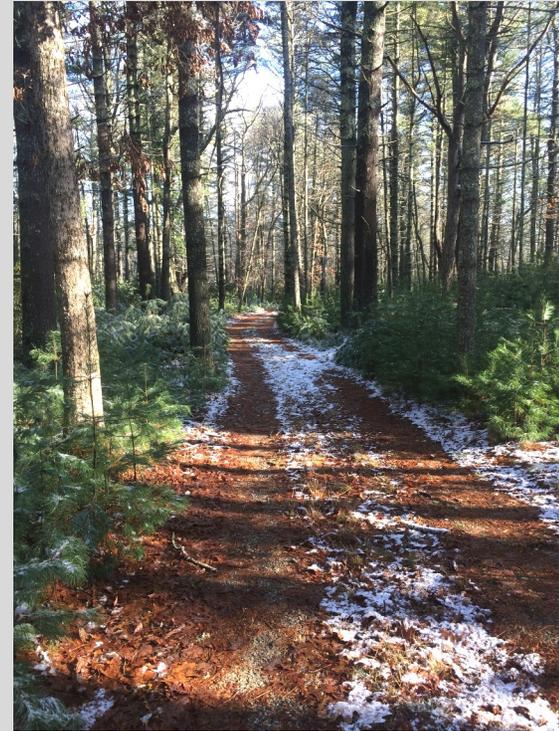
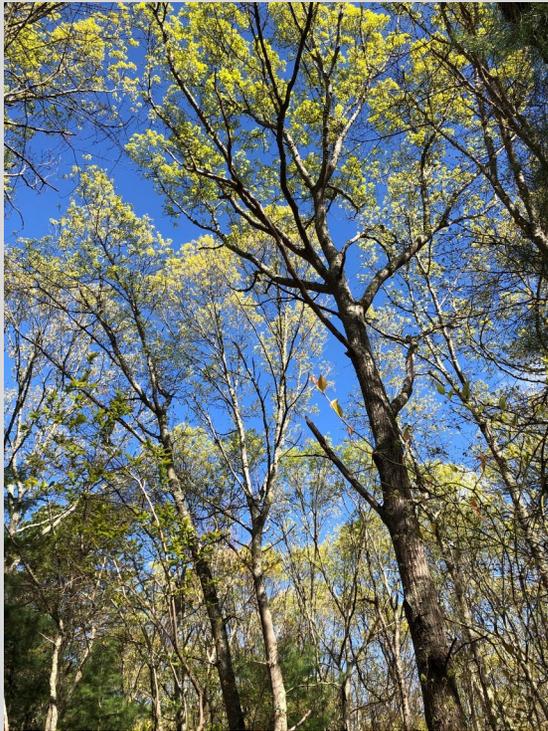


# STATE LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM

## FISCAL YEAR 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



**DEM**  
RHODE ISLAND

Division of Planning and Development

# State Land Conservation Program

As part of the Division of Planning and Development, the State Land Conservation Program includes 3 areas of focus:

**State Land Acquisition, Open Space Grant Program, & Agricultural Lands Preservation.** The programs are funded by State voter approved bond funds leveraged with grants from various federal programs, non-profit groups, and local partners. The programs support and promote access to outdoor recreational activities, farmland preservation, habitat protection and open space conservation.

