The Nature Conservancy

Protecting nature. Preserving life.®

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE NEWSLETTER
FALL/WINTER 2014

Great Places *in the* Granite State

2014 Year in Review

A Tall Order

Allow me to paraphrase something I've heard often: "You folks at The Nature Conservancy are so serious – you need to do a better job celebrating your successes." It's true. We are guilty of being rather serious about our mission of conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. The planet's survival and sustainability is a tall order, after all.

And it's also true that many serious, complex issues are commanding the attention of Conservancy staff here in New Hampshire, across New England, and throughout the globe. How can we help wildlife, ecosystems, and human communities to successfully adapt to a changing climate? Will we ensure enough clean, free-flowing, and abundant water to meet the needs of people and nature? Can we reverse the long downward spiral of Atlantic cod and many other fisheries, so that the oceans are healthy, local fishermen can continue to fish, and the people of New Hampshire can still enjoy locally caught and processed seafood? And, with an improving economy prompting much-needed economic activity in the Granite State, will communities be able to conserve the remarkable lands and waters that embody their natural heritage?

Serious, indeed. However, reading through the pages of this 2014 Year in Review, I'd like to invite you to join me in taking a moment to celebrate. Be it on the Connecticut River, in the Gulf of Maine, on conserved lands throughout New Hampshire, at the statehouse, or even in the rangelands of east Africa, The Nature Conservancy is stepping up to the challenge. I hope that you will enjoy reading about some of the great work that you made possible in 2014. These are YOUR successes. Thank you.

Mark Zankel, New Hampshire State Director

ABOVE: Mark Zankel. © Megan Latour. COVER: left to right from top: Oak leaves © Kent Mason; Green Hills expansion © Joe Klementovich; Manchester Cedar Swamp © Andrew Smeltz; Purple trillium, pair of deer © Darrell Bodnar; Maidstone Bends © Jan McClure; oyster reef building © John Huff; seasonal steward Jennifer Seredejko © Joanne Glode; Snorkeling in Great Bay © Megan Latour; Releasing fish © Joe Klementovich; 2014 LEAF interns © Cindi Reyes; Skipping rocks © Darrell Bodnar.

GREAT PLACES IN THE GRANITE STATE

Published by The Nature Conservancy, 22 Bridge Street, 4th Floor Concord, NH 03301 (603) 224-5853.

Printed on 90% recycled (including 30% post-consumer waste) paper.

