



# Audubon Society of New Hampshire

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20 June, 2001

Judith N. Reardon  
P.O. Box 350  
Chocorua, NH 03817

**Re: Extension of Sandwich Range Wilderness Area**

Dear Ms. Reardon

On behalf of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire, it gives me great pleasure to endorse the proposal by Friends of the Sandwich Range to extend the Sandwich Range Wilderness and the creation of the Sandwich Notch National Historic Area.

As you know, the mission of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire (ASNH) is to protect and enhance the natural environment for wildlife and for people. We at ASNH believe that the Friends' proposal is consistent with that mission. Wilderness areas serve to protect wildlife habitat long-term and enhance biodiversity by allowing the forest to reach a mature state that does not occur in actively managed areas. Furthermore, ASNH believes that it is important for people to experience a Wilderness area so that they may make a connection to the natural systems that sustain all life. When people are better informed and have an appreciation for what a Wilderness area is they are more likely to appreciate the importance of the sustainable use of our resources as well as the importance of resource conservation.

ASNH enthusiastically endorses the Friends' proposal and we wish you and your colleagues the best of luck in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julian Zelazny". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Julian Zelazny  
Environmental Policy Director