

**Eaton Conservation Commission**  
**January 14, 2013**

1.Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler, Dick Fortin, Tom Head and Peter Klose. Also Phil Steele and Mark Lucy as guests.

2.ADMINISTRATION Minutes of the 12/10/12 meeting were unanimously accepted.

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 4,381.97
Forest Management Fund	40,896.92
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,603.10</u>
	\$48,881.99

Three checks have been received for Town Land timbering including one for \$1016 from Peter Nelson.

4.CAMP WAUKEELA Phil Steele, Waukeela owner, and Mark Lucy of White Mt. Survey and Engineering presented information about their efforts to find a solution to the drainage issues within camp and the erosion to their beach. Mr. Lucy presented maps of the area in question (junction of Brownfield Rd. and Rt. 153 at the corner of the camp.) There was extensive discussion of this issue and Mr. Lucy will take the results of this meeting to DOT and DES and try to arrange another meeting with them.

5.FOREST MANAGEMENT Peter Nelson successfully completed the Unit 4 timber sale on 12/15/12, before snowfall. The next scheduled timbering will be on Unit 2 (east side of Bush Rd.) in August 2013 by McLucas. There is to be reconnaissance of some land, owned by Bud Nelson, adjacent to Unit 3 (behind White Farm property.)

6.GREEN MT. CONSERVATION GROUP Peter Klose, representative to GMCG, has met with their director Blair Folts and will attend their annual meeting 1/19/13.

7.FOSS MOUNTAIN A. "Crowd Control" Dick F spoke with Kevin Flynn of Snowvillage Inn and Kevin understood the ECC concerns and remove references to Foss from their website.

B. Trail Reconstruction – Dick F spoke with Jed Talbot whose rates would be the same as those in 2010: \$13,700 but he needs to look over the trail this coming spring. Re: AMC, Chris Keebler said their insurance covers their volunteers. There would be some extra cost for importing materials. He felt they could find the types of rocks needed and also felt a reroute to the right (north) of the trail might be better than one to the left. Possibly there will be funds available for such trail work in 12/13.

C. Nothing from Ryan Bushnell re: blueberry receipts.

8.SPECIAL PROJECTS A. Boundary marking of Town lands is planned for Saturday, 1/26/13 – meet at Town Hall at 8:00 AM. Marking will begin at the Jackson Town Forest and Paul will have the materials.

B. Lay Lake Monitoring Bob Craycraft at UNH Cooperative Extension suggested the same sampling at the deepest part of Crystal lake as in the past. To sample for three months (June, July, August) will cost ECC around \$199. He also suggested adding May and September samplings which would put our cost around \$247, and using the Secchi disc on a weekly basis. It was agreed to go ahead with the sampling and Dick F. will contact Bob Craycraft.

9.OTHER No information from Barry Portnoy about his efforts to eliminate motor boats on Crystal Lake.

Next meeting: February 11, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler

Eaton Conservation Commission  
February 11, 2013

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Marnie Cobbs, Dick Fortin, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler and Tom Head. Also: Don Bacich, selectman and Paul Hennigan. Will Abbott and Tom Gross present as guests.

2. ADMINISTRATION Minutes of the 1/14/13 meeting were unanimously accepted.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 4,382.01
Forest Management Fund	41,914.12
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,603.10</u>
	\$49,899.23

Check was sent to Gray Forestry for paint for marking boundaries.

4. UPPER SACO VALLEY LAND TRUST (USVLT) Will Abbott, director and Tom Gross, board member, presented information supporting their request for Eaton to partner with them, defraying part of their cost, in doing a Build Out Analysis around Conway Lake. This would target areas of potential development and its density in the area around Conway Lake including Eaton. The Conway Lake Conservation Association has already agreed to contribute \$2000 to this effort. USVLT is now asking the same from the Conway Conservation Commission and the Eaton Conservation Commission. USVLT will be holding a multi-town meeting 5/11/13 at the Leura Hill Eastman Auditorium at Fryeburg Academy with the goal of having a draft Build Out Analysis ready then. After Will and Tom left it was unanimously voted that the ECC contribute the requested \$2000 from the Eaton Conservation Fund.

