



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CONTACT: Dea Brickner-Wood,
Great Bay Coordinator, GBRPP
(603) 868-6112
bluesky24@comcast.net**

1,645 ACRES OF PERMANENT LAND PROTECTION IN 6 NH TOWNS MADE POSSIBLE FROM LAND TRANSACTION GRANT FUNDS

The GBRPP and PREP award \$25,675 in funding to five applicants to use for land transaction costs.

Durham, NH – The Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership (GBRPP) and the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership (PREP) has announced the Summer 2015 Land Transactions Grants Program awards. A total of \$25,675 in grant funds will contribute to the conservation of 1,645 acres of land in six New Hampshire communities and support the prospective conservation of an additional 1,564 acres of land. The projects also provided a total of \$216,586 in matching funds.

The Land Transactions Grant Program assists land trusts, conservation organizations and municipal governments within the coastal watershed with the transaction costs associated with permanent land protection such as the donation and acquisition of land and conservation easements. This round of awardees are conservation properties located in five designated Conservation Focus Areas, representing a diversity of natural resources including woodlands, agricultural lands, open fields, wetlands, ponds and riparian shoreline. The properties are located across the coastal watershed – Barrington, Nottingham, Durham, Raymond, Epping, Lee and Madbury - and many promote pedestrian public access and recreational opportunities.

The Town of Raymond was an awardee in this grant round. The town intends to use the funds towards the donation of a conservation easement on the 304-acre Dearborn property to the Bear Paw Regional Greenway, ensuring its permanent protection for future generations.

"The 304-acre Dearborn Property is an important parcel in the Town of Raymond with frontage on Onway Lake. Securing a conservation easement on the property ensures the permanent protection of the entire western shore of the lake," explains Craig Wheeler, Town Manager. "A trail network provides passive recreation experience for all residents and the public. The support and financial enhancement from the Land Transactions Grant program assists the community in achieving this important conservation initiative."

For questions about this grant opportunity contact:
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GBRPP, Great Bay Coordinator
603-868-6112
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About PREP:

The Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership (PREP) has been working to protect and preserve the Great Bay and Hampton-Seabrook Estuaries since 1995. Through water testing, monitoring and research efforts, the PREP staff is able to keep Federal, State and Municipal leaders informed on the ever-changing conditions of our community's water sources in the 52 Seacoast towns served. <http://www.PREPEstuaries.org>

About the Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership:

The Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership is a collaboration of conservation organizations in the coastal region that promotes landscape-scale land conservation and stewardship. Funding for the Land Protection Transaction Grant program is provided by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. The Nature Conservancy serves as the fiscal and administrative agent for the GBRPP. <http://www.greatbaypartnership.org>

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