

COLD HOLLOW TO CANADA

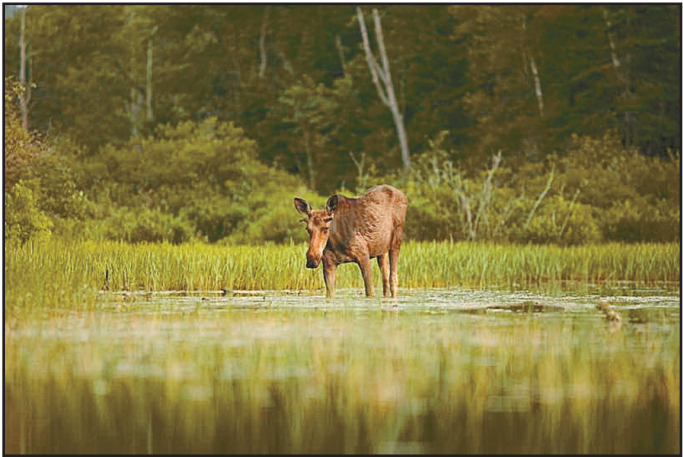


# Meet the moose: A WildPaths target species

By BRIDGET BUTLER  
Cold Hollow to Canada

ST. ALBANS — A few years back, I was working on a film project highlighting animals that are iconic in Vermont and have a great conservation story. Moose were an obvious choice. Large, charismatic and a little bit mysterious, bring up moose in conversation and somebody's bound to have a good story.

I went with a very small film crew to the Northeast Kingdom where the largest population of moose hold court in Vermont and met up with Cedric Alexander from Vermont Fish & Wildlife who manages the moose population. We trekked through the Champion Lands all day finding many signs of moose, from tracks, to browse, to scat, but not one moose. When the day came to an end, we set up two cameras at the moose-viewing platform on Route 105 in Brunswick just waiting for dusk and our chance at seeing a moose. Well, dusk



CHRIS MAZZARELLA, photo

*A moose rests in a pond.*

came and went. So did a number of cars crawling along the road slowly hopping to see a moose too. And then, when we were out of light to be able to film and had packed up and climbed in the truck to make the long journey home, just as we pulled out of the parking lot, crashing out of the dense wetland shrubbery came a moose and her calf! With barely enough time to brake, we just missed hitting them, with us curs-

ing the whole time that the camera was packed away in back.

Moose are one of our main target species for the WildPaths Project as we, too, live in moose country along the Northern Green Mountains. Being a large mammal, they have a large home range that can cover thousands of acres. Moose tend to inhabit the same range year after year; however, yearling males will disperse in the summer to find new ranges after leaving their mothers. These large mammals also follow familiar routes as they move from wintering grounds to feeding grounds in the spring and then to rutting grounds in the fall. Sometimes these familiar pathways are interrupted by our roads, putting both the moose and us at risk.

In the summer, moose move from one aquatic habitat to another to feed and cool off. During the day they'll take cover in lowland softwood forests, and then move at dawn or dusk to feed. They'll also search out natural or man-made salt licks to ingest needed minerals they are missing in their diet. The man-made salt licks caused by the accumulation of winter road salt are often within feet of roadways, bringing moose into dangerous contact with vehicles. Last year, 155 moose were killed in



LINDSEY WRIGHT, Photo

*A moose crosses Route 242 near Jay Peak this summer.*

road collisions in Vermont. Motor vehicles are the primary non-hunting cause of death for moose, according to Vermont Fish and Wildlife.

That is why the moose is one of our species of interest -- they're on the move! There are a number of connectivity spots in the Northern Green Mountains where the habitat is well suited to moose. Check out the list below and share your sighting with WildPaths this summer.

Where to keep your eye out for moose:

- Route 105 Richford to Jay
- Route 242 Montgomery to Jay
- Route 118 Montgomery to Belvidere to Eden
- Anyplace where there's a roadside wetland, marsh or beaver pond

Best time to look: 5:30 am to 9:30 am then again from 7:30 pm to 10 pm. These times can be especially good after rainfall.

