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New Hampshire boasts some of New England and the nation's most beautiful wilderness areas, including the White Mountain National Forest, the Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge, the Lakes Region, and other scenic regions. Our state's forests, parks, lakes, and mountains offer opportunities for fishing, hunting, birdwatching, hiking, skiing, and scenic drives, among other activities. I am working in Congress to ensure our state's natural resources remain protected for future generations to enjoy.

Some of the issues I am working on to protect New Hampshire's environment are:

- **Conservation Easement Tax Deductions:** Conservation easement programs have helped to preserve land and open spaces in New Hampshire and across the country. I am a [cosponsor of legislation \(H.R. 1964\)](#) to make the conservation easement tax deduction permanent.

- **Land and Water Conservation Fund:** Recognizing the value and impact that the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has on New Hampshire, I spearheaded a letter, signed by 150 Members on both sides of the aisle, to preserve sufficient funding for the program. LWCF protects our nation's natural resources, increases access to outdoor recreation, and supports our economy and job creation in the tourism and recreation industries. In July 2011, the House also passed a bipartisan, fully-offset [amendment to the Department of Interior Appropriations Bill that I introduced](#) to restore \$20 million in funding to LWCF.

- **Expanding Recreational Opportunities on Forest Service Lands:** I am a [cosponsor of legislation \(H.R. 765\)](#) to expand the year-round uses available at ski resorts located on U.S. Forest Service Lands, which include several ski resorts in the White Mountain National Forest. Currently, the law limits only ski-related activities in Forest Service ski areas. This legislation will expand access to the lands, increase tourism, and encourage job growth in the North Country. The president signed this bill into law in November 2011 (PL 112-46).

For a complete list of the bills I am sponsoring and cosponsoring, please [click here](#) .

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