

CLHCC Recreation Sub-Committee Meeting  
 June 14, 2022  
 Pittsburg Fire Station

In Attendance:

<b>Sub-Committee Members</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Public</b>
Charlie Levesque, Chair	Bennett Lohmeyer, LandVest	John White, Town of Clarksville
Shawn Hagan	Dave DeGruttola, LandVest	Gail Hanson, CLHCC Chair
Darrin Jock	Clint Savage, DPR	Denny French
Harry Brown	Dwayne Covell, DPR	
Eric Stohl	Dianne Mattot, DPR	
Toby Owens	Brian Parise, DPR	
	Johanna Lyons, DPR	
	Mark Ober, FGD	

Meeting Notes: No corrections.

Landowner Introduction: Shawn introduced himself and spoke about Blue Source Forests Company (BSFC) which is a timber management company that also invests in the carbon credit market. The company manages many properties that have conservation easements on them. He is located in Michigan.

Updated Plan: Johanna reported that the plan has been submitted to the landowner for signature. The only change from the previous version is to update the landowner's name and the implementation schedule for the 5 year plan. Although this plan serves the purpose of an adopted 5-year plan as per the conservation easement, this plan is intended to be a one-year plan as the next 5-year plan is developed. Public outreach will start in September.

Goal of the Sub-Committee: Charlie reviewed the goal of the sub-committee to assist in evaluating new recreation proposals for recommendation to the full Citizens Committee as part of the process to develop the next 5-year recreation plan.

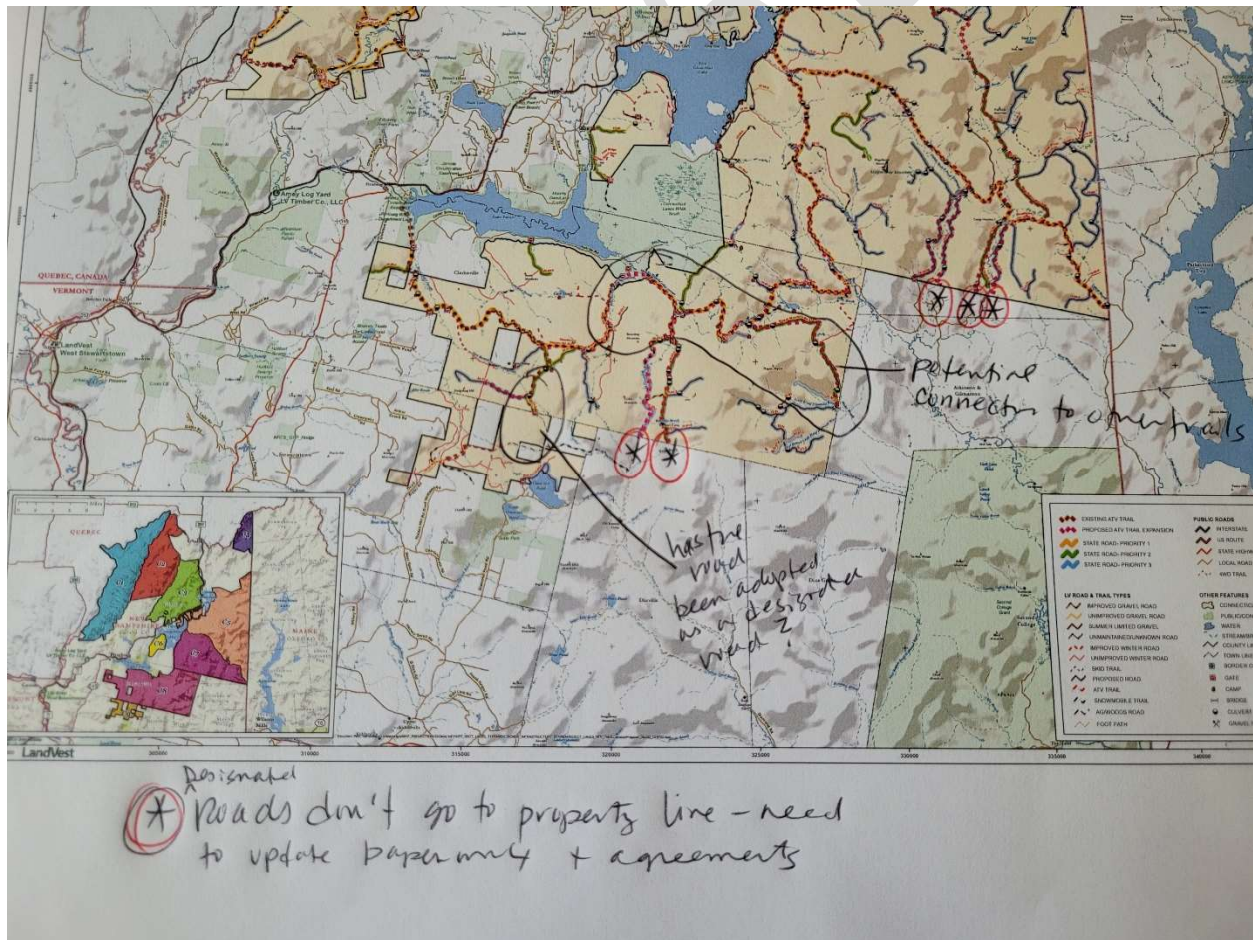
ATV/OHRV Proposal: Charlie reminded the subcommittee that the process laid out in the conservation easement for all new recreation uses is that in order for a new use like the expanded ATV/OHRV use being proposed, the landowner and the Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources must both sign off on the new use as part of a Recreation Plan in order for it to be implemented. As the discussion started, Charlie asked Shawn what his thoughts are on the ATV/OHRV proposal as was discussed last fall. Shawn said that the Blue Source is not interested in expanding the ATV/OHRV trail network at this time. ATV use is a secondary use per the easement and impacts the primary conservation goals and uses in the easement. He had a chance to tour the property and noted the existing trails need maintenance to address erosion and water quality issues. He'd be open to a refined scope of work that improves access and correct issues.

