



Farmington River Coordinating Committee

2007 FRCC Members

Barkhamsted

Jean Miller
Mario Santoro, alt.

Canton

Alis Ohlheiser
Terri Tracy, alt.

Colebrook

Tom Stanton

Hartland

Fred Jones
Nicki Hall, alt.
Sam Slater, alt.

New Hartford

Pat Keener
Mark Lindquist, alt.

CT Department of Environmental Protection

Sally Snyder, alt.

Farmington River Anglers Association

Dick Reynolds
Dan Busa, alt.

Farmington River Watershed Association

David Sinish
Eric Hammerling, alt.

Metropolitan District Com- mission

Tim Anthony
Carol Youell, alt.

National Park Service

Jamie Fosburgh
Liz Lacy, alt.



Annual Report 2007

Greetings from the banks of the Farmington Wild & Scenic River

In 2007, the Farmington River Coordinating Committee continued to work on projects that reflect the outstanding resource values that are the foundation of the Wild and Scenic designation.

Our most exciting new project for 2007, in the opinion of this old retired teacher, was awarding our first Nancy Johnson Scholarships. We were looking for a student interested in an environmental science and we found two! Erin Guzowski was a high school student at Northwestern Regional 7 High School and is majoring in Geology at Keene State College in New Hampshire; the second student, Kai Starn, is a Natural Resource Planning major at the University of Vermont. The scholarships were created both to honor Nancy Johnson (who in her role as a member of the House of Representatives, introduced and supported the designation of the Farmington as a Wild and Scenic River) and to promote the pursuit of environmental education. Mrs. Johnson attended our Open House in September and presented the scholarships to the parents of the recipients.



Photo: Fred Jones



Photo: Ethan Nedeau, Biodrawversity

Several other excellent projects were completed this year. In an effort to collect and document data on the health of the 14-mile stretch of W&S Farmington River, FRCC contracted with Ethan Nedeau of Biodrawversity to study the distribution and habitat of fresh water mussels, snails, and crayfish. Nedeau determined that the Farmington is exemplary habitat for certain species.



FRCC funded a much-needed bank stabilization project in the Nepaug Forest that was also finished — thanks to the great work of DEP and local excavator Gene Allen. The MDC also lent support to that project.

Our Grants Program funded two Fish in the Classroom projects this year - one for Farmington River Anglers Association to fund the CT River Salmon Association's Salmon in the Classroom project at the Colebrook Consolidated School, and the other for Farmington Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited to fund the Trout in the Classroom project at the Hunter Montessori School (Caren Ross – Teacher) in New Hartford.

The 3rd Annual Open House and Wild & Scenic Art Exhibit was held in September, and the art work was stunning. The Traveling Trout, the Barkhamsted Land Trust musical group, entertained, and the food and drink was enjoyed by all. If you missed it in 2007, please plan to attend in 2008 (probably in September). Squires Tavern is a great place for a party!

Long term projects such as Water Quality Monitoring, Invasive Plant Management, completion of the information kiosks on the river, the FRCC Grants Program, and on-going support of the restoration of Squires Tavern will progress in 2008.

Thank you for your continued support and stewardship of the Farmington River!



Pat Keener
FRCC Chair, New Hartford Representative
Farmington River Coordinating Committee



Paddlers enjoying the high flows in April 2007



Fondly remembering
Walt Landgraf
(1941- 2007)

The Farmington River Coordinating Committee was established by the U.S. Congress to oversee and coordinate activities on the 14-mile federally designated Wild and Scenic section of the upper Farmington River. Each year the FRCC receives funding from Congress to fulfill its mandate. The Upper Farmington River Management Plan guides the actions of the Committee — and others who have an interest in stewardship of the river.

The Upper Farmington River Management Plan can be read at www.FarmingtonRiver.org

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2007

Outreach and Education

Nancy Johnson Scholarships—Scholarships were awarded to Kai Starn and Erin Guzowski.

