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Public Notice - LTA Accreditation

30 Jan 2026

Dear Stakeholder,

The land trust accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust (RLHT) is pleased to announce it is applying for renewal of accreditation. A public comment period is now open. The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, conducts an extensive review of each applicant's policies and programs.

Land trust accreditation is important for RLHT because it provides independent verification that the organization has the governance, financial management, and stewardship capacity to permanently protect the lands and waters of the Rangeley Lakes Region. In a landscape defined by working forests, cold-water fisheries, remote recreation, and wildlife habitat, accreditation assures landowners, donors, and community partners that conservation commitments made by RLHT will endure forever. The accreditation process strengthens internal policies related to land transactions, stewardship, and risk management, reducing organizational risk and reinforcing long-term operational resilience. Accreditation also enhances RLHT's credibility and competitiveness for grants and philanthropic support, positioning the organization to advance conservation efforts that sustain local economies, outdoor traditions, and the ecological integrity of western Maine.

The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. Comments must relate to how Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust.

To Submit A Comment: Learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org, or email your comment to info@landtrustaccreditation.org. Comments may also be mailed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments, 36 Phila Street, Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Comments on Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust's application will be most useful by April 30, 2026.

Regards,

Shelby Rousseau

Director of Conservation, Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust

