

LAND TRUST RECEIVES GRANT FOR GATEWAY FROM MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

(CAMDEN)--Coastal Mountains Land Trust recently received a \$5,000 grant from the Fund for Maine Land Conservation of the Maine Community Foundation. The funds will support the Land Trust's Gateway to the Mountains collaboration with the Town of Camden's Ragged Mountain Recreation Area, a trail-building effort designed to increase the four-season recreational opportunities originating at the Camden Snow Bowl.

"This grant will allow us to further develop the link between the Camden Snow Bowl property and over 300 acres of land we have conserved to the south," said Scott Dickerson, executive director of Coastal Mountains Land Trust. "Our stewardship team has already been working with the Midcoast Chapter of the New England Mountain Bike Association on a trail system. We now hope to offer a direct connection from the Snow Bowl to these trails via land we purchased this past summer, so that the community will be able to enjoy even more of Ragged Mountain's natural beauty."

The Land Trust also anticipates collaborating with other organizations involved with the Ragged Mountain Recreation Area as the recent redevelopment plan proceeds toward implementation.

Coastal Mountains Land Trust has been working since 1986 to permanently conserve land to benefit the natural and human communities of western Penobscot Bay. The Land Trust's Bald and Ragged Mountains Campaign, undertaken in 2003, seeks to conserve 3,320 acres on the two mountains. To date, the Land Trust has protected 498 acres on Ragged Mountain for the benefits of the area's scenic beauty, biodiversity, forest and water resources, and outdoor recreation opportunities. For more information about the Land Trust and its work, visit www.coastalmountains.org or call 207-236-7091.

For 25 years the Maine Community Foundation has been partnering with donors and community groups to strengthen Maine through grants and scholarships. For more information, visit the Foundation's website at www.mainecef.org or call toll-free 1-877-700-6800.