COASTAL RIVERS CONSERVATION TRUST Pemaguid River shoreline at Keyes Woods Preserve in Bristol

2021 Annual Report

Dear Members and Friends,

Looking back on the past year, it's awe-inspiring to reflect on all that we've accomplished together. I take great pride, and I hope you do too, in what our energetic team of board, staff, and volunteers is able to make happen with the thoughtful and strategic investment of contributions from this community of supporters.

As you'll see in this report, in the midst of a continuing pandemic, we have made great strides in land conservation, water quality protection, trails, and education.

Looking ahead, among the most exciting goals included in our new five year strategic plan, adopted in April 2021, is a commitment to doubling our conserved land in the Damariscotta-Pemaquid region over the next five years. This meets an urgent need to connect critical wildlife habitat, protect water quality, and build natural resilience in the face of a changing climate.

We've already made significant progress toward this goal, protecting nearly 500 acres in 2021 and raising funds to complete additional purchases in 2022.

Though my term as President of the Board of Trustees comes to an end in July 2022 after six years, I anticipate staying closely involved with the Coastal Rivers community.

I thank you for the part you play in the success of this great organization.

Joel B. Russ President, Board of Trustees

Caring for the lands and waters you love in the Damariscotta-Pemaquid region

Board of Trustees – Spring 2022

Joel Russ, President
Mike Kane, Vice President
Robert Barkalow, Treasurer
Carolyn McKeon, Secretary
Mary Berger
Jack Boak
Margaret Coit
Sandi Day
Kathy Leeman

Tom Kronenberger Martha Lynch Dennis McKenna Peter McKinley Gordon Morrell Matthew Newman Josephine Vaughan Ellen Wells

Staff

Steven Hufnagel, Executive Director
Claire Luce Baldwin, Membership & Development Manager
Angela DesVeaux, Education Assistant & Camp Director
Sarah Gladu, Director of Education & Citizen Science
Jim Grenier, Facilities & Preserves Manager
Darryn Kaymen, Operations Manager
Hannah McGhee, Communications & Outreach Manager
Joan Ray, Director of Land Conservation



Trail Tamers volunteers take a break from cutting the new trail at Keyes Woods Preserve in Bristol.

In addition to keeping up with maintenance on almost 50 miles of trails, major projects included:

- Removing a derelict cabin and cutting a new trail at Keyes Woods Preserve in Bristol
- At Salt Bay Farm, replacing the bridge on the Fox Run Trail, rebuilding the observation platform, and removing a large patch of knotweed
- Improving the parking area at Baker Forest
- A new bridge on the Bristol Recreational Trail
- Partnering with the Town of Bremen to help maintain their Hilton O'Connor Trail



Clean Water

Courtesy Boat Inspector Eliot O'Mahoney looks over a jet ski for invasive aquatic plants.

Ongoing water quality monitoring and outreach programs included:

- Sampling for bacteria at Biscay Pond, Bristol Mills, and Pemaquid Beach swim areas
- Regular water quality monitoring in the Damariscotta River Estuary
- Courtesy Boat Inspections and Invasive Plant Patrol to keep lakes and ponds free of invasive plants
- Working with pond and lakeside homeowners who would like to become LakeSmart certified



Land Conservation & Stewardship

This 12 acre property adjacent to La Verna Preserve was donated by a local couple.

We permanently protected five properties, including:

- 440 acres in the River~Link wildlife corridor
- 12 acres next to La Verna Preserve, donated by a local couple who appreciates our trails
- 17 acres next to Salt Bay Farm, via a conservation easement that includes permanent trail access

Staff and volunteers continued to knock back infestations of invasive plants on Coastal Rivers preserves, especially at Round Top Farm.



Education

Students in Lincoln Academy's IDEAL program install tree swallow boxes at Coastal Rivers Salt Bay Farm.

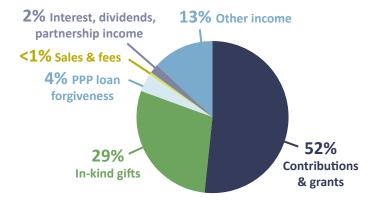
It was a joy to resume in-person programs in 2021. Nature education highlights included:

- Weekly classes with students from Lincoln Academy's edLab and IDEAL programs
- A series of experiential field trips with 7th and 8th graders from Great Salt Bay Community School
- Monthly guided hikes on Coastal Rivers trails
- Working with the Town of Nobleboro to support water quality protection
- The week-long Island Program in South Bristol
- Supporting Nobleboro Central School with a trail design project



Where does the money come from?

As ever, support from members was the foundation of all our programs and operations, aided by foundation grants. A large increase in in-kind gifts this year, primarily in the form of property, accounts for the significant difference between expenses and revenue. Sales and fees, however, were down substantially due to the pandemic.



Revenue

Contributions and grants	1,341,225
In-kind gifts	741,095
PPP loan forgiveness	109,500
Sales and fees	11,674
Interest, dividends, partnership income	50,849
Other income	346,595

2,600,938

Statement of Financial Position

Assets

Total Assets	13,906,618
Total Other Assets	9,930,886
Miscellaneous	339,492
Investments	1,101,592
Conserved fee title property	8,489,802
Other Assets	
Total Property and equipment	3,324,622
Total Current Assets	651,110
Prepaid expenses and other	153,958
Receivables	19,400
Cash and equivalents	477,752
Current Assets	

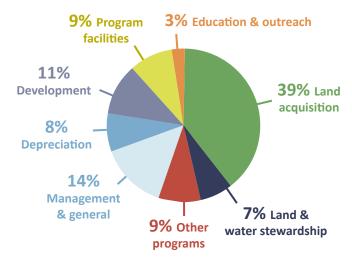
Liabilities

Current Liabilities	567,566
Long-Term Liabilities	15,000

Total Liabilities 582.566 **Total Net Assets** 13,324,052

Where does the money go?

This year was a big year for land acquisition, as we moved to connect vital natural areas. This figure represents almost a third of our total expenses for the year and almost all of the overall increase from the prior year. Program expenditures also included providing spaces like Round Top Farm to the community, offering education programs to connect people and nature, and conserving and stewarding land and water.



Expenses

Programs	
Program facilities	166,192
Education and outreach	57,486
Land acquisition	740,704
Land and water stewardship	130,679
Other programs	161,938
Management and general	265,601
Depreciation	156,468
Development	217,756

1.896.824

For copies of our full financial statement and audit, visit coastalrivers.org/about-us/key-documents.





2021 CONSERVATION BY THE NUMBERS



470 acres of land permanently conserved in the Damariscotta-Pemaguid region

Invasive plants removed: estimated at 33.7 tons

134 preserves & conservation easements monitored every year



88 water samples taken by volunteers

Phytoplankton monitoring samples taken and analyzed by volunteers: 34

117 boats inspected for invasive aquatic plants

Attended a guided public hike: 99 people

917 people tuned in to virtual programs

In-person student hours of outdoor education programming taught at all AOS 93 schools for grades k-12:

more than **3,567**



volunteer hours spent maintaining our preserves & trails: More than 1,633

919 feet of bridges & boardwalks replaced or built on 9 trails

Miles of new trails cut & mapped: 1.9





- Sound Finances
- Ethical Conduct
- Responsible Governance
- Lasting Stewardship

Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust

3 Round Top Ln • PO Box 333 • Damariscotta, ME 04543 (207) 563-1393 • info@coastalrivers.org

www.coastalrivers.org