

# New Hampshire Living Legacy Project News

## Conserving the Biological Diversity of the Granite State

July 11, 2003

**The New Hampshire Living Legacy Project is a public-private partnership among the Fish and Game Department, Division of Forests and Lands, The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society of NH, Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Department of Environmental Services, UNH Cooperative Extension, local land trusts and communities.**

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### Contents:

- \* **CIRPS!**
- \* **Land Use Planning Resources**
- \* **SCORP - Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan**
- \* **First Important Bird Area Designated!**
- \* **Wildlife Tracking**
- \* **Workshops and Events**

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### **CIRPS!**

The Center for Integrative Regional Problem Solving (CIRPS) at the University of New Hampshire facilitates ecologically-based, innovative approaches for securing quality of life and addressing land use challenges in Northern New England through integrated research, outreach, education, and multi-disciplinary partnerships.

UNH Cooperative Extension staff serve on the CIRPS Steering and Advisory Committees. For more information about CIRPS visit: <http://www.unh.edu/cirps>.

CIRPS is engaged in two major initiatives currently. A CIRPS symposium, **The Voices of Communities Experiencing Rapid Change** is scheduled for September 6, 2003 at UNH. See the "Workshop and Events" section below for more details.

UNH faculty Drs. Richard England (Economics) and Mark Ducey (Natural Resources) are "Assessing Voter Support for Conservation Bond Issues". During the recent round of town elections and meetings in New Hampshire, thirteen localities considered land conservation bond issues of one million dollars or more. Most of those communities voted to authorize issuing bonds to finance preservation of undeveloped land parcels within their borders. England and Ducey are conducting a phone survey of voters in 13 New Hampshire towns that considered land conservation bond issues in March 2003, analyzing their responses, and distributing their findings to state and town officials, regional planners, business and conservation leaders, and the public at large.

## Land Use Planning Resources

- **Achieving Smart Growth in New Hampshire.** 2003  
Prepared by the NH Office of State Planning  
A limited number of CD-ROMs are available from OSP by calling 603-271-2155. OSP is working on a website to make this resource more broadly available. Visit their website at [www.state.nh.us/osp](http://www.state.nh.us/osp) for more information.
- **Conservation Thresholds for Land Use Planners.** 2003
- **Planning With Nature: Biodiversity Information in Action.** 2003  
Published and available from the Environmental Law Institute, 1616 P Street, NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20036. (202) 939-3800. [www.eli.org](http://www.eli.org)
- **Integrating Land Use Planning & Biodiversity.** 2003  
Published by the Defenders of Wildlife, 1101 Fourteenth St., NW, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20005. Copies of the report are available at [www.biodiversitypartners.org](http://www.biodiversitypartners.org)

## SCORP - Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

From the Office of State Planning website -- NH SCORP Available Online. May 29, 2003. The Office of State Planning (OSP) and the Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) are pleased to announce the completion of New Hampshire's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), entitled New Hampshire Outdoors, 2003-2007. A major focus of the revised SCORP has been to update outdoor recreation issues of statewide importance. The SCORP provides a series of recommendations to address these outdoor recreation issues of statewide importance, and serves as a centralized data source for outdoor recreation supply and demand information. The complete SCORP is available (and soon a SCORP summary report) at <http://state.nh.us/osp/recreation/NHSCORP.htm>. The documents will be available on CD by the end of June 2003. If you have questions or would like to receive a CD please call Laura Pfister, Office of State Planning, at 603-271-2155 or send an email to [lpfister@osp.state.nh.us](mailto:lpfister@osp.state.nh.us).

## First New Hampshire Important Bird Area Designated!

The Pondicherry Important Bird Area (IBA) was dedicated on May 10, 2003 as part of an International Migratory Bird Day celebration. Located in Jefferson and Whitefield, Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge supports breeding populations of several species of conservation concern including common loon, sora (rail), rusty blackbird, marsh wren, American black duck (and 6 other waterfowl species), among others. Spruce grouse, black-backed woodpecker, and several warblers nest in the surrounding spruce-fir forest and Northern harriers nest in the nearby grassland habitat. Researchers and birding enthusiasts have recorded 230 species of birds at Pondicherry since 1890.

The New Hampshire IBA Program is a partnership among UNH Cooperative Extension, Audubon Society of NH, Fish and Game Department, and the state's avian researchers, habitat managers, landowners, and birders. The goal is to identify and conserve areas that are critical to one or more bird species for breeding, feeding, wintering or migration and to avert population declines of common and uncommon birds. For more information visit the UNH Cooperative

Extension website: <http://ceinfo.unh.edu> (go to “Forestry and Wildlife Resources”, then “Bird Areas”).

## **Workshops and Events**

**To learn about other excellent workshops visit the UNH Cooperative Extension website:** <http://ceinfo.unh.edu> (go to “Forestry and Wildlife Resources”, then “Calendar”)

### **The Voices of Communities Experiencing Rapid Change**

**September 6, 2003**, a free symposium for community decision-makers to be held at the University of New Hampshire Elliot Alumni Center in Durham NH. A unique chance to network across state boundaries and share common experiences with communities in southern New Hampshire, southern Maine, and northeastern Massachusetts challenged by sprawl and other impacts of growth and development. Sponsored by the UNH Center for Integrative Regional Problem Solving (CIRPS) in collaboration with UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Office of State Planning and Energy Programs, Livable NH, Essex County Community Foundation, Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, and the Jordan Institute. More information and registration form are available at <http://www.unh.edu/cirps/symposium.html> or call 603-862-4650.

### **GPS for GIS**

**Sept 10 or 11, 2003** – Laconia, NH

University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension (UNHCE)

For more information and to register contact UNHCE at 603-862-1029. Cost \$150.

### **Using a Handheld GPS**

**Sept. 16 or 17, 2003** – N. Haverhill, NH

UNH Cooperative Extension

For more information and to register contact UNHCE at 603-862-1029. Cost \$95.

### **New England Invasive Plant Summit**

**September 19-20, 2003**, Framingham, MA

For registration and agenda visit <http://invasives.eeb.uconn.edu/ipane>. This conference is convened by the University of Connecticut, New England Wild Flower Society, and the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge on behalf of the New England Invasive Plant Group (NIPGro), and the Invasive Plant Atlas of New England (IPANE).

### **State of the Estuaries Conference**

**October 20-21, 2003**, Yoken’s Conference Center, Portsmouth, NH

Highlighting research and environmental monitoring in New Hampshire’s estuaries, this 2-day conference will feature the most up-to-date information on water quality, wildlife, shellfish resources, land use, and habitat protection. Sponsored by the NH Estuaries Project and the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

**National Symposium: Wetlands 2003: Landscape Scale Wetland Assessment and Management. October 20-24, 2003**

Sheraton Nashua Hotel, Nashua, New Hampshire  
Organized by the Association of State Wetlands Managers with cooperating partners  
Visit [www.aswm.org](http://www.aswm.org) for more information.