## The State of New Hampshire By His Excellency John H. Lynch, Governor

## A Commendation

## BELKNAP COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS, The Belknap County Sportsmen's Association was the catalyst for the restoration of the N.H. Fish and Game Department's Barry Conservation Camp in Berlin, which closed in 2009 because of the deteriorating condition of its facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Belknap County Sportsmen's Association embraced the project because they understood the urgent need to help young people become interested in the outdoors for the future enhancement of outdoor recreation and preservation of our natural resources; and

WHEREAS, The Belknap County Sportsmen's Association set the pace for the overall project and was the first group to step forward and take responsibility for repairs for an entire building, and kept the project moving forward; and

WHEREAS, Belknap County Sportsmen's Association President Michael R. Normandin coordinated the effort with boundless enthusiasm, persistence, leadership and hard work, motivating a cadre of volunteers and making sure repairs met professional standards; and

WHEREAS, The Belknap County Sportsmen's Association Board of Directors and club members, including Gary Sleeper, Jerry Hendricks, Ralph Scribner, Mark Jensen, Bill Saulnier, Ray Lachance, Bob Morrill, Lou and Alex Cote, John Lanier, Jon Neal, Herb and Crystal Ainsworth and many others, gave countless hours of labor and professional services and thousands of dollars to the project; and

WHEREAS, The Belknap County Sportsmen's Association's commitment to the project represented a groundbreaking opportunity for sportsmen and women across New Hampshire to work together toward a common goal, inspiring dozens of fish and game clubs and other outdoor organizations to participate in and contribute to the restoration; and

WHEREAS, The Belknap County Sportsmen's Association was forward-thinking, going beyond restoring the current facilities to establish an endowment, now more than halfway to its goal, that will help put Barry Camp on stable financial footing into the future; and

WHEREAS, Without the dedication, work and leadership of the Belknap County Sportsmen's Association, Barry Camp could not have reopened this year and New Hampshire would not have this valuable resource for teaching outdoor skills to youth and ensuring that future generations have an opportunity for meaningful outdoor experiences;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby commend the BELKNAP COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION for its leadership in bringing together the outdoor recreation community to restore Barry Conservation Camp. The club, its directors and all its members are indeed champions of New Hampshire's outdoor heritage.

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Given this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and eleven, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and thirty five.

Governor