5. CAMP WAUKEELA Paul Hennigan, who used to own the farm abutting camp, gave an illustrated presentation of numerous improvements he has witnessed at camp over time. These have been implemented by a series of camp owners over a period of years, and he felt the accumulative effect has contributed, one improvement at a time, to the current drainage situation.

The review process with DOT and DES has not gone anywhere so far. Rick and Paul Hennigan walked along Snow Brook to the north of camp and found six beaver dams there which are one piece of the drainage problem. They took photos of the impacted area.

6. FOSS MOUNTAIN A. Blueberries – Ryan Bushnell sent the selectmen an overview of his recent harvests. In Brooks Pasture: 2008 – 2680 pints, 2010 – 1930 pints. In the south field: 2009 – 2380 pints, 2011 – 960 pints. He has paid nothing to the Town since 2008 as his allowance for mowing, which does benefit the Town in caring for the blueberry fields, exceeds his income. We will need to check on the mowing this summer. Ryan is continuing to ask about using sulfur treatments to try killing the Little Bluestem grass. There was discussion of trying the sulfur on one acre but unclear whether this would provide the information needed. Rick will contact Ryan.

B. Trail Work - We won't have any more information until the spring. The NH Trails funding grant deadline was 1/18/13 so not enough time to fill out the long and very detailed forms. We can check out other funding. Also, maybe seek "trail adopters" as they do in the White Mts. to keep the water bars cleared.

7.SPECIAL PROJECTS A. Boundary marking of Town Lands planned for Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, depending on conditions.

B. Lay lakes Monitoring – Previous testing took place 1996 – 2002.

Next meeting: March 11, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler

Eaton Conservation Commission  
March 11, 2013

1.Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler, Marnie Cobbs, Dick Fortin and Peter Klose.

2.ADMINISTRATION Minutes of the 2/11/13 meeting were unanimously accepted.

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 4,382.04
Forest Management Fund	41,739.44
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,603.10</u>
	\$ 49,724.58

One check for \$175 went out to Gray Forestry for boundary marking-paint.

4.GREEN MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION GROUP Eric Senecal, Program Director and Lynn Clarke, Youth Programs Coordinator presented the core program of their Tributary Monitoring Program. They would like to begin monitoring streams in Eaton (as well as Madison and Freedom) that feed into the Upper Danforth Pond watershed and have a grant for this. They have identified three tributary sites in Eaton and, with landowner permission, would like to monitor one or all of them. They are also looking for volunteers to do some monitoring. There will be a training on monitoring at GMCG offices 4/13/13 at 10:00 AM. They have maps from the Society for the Protection of NH Forests illustrating Resource Factors and Unfragmented Lands and will have some made up for Eaton. They also gave us a copy of their Natural Resource Planning Guide. The Saco River Corridor Commission (contact is Dennis Finn) may be interested in data from Eaton. They left information about events on 3/22/13 celebrating "World Water day 2013."

5.UPPER SACO VALLEY LAND TRUST Conway has signed on to contribute to their build-out analysis around Conway lake.

6.CAMP WAUKEELA Paul shared Paul Hennigan's information, presented to the ECC 2/11/13, with Mark Lucy, engineer working on drainage problems for the camp.

7.FOSS MOUNTAIN A. Trail Reconstruction. Dick F. will start the process for a couple of the grant sources with the help of Paul and Peter.

B. Paul will send ECC members the summary of blueberry receipts over the years. Nothing from Ryan Bushnell re: blueberries.

C. Possible spring burn on Foss. Rick will make the initial call to Bob Boyd of DRED.

8.SPECIAL PROJECTS A. Boundary Marking - New date is Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.

B. Lay Lake Monitoring – Bob Craycraft of UNH Cooperative Extension wants to meet re: lake sampling. Dick F. to contact Ken McKenzie to see whether he would be interested in doing sampling.

9.CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS It was unanimously voted to expend up to \$1000 for scholarships to Tin Mountain Conservation camps this year.

Next meeting: April 8, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler.

