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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Gobi and Smola Announce Conservation Partnership Grant Awarded to the Opacum Land Trust**

**BOSTON – Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren)** are pleased to announce that the Opacum Land Trust has been awarded a Conservation Partnership Grant in the amount of \$83,500. These funds will go towards acquiring a 76 acre parcel of land that abuts the Brimfield State Forest. This property has historically been used for informal public access for passive outdoor recreation. It includes a flowing stream and a small gorge created by a tributary of Foskett Mill Creek.

“Massachusetts is home to some of the greatest landscapes and outdoor recreation in the country, especially here in Central Massachusetts,” said Senator Gobi. “These funds will increase access to the Commonwealth’s natural resources. I want to congratulate Opacum Land Trust for receiving these funds. They have been doing excellent work for 15 years now.”

“Land preservation is critical to maintaining the natural resources which make our community so unique,” said Representative Smola. “I can think of no better organization for this purpose than Opacum and I want to congratulate them for successfully obtaining these funds.”

Conservation Partnership Grants assist not-for-profit corporations in acquiring lands suitable for conservation or recreation purposes. All projects funded through these grants must provide access to the public. Conservation Partnership Grants are awarded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

For additional information please contact Senator Gobi at [anne.gobi@masenate.gov](mailto:anne.gobi@masenate.gov) or 617-722-1540.

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