



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE
100 East River Road – Squire’s Tavern
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Minutes
Resource Stewardship subcommittee
Tuesday, November 7, 2023, 6:30 PM
Zoom

Attendance: Colebrook (Alison Jassen, Representative, R/S Subcommittee Chair), New Hartford (Alison Murdock, Representative), DEEP (Matt Goclowski), FRWA (Laura Hart), Trout Unlimited (Jim Buchok, Representative),

Call to Order 6:35 pm

1) Invasive Plant Management

Nothing new to report. Laura suggested that it may be a good idea to have Betsy Corrigan focus on educational aspects of invasive plant management since she has less time available. Volunteers and River Stewards could be more involved.

2) Water Quality Monitoring

Temperature loggers have been swapped out and conductivity monitors are being deployed. Water quality reports are being compiled and written and will be available later this fall.

3) Land Protection Grants

The New Hartford Land Trust (NHLT) has asked for \$10,000 for the Stub Hollow Oliva Property land acquisition at the October R/S meeting. Alison Jassen moved to approve an additional \$1500 for the land acquisition bringing the total for this parcel to \$10,000, since they currently have a \$8,500 grant from FRCC from last year’s fiscal year. Jim Buchok seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

4) Culverts

Dan B., Aimee P., and Laura H. had a meeting with Hartland town officials about the culvert near Hogsback at 532 Hogsback Road that has been assessed by FRWA as a severe barrier. Town noted flooding issues there, and are officially on board to partner with FRCC, FRWA, and TU to move this project forward. Jim Buchok stated that Trout Unlimited maybe able to help the town with funding for the culvert design. Laura to set up next meetings.

Matt G. said that flexible baffles can be added to slow the water flow rate down and help fish move through the culvert, and fold over during high flows. DOT mitigation funds may be used to add this to the culvert upstream from the 532 Hogback culvert on Route 20. This would open up more stream length and habitat.

Jim B. stated that TU is focused on some smaller streams in New Hartford that have native brook trout and they will be able to help town officials plan for culvert replacement. FRWA has been doing more surveys on tribs in New Hartford. Laura and Alison M will approach the Town of New Hartford when

ready with a plan. Jim will be attending spawning surveys on tribs to the Farmington River with TU, DEEP, and FVTU.

Others: Continuing/New

Laura and Andrew distributed the original Wild and Scenic River MOU that MDC signed. The discussion revolved around whether MDC could make more planned releases from Hogsback (Goodwin Dam) to prevent large scale water releases when ACOE releases water from Colebrook, now that MDC has been released from its drinking water obligation. Releasing more water from Hogsback to accommodate water releases from Colebrook would not require MDC to use any water in the Colebrook River Reservoir pools. Jim Buchok said that TU officials also want to see better water release management.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:22 pm