

The proposed Maine Woods National Park and Preserve

“A Park for ME, a Park for US”

A new 3.2 million-acre national park would be “the Yellowstone of the East.”

The Maine Woods wilderness of the mid-1800s made such a deep impression on Henry David Thoreau that he envisioned it becoming a “national preserve.” Today, thanks to a unique convergence of events, we have a second chance to realize Thoreau’s vision by creating a new Maine Woods National Park and Preserve.

Although the primeval forest has been diminished by more than a century of logging and is threatened by development on a massive scale, the 10-million acre heart of the Maine Woods still survives as the greatest undeveloped region east of the Mississippi. If the people of Maine and America act now, we can restore this magnificent landscape to health and build a sustainable way of life for the people of this region.

The new National Park would encompass 3.2 million acres, an area larger than Yellowstone and Yosemite combined. The Park would restore native wildlife and ecosystems, protect the headwaters of Maine’s major rivers, provide wilderness recreation on an Alaskan scale, diversify the boom-and-bust local economy, shift control from corporations back to the public, and inspire people across the nation to help save the Maine Woods. The Maine Woods National Park would truly be the “Yellowstone of the East.” As a vast core wilderness, the Park would anchor a system of ecological reserves stretching to the Adirondacks on the west, the Central Appalachians on the south, and Canada on the north.

The proposed Maine Woods National Park and Preserve has three main goals:

- 1) to restore and protect the heart of the North Woods from an environmental standpoint;
- 2) to create thousands of new jobs in a region decimated by a withering pulp and paper industry; and
- 3) to ensure permanent public access for world-class recreational opportunities, such as hiking, hunting, camping, fishing, boating, snowmobiling, and much more.

More than 100,000 supporters have already endorsed RESTORE's petition that calls for a congressionally authorized feasibility study of creating a new national park and preserve in Maine's North Woods.

Time is running out to save the great North Woods of Maine. Together, we can save one of our country's last great natural treasures. Together, we *will* create the Maine Woods National Park and Preserve—if we act ***now***.

For more information about the proposed Maine Woods National Park and Preserve and RESTORE: The North Woods, please visit www.restore.org or email mainewoods@restore.org or call 207-626-5635.

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