

About the Resilient Lands Conservation Coalition

What is the Resilient Lands Initiative (RLI)?

[The Resilient Lands Initiative \(RLI\)](#) is a vision and strategy document, released in early 2023 by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) in partnership with stakeholders from across the Commonwealth.

The RLI seeks to set goals for land conservation and stewardship in ways that maximize benefits for people, particularly in environmental justice communities, and that mitigate the impacts of climate change.

What is the Resilient Lands Conservation Coalition (RLCC)?

The Resilient Lands Conservation Coalition (RLCC) is a coalition of representatives from public environmental agencies and private organizations working together to advance the strategies of the RLI and related initiatives. This public/private conservation partnership will employ the unique abilities of both sectors in collaboration and is convened by EEA's Division of Conservation Services and Mass Audubon.

How can I get involved?

The full coalition will meet periodically to share updates and announcements, and to discuss and provide input into topics that may be of broad general interest to practitioners working in land conservation across Massachusetts. Any organization or agency that wishes to participate is welcome.

In 2025-2026, the work of the coalition will primarily take place in four working groups:

- Coastal,
- Farmland
- Forests and Landscapes, and
- Urban.

Each working group has a different land protection and stewardship focus. Within these working groups, public and private practitioners meet to identify priority strategies and support the entities moving them forward.

Why should my organization participate in the RLCC?

The conservation community in Massachusetts is working toward a shared goal of increasing the pace of land conservation while centering environmental justice and climate resilience.

We welcome groups to participate who have expertise in land conservation and/or stewardship in any of the four focus areas to share their best practices and lessons learned, as well as groups that can bring their expertise in environmental justice and/or climate adaptation to these conversations.

Participants will:

- Be part of shaping a common agenda and priorities to guide statewide land conservation and stewardship in their area of focus

- Learn about successful projects from one another, to maximize future success
- Share information about available funding for land protection projects, collaborating on grant applications and other funding strategies
- Work collaboratively to identify priority projects and move these projects forward

What is the time commitment for participating?

We anticipate that the **full RLCC** will meet approximately twice per year to share updates, discuss needs and celebrate successes. Meetings will be in person and may include a virtual option.

Working groups will each set their own schedule but will likely meet approximately once every 1-3 months to advance their priorities. Working group meetings are likely to take place virtually.

If **ad hoc groups** form to advance specific projects, they will likely meet more frequently.

All groups are welcome to attend a full coalition meeting or a relevant working group meeting to learn more, and no particular time commitment is required.

Where can I learn more?

Updates will periodically be posted to the [Resilient Lands Webpage](#).

Who can I contact with questions?

Please contact Darya Mattes darya.mattes@mass.gov, Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services