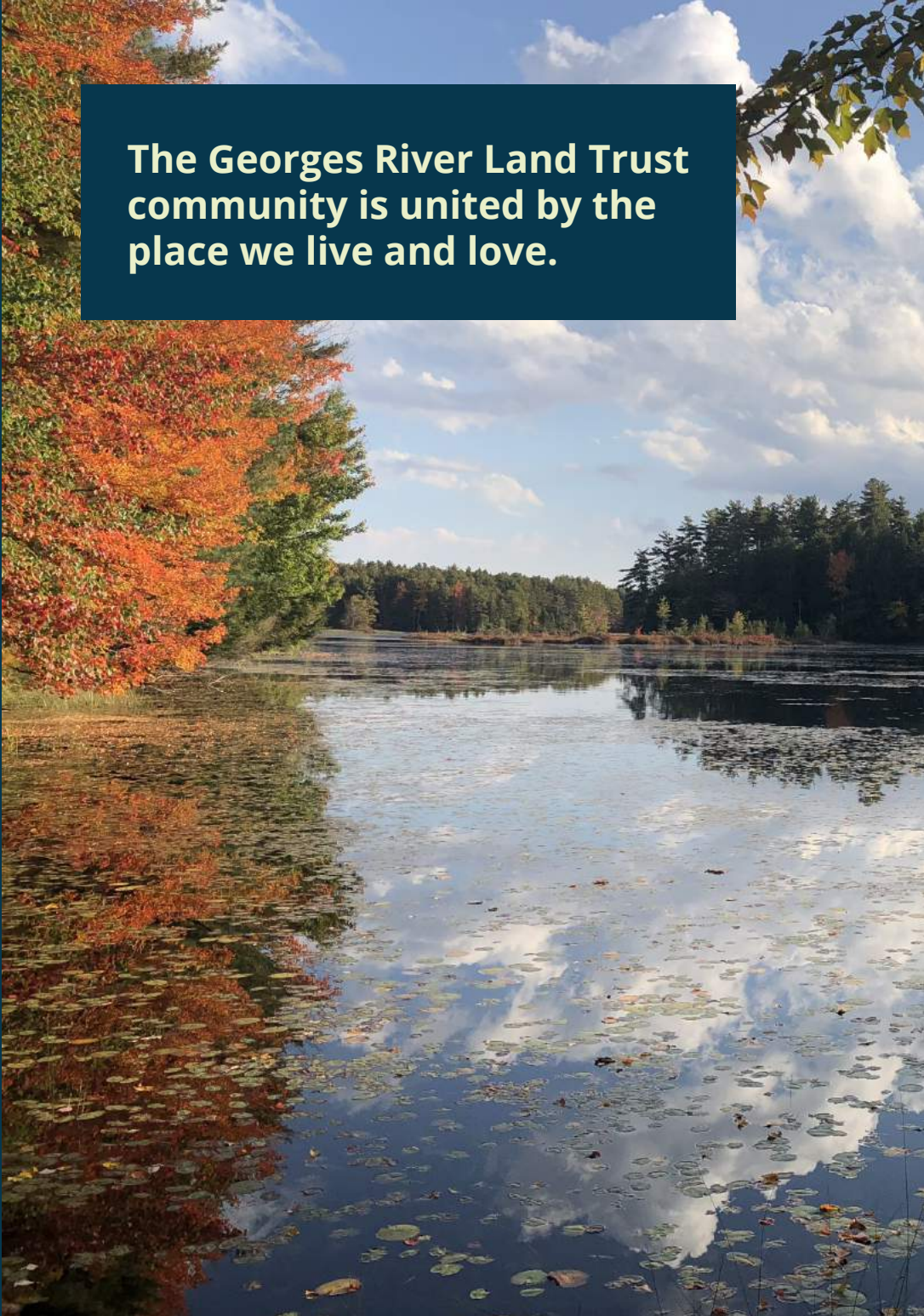


An aerial photograph of the Georges River area, showing a winding river through a landscape of dense trees with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow, orange, and red. The river flows from the upper right towards the lower right. On the left bank, there are several green fields and clusters of houses with blue roofs. A road crosses the river with a bridge. The overall scene is a mix of natural beauty and human habitation.

