

MAKING TRACKS

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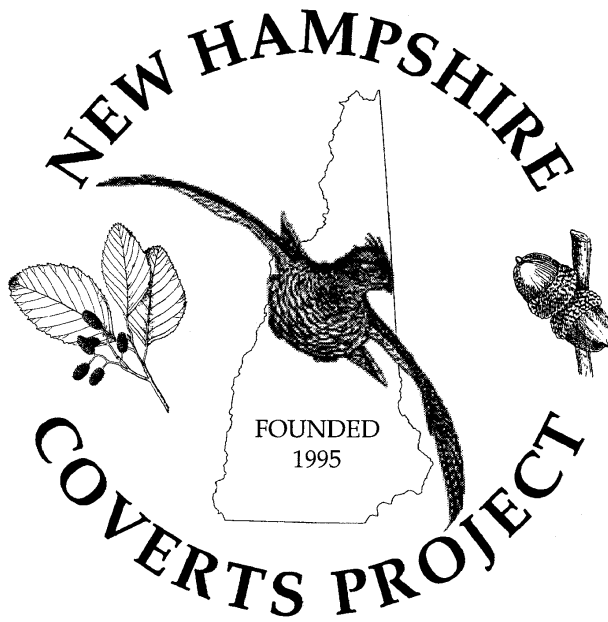
The Newsletter of the New Hampshire Coverts Project

November 2001

Coverts Class of 2001

The slogan for this year's Coverts training workshop should be "Sunshine & S'mores." Not only did we have spectacular weather (complaints about the heat were overheard), but an evening campfire held Friday night inspired great conversation, marshmallow-roasting, and song! For those veteran cooperators who wrote on their post-workshop surveys, "I wish there was more free time," the 2001 Coverts workshop participants and staff thank you for your suggestion!

Twenty-three spirited volunteers participated in the 2001 NH Coverts Annual Training Workshop, held at Boston University's Sargent Camp in Hancock, September 5-8. A terrific group of participants, the weather, and excellent speakers in the classroom and in the field made for a rewarding workshop for participants and instructors. We had cooperators from some new locations this year—Wonalancet, Bartlett, Lyndeborough, Mont Vernon, Derry, Glen, Bennington, and Bath, to name a few. Combined with our existing group of



Coverts Cooperators, Class of 2001

141 active Coverts Cooperators, we now have 164 Coverts volunteers spread throughout the state.

After the turbulent weather of the 1999 Coverts Training Workshop, we again took refuge in the excellent facilities of BU's Sargent Camp. In the future, we may seek out an alternate location in another part of the state, but the heated cabins, good food, convenient showers, and homey-yet-modern meeting room facilities make it the best site we've found for hosting the Coverts Training.

One of the other assets of Sargent Camp is its proximity to good field sites for the workshop. Thursday morning classroom sessions established our ecological bearings with talks on forest ecology, wildlife habitat, and land protection. In the afternoon, we joined up with Meade Cadot at the Harris Center for Environmental Education. Along with learning about Meade's work creating the

Monadnock Supersanctuary, we were joined by the USFS's Bill Leak and the Harris Center's forester Wayne Young for a tour through the "Big Woods" forest site, stopping to see a vernal pool and a new beaver control structure on the way home.

On Friday, the field visits highlighted habitat management topics covered in the morning presentations. We visited an active timber harvest site and had a lively discussion about writing a management plan, as well as meeting some angry yellow jackets! We then headed to Jaffrey where we visited the 16-acre property of Coverts Cooperator Brian Rohde (CC97). Brian has done some great habitat work on his property, including clearing a large field opening, maintaining winter deer yards, and managing for early successional habitat near the pond on his property. Friday night, veteran Coverts Cooperators Bruce Barlow, Anna Boudreau, Roger Brown, Barbara Fales, Ken

Grassland Bird Habitat at Phillips Exeter Academy

by Denis Huber (CC97)

This year Phillips Exeter Academy discovered a conflict of interests regarding the use of three field areas at the Academy. For years we have had an arrangement with a local dairy farmer to cut and take the hay. He gets free hay and the fields do not grow in with brush. We have created 10 acres, which are cut only late in the summer, for bird species that require tall grass for nesting habitat. Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark and possibly other species are now present during the spring breeding season. The problem is that the first cutting (in May), which is of highest hay value, destroys nests and offspring. Hay loses its quality rapidly after early June and is not nearly as desirable to the farmer, to the point of him not wanting it. We have a very active birding community here at the Academy and individuals are very concerned about this bird mortality. If the fields are not hayed we would have to hire someone to cut late in the season at a considerable expense.

