



Schoodic Education and Research Center



*Advancing
science and
learning through
innovative
partnerships.*



Opportunities for Research and Education at Acadia National Park

The Schoodic Education and Research Center (SERC) promotes the understanding, protection, and conservation of natural and cultural resources of the National Park System, and advances related research at the regional, national, and international levels. The goals of SERC are to:

- facilitate interdisciplinary research that enhances the understanding of natural and cultural resources of the National Park System and related research at the regional, national, and international levels;
- develop innovative education and stewardship programs designed to translate science into learning for people of all ages and abilities;
- support collaboration and outreach among partners to promote science and learning; and
- provide access to a repository of information and other resources for educators and researchers.

The National Park Service manages SERC in cooperation with Acadia Partners for Science and Learning. This nonprofit organization facilitates research and education programs, provides financial support, and helps operate facilities at SERC. Acadia Partners for Science and Learning cultivates partnerships among research laboratories, universities, public schools, nonprofits, and government agencies in support of SERC's mission. These partnerships enrich SERC's research and education programs, and provide opportunities to extend the benefits of science beyond the park's boundaries.

SERC is part of a network of research learning centers that the National Park Service is establishing to facilitate science and learning in national parks. Research learning centers provide opportunities to share research findings with the public through a variety of educational programs. Park managers use research results to help make science-based management decisions.



Modern Facilities in a Majestic Setting

SERC is located in Acadia National Park among the outstanding natural features and beauty of the Schoodic Peninsula. The Schoodic portion of Acadia National Park includes 2,400 acres of spruce-fir forest and four nearby islands. A six-mile scenic drive offers panoramic views along the rocky coast and access to hiking trails that lead to the highest point on the Schoodic Peninsula.

Once home to the U.S. Navy, SERC's facilities include nearly 200,000 square feet of

future meeting, lodging, office, and laboratory space. The National Park Service acquired the former navy base in 2002, and is renovating the facilities to serve the needs of SERC. When renovations are completed, the campus will be equipped with high-speed, high-capacity Internet service and state-of-the-art facilities that will accommodate groups of up to 125 people. Food service and indoor recreational facilities will be available, as well.



SERC hosts a variety of activities related to its mission, including workshops, science meetings, educational programs, and field research. Past and ongoing activities include the following:

Moth and Butterfly Blitz: Thirty-five professional and amateur entomologists spent 1,500 hours collecting and identifying 168 species of butterflies and moths in Acadia National Park.

Middle East Fellowship for Environmental Professionals: The Quebec-Labrador Foundation sponsored eight environmental professionals from Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, and Lebanon in a residential learning program that focused on park management, environmental leadership, and balancing conservation and development needs in rural communities.

Reproduction of Furoid Algae: A University of Maine professor is studying the ability of furoid algae to reproduce in the high-energy surf off the Schoodic Peninsula, which will lead to development of a regional model for reproduction.

Schoodic Education Adventure: Park rangers lead a curriculum-based residential program, which includes classroom activities and hands-on field experience for 5th – 8th grade students. The National Park Service offers an accredited two-day workshop to teachers participating in the program.

Resource Acadia Seminars: Scientists present the results of research conducted in the park to the public.

Artist-in-Residence: SERC provides residential facilities and workspace for artists, who share their skills and artistic representations of the park with students in the Schoodic Education Adventure program and the public.

Improving the understanding and management of Acadia National Park.





SERC is an hour and a half drive from Bar Harbor and Bangor, Maine, which offer year-round air and ground transportation service. In summer, a free shuttle provides transportation between the SERC campus, villages of Prospect Harbor and Winter Harbor, and ferry terminal. The ferry provides seasonal passenger service between Winter Harbor and Bar Harbor.



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