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Letter of Commitment to the Conservation Community Delegation on Wabanaki Land Access and Stewardship

This letter documents the commitment of Trust for Public Land (TPL) to join the Conservation Community Delegation on Wabanaki Land Access and Stewardship.

The First Light Delegation was created to collaborate with and respond to the Wabanaki Commission on Land and Stewardship. Together, the Commission and the Delegation develop tools for land return and build capacity among Wabanaki people.

Trust for Public Land, represented by Betsy Cook, Maine State Director, was invited to join the Delegation in March 2024. Trust for Public Land looks forward to bringing tools, knowledge, and relationships to support the goal of the Wabanaki Commission on Land and Stewardship. Betsy also commits to liaison with the broader TPL organization and coordinate with TPL's Tribal and Indigenous Lands Program in order to knowledge share back and forth between the work in Wabanaki Territory and work across the continent.

TPL understands the Delegation meets monthly by phone, and occasionally in person, and requires an additional 5-7 hours per month on specific projects and Delegation communication. TPL will also commit to cover all of Betsy's staff time for participation in the Delegation.

TPL is honored to join the Delegation and continue to work in partnership with the Wabanaki Commission on Land and Stewardship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shelby Semmes".

Shelby Semmes
Vice President, New England Region
The Trust for Public Land