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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT of NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION of PARKS and RECREATION
BUREAU of TRAILS

172 Pembroke Road Concord, New Hampshire 03301
Phone: (603) 271-3254 Fax: (603) 271-3553 E-Mail: nhtrails@dncr.nh.gov
Web: www.nhtrails.org

82

February 2, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 216-A:3-o, I, authorize the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation, Bureau of Trails to accept and expend a donation from Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail in the amount of \$5,000 for the purpose of rail trail maintenance throughout the Northern part of New Hampshire effective upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2025. 100% Other Funds (Donations).

Funds will be budgeted in the following account:

03-035-035-351510-48430000, Trails Donations & Gifts

Class-Account-RG	Description	FY24 Current Adjusted Authorized	Requested Action	FY24 Revised Adjusted Authorized
005-401734-20	Private Local Funds	\$20,420	\$5,000	\$25,420
103-500736	Contract Repairs; Bldg. Grounds	\$20,420	\$5,000	\$25,420

EXPLANATION

The Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail is a volunteer organization working with Northern White Mountain communities, business, and trail clubs to market and promote the area as a bicycling destination. One of their goals is to support efforts to restore and maintain the Presidential Rail Trail in the Gorham-Randolph area after major damage caused by the December 18, 2023 rainstorm and flooding.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurred,

Brian J. Wilson
Director

Sarah L. Stewart
Commissioner

(15M)



Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail

PO Box 1047

Glen, NH 03838

crossnewhampshire@gmail.com

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2024

DNCR

Re: A \$5000 Donation to the NH Bureau of Trails

January 29, 2024

Dear Commissioner Stewart,

The Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail (xNHAT) and the Friends of the Presidential Recreational Rail Trail have collaborated to provide a donation to the NH Bureau of Trails. The \$5000 donation check included with this letter is to help support the heroic efforts to restore the Presidential Recreational Rail Trail (PRT) in the Gorham-Randolph area after serious damage from the rainstorm and flooding on December 18th, 2023.

The rail trail and the entire snowmobile trail network of the North Country took a severe hit from this storm with numerous blowdowns and extensive trail washouts. The widespread damage was attacked immediately by Clinton Savage, his team and the regional snowmobile club members. Reconnecting the snowmobile corridors to provide safe and enjoyable sledding for this season was a logistical scramble of time, staff, volunteers and money.

In Randolph, the Moose River overflowed its banks and completely destroyed the rail bed in two areas (see photos, below). I heard that the cost to repair just these two washouts was estimated to be \$50,000. This trail is loved and well-used by walkers, hikers, runners, cyclists, xc skiers and equestrians. However, these non-motorized trail users have had no way to contribute to the workload and the cost of rail trail repair and restoration projects, even though they may be the most frequent, year-round trail users.

To provide a small contribution to this effort and to spread awareness of how our rail trail is restored, maintained and funded, the xNHAT and I set up a "fund raiser". Friends of the PRT were contacted and asked to help the NHBOT restore the PRT after the severe flood damage. A goal of \$5000 was set with the xNHAT promising to match funding to achieve this goal.

This donation of \$5000 is mostly from PRT users in Gorham, Jefferson and Randolph, along with some PRT groupies from outside these towns plus the xNHAT. We ask that this donation be made to the NHBOT to support its costs and efforts to restore the PRT after all the storm damage.

A "Thank You" to you and to the NHBOT team for helping to maintain our beautiful rail trails for safe and enjoyable recreation!

Sincerely,

Marianne Borowski

Marianne Borowski
President and Founder of the xNHAT
www.crossnewhampshire.org

One of the two washouts in Randolph:



Just ahead around the corner...the other washout, "Before" photo.
Note the depth of the damage as compared to the ATV and bulldozer:



"After". Wow, lots of fill and sculpting, plus a nice surface, too! For location, look carefully in the background to note the railing on the bridge in both the "Before" and "After" photos:

