

Eaton Conservation Commission  
January 10, 2022

1.Meeting called to order at 6:10 Present were Marnie Cobbs, Holly Fortin, Dick Brisbois, Heather McKendry, and Dick Fortin. Paul Nuccio and Robin Willis were in attendance.

Chair discussed with Paul and Robin the possibility of them beginning the process of documenting fauna and flora on Town lands. Both expressed interest in helping with that in light of their recent training using "I naturalist". Board reviewed areas of focus and suggested they spend time in the Shepard River area. Marnie explained how this would tie in with the Cohort effort.

2.ADMINISTRATION *Minutes of the December 13 meeting were approved as written.*

3.TREASURER'S REPORT \$2,261.63 Conservation Fund

Forest Management Fund	\$69,108.73
LandAcquisition Fund	15,580.45
Foss Mt. Fund	2,145.06
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	\$89,095.87

*Motion was unanimously approved to reimburse Heather McKendry \$12 for annual renewal of Google domain for fossmountain.org web*

*Motion was unanimously approved to pay Cliff Cabral \$255 for invasive plant survey on Crystal lake Oct. 22, 2021.*

4.SELECTMEN'S REPORT Reviewed Building Permits, Wetlands violation submitted to DES, Budget season.

5.PLANNING BOARD REPORT Heather will report next month as the Planning Board meets on Wednesday.

6.FOSS MANAGEMENT Reviewed trail upgrade inquiry that Dick sent out to three professional trail crews. This included a map with the locations of the work and the linear feet involved. A description of the scope of the work to do, a timeline, and a collection of photos. This was not a formal RFP but merely to get an idea what a project of this size would cost for budget purposes.

White Mountain Collective – Helon Hoffer discussed the above project with a representative from WMC and established this was a good fit for their organization. He informed the Chair of the discussion but was not able to attend the meeting with more details. The ECC needs more information regarding what this group can do and will consider it in the mix of trail work providers.

Dick presented a revised Kiosk display for the upper Kiosk. A few more changes were suggested and he will make those adjustments for next meeting.

7.FOREST MANAGEMENT Dick reported he spoke to surveyor and by law a licensed forester can blaze and paint boundary lines. Joe Q public can paint but cannot blaze a new line between two points. It was suggested we check with Dan Stepanauskas, Town Forester, to see if he would want to address the line in question on the Creative Concept parcel.

8.COMMUNITY COHORT Marnie explained to the Commission what the group has been working on and reminded them of the Presentation dates.

9.OTHER BUSINESS A Dredge and Fill permit was submitted by the State for a culvert replacement on Route 153 just South of the Eaton Village Store. A wetlands violation (formal notification from DES) was discussed that took place on the Willis Bean Road.

Dick is still working on the distinction between the Forest Management and the Conservation Fund, he will try to wrap that up at next month's meeting.

It was suggested we return to an old habit at January's meeting of referring to a yearly calendar that outlined monthly projects as a way of ensuring we don't miss important procedures required of the ECC.

Next meeting: February 14, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Dick Fortin

Eaton Conservation Commission  
February 14, 2022

1. Meeting called to order at 6:05 Present were Marnie Cobbs, Holly Fortin, Heather McKendry, Dick Brisbois, and Dick Fortin.

2.. ADMINISTRATION *Minutes of the January 10, 2022 meeting were approved as written.*

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Conservation Fund	\$ 2,006.65
Forest Management Fund	69,109.32
Land Acquisition Fund	1 5,580.58
<u>Foss Mountain Fund</u>	<u>2,131.08</u>
Total	\$ 88,827.63

Donation Box Income

Website Donation Income

*Motion was made to reimburse Dennis Sullivan \$56 for two maps that were printed for the Cohort Presentation.*

4. SELECTMEN'S REPORT budget season is over, Selectmen will work on the land use policy for review at the ECC's March meeting.

5. PLANING BOARD REPORT Heather summarized the PB's decision regarding Heneault subdivision on Youngs Rd., STR application process for Bridgham and status of Watson's steep slope application in Woodland Acres

6. FOSS MANAGEMENT Commission decided to wait until 2023 for the major trail work project after securing grant support and address some of the erosion issues on the lower trail this summer, doing the work in-house. Kiosk final draft was reviewed and will be given to David Norton for his suggestions.

7. TOWN LANDS MANAGEMENT Marnie gave an update of the Cohort effort and reminded the Commission of the presentation dates. *A motion was made by Marnie "That developing a Conservation Plan for Eaton town lands would be a partnership between the Cohort community and the ECC." Motion was seconded by Holly F. and the vote was unanimous.* Publicity for the sessions was discussed.