Phil Auger and Darrel Covell have reviewed the situation and would like to maintain both the farmer's resource and protect nesting species. They recommend increasing the tall grass area and decreasing the cutting area but also taking steps to improve areas of lower quality hay, which the farmer takes. Also, hedgerows of trees between the fields could be eliminated, thereby creating a larger total open habitat, which is reported to be beneficial. We also realize the need for a census of nesting species, which is scheduled to be taken next spring.

Marvell, and Bruce Schwaegler came to share their stories and meet the new volunteers around a roaring campfire.

After a morning of presentations on effective outreach, we spent Saturday afternoon in the field, having lunch and a final field tour at Woodland Hill Farm, owned by Jeffrey Timmons (CC97). His property offered excellent examples of early-successional habitat management, field management, and management for a "Legacy Forest" of big trees. We also enjoyed incredible 270-degree views, a sunny picnic and a well-place hammock, all marking a perfect last day for the workshop. Thank you, Jeff!

Sadly, events in September have touched many of us in direct and indirect ways. One of our new Coverts Cooperators, John Schlim, Jr. (CC01) of Kensington, wrote recently, "I arrived home from my recent Coverts training retreat all charged up and overflowing with enthusiasm. Unfortunately, the events of September 11th sucked that enthusiasm out of me for at least a week and a half. Now, as we all slowly try to return to 'normalcy,' I'm striving to regain that enthusiasm." I suspect many of us feel the same way.



Darrel Covell discussing (and standing in) a vernal pool.



Examining a "bear tree."



Instructors Bill Leak, Wayne Young, and Meade Cadot.

HAPPENINGS

Bruce Barlow (CC2000) wrote in June, "Greetings from Honey Hill in Swanzey! Contrary to everyone we've talked to, black flies and mosquitoes have been the worst of our now three summers here. Maybe they didn't bother you because they all came here to feast on us. Marshall ("Swampy") Patmos and Darrel Covell came and walked Honey Hill (our home and Conservation Land) to talk about updating our forest management plan and improving wildlife habitat so that I can have a resident moose... (a public, heartfelt THANK YOU to both of them). **Victoria** (CC2001) our 10-year-old son Evan, and I, learned an incredible amount. We were thrilled to learn that they thought we had beautiful, healthy, and diverse forest land (we almost stumped Swampy on identifying a chestnut oak!), and that there wasn't a lot that we had to do to meet our objectives. We knew we lived in a special place, and they confirmed it with specifics and some really good ideas to make it even more enjoyable. Sadly, Darrel wasn't so sure we could attract a resident moose. Anybody know of a homeless moose looking for a beautiful place to hang out?"

Brenda Bhatti (CC97) writes, "I have been very busy with wildlife/wetland issues on a daily basis for over a year now [Brenda is an Environmental Biologist with ENSR], and the knowledge from Coverts has been an invaluable addition to my skill set. I teach people to appreciate and improve their natural surroundings all the time. Also, I now sit on the Conservation Commission for the town of Jaffrey where we live (formerly Manchester)."

This morning (Friday, October 5th) I watched 2 mature bucks fight on my land in Nottingham. They were 60 yards from my stand. Lots of noise and broken branches. I saw a bobcat 2 days ago 20 yards from my stand in Raymond—**Roscoe Blaisdell** (CC97)

Roger S. Brown (CC95) writes, "I participated in the NH Woodlot and Wildlife Course at Beaver Brook Association with two other Coverts Cooperators, complete with a visit to CC Ken Marvell's tree farm. It was super all around. I recommend it strongly. Highlight: got a great look at a coyote. Meanwhile back at the ranch (Coverts Corner of Keeneborough to be exact), my first aspen regeneration cut is almost done, and I've got a great new beaver pond."

