



Taking Action for Wildlife

New Hampshire's Wildlife Action Plan News & Updates Summer 2009

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Taking Action for Wildlife is a joint endeavor by UNH Cooperative Extension and the NH Fish & Game Department. Find out how you can take action for wildlife through workshops, community projects, tools, resources and information that can benefit you and your community.

If you'd like to be added to our e-mail list for future newsletters, [click here](#) to sign up. If you prefer not to receive this newsletter, please click the Safe Unsubscribe button at the end of the newsletter.

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New England Cottontail Brochure Available

The brochure "New England Cottontail Rabbits in New Hampshire", published by UNH Cooperative Extension, is now available. The brochure provides valuable information to landowners about this recently listed state-endangered species. It explains the biology and habitat requirements of the New England cottontail rabbit, and provides recommendations to landowners for managing shrubland habitat for New England cottontails and a variety of other wildlife species. The brochure can be downloaded [online](#), or you can receive a single set free through the UNH Forestry Information Center (call 1-800-444-8978, email forest.info@unh.edu).



New England Cottontail Rabbits
in New Hampshire

Focus on Wildlife
NEW HAMPSHIRE WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN

Visit NH Fish & Game at the Hopkinton Fair!

September 3-7, 2009

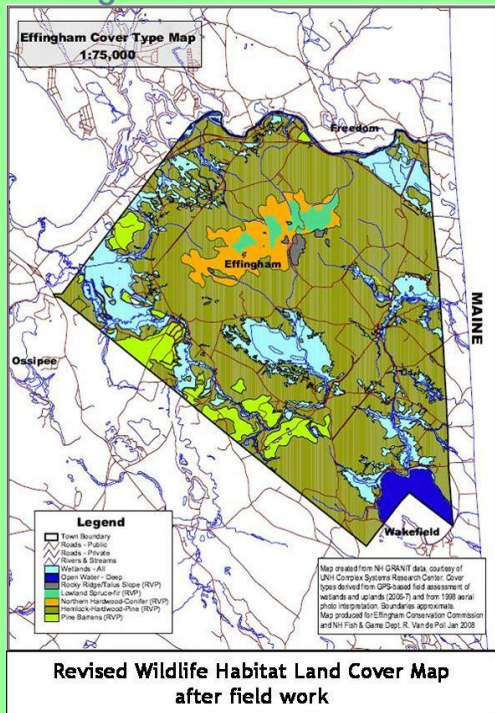
Come visit NH Fish & Game at the Discover Wild New Hampshire building (near the blue gate) at the Hopkinton Fairgrounds. There will be displays on NH wildlife and the work that the biologists and conservation officers do every day. Talk with biologists and officers, buy licenses and Fish & Game merchandise (cool tees!) and learn how to enjoy the outdoors even more.

New Information about NH Wildlife Available Online!



If you are looking for educational information on wildlife species and habitats in New Hampshire, check out UNH Cooperative Extension's updated Wildlife website at NHWoods.org. The site includes lots of new information about wildlife species, particularly those species of conservation concern in New Hampshire. There is also information on critical habitats such as grasslands, shrublands, and lowland spruce-fir forests, and information about habitat management according to habitat type. **Read More**

Effingham Puts The Wildlife Action Plan to Work



After attending a track of three wildlife action plan workshops at the 2006 NH Association of Conservation Commissions annual conference, Effingham was inspired. The next day, conservation commission chair, Kamal Nath, led an effort to produce a proposal to submit to the Moose Plate grant program. The grant application was successful, and the town of Effingham embarked on an ambitious project to find the best ways to implement the NH Wildlife Action Plan (WAP) at the town-wide level. The goal was to conduct a comprehensive study of the town's habitats and some wildlife species during a two year project from July 2007 to June 2009. Here's a summary of how they went about it, and the results of the study.

The focus of the study, funded by the NH State Conservation Committee's Moose Plate Grant Program, was to create a local wildlife action plan. The project identified the best wetland and upland habitats using available GIS data and field surveys; chose some species of greatest conservation need as listed in the WAP and did some targeted sampling of those species; and used the data to draft a best habitat map. **Read More**

Four Towns in Western NH Take Action for Wildlife

Four towns in the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust (ASLPT) region, Springfield, Grantham, Bradford and Newbury, have been hard at work this spring and summer using the NH Wildlife Action Plan. UNH Cooperative Extension (UNHCE) staff, working in partnership with ASLPT staff, helped the conservation commissions in the four towns incorporate information from the NH Wildlife Action Plan into their natural resources inventories, conservation planning, and community outreach. Extension and Ausbon Sargent staff held up to four meetings with each community. The actions that these communities have taken to use NH Wildlife Action Plan data will be documented so other towns in the land trust region can benefit and learn from these community projects. [Read More](#)



Carl Wallman: Looking Beyond His Stone Walls



NALMC Steering Committee members. Carl Wallman is to right of the sign.

Carl Wallman is a Coverts Cooperator, a former breeder of prize-winning cattle and the Chair of the Northwood Area Land Management Collaborative (NALMC) Steering Committee. In recent years, Carl has turned his land management skills gained through years of farming to managing for wildlife habitat on his 200 acre Harmony Hill Farm in Northwood, NH. As he got more involved in wildlife and their habitats, Carl realized that "If you're interested in managing for wildlife habitat, you need to look beyond your stone walls." This idea and his interest in land stewardship led him to join with nearby private landowners and the NH Division of Parks (DRED), NH Fish and

Game Department, the Town of Northwood and UNH to found the Northwood Area Land Management Collaborative (NALMC). [Read More](#)

Whip-poor-will Research in New Hampshire

The evening call of the Whip-poor-will was once a common sound across most of southern New Hampshire, but in recent years the number of people who "haven't heard one for a long time" is larger than those who have. Throughout its range in eastern North America, the Whip-poor-will has been declining for decades, and in some parts of the Northeast is now found in only half the areas where it was found as recently as 20 years ago. In an effort to learn more about the decline, and what factors might be behind it, New Hampshire Audubon initiated roadside survey routes in 2003, and these have since spread to several other states. [Read More](#)





Headwater Streams Provide Important Wildlife Habitat

The term "headwater stream" often conjures up an image of a babbling brook flowing beneath the shady canopy of a mature forest. This is one type of headwater stream, but the actual variety of headwater streams is matched only by their vulnerability to human disturbance. A headwater stream can be a small forested wetland, a series of beaver impoundments, or a cascading mountain stream that flows over bedrock. There is no clear definition for what constitutes a headwater stream, as opposed to a small river. Each stream offers a unique set of conditions that local species have evolved to exploit. Many species, including a variety of mosses, salamanders, and invertebrates, are specifically adapted to live in headwater streams. Other species take advantage of headwater streams at different points in their life history. Brook trout are an example of a species with multiple life history strategies within a single population. Some individuals can live year round in a tiny stream, while others may only move into a small stream during the fall spawning season or to find a cool water refuge during the summer months. [Read More](#)

Newsletter Editor: *Amanda Stone (UNH Cooperative Extension)*

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