Eaton Conservation Commission  
April 8, 2013

1. Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Marnie Cobbs, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler, Tom Head, Dick Fortin and Peter Klose.

2. ADMINISTRATION Minutes of the 3/11/13 meeting were unanimously accepted with the correction of a typo in section # 4.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 4,382.08
Forest Management Fund	41,739.79
Land Acquisition Fund	<u>3,603.10</u>
	\$49,724.97

4. GREEN MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION GROUP Peter reported that he is on their committee to find a consultant to evaluate the data from their Tributary Monitoring Program and coordinate with other agencies involved. The water sampling training will be at GMCG offices 4/13/13 at 10:00 AM.

5. UPPER SACO VALLEY LAND TRUST Their Build Out Analysis is well underway and they plan to present the data at the Leura Hill Eastman Auditorium at Fryeburg Academy 5/11/13, 8 AM – 1 PM.

6. FOREST MANAGEMENT At an estimated cost of \$720 Dan Stepanauskas wants to remove European Bittersweet, an invasive species, that he found on Old Bend Rd. and also do an apple tree release at the Giles Farm site. Both tasks were voted upon in the affirmative with Rick opposed to the method of bittersweet removal only.

7. FOSS MOUNTAIN A. - Blueberries Marnie will meet with Olivia Saunders and Bill Lord of UNH Cooperative Extension on 4/9/13 with the hope that they can help the ECC come up with a written plan for dealing with the blueberries. Soil testing and exploring of grants will be necessary. She is also contacting Nicholas Lindholm, an organic grower of wild blueberries in Penobscot ME, and David Yarborough Maine Cooperative Extension blueberry specialist. Marnie will email re: results of tomorrow's meeting. Paul will contact Dan about cutting some encroaching trees in Brooks Pasture. Beech Hill Preserve has courses in organic blueberry culture. Rick has talked to Ryan whose blueberry production has been steadily decreasing and he is mowing less. We may need to find an alternative for the mowing.

B. Burning - Hope for a burn this spring, possibly next week.

C. Trail Work - An application has been sent to the Davis Conservation Foundation requesting \$10,000 for trail work with request for them to respond to ECC by 6/7/13. It was unanimously voted to reimburse Dick F. \$15.69 for mailing of the application.

D. Gates - The plan is to move the Brooks pasture gate to replace the one at the main blueberry fields and buy a new longer one for Brooks Pasture.

E. Cameron Kennedy has asked about working with the ECC again for his Eagle Scout Project and the trail work project may be a good fit.

8.SPECIAL PROJECTS A. - Boundary marking of Town lands – Paul will put together a package to try to find someone to do the boundary marking.

B. Lay Lake Monitoring - Ken McKenzie has agreed to do the monitoring on Crystal Lake. Training will be 4/18/13.

C. Dick F. has had some people respond positively to his request at Town Meeting for volunteers for ECC work.

Next meeting: May 13, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler.

Eaton Conservation Commission  
May 13, 2013

1.Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Marnie Cobbs, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler and Dick Fortin.

2.ADMINISTRATION Minutes of the 4/8/13 meeting were unanimously accepted with one correction in #6, last line should read “Rick opposed to the method of bittersweet removal only.”

3.TREASURER’S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 4,382.11
Forest Management Fund	41,724.42
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,603.10</u>
	\$ 49,709.63

4. GREEN MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION GROUP Peter participated in the training session on 4/13/13 which was well-attended. Water sampling schedules were established with many test sites. Dick B. and Dick F. sampled Long Pond and will continue every two weeks into October.

5.UPPER SACO VALLEY LAND TRUST Rick, Dick B., Marnie and Judy attended the program presenting the results of their Build Out Analysis. They showed projections for possible population density ten and 50 years out and noted that Carroll County is considered the fastest growing county in the state. Breakout groups were then held with participants in adjoining areas. Eaton ECC members met with participants from Madison to identify areas of concern re: land use. Areas of concern for Eaton were: south end of Conway Lake, Rock Edge, land around Kent Mt./Stewart Rd. and establishing a ridge line ordinance.

