

### **Stream Crossing Bond**

Reconnect fish & wildlife habitat, create jobs, protect roads, and improve public safety

# Repairing stream crossings in Maine is an investment in our communities, our economy, and our way of life

#### Many Maine culverts are old, ineffective, and put roads, public safety, and wildlife at risk

- Much of our water infrastructure, including the culverts that allow streams to pass under roads, were put in place during the World War II era or even earlier.
- Old culverts can get blocked or fail entirely, creating a public safety hazard and cutting fish and wildlife habitats into separate, isolated segments.
- Surveys show that up to 90% of culvert crossings make movement difficult or impossible for wildlife at least part of the year, while nearly 40% are severe barriers for wildlife movement.
- Habitat fragmentation can result in the loss of species including highly-prized fish species like Eastern brook trout and Atlantic salmon.



#### Stream connectivity is critically important to maintaining healthy fish and wildlife populations

- With good stream connectivity, fish are free to move upstream or downstream from the smallest stream to the ocean or lake allowing fish to find the appropriate water type and temperature to spawn, grow and stay healthy throughout their lifecycles.
- Maine's identity and our economy depend on our natural resources. Business leaders know that our coast, rivers, streams, lakes and ponds provide a quality of life that is a competitive advantage for Maine companies.

# The Stream Crossings Bond is a timely, well-planned, and a cost-effective investment in improving stream crossings. The Stream Crossing Bond will:



- Help communities be better prepared for extreme storms and flood events
- Strengthen Maine's long-term economic base and competitive advantage
- Create and preserve jobs in the areas of construction, tourism, fisheries, and environmental engineering
- Reduce future costs by avoiding emergency replacements during large storms or water main breaks during spring thaw

### **Support the Stream Crossing Bond**



#### **Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition**

is a partnership of 31 environmental, conservation and public health organizations representing over 100,000 members who want to protect the good health, good jobs and quality of life that our environment provides.

We are counting on Maine policymakers to take the important steps needed to make wise use of Maine's extraordinary environment so Maine people and Maine's economy can thrive.

Acadia Center

Maine Lakes Society

Appalachian Mountain Club

Maine Organic Farmers and

Atlantic Salmon Federation

Gardeners Association

Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Maine People's Alliance

Conservation Law Foundation

Maine Rivers

Environmental Health Strategy Center

Maine Wilderness Guides

Organization

**Environment Maine** 

Natural Resources Council of Maine

Friends of Casco Bay

Physicians for Social Responsibility,

Maine Chapter

Islesboro Island Trust

**RESTORE: The North Woods** 

Maine Association of **Conservation Commissions** 

Sierra Club, Maine Chapter

Maine Audubon

The Ocean Conservancy

Maine Center for Economic Policy

The Trust for Public Land

Maine Conservation Alliance

The Wilderness Society

Maine Council of Churches

**Toxics Action Center** 

Maine Council of Trout Unlimited

**Upstream** 

Maine Interfaith Power & Light

350 Maine