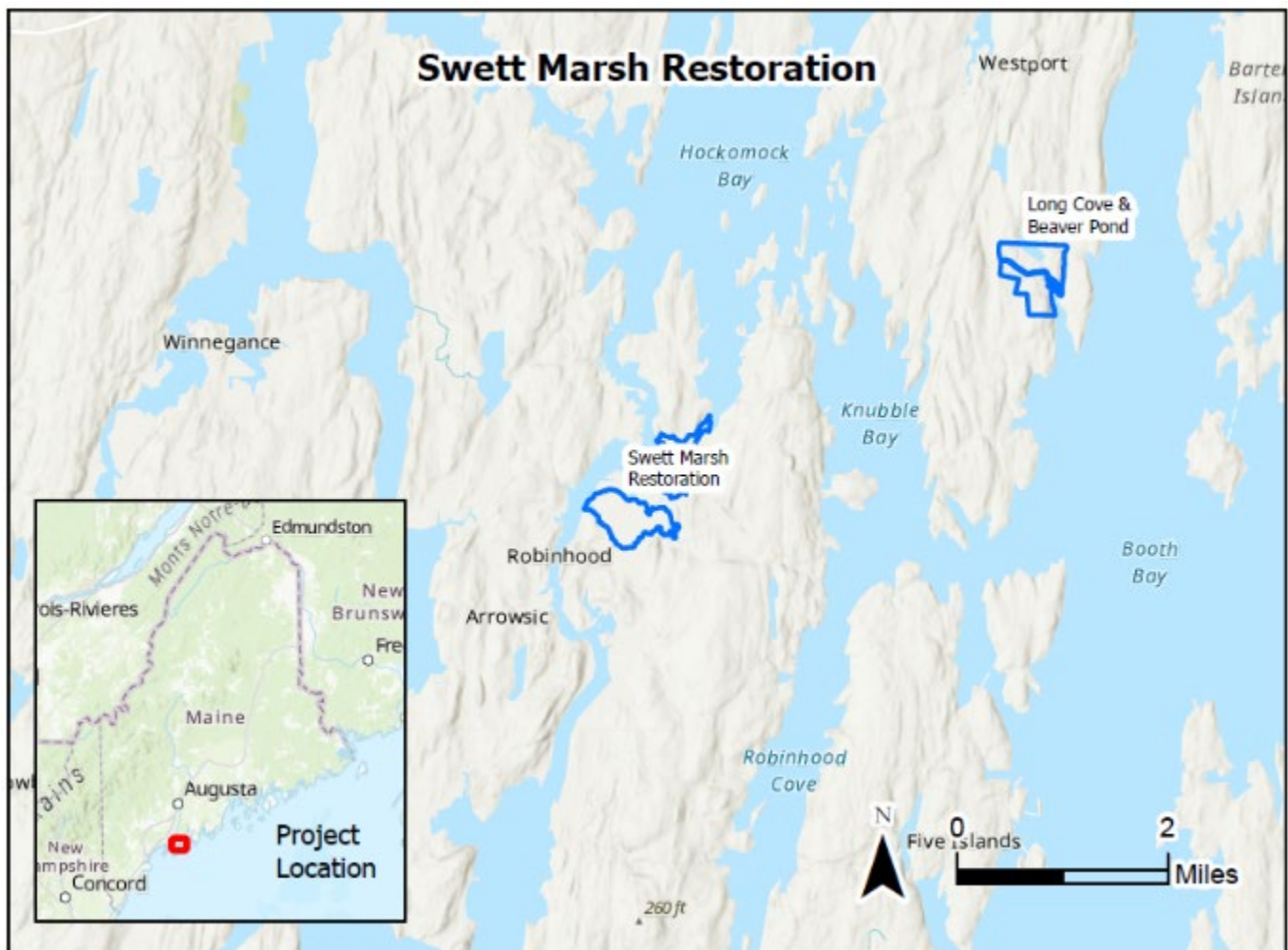


Project: Swett Marsh Restoration Project

Applicant: Kennebec Estuary Land Trust

Location: Georgetown, Sagadahoc County

The project will take place on Swett Marsh in Georgetown, an estuarine tidal marsh with 188 acres of conserved marsh owned by KELT and Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW). 126 acres of the conserved marsh area is high marsh. It provides expansive habitat for species of concern, like salt marsh sparrows, Nelson's sparrows, and lesser yellowlegs, but its ability to serve as habitat and maintain its vibrancy in the face of climate change is hindered by a road crossing and historical agricultural modifications to the marsh. Results of monitoring in 2021 indicate that the crossing and modifications are having significant impacts on the hydrology and vegetation of the marsh. The goal of this project is to enhance the marsh by addressing both the crossings and the modifications. The agricultural modifications will be addressed using methods that have been found to effectively transition high marshes from a trajectory toward unhealthy subsidence to a setting with healthy vegetation and accretion. The undersized culvert will be replaced with a culvert or bridge sized and positioned to support fish passage and unrestricted tidal flow that meets the CoastWise standards for tidal restoration. This enhancement project will increase the health and resilience of the 126 acres of conserved high marsh.

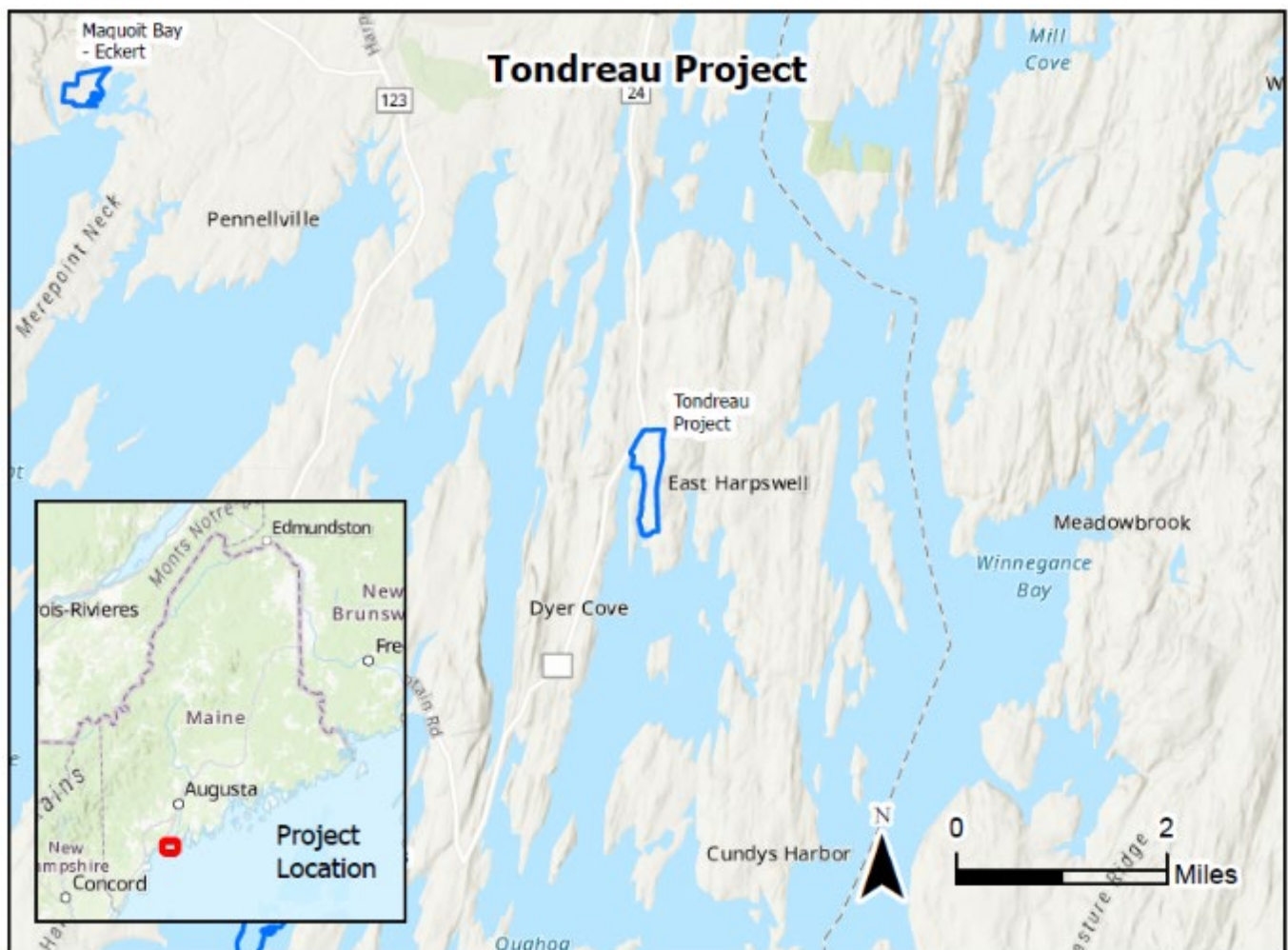


Project: Tondreau Project

Applicant: Harpswell Heritage Land Trust

Location: Harpswell, Cumberland County

The goal of the Tondreau Project is to preserve forever in a natural state 61.8 acres of land and associated intertidal area with 2,648 feet of shorefront (per survey) on two coves at the head of Quahog Bay, an arm of Casco Bay, in Harpswell. The most critical conservation purpose of the project is to protect the water quality and marine resources of Quahog Bay from the adverse effects that would occur if the property were developed for residential use with the consequent increase of runoff pollution and nutrient loading from the subsurface waste disposal systems of those residences. As many as 20-22 residences could be developed on the property and all would be in the watershed of Quahog Bay. Another primary purpose of the project is the preservation of wildlife habitat that can support at least 11 Species of Greatest Conservation Need as determined by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife (MDIFW) and habitat that the Maine Department of Marine Resources has mapped as valuable habitat for softshell clams, European and American oysters, and quahogs. A secondary purpose will be to provide the public with low impact outdoor recreation opportunities. The means of achieving these purposes is for HHLT to acquire the fee interest in the property and manage it as an HHLT preserve. The total project cost is \$565,000. HHLT is requesting a MNRCP grant of \$265,000 to help meet this cost.