8. OTHER BUSINESS *Paul Nuccio was nominated as an alternate. Vote was unanimous.*

Kristy Foster's report regarding invasives was reviewed.

ECC revised the "Monthly To Do" list and will begin referring to it at each month's meetings.

Salting Eaton's roads was brought up with inquiries regarding "brine application". ECC will consider writing to DOT to see if a reduction in the salt applications would be possible.

Discussions with Ryan Bushnell will take place in March for the April contract renewal.

Next meeting: March 11, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin

# Eaton Conservation Commission

March 14, 2022

1. Meeting called to order at 6:00. Present were Marnie Cobbs, Tom Head, Heather McKendry, Holly Fortin, Dick Brisbois, Dick Fortin.

2. ADMINISTRATION Minutes of the February 14, 2022 minutes approved as written.

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Conservation Fund -	\$1950.57
Forest Management Fund -	\$69,109.85
Land Acquisition Fund -	\$15,580.70

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TOTAL	\$86,641.12
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Donation Box Income	\$23.85
Foss Mtn. Fund	\$2131.10

Motion passed to approve the Treasurer's report as read.

4. FOSS MANAGEMENT Marnie was contacted by USFS John Neely regarding a spring burn on Foss this year. He also suggested the ECC contact Ted Kendziora, US Fish and Wildlife and Rebecca DiGirolomo, UNH Cooperative Extension Forester. They are interested in planning prescribed burns on private properties and might be able to help with a long term strategy for the blueberry fields.

Ryan Bushnell needs to be contacted regarding his contract and proof of insurance. Marnie will touch base with him to set up a date in April. Marnie spoke to Olivia Saunders, UNH Cooperative Extension, for ideas about blueberry picker shortages. Everyone is experiencing the same problem. The suggestion was made to meet with the Watsons to see if they would be willing to share what they have learned from their frozen blueberry experiences.

ECC voted to wait until 2023 to hire a trail crew for needed improvements on the Foss Mountain trail. ECC volunteers will address the erosion issues on the lower section of the new trail this spring. It was brought to our attention that there are no blazes on the wooded section of the new trail and is difficult to follow in the winter. The ECC will address this concern this spring. Dick will make two small signs to guide folks around Brooks Pasture in the winter as well.

5. TOWN LANDS MANAGEMENT Heather McKendry will explore whether other towns have placed Conservation Easements on Town Lands.

Questions were raised as a result of the recent Cohort presentation as to the official designation of Town lands. Over the years Town meeting votes on Town land warrant articles did not always include the required language to legally establish a "Town Forest". Dick Fortin will explore this further.

6. COMMUNITY COHORT Marnie provided ECC with info on how to “Prepare A Conservation Plan” for review at our next meeting. She will share outlines the Cohorts produce at their March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting next month.

7. OTHER BUSINESS Marnie asked if the ECC would be willing to assist landowners financially with the cost of placing a Conservation Easement on their Eaton properties? ECC needs to determine if that is allowed?

Tin Mountain Scholarship – ECC voted to spend \$1000 on scholarships to assist Eaton students with the cost of attending Tin Mountain Summer Camp in 2022. Monies to come from the Henney Conservation Fund.

ECC reviewed the process of accepting donations for the Foss Mountain Fund. Any donation over \$250 needs to be documented and presented before the Select Board before it can be deposited in the bank.

Marnie brought to the board’s attention that someone is cutting out brush to make an old skidder trail more accessible to other vehicles on the Cummings lot across from the White place on the Willis Bean Road. ECC will have to monitor that. Marnie suggested ECC hire Stubby Heath to place rocks at the entrance to prevent vehicles other than snowmachines to access the skid trail.

Next meeting: April 11, 2022 at 6 pm.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin

Eaton Conservation Commission  
April 11,2022

1. Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm. Present were Marnie Cobbs, Holly Fortin, Heather McKendry, Tom Head, Dick Brisbois, Dick Fortin. Paul Nuccio, Nancy and Mark Watson were in attendance.

2. ADMINISTRATION – Minutes of the March 14 meeting approved as written.

Marnie informed Commission of the Joint Board Meeting May 16, 6 PM

3. TREASURER’S REPORT -

Conservation Fund	\$1,976.54
Forest Management Fund	\$69,110.44
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15,580.83
Foss Mt. Fund	\$2,131.12
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$88,798.93</u>

Donation Box Income \$5.00

4. TOWN LAND MANAGEMENT - Heather summarized her findings on Conservation Easements. Towns cannot hold a Conservation Easement on Town owned land. There must be a separate entity overseeing the Easements. Heather indicated that a Town vote to establish a Town Forest is not in perpetuity and a vote can decide to sell off that Town land. Easements could dictate what the land could be used for going forward in the event the Town sold it and could offer long-term protection. Voting to convert town owned land to a “Town Forest” places management of said parcel in the hands of the Commission and removes it from Selectmen’s management oversight.