FRCC Open House and W&S Art Exhibit — The 3rd FRCC Annual Open House and W&S Art Exhibit was a great success. Our favorite local band, *Traveling Trout* of Barkhamsted Land Trust, serenaded us again. There were 32 pieces of art—by 17 local artists or photographers.



FRCC Newsletter — FRCC produced and distributed two newsletters to more than 400 riverfront landowners, town officials and organizations.

FRCC Website — Improvements and additional information continued on the FRCC website—please visit—www.FarmingtonRiver.org

Resource Stewardship

Nepaug Riverbank Stabilization—Work that was badly needed to stabilize a riverbank and road in Nepaug State Forest was completed thanks to a cooperative effort between FRCC, CT DEP, and MDC. Local excavator—Eugene Allen—did a wonderful job blending the stabilization work into the forest's natural surroundings.

Mussels, Snails and Crayfish Study—FRCC contracted with Ethan Nedeau of Biodiversity to study the distribution and habitat of fresh water mussels, snails, and crayfish in the upper Farmington. Nedeau determined that the Farmington is exemplary habitat for certain species. Please see our website for more information.

Macroinvertebrate Study—FRCC contributed to a macroinvertebrate study being done by FRWA and CT DEP. Results from that study will be available next year.



Water Quality Monitoring—Upper Farmington River WQM continues regularly thanks to Alisa Phillips-Griggs at FRWA and MDC. This year's testing showed no major changes from the year before.

Vernal Pools in Canton — Initial studies were done in identifying vernal pools in Canton. The final stages of this project will take place in 2008.

Mapping—FRCC outfitted itself with some working GIS maps to assist in all kinds of discussions and projects. Jeff Bolton, FRWA's new GIS mapper, created an aerial map showing parcel boundaries for each town, and an upper watershed map showing protected lands, property boundaries, water resource features, and roads.

Hartland Natural Resources Inventory—FRCC assisted Hartland in completing a Natural Resources Inventory for that town.

Flushing Flows Study— A study was completed by Melinda Daniels at UConn to determine what level of flow would be needed to move sediments on the upper Farmington River.

Grants Awarded

Salmon in the Classroom at Colebrook Consolidated School—Farmington River Anglers Association

Trout in the Classroom at Hunter Montessori School—Farmington Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited

Richard Smith Site Archeological Study—Barkhamsted Historical Society



Annual Report 2007 — Overview of Expenditures

Outreach and Education

Newsletters, Kiosks, Website.....	\$2,202
Open House.....	408
Nancy L Johnson Scholarship.....	1,000
Land Trust Meeting.....	455
Display Pieces.....	566
Subtotal	\$4,631

Resource Stewardship

Nepaug Riverbank Work.....	\$8,440
Water Quality Monitoring.....	15,000
Mussels, Snails and Crayfish Study.....	10,000
Mapping.....	500
Hartland NRI.....	<u>5,000</u>
Subtotal	\$38,940

Grants Program

Meeting Notice —Barkhamsted Conservation Commission.....	\$300
Start Up Funds—Harland Land Trust.....	1,088
Forest Preservation Transaction Costs—Aton Forest, Inc.....	5,000
R. Smith Site Archeology Study— Barkhamsted Historical Society.....	4,260
Salmon in the Classroom —Farmington River Anglers Association.....	537
Subtotal	\$11,185

Operations

Operating and Office Costs.....	\$6,323
Organizational Development.....	<u>3,964</u>
Subtotal	\$10,287
TOTAL	\$65,043

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#### 2007 Leveraging

|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Total Volunteer Hours: 1,020 |                 |
| Translated to dollars.....   | <b>\$20,400</b> |

#### Previews of 2008

- Upper Farmington River Corridor Land Use Study
- Various Workshops Collaborating with MDC, DEP, Land Trusts
- River Users Etiquette Information

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[www.FarmingtonRiver.org](http://www.FarmingtonRiver.org)