As Roger reports, in September three Coverts Cooperators, **Roger Brown** (CC95), **Cynthia Bruss** (CC97) and **Colin Cabot** (CC2000) attended the UNH Cooperative Extension-sponsored "Granite State Woodlot and Wildlife Management Course" at Beaver Brook Association in Hollis. Land stewardship through appropriate forestry management was the theme. Subjects covered were forest mapping, forest types, wildlife habitat, soils, tree identification, wetlands and timber harvesting.

Bill Elliot (CC98) is serving on the board of trustees of the Monadnock Conservancy, and is working with high school students to produce signs for the Jaffrey town forest. He has also been working with the Jaffrey-Rindge Middle School in sponsoring two students to attend ecology camp for the summer, using Conservation Fund money.

Larry Ely (CC98) responded to an e-mail posting on the Coverts list-serve and has subsequently enrolled his First Mountain Forest land in Shelburne as a Demonstration Forest Project with the National Community Forestry Center, Northern Forest Region. The NCFC's purpose is to help rural people conduct and use research to inform decision making about forest resources. They have begun to compile a database of demonstration forests in Maine, New York, Vermont and New Hampshire, with the belief that making information already known about our forests more accessible to the public will benefit communities and the resource itself. Larry's 130 acre mountain forest has been entered into the database as a demonstration forest where maintenance of wildlife habitat is the guiding force to the management plan. The NCFC Northern Forest Region now hosts a website at www.ncfcr.net and interested Coverts Cooperators can enroll their forestland on-line through the website.

"I have completed a management plan that is now being reviewed by NH Fish & Game and Darrel Covell," writes **Fred Ernst** (CC2000), "and I am posting Coverts signs made by Bruce Hamel, a Coverts classmate of mine. Also, Audubon did a wildlife survey in May."

Helen Evans (CC95) sent in news last May: "Spring is here and my feeders are awash with visitors, orioles too, a rare sight—a hawk one morning too. The owl box is going up this week and I recently entertained a white-striped, black visitor (ugh). Have one red squirrel feeding daily, teeny tiny fellow." Helen's also been spotted at several Coverts events recently, including Andy Powell's woodlot tour in September!



Helen Evans (CC95) at the September woodlot tour at Andy Powell's (CC95) Danbury tree farm.

Barbara Fales (CC98) writes, "I helped with the preliminary organization for the Powell woodlot tour. Also, my work at DES has taken me away from the Water Division and to the Air Division, doing education and outreach. Acid rain and climate change are two of the issues the Air Division works with which may be of interest to fellow Cooperators as they work to improve forest management and wildlife habitat."

"I wrote a piece about the Coverts Project for the Lakes Region Area Home Builders Newsletter encouraging builders and their customers with large land holdings to investigate the project. I plan to do a piece for the Builder Magazine and the NH Realtors as well."
—**Bruce Hamel** (CC2000)

Dennis Huber (CC97) writes in about stewardship activities at Phillips Exeter Academy (see also his article on grassland management): "Stan Knowles has marked a 70-acre piece for thinning this winter. It is a somewhat sensitive area as it contains prime wetlands. We intend to build a footbridge over one wet area this winter. Logging road improvement in an area thinned two years ago. This will involve construction of stone fords. I'm helping the science department with a project to plant American Chestnut trees. The web site for this is: <http://ipm.ppws.vt.edu/griffin/accf.html> (We have a 10" tree which is mostly dead but has live sprouts)."

Ginger Jannenga (CC99) writes in, "Dick Mallion (CC99) and I have done 'upkeep' on the Lyman Forbes Memorial Trail in East Colebrook through the summer—including trail markers and weed-whacking. Neighbors Barry Graham and Dennis Hyde plan to widen the winter "ungroomed" section so that this winter it can also be groomed for cross-country skiing, snow shoeing and walking. Barry's also added another $\pm 1/2$ mile section to the "non-motorized" trail on his Maplewoods Campground end of the trail. I walked the trail during this last week (last week of Sept.) and saw how much the local moose has enjoyed a nice trail—leaving his footprints all along, and doing his share of "weed whacking" as well. One could walk the trail and not get lost if they just "followed the moose tracks." I (and some Maplewoods Campground campers) saw the moose within the same week—a nice big bull. I also saw a south-migrating male Northern Harrier (Marsh Hawk) in the same week."

