



—ACT—
AMMONOOSUC
CONSERVATION
TRUST

Annual Report 2021



FISCAL YEAR 07/2020 - 06/2021

From Our Board President

Dear ACT Friends and Supporters,

We all recognize the importance of maintaining and enjoying open spaces especially in light of the hardships placed on our community by the pandemic. The need for open spaces will only become more crucial as societal and environmental pressures increase.

That may sound alarmist to some, but we're already seeing shifts in our region. And, as we welcome new folks to our communities, ACT is committed to continue our work with farmers, individual landowners, towns, and communities to identify important or at-risk landscapes and waterways in need of protection. We will also continue to find ways to bring people together to discover or re-discover their love of the outdoors and connect with friends and neighbors.

As we work toward our 23rd year, what's changed for ACT? Though we stay focused on land protection in our region we add looking through the lenses of climate change effects, resilience planning, and inclusive land use. We will also continue to create opportunities for our communities to enjoy the outdoors both on their own and together safely.

To make it all possible we're excited to be adding two new part-time positions to our staff. They will allow us to increase opportunities for connection on the land as well as improve our trail systems. ACT could not grow and succeed without the dedication of its staff, Board of Trustees, volunteers, community supporters, and you, our committed members and generous donors.

We pledge to continue to be good stewards of our conserved lands in the hope that our members and the community at large will be able to enjoy these open spaces now and far into the future.

Best Wishes

Marilyn Booth
Board President



Our Mission

Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust is the nationally accredited, locally based, nonprofit lands conservancy serving New Hampshire's northern Grafton county and southern Coös county region.

We protect land for all who live here, now and in the future. We especially focus on conserving the farms and working forests that are the foundation of our region's economy and character.



PO Box 191, 297 Main St
Franconia, New Hampshire 03580
Tel. (603) 823 - 7777
info@act-nh.org
act-nh.org

Our Values

We respect the natural beauty, history, and traditional uses of our lands as regionally and nationally significant resources to be protected for future generations. We do not regard land protection as an end in itself; rather, conservation is a tool for building and ensuring community and individual well being, economic vitality, and a healthy environment.

First, we listen. We facilitate approaches to land conservation with integrity, honesty, practicality, and humor!

We value integrity and excellence in our work and collaborate with others to achieve our mission.

We believe local actions with regard to the land and its use have an impact beyond our region and time. We work to ensure public awareness of best practices of environmental stewardship and protection of our inheritance for future generations.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: KEVIN JONES, ASHLEY GARRISON, KATHY RYAN, AND ACT STAFF.

A Note from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This year has shown us that we are more resilient than we thought.

Despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, ACT has continued with our mission of protecting farms, forests, waterways, and wild open spaces for all to enjoy.

We finalized the conservation of a family farm, and two other easements protecting woodlands and meadows providing a diverse environment for wildlife.



The pandemic made some aspects of our work much harder to do, but the annual monitoring of easements - a critical piece - was not impacted. Hiking through woods and meadows to ensure our lands are being managed properly was one task where no masks were needed!

Though we knew it all along, you showed your commitment to ACT and local land conservation is stronger than ever with an incredible outpouring of support.

The community responded generously to our appeal for funds to support the creation of a new staff position, ACT's Trails Program Manager. The person hired for this position will maintain and expand our recreational trail network, an ever growing need in our region.

Self-guided outdoor adventures and virtual gatherings have gradually given way to in-person events and our wonderful partners at the Colonial Theatre in Bethlehem, White Mountain Science inc., the Gale River Cooperative Preschool, and Meadowstone Farm worked with us to bring fun and insightful events to our communities. Making it possible to achieve our mission of community connection around the outdoors even as the pandemic rolls on.

None of this would have been possible without the amazing support of all our members who let us know that what we do is important to this community.

Gratefully,

Rosalind Page
Executive Director

Board & Staff

2020/21 Board of Trustees

Marilyn Booth, President, *Landaff*
Ned Brewer, Vice President, *Franconia*
Jeff Burt, Secretary, *Franconia*
Katrine Barclay, *Lisbon*
Ray Dionne, *Sugar Hill*
Margaret Gale, *Bethlehem*
Joanne Jones, *Bethlehem*
Chris Nicodemus, *Franconia*
James Pasman, Treasurer, *Lisbon*
Ellen Pritham, *Easton*
Alayna Signorello, *North Woodstock*
Charlie Wolcott, *Sugar Hill*

ACT Staff

Sheelagh Higginson, Administration & Compliance Manager
Jesse Mohr, Conservation Ecologist & Land Manager
Rosalind Page, Executive Director (09/2020 - Present)
Gal Potashnick, Outreach & Member Services Director
Rick Walling, Conservation Projects Manager

ACT Advisors

Steve Blackmer, Canterbury
Rebecca Brown, Sugar Hill, Executive Director (2000 - 08/2020)
Julie Renaud Evans, Milan
Dave Govatski, Jefferson
Brendan Whittaker, Brunswick, VT
Doug Evelyn, Sugar Hill

Welcome New Board Member, Katrine Barclay

Katrine Barclay started her own business consulting/coaching small businesses and life coaching individuals. She taught yoga for several years. Her current business venture, "Older," focuses on Later Life Coaching; working with those past mid-life who want to live their best lives, and care givers and/or family members of those needing care due to aging issues, particularly dementia.