If you have any encounters with moose in roadways, we encourage you to share your observations with us at <http://bit.ly/CHCWildPaths>. The WildPaths Project is a program of Cold Hollow to Canada, which uses volunteers to gather observations about wildlife crossing roadways in the Northern Green Mountains. Learn more at [www.coldhollowto-canada.org](http://www.coldhollowto-canada.org).

## VERMONT IN BRIEF

### Indictment: Felon unlawfully carried gun around Burlington

BURLINGTON (AP) — A man who police say rode his bicycle around Burlington with a rifle slung over his shoulder has been indicted on a gun possession charge.

A federal grand jury indicted 52-year-old Malcolm Tanner on Monday on a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Tanner was arrested this month after police say his conduct caught the attention of Burlington residents.

An investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and police revealed that Tanner had felony convictions in other states that prohibit him from lawfully owning a firearm.

Tanner remains held at the Northwest State Correctional Facility in St. Albans Town. An attempt to reach his lawyer was unsuccessful.

### Man pleads not guilty to stabbing 2 mental health workers

MIDDLEBURY (AP) — A Vermont man accused of stabbing and beating two mental-health workers at a treatment group home has pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted murder.

Ronald Bean entered the plea Monday in Middlebury. He was ordered to undergo evaluations for mental competency and sanity. He is being held without bail.

Police say the attack happened around 2 p.m. Sunday. A police affidavit says 52-year-old Bean, a client, entered the office at the Middlebury group home and spoke to Justin Covey. Police say he became aggressive and attacked Covey.

The affidavit says Bean attacked Allison Burton after she tried to intervene. Both Burton and Covey were stabbed with scissors. Police say Bean then fled the scene.

Bean was arrested Sunday evening. Covey and Burton were hospitalized and are in stable condition.

### Police ID Vermont man who died at rafting event

COLCHESTER (AP) — Police in Vermont have identified a Milton man who died after suffering an apparent heart attack during a thunderstorm at a rafting event on Lake Champlain.

Authorities say 56-year-old Thomas Leggett died in Colchester on Saturday.

Police and others responded to Malletts Bay after an emergency flare went up at around 3:30 p.m. Emergency responders performed CPR on Leggett and transported him to the University of Vermont Medical Center.

Leggett was attending an event at Thayer Beach called Raftapalooza, which amounts to a floating party frowned on by local officials.

Police say there's no indication the weather played a role in Leggett's death.

Organizer Jeremy Dewyea says he plans to host the event again next year but it will likely be at a different location.

### State police say man killed by falling tree during storm

HUBBARDTON (AP) — Vermont State Police say a 66-year-old Rutland man is dead after he was hit by a falling tree at the edge of Lake Bomoseen in Hubbardton during a severe wind storm.

Police say Clifford R. Jones had retrieved two fishing poles from a lake-side dock at about 4:45 p.m. Saturday when he was struck by a large, dead tree that had broken off at its base.

Family and friends removed the tree and started life saving measures without success.

Police are awaiting the results of an autopsy. A series of severe thunderstorms hit Vermont on Saturday.

### 41st Annual FRANKLIN COUNTY FIELD DAYS August 3rd - 7th Airport Rd., Highgate, VT

**WEDNESDAY, AUG. 3**  
Car Load Night! Load up the Car, with All Seat Belted for a Flat entry Fee of - JUST \$30  
**3:30-11 PM**- Midway & Food Row Open

**THURSDAY, AUG. 4**  
**10 AM**- Ground and Rides Open  
**4 PM**- Registration for Demolition Derby and Minivan Mash-Up  
**4:30-6:30 PM**- *Close to Nowhere* on the Main Stage  
**5 PM**- Texas Hold'Em Qualifications \$25 Buy-In - back of milking barn  
**7 PM**- Demolition Derby and Minivan Mash-Up  
**7:30-11 PM**- *Keegan Nolan* on the Main Stage  
**All Day**- Face Painting at Handy's Exhibit, Quilting in the Homemaker's Barn and Corn Box

