

MNRCP

Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program

Grants for projects that restore and protect aquatic resources throughout Maine.

What is the program?

The Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program (MNRCP) awards competitive grants to projects that restore and protect high priority aquatic resources and habitat throughout Maine. MNRCP is administered by The Nature Conservancy on behalf of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Maine DEP) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

MNRCP was created to manage the allocation of funds collected through Maine's In Lieu Fee Compensation Program, a voluntary program that allows entities impacting natural resources, primarily wetlands, to make a payment directly to the Maine DEP as an alternative to traditional compensation methods.

Since its launch in 2008, MNRCP has awarded more than \$13 million to non-profit groups, municipalities, and public agencies to help restore, enhance, or preserve wetlands and other important habitats at close to 100 project sites across the state.

Who is eligible?

- Non-profit Conservation Groups
- Public Agencies
- Municipalities



What kinds of projects are considered?

MNRCP is a potential funding source for a range of restoration and preservation projects in Maine, including:

- Removal of fill or structures from wetlands and streams
- Salt marsh restoration
- Preservation of high quality wetlands and associated upland buffers
- Aquatic habitat restoration and enhancement

It is not uncommon for candidate projects to combine multiple features, e.g., preservation and restoration. Projects are evaluated based on the types of resources restored or protected, the threat of impact, landscape context, project readiness, technical capacity, and cost effectiveness.



How does it work?

Funds are awarded through an annual competitive grants process. Initial letters of inquiry are solicited in June each year and evaluated by a Review Committee made up of public and nonprofit entities. Full proposals are invited for qualified projects in September and final award decisions are made by December of each year by an Approval Committee comprised of state and federal agency representatives.

The Nature Conservancy administers the process but does not decide which proposals receive funding.

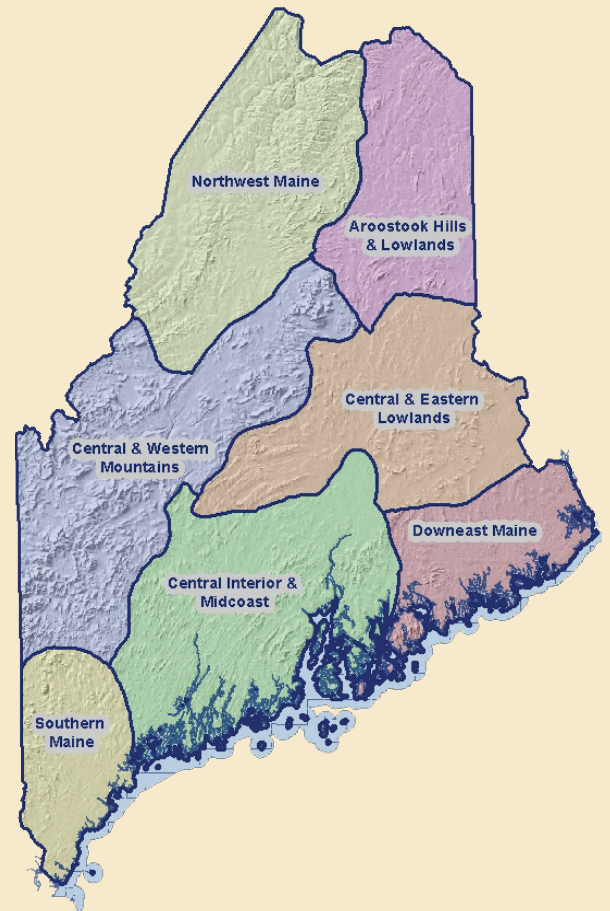
How do I apply for funding?

For a step-by-step guide to the grants process, application information, past projects, and funds available, visit: www.mnrpc.org

Questions?

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Projects are reviewed by region and are eligible for funds made available by in-lieu fees collected within the same region.



Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program
Region Boundaries

mnrpc.org



The Nature Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.

