

## New Jersey State Wildlife Grant Success Stories

In the five years since its inception, the State Wildlife Grants Program has played an important role in the conservation of New Jersey's wildlife. The following are some of the projects funded through State Wildlife Grants:



*Hibernia Mine Bat Gate,  
Photo Courtesy of NJ Outdoor  
Women's League*

### **Management: Proactive Measures that Benefit Wildlife and People** **Gating Bat Caves**

New Jersey has suitable cave, mine and abandoned railroad tunnel habitats that support wintering bat populations. The largest known shelter supports over 25,000 bats and is protected from human disturbance by a bat gate. Bat gates keep people out of the often unstable structures in which bats live, while allowing bats free access to their roosting site. Several bat caves have been identified in the northern part of the state that are in need of bat gates. This State Wildlife Grant funded project will determine where bats live in New Jersey, identify and protect important bat shelters, and proactively manage and conserves bats.



*Pine Barren Tree Frog, Photo  
Courtesy of NPS*

### **Conservation: Protecting Imperiled Land, Water, and Wildlife** **Pine Barren Tree Frog**

The health of the pine barren tree frog is an indicator of disease and pollution that affects us all. The pine barren tree frog has been declining in New Jersey as their habitat has been degraded by water withdrawal and increasing PH levels. This State Wildlife Grant project monitors the tree frog and investigates the impacts associated with various land uses including farming, forestry practices and development. Information gathered by this study will inform conservation decisions, benefiting the health of wildlife and people and conserving wildlife and vital natural areas for future generations to enjoy.



*Semi-palmated Sandpiper,  
Photo Courtesy of USFWS*

### **Research: Gathering Information to Take Action** **Arctic-Nesting Birds**

As many as 13 species of arctic-nesting shorebirds rest along their migratory journey each spring on the Delaware Bay in New Jersey. Delaware Bay and Atlantic coast marshes provide essential resources for migratory birds including the semi-palmated sandpiper, short-billed dowitcher and dunlin. Using funds from the State Wildlife Grants Program, populations of these shorebirds will be monitored to identify and protect essential habitat and work toward habitat conservation in New Jersey, Delaware Bay and the migratory flyway. This is a cost-effective way to conserve migratory shorebirds for future generations.

**Congress has appropriated \$7.3 million in State Wildlife Grants to New Jersey since 2001. This has been matched with at least \$1.3 million state and partner dollars.**