**FRIDAY, AUG. 5**  
**7-11 AM**- Breakfast Served at 4-H Booth  
**9 AM**- Grounds & Exhibits Open  
**10 AM-3 PM**- Buddy the Clown  
**11 AM**- All Rides Open  
• 4-H Parade  
**11 AM-2 PM**- Troy Millette  
**12 NOON**- Food Auction at Homemakers Building  
**12-1 PM**- Kids Bingo in the 4-H Building  
**2-3 PM**- Crafts in the 4-H Building  
**3 PM**- Make & Take - Penguin with Denise Rainville at the Homemaker's Building  
**3-6 PM**- *Rosie Newton* on the Main Stage  
**5 PM**- Make & Take - Egg Creatures with Pat Bouthilllette at Homemaker's Building  
• Registration for Gymkhana Horse  
**6 PM**- 4-H Dairy Fitting and Show Competition at Pulling Barn  
• 10th Annual Horse Gymkhana  
• Texas Hold'Em Qualifications - \$25 Buy-In  
• Truck Pulls  
**7:30-11 PM**- *Miss Mizery* on the Main Stage  
**All Day**- 4-H Exhibits & face Painting at Handy's Exhibit and Quilting in the Homemaker's Barn

**SATURDAY, AUG. 6**  
**7-11 AM**- Breakfast Served at 4-H Booth  
**8 AM**- Grounds & Exhibits Open  
**9:30-10 AM**- Draft Horse Show  
**10 AM**- Rides Open  
• Open Dairy Show  
**10-3 PM**- Buddy the Clown  
**11 AM**- Make & Take - Paper Trees

with Pat Bouthilllette at the Homemaker's Building  
• 4-H Daily Costume Class  
• Antique Tractor Pull  
**11 AM**- Antique Tractor Pull  
• 4-H Costume Class  
**11:30 AM-12 NOON**- *Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate* on Main Stage  
**12 NOON**- Farm Stock Tractor Pull (2WD)  
**12-2 PM**- Kids Bingo in the 4-H Building  
**1 PM**- Make & Take - Picture Frames with Tammy Menard at the Homemaker's Building  
• Arm Wrestling - back of milking barn  
**1-2 PM**- Registration for ATV Swamp Run  
**1:30 PM**- Antique Tractor Parade  
**2-3 PM**- Crafts in the 4-H Building  
**2:15 PM**- Swamp Run  
**3 PM**- Make & Take - Skateboard Peeps with Pat Bouthilllette at the Homemaker's Building  
**3-6 PM**- *Issac French Band*  
**4, 5, 6 PM**- Little Piggy Round-Up  
**5 PM**- Make & Take - Butterfly Magnets with Pat Bouthilllette at the Homemaker's Building  
**6 PM**- Texas Hold'Em Qualifications - \$25 Buy-In  
• Tractor Pulls (4WD and some Hot Farm Tractors)  
**7:30-11 PM**- *Justice* on the Main Stage  
**All Day**- 4-H Exhibits, Face Painting at Handy's Exhibit and Corn Box

**SUNDAY, AUG. 7**  
**7-11 AM**- Breakfast Served at 4-H Booth  
**8 AM**- Grounds & Exhibits Open  
• Open Horse Show  
**9:30 AM**- Draft Horse & Pony Pulls  
**10 AM**- All Rides Open  
**10-2 PM**- *Nobby Reed Band* on Main Stage  
**11 AM**- 4-H Costume Parade  
• Make & Take - Snowman with Tammy Menard at Homemaker's Building  
• ATV Pull Track Side  
**11 AM-12 NOON**- Registration for ATV Drag Race  
**12 NOON**- Texas Hold'Em Finals  
• Registration for Peddle Pull  
**12:15 PM**- ATV Drag Race  
**1 PM**- Peddle Pull, sponsored by Community National Bank  
• Make & Take - Witch & Snowman Pins with Tammy Menard  
• Garden Tractor Pull  
**1-3 PM**- *Missisquoi River Band* on Main Stage  
**6 PM**- Exhibits Close  
**6:30 PM**- Exhibits Removed  
**All Day**- 4-H Exhibits and Corn Box

### \$10 ADMISSION/DAY KIDS 3 FT. TALL & UNDER FREE Includes All Midway Rides, Exhibits, & Entertainment

[WWW.FRANKLINCOUNTYFIELDDAYS.ORG](http://WWW.FRANKLINCOUNTYFIELDDAYS.ORG)

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