6.FOSS MOUNTAIN A. Blueberries - Marnie met with Olivia Saunders of UNH Cooperative Extension. They collected random core soil samples of the main blueberry fields, Brooks Pasture and the McKenzie tract that were sent to UNH for analysis. Olivia Saunders recommended the ECC create a new management plan for Foss and look into manager standards. “Land for Good” has standards we might find useful. She is willing to meet with the ECC. There is some little bluestem grass spreading into Brooks Pasture. Maine Organic grower Nicholas Lindholm may be able to meet with the ECC in the fall. A prescribed burn is scheduled for fall, 2013.

B. Trail Work – The Davis Conservation Foundation asked for more information on the ECC application and this was sent in on time.

7.FOREST MANAGEMENT A. Dan Stepanauskas has re-identified the invasive species as European buckthorn, not European bittersweet which is easier to remove. He will do the removal.

C. Boundary Marking Two bids were received for this work: Dan Stepanauskas at \$7,000 -15,000 and Thorne Surveys at \$10,000 - 12,000. Both are estimates.

C. Brooks Pasture perimeter widening to open the blueberries to more light. Concerns were landing location, access road improvement, and future brush and shading control. All felt the need to actually walk over the site. Plan to meet at the Winter Parking 5/19 at 4:00 PM.

8.CAMP WAUKEELA White Mt. Survey is proceeding with a perched beach application.

Next meeting; June 10, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler.

Eaton Conservation Commission  
June 10, 2013

1.Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler, Marnie Cobbs, Dick Fortin, Tom Head, Peter Klose and Olivia Saunders as guest.

2.ADMINISTRATION Minutes of the 5/13/13 meeting were unanimously accepted.

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 4,382.15
Forest Management Fund	41,724.82
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,603.10</u>
	\$49,710.07

It was unanimously voted to pay Dan Stepanauskas \$722.38 for his removal of European buckthorn and releasing apple trees at the Giles Farm. He also identified some bittersweet that he will remove. A check was received from the Davis Conservation Foundation for \$5000 towards trailwork on Foss Mt.

4.FOSS MOUNTAIN A. Blueberries. Olivia Saunders, UNH Cooperative Extension, presented analysis results of soil samples she and Marnie collected. The pH levels for all areas sampled were around 5 whereas a pH of 4 is has been shown to reduce weeds. It is possible that 1000 lbs of sulfur per acre, put down on dry ground in early spring, would reduce the pH level by one point per year. Bill Lord of UNH Cooperative Extension, is involved in a study of the effects of sulfur. She stressed that any such addition should be in conjunction with regular mowing and burning. Bill lord has recommended a fall burn. She felt that ammonium nitrate would only feed the weeds. She also stressed the need for a good management plan for the blueberry operation and can help ECC put one together. Rick, Marnie, Peter and Judy will meet on this.

B. Trail Work - Paul, Rick, Dick F., Dick B., Tom and Peter met in a work session at Brooks pasture 5/31/13 to discuss timbering in conjunction with rerouting the trail to the top of Foss. The plan is to reroute the trail up the Brooks Pasture access road, past Brooks Pasture, preserving the Brooks homestead and cemetery, and south to the summit of Foss. The existing trail will be closed out, kiosks moved and the stone steps removed and used in the new parking area. Dick F. will talk again with the Chris Keebler of AMC and Jed Talbot about this plan. A motion to ratify the above plan from this work session was unanimously approved.

5.GREEN MT. CONSERVATION GROUP Dick F., Peter and Dick B. sampled water from the lower end of Long Pond. Peter said GMCG will have a dinner at Province Lake Country Club 7/21/13, 4:30 – 8:30. Their Watershed Management Plan is underway.

6.UPPER SACO VALLEY LAND TRUST USVLT and FB Environmental want to do a private presentation of their Build Out Analysis for Eaton. Thjs will be done for the Joint Land Use Boards (selectmen, ECC, Planning Board and ZBA.)

7.FOREST MANAGEMENT A. There will be a timbering near Brooks Pasture with a landing adjacent to the Brooks Pasture access road and parking lot.