BROADENING SUPPORT FOR CONSERVATION

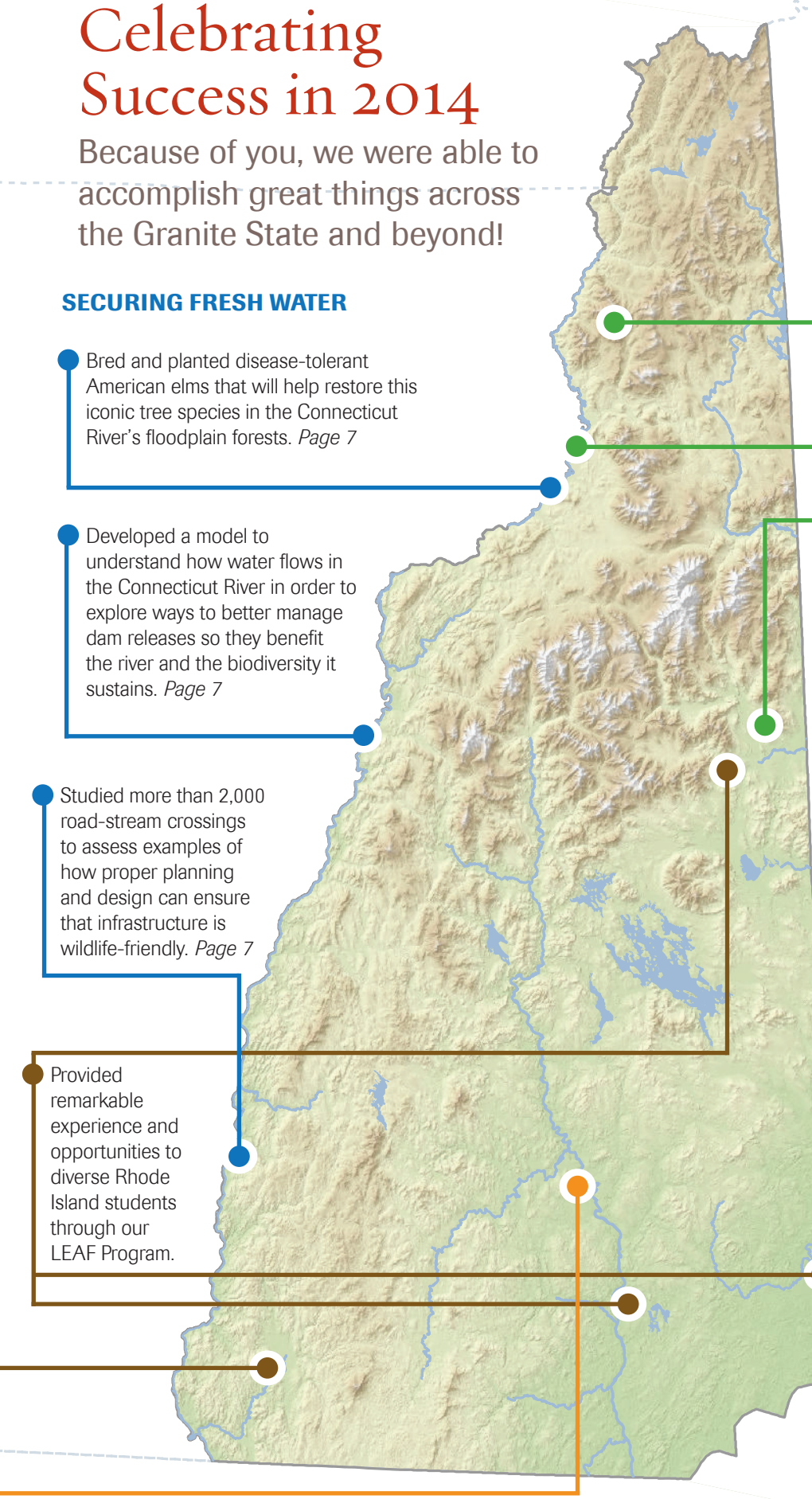
Join us for a screening of *DamNation*, followed by a panel discussion, at the Putnam Theatre, Keene State College campus, on February 5, 2015. *Page 12*

REDUCING IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Helped develop New Hampshire's new state energy policy, emphasing energy conservation and investment in renewable resources. *Page 6*

Celebrating Success in 2014

Because of you, we were able to accomplish great things across the Granite State and beyond!



SECURING FRESH WATER

Bred and planted disease-tolerant American elms that will help restore this iconic tree species in the Connecticut River's floodplain forests. *Page 7*

Developed a model to understand how water flows in the Connecticut River in order to explore ways to better manage dam releases so they benefit the river and the biodiversity it sustains. *Page 7*

Studied more than 2,000 road-stream crossings to assess examples of how proper planning and design can ensure that infrastructure is wildlife-friendly. *Page 7*

Provided remarkable experience and opportunities to diverse Rhode Island students through our LEAF Program.

CONSERVING CRITICAL LANDS

Deployed motion-detecting trail cameras along Route 3 to study wildlife movement across the highway. *Page 5*

Protected 91 acres of floodplain forest in Northumberland along a stretch of the Connecticut River known as Maidstone Bends. *Page 5*

Expanded the Green Hills Preserve by 1,320 acres, providing new recreational opportunities to visitors. *Page 4*

Secured a conservation easement on 51.2 acres of pristine salt marsh and forest along Lubberland Creek, and protected two undeveloped parcels totaling 89 acres along the Sweet Trail in the Great Bay watershed. *Page 5*

RESTORING OUR OCEANS

Worked with UNH and local families to help restore oysters in Great Bay. *Page 9*

Expanded our partnership with commercial fishermen to find more sustainable fishing practices in the Gulf of Maine. *Page 9*

Implanted 150 spawning cod with electronic tags that can be tracked underwater to study their behavior. *Page 9*

Advocated for the use of video cameras to enhance catch monitoring on fishing boats. *Page 9*

ABOVE: Map © Peter Steckler

Getting to Know—and Grow—the Green Hills

With your support, we've expanded New Hampshire's most beloved preserve, and learned what calls the new land home along the way.

