

New Hampshire Bird Records Endowment Fund

12-20-11

Board Resolution

VOTED: The Audubon Society of New Hampshire Board of Trustees hereby approves the establishment of a restricted endowment fund to support *New Hampshire Bird Records*, its associated functions, and other purposes as described below.

Overview

The initial goal of creating the *New Hampshire Bird Records* Endowment Fund is to establish a fund that will provide long term support for bird sighting data collection, organization, utilization and publication, and the preservation of New Hampshire bird information. *New Hampshire Bird Records* is the current vehicle and umbrella for these functions. Given the potential changes that could result from technological and societal changes affecting publications, birding and conservation biology, however, the fund has the flexibility to direct grants to other projects that accomplish similar functions and secondarily to those that fall under a larger goal of contributing to the knowledge and conservation of birds in New Hampshire through bird data collection, birding, and sharing of bird information as outlined in the Statement of Purpose.

Statement of Purpose

The primary purpose of the *New Hampshire Bird Records* Endowment Fund shall be to support the collection, organization, quality control, distribution, dissemination, publication, promotion, preservation and storage of New Hampshire bird sighting information. The initial focus shall be on supporting all facets of the *New Hampshire Bird Records* publication, including: gathering NH bird sighting data; computerizing, organizing, reviewing, and storing the data; managing NHeBird and data quality control; publishing bird sightings and information about NH birds and birding; and distributing bird sighting data as appropriate, whether in printed paper or electronic or other form of public communication. Should the need for *New Hampshire Bird Records* support be met or no longer be necessary, other projects of similar intent may be considered, consistent with the primary purpose above. Alternative projects may be more localized in scope than the entire state (e.g. publishing a book on the birds of Concord, NH) and may include the preservation of bird data that would otherwise be lost. Funding may continue if *New Hampshire Bird Records* combines with similar publications or periodicals in other states such as Maine and Vermont or expands to cover bird data of such other states, or the purposes and functions are conducted as part of a regional effort.

If additional funds are available after the primary purpose needs have been met, a secondary purpose of the fund may be to support projects that contribute to the knowledge and conservation of birds in NH through 1) the collection of information on the distribution and status of breeding, migrant, and wintering birds in the state, and 2) publications and other sources that inform birders and promote birding in NH.

The intent is to preserve the fund's capital to provide long term support.

Recipient of Fund Distributions

The funds will be directed to the non-profit(s) that are responsible for carrying out these functions of *New Hampshire Bird Records* listed above. At the present time, this entity is the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. Should the Audubon Society of New Hampshire cease to support the *New Hampshire Bird Records* functions of gathering and storing NH bird sighting data, computerizing, organizing, reviewing, distributing, and publishing the data, funds shall be directed to any other non-

profit organization(s) that carries on the primary purpose functions. Should the funding needs for *New Hampshire Bird Records* and its associated functions (the primary purpose functions) be met, no longer necessary, or no longer continued by any entity, funds may be directed to the Audubon Society of New Hampshire or other non-profit organizations for projects that meet the secondary purpose criteria outlined in the Statement of Purpose.

Location and Management of Fund

The fund will be established as a donor restricted endowment fund at the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. It will be financially managed to preserve the capital and provide an annual distribution using the standard accepted practice for restricted endowment funds.

Decisions on the use of the annual distribution shall be recommended by the *New Hampshire Bird Records* project leader (if applicable or the staff member involved in activities closest to those in the Statement of Purpose), and his or her supervisor.

In recognition of the long term nature of this fund and the potential for significant changes in the future, the following provision is included. Staff may establish a committee to advise on the use of annual distributions, especially in the event that funds are no longer needed for *New Hampshire Bird Records*, or funds are being directed to other non-profit organizations other than the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. If the functions outlined in the Statement of Purpose (both the primary and secondary purposes) are no longer being done by any entity or no longer have a reasonable need for support, the Advisory Committee may make recommendations for adjustments to the statement of purpose as permitted by law and consistent with the larger goal of contributing to the knowledge and conservation of birds in New Hampshire through bird data collection, birding, and sharing of bird information.

Fund Establishment and Contributions

Upon approval by the Audubon Society of New Hampshire Board of Trustees of the creation of this fund, its decision shall be recorded in the board meeting minutes with the fund information. Copies will be placed in the organization files to record the establishment, purpose, and use of the fund, and the approval by the board.

The fund will be established with a minimum \$10,000 contribution. Once the fund is established, anyone may contribute to it, in any amount at any time. All donations are intended to be tax deductible to the extent permitted by the law. The Audubon Society of New Hampshire shall acknowledge the gift as appropriate. The Audubon Society of New Hampshire can accept many types of donations (cash, stocks, etc.) as well as bequests and life income plans. Fund raising will be coordinated with the Audubon Society of New Hampshire's Development Department.