

# **New Hampshire Conservation License Plate Program 2001 Moose Plate Projects**

## **Historic Sites**

### **John Wingate Weeks Historic Site**

A native of Lancaster, NH, John Wingate Weeks is well remembered for his efforts to establish the eastern national forest system. In 1911, his work culminated with the passage of the “Weeks Act,” authorizing the government to purchase land to be permanently reserved, held, and administered as national forest land. In 1941 his 420-acre Mt. Prospect estate was given to the state, creating the Weeks State Park in Lancaster, NH. The exterior stucco is falling off, and to prevent further deterioration of the estate, these need repair.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Division of Parks and Recreation**

**Moose Plate: Contribution \$15,000**

**Overall Cost: \$30,000**

### **Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion**

The circa 1695 Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion in Portsmouth, NH is a National Historic Landmark and was home to the Royal Governor – New Hampshire’s “first Governor” – Benning Wentworth, from 1741-1767. A grant from the National Park Service will be combined with money from the Moose Plate Program to address critical needs so that this landmark continues to remain open to the public.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Department of Cultural Resources**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$15,000**

**Overall Cost: \$32,300**

## **Cultural Heritage**

### **Civilian Conservation Corp Commemorative Statue**

Bear Brook State Park is home to the most complete Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) camp in the country. Created as one of President Roosevelt’s “alphabet soup agencies” the CCC put Americans to work during the 1929-1938 depression, many whom later became WWII soldiers. To commemorate this work in New Hampshire’s forests and parks, the Department of Resources and Economic Development’s (DRED) Division of Parks and Recreation, partnering with the Department of Cultural Resources and the NH CCC Alumni Association, will erect a statue at Bear Brook State Park, recognizing the CCC’s contribution to New Hampshire..

**Agency Sponsor: NH Division of Parks and Recreation**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$10,000**

**Department of Cultural Resources: \$ 6,000**

**Overall Cost: \$20,000**

### **Restoration of 19th Century Maps**

In 1803, while Philip Carrigan was the Secretary of State, the state commissioned a 48" X 60" map of New Hampshire. The State Library’s map collection is one of their strongest holdings, and prior to the Moose Plate Program, funds to conserve and restore maps have been limited. This large map can now be restored and encapsulated. Other 19th century maps of Manchester, Keene, and New England that paint a detailed picture of expansion and change in America will also be repaired.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Department of Cultural Resources**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$9,000**

**Overall Cost: \$9,000**

## **Franklin Pierce and Daniel Webster Portraits**

Franklin Pierce (1804-1869) returned a war hero from the War with Mexico (1847-1848) and became New Hampshire's only U.S. President in the November 1852 election. Daniel Webster (1782-1852) moved from Portsmouth, NH to Boston where he successfully argued two pivotal Supreme Court cases and became one of the country's greatest orators. The ripped portraits of Franklin Pierce and Daniel Webster can now be repaired with Moose Plate funds.

**Agency Sponsor: Department of Cultural Resources**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$6,000**

**Overall Cost: \$6,000**

## **B&W Photograph of Governor Hugh Gallen**

World-renowned New Hampshire photographer Lotte Jacobi's black and white photograph of Governor Hugh Gallen is one of only three large-sized prints created for the Governor's family when he was sick. This large, rare print is signed by the artist and, with Moose Plate funds, can now be purchased.

**Agency Sponsor: Department of Cultural Resources**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$3,500**

**Overall Cost: \$3,500**

## **Ceramic Copper Red Bowl**

Currently on loan from the artist and displayed outside the Governor's Office, the state will purchase this bowl commemorating the naming of New Hampshire's first Artist Laureate. This piece's style of fine porcelain with a rare red glaze was perfected by the ancient Chinese and revived by internationally acclaimed studio potter Gerry Williams of Dunbarton, NH.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Department of Cultural Resources**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$1,500**