Betsy Kruse (CC00) writes in: "As a Candia Conservation Commissioner, I am working with the Planning Board, Southern NH Planning Commission, and Cooperative Extension on an open space study. It will be used in a natural resources inventory for the Candia CC. I also serve as secretary on an Innovative Land Use Committee created by the Planning Board to recommend replacement zoning ordinances for repealed cluster zoning. We have expanded to include a steering committee for updating the Master Plan and will conduct a Community Profile in October. I am Bear-Paw Greenway secretary and am on the Bear-Paw newsletter committee and will be involved with conservation training developed by Bear-Paw for member towns. It will be held this fall. I attended a fundraising training last May with the executive director of Bear-Paw." Wow!

Jerry Langdon (CC99) held a tree farm tour on 5/5/01 for Rotary International Team from Nigeria and local members. Epping Conservation Commission acquired a conservation easement on 17 acres of Pisscassic River frontage.

Elise Lawson (CC98) writes, "I developed and designed a brochure for Littleton Regional Hospital for a new walking trail. The brochure educates people on wildlife habitat along a 3/4-mile trail."

"I am starting a schoolwide recycling program at Moore school. Also, I'm getting 3rd-8th graders involved in a letter-writing campaign called "Global Response" where they write to officials regarding world wide environmental emergencies. I'm on the steering committee of Envision Candia, and at our next Candia Conservation Committee meeting I'll be sharing my Coverts experience."—**Judi Lindsey** (CC2001)

Camilla Lockwood (CC98) and **Maureen Lein** (CC98), as Chester Conservation Commission members, helped organize an effort to protect open space in town by crafting a \$3 million warrant article. The bond article was overwhelmingly supported and passed! For the second year, Cam and Maureen, with the Conservation Commission and the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee, sponsored a vernal pool workshop last spring. The presenters were Patrick and Michael Seekamp & Laurie Powers of Seekamp Environmental Services of Brentwood. After a short lecture and slide show, 15 attendees visited two vernal pools in the Chester Town Forest. Many interesting critters were observed!

Jeff Nelson (CC99) continues to lead field trips and present programs on a range of habitat-related topics for

the Audubon Society of New Hampshire (ASNH). He also continues to do Natural Resource Inventories for ASNH as well as the Bedford Land Trust and the Bedford Conservation Commission, and to monitor conservation easements for the latter two organizations.

William Pinney (CC96) writes that this past year he helped form the Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust to protect land north of Franconia Notch in the various towns in that area. So far, about 150 acres have been protected in 3-4 parcels.

Andy Powell (CC95), in addition to hosting a Coverts open house at his Danbury woodlot in September (see article), writes in: "We received Tree Farm designation, and are conducting active wildlife and timber stand improvement projects. We are taking advantage of the Small Grants program to develop ruffed grouse habitat, educating neighbors, and enjoying it with Jeanne and our grandkids. I also continue to work with the Merrimack Conservation Commission (MCC) to implement our recently completed management plans. We will be marking boundaries, adding signs and employing the brontosaurus to clear a 5-6 acre parcel to enhance habitat for grouse and other birds. We intend to reach out to landowners in town to establish long term plans for their larger parcels as pressure to develop builds in this area of the state with 'build out' not too many years away. Completed work with ad hoc town land committee that resulted in formal management responsibility being given to the MCC for many parcels. The MCC now has the responsibility for over 900 acres of town-owned open space. Sitting on the town Master Plan Committee preparing an updated plan. Put particular emphasis on expanding the Natural Resources section to include planning for preservation of open space throughout town and the establishment of connecting trails and parcels."

Melissa and **David Stephenson** (CC98) put an easement on 27 acres of their Peterborough property, adding it to a block of over 1000 protected acres along both banks of the Contoocook River. Great news!

Tanya and Dave Tellman (CC 95, 96) have done some field clearing and releasing of apple trees, with the help of woodsman Peter Hall. A news article this summer in the Coos County Democrat described Peter's work at the Tellman's property, including clearing of woody vegetation from fields, battles with an invasion of Japanese knotweed, and other wildlife habitat improvement projects. It was great media coverage for the message of good wildlife and forest stewardship!