B. Boundary Line Marking - A possible third proposal has been received for Bo Douglas to do marking. Paul will talk to him.

8.WAUKEELA BEACH No news on permit application.

9.LAY LAKE MONITORING Ken McKenzie continues to monitor Crystal Lake.

Next meeting: July 8, 2013 at 7:00.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler

Eaton Conservation Commission  
July 8, 2013

1.Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler, Dick Fortin, Tom Head, Peter Klose and Olivia Saunders as guest.

2.ADMINISTRATION The minutes of the 6/10/13 meeting were unanimously accepted with this correction: At the end, it should read "9.Lay Lake Monitoring – Ken McKenzie continues to monitor Crystal Lake."

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 2,382.17
Forest Management Fund	41,725.14
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,668.25</u>
	\$ 47,775.56

4.GREEN MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION GROUP Peter reported that they had met re: the Watershed Management plan presented by F. B. Environmental and he was impressed with their work. He, Dick F. and Dick B. continue to monitor at Long Pond.

5.UPPER SACO VALLEY LAND TRUST Paul reminded everyone of their Build Out Analysis presentation for the Joint Land Use boards and anyone else interested on Wednesday, 7/17/13, probably beginning at 7:15 PM after the Planning Board meeting,

6.FOSS MOUNTAIN A. Blueberry Management – Olivia Saunders of UNH Cooperative Extension presented information on this area. ECC members looked over Marnie's preliminary management plan with Olivia's edits. She presented information on SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education) grants for which ECC could apply to study whether sulfur application would improve the blueberry fields by lowering soil pH and hopefully control the little bluestem grass. The blueberry fields have been going from berries to grass and intervention is needed to reverse that. The grant request, written by an ECC member, would be submitted fall of 2013 for the following year. Funds would cover purchase and application of sulfur as well as information about related natural data. Results would be published at the end to help other organic growers. Sulfur application would probably be done in the spring. There was discussion of bees (honey, bumble and wild), essential for pollination of the blueberry plants. Olivia will send more grant information.

B. Meeting with Ryan Bushnell/Rock popping – Rick and Peter met with Ryan to discuss lease agreement with positive results. The main impediment to increased blueberry production is the little bluestem grass. The goals of the ECC and Ryan seem essentially the same and it was agreed that moving forward on the rock popping could be advantageous. Ryan sent more information on the NRCS grant for rock popping that he had presented earlier. (1) Motion was made to proceed with the rock popping in the first section south of the trail. Unanimously approved. (2) Motion made that Rick and Peter, as liaisons to the ECC, continue working with Ryan re: rock popping. Unanimously

approved. (3) Motion made to begin the process for a SARE grant application for sulfur application on the blueberry fields. Unanimously approved.

C. Trail Work Dick F. went to the new trail site with Jed Talbot (Off the Beaten Path) who suggested removing some of the organic material and importing some mineral material which would pack down hard, lifting parts of the trail up out of the water leading to less erosion. Dick hasn't heard back from the AMC yet. Putting in more water bars on the old trail was suggested. Dick F. talked to Tom Dean of Davis Conservation Foundation about the changing the trail route and it seemed OK as long as the main objective was achieved. (4) Motion made that the bid proposal for the trail work include specifying removal of organics and incorporation of mineral material. Unanimously approved. Paul made the point that we do not have to necessarily take the lowest bid if a higher one seems better.

D. Cameron Kennedy would like to make redoing of the Foss kiosks his Eagle Scout Project and all were in agreement.

7. FOREST MANAGEMENT A. There has been extensive discussion about the Brooks Pasture timber sale. (5) Motion made that Dan Stepanauskas's suggestion to use the newly cut skid trail to bring out the logs be followed and that ECC members supervise the landing and trail closure. Unanimously approved. Paul will talk to Dan in the morning.

B. Boundary Marking - Nothing has been heard from Bo Douglass re: proposal for Town lands boundary marking.

Next meeting: August 12, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler

Eaton Conservation Commission  
August 12, 2013

1.Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Marnie Cobbs, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler, Dick Fortin, Tom Head, and Peter Klose.

