



FINAL 052025 – Adopted 10/17/25

CLHCC Meeting Notes
May 16, 2025
Pittsburgh Fire Station

In Attendance

<i>NAME</i>	<i>REPRESENTING</i>
Gail Hanson, Chair	Governor and Executive Council
Keith Robinson	Governor and Executive Council
Darrin Jock	Town of Pittsburg
Beth Drew	Town of Pittsburg
Dwayne Covell	Town of Stewartstown
John White	Town of Clarksville
Pierre Bedard	Leaseholders Association
Ray Gorman	Coos County Commissioners
Charlie Levesque	Senate/Forest Ecology
Corrine Rober	Senate/Recreation & Tourism
Eric Stohl	House/Monitor Conservation Easements
John Sojka	NH Fish and Game Department, designee
Sarah Stewart	DNCR
Corey Clark	DES, designee

Absent

<i>NAME</i>	<i>REPRESENTING</i>
Michael Phelps	Landowner
Gene Chandler	House/Forestry & Timber Harvesting

Staff Present: Johanna Lyons, Clint Savage, Brian Parise, Maggie Machinist, Alexa Kosalek, Jacob DeBow.

Chair Gail Hanson opened the meeting at 10:36 am with the pledge of Allegiance and asked the Committee members and the public attendees to introduce themselves.

Gail Hanson asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the fall CLHCC October 4th, 2024, meeting.

- Charlie Levesque motioned to accept the minutes as written, Pierre Bedard seconded the motion. All in favor.

New and Old Business

Presentation: "Conservation, Management and Responsibilities"

Johanna Lyons presented a general overview of the Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Working Forest conservation history, along with the management and responsibilities of the agencies involved.



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Discussion:

- Charlie Levesque asked for clarification on ATV/ OHRV use per the easement on the headwaters.
 - Johanna replied that ATV use is restricted to designated roads and currently there are about 11 miles open for ATV use. The Recreation Plan is open to additional connections to the First Lake area, however, there needs to be private landowner permission granted before DPR will work with the landowner to transfer a seasonal road to state ownership to make it a designated road.
- A question was asked to DES when the lease agreement on the ball field will expire.
 - There is a 50-year lease on the ballfield and it is believed that there is 25 years left on the lease.
- The PowerPoint presentation will be made available online.

Presentation: Proposed Annual Forest Operations 2025-2026

Bennett Lohmeyer, Forest Operations Manager with LandVest provided an update on proposed harvest areas on the CLH property. The target removal cordage estimate is 25,000 cords for the operating year 2025-2026, with an average of 5-7 timber harvesting crews working on the property. Depending on markets and weather conditions, there is the potential for removals greater than 25,000.

- Discussion
 - Question, how many units proposed are going to happen?
 - Dependent upon weather and market conditions, hopeful for many of them.
 - How many units were cut last year?
 - 8
 - How many units will be cut this year?
 - Difficult to estimate based on weather and market conditions.
 - Will there be access issues due to road conditions?
 - Most harvests will be accessible.
 - How many cords were cut last summer?
 - Estimated 4-6,000 cords for the summer, 15,000 for the year.
 - Will the landowner be granting permission to LandVest to exceed the removal volume estimate of 25,000 cords?
 - 25,000 is the estimated achievable goal, with flexibility allowed.
 - Will LandVest provide a carbon overlay map of the property? Are their units designated for carbon sequestration?
 - It was explained that there are no designated areas for carbon and carbon credits are calculated differently. Basically, carbon credits are the difference between growth and what is harvested (plus a few other considerations).
 - A request was made by counselor Joe Kenney for a power point slide to be added to the proposed harvest presentation outlining how carbon sales fit into the forest management on the Headwaters easement.



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Presentation: Trail GIS Mapping Tool

Clint Savage provided an update on mapping tools that the Trails Bureau will be using for internal data collection regarding the roads owned in fee by DNCR on the Headwaters easement. Trails Bureau has collected data from the majority of the Headwaters, except for East Inlet due to damage to F&G land limiting access.

- Discussion:
 - Will these maps be available online to the public?
 - Not yet, a map may be available in the future, currently the system is set up for internal use.
 - Pittsburg Fire and the Police Department are requesting an updated map of the roads and trails on the headwater's property.

Legislative Update

Johanna Lyons provided an update regarding HB 127.

- Discussion:
 - Does the bill mandate the opening of the trails on the property?
 - Yes, if it complies with the easement, other laws, etc.
 - There is currently no approval of trails being open past September 30th in the Town of Clarksville.

Extension of ATV Riding Season

A letter was received by Commissioner Sarah Stewart from the Great North Woods ATV club requesting the extension of the riding season.

- Discussion:
 - Was there rationale for the legislature disregarding the advisory committee recommendation of not keeping the trails open past September 30th?
 - No
 - Pittsburg Police Department commented on no violations being written during the adjusted riding season.
 - Comment reiterating that F&G had concerns about the extension of the season.
 - The town of Clarksville opened the floor in their last town meeting to those who would like to bring the extension of the season back up, and no one brought the issue to the town.

Stewardship Plan

Director Patrick Hackley provided an update on the Stewardship plan. Negotiations are currently on hold due to the Governor's office getting up to speed. Negotiations will begin again when given the green light from the Governor.

Road and Recreation Plans

Johanna Lyons affirmed they were adopted last year and are in effect. No revisions planned or changes needed at this time.



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Agency Update

Questions and Discussion:

Indian Stream Road

- A new gate has been installed at the 8mm.
- The public will not be allowed access past the 8-mile marker while road repairs are being done.
- Camp owners above the 8 mm will be given the combination to the gate.
- PSLT did some work to their section of the road.
- The contractor is beginning work this week. Specialty ordered culverts have been delivered, including the upsized culvert for the 15.5 mm crossing.
- Bridge at 11 mm (Depot Camp) is currently in the bid process and will be hopefully delivered in 12-14 weeks. The road is passable.
- It will take 3-4 weeks contractor to complete most of the repairs on Indian Stream Road.

East Inlet Road

John Sojka provided an update on access to the CLNA. Perry Stream and Scotts Bog roads will be open. East Inlet Road will be open the same as last year. Sections of East Inlet Road will be closed as road construction commences throughout the summer. It is currently projected that all damage on East Inlet on the CLNA will be fixed by early August. East Inlet Road will be closed at the junction for East Inlet and Scott Bog Road for approximately five days during mid/late June to allow for bridge replacement.

- Discussion:
 - What will access be next week?
 - There will be limited motorized access available to the public.
 - Will any mowing work take place on East Inlet in conjunction with road work?
 - Yes, some mowing work will be done.

Additional Discussion:

- Comment that Aurora representatives should take part either virtually or in person to these committee meetings.
- Comment that road openings will be on the state website and updated weekly.
- The capital budget Connecticut Lakes Headwaters line item has been decreased from \$1.4 million to \$650,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 pm with a motion by Charlie Levesque, and a second by Eric Stohl, all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alexa Kosalek & Maggie Machinist