

Land for Maine's Future Bond Issue

Talking Points

Governor Should Follow through on Promises Made

- Governor stated in 2013 that LMF bonds approved by voters in 2010 and 2012 would be spent following the payment of the State's hospital debts in June of that year.
- In July 2014, the Administration committed to investing more than \$9 million in bond funds approved by Maine voters in 2010 and 2012.
- The Administration has made specific commitments to dozens of private landowners, who have conducted due diligence, spent money, and negotiated in good faith.
- Holding up this funding will cost the State money, could lead to projects failing, and will put the state's reputation at risk.
- This is not consistent with running the state like a business

Maine Voters Have Spoken

- 60% of Maine voters in 2010 and 2012 voted to invest these conservation funds.
- Puts a chilling effect on conservation activities statewide.

LMF Investments Strengthen Maine's Economy and our Local Communities. LMF has protected:

- Over 560,000 acres of conservation and recreation lands. This includes 315,000 acres of working forestlands reflecting LMF's efforts to conserve the working landscape and keep lands in private ownership with permanent land conservation agreements. These lands serve a variety of activities including: hunting, hiking, fishing, camping, snowmobiling, picnicking, and birdwatching.
- 52 water access sites – guaranteeing access for canoeing, fishing and boating.
- 37 farms of more than 8,900 acres – supporting family farmers producing dairy, vegetables, meat and flowers.
- 24 commercial working waterfront properties where lobsterman and other fisherman have guaranteed access to the water – ensuring their economic future.
- Acquisitions include more than 1,200 miles of shore lands, and 158 miles of former railroad corridors for recreational trails.