

EATON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

September 8, 2025

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Members present were Paul Nuccio, Robin Nuccio, Dick Fortin, Holly Fortin, and Steve Kafka. Also present was Dagmar von Schwerin.

2. **ADMINISTRATION** – Minutes of the August 11 meeting were accepted.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Land Conservation Fund	\$24,258.10	CD \$10,880.15	
Forest Management Fund	\$17,740.16	CD \$32,640.42	
Foss Mountain Fund	\$13,633.22		
Conservation Fund	\$14,486.70	CD \$10,880.15	
TOTALS	\$70,021.68	CD \$54,400.72	\$124,518.90
Donation boxes	\$0.00		
Website Donation Income	\$96.50 (included in total)		

E coli testing expense submitted by Mark Carbone to ECC will be forwarded to the Town to pay Dick Fortin will be reimbursed \$54.14 from the Foss Mtn Fund for the cost of Foss soil testing. Tin Mountain received the \$500 check from the Henney Fund. ECC voted unanimously to use the Henney Fund to pay Horizon for brush cutting of the commercial blueberry fields the ECC manages on Foss Mtn.

Treasurer's report was accepted.

4. **SELECTMEN'S REPORT** – Joint Board meeting will be held on 23rd September, 6:00 pm.

5. **PLANNING BOARD** – Discussed building permit for one of the new lots on Brownfield Road and closed an application the PB had submitted for tree cutting on Potter Road. Paul Nuccio made a presentation of ECC recommendations regarding wetlands buffer zones for various types of wetlands. The PB also reviewed proposed changes to the Short-Term Rental ordinance developed at a work session in July.

6. **FOSS MANAGEMENT** – Water bars on the trail will need to be cleaned out but will need to wait for rain to bring more substrate in to update the trail. Willis Bean Road water bar also needs to be replaced. Dick and Paul will meet on October 4 at 8:00 to work on both.

Horizon can cut next week. Dick and Paul will make a map for them, asking them to try to cut areas with large amounts of little blue stem last so that seeds are not carried to all fields.

7. **TOWN LAND MANAGEMENT** – The planning board had a discussion with Paul regarding the Wetland Overlay District proposal. Buffer sizes for appropriate wetland types and wetland sizes were discussed. A buffer size and the characteristics of a wetland that would require a buffer were agreed upon.

There was discussion about the difference between an intermittent stream and ephemeral stream. The PB does not want to protect ephemeral streams (streams that result only from precipitation) but does want to protect intermittent streams (streams that are seasonal and run as the result of a combination of snowmelt / high water table). Intermittent streams are important to many sensitive species in the spring. It is important to distinguish the difference between ephemeral and intermittent. Protection is necessary for intermittent streams.

Long Pond – Paul had the GMCG test for dissolved oxygen– the pond has a healthy dissolved oxygen profile.

Discussed expanding water quality monitoring to include Hatch Pond, Purity Lake and Roberts Pond. Volunteers can be trained by Paul.

Discussion of potential for ECC to conduct E coli sampling in Crystal Lake. The Selectmen currently manage testing required by the state for public beaches. Paul feels that testing should take place twice a month in July and August when water temperatures rise. Will look into working with Waukeela Camp, who might also be required to do testing.

Discussed brush cutting along Potter Road, particularly near the Conway Lake South Cove launch area. ECC will ask that the road crew leave as much of the buffer in place as possible, still allowing for road maintenance needs. Too much cutting will impact the riparian and shoreline buffers of the lake and encourage more launching points for boaters near the designated launch area.

Steve talked to some of the owners of the land along the South Cove access point, and they are willing to allow Steve to post “no trespassing” signs in areas of their private property that should not be used to launch boats. Discussed possibility of creating a kiosk at the official access point consolidating all the current signs and providing information on the precise location of the official access point and what is and what is not allowed. The signage will be clear that this access point is for car-top, **non**-commercial use only. ECC will work on signage to present to the Selectmen and land owners for approval.

8. FOREST MANAGEMENT – no issues

9. OTHER BUSINESS –

Conservation Plan – Paul and Dagmar will work on new draft to bring to the October meeting.

Next meeting: October 13, 2025 at 6 pm

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm

Respectfully submitted by Dagmar von Schwerin, Recording Secretary