Dick reviewed the response from NHMA regarding past votes at Town Meetings accepting gifts of land and whether the votes in fact established a “Town Forest”. NHMA suggested some housekeeping and a discussion with Town Council and Town auditor.

Marnie reviewed the Pay Pal protocol as per NHMA and NH Association of Conservation Commissions. There was discussion regarding a “Go Fund Me” site.

Marnie demonstrated the new ECC website that Dennis Sullivan created. Dagmar Von Schwerin has volunteered to maintain the ECC, Foss Mt. Web sites, and help process donations made on the web.

5. FOSS MANAGEMENT – What should the focus of the message in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Trail Kiosk was discussed.

Marnie will inform the Commission when a walk with John Neely (USFS), Ted Kendziora (US Fish and Wildlife), and Rebecca DiGirolomo (UNH Co-op Ext.) is scheduled to review the potential fire on Foss.

Nancy and Mark Watson made a presentation to the Commission regarding their commercial blueberry experiences at Peddler’s End on Foss Mountain. They reviewed the process for organic certification, soil testing, record keeping, raking, processing, freezing and distribution/sale of their crop, and mowing the fields. The Watsons were very clear that because of their investments in mechanization and purchase of equipment for burning etc. that they would not be seeing a profit for a very long time. Their hope is to double the amount of frozen blueberries they could sell in the 2022 season but they are

limited by the lack of pickers to assist them and freezer space. They prefer to visit a field to pick more frequently as the berries ripen rather than picking it clean on a designated day. They emphasized the importance of pollination with either honey bees or bumblebees and the short window when that takes place.

6. FOREST MANAGEMENT – Marnie would like to schedule a walk / meeting with Dan Stepanauskas to get a sense of future timber activity.

7. OTHER BUSINESS - Dick informed the Commission the Selectmen did not warm up to the idea of increasing the Land Use Change Tax to 100% for the ECC funds.

Mark Carbone requested purchasing a new Conductivity meter, this was tabled to next month.

Marnie would like to organize a field outing to review the Town land property corners in the Foss Mt. area. She will notify the Commission of the date.

Next meeting:

May 9, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin



Eaton Conservation Commission  
May 9, 2022

1. Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm. Present were Marnie Cobbs, Holly Fortin, Heather McKendry, Tom Head, Dick Brisbois, Dick Fortin. Also present was Paul Nuccio.

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – the ECC voted to make Paul Nuccio an alternate for the meeting.

Minutes of the April 11 meeting were approved as amended.

Dick informed the ECC that the Joint Board meeting may be rescheduled due to the uptick of Covid in Eaton. The town Administrator will contact members with any changes.

3. **TREASURER'S REPORT** -

Conservation Fund	\$1,991.56
Forest Management Fund	\$69,110.99
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15,580.95
Foss Mtn. Fund	\$2,131.14
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TOTAL	\$88,814.64

Motion made to accept the Treasurer's report as read.

4. **SELECTMEN'S REPORT** – a final version of the Land Use Ordinance has been produced by the Selectmen and it was decided that the ECC should not charge for non-commercial use of Foss Mountain.

5. **PLANNING BOARD REPORT** – Updates on current subdivisions were presented, no one attended the Public Hearing for the Land Use Regs., Planning Board continues to work on Master Plan updates.

6. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** – ECC reviewed the new version of the message for the upper kiosk. Minor changes were made and will be forwarded to David Norton.

Ryan Bushnell still has not come in to sign the blueberry contract. 75 cents / pint was the agreed upon payment.

Stubby is willing to instal a new entrance ramp to the trail parking lot. Marnie suggested we talk to Dan S. (forester) to be sure the new design doesn't impede any future use as a log landing. She suggested we not block the current ramp but cable it so larger vehicles with trailers can do a drive through. Dick will purse these questions / suggestions. This project cannot happen until a Public Hearing is scheduled for June's Planning Board meeting as the Foss Mountain Road is a Scenic Road.

Foss Mtn. trail restoration will take place at the same time the new ramp is being constructed as Stubby can haul the needed  $\frac{3}{4}$  crushed gravel for the project.

7. **TOWN LANDS MANAGEMENT** – Dennis Sullivan's NRI is ready to go online after the Selectmen's review. ECC voted unanimously to accept the current version of the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) and are very appreciative of Dennis's hard work pulling all this together.

Tom, Paul, and Dick will work on the Willis Bean Road, cleaning waterbars and removing the one waterbar that isn't functioning correctly. It will be reinstalled after it is repaired.

