



## **Presumpscot Regional Land Trust**

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### **For Immediate Release**

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### **Recent Grant Awards Fund Collaborative Initiative to Connect Trails from Casco Bay to Sebago Lake**

The Presumpscot Regional Land Trust (PRLT) has recently received over \$18,500 in grant funding to help facilitate Phase Two of a collaborative initiative—Sebago to the Sea. The Sebago to the Sea project goal is to establish a contiguous recreational trail from Sebago Lake to Casco Bay connecting trails in Standish, Windham, Gorham, Westbrook, Portland and Falmouth.

A 3-5 year project, first initiated by the Presumpscot River Watershed Coalition, the Sebago to the Sea Trail collaborative initiative includes numerous Advisors and Coalition Members including Portland Trails, the National Park Service, Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, Portland North Land Trust Collaborative, the Town of Windham, Windham Parks & Recreation Department, the City of Westbrook, the Town of Standish, Presumpscot River Watershed Coalition, Portland Water District, the Mountain Division Alliance, Healthy Maine Partnerships, and many more.

A fully collaborative project, Phase Two project goals include public outreach, community & Coalition meetings, marketing, mapping, and fundraising for Phases 3-5 of the project.

Foundation support for Phase One of the project included grants from the Maine Community Foundation through the Fund for Maine Land Conservation and the Undapassawona Fund; the Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust; and the Davis Conservation Foundation

Phase Two of the project will be made possible thanks to recent grant awards from the **Maine Community Foundation**, through the **Cumberland County Environmental Fund**; Maine Community Foundation, through the **Fund for Maine Land Conservation**; Maine Community Foundation through the **Rines/Thompson Fund**; the **L.L. Bean Maine Land Trust Grant Program** through the **Maine Coast Heritage Trust**; **Healthy Maine Partnerships**; and the **National Park Service's Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program**.

"This project will help connect different trail segments and create a contiguous trail from Sebago Lake to Casco Bay, much of it along the Presumpscot River," said *Richard Curtis, Board President, Presumpscot Regional Land Trust*. "This is a great collaborative effort that will give Maine residents and visitors a wonderful recreational opportunity."

"Portland Trails has built four miles of trails on the Presumpscot River in Falmouth, Portland, and Westbrook—working with such a great group of partners to extend the trail upriver is incredibly exciting," said *Nan Cumming, Executive Director, Portland Trails*.

Anyone interested in learning more about this project should contact Tania Neuschafer at (207) 272-2847 or [prlandtrust@yahoo.com](mailto:prlandtrust@yahoo.com) or go to [www.prlt.org](http://www.prlt.org).

*Founded in 1986, the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust (PRLT) is the only land trust in Maine whose land protection efforts focus on the Presumpscot River watershed and western shore area of Sebago Lake. PRLT's growing legacy currently includes 530 acres forever protected on 16 riverfront and watershed properties in Gorham, Standish, Gray, Sebago, and Windham.*