ON THE WEB »
See more photos from the Green Hills in our Bioblitz slideshow at **www.nature.org/explorenh**.

Nearly 25 years ago, visionary local citizens Anna B. Stearns and Kay Billings helped the Conservancy establish the stunning Green Hills Preserve in North Conway. Now, thanks to your generous support, we have built upon that conservation legacy by adding more than 2 square miles to the beloved preserve.

Anna's wish was that the land be permanently protected and made accessible "so that everyone could enjoy the natural beauties of the area – flora, fauna and geology – and enjoy an area close to civilization, where one could still get the peace and solitude of a mountain experience." And so it was. Since 1988, Black Cap, Peaked, and Middle mountains and more than 3,500 acres of the Green Hills ridge line were permanently protected, providing excellent hiking, scenic views of Mt. Washington and the chance to experience unusual red pine rocky ridge habitat and rare plants like White Mountain silverling, smooth sandwort, and green adder's mouth. There was, however, a crucial missing piece - the ecologically diverse southern flanks of the Green Hills remained unprotected. Until now!

The addition, acquired in late October, grows the preserve to 4,820 acres, and includes the Mason Brook watershed, 6.5 miles of streams, high quality wetlands, and habitat for Eastern brook trout, deer, black bear, bobcat, and a wide variety of songbirds.

"It's been amazing to see how our members, people throughout the Mount Washington Valley, and folks from much further afield have come together to ensure the success of this campaign," says State Director Mark Zankel. "I'm thankful that The Nature Conservancy was able to be a part of helping those who love the Green Hills ensure that this land will be forever conserved."

Funding to grow the Green Hills came from you, our members, as well as from the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, NH Fish & Game, NH Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund, the Conservation Alliance, NH Moose Plate Program, Anna B. Stearns Foundation, Kendal C. & Anna Ham Charitable Foundation, Upper Saco Valley Land Trust, and many others.

Our commitment to the land doesn't end with its protection. Just as important is understanding the land, what lives there, and how best to manage this incredible place long-term.

To help us find out, more than 100 volunteers joined us in June and July. Community members and scientists gathered to share knowledge, connect to nature, and collect valuable biodiversity data throughout the Green Hills. During two day-long Bioblitzes, participants spied on birds and poked at coyote scat, discerned grasses from sedges, inventoried habitats, sketched vistas and oak leaves, and listened to tall tales at twilight.

Collectively, we found 652 species including 325 vascular plants, 61 moths and butterflies, 16 mammals, and over 70 birds that call the Green Hills home.

But the expeditions were about more than just fun: 'blitz' participants helped gather information that will allow intelligent, data-driven management of the newly-expanded preserve, as well as for creation of new recreational and educational resources for visitors. The work of these wonderful volunteers reflects the spirit of connection long found in the Green Hills, a place where people come to build ties to nature and to one another.

ABOVE: Scientists and volunteers explore the Green Hills to uncover its many natural secrets, including the capture and cataloguing of several species of moths. Artsy participants drew the trees and plants they saw along the way. © Joe Klementovich

Making Connections for Healthy Lands and Waters

With your help, this year The Nature Conservancy made remarkable progress conserving lands that filter our waters, provide for wildlife and offer us places for solace and recreation.

1

Advancing Conservation, Enhancing Recreation

A conservation easement secured by the Conservancy safeguards 51.2 acres of pristine salt marsh, forest, and habitat for the rare salt marsh sharp-tailed sparrow at the mouth of Lubberland Creek in Newmarket. Protection of two wetland and forest parcels totaling 89 acres bordering the Sweet Trail, fills some of the last remaining "holes" in the remarkable, large-scale conservation and recreation success story in the Great Bay Watershed.

