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**NEWS RELEASE**

# Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **GREGG HONORED WITH “CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP” AWARD**

DURHAM, NH -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH), who co-chaired the Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Partnership Task Force and has secured millions for the protection of the Great Bay Estuary, was presented with the “Conservation Leadership” award from The Nature Conservancy today at its 12th annual Membership Meeting. The award was presented to Senator Gregg in appreciation for his dedication to conservation across New Hampshire’s landscape, from the Northern Forest to Great Bay. Senator Gregg also addressed the meeting on the importance of developing conservation partnerships among federal, state, local officials and private organizations in preserving sensitive tracts of land.

Senator Gregg stated, “As New Hampshire residents, we have earned our reputation as people committed to protecting open space and areas of natural beauty through the development of conservation partnerships. The most successful conservation initiatives I have been involved in have been driven by local residents who take tremendous pride in ensuring that our natural heritage and environmental treasures will be preserved for the benefit of future generations of Granite Staters. I would like to thank The Nature Conservancy for this honor and especially recognize those residents in the local communities who make conservation efforts like those at the Great Bay and the Connecticut Lakes Headwaters lands such a tremendous success.”

The Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire, an organization comprised of recreational fishermen committed to marine conservation, honored Senator Gregg earlier this year with its “Conservationist of the Year” award. Last year, several environmental groups, including the Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership, honored Senator Gregg for his long-term efforts to conserve New Hampshire’s Great Bay estuary. As the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that oversees funding for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Senator Gregg has been able to secure over \$30 million in federal funding over the last several years to leverage the protection of 4,451 acres of important habitat at Great Bay.

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As a member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Senator Gregg was able to include \$8 million in Fiscal Year 2003 Interior Appropriations bill, which, coupled with the \$3.6 million he secured in the FY02 measure represents the federal government’s share of the purchase of the easement on the International Paper land. Following the announcement by the International Paper Company to sell the 171,500 acres of forest in July 2001, Senator Gregg worked in a bi-partisan manner to assemble the Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Partnership Task Force, a team of local, state and federal officials and private conservation organizations charged with developing a consensus approach, vision and funding mechanisms for the protection of the IP lands.

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