



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF
INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE
353 WATER STREET
41 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA ME 04333-0041



JUDITH CAMUSO
COMMISSIONER

May 15, 2024

To the Maine Professional Guides Education Fund,

I am reaching out to you with a unique opportunity to partner with us, and to create an indelible mark on Maine's Maine outdoors.

As you may already know, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is in the midst of creating a new headquarters in Augusta, constructed and renovated utilizing modern techniques and materials, yet honoring Maine's outdoor traditions and retaining a historic structure.

The vision for this building is that of a destination, where each year, tens of thousands of hunters, anglers, students, paddlers, guides, birders, hikers and others who love the outdoors will visit not only for their licenses or registrations, but for recreational education, public hearings, fish and wildlife seminars, nature hikes and access to the Kennebec River.

At the entrance to this outdoor epicenter, our plan is to have something symbolic, something significant that combines the rich tapestry of Maine's outdoor heritage with Maine's incredible natural resources.

We would like place a bronze statue of Fly Rod Crosby at the entrance, to welcome all visitors and honor Maine's first Registered Maine Guide and Maine's premier outdoor recreational ambassador. We would like your help in making this a reality, and become our partner as the fiscal agent for this endeavor.

Cornelia is certainly well known as Maine's first registered guide, a program that she worked hard to establish, but we all know that she was so much more than that, she was an outdoor mentor, and an ambassador for the state.

She was one of the first people to "market Maine" and promoted our natural resources and beauty to a national audience. For 15 years, she wrote an outdoors column in the local newspaper, the Phillips Phonograph, in which she detailed her outdoor adventures, passing on tips and tales that helped others enjoy the outdoors. She organized Maine sporting exhibits at national sportsman's shows in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, showcasing the wonders of Maine's rich outdoor resources. Of course, she guided, sometimes introducing people to their first taste of the Maine outdoors, and for those more experienced, helped to fine tune their skills.

She was not only passionate about the outdoors, but was passionate about getting others outdoors. She would be the perfect person to greet those that visit our headquarters.

I thank you for your consideration and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Judy Camuso
Commissioner, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

PHONE: (207) 287-8000

FISH AND WILDLIFE ON THE WEB: Mefishwildlife.com
EMAIL ADDRESS: info.ifw@maine.gov