

Dear Supporters, Partners, and Neighbors,

I am writing to inform you that the Bureau of Parks and Lands (BPL) is applying for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant awards to fund trail rehabilitation on the Tumbledown Brook Trail.

The Bureau is proposing that approximately 1 mile of the lower portion of Brook Trail (from the trail-head) be rerouted. This section of trail is experiencing severe erosion, and in the summer of 2023, the tread surface collapsed due to intense storm events.

A professional trail contractor will design the proposed reroute. The reroute will likely be machine-built, and the construction of the trail will use sustainable trail-building practices and incorporate several hardening structures to help protect the newly constructed tread surface. The location of the proposed trail reroute has not been finalized. Relocating the Brook Trail and rebuilding it will ensure a more sustainable trail as extreme weather events continue to inundate trails and recreational infrastructure.

A proper closure of the existing lower portion of the Brook trail will also be included in this work; the failed portion of the trail will be rehabilitated. The LWCF grant funding would provide BPL with \$500,000 to improve and rebuild the Brook Trail and match a Recreational Trails Program grant for another \$500,000 for a total of \$1,000,000 to invest in the long-term sustainability of the Brook Trail.

As partners, neighbors, and/or members of the advisory committee for the BPL Western Mountains Regional Management Plan, we value your feedback and your support. To apply for LWCF grant funding, we need formal letters of support from the public. Please review the attached photos of the collapsed trail and respond with any feedback or comments about our proposed work.

Once you have the information you need, please provide a letter of support. Please follow these instructions:

- Use official letterhead when possible
 - Header can be addressed but **not** mailed to:
State Liaison Officer
Bureau of Parks and Lands
124 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
 - Please print, sign, and scan a PDF copy of the letter (or electronically sign)
 - Send a PDF of the letter to this email; I will attach it to the LWCF application
- If you know someone else who is invested in the future of sustainable trails at Tumbledown Public Land and who may be interested in providing a letter of support for this project, please send me their information so I can communicate with them directly. If you have questions, please contact me by phone or email. I will follow up in mid-February 2024. I would like all letters of support by the end of February to meet my application deadlines.

Thank you for your time and support,

Kristin Anderson
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Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry
Bureau of Parks and Lands (207)446-3293



PLEASE EMAIL YOUR LETTER
OF SUPPORT TO:

Kristin.Anderson@maine.gov