In May, the Northeastern Loggers Association recognized **Tom Thomson** (CC95) with its Outstanding Industry Activist Award at their Annual Loggers' Banquet and Awards Ceremony. In receiving the award, Tom said that he believed his most important activist involvement has been working with school children. He feels that it is just as important to teach our students about the forest in which they live as it is for them to learn about rain forests. "In just a short time, these young students will be the next wave of voters and our next policy makers. What we teach them today will have a profound impact on the future of the forest industry."

Rebecca Todd (CC00) writes, "I hatched out seven monarch butterflies with my kids and picked up trash along the four mile section of highway that the Surry Conservation Commission has adopted. I joined a law practice in Keene, and I continue to help the Concerned Cheshire Citizens in an effort to get the NHDOT to revisit a large highway proposal around Keene and construct roundabouts rather than large overpasses and signalized intersections. The NHDOT has agreed to roundabouts at 4 of the 7 intersections in question. Concerned Cheshire Citizens, along with many area businesses and residents, continue to advocate for roundabouts at all intersections. Roundabouts are a relatively new technology in the United States, and everyone—including the NHDOT—has come a long way in recognizing the benefits of 'wide nodes, narrow roads' in the past several years."

Francie von Mertens (CC99) received the Volunteer-of-the-Year award for the town of Peterborough a few months back, with conservation activities listed as a main focus of her various community efforts. Congratulations, Francie! She writes, "I just wrote an article on West Nile Virus for the local newspaper if anyone wants a copy—an effort to give balanced information on how remote a threat the virus is to humans, and how spraying has no proven efficacy in mosquito control. Also working with some fellow ConCom members to gear up a town-wide invasive plant species education campaign with brochure timed for early spring."

Leaping in with a submission, having only just completed the Coverts training workshop, **Deb Waters** (CC01) writes in: "I am participating in planning

HAPPENINGS, continued on page 4

Alumni Event at Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge

Way back yonder on July 14th, more than 30 people attended the Coverts Alumni Workshop of 2001, held at Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge in Whitefield, NH. We have the superb organizational skills of Dick Mallion (CC99) and John Severance (CC2000) to thank for an excellent array of speakers and field trips around the Refuge.

Early-arrivals braved drizzle for a bird walk around the Whitefield Airport, and were rewarded by hazy views of nearby Cherry Mountain and the Presidential and Killkenny mountain ranges. After gathering for (shade-grown, Equal Exchange) coffee, Dave Govatski, Volunteer Steward for the Pondicherry Refuge, presented his magnificent slides of the scenery and wildlife of Pondicherry through all seasons of the year, and oriented us to the area. Up next was Ted Allen, a pilot and birder from Vermont, who opened his presentation with, "Well, I don't really have any slides to show, but let me tell you my story..." We never missed the slides! Ted inspired the crowd with his valiant efforts to alter the mowing patterns at 12 different regional airports in Vermont to enhance habitat for grassland nesting birds. John Severance (CC2000) then shared his experiences promoting the use of



John Severance (CC2000) gives a tour of his land on the Johns River in Whitefield.

NH Fish & Game's wildlife small grants program (Charlie Bridges was on hand from Fish & Game to describe that program). John used the funding to hire a "Brontosaurus" machine to create early-successional habitat and do other wildlife habitat work on his property. John described the wildlife management work and his family's vision for the land. It must be working, since as we were touring, John flushed a woodcock in the middle of the path.

After a picnic lunch, groups ventured out into the Refuge for afternoon wildlife walks. Though interrupted by a major downpour, the field trips showed the way into and through the Pondicherry Refuge. Most attendees to the workshop had never been to the Refuge before, and were anxious to come back and explore. Dick Mallion's description of the wildlife he sees regularly during his morning jaunts at the Refuge—moose, bear, loons—encouraged many to return again soon, though we're not sure if we'll be running into Dick, who typically arrives at 4 a.m.!

Many thanks to Dick & John for their efforts, and to Sam Stoddard, Dave Govatski, and Ted Allen for their support and help.



Coverts Alumni in the field at Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge.

