



Dear Supporter,

November 2022

**“THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST MEANINGFUL THINGS I HAVE EVER DONE IN MY LIFE.” - SMOKY PAYSON**

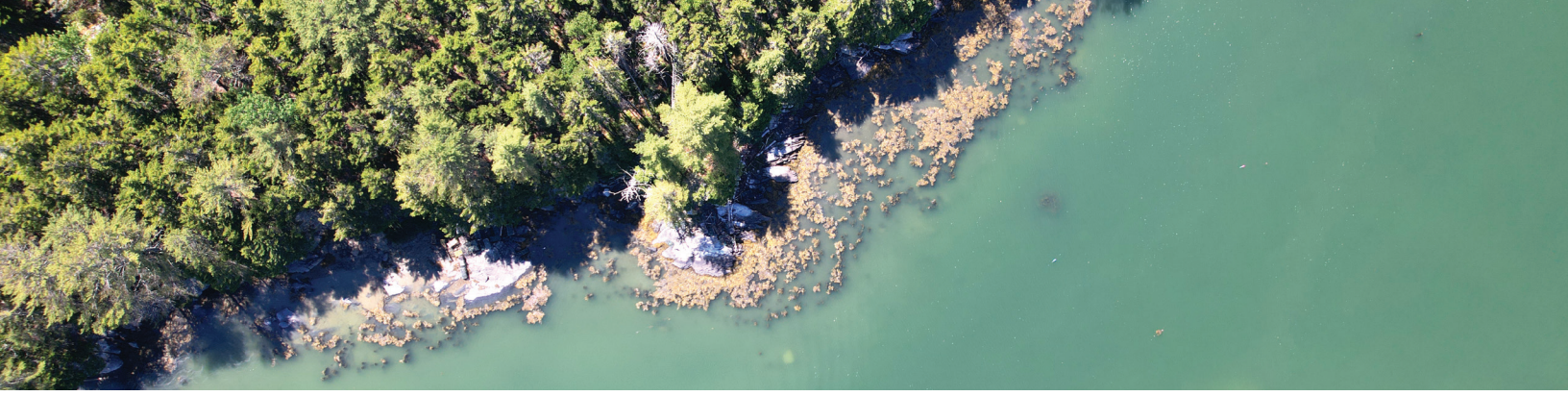
When Smoky Payson conserved his 544-acre EarthSong Sanctuary in Somerville with Midcoast Conservancy last September, his motivation was to protect a place for birds and other wildlife, and to do his part to battle the impacts of a changing climate as a partner in our 30x30 Land and Water Conservation Initiative. An added benefit was the personal gratification that he and his family would realize: a deeper relationship with the land, the natural world, and the community.

At its core, our work at Midcoast Conservancy is about building lasting relationships: connecting and partnering with our members and supporters who truly believe in our mission to **protect and restore vital lands and waters on a scale that matters**. We work within the community every day throughout the Sheepscot River, Damariscotta Lake, and Medomak River watersheds with those who share our vision of protecting our quality of life, wild spaces, diverse wildlife, and clean rivers, lakes and ponds here in Midcoast Maine.

**YOUR SUPPORT MAKES THIS WORK POSSIBLE!  
I HOPE YOU WILL MAKE A YEAR-END GIFT TO PROTECT THE MIDCOAST WE LOVE**

The escalating impacts of climate change and increased development are very real in midcoast Maine. Warming waters, increased droughts, less open space, and sky-high land prices threaten the health of our lands, waters, and communities. At Midcoast Conservancy we are tackling these challenges head-on, but we need your support.





## WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE FOR THE MIDCOAST

**By accelerating the pace of land and water conservation**, we can protect 30,000 acres by 2030 through our 30x30 Land and Water Conservation Initiative. We will focus on areas that protect biodiversity, connect wildlife corridors, improve water quality, and strengthen the Midcoast against the impacts of climate change. ***Your support will make it a reality.***

**With increased capacity on our Lands Team and Water Team**, we can better serve the Midcoast's natural and human communities. I could not be more proud of our talented staff. ***The commitment of donors like you makes their work possible.***

**When we finish and fully open the new Roland S. Barth Welcome Center** at Hidden Valley Nature Center, we will better serve more of the 10,000+ yearly visitors with outdoor recreation and education. Next, we'll be expanding our elementary school programs at this amazing outdoor classroom. ***Your gift helps educate tomorrow's environmental stewards.***

Midcoast Maine matters to all of us, and your year-end gift is an investment in our natural world, our communities, and the legacy we will leave for our children and grandchildren.

Thank you for giving generously, and I look forward to seeing you on the trails and in the community!

Wishing you happy holidays, and a healthy new year,

**Pete Nichols**  
Executive Director  
pete@midcoastconservancy.org

**To support our work with a year-end gift, please return the included envelope or visit [www.midcoastconservancy.org/donate](http://www.midcoastconservancy.org/donate) - Thank you!**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# TOGETHER WE HAVE





## LAND

-  Protected more than **1,100 new acres of habitat**, with more than 15,000 acres protected in total.
-  Completed a scientific analysis to prioritize efforts for our **30x30 Land and Water Conservation Initiative**.
-  Developed a **new tier system** to manage our public lands for access, wildlife habitat, and connectivity.
-  Launched **innovative programs** to promote native landscaping, protect hemlocks from disease, and remove invasive species such as knotweed.

## WATER

-  Responded to an unprecedented level of **cyanobacteria outbreaks** on Damariscotta Lake and **eradicated the invasive plant Hydrilla**, removing the lake from the state list of infested waters.
-  Founded the **Sheepscot River Collaborative**, a multi-stakeholder group dedicated to restoring the endangered Atlantic salmon and other sea-run fish.
-  Partnered with Glidden Point Oysters to raise our second successful generation of **Heafitz oysters** in the Sheepscot River which provide habitat and filter water pollution.
-  Worked with community members to **address pollution concerns** in the Medomak River.

## COMMUNITY

-  Engaged thousands of school children in our **nature-based educational programs**.
-  Hosted more than **150 public events** covering everything from naturalist lessons to sustainable forestry.
-  Began construction on the **Roland S. Barth Welcome Center** to expand programming, gear rentals, and access at the award-winning Hidden Valley Nature Center.
-  Founded "**Out in the Midcoast**," the first regional outdoor club for the local queer community.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT