SHELBURNE RIVERLANDS PROJECT

The Shelburne Riverlands project is a series of 22 islands and 12 mainland parcels totaling 853 acres located along an 8.7-mile stretch of the Androscoggin River in Shelburne, NH. Silver maple flood plain, braided with oxbow and flood channel wetlands and interspersed with grasslands total 18 miles of river & stream shoreline. These rich natural communities host myriad wildlife species of conservation concern, including a breeding pair of bald eagles. The Riverlands are the keystone linking hundreds of thousands of acres of intact forests across the Androscoggin connecting the Mahoosucs with the Carter and Moriah ranges and the White Mountain National Forest.

The Mahoosuc Land Trust and The Conservation Fund are pleased to announce the Shelburne Riverlands Project, an effort to conserve 853 acres of significant riverfront and wildlife habitat along the Androscoggin River in Shelburne, NH.

The Riverlands include 18 miles of shoreline of which 14 miles are river shoreline and 4 miles are inland stream channels. The wild and scenic nature of these islands and mainland parcels is what makes this section so beloved by paddlers and anglers. Drifting down the river is a quiet experience and this project protects the places people love to explore. This project includes some of the most significant shoreline protection along the Androscoggin River in NH.

Three of the mainland forest parcels provide future opportunities for quiet trails and for winter cross-country ski routes. One of the upland parcels completes a large conservation corridor and contains the only unprotected section of the locally loved Philbrook Farm “White Trail” on its way to the Crow’s Nest. The project will permanently protect exemplary riparian habitat and flood plain forest as well as nesting sites for bald eagles. It also contains 572 acres of ranked habitat in the NH Wildlife Action plan.

The Shelburne Conservation Commission initiated this project which the Shelburne Select Board endorsed as consistent with the Master Plan goals of protecting open space, scenic vistas, rural character and the Androscoggin River. The Mahoosuc Land Trust will own this land when the project is done, and Shelburne residents will help steward and advise the land trust on its management. The Mahoosuc Land Trust is a NH and Maine based land trust and holds conservation easements in Shelburne on Crow Mountain Farm and First Mountain.

This project will be entirely funded through grants and private fundraising. We need your help to complete this work. If you would like more information or to support this project financially, please go to: www.mahoosuc.org