**In FY 2022 \$3.59 million of state funds were used to protect 575 acres.**



*Cassidy Property: Open Space Grant Program*



*Booth Property: State Land Acquisition*



*Tucker Woods: Open Space Grant Program*



*Richmond Property: Open Space Grant Program*



*Movement Ground Farm: Agricultural Lands Preservation*

# 575

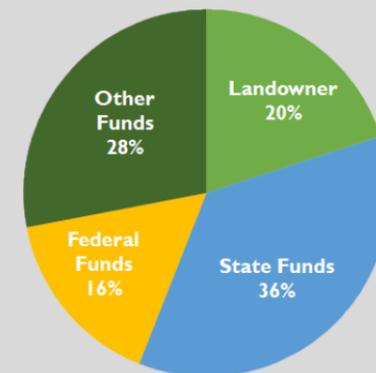
Acres Conserved

# 22

Projects Closed

# \$6.4 M

Leveraged  
From federal and local  
partners



## State Land Conservation

**Aceto:** 63.9 acres in North Kingstown

**Booth:** 26.86 acres in Little Compton

**Chase Marina:** .39 acres in Tiverton

**Godon:** 30.7 acres in Burrillville



Aceto Property, State Land Acquisition

## Working Farms

**Eckhart:** 5.27 acres in Middletown

**Boisclair:** 10.2 acres in S. Kingstown

**Luckyfoot Ranch:** 5 acres in N. Kingstown

**Movement Ground Farm:** 6 acres in Tiverton

**Rego:** 12 acres in Portsmouth

**WeRide:** 24.7 acres in S. Kingstown



Lucky Foot Ranch, Agricultural Lands Preservation

## Open Space Grants

**Cassidy:** 22.9 acres in Hopkinton

**Colwell:** 11.9 acres in Foster

**Conimicut:** 2.5 acres in Warwick

**Cottrell:** 21.5 acres in Westerly

**Eddy/Kingman:** 1 acre in Westerly

**F&S Enterprises:** 113 acres in Richmond

**Glen Pasture:** 7.5 acres in Portsmouth

**James:** 121.1 acres in Hopkinton

**Kastner:** 2.3 acres in New Shoreham

**Octeau:** 2.6 acres in North Providence

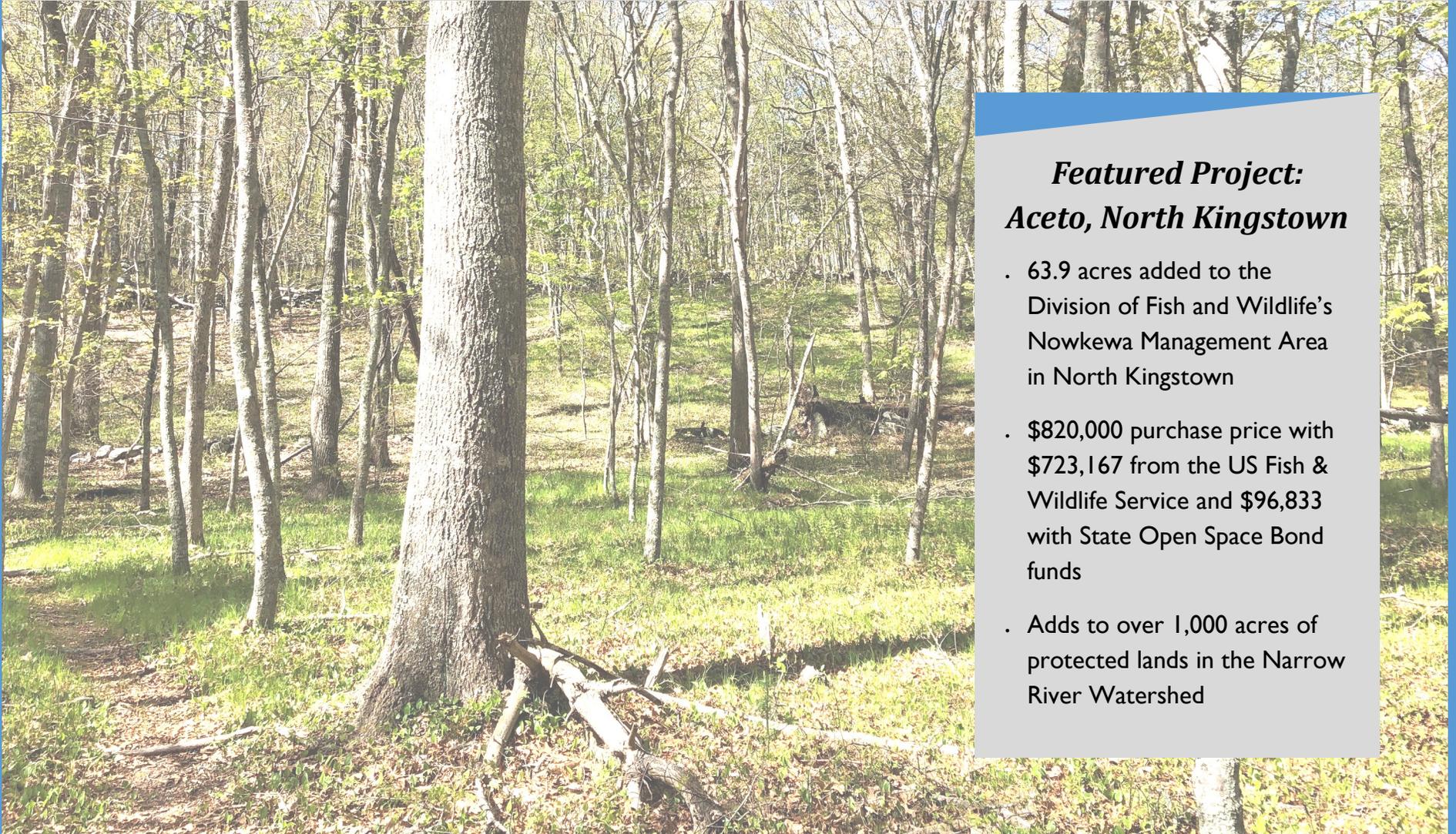
**Richmond:** 17.9 acres in S. Kingstown