2.ADMINISTRATION The minutes of the 7/8/13 meeting were unanimously accepted with these corrections: in 6 C, last sentence, change “of” to “if”; in 7 B change name spelling from “Beau” to “Bo.”

3.TREASURER’S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 7,303.62
Forest Management Fund	41,003.08
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,668.25</u>
	\$ 51,974.95

The \$5000 from the Davis Foundation grant has been deposited. The sum of \$722.38 was paid out to Dan Stepanauskas and around \$2800 came in from the Brooks Pasture timber sale.

4.GREEN MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION GROUP A public meeting was held 7/24/13 at the Freedom Town Hall with around 50 participants and a couple of state representatives to try to involve local people and arrange committees to canvas people on the lakes re: land and septic use. The Build Out Analysis by FB Environmental was praised. Peter, Dick B. and Dick F, continue to monitor at Long Pond.

5.FOREST MANAGEMENT A. Brooks pasture timbering. All ECC members had great concern about the excessive rutting and mud at the site – definitely not an example of exemplary forestry. The clean up of the logging trail has been done but there is still a lot of slash and rutting to be cleaned up. (1) Motion was made to appropriate \$2500 from the Forest Management Fund to hire Stewart Heath’s small excavator, with Dwight Johnson driving, to clean up the skid trail. Unanimously approved. (2) Motion was made to dedicate all the proceeds from the Brooks Pasture sale to the new Foss Mt. trail. Unanimously approved.

B. There was discussion of Dan Stepanauskas’s performance as Town forester and of taking administrative action regarding this.

C. Re: Jackson Forest timber sale, ECC will take over the closing out of that sale. Paul will email Dan to let ECC know when it is ready for closure.

D. Boundary marking of Town lands. Dave Douglass of Thorne Surveys will draft the proposal, including liability insurance and technical supervision and responsibility and submit to ECC.

6.FOSS MOUNTAIN A. Trail Work. No bids have been requested yet as the forestry work is not finalized.

B. Blueberries: The Management Plan Committee (Rick, Marnie, Peter and Judy) met to discuss overall guidelines for a blueberry management contract. Ryan has been busy picking. He had spoken to some people who were picking in his management areas and they ignored him. Rick and Peter will meet with Ryan after the berries have been picked. Shaye Stanwood , Stanwood blueberry Co., made inquiries about management of the Foss fields. He picks Tim Merrifield's fields through Cherryfield Foods and did rock popping for Tim. He has trouble with grass in all the fields he picks. He felt sulfur is only effective if applied yearly. Marnie will contact Olivia Saunders about the SARE grant. It is still planned to invite Nicholas Lundholm to speak to the ECC. The migrant workers will return to brush cut on Foss in late September. Burning on Foss is planned for the fall and planning can start now.

7.OTHER BUSINESS Thurston cellar hole on Bush Rd. was bush hogged by Ralph Wilkewitz. Tom Head will thank him for the ECC.

Next meeting: September 9, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler, secretary.

Eaton Conservation Commission  
October 14, 2013

1. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Tom Head, Dick Brisbois, Dick Fortin, Peter Klose, Marnie Cobbs and Olivia Saunders as guest.

2. ADMINISTRATION Minutes unanimously approved, once we scratched "Other" which duplicates "D."

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 8,418.75
Forest Management Fund	57,163.42
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,668.25</u>
-	69,250.42

Proceeds not yet deposited: \$2,190.37 from Brooks Pasture timber sale and \$8,695.05 from Jackson Forest timber sale

ECC unanimously voted to pay McLucas \$5,441.50 for Foss Mt Trail parking lot.

4. GREEN MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION GROUP Peter Klose reported that water sampling has been completed and a report will be given later. By having a good paper trail GMCG won a small lawsuit against an employee who was fired.