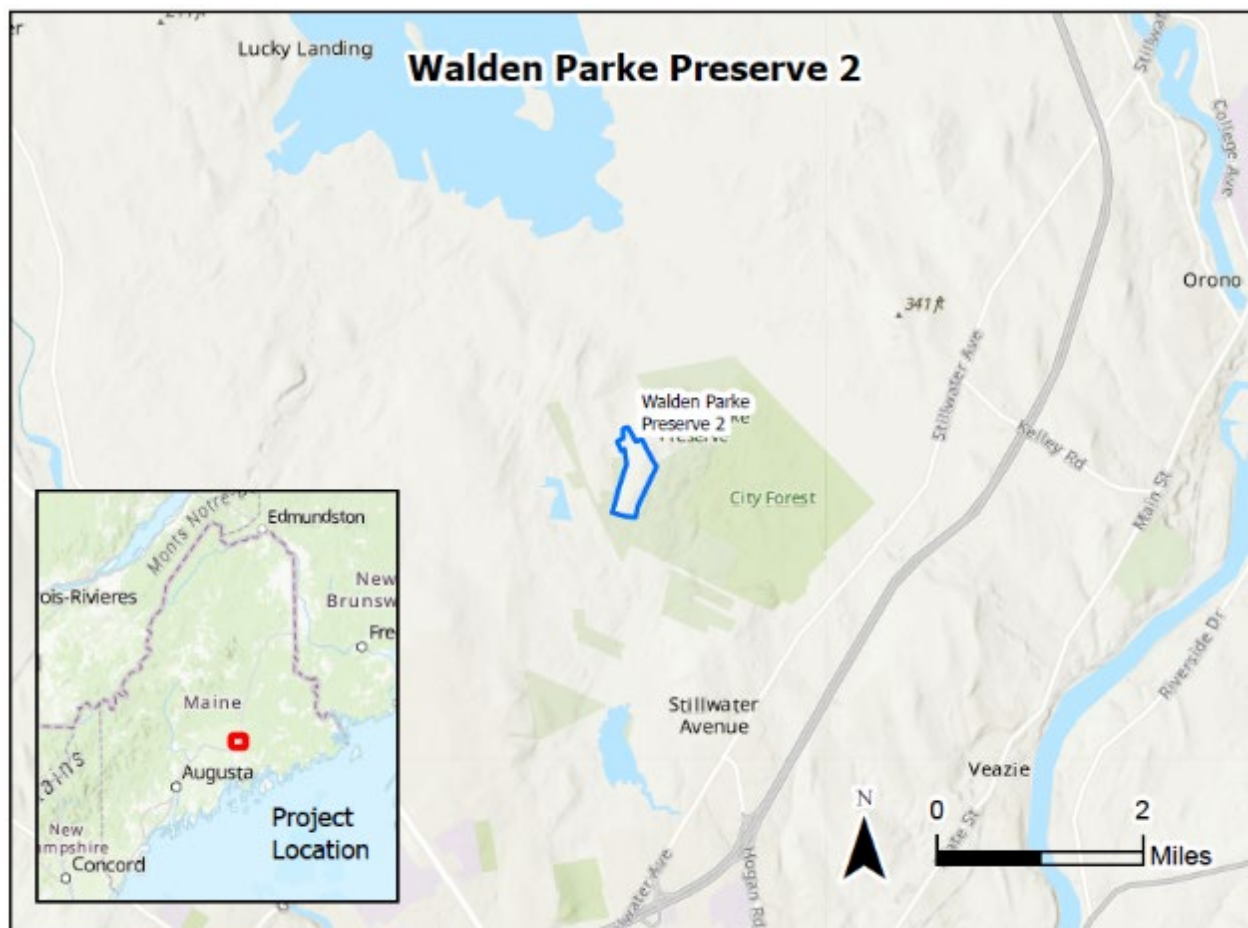


Project: Walden-Parke Preserve Addition

Applicant: Bangor Land Trust

Location: Bangor, Penobscot County

The Walden-Parke Preserve Addition is a 66-acre parcel surrounded on three sides by land already owned by Bangor Land Trust (BLT). An extensive vernal pool complex, mostly on BLT land just east of the Project Parcel, extends into the Project Parcel in two places, and the Project Parcel has 11.4 acres of critical terrestrial habitat for this vernal pool complex. A beaver flowage along its western boundary (a Wetland of Special Significance) is mostly on land owned by BLT, with 7.5 acres on the Project Parcel considered Significant Wildlife Habitat. The northern and northeastern part of the Project Parcel contains a 6.6-acre forested wetland (PFO), described by Kristen Puryear of the Maine Natural Areas Program (MNAP) as likely a Cedar-Spruce Seepage Forest; this same portion of the Project Parcel has 0.3 acres of emergent wetland (PEM), 0.5 acres of scrub-shrub wetland (PSS), and a small potential vernal pool. The goal of this project is to acquire in fee this 66-acre parcel and conserve it in perpetuity for the benefit of wildlife and for its recreational trails. Wildlife benefits include protection of amphibians using the vernal pools, and birds and mammals using this land as a corridor between Penjajawoc Marsh to the south and the Caribou Bog Wetland Complex (CBWC) to the north. Both Penjajawoc Marsh and the CBWC are included in a Beginning with Habitat focus area report by MNAP in 2001, with endangered, threatened, and special-concern species of birds, plants, and dragonflies. The Project Parcel lies in a relatively narrow isthmus of undeveloped land between Penjajawoc Marsh and the CBWC and helps to widen that isthmus and make it more welcoming for populations of wildlife to go between these two wetlands of statewide importance. The habitat value of both these major wetlands depends in part on the connectivity between them, and on the small wetlands in the connecting corridor.



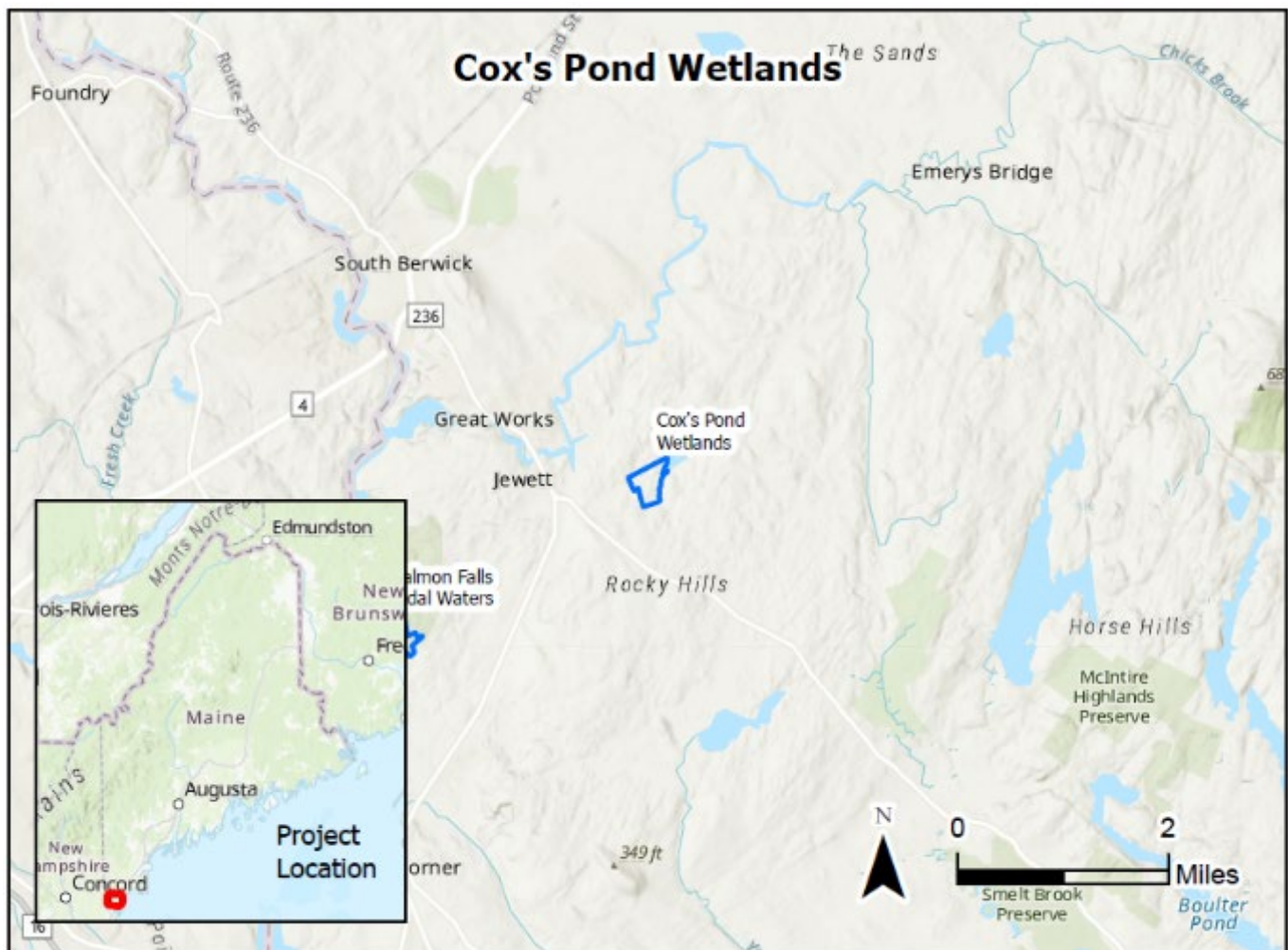
Southern Maine Region

Project: Cox's Pond Wetlands

Applicant: Great Works Regional Land Trust

Location: South Berwick, York County

This project consists of the fee purchase of approximately 36 acres on the southeast corner of Cox's Pond (15 acres) in South Berwick within the Salmon Falls River watershed. The property contains 521 feet of shore frontage as well as open wetlands and seasonal drainages. The uplands are forested with mixed species older growth trees showing no evidence of past logging activity and very minimal invasive plants. The land has been in the same family since the 1700s and they are supporting this conservation effort with a bargain sale. The project shares a boundary with two Great Works Regional Land Trust properties and is within the Mt. Agamenticus State Focus Area containing over 15,000 protected acres. Management will be forever wild with the cutting of vegetation restricted to creating walking paths and invasive species control. The property has not been surveyed and the purchase price will be based on a per acre price.