**GEORGES RIVER  
LAND TRUST**

**YEAR IN REVIEW  
2021**

A scenic view of a pond with lily pads and autumn foliage. The pond is filled with lily pads and reflects the sky and surrounding trees. The trees on the left are in full autumn colors, while the trees on the right are mostly green. The sky is blue with white clouds. A dark blue rectangular box is overlaid on the top left of the image, containing white text.

**The Georges River Land Trust  
community is united by the  
place we live and love.**



As members, donors, partners, volunteers, easement owners, board or staff, we want to protect the local beauty and nature of the St. George River watershed. Each of us wants to make our contributions count.

We're committed to conserving and caring for the lands in our hands and to sharing the outdoors on our 70+ miles of trails.

We're in it for the promise of forever--for the sake of our planet and our children's children.



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**Dear Friends,**

Although the pandemic lingered longer than we'd hoped last year, it brought a new energy to the importance of the outdoors. Our conserved landscapes and 70+ miles of public trails proved to be more than Mid-Coast Maine niceties; they were necessities for the health and resilience of our communities. More people discovered what you've known all along—that there are some very special places to enjoy, right out our own front doors.

In 2021, the Georges River Land Trust renewed our commitment to protecting the beauty and nature of the St. George River watershed by setting the course for the next five years. We asked you to support a collective effort to Keep the Watershed Wild. Your donations got us off to a roaring start. Thank you!

This report provides a snapshot of our initial progress against those five-year goals. The most evident are the improvements we've made to public access in our trails and preserves. With the help of a growing task force of volunteers, we forged new trails on Quigg Island, 100 Acre Island and the Weskeag Headlands, and prioritized bridge and trail improvements on our Canal Path, Ridge to River Trail, Gibson Preserve and improved parking at Jack Baker Woods.

What's less evident is one of the most exciting accomplishments in the history of the Georges River Land Trust. Last year, we quietly assessed, investigated, negotiated, and got started on the due diligence to acquire an incremental 517-acre parcel in the Rockland Bog. It's the largest peatbog in MidCoast Maine, a giant sponge that stores carbon and mitigates the effects of climate change. It will increase the protected wilderness in Rockland's backyard by 50%-- roughly the size of Camden Hills State Park.

As of this writing, we've completed the sale agreement and secured a sizable grant from Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program bringing us halfway to purchasing the parcel. Can we count on you to help us raise the remainder for this transformational conservation project?

We continue to be amazed at what we're able to accomplish together with you.



Meg Rasmussen  
**Executive Director**



Alvin Chase  
**Board President**

# LAND CONSERVATION & CARETAKING



## 19 Local Preserves

Our preserves provide local communities places for outdoor recreation, small group gatherings and open spaces for wildlife. Last year, as the pandemic extended into its second year, they proved to be especially valuable for all living things.



## Big Bog Progress

Conserving large landscapes starts quietly. We assess conservation values of a property, build a relationship with its landowner, initiate due diligence and raise funds for the land purchase. 2021 brought us halfway to acquiring 517 acres in the Rockland Bog. We'll need your help to bring this climate gem into our fold in 2022.

## Conservation Commissions

We planned and organized the very first summit meeting of conservation commissions from St. George, South Thomaston, Thomaston, Owls Head and Rockland. These groups advocate for trails, conservation and climate resilience education in their communities.



*Conservation Comissions Summit*

## Climate Action on 50 Easements

We continue to encourage communities and our easement owners to build climate-resilient landscapes. We host trainings to protect shrinking grasslands and habitat for migrating birds. We're driven to protect marshlands, forests, wetlands and farm soils to capture carbon.