5. FOSS MOUNTAIN A. Blueberries - Olivia Saunders said that Amy, her boss, is very familiar with the SARES program and thinks the ECC should apply and would qualify. Sulfur would be applied in 10 x 100 foot samples. It is a partnership, not a farmer grant, and Olivia and Bill Lord will write the grant and couple it with a second site of Bill's. Olivia's preliminary budget needs a co-operating farmer, Ryan Bushnell, to provide background info, willingness to participate and to meet with her. This would begin next summer, 2014, and data collection would continue for two years. Dick Fortin and Peter Klose will help with plotting in Spring 2015 if we get the grant. A possible parallel project was discussed to treat sulfur on a similar plot without a grant. A motion was unanimously passed to appropriate \$250 to apply sulfur per clump of grass in a field that has not yet been taken over, but where grass is encroaching. Marnie will do this, and keep track of amount applied and exact location, either with a stake and rope that circles out or other form of plotting, as well as with photos

UNH is starting a Stewardship Network based on a midwest model as a way to gain volunteers. UNH Cooperative Extension has a three-year grant. An informational meeting will be held at Tin Mt on Nov 19<sup>th</sup>.

Peter and Rick shared a map of the blueberry acreage delineating areas as: "good" or "too rocky, brushy or grassy" for good production. Minutes of their meeting were unanimously approved.

Marnie agreed to ask Emilio of Horizon Forestry if he could cut everything south of the trail at this date.

Motion passed unanimously to repay Dick Fortin for \$144.49 for new gate that will be installed at the entrance between the two parking lots to swing out toward the road so it can be hung lower.

Marnie will advertise a Nov 9th brush stacking day on Foss, with piles to be covered with tarps and burned in winter when snow is on the ground and permit not needed.

B. Foss Mt Trail - Dick Fortin placed an ad in the paper for construction of 1300 linear feet of new trail. He will also send it to Chris Keebler of AMC and Jed Talbot of "Off the Beaten Path".

6. FOREST MANAGEMENT A. Paul explained to the ECC that before he and Rick had a chance to compose a letter to forester Dan Stepanauskas (agreed at the September meeting), Dan had called Paul anticipating a problem since he hadn't heard from the ECC in some time. Paul explained the ECC concern with his past performance, inviting Dan to present his views on the matter. Dan acknowledged that his supervision of the Brooks Pasture timber sale had fallen apart and that his perceived need to quickly complete the marginally profitable harvest had contributed to the problem. Dan further acknowledged past problems with inadequate sale closure and other matters of concern to ECC. Paul told Dan that the ECC had decided to articulate its concerns in a letter that would give Dan another opportunity to either improve his performance or, in absence of the Commission's satisfaction, resign his position.

ECC discussion followed over whether to end the matter at Paul's conversation with Dan or to follow through with the originally planned letter. The majority clearly favored documenting such important personnel matters in a formal letter. Paul and Rick will compose the letter.

B. Clean up of Brooks logging and Willis Bean Rd:

The question arose whether we should combine trail work with restoration of Brooks Pasture logging operation, and it was agreed it should be separate. Brooks pasture work still to do: cut clump of trees in parking lot, attend to ditch going up Brooks Pasture lane and move pile of logs left by loggers in lower entrance to most northeasterly section of Brooks field.

Willis Bean Rd ditches are overrun and soil has washed down on the bridge. This should be cleaned off so the boards don't rot. Stuart Heath will do this and install belting water bars for both bridges. No estimate yet. ECC appropriated \$4000 maximum for bridge approach repair with no more than \$3,000 to come from Forest Management fund.

We are still awaiting word from Bo Douglass re: boundary lines painting.

Next meeting: November 11, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Marnie Cobbs

Eaton Conservation Commission  
November 11, 2013

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Rick Young, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler, Dick Fortin, Tom Head, Marnie Cobbs and Peter Klose.

2. ADMINISTRATION Minutes of the 10/14/13 meeting were amended to show that Peter Klose was present; section # 4 wording of second sentence should be "By having a good paper trail GMCG won a small law suit against an employee who was fired"; section # 6 first sentence should read "... before he and Rick ... ". Minutes were unanimously accepted as amended.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 8,274.34
Forest Management Fund	68,844.90
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,668.25</u>
	\$80,787.49

\$924 was received from blueberry crop and will be deposited.

4. GREEN MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION GROUP They are currently working on financial transaction policies and procedures.

