



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 20, 2014

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GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR TRANSACTION COSTS FOR PERMANENT LAND PROTECTION IN COASTAL WATERSHED
The GBRPP and PREP release a request for proposals from land conservation organizations for \$64,975 in funding to use for land transaction costs.

Durham, NH - The Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership (GBRPP) and the Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership (PREP) are issuing a request for proposals for the 2015 Land Conservation Transaction Grants Program. This matching grants program is aimed at assisting land trusts, conservation organizations and municipal governments within the Piscataqua Region coastal watershed area with the transaction costs associated with permanent land protection such as conservation easements, full fee acquisitions and donations of land.

A total of \$64,975 is available through this year's grant program. Qualified nonprofit tax-exempt 501(c)(3) conservation organizations or units of government may apply for this grant through the application form (download in PDF or MS Word format) <http://prepestuaries.org/2015-land-transaction-grant-program-rfp/> or on the GBRPP website <http://www.greatbaypartnership.org> Applications must be postmarked by **January 30, 2015**.

The Great Bay estuary and coastal region is under pressure from population growth and land development. Conserving a network of undeveloped natural lands in our region is critical in order to maintain clean water, support healthy wildlife populations, minimize flood damages, and provide quality recreational opportunities. The purchase or donation of land or conservation easements often requires funding for transaction expenses (e.g. appraisals, land surveys, recording fees). The Land Conservation Transaction Grants Program will provide vital support for this cost of conserving land.

"Often times the funding needed to complete land transactions is not readily available. With these funds from PREP and GBRPP the costs associated with land protection can be covered. This program provides those vital funds to help get projects moved along or completed," explains Dea Brickner-Wood, GBRPP's Great Bay Coordinator.

For questions about this grant opportunity contact:

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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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