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MEDIA ADVISORY: Sen. Gregg, NOAA and UNH to Announce Largest-Ever New England Air Quality Research Initiative Aug. 22

By *Sharon Keeler*
UNH News Bureau
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August 15, 2001

WHAT: U.S. Senator Judd Gregg, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the University of New Hampshire will announce funding for the largest-ever New England air quality research initiative. The initiative involves the NOAA-UNH AIRMAP (Atmospheric Investigation, Regional Modeling, Analysis and Prediction) Cooperative Institute, a multi-station comprehensive air quality monitoring network located in Durham, Moultonborough and on the summit of Mount Washington. Headquartered in UNH's Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space, it is one of few in the country operating on a continuous basis, and the only one in New England.

WHEN: Wednesday, Aug. 22, 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Castle in the Clouds, at the site of an AIRMAP monitoring station, in Moultonborough, N.H. Park at the Castle Springs Bottling Plant; event site is a five minute walk on an old road into woods to a cliff overlooking the lake.

DETAILS: Speakers will include Sen. Judd Gregg, NOAA Assistant Administrator Dave Evans, UNH Vice President for Research and Public Service Donald Sundberg, and AIRMAP Director Robert Talbot.

In the three years since Sen. Gregg first secured funding to help create the AIRMAP Cooperative Institute, it has established one of the country's most comprehensive air

quality monitoring networks. It anchors integrated efforts for understanding the sources and movement of air pollution, creating a national system of regular air quality forecasts, demonstrating the next generation of weather forecast technologies, and connecting all these with climate change. New Hampshire is becoming the testbed for innovation in these fields.

In addition to UNH and NOAA, AIRMAP partners include Plymouth State College, the Mount Washington Observatory, and the N.H. Department of Environmental Services.

CONTACT: Sharon Keeler at 603-862-1566 if you will be attending.

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