8. **COMMUNITY COHORT** – Marnie updated ECC regarding “Conservation Conversations”. These will be presentations / listening sessions for towns people on topics such NRI, forestry, wildlife, water resources, invasives, prescribed burns, conservation easements to name a few. These will be a lead up to writing a Conservation Plan for Town Lands.

9. **OTHER BUSINESS** - Tin Mountain Camp Scholarships were finalized. All applicants will receive one sponsorship and Dick will readjust the % ECC payment. Marnie suggested that scholarship recipients make drawings of Foss Mountain as thank you notes for donors.

Holly made the motion to move \$1500 from the Foss Mountain Fund to the Conservation Fund, seconded by Tom. Voted unanimously in favor.

A letter will be composed to send to all the Camps in the area as a reminder of group use and size on Foss Mountain.

Next meeting:

June 13, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Richard Fortin

Eaton Conservation Commission  
June 13, 2022

1. Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm. Members present were Marnie Cobbs, Heather McKendry, Holly Fortin, Tom Head, Dick Brisbois, Dick Fortin. Also present was Paul Nuccio.

2. **ADMINISTRATION** - the ECC voted to make Paul an alternate for the meeting.  
Minutes for the May meeting were approved as read.

3. **TREASURER'S REPORT** -

Conservation Fund	\$1991.58
Forest Management Fund	\$69,111.60
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15,581.09
Foss Mt. Fund	\$2131.15

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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$88815.43</b>
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Donation box at Kiosk	\$68.40
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Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report as read.

Motion was made to cut a check for \$96 for the new Kiosk message board. Vote unanimously.

4. **SELECTMEN'S REPORT** - Fortin gave update regarding the numbers of Building Permits being issued, and Selectmen being approached by the Saco Headwaters Alliance to have Eaton act as an agent for a grant being submitted to DES for a feasibility study for culvert upgrades throughout Carroll County. The Selectmen choose not to volunteer the Town to be such agent.

5. **PLANNING BOARD REPORT** - there was a lengthy discussion regarding steep slope and ridge line ordinances in town.

6. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** - Tuesday, June 14 is the scheduled walk on Foss Mt. with John Neely, USFS, and others to review a future partnership for the prescribed burns for growth control and to enhance the blueberries. Existing contract with the USFS will expire on 3/1/2024.

ECC reviewed the new message board for the upper Kiosk. Everyone was in agreement with the final text and Marnie and Heather will instal it. ECC discussed the wording regarding group size for the lower Kiosk. It was decided to change the existing message with

**Minimize Your Impact on Foss Mt.**

Permits required for group use

Group size limited to 15 people

Call the Eaton Town Hall at -----

Visit Foss.org / Eaton Select....

ECC discussed whether a seasonal Permit could be issued to local summer Camp groups? Dick will bring this question to the Selectmen.

Marnie will schedule a walk with Ryan Bushnell to establish the extent of the picking this summer based on how much fruit is set. Heather and Dick Brisbois will work on new "No Picking" signs and set them out.

A suggestion was made to email friends as part of fund raising efforts for Foss Mt. Dick and Paul will try to get some trail repair work done over the next couple of weeks. The new entrance to the parking lot will be completed this month as well. The ECC was encouraged to spend time on Foss just observing hikers and their behavior. This information could help adjust any resource protection efforts by the ECC.

More wood chips have been delivered to fill holes in the blueberry fields.

Tom found a geocache at the proposed new parking lot entrance.

**7. FOREST MANAGEMENT** - waterbars on the Willis Bean road have been repaired. The stone crossing at the Giles place has been improved. Dan Stepanauskus has meet with Dennis Sullivan to match the NRI with Dan's forest stand map.

Marnie spoke to Beau Douglass who informed her he did not work on a lot of Town Forest lines. He suggested Marnie contact the group who bought the surveying company from David Douglass.

**8. COMMUNITY COHORT** - Dennis will lead the first "Conservation Conversations" on July 21 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. He will focus on using the NRI (Natural Resource Inventory). Cohort group reported they are working on getting other presenters for this fall and winter.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS** - Dick reported some changes in the Tin Mountain Camp Scholarships. Everyone who applied did get some assistance.

Next meeting:

July 11, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin

**Eaton Conservation Commission**

July 11, 2022

1. Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm. Members present were Marnie Cobbs, Heather McKendry, Holly Fortin, Dick Brisbois, Tom Head, Dick Fortin.

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – Minutes for the June 13 meeting were approved as read.

**3. TREASURER’S REPORT -**

Conservation Fund	\$2060.00
Forest Management Fund	\$69,112.17
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15,581.22
Foss Mt. Fund	\$2068.68
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TOTAL	\$88,822.07
Donation box at Kiosk	\$56.10
Website Donation Income	\$10.00

Motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s Report

Motion was made to pay the \$1000 invoice from Richard L. Heath for the Foss parking lot entrance and the \$22.41 invoice for new blueberry signs. Both items would be paid out from the Foss Mt. Fund. Marnie reminded the Commission of a required minimum balance of \$500 in that account.

