



## Stream Crossings 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, which in turn support Maine communities and our local economies

- 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 cost-effective investment

The Stream Crossings 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 Crossings Bond

For more information, please contact Jenn Burns Gray, 207-798-2900 or [jgray@maineaudubon.org](mailto:jgray@maineaudubon.org)



## **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 communities can thrive***

Acadia Center	Maine Lakes Society
Appalachian Mountain Club	Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
Atlantic Salmon Federation	Maine People's Alliance
Bicycle Coalition of Maine	Maine Rivers
Conservation Law Foundation	Maine Wilderness Guides Organization
Environmental Health Strategy Center	Natural Resources Council of Maine
Environment Maine	Physicians for Social Responsibility, Maine Chapter
Friends of Casco Bay	RESTORE: The North Woods
Islesboro Island Trust	Sierra Club, Maine Chapter
Maine Association of Conservation Commissions	The Ocean Conservancy
Maine Audubon	The Trust for Public Land
Maine Center for Economic Policy	The Wilderness Society
Maine Conservation Alliance	Toxics Action Center
Maine Council of Churches	Upstream
Maine Council of Trout Unlimited	350 Maine
Maine Interfaith Power & Light	