

# Media Advisory

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **State of New Hampshire and New Hampshire Businesses Launch Wetland Restoration Partnership**

*Jacques Whitford and Public Service New Hampshire (Northeast Utilities) Lead Effort*

- WHO:** **The Honorable John E. Sununu**, United States House of Representatives  
**The Honorable Judd Gregg**, United States Senate (Invited)  
**The Honorable Robert Smith**, United States Senate (Invited)  
**Timothy R.E. Keeney**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for NOAA, U.S. Department of Commerce  
**Robert Varney**, EPA Region I Administrator  
**Colonel Thomas L. Koning**, US Army Corps of Engineers, New England District  
**William Hubbard**, Chief of the Environmental Resources Branch, US Army Corps of Engineers; and  
**John MacDonald**, PSNH Vice-President of Operations  
**Paul Ladd**, Jacques Whitford
- WHAT:** Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership launched to restore New Hampshire's valuable wetlands. Coastal America award presented to Little River Salt Marsh Restoration Team.
- WHEN:** November 18, 2002, 8:30 A.M.
- WHERE:** Northeast Utilities/PSNH's Energy Park Building, 780 N. Commercial Street, Manchester

**BACKGROUND:** The Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (CWRP) is a program launched by The Gillette Company and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to restore coastal and freshwater wetlands degraded by fill, pollution, or changes in water flow. The program has been adopted by the federal government as a national initiative; New Hampshire is becoming the fifth New England state to launch a CWRP program. Corporate dollars raised at the state level leverage federal matching funds. The NH CWRP program will help fund habitat restoration projects throughout the state. Funding will be targeted toward a list of priority projects developed by the state and endorsed by Coastal America. Examples of these projects include the restoration of coastal wetlands, fish passage over dams and the re-establishment of eelgrass beds.

Jacques Whitford and Public Service New Hampshire (Northeast Utilities) are the NH-CWRP corporate lead sponsors. Duke Energy is the national corporate chair of the CWRP, The Gillette Company is the national corporate vice-chair and the National Association of Manufacturers is the national sponsor.

In conjunction with this kick-off, the "Little River Salt Marsh Restoration Project" will receive a 2002 Coastal America Partnership Award for their outstanding partnership effort to restore and to protect the coastal environment. Timothy R.E. Keeney, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere will be the awarding official. Working with federal, state, and local governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, the partnership restored tidal flushing to 170 acres of degraded salt marsh and improved water quality in the Little River, North Hampton and Hampton, NH. This project exemplifies the community-based cooperation and team partnership process Coastal America works to promote and the type of projects that the corporate partnership can help to support.