2

Cameras Follow Wildlife and Map Corridors

The next phase of the Staying Connected Initiative is underway, with motion-detecting wildlife cameras setup along sections of Route 3 in Coos County. The cameras will collect data on the frequency that different species - like black bear and bobcat - move across these sections of highway. Data collected will make sure our land protection and habitat restoration efforts are focused on areas where wildlife are actually moving across the landscape – not just where we think they are moving.

3

Preserves are Only Part of the Conservation Story

Of the over 71,000 acres of conserved land in our care here in New Hampshire, 65% are actually still owned by others – families, farmers, individuals, partner organizations and agencies. Through our Easement Stewardship and Legal Interest Monitoring programs, which included assistance from two amazing summer interns, we have developed deeply rooted partnerships with these 63 landowners and work closely with them to keep 46,500 acres protected and productive for people and nature!

4

For the Birds (and the Silver Maples Too)

In Northumberland, we protected the 91-acre Andritz property at the confluence of the Connecticut and Upper Ammonoosuc Rivers, in the area known as Maidstone Bends. Directly across the river, our colleagues in Vermont protected another 46 acres, as well as 68 more just to the north. Together with our existing Potter Farm, this joint effort has permanently protected 6 miles of river frontage and 164 acres of floodplain forest, providing valuable habitat for over 72 species of birds, including Savannah sparrow and wood duck.

ON THE WEB »
See more of our 2014 successes at **nature.org/explorenh**.

Clockwise from left: (2) GIS Manager, Pete Steckler, installs a wildlife camera on a tree. © Megan Latour/TNC; (3) Fly fishing at Garland Pond, where TNC holds a conservation easement. © Rebecca Laflam; (1) Examining marsh grass at Lubberland Creek. © Megan Latour/TNC; (4) Lush greenery provides nesting habitat for a variety of birds at the Andritz property. ©Jan McClure/TNC.

Climate Change

Together, we can improve people's lives and provide solutions for a changing planet.

Why Did The Salt Marsh Cross The Road?

Sea levels are on the rise as the Earth heats up due to climate change, and the survival of our coastal habitats depends on their ability to adapt. That's why we're thinking ahead about how to ensure the exemplary salt marsh system at Lubberland Creek Preserve in Newmarket, Great Bay estuary's second largest intact salt marsh, has the capacity to adapt to a rising tide. Using information generated by University of New Hampshire climate and estuarine scientists, we've projected how these intertidal habitats might change in the future and what actions can be taken now to enhance their resiliency. The study identified an undersized and perched road-stream crossing on Lubberland Creek. Replacement with a larger, climate resilient culvert will not only allow the salt marsh to migrate upstream in response to sea level rise, but also restore stream connectivity, allowing migratory fish like American eels to pass as they make their way to and from the sea. We're working closely with the town of Newmarket, as replacement of this culvert would also prevent flooding of the roadway during heavy storms, a benefit for enhancing public safety and reducing road maintenance needs. In the coming year, our plan is to develop an engineering study of this crossing to identify the type of replacement structure that will offer the greatest environmental and community resilience benefits, with implementation beginning in 2016. Our hope is that success at this site will serve as a model for other road-stream crossings across the Great Bay region.

Jump-Starting New Hampshire's Energy Future

New Hampshire has gone ten years without a vision and strategy for its energy use. A state without indigenous fossil fuels, we import all the gas, oil, and coal we use from other regions of the country and across the globe. The more energy we can make and save at home, the greater the economic and environmental payback for the Granite State. That's why the Conservancy worked with Governor Maggie Hassan, legislators from both parties, and partner organizations to create a new state energy strategy. Released in September, the strategy calls for a greater emphasis on energy conservation, investments in renewable resources such as solar, and other innovative strategies that will reduce emissions and keep more energy dollars in our state.

Early Detection + Rapid Response = Resiliency

As the environment shifts due to climate change, new invasive species can move into an area, take hold, and crowd out native plant species. On the seacoast, our Early Detection Rapid Response strategy aims to seek out and eradicate those invasives before they can gain a foothold and threaten our coastal environment. Volunteers are trained to identify the "Infamous Five" invasive plants threatening New Hampshire. They then visit targeted sites throughout the summer, reporting any of the "five" they discover through a mobile app. Through their observations, we are better informed as to when and where a new species of invasive plant is detected so that we can quickly act. We've already seen success at Lubberland Creek, where staying ahead of infestations helps keep native species resilient, giving them time and space to adapt to a changing climate.