**Tucker Woods:** 66 acres Charlestown



# State Land Acquisitions

The State Land Conservation Program purchases ecologically valuable land to enhance DEM's management areas, parks and forest lands. Funding for these acquisitions is made possible by State Open Space Bonds, with contributions from municipalities, land trusts, and from various federal programs. **In FY22 more than 100 acres were purchased** by DEM to expand existing wildlife management areas and to provide outdoor recreational opportunities.



## *Featured Project: Aceto, North Kingstown*

- . 63.9 acres added to the Division of Fish and Wildlife's Nowkewa Management Area in North Kingstown
- . \$820,000 purchase price with \$723,167 from the US Fish & Wildlife Service and \$96,833 with State Open Space Bond funds
- . Adds to over 1,000 acres of protected lands in the Narrow River Watershed

# Agricultural Lands Preservation

The Agricultural Land Preservation Commission (ALPC), with staffing assistance from the State Land Conservation Program, preserves prime agricultural lands through the purchase of development rights.

**In FY22 the ALPC leveraged \$600,000 from federal and private sources to purchase development rights on four farms at roughly a dollar for dollar match.**

## *Featured Project: Movement Ground Farm, Tiverton*

A 6-acre farm on Puncatest Neck abutting the City of Newport's Nonquit Pond water supply

ALPC purchased the Development Rights with the Tiverton Land Trust. ALPC contributed \$90,000 towards \$180,000 purchase price.

More than 6,000 pounds of local produce were donated from Movement Ground Farm to hunger relief agencies in Rhode Island in 2021.

