

CONSERVATION COMMISSION TOWN OF BELMONT, NH

Saturday, August 27, 2022 Tioga Marsh/Currier-Sanborn Conservation Area Belmont, New Hampshire

Present: Chair Denise Naiva, Pauline Tessier, Jane Jordan, Susan Irving, Georgina Lambert, Ron Klemarczyk, Forester; Donna Hepp, Chair Belknap County Conservation District

D. Naiva opened the meeting walk at 9:10am

Ron Klemarczyk led the walk beginning at the parking lot on Depot Street/Route 140 and provided an overview on the Forest Map. There was discussion regarding brushing back the parking lot entrance to make the area more visible from the road. Invasive plants glossy buckthorn, multiflora rose and bittersweet were observed along portions of the walk (refer to Forest Map for locations). Evidence of wet lands, vernal pool and a culvert were noted. Wild grape vine was noted as a beneficial plant for wildlife. Evidence of coyote scat and deer tracks were observed. Mature stands of hemlock, and pine were noted. No evidence of wooly adelgid on the hemlock. American chestnut, high bush blueberries, a variety of mosses were viewed. Parking at the Currier-Sanborn property is limited with unauthorized parking of trailers and vehicles that use the rough boat ramp. A small clearing with a wooden bench was noted on the Winnipesaukee river bank, apparently used by paddlers.

Discussion/Action items:

- Brush out opening to parking area on Depot Street
- Check culvert annually to ensure proper flow.
- Improve current rough trail from Depot Street by removing fallen trees/debris, possible reroute some areas.
- Possibly cut a short loop trail.
- Ron Klemarczyk advised that the forested areas are unique. Pros and cons of hemlock timber harvest were discussed.
- Develop a plan for glossy buckthorn management.
- Remove gate from parking lot Depot Street and repurpose for a gate for Currier-Sanborn property.
- Place official "No parking" sign at Currier-Sanborn property.
- Discussed pros and cons of mowing open areas.
- Due to significant wetlands, there was discussion regarding the limitations of public use of this property and to maintain it as low impact, low disturbance open space.
- Plan a public education session (a Saturday in October) regarding the property.

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- Ron Klemarczyk will contact Matt Tarr at UNH Cooperative Extension Service regarding glossy buckthorn management.
- Ron Klemarczyk will consolidate all findings and recommendations for management in the final management plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40am.

Submitted by,

Denise Naiva, Chair