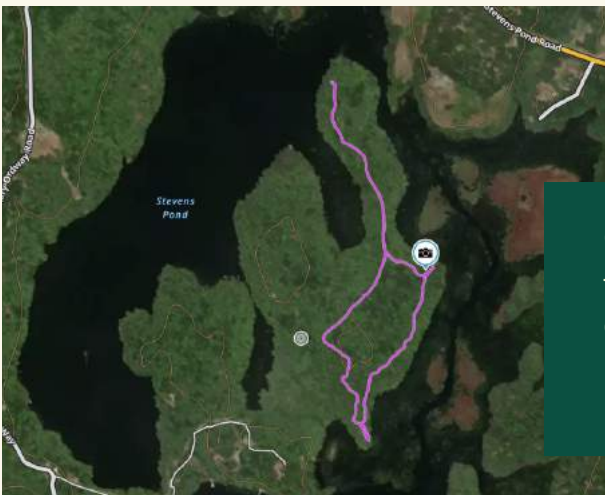
*Savannah Sparrow in protected habitat*

# 70+ MILES OF TRAILS



## 100 Acre Island Preserve

Trail making didn't slow down for us this past winter. Our 100 Acre Island Preserve now has 2 miles of new trails along with camping.



## Quigg Island Preserve

The Eastern Trail Loop is now complete, mapped and ready for blazing. A dock is scheduled for installation with the Spring thaw.





# TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS



*Weskeag Headlands Preserve*



*Jack Baker Woods*



*Georges Highland Path*

## New Bridges

We built bog bridges and boardwalks with the help of our Stew Crew of Volunteers and students from The Mid Coast School of Technology. Your summer walks will be safer and more enjoyable.



*Jack Baker Woods*



*Weskeag Headlands Preserve*

## More Parking

We've increased public access to meet the growing demand from more visitors. Bring a friend, a bike or a dog!



# MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY





## WATERSHED SOCIETY MEMBERS

These extraordinary donors have committed to or given a planned gift through a bequest, IRA, life insurance benefit or gift of real estate. We thank them for their legacy contributions to the Georges River Land Trust.

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Joan Brewster  
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Pat Ashton and Robert Steinmetz  
Scott Sullivan and Michelle Graham  
Richard and Sheila Tasker  
Adrienne Vaughan



# WHITE OAK SOCIETY MEMBERS

These members have demonstrated their commitment to our mission in 2021 with a minimum donation of \$500. We thank them for their generous participation in the work of the Georges River Land Trust.

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Our general membership community varies as widely as their collective interests in the outdoors. They include land conservationists, climate change activists, hikers/walkers, dog walkers, trail runners, mountain bikers, canoers/kayakers, anglers, snowshoers, birders, naturalists, wildlife enthusiasts, gardeners, scientists, educators, parents with kids, land stewards, homeowners and renters, businesses, spiritual practitioners, public health advocates, employees of social services and local government, tourists and seasonal visitors. We're grateful for the strength in our numbers.

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Lee and Kim Scheuer  
Stephen and Lisa Schiffman  
Stacy Otto  
Diane Schivera and Gary Dunn  
John Scholz and Meg Barclay  
Ben Levine and Julia Schulz  
Linda Schumacher-Feero  
Nancy Schumann  
Mr. and Mrs. David Schwartz  
Wynn Seemann  
Julie Sells  
Tim Seymour and Maureen Egan  
John Shane and Susan Blau  
Miike and Margie Shannon  
Jeffrey Shapiro  
Joanne Sharpe  
Timothy and Gayle Shaw  
Teresa Sheally  
Viola and Fred Sheehan  
Mary Sheldon  
Linda and John Shepard  
Melissa Shields  
Robert Short  
Anne Shure  
Jon and Sue Sibley  
Becky Siebens and Dick Anthony  
Charles and Arlene Siletti  
Dean A. Silvers  
Jim and Karen Simpson  
Kingsley Sleight  
Cary Slocum and Glenn Montgomery  
Jane Smalley  
Adele R. Smith  
Avery Smith  
Bob and Marcia Smith  
Deanna Smith  
Eliza and Peter Smith  
Emily Smith  
Joseph and Martha Lind Smith  
Karen Smith  
Karl Smith and Julie Canniff  
Owen Smith  
Robert K. and Michele S. Smith  
Taylor and Judith Smith Charitable Gift Fund  
Shane Snowdon  
John Sommo and Margaret Zwerling  
Laurie Southard  
Katrina Spear  
Julie Speno  
William Spink  
Anonymous  
Rennie and Julie Stackpole  
Janet Staiano  
Jane Staman  
Liz Stanley and Ike Johnson  
Margaret Stanley  
Nancy Stebbins  
Jane and Adam Stein  
Taylor Stenger and Meredith Batley  
Elizabeth Sterner  
Karl Stien and Leah McCabe

