

Hear from conference hosts, sponsors and supporters:

The people of Maine have always been faithful stewards of our environment because we understand its tremendous value to our way of life. Maine's natural resources have helped shape the environment and recreational character of our entire state. We reject the false choice of pitting the environment against the economy, because here in Maine, the environment is the economy. – United States Senator Susan Collins

Maine has a very high percentage of our landscape in private ownership, and we have a long tradition of public use of privately owned land in a responsible way. These lands—these resources—are so important to our people, and partnership is really what it's all about. – United States Senator Angus King

Keeping Maine's Forests represents a broad-based and inclusive approach to conserving Maine's productive forest lands for the benefit of future generations. Collaborative approaches, such as KMF, are the most effective way to ensure lasting results that benefit both landowners and the public. – Patrick Strauch, executive director, Maine Forest Products Council

Partners for Conservation, along with a diverse group of partners, has hosted this conference highlighting public-private partnerships to sustain rural landscapes since 2008. We are extremely pleased to be able co-host the tenth national gathering in Maine, both to recognize the amazing breadth and depth of the public-private partnerships here, while also bringing examples from around the country to Maine. It's really all about discovering how we can help make collaborative conservation our first choice for sustaining working lands nationally. – Partners for Conservation Executive Director Steve Jester

By bringing private landowners, industry partners and conservationists together, we will succeed in conserving America's native fish and wildlife resources. This commitment to making voluntary, proactive conservation more accessible for private landowners will lead to finding shared solutions that are easily transferable, scientifically sound, and command a solid return on investment. – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Principal Deputy Director Greg Sheehan.

Farmers, forest landowners, tribes and others who own rural land make daily decisions about natural resource use and management. Those decisions ultimately have lasting impact on the soil, water and air quality in Maine, so partnerships offering positive guidance and assistance to our landowners are more important than ever. The Partners for Conservation movement – a collaboration bringing together several like-minded entities – is a great opportunity to highlight the strong partnerships that keep resource conservation a priority in our region. – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Conservationist Juan Hernandez