



The Fund to Address PFAS Contamination

Geological Society of Maine

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Commissioner

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PFAS Fund

Projected budget of ~ \$70 million for 5 years

- \$60M in State funds
- \$5M grant from USDA

Coordinated systems of support:

- Direct assistance to impacted farms, \$30.3M
- Land acquisition & management, \$21.5M
- Research to support on-farm decision making, \$11.2M
- Health initiatives, \$7.3M

Phases of Development

1

Groundwork

Fund established by Governor with bipartisan legislative support, 7/22

Director hired, 9/22

Advisory committee met for the 1st time, 11/22

2

Planning

Advisory committee

Subcommittees

Public hearings

Plan approved 7/23

3

Implementation

Establish internal policies & procedures to distribute funds

Routine technical rulemaking

Begin distributing funds

4

Review & Refine

Annual reports to the Legislature

Ongoing process

Direct Support for Farmers

- Compensation for time spent on PFAS response (**rule**)
- Income replacement (**rule**)
- No-cost technical assistance (**rule**)
- Infrastructure (**rule**)
- Loan assistance (**rule**)
- Public relations and marketing (**rule & in-house**)
- PFAS response navigators (**contract**)
- PFAS response kit (**in-house**)

Land Acquisition and Management

- Purchase land at FMV as if there is no PFAS (**rule**)
- DACF holds and manages land (**in-house with adv. comm.**)
 - Goal: return the land to agriculture
 - Experiment station?
 - Lease?
 - Recreation?
 - Conservation?
 - Solar?
 - Sell?
- Conservation payments (**TBD**)
- Guidance on land transactions (**in-house**)

Research

- Competitive research grants (**rule**)
 - Emphasis on research that will support on-farm management decisions
- Experiment station (**w/ an academic institution**)
- Compile and share scientific information (**in-house**)

Health

- MECDC to make PFAS blood test results reportable
- Blood testing (**rule**)
- Medical monitoring (**future rule**)
- Medical treatment (**no present funding**)
- Mental health support (**rule; survey**)
- Educational resources for clinicians and the public (**MECDC**)
- Farmer/farm worker soil exposure study (**MECDC**)
- Body burden reduction clinical trial (**contract with guidance from MECDC**)



Thank you

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