

Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey Receives Disney Conservation Grant

TRENTON, NJ, 8/29/2013 – Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey (CWFNJ) has been awarded two grants [\$24,950 and \$ 22,600] from the Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund (DWCF). The conservation grants recognize CWFNJ’s efforts to carry out protection and educational efforts for the conservation of Piping Plovers on Abaco, Bahamas and to assess Piping Plover migratory stopovers in New Jersey.

“This funding allows us to extend protection and recovery efforts to threatened Piping Plovers on their migratory and wintering grounds; whereas, our previous work has primarily focused on their breeding sites in New Jersey,” says Stephanie Egger, CWFNJ Wildlife Biologist. “We are thrilled and humbled that Disney recognizes the need for comprehensive full life-cycle conservation of this at-risk species,” adds Todd Pover, CWFNJ Project Manager.

The Bahamas grant will contribute to the recovery and long-term survival of Piping Plovers by helping to identify critical Bahamas wintering habitat for plovers on Abaco, Bahamas. It will also benefit other important species (i.e. bonefish, sharks, and conch) that also rely on tidal flats. CWFNJ will work with a local environmental group, Friends of the Environment, and engage various segments of the public to increase local awareness of the critical role the Bahamas plays in the Piping Plover life cycle and help build local capacity to conduct surveys and direct conservation. The New Jersey grant will identify high use migration stopover areas and assess disturbance impacts to help ensure protection of these critical coastal inlet habitats for Piping Plovers and other shorebirds in New Jersey.

The Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund works to protect species and habitats, and connect kids to nature to help develop lifelong conservation values. Since its founding in 1995, DWCF has supported more than 1,000 conservation programs in 112 countries.

For information on Disney’s commitment to conserve nature visit www.disney.com/conservation.

###

The Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of New Jersey’s endangered and threatened wildlife and the habitats they depend on. We carry out our mission by researching and managing rare animal species, restoring habitat, educating New Jersey’s residents, and engaging volunteers in our conservation projects. Since our incorporation in the early 1990’s we’ve helped conserve and protect a variety of rare and imperiled species of wildlife in New Jersey, the most densely populated state in the nation. For more information on CWFNJ, please visit us at www.ConserveWildlifeNJ.org. For more information about Friends of the Environment, visit them at www.friendsoftheenvironment.org.



For more information please contact Todd Pover at CWFNJ at 609-628-0401 or todd.pover@conservecwildlifenj.org