ABOVE: UNH Professor Tom Lee and students analyze the salt marsh at Lubberland Creek Preserve. © Joanne Glode.

New England's Heartbeat: Securing the Connecticut River

Thanks to you, we're working throughout the watershed to give proud New England her river back.

1

Clearly, We Have A Future In Modeling

Our scientists are providing critical input during a once-in-50-years relicensing process for dams on the Connecticut River. The model we and partners are developing will provide a sophisticated understanding of how water currently flows in the river and its tributaries and will assess opportunities to improve operations at approximately 70 large dams, helping the Army Corps, hydropower producers and other dam operators explore ways to manage water that are more in line with a river's natural processes.

2

Can Nature and Infrastructure Coexist?

To answer this question, conservationists are looking to the Connecticut River for in-the-water examples of how proper planning and design can ensure that infrastructure is wildlife-friendly. After a recent study revealed more than 2,000 road-stream crossings in the watershed were barriers to aquatic life or natural flow, all new crossings in New England must now be built according to standards established by the Army Corps. Conservancy scientists played a key role in developing these standards, working closely with state and non-profit partners.

3

Ensuring the Grand Ol' Elm Takes Root

This year, our scientists continued work to restore disease-tolerant American elms to floodplains throughout the Connecticut River watershed by taking cuttings from old "survivor" elms and crossing them with new hardy specimens. Elms serve as a natural filter for drinking water and natural infrastructure for flood protection. So far, 21 sites in four New England states have been planted in an effort to restore this iconic tree and revive floodplains. Check out a slideshow at www.nature.org/ctriverelms.

4

Making The Global Freshwater Connection

From source to sea, the Connecticut River provides drinking water to 2.3 million people. Lessons learned here in the water are being applied across the globe, where the Conservancy is looking at how keep water resources sustainable for all. "We operate from a global point of view and are recognized as a global leader," says Giulio Boccaletti, Director of the Conservancy's Global Freshwater Program. "But state and country experiences are the assets on which we're building this global point of view – otherwise it's just theorizing."

ON THE WEB »
For more on our work along the Connecticut River, visit **nature.org/explorenh**.

Clockwise from left: (1) Turner's Falls canal on the Connecticut River. © Jerry & Marcy Monkman; (2) Just one of many culverts studied on the Ashuelot River, a tributary of the Connecticut River. © Eric Aldrich/TNC; (3) American elm seedling. © Flickr user Danny Novo; (4) Samburu women collect water from a well built by Northern Rangelands Trust and The Nature Conservancy in Northern Kenya. © 2013 Ami Vitale for TNC.

The Price of Poaching

New Hampshire Trustee, Karen Ebel, Reflects on Her Recent Trip to Africa

During a recent trip of a lifetime to go on safari in Tanzania, my husband and I were lucky to visit The Nature Conservancy's Arusha office, where the staff graciously educated us on their work in Africa. Like it does in so many places, TNC enthusiastically partners with organizations to raise the living standards of local peoples, which directly benefits the natural environment. For instance, high above Lake Tanganyika's shores live most of Tanzania's endangered chimpanzees. Desperate farmers encroach into these wild lands, threatening the chimpanzees. Silt from erosion damages the coastal fisheries. TNC's Tuungane Project benefits people and chimpanzees by promoting sustainable agriculture and fisheries. In Kenya, TNC works to minimize conflicts between farmers and elephants, protecting traditional migration routes. Additional efforts to educate landowners, recruit former poachers as rangers, and promote healthy local economies discourage poaching of the increasingly threatened elephant. After chatting with Conservancy staff, meeting Maasai and seeing fabulous animals, we appreciated these impressive multi-faceted efforts to ensure a healthy environment for Africa's people while preserving its diversity.
~ Karen Ebel, former Chair, New Hampshire Board of Trustees

An epidemic of poaching is sweeping central and east Africa. Elephants are being slaughtered by the hundreds every year for their tusks. Most of the ivory is bound for Asia, especially China, where a booming economy means more people are able to afford ivory products that are considered status symbols.