4. **SELECTMEN’S REPORT** – Dick gave an update on recent parcels applying for Current use status. He reported on two ZBA applications for shore front properties on Hatch Pond. Request for Variances regarding the 125 foot setback to the water’s edge.

5. **PLANNING BOARD REPORT** - Planning Board meets after the ECC.

6. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** – Marnie introduced the idea of “table tents” containing information and requests for donations for Snow Village Inn and Eaton Village Store. The discussion focused on if these would generate more use of the mountain or whether it would be insignificant. Increase in use would be offset by the opportunity to raise funds with the included QR code. ECC decided to try “table tents” at Snow Village Inn and forego the EVS. It was decided to start with moving the donation box at the store and add a poster to generate interest and donations. Motion made to spend up to \$150 to print up the “table tents”. Dick Brisbois related an inquiry of installing a panoramic display at the summit of Foss to identify the surrounding peaks. Commission felt most people had phones with applications that did that and there was no need to set up such a display.

Ryan Bushnell, Marnie and Dick walked the fields assessing the blueberry crop. Ryan was surprised and pleased with the abundance of berries. It was decided some of the hardwood sprouts in Brooks Pasture could be cut in an attempt to knock them down even though there was a crop to be picked. This led to a discussion of how to cut these hardwood sprouts without damaging the blueberry crop. It was decided to follow a general fall brush cutting by horizon Forestry the next spring with repeated cuttings by volunteers. This is when the blueberry bushes are not producing berries.

No picking signs were installed as well as string to keep the general public out of Brooks Pasture. Some of the signs were removed and deposited at the parking lot?? They were put back in place the next day.

Heather suggested members check the QR code on the upper Kiosk on a regular basis to avoid someone placing a different code over the Commission's. This is the latest in scamming \$.

Marnie will organize another volunteer day in October with a priority of filling the holes in Brooks Pasture. Other work could be to brush cut the Giles cellar hole

Marnie reported on the walk with the UNH forester and the US Fish and Wildlife fire specialist. Working with these agencies would significantly increase the cost of the prescribe burn. We will continue exploring this. Our agreement with the US Forest Service expires in 2024.

ECC reviewed the new parking lot entrance and pointed out a couple issues. Dick will talk to Stubby Heath to resolve.

The wording for the lower Kiosk was reviewed and "Maximum group size no more than 15" was decided on. Commission discussed again the idea of commercial entities making money off Foss and not having to pay a user's fee. Motion was made to spend \$100 for a new Kiosk sign.

Yellow blazes need to be addressed on the summit and installed on the trail. Dick will take care of ASAP.

**TOWN LANDS MANAGEMENT** - Wes Smith from Horizon Engineering ( formerly Thorne Surveys) has information regarding Town Lines and will forward what he has to Marnie.

Dick will check with Dan Stepanauskus regarding work on line between McBriens and Town.

**COMMUNITY COHORTS** – Dennis Sullivan will do his Natural Resource Inventory presentation on July 21<sup>st</sup>. A water related presentation is scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**OTHER BUSINESS** – ECC will hold off on sending letters to camps in the surrounding area until it can be established which camps actually frequent Foss Mt.

Next meeting:

August 8, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin

**Eaton Conservation Commission**

August 15, 2022

1. Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm. Members present were Marnie Cobbs, Holly Fortin, Tom Head Dick Brisbois, Heather McKendry, Dick Fortin.

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – Minutes from the July 11 meeting were approved as read.

**3. TREASURER’S REPORT -**

Conservation Fund	\$2116.12
Forest Management Fund	\$69,112.72
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15,581.34
Foss Mt. Fund	\$1068.69

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TOTAL \$87,878.87

Donation box at Kiosk	\$111.62
Website Donation Income (July 12 – August 15)	\$1049.19

Motion made to accept the Treasurer’s Report.

Motion made to pay Minuteman Invoice:

- \$92 Lower Kiosk sign
- \$42 Cyanobacteria sign
- \$17.61 Additional amount for Table tents printing (\$150 July appropriation)

Tents and Kiosk expenses to come out of the Foss Mt. Fund, Cyanobacteria signs to come out of the Conservation Fund.

4. **SELECTMEN’S REPORT** – Update regarding the ZBA hearings for 125’ setback on Hatch Pond.

5. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** – Ryan Bushnell is currently picking the front field on Foss and will be moving up to Brooks Pasture tomorrow. He has picked 4000 pints to date.