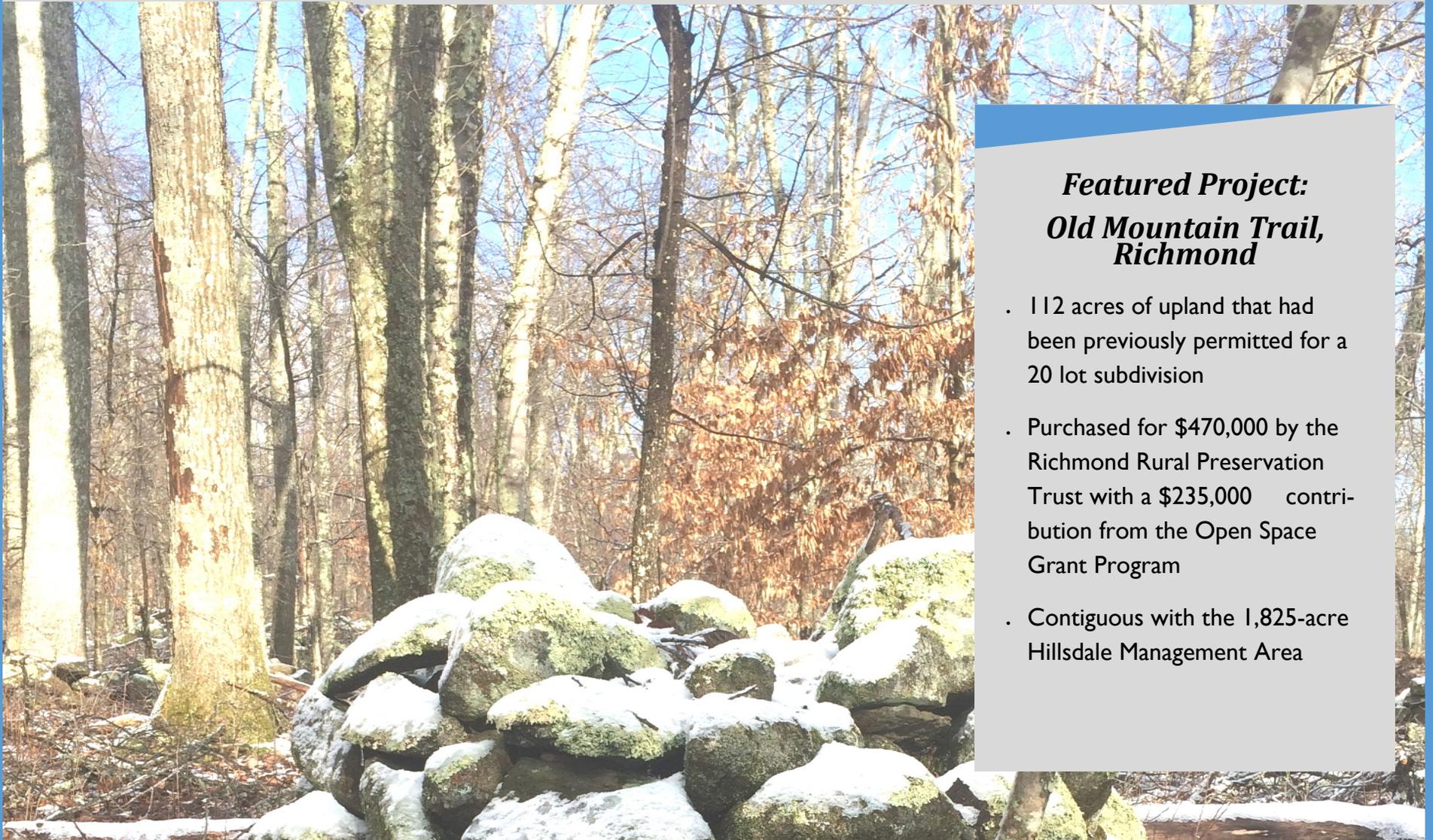


The state's farming industry accounts for \$240 million in direct revenue and \$550 million in indirect revenue and supports more than 3,000 jobs annually. Conserving the industry's land base is critical to its success.

# Open Space Grant Program

The Open Space Grant Program administered by the state's Natural Heritage Preservation Commission provides funding assistance to local communities for the protection of important open space and public recreation lands. Since its inception in 1985, more than 12,000 acres have been protected state-wide.

**In FY22 375 acres of land were conserved through this program.**



## ***Featured Project: Old Mountain Trail, Richmond***

- 112 acres of upland that had been previously permitted for a 20 lot subdivision
- Purchased for \$470,000 by the Richmond Rural Preservation Trust with a \$235,000 contribution from the Open Space Grant Program
- Contiguous with the 1,825-acre Hillsdale Management Area

# FY2022 Land Conservation Program Officers & Partners



## Officers

### Natural Heritage Preservation Commission Advisory Board

- Terry Gray, Director, DEM
- Meredith Brady, Chief of the Division of Statewide Planning, DOA
- Director of Intergovernmental Relations, Governor's Office

### Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission

- Kevin Nelson, Chair
- Jon Reiner, Vice-Chair
- Kenneth Ayars, DEM Director's Designee
- Everett Stuart, Public Member
- Diane Lynch, Public Member
- Martha Neale, Public Member
- Bevan Linsley, Public Member
- Mike Hutchison, Public Member
- David Wallace, Public Member

### DEM Land Acquisition Committee

- Terry Gray, Director
- Jason McNamee, Deputy Director
- Kenneth Ayars, Chief of Agriculture
- Megan DiPrete, Chief of Planning and Development
- Dean Hoxsie, Chief of Law Enforcement
- Phillip Edwards, Chief of Fish & Wildlife
- Frank Floor, Admin, Bureau of Natural Resources & Parks

## Partners

- The Nature Conservancy
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- USDA NRCS
- Town of Tiverton
- City of Warwick
- City of North Providence
- Town of Richmond
- Town of Hopkinton
- Block Island Conservancy
- Town of Charlestown
- Watch Hill Conservancy
- Tiverton Land Trust
- Richmond Rural Preservation Trust
- South Kingstown Land Trust
- Westerly Land Trust
- Glocester Land Trust
- Hopkinton Land Trust
- Little Compton Agricultural Conservancy Trust
- Town of New Shoreham
- Town of Westerly
- Aquidneck Land Trust
- Town of Portsmouth
- Town of Middletown