Poaching—a sophisticated and coordinated trade—doesn't just kill beautiful, intelligent and endangered animals while leaving their crucial role in the savanna empty. It also threatens the livelihoods—and lives—of people who live where elephants (and rhinos) range. Poaching fuels corruption, crime and community infighting, and it scares away tourists who would otherwise pay handsomely to see the very animals that are being targeted.

But the surge in poaching has begun to decline in some areas through efforts of The Nature Conservancy and our partner the Northern Rangelands Trust, an umbrella organization that helps communities set up their own local wildlife conservancies. We are bringing together people connected by geography and kinship to manage their lands for mutual benefit: protecting animal habitat, negotiating grazing locations, offering economic development programs, and improving security for both people and wildlife. The primary goal is to give landholders an incentive to protect the animals they live alongside, every day.

So far we have helped establish 27 community-level conservancies that cover more than 7 million acres of communal land in Kenya. This is conservation at the most local level, centered on residents and their way of life, but also providing a clear financial stake in preserving wildlife. Animals bring tourists, and tourists bring money, boosting Kenya's economy.

The real test - is it working? Elephants and other wildlife are already showing up in places where they haven't been seen in some 25 years. From 2012-2013, elephant poaching in The Northern Rangelands Trust project area fell by more than half. This sharp decline proves that, when we all work together, even small communities can deter poaching in their areas.

ON THE WEB »
Read the entire story from *Nature Conservancy* Magazine at **www.nature.org/explorenh**.

ABOVE: Clockwise from left: African elephants spotted while on safari. © Karen Ebel; Poacher-turned-activist Julius Lokinyi. © 2013 Ami Vitale for TNC; Karen with Alphonce Mallya of the Conservancy's Africa program. © Steven Root.

Restoring Hope To Our Oceans

With partners and your support, we're restoring a way of life in the Gulf of Maine

1

Building Upon Success in the Great Bay Estuary

This year the Conservancy and UNH restored another 4.5 acres of oyster reef in Great Bay, bringing the total to 17.5 acres restored and over 3 million oysters added to the estuary since our partnership began in 2009. Our Oyster Conservationist Volunteer Program also reached a milestone this year, with 75 families around the bay raising baby oysters in cages off their dock or mooring and collecting valuable data that helps support restoration efforts. A highlight this year includes the expansion of the program into Maine waters. New sites in Kittery, Kittery Point, and Eliot broadened the program's reach to 14 towns across the seacoast.

2

Fishing For Solutions to a Warming Ocean

Last year, we purchased two local fishing permits in an effort to improve fisheries in the Gulf of Maine and sustain New Hampshire's struggling ground fishing fleet. Now Granite State fishermen are working with the Conservancy and UNH scientists to put them to good use. Boats have been outfitted with specially-designed sensors attached to gill nets that record temperature data during fish trawls. With climate change warming the Gulf of Maine's waters faster than 99% of the world's oceans, understanding the relationship between temperature, ocean depth, and fish species caught is vital to keeping the fish we love in the water and the fishermen we depend on out on the water.

3

Finding Hope for Cod

Local fishermen know that Atlantic cod return to the southern waters of the Gulf of Maine each fall to spawn, yet current rules don't protect the fish during this critical time, and ill-timed fishing can spell disaster. Meanwhile, climate change, ecological shifts and fishing pressure have all contributed to a steep decline in cod stocks. That's why Conservancy scientists and partners surgically implanted 150 spawning cod with electronic tags that can be tracked with underwater receivers in an effort to better understand the behavior of this iconic fish. Data from the ongoing study will be provided to fisheries managers who could design small, seasonal closures to protect spawning cod, thus helping the population to rebound.

4

Catching Fish On Camera

Managing healthy fish stocks requires good data about how many and what kinds of fish have been caught. Unfortunately, the effort to monitor what fishermen are catching in the Gulf of Maine has been limited to in-person monitors on about 10% of annual fishing trips. That's why the Conservancy has been advocating for the use of video cameras to record the catch so that regulators can assess it by video back on land. We outfitted seven fishing boats with cameras to show how well the equipment works, reduces cost, and increases monitoring rates. The idea is now catching on as NOAA announced this summer that they will allow electronic monitoring on all fishing boats. Better data, coming soon to a fishery near you!

