

THE CAMPAIGN

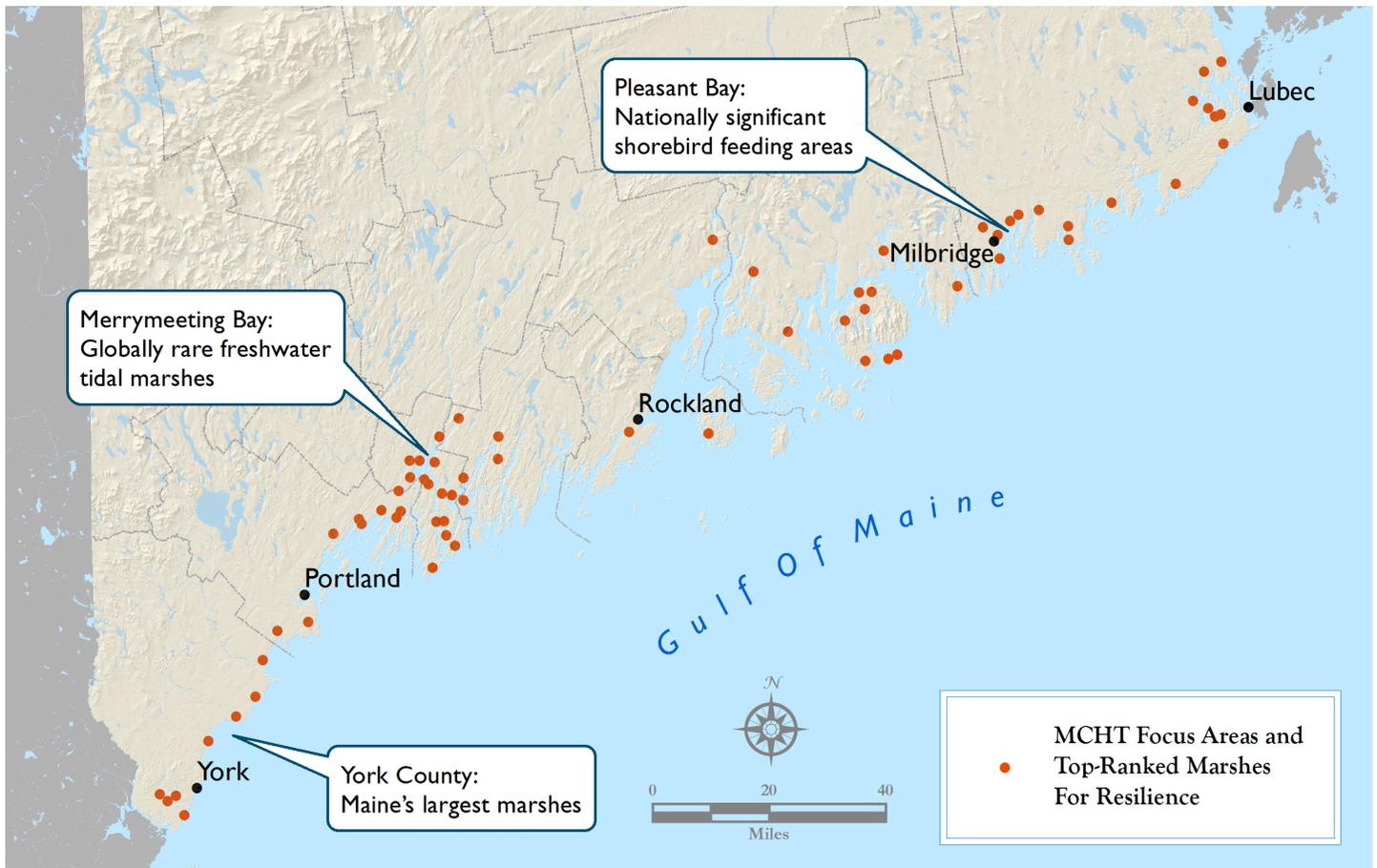
FOR LAND
FOR PEOPLE
FOR GOOD



Marshes for Tomorrow Initiative



Old Pond, Hancock



SAVING MARSHES TO SAVE THE COAST

Marshes keep coastal waters clean and provide critical habitat for rare plants, migratory birds, and a wide range of fish and shellfish—including the commercially important species our coastal communities depend upon. Over the next 100 years, global sea level is projected to rise between three and six feet, potentially destroying some of our most productive ecosystems and coastal infrastructure. In the worst case scenario, we may lose all of Maine's existing marshland and wipe out highly vulnerable species.

By protecting critical uplands now we can help marshes migrate and lessen these negative impacts. You can help maintain healthy natural and human communities on our coast by supporting Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) in its four-part plan to protect and care for priority marshes.



STRATEGIC MARSHLAND CONSERVATION

Larger marshes with undeveloped upland buffers are likely to be the most resilient to sea level rise. Their protection is critical to sustaining Maine's biodiversity and marine economy into the future. With your generous support, MCHT will significantly increase the pace of marshland protection in Maine.



