



Help the Forest Society conserve the

UPPER MERRIMACK OXBOW

*This sand bank is one of the better-known geological landmarks on the Upper Merrimack Oxbow.
Photo by Jerry and Marcy Monkman, Ecophotography.*



The Upper Merrimack Oxbow offers miles of scenic, forested shoreline, stunning river bluffs, unusual sand plains, and recreational opportunities for hikers, boaters, and hunters.

Valued by citizens of Canterbury and surrounding communities, these scenic, geological, and recreational assets are irreplaceable in quality and character. The protection of this property will secure a truly unique resource for current and future generations.

All along the Merrimack River from Franklin to Concord, the Forest Society and other conservation organizations have conserved stretches of riverfront land to safeguard water quality, valuable wildlife habitat, and scenic beauty. With more than two miles of shoreline, the Upper Merrimack Oxbow in Canterbury represents another step toward a vision of linking protected lands along the river.

The highlights:

LOCATED IN CANTERBURY, NH

294 ACRES

**EXTENSIVE FRONTAGE ON
THE MERRIMACK RIVER**

DRAMATIC RIVER-CUT BLUFFS

**RARE WILDLIFE SPECIES
AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES**

**LINKS TO A CHAIN OF
PROTECTED LANDS**

DRINKING WATER RESOURCES

The case for conserving the UPPER MERRIMACK OXBOW

The Upper Merrimack Oxbow is valued for its scenic, unspoiled shoreline, its unusual ecological and geological features, and its dramatic landscape. The residents of Canterbury and neighboring communities have enjoyed hiking, snowshoeing, fishing, and hunting here. Today, we have an opportunity to ensure that these activities continue by conserving this land.

The land's tapestry of young and mature forest, extensive shoreline, and wetlands supply the right mix of habitats for waterfowl, migrating songbirds, turtles, amphibians, and the occasional bald eagle, among other wildlife. It also hosts ecologically rare species - including bank swallows, a species of special concern - and natural communities, including dry river bluff, sand dunes, and silver maple floodplain forest.

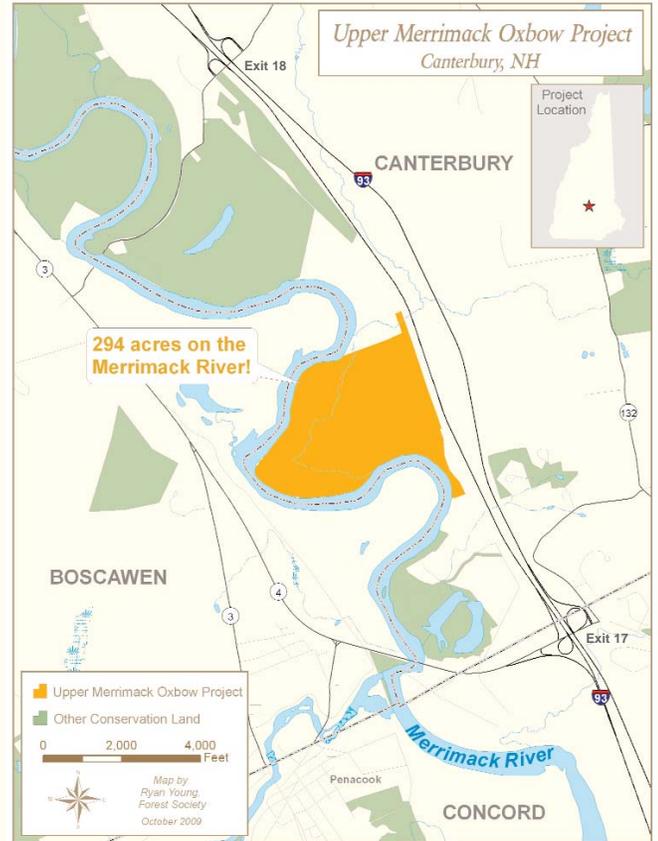
Not only is the property known for its natural resources, but also for the near loss of those resources to a proposed regional landfill. Local citizens agree that conserving this special resource is a much better use for the land.

Now we have a chance to permanently conserve this land. The total cost to purchase and protect the property is \$820,000. So far we have raised \$580,000, including \$300,000 committed by the NH Department of Environmental Services Aquatic Resource Mitigation program.

We need to raise the remaining \$240,000 by March 30, 2010 to conserve the scenic, recreational, and natural resources of this special riverfront land. Please make your gift today to preserve this truly unique place for current and future generations.



Conserving the Upper Merrimack Oxbow will ensure that it remains available for activities like hiking, snowshoeing, fishing, and hunting. Photo by Brenda Lind.



The Merrimack River meanders in a long, lazy loop around the Oxbow property's forests, sand plains, and dramatic bluffs.

YES, I want to help conserve the Upper Merrimack Oxbow!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town/City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution for \$ _____

Please charge my tax-deductible contribution to my credit card in the amount of \$ _____

VISA

MasterCard

Card number: _____

Exp. date: _____

Signature: _____

Please mail the completed form to: Upper Merrimack Oxbow, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, 54 Portsmouth Street, Concord, NH 03301.

Or donate online at www.forestsociety.org/oxbow.

For more information, contact Brenda Lind at 603-224-9945 or brendal@forestsociety.org.

Thank you for your help!