

# Maine TU Council Legal Defense Fund



Fishing Scene on the West Branch of the Penobscot (photo credit Tim Shaw)

## Rumford Falls, Aziscohos and Ripogenus Hydro Projects are all undergoing FERC relicensing - legal action may be essential to protecting the fisheries

### OBJECTIVE:

Maintain a legal defense fund to prevent further damage to Maine's fisheries environment by hydro operations.

### PROBLEM:

License to Kill – Brookfield's dams and Maine's rivers. Fisheries are being degraded by Brookfield Renewable Energy's dewatering and peaking generation practices – legal under their current FERC licenses.

### Your donation will support legal action to:

- Water Rumford Falls, the largest waterfalls in the US east of Niagara, improve the fishery below, and provide access for both fishing and whitewater activities. Appeal in progress to the Maine Board of Environmental Protection.
- Improve stability of Aziscohos Lake upgrading the landlocked salmon habit and providing better flows and smelt drift for the Magalloway River below, Maine's premier brook trout fishery.
- Stop fish kills on the West Branch! Return stability to Rip-Chesuncook Lake and West Branch flows. Water Ripogenus Gorge, currently watered only 3 months out of the year with the warmest water from Ripogenus Lake.

Visit: <https://www.tumaine.org>

### Online Donations:

<https://app.autobooks.co/pay/trout-unlimited>

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Trout Unlimited is a 501(c)(3) organization, Maine Council represents Maine's 6 chapters with over 2,000 members

### THE OPPORTUNITY

#### REMAINING ANTICIPATED COSTS

**\$120,000**

#### TIMING

\$40K per year over the next 3 years. Delays to the relicensing schedule give us an additional year to accomplish our original fundraising goal.

#### KEY BASES FOR ASK

The new licenses will be in effect for the next 40 years.

While grant monies for habitat improvement projects are readily available, donations from private donors are essential to cover the costs of legal action.

#### FUND EXPENDITURES

Funds will be used for legal review of TU filings for both FERC license applications and Maine Water Quality Certification Applications, and legal work to support administrative and judicial appeals needed to meet fisheries objectives for these three projects and future legal actions and appeals where hydro operations harm Maine's coldwater fisheries.

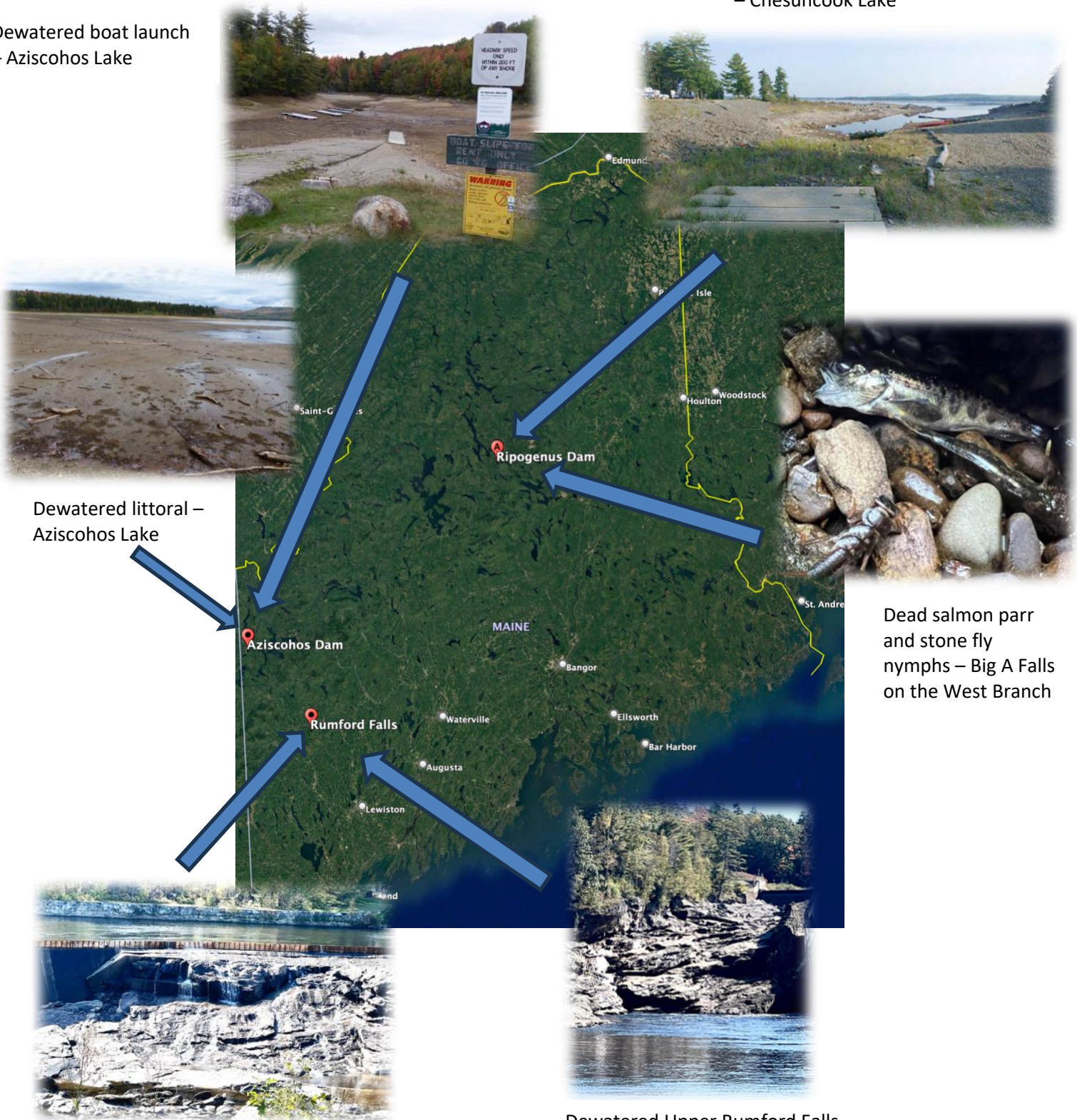


# Current Legal Defense Fund Hydro Projects



Dewatered boat launch  
– Aziscohos Lake

Dewatered boat launch  
– Chesuncook Lake



Dewatered littoral –  
Aziscohos Lake

Dead salmon parr  
and stone fly  
nymphs – Big A Falls  
on the West Branch

No minimum flow – Upper Rumford Falls Dam

Dewatered Upper Rumford Falls