GIS mapping equipment in towns in and around Whitefield. He demonstrated commonly-available software to view aerial photos on a computer, and told of his efforts to showcase this technology by setting it up at Whitefield's voting booths on voting day. It must have worked, because this year the Whitefield Conservation Commission got more funding from the Town Council than they even asked for!

Our first field excursion was to John Severance's property on the Johns River (no relation!) just downstream from Cherry Pond and the Pondicherry Refuge. John has done some habitat management in the past year, using a grant from



Views from Cherry Pond towards the Presidential Mountains.

Powells Host Tree Farm Tour

Lights, Camera, Timber! On Saturday, September 14th, Jeanne and Andy Powell (CC95) hosted a tour of their Danbury tree farm during the middle of a long-planned timber harvest operation. As Andy described, "Ever since I went through the Coverts training in 1995, I've been meaning to have a tour on my own land, but it has taken us some time to finally do it!" Since 1995, the Powells have more than doubled the size of their tree farm. They have also done extensive planning, with the help of forester Shaun Lagueux and Merrimack County Forester Tim Fleury, to gain various types of wildlife habitat, recreational trails, and timber resources from this and future harvests.



Jeanne Powell (right), wife of Andy Powell (CC95) talks about the history of their land while neighbors, Tim Fleury, and their grandsons look on.

Andy worked with Barbara Fales (CC98) and Tim Fleury on planning and promoting the event. Other Coverts Cooperators who came for the tour included Helen Evans (CC95) and Malin Ely Clyde (CC98), along with several of the Powell's neighbors whom they had not met before. It was a great opportunity to spread the Coverts message of good forest stewardship to new listeners! Andy and Jeanne would be pleased to show you around—join them for hiking or snowshoeing (soon!) any weekend you are in the area.

UPDATES

Some of you will fondly remember Neal Tillotson, of Dixville Notch, who helped host the Coverts workshop tour at The Balsams several years ago. Mr. Tillotson passed away on October 17, 2001 at age 102.

We are sad to report on the unexpected passing of Joe Dennehy (CC95) of Stark, NH, in August of this year. The Coverts Project office sent flowers to Joe's wife, Jeannie, on behalf of Joe's friends in the NH Coverts Project and UNH Cooperative Extension.

RESOURCES

Several important new resources are available for towns and conservation groups:

Natural Resources Inventories: A Guide for New Hampshire Towns and Conservation Groups (2001). Amanda J. Lindley Stone (2nd revision). UNH Cooperative Extension Individuals can order the guide from UNH Cooperative Extension at a cost of \$18 per copy, including shipping. Make check payable to "UNH Cooperative Extension" and mail to UNHCE Publication Center, Nesmith Hall, 131 Main St., Durham, NH 03824 (include your name, address, daytime phone, e-mail, and the title of the publication you are ordering).

Open Space for New Hampshire: A Toolbook of Techniques for the New Millennium (2000). Dorothy Taylor. NH Wildlife Federation. You can read more about the manual at www.nhwhf.org, order it directly from the New Hampshire Wildlife Trust, 54 Portsmouth Street, Concord, NH 03301 or call 224-5953 (include your name, address, daytime phone, e-mail, and the title of the publication you are ordering). The cost is \$15.00 per copy plus \$3.00 shipping and handling for the first copy, \$1.00 additional shipping and handling for each additional copy to the same address.

Planning for the Future of Local Forests: A Guide for New Hampshire Towns Using the Forestland Evaluation and Site Assessment Process (FLESA) (2001). Thomas Kokx (editor). North Country and Southern New Hampshire Resource Conservation and Development Area Councils. See the CALENDAR section for information sessions on the FLESA process, all of which include the FLESA Guide.

REMINDERS

At the suggestion of the Coverts Advisory Committee, the **Coverts Annual Accomplishment Surveys** are now on-line, for those of you with email addresses on file at the Coverts Project office. You should have received an email from Malin, which includes a link to the survey form. Just fill it out, click & send! For those not on-line, you've received your copy of the survey (salmon-colored) the old fashioned way, by mail. Please return your survey (with a click or a stamp) as soon as possible. Thank you!

Save the date of February 1-2, 2002 for the **NH Farm & Forest Exposition!** We will again help staff the UNH Cooperative Extension booth with the Coverts display and youth-oriented wildlife activities.