**Overall Cost: \$1,500**

## **Wildlife**

### **Little Brown Bats in Cornish**

A large and successful colony of little brown bats has lived in the building that also houses the Cornish Town Clerk and other town officials. Now, this maternal colony is one of the largest known bat colonies in the state. Due to the growing number of bats, the potential for conflicts between bats and people has increased. Local volunteers working with a bat expert have located a new space and designed a structure to house the colony. This project presents opportunities to educate the public about the ecological importance of bats, their life requirements, and pro-active steps folks can take to resolve issues with bats.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Fish and Game Department**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$10,000**

**Overall Cost: \$10,000**

### **Isle of Shoals Sea Bird Restoration**

During the first year of this habitat restoration project, five pairs of common terns nested on Seavey Island. Three years later, the colony's size had grown to 400 pairs. Combined efforts and funds from various state agencies and non-profits contributed to this highly successful project. Common, arctic, and roseate terns' nesting habitats continue to be restored on the Isle of Shoals through this long-term project. Moose Plate funds will help maintain this critical restoration effort.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Fish and Game Department**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$15,000**

**Overall Cost: \$30,000**

### **Pine Marten Restoration**

The pine marten, a relative of the weasel but with a white bib and a fluffy tail, is a threatened species in New Hampshire. Even though the spruce and fir forests upon which the marten depend have changed dramatically over the past 100 years, suitable habitat still exists in northern New Hampshire for this native mammal. Moose Plate monies will help identify and catalogue suitable habitat, determine the status of the marten, and develop a restoration plan.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Fish and Game Department**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$25,000**

**Overall Cost: \$25,000**

### **Rare Butterfly Habitat Restoration on Corporate Lands**

The NH Fish and Game Department will secure corporate partners located in traditional pine barrens habitat who are willing to voluntarily restore native vegetation on the non-built portions of their property. Partnering businesses will receive native plants and landscaping advice to support the butterflies and their habitat requirements.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Fish and Game Department**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$10,000**

**Overall Cost: \$10,000**

### **Hampton Beach State Park Dune Restoration**

Since 1997, the piping plover, a state and federally-threatened species, has returned to successfully nest in the dunes at Hampton Beach. Installing new, aesthetically-pleasing fencing is needed to reduce visitor traffic impact to and disruption of the fragile dune system and sensitive nesting areas. By directing beach access through designated pathways, dune structure and nesting sites will be better protected, enhancing the reproductive success of the nesting piping plovers.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Fish and Game Department**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$5,000**

**Overall Cost: \$5,000**

### **Tern Restoration Outreach Film**

With assistance from the Audubon Society of NH, DRED, and the Office of State Planning, the NH Fish and Game Department will produce a film for television broadcast about the successful tern restoration project on Seavey Island. This restoration project required increasing the public awareness of the species involved and fostering an understanding of the relationships between species reproductive success and public access/use of the island. These relationships and many of the other required elements behind this long-term project's success will be addressed through this film.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Fish and Game Department**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$10,000**

**Overall Cost: \$10,000**

### **Schoolyard Habitat Development**

The Schoolyard Habitat Program, established in 1997, trains teachers and members of the school community in the identification, assessment, and enhancement of wildlife habitat. By providing grants to schools, trained teachers guide students in the design and development of wildlife habitat areas on school grounds. Through this type of exercise, students will gain a broader understanding of how land use decisions impact wildlife. Songbirds, butterflies, reptiles, and amphibians are those species most directly affected by these projects.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Fish and Game Department**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$3,000**

**Overall Cost: \$3,000**

## **Native Plants and Communities**

### **Scientific Review of Ecological Reserve System (ERS) and Land Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) Proposals by New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB)**

Both the ERS and the LCHIP have strong potential to protect elements of biodiversity throughout New Hampshire. An NHB review of ERS and LCHIP projects, conducted by ecologists, will maximize the effectiveness of these projects relative to protecting biodiversity. Currently, no funds exist to pay for this type and degree of review. Moose Plate monies allow for an area's biodiversity potential to be extensively reviewed by professional ecologists.