Darrin replied that the proposal is a starting point for discussion, his constituency doesn't need everything, just looking to connect to other trail networks. Darrin gave an update on Perry Stream Land & Timber network and the progress to connect to the First Connecticut Lake businesses.

- Perry Stream Network: CGH Land Trust LLP is the new owner. The club has a 1 year operating agreement that keeps the trails as they are now. The have received Grant In Aid to do work on the trails. CGH is interested in developing the property.
- First Connecticut Lake Connection: Want to use snowmobile trail 139 to bring ATVs from the businesses to Perry Stream network. Working with private landowners to get written permission. Talking with Ramblewoods to move the trail away from the buildings. Part of the snowmobile trail is on a CLH seasonal road. ATVs are only allowed on state owned/managed designated roads per the easement. DPR needs to figure out how to make that happen legally.

Discussion:

- ATV trail maintenance/management – who maintains, how often and at what cost? Harry stated he thinks the maintenance costs should come from OHRV funds and not the endowments. Dwayne said grading and gravel is planned this summer. In future, if there is expansion, a maintenance plan and funding needs to be linked to the expansion.
- The subcommittee reviewed the proposal map and there was discussion about the roads and their designation at the property line in the southeast. Some have been upgraded already by mutual agreement but not documented. They also reviewed potential connectors off the property to other trail systems. Was trail 131 adopted as a road? The map below documents some of the discussion.



Charlie said that given the landowner's current view to not expand the ATV/OHRV trails on the CLH property, we will just document the discussion and leave it at that.

Other Recreation/Public Access Issues:

Boat Storage at Ponds: Shawn reported that there are still unregistered boats stored at Coon Brook Bog. Need to let owners know they have to register their boats at the LandVest Office. Discussed sending a letter to businesses, Toby will see if the town clerk can provide a list. Charlie said he can let the members of the Leaseholders Assn know. A press release can be issued to local papers reminding people. The signs at the sites need to be updated. Bennett, Brian and Johanna can work on that. The following was agreed on by the group as action items:

- Johanna will get out a Parks press release to the north country media about the need to register boats with LandVest
- Toby will communicate for the Town of Pittsburg to the businesses about boat registration
- Charlie will communicate the boat registration requirement again to the leaseholders
- LandVest personnel will work with the Bureau of Trails staff to put signs at the locations where boats are stored saying registration is required and how to do that.

Special Use Permit (SUP) and other Rules for the Property: The question was asked why Guides need a SUP. DNRs administrative rules, which are applied to the CLH, require SUPs for commercial use of the state reservations. There is a \$100 annual fee and the guide provide a insurance binder naming the State of NH as a also insured. The question was asked why don't the ATV/snowmobile rental companies need one? Johanna replied their business is conducted off property, unlike the guide who is bringing clients on the property. There was additional discussion about what if they are in the river or streams. Johanna replied these questions are best answered by the Attorney General's Office. There was additional discussion about enforcement of the "no camping" rule... the DNR administrative rule prohibiting camping other than in designated areas can be applied on the property by the Rangers and FGD (and the towns/Sherriff department if there is a cooperative agreement in place). And Pittsburg has a town ordinance against all camping unless at official public and private campgrounds.

Rules Signs: Harry remarked that rule signs need to be posted with big signs at key entrance points to the CLH property. Clint has "no fires/no camping" signs for the property that will be posted soon. There was discussion if the signs should be bilingual. Harry motioned and Toby seconded the motion to direct the next plan to have rule signs in it as a part of the implantation portion of the Plan, all were in favor. Johanna said she and Brian can work on getting signage posted sooner than later, there is a template used in the state park system already.

Recreational User Outreach: As part of the evaluation for the next plan user groups will be offered the chance to bring their ideas forward. Johanna has already received a proposal by the Cohos Trail Assn and will distribute it with the notes. She hasn't heard much from other recreational users on proposals.

Plan Outreach:

Two outreach meetings in September; Concord and Pittsburg. Charlie would like to hold a rec sub-com meeting the day after the Pittsburg meeting to discuss what was brought forward. Johanna will work on scheduling the meetings. The CLHCC has usually met in October and the Rec sub-com can report out at that meeting on what will be evaluated.

Adjournment: Harry motioned to adjourn at 11:30am, Shawn seconded the motion. All in favor.

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