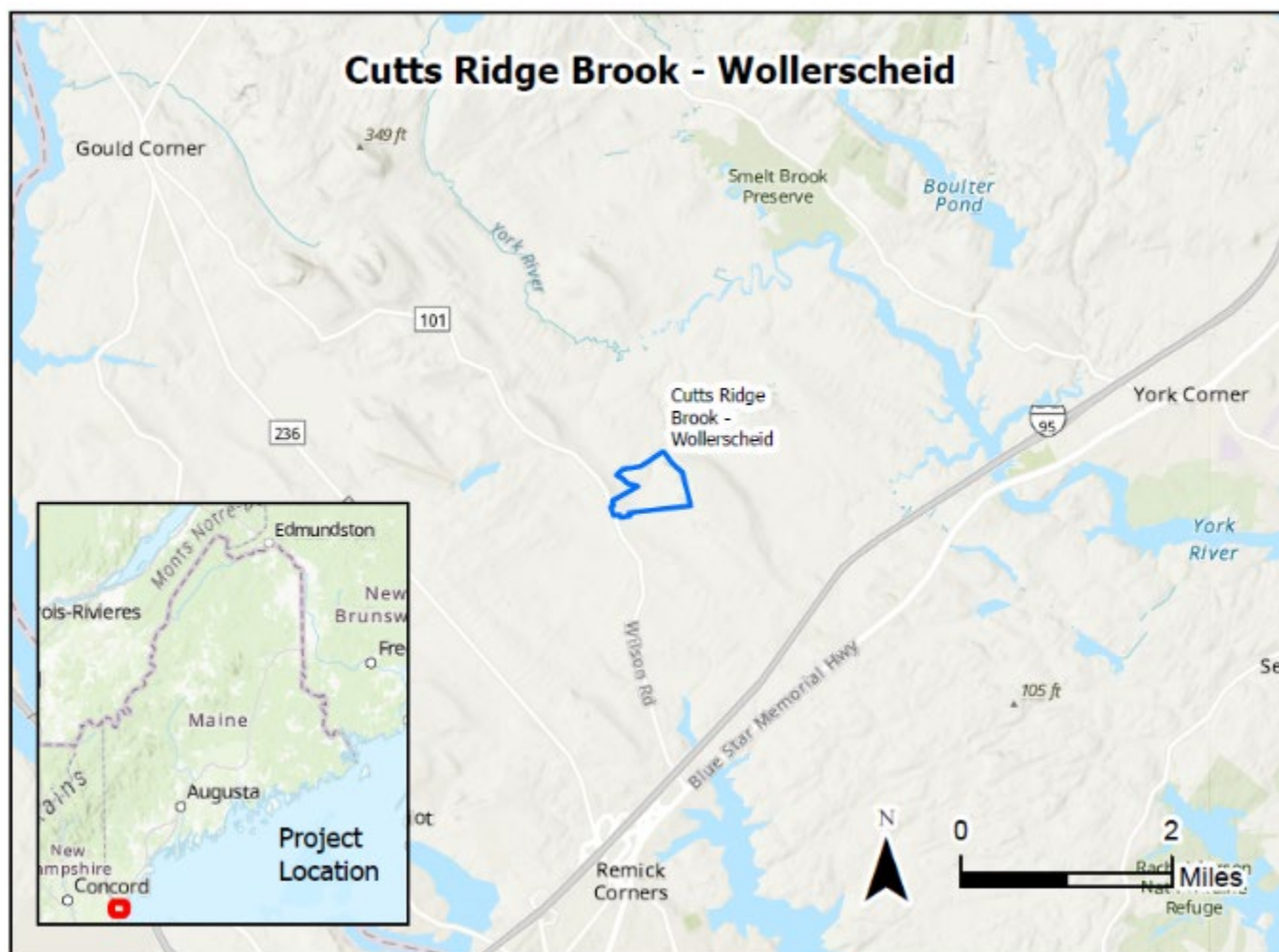


Project: Cutt's Ridge Brook - Wollerscheid

Applicant: Kittery Land Trust

Location: Kittery and Eliot, York County

The project proposed to protect 89.5 acres in the Cutts Ridge Brook watershed which contains diverse wildlife habitat, important aquatic resources (including a significant surficial aquifer and trout brook habitat), and other natural resources. A barrier to brook trout passage along the brook will be removed. Cutts Ridge Brook is a tributary of the York River and flows for approximately 2,150 feet through the property. The property contains the northerly portion of the significant sand and gravel aquifer on Cutts Ridge. Several highly productive natural springs in the aquifer discharge to Cutts Ridge Brook. The subject property, owned by the Wollerscheid family, straddles the Kittery/Eliot town line. The Kittery portion is 35 acres, the portion in Eliot will be 54.5 acres. The land and aquatic resources will be protected by fee simple acquisition. Kittery Land Trust (KLT), as the project sponsor, will own and manage the property. KLT is collaborating with the Great Works Regional Land Trust (GWRLT) to acquire and manage the property. KLT is also being assisted by Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) with mapping and acquisition plans. Kittery Land Trust (KLT) currently owns and maintains multiple parcels in northern Kittery and southern Eliot. The addition of the Wollerscheid property would create over 480 acres of contiguous conservation land which encompasses most of the headwaters of the Cutts Ridge Brook.

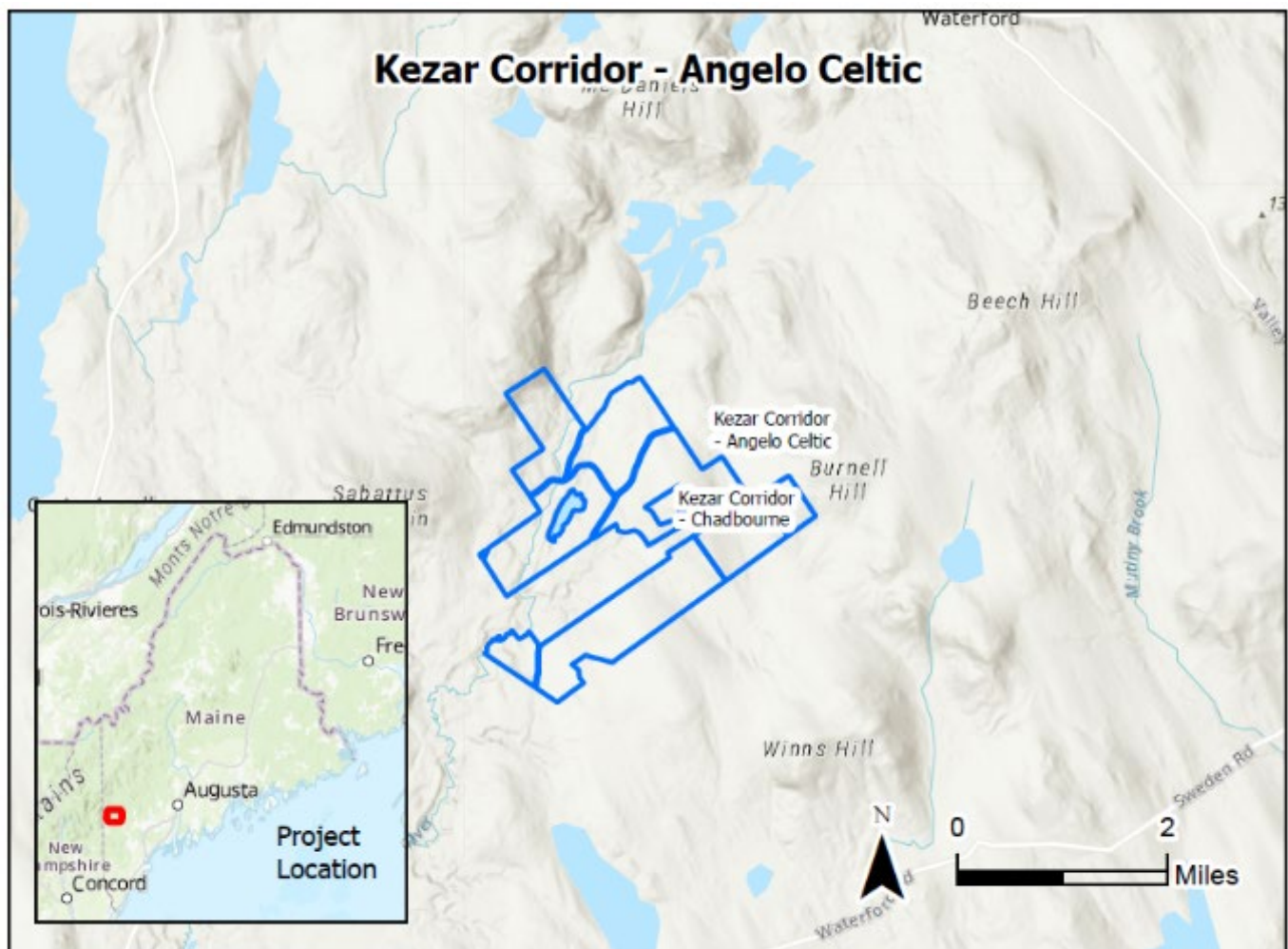


Project: Kezar Corridor Lands – Anglo-Celtic Property

Applicant: Greater Lovell Land Trust

Location: Old Waterford and Lovell, Oxford County

Greater Lovell Land Trust (GLLT) requests support to purchase 955 acres of forest and water resources in a GLLT conservation focus area in the Kezar River watershed, the south end of which is part of the Upper Saco River Focus Area of Statewide Ecological Significance. Located in the largely undeveloped northeast corner of the town of Lovell, the primary goal of the Kezar Corridor Lands project is to permanently protect the resource-rich landscape through which the Kezar River flows. Accessed from gravel surfaced roads, the 955-acre, Anglo-Celtic property includes 1.4 miles of riparian habitat on both sides of the Kezar River, the entire shoreline 20-acre Dan Charles Pond, over 4,200 feet of both sides of Patterson Brook, and at least 70 acres of associated wetlands that support Inland Wading Bird and Waterfowl Habitat, an extensive Candidate Deer Wintering Area, several Priority Brook Trout Areas, and at least one rare natural community type. The larger landscape context of the Anglo-Celtic property is undeveloped forest land that is part of an area of TNC's climate resilient and connected lands extending into the towns of Sweden and Waterford and the service areas of GLLT's neighboring land trusts. In addition to its conservation values, the land offers existing recreation trails on gravel public roads and the significant potential for other off-road, low impact opportunities. The Anglo-Celtic property will be purchased and owned in fee by GLLT as the key piece of a larger acquisition of nearly 1,300 contiguous acres.