Ashley Stinson  
 Keith Stone and Steven Watts  
 Kimberly Stoneton  
 Jennifer Strode  
 Karin Strong and James Ritter  
 Laura Strubbe  
 Ellen Sudow and Joseph Higdon  
 Steve and James Sulzer  
 Gary Swanson  
 James Sweet  
 Pam Swing and Marty Plotkin  
 Edith Synnefakis  
 Robert and Beverly Tappan  
 Martin and Lynne Taylor  
 Michael Terrien  
 Kathleen and Kenneth Thomas  
 Margaret Thomas  
 Rebecca and Douglas Thompson  
 Andrew Timmons  
 Wes Todd and Jana Goddard  
 Richard Todd  
 Mary Tolles  
 Lauren Tope  
 Rosemary Tottoroto

Virginia Trask  
 Susan Tripp  
 John and Ronalee Trogner  
 Marcia Turner  
 Judith and John Tydings  
 Anonymous  
 Danielle Vacanti  
 Sam Vail  
 Scott Vaitones  
 Lloyd Van Lunen and Margaret Wilson  
 Candace Vancko  
 Lisa Vandegrift  
 Gail and Kevin Varga  
 Joy Vaughan  
 Ann Velie and Tim Luehrmann  
 Lisa and Andrew Vietze  
 Jean Vose  
 Debra Wadleigh  
 Avar Walker  
 David Zella Walker  
 John Walker  
 Peter Walker  
 Robert Wall  
 Sondra and Andy Wallace

Fred Wardwell  
 Deborah and Peter Warren  
 Milton Watson, Jr. and Ruth DeLoor  
 Michael Waxman  
 Kaitlin Weatherly  
 Sonya Weaver  
 Sandy Weisman and Abhay Yallabandi  
 Adele M. Welch  
 Barbara Welch  
 Besty Welch  
 Katherine Wellen  
 Jan and Laurie Werner  
 Kathryn and George Stephens  
 Debby Wheelock and Chuck Paine  
 Anonymous  
 Wendy and Roger Wickenden  
 Catherine Wiejaczka  
 Pen and Bev Williamson  
 Sally Ann and Edwin Williamson  
 Susan Wind  
 Marge Winski  
 Paul Wisniewski

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of these lists.  
 If you see any errors or omissions, please contact us so we may correct our records.  
*Thank you!*



## BUSINESS PARTNERS

Our business partners provide ongoing support for our conservation and public access programs. Please consider bringing them your business.

Beals Electric  
Brimstone Consulting Group  
Brooks Trap Mill  
Caldbeck Gallery  
Camden Real Estate Company  
Carla Skinder Photography  
Cold Mountain Builders  
Eastern Tire and Auto Service, Inc.  
Fiore Artisan Olive Oils & Vinegars  
Good Tern Natural Foods Co-op  
Hampton Inn & Suites Rockland/Thomaston  
Hannafoord Community Cash  
Harbor Road Veterinary Hospital  
Hedgerow  
Horch Roofing  
Knox Machine Company  
Lake St. George Brewing Company  
Lie-Nielsen Toolworks  
Long's Landscape  
Maine Authors Publishing and Cooperative

Maine Farmland Trust  
Maine Outdoors  
Mars Hall Gallery  
Monhegan Boat Line  
Mount Pleasant Dental Care  
Northern Trust Company  
PayPal Giving Fund  
Pen Bay Medical Center & Waldo County General Hospital  
Phi Builders + Architects  
Plants Unlimited  
RFB Advertising  
ReVision Energy  
RockCity Employee Cooperative  
Sara Gagan Design  
Sidecountry Sports  
Steel House  
Superior Restoration  
The Grasshopper Shop  
Treekeepers- Johnson's Arboriculture  
Viking, Inc.