**Agency Sponsor: Department of Resources and Economic Development - Natural Heritage Bureau**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$8,500**

**Overall Cost: \$8,500**

## **Biodiversity Management for Public and Private Landowners**

The N.H. Natural Heritage Bureau will conduct activities with cooperating landowners interested in protecting rare species or exemplary natural communities on their property. Examples of activities include:

- Conducting selective forest management practices on properties with populations of the federally-listed orchid, small whorled pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*);
- Restoring traditional pine barrens vegetation along a popular urban hiking trail in Manchester;
- Relocating trails and erecting signs that identify and protect fragile alpine plants in Franconia Notch State Park and;
- Controlling invasive species within cooperating parcels.

**Agency Sponsor: Department of Resources and Economic Development - Natural Heritage Bureau**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$4,200**

**Overall Cost: \$4,200**

## **Biodiversity Workshop for Foresters, Landowners, and Other Natural Resource Managers**

Teaming with UNH Cooperative Extension, the N.H. Natural Heritage Bureau will train managers and property owners on how to recognize unique and ecologically significant landscapes where rare species are likely to occur. Management guidelines for protecting such areas within a managed site will be provided.

**Agency Sponsor: Department of Resources and Economic Development - Natural Heritage Bureau**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$7,400**

**Overall Cost: \$7,400**

## **Guide to Visiting New Hampshire's Natural Heritage**

In cooperation with the Division of Travel and Tourism, the N.H. Natural Heritage Bureau will produce three interpretive trail guides and a statewide location guide to exemplary natural communities – including old-growth forests. This guide will be posted as an electronic version on the web. In addition, trail construction at a few specific sites will make these unique communities accessible to the general public while protecting the natural community from adverse impact.

**Agency Sponsor: Department of Resources and Economic Development - Natural Heritage Bureau**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$14,400**

**Overall Cost: \$14,400**

## **Fact Sheet for Rare Species and Natural Communities**

Working with NH Fish and Game, the N.H. Natural Heritage Bureau will design a series of fact sheets on New Hampshire's rare species and natural communities. Geared toward those interested in managing for biodiversity, these fact sheets will provide updated information on how to recognize rare species and unique community types, their ecology, and advise proper management protocols. A subset series of fact sheets will also be designed for school children.

**Agency Sponsor: Department of Resources and Economic Development - Natural Heritage Bureau**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$9,800**

**Overall Cost: \$9,800**

## **Scenic Beauty**

### **Native Wildflower Program Establishment**

For many years, the Department of Transportation has established wildflower fields along our state highways. In 2001, using Moose Plate money, a Native Wildflower Program will be established. This year's site, located adjacent to Route 302, on the southern edge of Crawford Notch State Park, offers conditions that mimic a more traditional setting for native wildflowers.

**Agency Sponsor: NH Department of Transportation**

**Moose Plate Contribution: \$20,000**

**Overall Cost: \$20,000**

## **Community Conservation**

### **LCHIP Grant Round Support**

Moose Plate revenues helped the Authority conduct 15 educational workshops across the state, review more than 100 initial applications during LCHIP's premier grant round, and award 29 final grants totaling \$3.2 million. Professional panels specializing in Historic/Cultural projects and Natural Resource projects were assembled with the help of Moose Plate monies. Future Moose Plate money will continue to assist the Authority with streamlining the grant application process, conducting additional educational and informational meetings, and revamping the LCHIP website. Because the LCHIP Authority receives a monthly distribution from Moose Plate sales, Moose Plate contribution figures may not be up-to-date. Please call the LCHIP Authority for more information.

### **Community Conservation Grant Program**

The State of New Hampshire Conservation Commission Committee will use Moose Plate funds to establish two grant programs designed to assist both communities and counties in developing resource protection plans. As details on this initiative unfold, grant cycles and distribution schedules will be available. (Expected October 2001)

**Agency Sponsor: NH State Conservation Commission Committee**

**Moose Plate Contribution: Not yet determined**

**Overall Cost: Not yet determined**