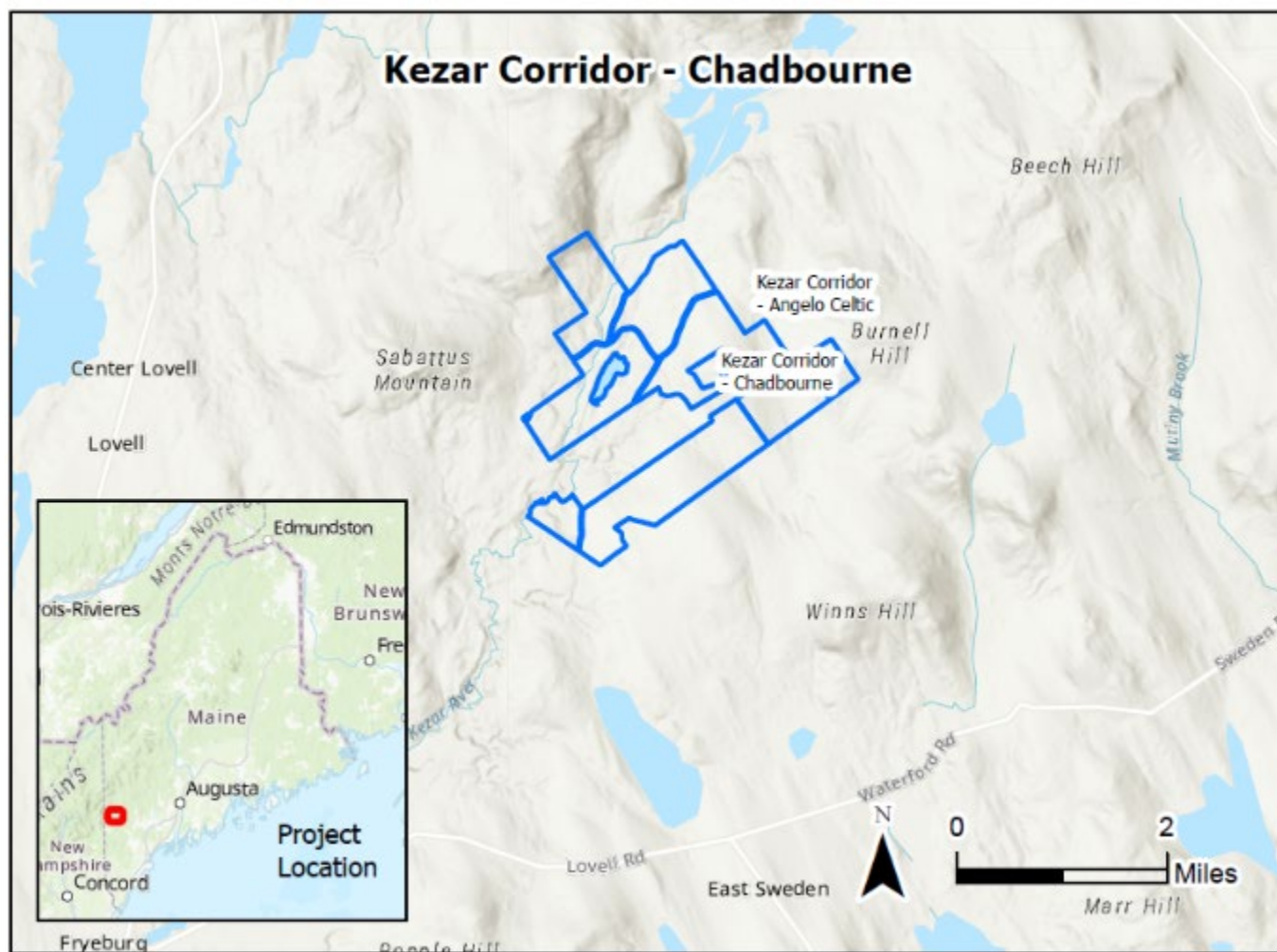


Project: Kezar Corridor Lands – Chadbourne Property

Applicant: Greater Lovell Land Trust

Location: Lovell, Oxford County

Greater Lovell Land Trust (GLLT) requests support to purchase 332 acres of forest and water resources as part of the Kezar Corridor Lands project. Located in the largely undeveloped northeast corner of the town of Lovell, this acquisition will support the permanent protection of the resource-rich landscape of the Kezar River watershed, the south end of which is part of the Upper Saco River Focus Area of Statewide Ecological Significance. The Chadbourne Tree Farm property includes 2,540 feet of riparian habitat on the Kezar River, over 4 linear miles on both sides of Patterson Brook, and 13 acres of wetlands associated with the two streams and a series of forested drainages and seeps along the property's north-facing slope. The property also hosts a large Candidate Deer Wintering Area, and the river and brook are both Wild Brook Trout Priority Areas. The undeveloped forest surrounding the Chadbourne Tree Farm property is part of an area of TNC's climate resilient and connected landscape that extends into the towns of Sweden and Waterford and into the service areas of GLLT's neighboring land trusts. With a scenic network of stone walls and mountain views, the subject property also offers opportunities to provide low-impact recreational opportunities. Combined with existing easements held by GLLT, the Kezar Corridor Lands will create a conservation area of nearly 1,800 contiguous acres in one of GLLT's priority landscapes.

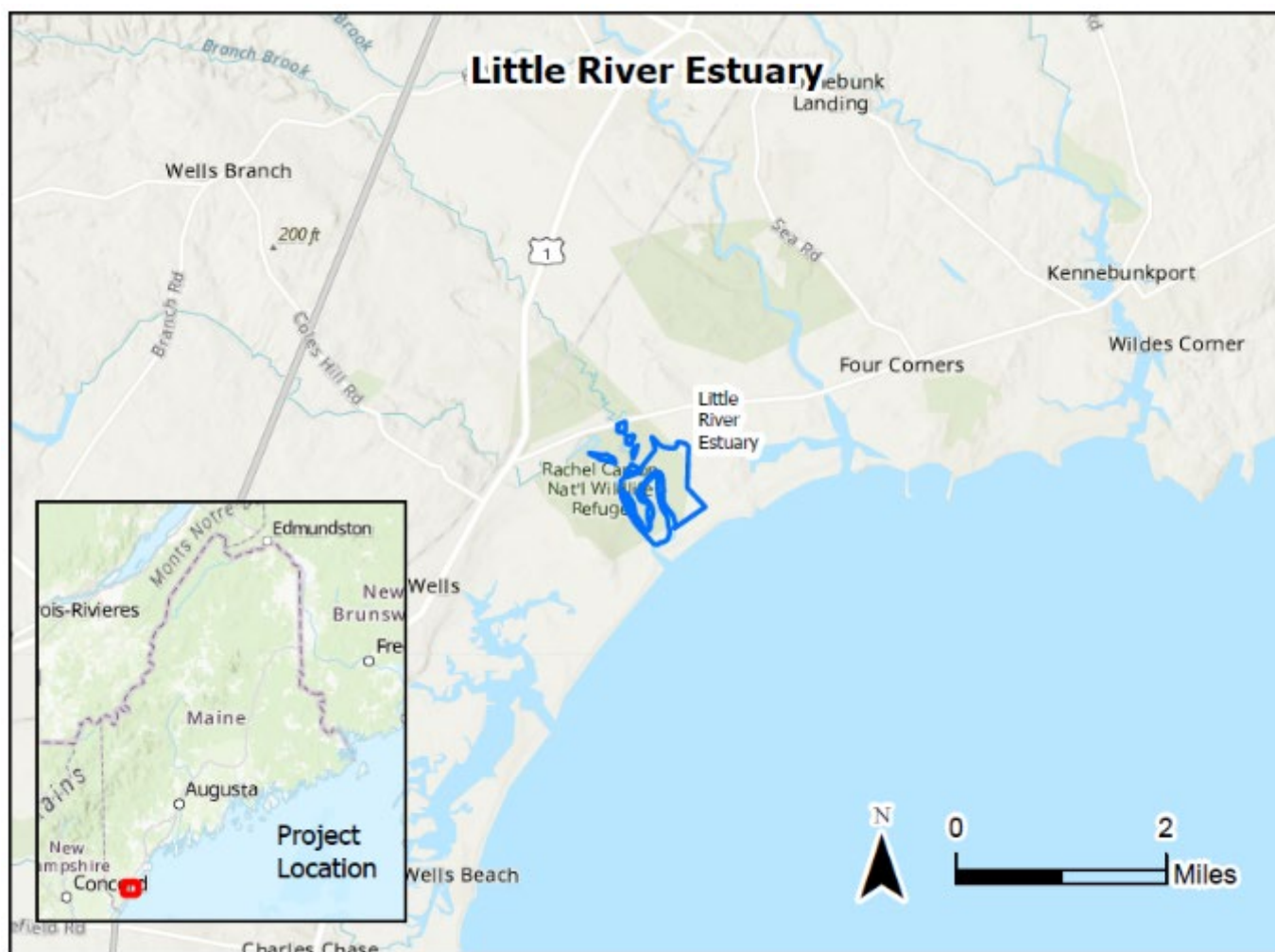


Project: Little River of Wells Saltmarsh Restoration

Applicant: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge

Location: Wells and Kennebunk, York County

This project proposes to enhance 141 acres of salt marsh habitat on the Little River estuary in Wells and Kennebunk, Maine in the Southern Maine bioregion. The Little River unit is a degraded New England estuarine salt marsh currently typified by large tidal channels, ditches, embankments, and mega-pools. The embankment-ditch system is consistent with agricultural alterations prescribed for most of the East Coast through publications such as American Farmer (1820). The degradation of the Little River marsh also is evidenced by the conversion of *Spartina patens* high marsh to *Spartina alterniflora*, loss of vegetation over broad areas and formation of mega-pools. Using enhancement techniques, the goals include restoring vegetation to areas improperly inundated, rebuilding interior marsh elevation, and providing suitable saltmarsh sparrow nesting habitat. The project will use innovative techniques proven at National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) and partner lands (e.g. MA Wildlife, Trustees of Reservations (MA)) including identifying tide-sheds, determining their stage in salt marsh secondary succession, restoring single channel hydrology (using ditch remediation) and optimizing water levels (using runnels and historic ditches) to maximize plant growth and marsh elevation accretion. The project team believes that a “no action” scenario will lead to further subsidence, continued loss of high marsh conditions and depletion of productive saltmarsh sparrow nesting areas.