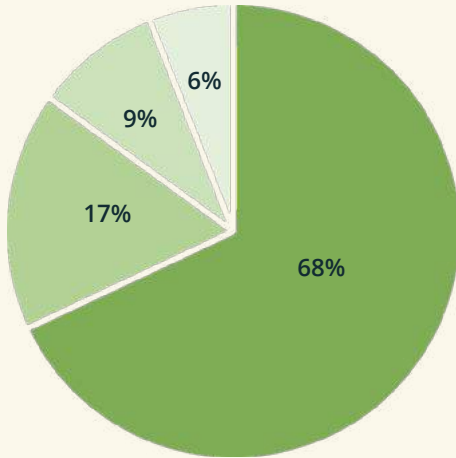
## FOUNDATIONS & PUBLIC AGENCIES

These foundations and public agencies provided funding to our efforts in 2021. We're grateful to receive an annual commitment from many, year after year.

AmazonSmile Foundation  
Anonymous  
Autodesk Foundation  
Bock/Hanaway Fund  
Bafflin Foundation  
Fields Pond Foundation, Inc.  
Institute for Broadening Participation  
Kohler Foundation

Maine Community Foundation  
Maine Natural Resource Conservation Program  
Network for Good  
Onion Foundation  
RDK Foundation  
The Walmart Spark Fund for Charities  
The Wyeth Foundation  
U.S. Forest Service, Community Forest Grant

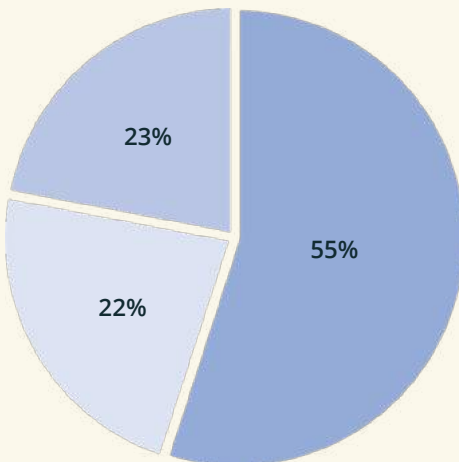
# 2021 FINANCIAL STATEMENT



- Donations
- Membership
- Grants
- Events & Other Income

## INCOME

<b>INCOME CATEGORIES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Donations	\$485,415.87
Membership	\$120,824.94
Grants	\$ 66,821.50
Events & Other Income	\$ 43,670.39
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$716,732.70</b>



- Program
- Administration
- Fundraising

## EXPENSES

<b>EXPENSE CATEGORIES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Land Acquisition/Conservation	\$ 72,003.99
Stewardship	\$100,474.83
Trails & Public Access	\$ 79,762.51
<b>Program</b>	<b>\$252,241.33</b>
Administration	\$108,132.55
Fundraising	\$ 99,523.95
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$459,897.83</b>

## An overlooked climate solution lives right in our backyard.

We're all proud of our trees in Maine. They cover nearly 90 percent of our state and absorb about 60 percent of the CO2 emissions from our cars, buildings, and plants. But, there's an even harder-working natural climate solution in our midst-- the Rockland Bog, the largest peatbog in MidCoast Maine.

When plants grow and die in the bog, they never fully decompose. CO2 gets locked in the ground forever. In combination with the surrounding forest, this Bog's ecosystem can capture and store an amazing amount of carbon.

For generations, the area around the bog has been a favorite of local outdoor enthusiasts and bikers. It's home to waterfowl, wading birds, deer, beaver, and rabbits, even a rare dragonfly. Almost 1,200 acres have already been conserved. With your help, we can protect and manage an additional 517 acres of the forested buffers around the bog, while making its trail systems more accessible. Please join your neighbors and make a donation to the *Keep the Watershed Wild* campaign, today.



**Conserve the  
Rockland Bog**

Call us @ 207-594-5166





*LOVE OUR LOCAL NATURE*



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