The Expo will run from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, 2/1, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, 2/2. Coverts will also host a luncheon on Friday, 11:45-1:15 for all interested Coverts Cooperators and guests (cost \$10/person), followed by a workshop on a topic to be announced soon.

HELP WANTED

For those willing to help staff the Farm & Forest booth and help with youth-oriented wildlife activities for part of Friday 2/1/02 or Saturday 2/2/02, please contact Malin at 862-2166 or malin.clyde@unh.edu. Thank you!

UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
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UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE
 COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

"Making Tracks" is the newsletter of the Cooperators of the New Hampshire Coverts Project. The Coverts Project is a special volunteer education and outreach program that promotes wildlife habitat conservation and forest stewardship. Its goal is to increase the amount of New Hampshire's private and public lands that are managed with good stewardship practices. The efforts of these volunteers are shared through this quarterly publication. For more information, please contact Malin Ely Clyde, Coordinator, NH Coverts Project, UNH Cooperative Extension, 131 Main Street, 214 Nesmith Hall, Durham, NH 03824 (603-862-2166).

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CALENDAR

Planning for the Future of Local Forests: Forestland Evaluation and Site Assessment Process (FLESA) Workshops

In the coming months, a series of forest planning workshops are being offered for communities and natural resource professionals, planning boards, conservation commissions, and interested residents. These general sessions will provide an overview of the Forestland Evaluation and Site Assessment (FLESA) process, describing the application of FLESA in community planning efforts and information that will be helpful in making a decision whether to pursue a FLESA application for their town. All workshops are free, and include a copy of the FLESA guide. For more information, contact the Southern NH RC&D Area Council at 223-0083 or email at ecooper@nh.usda.gov

General Session Schedule (remaining):

- 11/27 Lebanon, Lebanon Senior Center, 10 Campbell Street
- 12/4 Concord, Horseshoe Pond Community Resource Center, 26 Commercial Street

NH DES River & Watershed Conference 2001

Saturday, November 17, 2001, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., Concord, NH

Meet with peers from local river advisory committees, volunteer monitoring groups, and watershed organizations, attend workshops, and exchange ideas. Free (\$5.50 for boxed lunch). Contact Steve Tolzman at 271-1152 for more information.

Conservation Planning Workshop

Saturday, December 1, 2001, 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Runnell's Hall, Chocorua, NH

Town officials and interested citizens are invited to a workshop on natural resource conservation planning. Experts will discuss ways for towns to creatively implement natural resource conservation as they update local master plans and plant for growth in their communities. Lunch and handouts included. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Conservation Group. Cost: Free (donations gladly accepted). For more information contact the Green Mountain Conservation Group at 539-7926.

HAPPENINGS, *continued from page 2*

sessions dealing with the natural resources chapter of Pelham's Master Plan. I'm also creating an informational brochure regarding Pelham's Conservation Fund which provides assistance for landowners who want to keep their land in open space."

Jan Woodbury (CC98) writes with news of the nature center (called the Peabody Mill Environmental Center) she started in Amherst awhile back: "...The center has really taken off. We have school groups during the week and family offerings on weekends. Gerry Tilley (CC95) visited us a couple of summers ago. Matt Tarr did a program there last summer—as have several state organizations. Ken Marvell (CC96) and I worked together to bring two school groups around his place (as I did last year, as well) this past May. We talked about the beaver, birds, and wildflowers and Ken covered the forestry angle. I have written several grants in the last couple of months for expensive equipment and repairs for the Peabody Mill Environmental Center and I hope to hear the results soon!"

Several Community Profiles are occurring this fall in towns where we have Coverts Cooperators: Candia, Brentwood, and Pelham. Malin sent out emails to all CCs living in those towns, asking if they would be interested in participating and, low and behold, everyone was already involved! We should have expected as much from the likes of Ed Berry (CC96), Roger Brown (CC95), Betsy Kruse (CC2000), Judi Lindsey (CC2001), Bill McDevitt (CC98) and Deborah Waters (CC2001)!

THE LAST WORD



"Really, the bear was THIS big!"

New Coverts Cooperator
 Dick Rush, of Dalton, NH