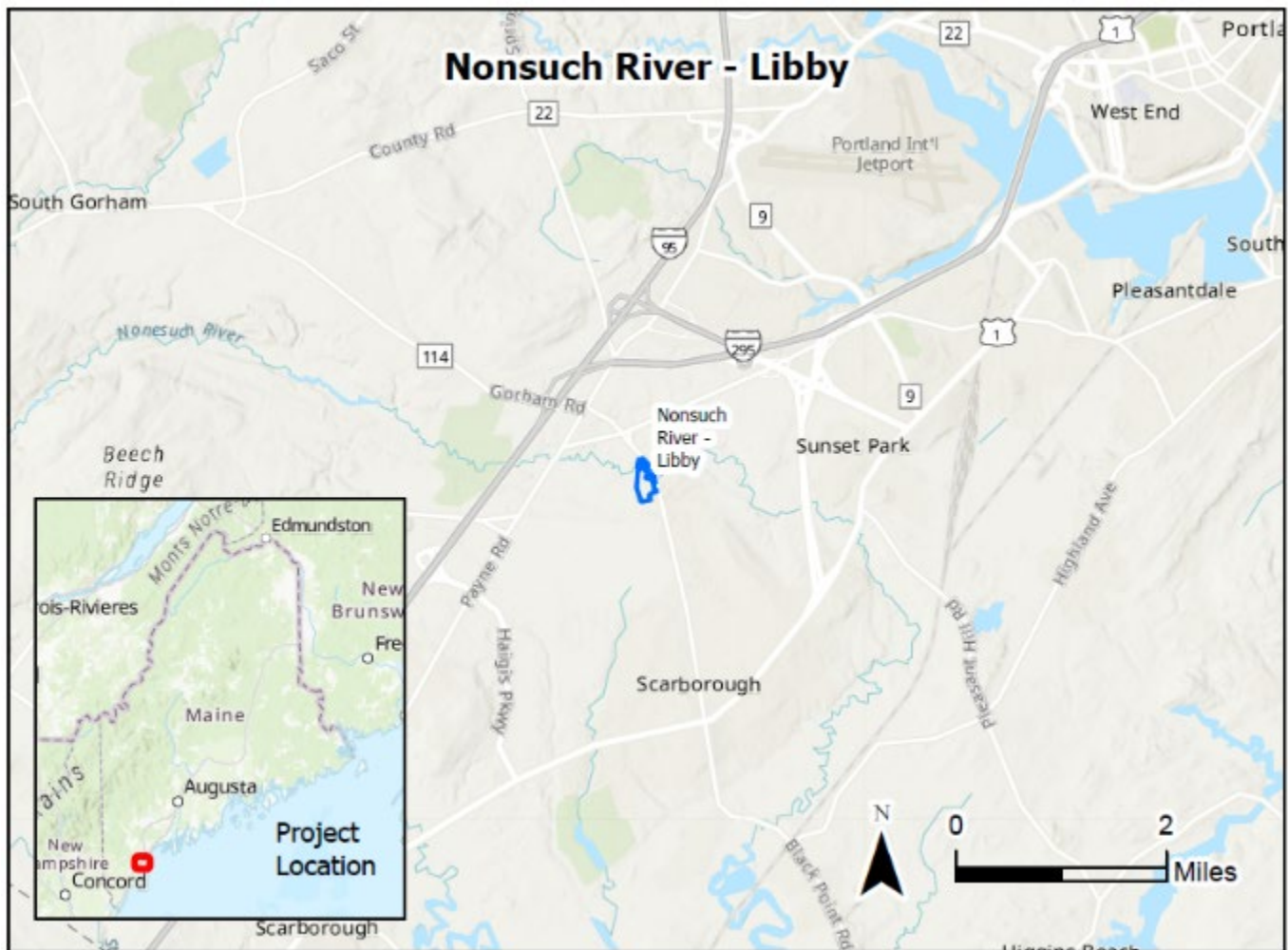


Project: Nonesuch River - Libby

Applicant: Scarborough Land Trust

Location: Scarborough, Cumberland County

Scarborough Land Trust (SLT) currently has an agreement to purchase 16.5 acres of wetlands, Nonesuch River frontage, and forest. It is part of a larger SLT effort to conserve land along the Nonesuch River, expand the abutting 156-acre Warren Woods Preserve, and protect important properties under development pressure. The Nonesuch River is Scarborough's largest river and flows into the Scarborough Marsh Wildlife Management Area, which is Maine's largest contiguous salt marsh. SLT, the Town of Scarborough, Friends of Scarborough Marsh, and other partners have been working to increase land conservation efforts around the Marsh and on upstream properties that affect it. The property is currently owned by Doug Libby and contains a mix of forested wetlands, shrub-scrub wetlands, upland woods, and river frontage. SLT hopes to purchase the property by the end of 2021.