ON THE WEB »
Dive deeper into our marine restoration work at **nature.org/NHoysters**.

Clockwise from left: (3) Releasing a freshly-tagged Atlantic cod into Massachusetts Bay. © John Clark Russ; (2) Fishermen in the Gulf of Maine pull the day's catch from their nets. © Sean Fitzpatrick/TNC; (4) Video monitor. © Sean Fitzpatrick/TNC; (1) Workers use a high-pressure hose to push recycled shell off a barge and onto a newly restored oyster reef. © John Huff.

Small Gifts Add Up

One local family shares why they are Conservation Champions (and why you should be too!)

Together with her husband Chad Turmelle and their son Henry, 5, Amy Manzelli of Pembroke has supported The Nature Conservancy since 2002. "I feel so strongly that preserving and using our forests, farms, rivers, and other open spaces is one of the most pressing needs of humanity right now. If we don't, we will lose them," says Amy. "I see the Nature Conservancy doing wonderful land conservation work, meaning including people, wildlife, economic viability, and more into the conservation equation, all over our world." An avid hiker and skier, Amy loves to play out on the many lands that the Conservancy has protected in New Hampshire. "This summer alone, I think I ate more than three pints of wild blueberries from the Manchester Cedar Swamp Preserve, which is right next to my sister's apartment!"

Finding herself occupied with career and family, Amy's donations were often sporadic. "I am very busy and not rich," muses Amy. "I care deeply about what The Nature Conservancy does. But, I also care as deeply about what three other organizations do. I can't afford to donate large amounts to any of them, let alone to all of them. And I don't have the time to keep track of when my annual membership has expired, when I'm due to donate again, etc." When Amy heard about the Conservation Champions monthly giving program, she knew it was right for her. "Giving automatically at a monthly amount is the perfect fit for me," she notes. "I thought about the commitment, decided to go for it, signed up (which was quick and easy), and haven't had to think about it again, except to be very happy when I happen to think about my giving."

Conservation Champions are a special group of The Nature Conservancy's most passionate and forward-thinking supporters – leaders just like you and Amy. As a member of this group, she has great hope for the future of nature. "I hope that we still have it, that we are a part of it, and that it still exists in a way that has useful capacity for us." So do we, Amy. Thanks to you and your family!

ABOVE: Chad Turmelle and Amy Manzelli with their son, Henry, and dog, Sally. © Megan Latour.
RIGHT: Bob Larsen. © Jeff Lougee.

Become a Conservation Champion!

Your **automatic monthly gift** can help provide the sustained resources needed to accelerate the pace and scale of the Conservancy's work to protect the lands and waters that sustain all life on Earth.

Monthly giving is the easiest and most efficient way to support us!

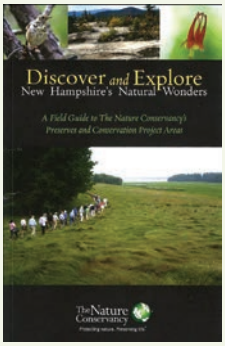
•You are in total control. You can easily start, change or stop your gift at any time online or by phone.

•You'll receive less mail because we don't need to send you reminders – which benefits the environment and means more of your gift goes directly to support nature.

•You'll receive uninterrupted membership benefits, ensuring you never miss an issue of our *Nature Conservancy* magazine.

Best of all, as a **Conservation Champion**, you will maximize the impact of your conservation support in New Hampshire, across the United States, and around the world. Be a champion for our planet today!

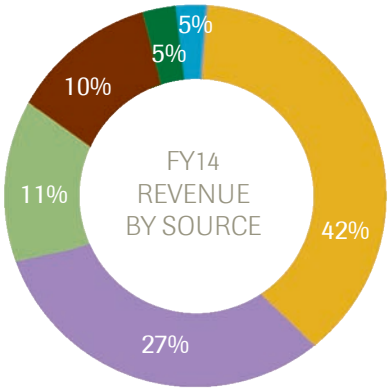
Join at nature.org/conservationchampion by December 31, 2014 and receive a complimentary copy of our Field Guide as our thanks to you!