STEWARDSHIP

To date, MCHT has protected over 1,600 acres of marshland across the coast and has decades worth of experience in habitat protection and invasive species management. We will further develop and refine stewardship practices to share with other coastal land trusts, environmental organizations, and local municipalities. Successful conservation will also protect important habitat for migratory shore birds, waterfowl, and wading birds.



MARSH RESTORATION

Dams and other tidal barriers hurt Maine's marshes, depleting them of nutrients, altering patterns of sedimentation and erosion, and endangering fish and birds that rely on tidal marshes. Working cooperatively with willing land owners, MCHT will support state-wide efforts to prioritize and remove barriers, helping to restore Maine's marshlands.

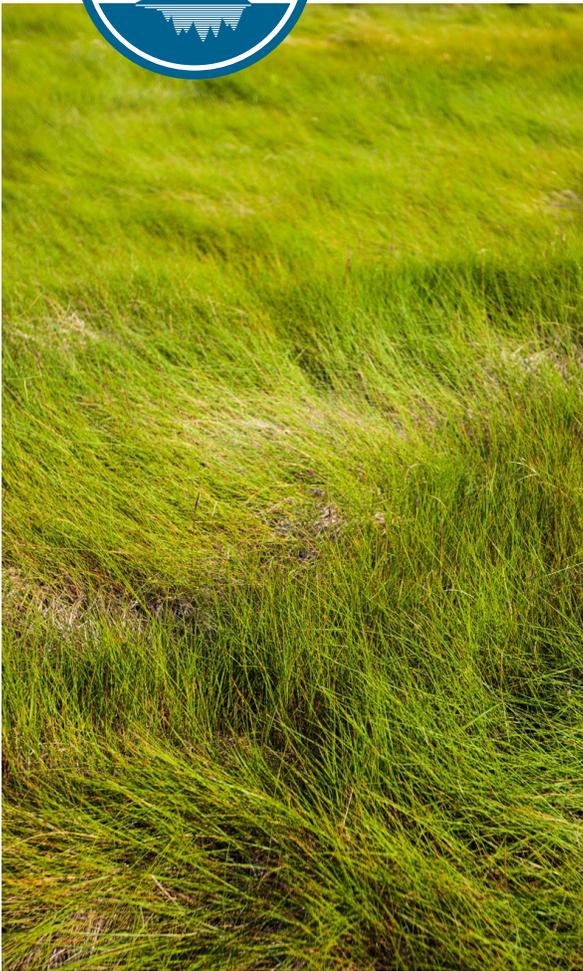


STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP

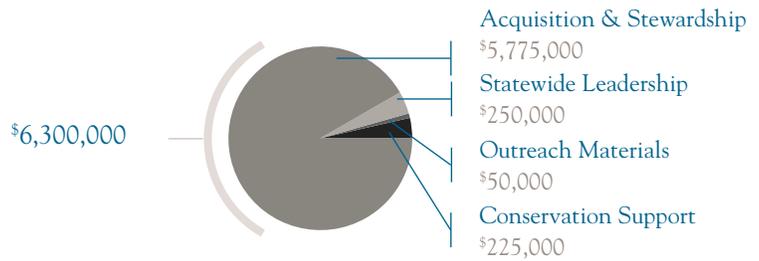
As the only state-wide land trust focusing on the whole coast, MCHT is uniquely positioned to lead the charge to protect Maine's marshes. We will coordinate outreach between research groups, local land trusts, and conservation partners, educate and increase public awareness, and advocate for marshland protection in Augusta. We will hire a part-time employee to coordinate this initiative statewide in partnership with The Nature Conservancy and the Downeast Salmon Federation. The statewide coordinator will work with other partners and municipalities.

THE CAMPAIGN

FOR LAND
FOR PEOPLE
FOR GOOD



MARSHES FOR TOMORROW FINANCIAL GOALS



The Marshes for Tomorrow Initiative is a critical part of MCHT's Campaign For Land, For People, For Good, which will protect coastal lands and rivers, connect people and land, and care for MCHT conserved lands forever. Funds to steward MCHT lands are pooled to support ongoing care for all MCHT conservation properties.

In the face of unprecedented environmental pressure on our coast, your gifts to the Marshes for Tomorrow Initiative will keep our coast clean and productive, lessen the impact of sea level rise, and ensure a better future for all who live here and love this place.

For further information, please contact:

Nicky Blanchard
Director of Development
nblanchard@mcht.org
207-607-4369

Betsy Ham
Director of Land Protection
bham@mcht.org
207-607-4589

Maine Coast Heritage Trust
Main Office
1 Bowdoin Mill Island, Suite 201
Topsham, ME 04086

www.mcht.org

Photography

Front Cover, and Strategic Marshland Conservation: © Ken Woisard; Marsh Restoration, Stewardship, and back cover: © MCHT; Statewide Leadership: © Colin Howell.