



## PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

**NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

and

**SKI NH**

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) and Ski NH share the common goals of environmental education and the protection of the state's natural resources. DES was established in January 1987 under the provisions of Chapter 202, Laws of 1986 and brought together programs from four previously separate state agencies that had responsibility for such matters as water and air pollution control, water supply protection, dams and flood control, and waste disposal. Today DES implements these and other programs through a variety of regulatory, compliance assistance and educational efforts.

Ski NH was established in 1993. Primary membership consists of 20 alpine and 19 cross country ski areas throughout the state. Its purpose is to enhance the promotion, safety, environmental soundness and public awareness of New Hampshire skiing and the image of New Hampshire as a diversified winter vacation destination, as well as encourage improvements in the areas of insurance, energy consumption, tramway standards and other concerns that are of mutual interest to the member ski areas of New Hampshire. Ski NH's environmental committee's purpose is to provide resources for ski areas to assist them in becoming the best possible environmental stewards in an economically viable way, with its goal to encourage every member resort to be implementing a minimum number of environmental programs through the sharing of best practices.

In the past year, DES and Ski NH have worked cooperatively and in partnership on implementing the Pollution Prevention Program's Green Slopes Project. DES and Ski NH hereby enter into this Partnership Agreement to bring greater recognition, effectiveness, structure, and efficiency to future partnership efforts. It is anticipated that this Partnership Agreement will result in enhanced communication between DES and Ski NH and improved environmental protection.

The specific areas of cooperation are detailed in the attached work plan, which is the result of discussions between representatives of DES and Ski NH. The tasks are nonbinding and voluntary, and can be revised at any time by agreement of both parties.

  
Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner, DES

Date: 7/29/2008

  
Alice Pearce, President, Ski NH

Date: 7/24/08

## PARTNERSHIP WORK PLAN

- I. Timeframe: This Work Plan shall be for the period from July 24, 2008 to December 31, 2010 and may be amended from time to time by mutual written agreement of the parties.
- II. Program Areas and Tasks
  - A. Education and Outreach
    1. DES
      - a. Organize and conduct annual Green Slopes Workshops in 2009 and 2010, funded in part by EPA Region 1.
      - b. Partner with Ski NH to conduct educational programs for members on various topics, including compliance issues, decreasing carbon footprint and implementing pollution prevention techniques. These programs shall take advantage of opportunities for distance learning, as available or needed.
      - c. In cooperation with Ski NH, provide website content specifically for ski facilities, including a link to the Ski NH website.
      - d. Provide technical and on-site assistance to all NH ski areas.
    2. Ski NH
      - a. Provide a link to the DES website on the Ski NH website.
      - b. Assist DES with the development of workshops for ski facility employees.
      - c. Provide industry speakers for workshops organized by DES.
      - d. Use Ski NH resources to promote Green Slopes outreach efforts.
      - e. Provide continued consulting services and assistance for other NH Green Slopes activities, such as the Green Slopes Workshops and Ski NH environmental committee meetings.
  - B. Responsible Stewardship
    1. DES: Through targeted outreach and education, assist Ski NH and its stakeholders to:
      - (1) understand how to best use available resource information on pollution prevention techniques and ways to decrease their carbon footprint; and
      - (2) be more effective in educating how to protect critical natural resources and minimize negative environmental impacts.

2. Ski NH: Assist DES to better understand the information and technical assistance needs of ski facilities in addressing responsible stewardship. Provide communication venues, through written materials, conferences, and workshops, for DES to discuss better environmental practices with local ski facilities. Encourage NH ski facilities to more efficiently and effectively implement environmental initiatives.

#### C. Rule and Policy Changes

1. DES: Solicit input from Ski NH on rulemaking and policy changes.
2. Ski NH: Participate in rulemaking and other advisory groups, specifically as requested by DES.

### III. Resources to Implement Partnership Agreement

- A. DES will provide staff support to meet the goals of this partnership, subject to budgetary limitations.
- B. Ski NH will provide staff and board time to meet the goals of this partnership, as time and budget permit.