Work weekend set for Oct. 22 with a rain date of Oct. 23. If more work needs to be done then another work weekend could be set for the following Sat. or Sun. Priorities would be filling holes in blueberry fields, trail work, brushing at the Giles place, spreading Sulphur.

Kevin at Snow Village Inn contacted Marnie to see if they could include some information in their “Newsletter” on the efforts the ECC have made regarding Foss Mountain. The Commission discussed the pros and cons of this publicity.

6. **FOREST MANAGEMENT** – Dick reviewed the outline that will be presented to Town Counsel regarding the status and need to clarify questions centered on Town Forest designation.

Marnie introduced the Carbon Sequestration program with “Forest Carbon Works”. This program offers carbon credits in exchange for an Annual Payment of at least \$10 / acre. Marnie will get more information for further discussion.

7. **COMMUNITY COHORT** – Dennis Sullivan successfully presented his NRI program in July. The next presentation on fresh water fisheries and water quality will be Sept. 22, at 6:30 pm. NH Fish and Game biologist John Magee, UNH Lay Lake Monitoring Director Bob Craycraft, and Katy Lewis from Tin Mountain Conservation Center will be the presenters.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS** - ECC held their elections with Marnie Cobbs as Chair, Tom Head as Vice Chair, Judy Fowler as Secretary, and Dick Brisbois as Treasurer. Holly Fortin made the motion and it was seconded by Heather McKendry. All voted in favor.

Old Perkins Road timber sale access. Marnie reviewed the proposal by Ronald Cima to cut timber on his lot and to use the abandoned road to remove the wood. The ECC did not express an official position on the proposal, but will be involved in the discussion with the Selectmen.

Next meeting:

September 12, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin



**Eaton Conservation Commission**  
September 12, 2022

1. Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm. Members present were Heather McKendry, Tom Head, Holly Fortin, Paul Nuccio, Dick Brisbois, and Dick Fortin.

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – Minutes for the August 8 meeting were accepted as read.

3. **TREASURER’S REPORT -**

Conservation Fund	\$2257.76
Forest Management Fund	\$69,113.34
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15581.48
Foss Mt. Fund	\$2042.71
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TOTAL	\$86,952.82

Donation Box - EVS \$72      Trail Box \$229

Website Donation Income \$30.00

Minuteman Invoice – appears to be an overdue balance. Dick B. will address.

Motion made to accept the Treasurer’s report. Vote unanimously.

Two large donations are in the works and will be processed by the next ECC meeting.

4. **SELECTMEN’S REPORT** – Dick reminded every one of the Joint Board meeting coming up on Monday the 19<sup>th</sup>.

5. **PLANNING BOARD REPORT** – No report

6. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** – Waterbars were cleaned and re-shaped, the last storm with heavy rains damaged the upper waterbars.

ECC discussed leaving the current sprout growth along the edge of Brooks Pasture and the hiking trail as a visual block to the blueberry fields. It was voted to leave the growth and assess its effectiveness with time. The narrow strip of growth can be cut in the future if is found ineffective and or inconvenient to the grower.

The scheduled work day was reviewed including what kind of work needs to get done.

7. **TOWN LANDS MANAGEMENT** – Paul Nuccio will walk the lines on the Bloise lot in South Eaton.

8. **FOREST MANAGEMENT** – Dick reported a package of information was sent to Town Counsel for review regarding Town Forest designation etc.

9. **COMMUNITY COHORT** – Our next Conservation Conversation will take place on Thursday 9/22. The theme will be fresh water resources with John Magee from NH Fish and Game, Bob Craycraft from UNH Extension Lay Lake Monitoring and Katy Lewis from Tin Mountain Conservation Center.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS** – Heather and Tom were eager to cut the Thurston cellar hole. They will take on the task on Oct.14 at 8 am rather than ask Billy Angel to do it this year.

Dick reported that he and Marnie had a telephone conference with the Town Auditor and she confirmed that the ECC was managing the financial accounts correctly and emphasized keeping the Town Treasurer informed was key.

Next meeting:

October 10, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin

**Eaton Conservation Commission**  
**October 10, 2022**

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Members present were Marnie Cobbs, Holly Fortin, Tom Head, Dick Brisbois, and Dick Fortin. Members of the public included John Border, Dagmar Schweran, and Tom Rose.

2. **ADMINISTRATION**- Minutes for the September 12 meeting were accepted as read.

3. **TREASURER'S REPORT** -

Conservation Fund	\$6344.80
Forest Management Fund	\$69,113.91
Land Acquisition Fund	\$15,581.61
Foss Mtn. Fund	\$1871.77

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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$92,912.09</b>
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Donation Box - EVS \$30      Trail Box \$69.30

Website Donation Income \$10,000 (\$5000 9/12/22, \$5000, 10/8/22)

4. **SELECTMEN'S REPORT** - Winter grooming on the Willis Bean road will not take place this winter as both parties involved did not want to sign an agreement with the Town. The agreement would have placed the liability on the parties grooming rather than the Town.

5. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** - A. Horizon Forestry will complete the brush cutting prior to the Oct 22 work date. Their rates have gone up from \$175 / acre to \$215 / acre. An estimated 8 acres would be cut this year at a total cost of approximately \$1720. *Dick B. made the motion to hire Horizon and Dick F. seconded the motion all voted in favor of hiring Horizon Forestry.*

B. Marnie summarized a conference call that Dick and Marnie had with Ryan Bushnell. He asked that we not cut the North field as there should be another blueberry crop again this next summer. He was hoping to alternate between Brooks Pasture and the North field and abandon the South field and McKenzie pieces for picking. ECC suggested this might be an opportunity for another grower to be involved in picking those areas and Ryan agreed. An effort will be made to identify someone interested in the commercial crop in those areas.

6. **FOREST MANAGEMENT** – Dan contacted Marnie and indicated next year may be a seed year for white pine. If so he would like to have a small sale on a parcel that could respond to a cut with pine regeneration. Marnie will walk the area with him and get back to the ECC.

7. **COMMUNITY COHORT** - A. Dan Stepanauskas and Peter Haggerty will present at the next scheduled "Conservation Conversation" on Nov. 17, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, at the Eaton Town Hall. Marnie reviewed Dan's outline for the evening.

B. Wendy Scribner, Carroll County's Extension Forester, wrote an article about Eaton's efforts to develop a Conservation Plan in a Cohort publication. Marnie proof read the article for the ECC.

C. ECC reviewed what volunteers could get started on in the initial steps of developing the Conservation Plan. It was decided that all the property lines would be walked and identified using GPS and an associated narrative would be written including condition of the blazes, stone walls and wire fences found, corners located and any work that needs to be done on any segment of the property lines. While conducting this survey any wildlife sightings, plant documentations or other natural history points of interest would be noted.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS** – A. Cyano-bacteria sign will stay up at Conway Lake as new information regarding exposure in the winter as well as the summer is possible.

B. ECC discussed Bob Craycraft's comments at the last Conversation Conversation. suggesting we continue monitoring the lakes for clarity using a Sechhi disk and look for contaminants using a Conductivity meter. Dick will contact Bob regarding purchasing a new meter as our current meter is not working. *Voted unanimously to begin inquiring about the purchase.*

C. Dick reviewed the Town Counsel's opinion regarding Town Forest designation. According to Attorney Loughman we have three official Town Forests. They include the Jackson Town Forest, the Bloise lot off Towle Hill Road, and the Henney parcel donated in 1986. As far as she could determine the other parcels were not officially voted on according to the pertinent RSAs and are Conservation Lands owned by the Town. ECC will discuss this further.

D. Marnie reviewed the Joint Board meeting that took place last month. This generated discussion regarding the State's Shoreland Water Quality Act and how it permitted accessory structures within the 50 foot zone adjacent to the water body.

E. Marnie explained how the ECC PayPal account was established and her efforts to get that corrected. This will probably take a while as they are slow to respond.

Next meeting:

November 14, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin

**Eaton Conservation Commission**  
**November 14, 2022**

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm. Members present were Marnie Cobbs, Holly Fortin, Tom Head, Heather McKendry, Paul Nuccio, Dick Brisbois, and Dick Fortin.

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – Minutes for the October 10 meeting were accepted as read.

3. **TREASURER’S REPORT -**

Conservation Fund		\$6344.85
Forest Management Fund		\$69,114.50
Land Acquisition Fund		\$15,581.74
Foss Mt. Fund		\$11,971.16
Total		\$103,012.25
Donation box	Foss trail head	\$36.76
	EVS box	\$14.85
Website donation		\$193.73

Motion made and passed to accept the Treasurer’s Report.

Motion made and passed to pay Horizon Forestry \$2650 for brush cutting. To be paid out of the Foss Mt. Fund. ( Mowed north of old trail and Brooks Pasture)

Motion made and passed to pay NHACC annual dues of \$250 out of the Conservation Fund.

Marnie informed the ECC that Robin Nuccio is willing to become a Board member and take on the responsibilities of the Treasurer. ECC will ask the Selectmen to appoint her and the Board will vote at next month’s ECC meeting to make Robin the new Treasurer.

4. **SELECTMEN’S REPORT** – Dick gave an update on the Broadband effort in town. The new Winter Parking signs were discussed.

5. **PLANNING BOARD** – Marnie reported for Dennis S. the PB was working on changes to the Zoning Ordinance.

6. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** – Marnie reviewed the new strategy discussed with Ryan Bushnell regarding picking blueberries. It was decided to move forward with the new configuration of picking areas and to advertise for another grower to work the fields. Marnie and Dick will work on a description to distribute to various agricultural organizations in the area. It was suggested the ECC should contact the Mennonites in Brownfield as potential growers. New acreage figures were worked out by Dennis S. using GPS and a mapping program.

Work days on Foss - a crew put in new water bars on the road leading to Brooks Pasture on Nov. 5 followed by another work day that filled in holes in the blueberry fields Sat. the 11<sup>th</sup>.

ECC decided to pursue the trail work and grant writing for this summer if it is possible.

7. **TOWN LANDS** - A walk to re-establish a vague property line between the town and the McBriens is scheduled for Sat. Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

Dick reviewed the Town attorney's response regarding Town Forest designation. It is her opinion there are three parcels that are officially designated "Town Forest". The Jackson Town Forest, the Henney gift of 1986, and the Bloise lot. All the other parcels are town owned but fall into the category of Conservation Land because they did not go before the legislative body for an official vote at Town Meeting.

The ECC voted to draft a warrant article for Town meeting to withdraw \$20,000 from the Forest Management Fund, generated in 1993 from a timber sale that occurred on the Creative Concept parcel. That parcel is in fact Conservation Land and proceeds can be deposited in the Conservation Fund and does not have to be held in the Forest Management Fund. More discussion is planned regarding the status of town land going forward.

Paul Nuccio asked about Conservation Easements and that was followed by explanations from Marnie and Heather.

8. **COMMUNITY COHORT** - There will be a presentation on Thursday Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall by Dan Stepanauskus and Peter Hagerty. The topic will be forestry.

9. **OTHER BUSINESS** – Mark Carbone will be contacted in February to report on the water quality tests on Crystal. This will give Bob Craycraft from UNH time to work up the data.

Next meeting:

December 12, 2022 at 6 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin

## Eaton Conservation Commission

December 12, 2022

1. Meeting was called to order at 6 pm. Members present were Marnie Cobbs, Holly Fortin, Dick Brisbois, Dick Fortin, Alternate Paul Nuccio. Also present were Robin Nuccio and Dagmar Von Schwerin

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – Minutes for the November 14 meeting were accepted as written.

### 3. **TREASURER’S REPORT** -

Conservation Fund -	\$6146.50
Forest Management Fund -	\$69,115.07
Land Acquisition Fund -	\$15,581.87
Foss Mt. Fund -	\$12,164.99

TOTAL	<hr/> \$103,008.44
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Donation Box Income	0
Website Donation	0

Invoice from Northern Forest Resources ( Town forester )  
\$810 see invoice #2022 forester rate of pay increased to \$60 / hr.

Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report and to pay \$810 invoice from the Forest Management Fund.

4. **SELECTMAN’S REPORT** – Scrub Oak Scramblers expressed an interest in grooming the trails to Foss Mountain. Selectmen are concerned about the amount of water currently on the trail and brook crossing. Further discussions will take place before they get the green light.

Road Classifications were discussed and how they became Class VI roads.

5. **PLANNING BOARD** – a future site inspection on a proposed house lot was discussed in terms of the Steep Slope and Ridge Line Ordinances.

6. **FOSS MOUNTAIN** - Board worked on an “Advertisement” for an additional blueberry grower/picker for this summer’s growing season. The Ad will be posted with various agricultural groups and the newspaper.

Question was raised whether we should be adding sand in the holes in the blueberry fields before top dressing with bark. It was noted that this fall some of the holes that were filled a few years ago were sinking as a result of decomposing bark. Dick will contact UNH Ext. for advice.

Trail upgrade will be postponed until 2024. Bids will be collected during the summer of 2023.

**7. TOWN LANDS MANAGEMENT** - Paul will continue to work on the Creative Concept piece until the snow gets too deep.

A wood duck box is available to be installed at the Giles Place. Marnie will see if John Border is interested in doing that. The question was raised if the ECC should take a more active role in Loon nesting on our Eaton lakes?

**8. FOREST MANAGEMENT** - Dan Stepanauskas, town forester, will complete the Forest Management Plan to include the MacKenzie piece and adjacent parcel.

**9. COMMUNITY COHORT** - The Forestry program was a success with Dan Stepanauskas and Peter Hagerty giving an overview of timber harvesting and carbon sequestration. The cohort group felt the next program should be in Feb. with wildlife as the topic. More thought will be giving to developing the format.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS** - A motion was made and seconded to make Judy Fowler an alternate and to have Robin Nuccio become a member and Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting:

January 9, 2023 at 6 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:42

Respectfully submitted by Richard Fortin