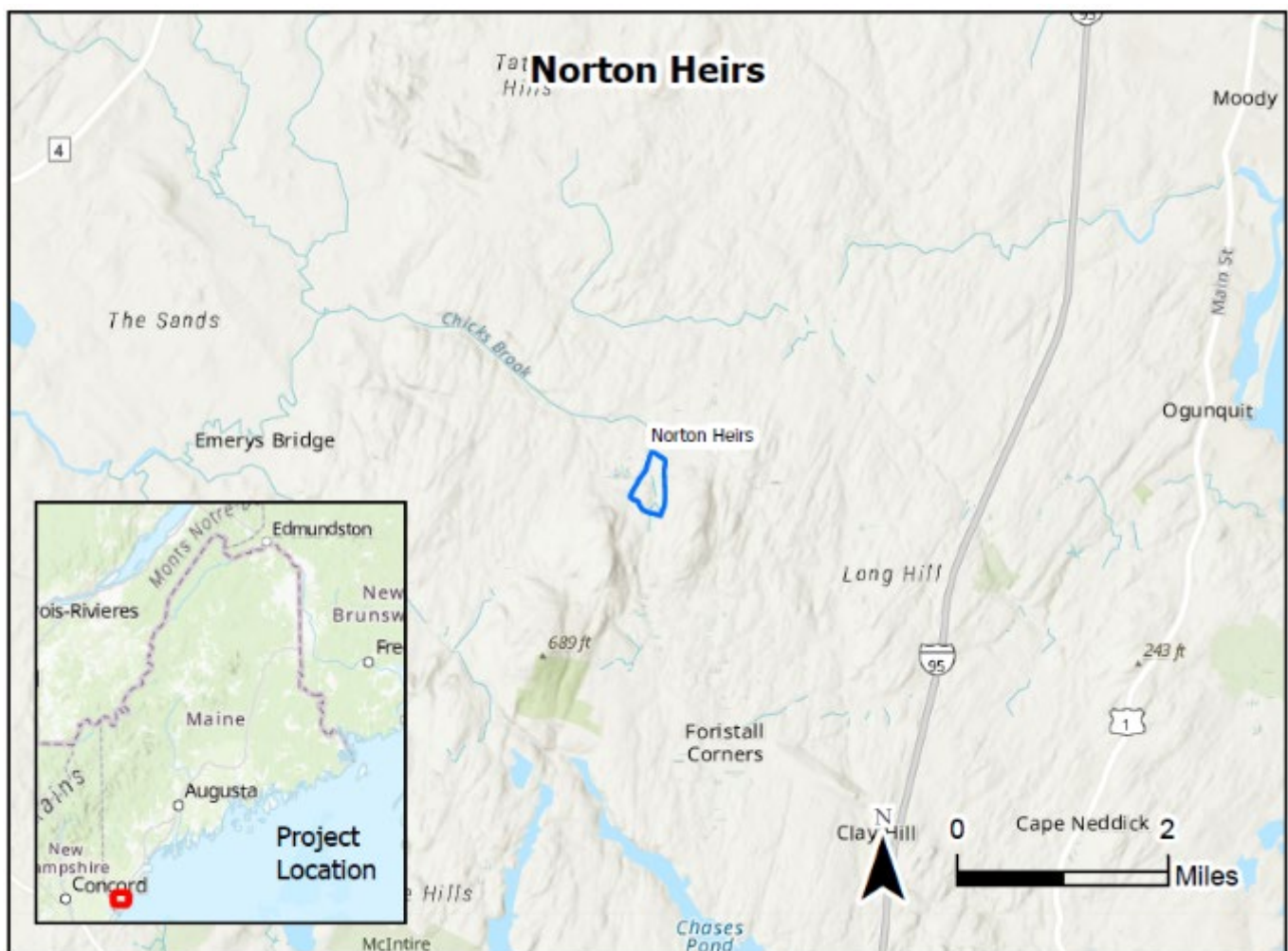


Project: Norton Heirs

Applicant: York Land Trust

Location: York, York County

The 46-acre Norton Heirs property is surrounded by conservation land on three sides owned by the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIF&W), Great Works Regional Land Trust (GWRLT) and York Land Trust (YLT) in an area containing thousands of acres of conservation land in the Mt. Agamenticus region. It is within a 5,541-acre unfragmented block of forest, the Mt. Agamenticus Beginning with Habitat Focus Area of Statewide Ecological Significance and MDIF&W's Mt. Agamenticus Management Area. The property is forested and the forest is approaching maturity. The property contains 10.7 acres of high value, fresh water, forested wetlands, two potential vernal pools and a series of ephemeral and perennial headwater streams to Chicks Brook, and the upper reach of Chicks Brook, which is mapped by MDIF&W as a Brook Trout stream. A small portion of the wetlands (approximately 1.5 acres) are mapped by MDIF&W as Inland Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat. The wetlands are ranked High Value for production export, wildlife habitat, fish habitat and uniqueness/heritage. The property is part of a rare Central Hardwoods Oak Forest Ecosystem, which has only one location in the state. The property supports rare turtles and two rare plants: Sweet Pepperbush *Clethra alifolia* (S2), and Chestnut Oak *Quercus Montana* (S1). A recreational trail follows much of the eastern and southern boundaries of the property through the upland forest. To eliminate the threat of development and poor forestry practices, York Land Trust will exercise its option to purchase the property for \$1,400 per acre, if funding is secured. We hope to acquire the property in fee in the spring of 2022 and will own and manage the property for wildlife habitat and low-impact recreation. No future forestry is proposed.

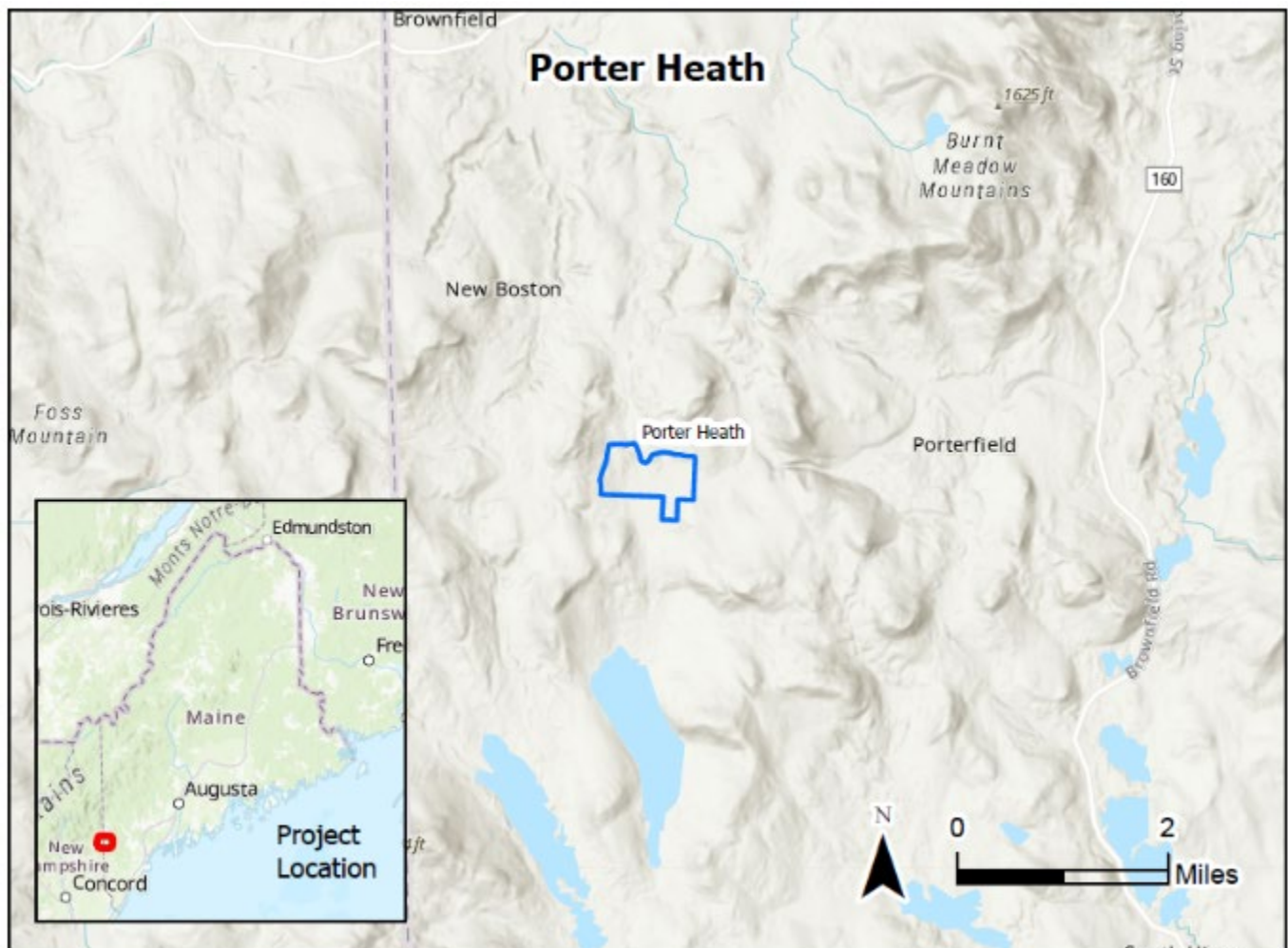


Project: Porter Heath

Applicant: Francis Small Heritage Trust

Location: Porter, Oxford County

Francis Small Heritage Trust (FSHT) requests funds to purchase fee interest in approximately 133 acres of land to preserve a key wetland within the Porter Hills Focus Area. The Porter Heath property is 133.4 acres: 61 percent forested uplands, and 39 percent wetlands. The Heath, overall, is about 100 acres, with roughly half the acreage within the property proposed for acquisition, buffered on the west and north by forest. The Heath is an Inland Waterfowl and Wading bird Habitat within MNAP's 6,000-acre Porter Hills Focus Area. The Heath property includes about 81 acres of upland forests. Most of the uplands are to the west and north of the Heath, between the wetland and the Old County and Heath Roads. Because these roads are unmaintained gravel roads, functionally they do not divide the forest habitat, and the Heath property is within an area that the Maine Natural Areas Program has designated as a 10,173-acre undeveloped habitat block that provides wildlife travel corridors. The property has been logged over the past decades, but FSHT proposes no future forestry. With the cessation of logging, the forests will continue to regenerate, increasing the percentage that is old growth.

