



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
100 East River Road – Squire’s Tavern  
P.O. Box 395  
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063  
860-738-2456 [farmingtonriver.org](http://farmingtonriver.org)

**Minutes**  
**Resource Stewardship subcommittee**  
**Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 4:30 PM**  
**Zoom**

**Attendance:** Colebrook (Alison Jassen, Representative, R/S Subcommittee Chair), Representative), DEEP (Matt Gocłowski, Representative and Susan Peterson, Alternate), FRWA (Laura Hart, Representative), Barkhamsted (Roger Behrens, Alternate and Committee Chair), New Hartford (Alison Murdock, Representative), Trout Unlimited (Jim Buchok, Representative)

**1) Invasive Plant Management**

One of the first things to determine is where are the best places to work on invasive species. Past focus has been on the Peoples State Forest area working primarily to remove bittersweet. Laura will check with DEEP to see if there are any areas or species they would like us to focus on and perhaps, get a list of possible contractors we could work with. It was suggested that Gerry Milne from DEEP Forestry might have recommendations. It would be a good idea to contact Dennis Quinn to see if he has priorities for invasives management.

Aquatic invasive species have been identified in the Lower River. The Upper River has had less of a problem with aquatic invasives, but in the past Didymo or “Rock snot” has been identified, but it has not been seen recently in the Upper River.

Carole Cheah has notified Laura that the beetles have shipped. They will be released in the Lower River first. Upper River releases start May 24<sup>th</sup> in PSF, more dates and locations to come.

**2) Water Quality Monitoring**

The additional conductivity loggers that FRCC funded have been deployed. Sampling is starting earlier than in past years (last 2 weeks of May).

**4) Land Protection/ Grants**

No Land Protection grant proposals have been received.

**5) Culverts**

Tracy Brown from TU will make a site visit to the Hogback Road culvert site on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**6) Others: Continuing/New**

**Farmington River Flow**

Jim reported that the House Bill 5355 passed House and Senate on 5/8 “An Act Concerning The Water Resources Of The Upper Farmington River Valley”

**West River Road Project:**

Susan reported that permits have been submitted to the USACE, but the project will not meet the deadline set by OPM and no extension will be granted. The town needs to find new grant opportunities to continue the work.

**Trout Unlimited Updates:**

Jim Buchok reported that the tree planting project on April 27th at the north meadow of Matthies Grove Peoples Forest Recreation area on East River Road in Barkhamsted, CT went well.

**Other:**

There will be a tree planting with about 500 trees on land owned by FRWA in the Fall. Laura does not have all the information yet. A site walk will take place with TU, NPS, and FRWA.

FRWA is applying for a grant from the Long Island Sound Futures Fund to develop a watershed-based plan for the Still and Mad Rivers. Roger to send a letter of support.