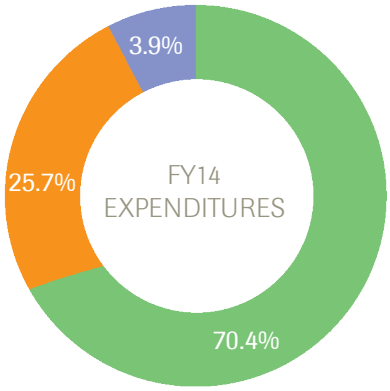
Financial Overview

Our donors expect The Nature Conservancy to maintain high standards for financial sustainability and accountability. We are glad to comply, and believe doing so provides an essential foundation for our conservation success and long-term sustainability.

Thanks to your generosity and support, we are pleased to report that private contributions grew significantly in fiscal year 2014. We were able to leverage those private contributions to secure more than $1 million in public conservation funding. More than 70 cents of every dollar spent went directly to conservation programs, demonstrating the New Hampshire Chapter's programmatic efficiency.



Membership Dues & Contributions:	$1,632,669
Government Grants & Contracts:	$1,045,354
Bequests & Planned Gifts:	$437,932
Investment Income:	$397,567
Other:	$209,750
Land Gifts/Sales:	$174,565
Total Revenue:	**$3,897,838**



Conservation Programs & Activities:	$1,859,958
General & Administration:	$678,098
Fundraising & Membership:	$104,664
Total Expenditures:	**$2,642,720**

ON THE WEB »
Above is a brief summary. A copy of the complete financial statement is available online at **www.nature.org/explorenh**.

Thanks, Bob!

In New Hampshire, we are incredibly fortunate to have thousands of dedicated supporters like you. Our members fund our projects, build our trails, pull invasive plants, and provide us with unparalleled leadership. Our success is truly in your hands.

One of those amazing leaders is Robert Larsen of Concord. Over the past eight years, Bob has served on the Board of Trustees in New Hampshire, with the last two as board chair. In that time, he has given much to the Conservancy, his community, and the state.

As board chair, Bob helped to strengthen our organizational leadership, develop and improve the Board of Trustees, hire incredible staff, and raise important funds for critical conservation projects. He prompted us to be ambitious, to make thoughtful and well-informed decisions, and to live up to our mission. His work has translated into direct benefits for nature both here in the Granite State and globally.

"I can attest to the invaluable role Bob plays as mentor," says state director Mark Zankel. "He cares deeply for New Hampshire, and the future of the non-profit sector, and is generous in sharing his experience and perspectives to help empower and strengthen the next generation of non-profit leaders."

Bob passed the board chair torch to Dr. Thomas Lee at our July meeting of the trustees. But that doesn't mean he's calling it quits just yet. He still sits on the board, is active on several committees, and chairs the Nominating and Governance Committee.

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.

The Nature Conservancy
22 Bridge Street, 4th Floor
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Your Great Places *in the* Granite State fall/winter 2014 newsletter is here!

Dig deeper and stay connected online:
nature.org/explorenh

Like us on Facebook **facebook.com/TNCNH**

@Nature_NH

Receiving duplicate mailings? Please let us know!
Email the duplicate names to sallen@tnc.org and we'll fix it!

The Nature Conservancy and KSC Film Society Present:

DamNation

Thursday, February 5, 2015 @ 7pm
Putnam Theatre
on the campus of Keene State College
Free Admission • Panel Discussion to follow

This powerful film odyssey across America explores the sea change in our national attitude from pride in big dams as engineering wonders to the growing awareness that our own future is bound to the life and health of our rivers. Dam removal has moved beyond the fictional Monkey Wrench Gang to go mainstream. Where obsolete dams come down, rivers bound back to life, giving salmon and other wild fish the right of return to primeval spawning grounds, after decades without access. DamNation's majestic cinematography and unexpected discoveries move through rivers and landscapes altered by dams, but also through a metamorphosis in values, from conquest of the natural world to knowing ourselves as part of nature.

www.nature.org/newhampshire/events