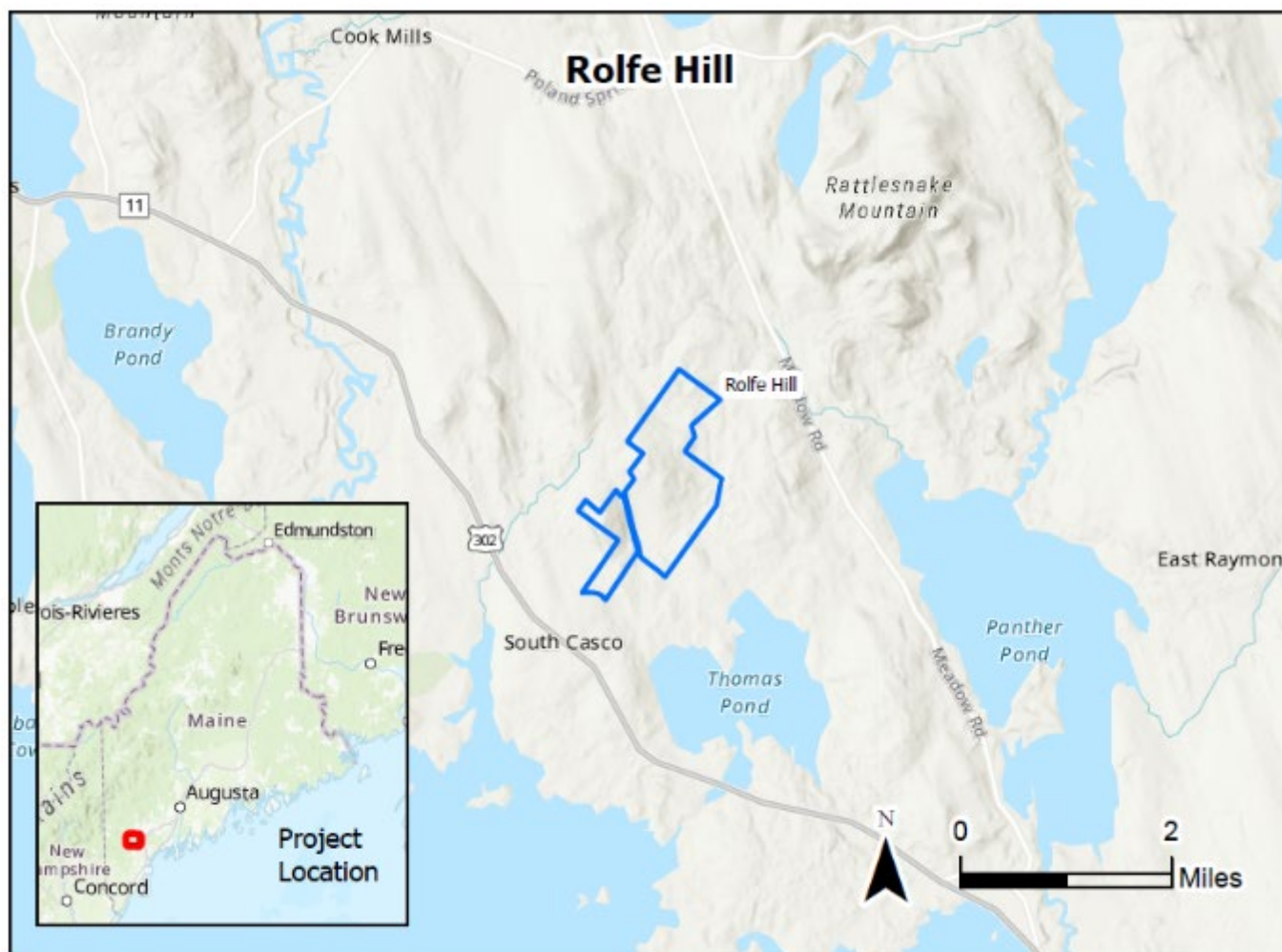


Project: Rolfe Hill

Applicant: Loon Echo Land Trust

Location: Casco, Cumberland County

At a 439-acre property in Casco, Loon Echo Land Trust (LELT) proposes to preserve through fee acquisition 49-acres of wetland habitat, 8,639 linear feet of stream habitat, 377-acres of undeveloped upland forest buffer (including 17 acres of critical terrestrial habitat), restore naturally variable hydrology to a 0.3-acre emergent wetland site, and enhance 12 acres of emergent, forested, and shrub-scrub wetlands. The property is made up of two abutting parcels totaling 439 acres, bisected by Quaker Ridge Rd. The southern parcel is 84 acres, and the northern parcel is 355. The property is host to 61 acres of wetlands (12 acres PEM, 28.7 acres PFO, 19.6 PSS, 0.52 PUB). At least two documented significant vernal pools are present on the property. The natural hydrologic conditions of the 11-acre PEM wetland at the southwest corner of the larger lot are seasonally impacted by the existence of man-made earth berm and failing wood bridge. In times of high water, the wetland system is impounded by this man-made structure. Additionally, the berm and bridge are currently being used by unauthorized ATV activity. After assessment of the wetland system, LELT proposes to enhance naturally variable hydrology to 11 acres of this wetland system by restoring 0.3 acres at the site of the earth berm and bridge structure. Restoration will likely include removal of the bridge structure, abutments, and earth berm, followed by re-grading the site with consideration of microtopography and topsoil conditions. ATV access to the site will be prohibited and barricades/gates utilized to impede future ATV access to the site. These structures will be placed well outside of aquatic resource delineations.

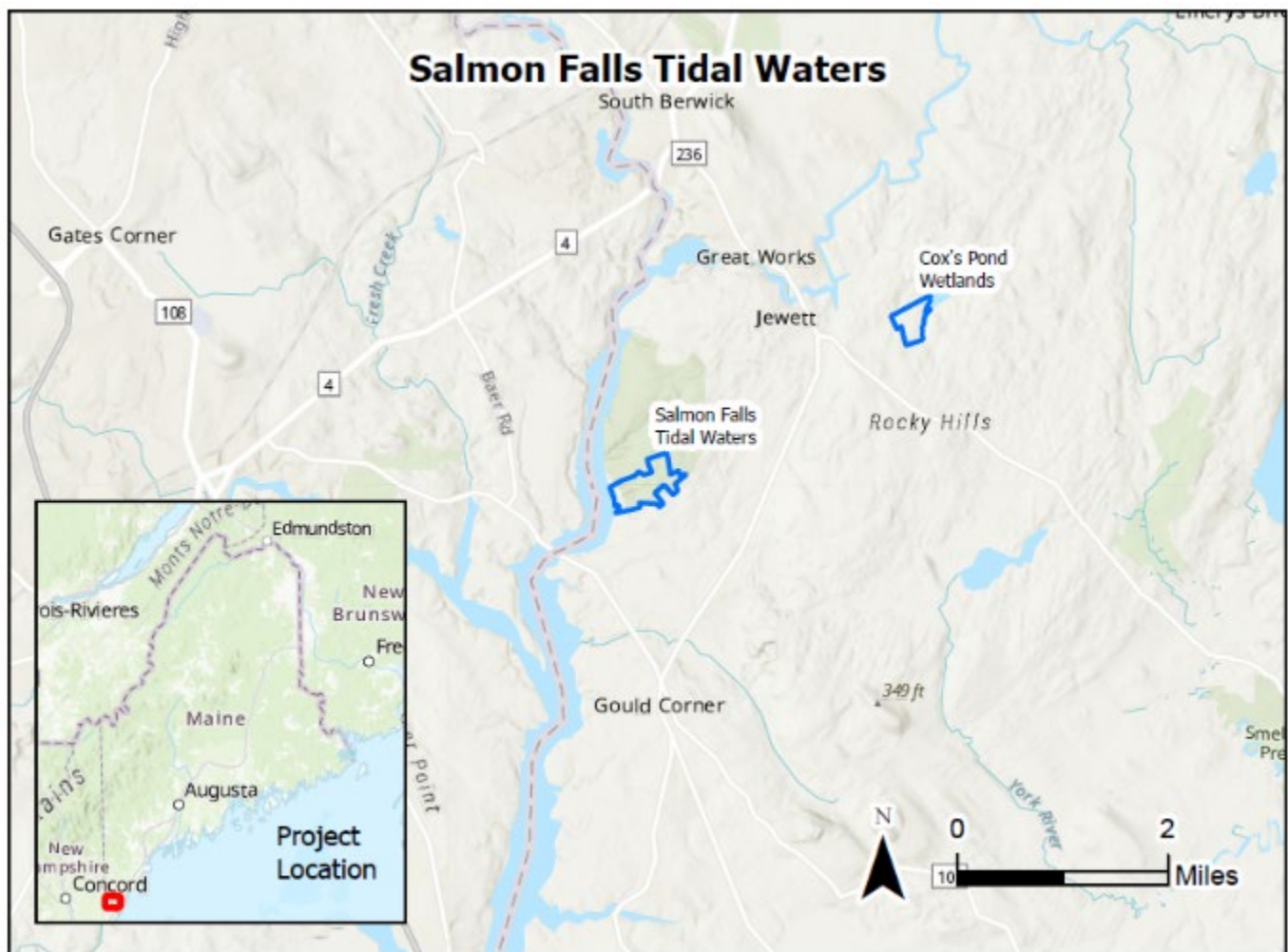


Project: Salmon Falls Tidal Waters

Applicant: Great Works Regional Land Trust

Location: South Berwick, York County

The project includes preservation of a 66-acre parcel with approximately 1190 feet of shore frontage and 6 acres of intertidal wetland along with small drainages and 2 potential vernal pools. It is in a natural, mostly forested condition with multi-aged stand of trees. This is the largest remaining undeveloped coastal property within Maine in the Piscataqua River estuary. The property is in the middle of a 3.5 mile stretch of the river that contains 21 protected parcels along its shore. The property is near but not adjacent to Vaughn Woods State Park. Great Works Regional Land Trust (GWRLT) would own and steward the property. The landowners have owned it for three generations operating it as a farm and now a tree farm. They are selling the property and have agreed to donate a portion of the value and sell as much of the remainder for conservation as GWRLT is able to purchase by the end of next year. The appraisal was finished in early September and will provide the basis for negotiating a purchase and sale agreement.

