

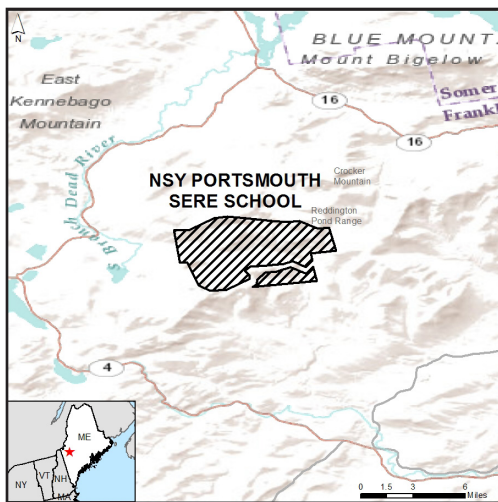


U.S. NAVY :

NSY PORTSMOUTH SERE SCHOOL : MAINE



The Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) School mission is to provide training to pilots, flight officers, intelligence officers, air crew, and other personnel deemed at high risk of capture. While classroom training is at Naval Shipyard (NSY) Portsmouth, the Navy’s East Coast SERE School field training is located in Redington Township, Maine, where the remote environment and harsh climate are essential to the effective execution of its training mission. The training emphasizes the basic skills necessary for long-term land



survival; effective rescue methods; evasion of capture by hostile forces; resistance to interrogation, indoctrination, and exploitation; and escape from detention when held by enemy forces.

This type of training requires isolated wilderness to provide the most realistic and undisturbed training environment. Even minimal development can affect SERE training realism, and the Redington property

is already located next to three major ski resorts and snowmobiling trails, as well as commercial logging activities. Therefore, the Navy is working with the Trust for Public Land (TPL) to acquire conservation easements on large properties adjacent to the SERE School training land and protect the forested, mountainous habitat.

These properties represent a keystone in TPL’s White Mountains to Moosehead Lake Initiative to protect a large unbroken corridor of climate-resilient forests across New Hampshire and Maine. Project partners will also work to develop sustainable forest management plans to benefit wildlife habitat management, improve timber harvesting practices, and ensure compatibility with SERE School operations.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves open space and habitat
- Supports a landscape-scale “green corridor” for wildlife
- Supports ongoing regional planning efforts

MILITARY

- Protects the ability to perform sensitive training
- Improves operational security
- Preserves a realistic isolated training environment



SERE School field training at the Redington property in Maine (top) provides sailors with basic survival skills like starting a fire in harsh, remote environs (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- High Peaks Alliance
- Mahoosuc Initiative
- Maine Audubon Society
- Mountain Conservancy Collaborative
- Trout Unlimited
- The Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2019

- » Acres preserved: **10,735**
- » Transactions conducted: **2**
- » Total funds expended: **\$2.3 million**
- » Project status: **In Progress**

CONTACT

Community Plans and Liaison Office
(207) 438-4602