5. FOSS MOUNTAIN A. Blueberries. Olivia Saunders will submit an application for the SARES grant for sulfur application this week. The sulfur will be applied in the spring as it requires a ground temperature of 60 degrees. Marnie and Olivia picked application sites in the front field north of and part way up the path and also at Brooks Pasture to the right of that trail. Re: rock popping, Rick and Ryan Bushnell have both left messages with Shay Stanfield who did the rock popping for Tim Merrifield's blueberry field with no response thus far. Ryan is considering carrying the grant money for this over another year.

B. Brush piling - About 15 people turned out and piled 15 brush piles and windrows. This was about 1/3 of the total brush on the east side. Most piles are covered with tarps in preparation for a winter burn. A majority of the brush was pine that does not sprout.

C. New trail - Three bids were received and opened at this meeting: Appalachian Mountain Club, Off the Beaten Path and Michael Callis. These will be sent to ECC members and Dick F. will look them over and compare them.

5. FOREST MANAGEMENT A. There was extensive discussion of the letter to be written to Dan Stapanauskas re: ECC concerns and expectations for his job performance.

B. Stuart Heath will be asked to do ditching and cleaning on Willis Bean Rd.

C. Brooks Pasture - Dick F. did some clearing of cut trees along the Brooks Pasture trail which needs more cleaning up. This could include chipping with the chips then put to some use such as on the blueberry fields. There are logs in the northeast corner of the Brooks Pasture field blocking an access road. It was agreed that Marnie would call David Condoulis about removing these.

D. Dick F. and Tom put in the gate in the lower blueberry field along the road.

E. Boundary marking - still no response from Bo Douglass.

Next meeting: December 9, 2013 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler.

Eaton Conservation Commission  
December 9, 2013

1.Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM. Present were Paul Savchick, Marnie Cobbs, Dick Brisbois, Judy Fowler, Dick Fortin and Tom Head.

2.ADMINISTRATION Minutes of the 11/11/13 meeting were unanimously accepted.

3.TREASURER'S REPORT

Eaton Conservation Fund	\$ 9,216.41
Forest Management Fund	63,403.90
Land Acquisition Donations	<u>3,668.25</u>
	\$ 76,288.56

From the Conservation Fund \$985 was received from the Henney Fund for camp scholarships.

4.NH ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS It was unanimously agreed to send this year's dues of \$195. Paul will email them.

5.FOSS MOUNTAIN A. Olivia Saunders has submitted the SARES grant application.

B. Marnie presented information on three organizations that may be helpful in the ECC stewardship of Eaton lands: NH Prescribed Fire Council, a new group made up of organizations and agencies, including NH Cooperative Extension, with an interest in using prescribed burns to help organizations further their missions, promoting the safe use of prescribed fire; The Stewardship Network - UNH Cooperative Extension has received two grants to help build an online Stewardship Network to connect interested volunteers to well-organized, meaningful conservation and environmental science projects and to conduct on-the-ground conservation and stewardship projects. Marnie attended one of their meetings; Student Conservation Association a non-profit group engaging young people in hands-on service in the natural environment – Paul to contact.

6.FOREST MANAGEMENT A. Trail Work bids – There was discussion of the three bids received: Off the Beaten path, Appalachian Mountain Club and Michael Callis. Michael was present to answer any questions on his bid prior to the ECC discussion. It was unanimously voted to have Jed Talbot of Off the Beaten Path build the new trail up Foss. Dick Fortin will contact each bidder. It was also discussed to possibly have Jed Talbot do brush clearing along the trail as he has a brush clearing attachment. Dick F. sent the Davis Foundation photos of the new parking lot and information on the timing of the trail work.

B. It was unanimously voted, after discussion, for Paul to send the final version of a letter to Dan Stepanauskas re: his performance and ECC expectations in his role as forester.

C. Work on the Willis Bean Rd. delayed due to weather.

D. A proposal is being written up for boundary marking by Bo Douglass.

E. Dick B. put up "No motorized vehicles" signs on Foss.

Next meeting: January 13, 2014 at 7:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Fowler.