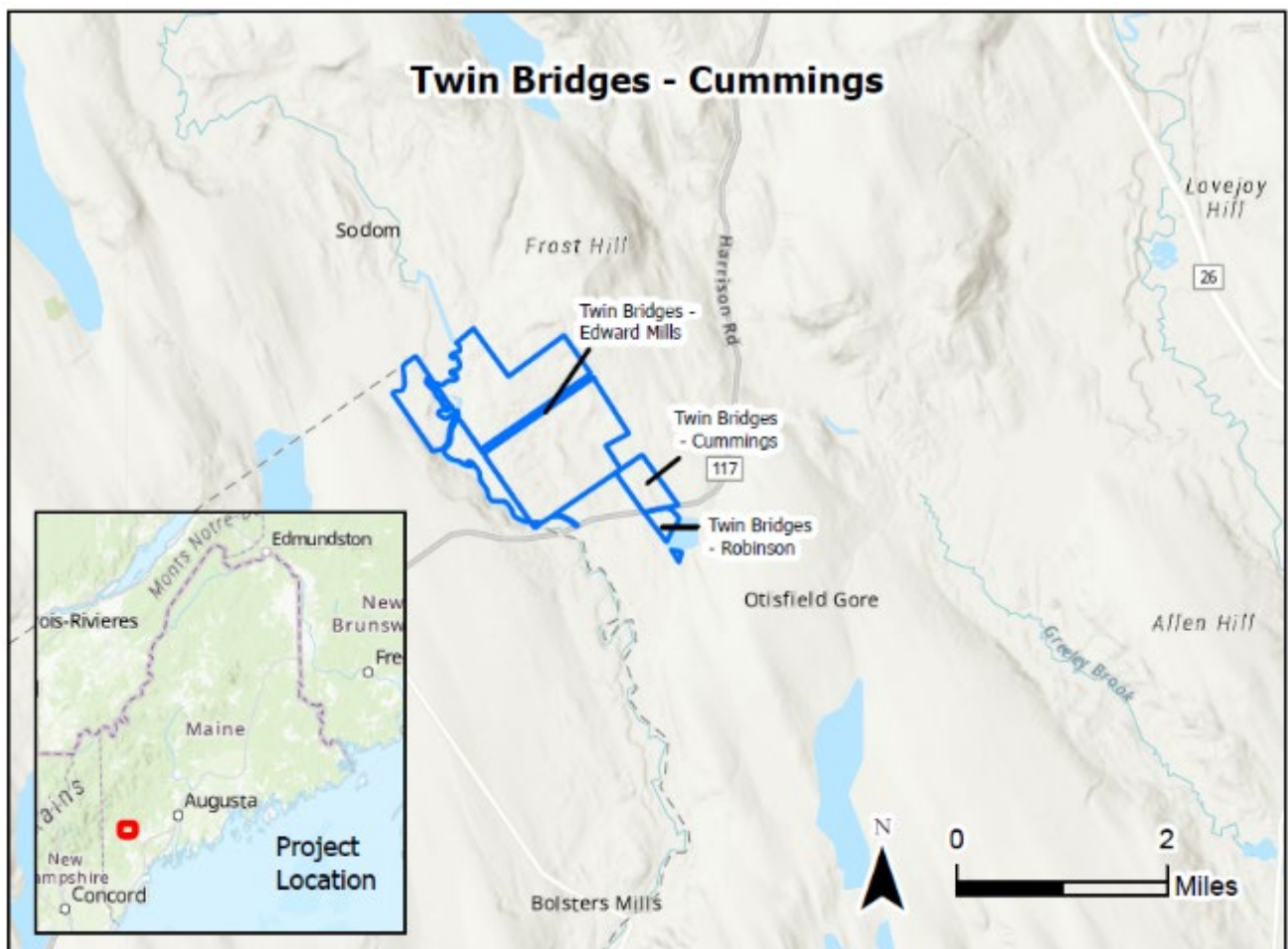


Project: Twin Bridges Preserve Extension – Cummings Parcel

Applicant: Western Foothills Land Trust

Location: Otisfield, Oxford County

The Western Foothills Land Trust (WFLT) proposes to acquire the fee simple of the 55-acre Cummings parcel in Otisfield. In separate transactions, the Trust will also purchase the fee simple of two adjacent parcels called Edward Mills and Robinson. All three parcels to be acquired are adjacent to the Trust's 252-acre Twin Bridges Preserve. This application is requesting support for the purchase of the Cummings parcel which will protect 11.8 acres of wetlands and 3,014' of stream habitat that continues through the Trust's 252-acre Twin Bridges Preserve to the Crooked River. The prospect of protecting the entire length of the stream from Little Pond to the Cummings parcel to Twin Bridges north to Twin Bridges south with this project is exciting. Acquisition of the Cummings parcel is part of the Twin Bridges Extension project which proposes to acquire Edward Mills (720-acres), Cummings (55-acres), and Robinson (25-acres) parcels. The Twin Bridges Extension project will create a protected landscape of 1,052 acres with 4 miles of Crooked River shoreline, 1.5 miles of stream habitat, 92 acres of wetlands, and 1,000 feet of pond shoreline. The project parcels are located on route 117, 15 minutes from Norway or Harrison. WFLT is part of the Sebago Clean Waters (SCW) collaborative of conservation organizations and the Portland Water District formed to protect the water quality for over 200,000 drinking water customers by protecting a forested Sebago Lake watershed. SCW has set an immediate goal of protecting 10,000 additional acres of forested lands in the watershed in the next 5 years. The Cummings parcel acquisition will add to the acres of forestlands protected in the Sebago Watershed as well as provide protection for wetlands habitat and potential educational access.

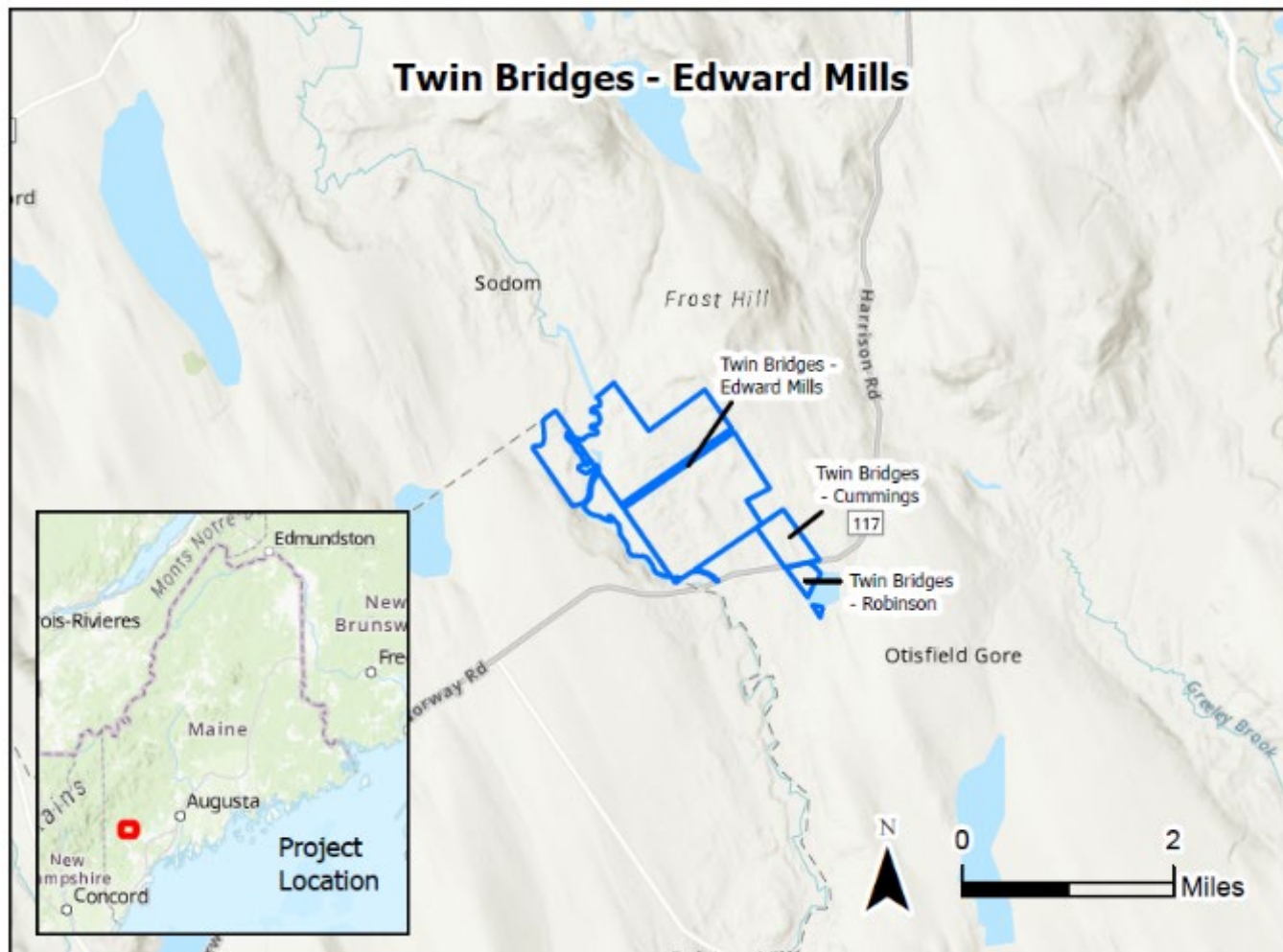


Project: Twin Bridges Preserve Extension – Edward Mills Parcel

Applicant: Western Foothills Land Trust

Location: Harrison and Norway, Cumberland and Oxford County

The Western Foothills Land Trust (WFLT) proposes to acquire the fee simple of the 720-acre Edward Mills parcel in Otisfield, Norway and Harrison. In separate transactions, the Trust will also purchase the fee simple of two adjacent parcels called Robinson and Cummings. All three parcels to be acquired are adjacent to the Trust's 252-acre Twin Bridges Preserve. This application is requesting support for the purchase of the Edward Mills parcel. The proposed acquisition of the 720-acre former Chadbourne Tree Farm's Edward Mills parcel will protect 47 acres of wetlands, 3 miles of Crooked River shoreline, and over a mile of stream habitat adjacent to the Trust's 252-acre Twin Bridges Preserve. The conservation of the Edward Mills parcel is part of The Conservation Fund's efforts to conserve 15,406-acres of former Chadbourne Tree Farm working lands in western Maine. WFLT is part of the Sebago Clean Waters (SCW) collaborative of conservation organizations and the Portland Water District formed to protect the water quality for over 200,000 drinking water customers by protecting a forested Sebago Lake watershed. SCW has set an immediate goal of protecting 10,000 additional acres of forested lands in the watershed in the next 5 years. WFLT is part of another regional partnership known as Maine West. Maine West has developed a conservation mapping tool with the Trust for Public Lands that identifies and maps human community resiliency criteria: recreation, clean drinking water, floodplains, broadband access. The Edwards Mills parcel is identified as protecting clean drinking water, protecting against frequent flooding events, and providing environmental benefits to socially vulnerable communities in Norway, Otisfield, and Harrison.



Project: Twin Bridges Preserve Extension – Robinson Parcel

Applicant: Western Foothills Land Trust

Location: Otisfield, Oxford County

The Western Foothills Land Trust (WFLT) will acquire the fee simple of the 25-acre Robinson parcel in Otisfield by bargain sale. In separate transactions, the Trust will acquire the fee simple of two adjacent parcels called Edward Mills and Cummings. All three parcels to be acquired are adjacent to the Trust's 252-acre Twin Bridges Preserve. This application is requesting support for the acquisition of the Robinson parcel which will protect 15.76- acres of wetlands, 1447' of frontage on Little Pond, and 486' of stream habitat that flows north to the Cummings parcel and through the Trust's 252-acre Twin Bridges Preserve to the Crooked River. The prospect of protecting a portion of the boggy shoreline of Little Pond and the entire length of the stream from Little Pond to the Cummings parcel to Twin Bridges north to Twin Bridges south with this project is exciting. Acquisition of the Robinson parcel is part of the Twin Bridges Extension project which proposes to acquire Edward Mills (720-acres), Cummings (55-acres), and Robinson (25-acres) parcels. The Twin Bridges Extension project will create a protected landscape of 1,052 acres with 4 miles of Crooked River shoreline, 1.5 miles of stream habitat, 92 acres of wetlands, and 1,447 feet of pond shoreline. The project parcels are located on route 117, 15 minutes from Norway or Harrison. WFLT is part of the Sebago Clean Waters (SCW) collaborative of conservation organizations and the Portland Water District formed to protect the water quality for over 200,000 drinking water customers by protecting a forested Sebago Lake watershed. SCW has set an immediate goal of protecting 10,000 additional acres of forested lands in the watershed in the next 5 years. The Robinson parcel acquisition will add to the acres of forestlands protected in the Sebago Watershed as well as provide protection for wetlands habitat and potential educational access.