Katrine lives in Lisbon with her husband, Robert Cook. She enjoys the outdoors: gardening, walking, hiking, skiing, and snowshoeing. Her favorite hobby is gathering friends and family for a nice meal. Besides sitting on the ACT Board, she also serves as Chair of the Lisbon Conservation Commission.



Remembering Rufus Perkins

We would like to take a moment to note the passing of Rufus Perkins on March 13, 2020. At ACT, Rufus was a founder, long time trustee, and even longer time volunteer. Rufus was especially fond of his time on the land, and poured himself into the maintenance and upkeep of the Bronson Hill Conservation Area trails as well as many others. A dedicated and growing team of ACT volunteers now maintains the trails which Rufus held so dear. We know he would be so happy to see the improvements and additions that have been made to Bronson Hill since his passing. His legacy of love and care for the land is being fostered in kids from all over our region through a trail adoption program, a new StoryWalk®, and events being held for kids of all ages to find what's special to them about our beautiful landscape. He is greatly missed.



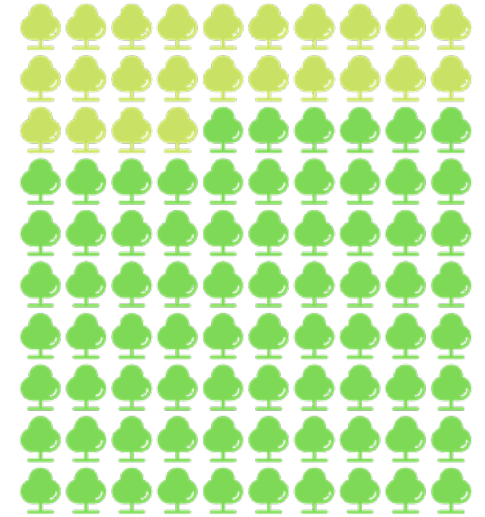


TOTAL ACRES CONSERVED

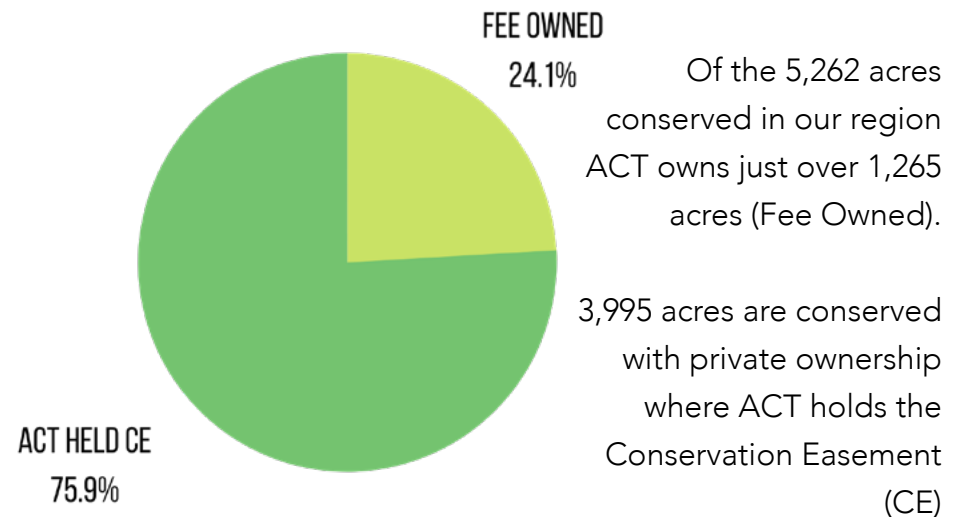
5,262

That's just under 3,980 football fields!

ACT owns some of this land, also called Fee Owned (~24%), though most of it is privately owned.



When a property is privately owned ACT holds a conservation easement (CE) to assure the land will stay undeveloped forever.



Land is protected for its conservation values. For ACT to take on a project, we put it through a rigorous, scientifically-based analysis, and have several rounds of review by staff, lands committee, and the full board.

Though there are many more than four ways to assess conservation land we identified four areas of value to our community and make sure that our projects fall within at least one of these guidelines. They are: forests/wildlife habitat, water quality, agriculture, and recreation.

We are proud to wear these values on our sleeve through our logo, which reminds us every day where our focus lies.



CONSERVATION IN YOUR BACKYARD!

Listed are all of ACT's conserved properties to date and where each is. We continue to add properties almost annually and currently have conservation properties as far south as Piermont and as far north as Lancaster.

ACT (Fee) Owned:

- Cooley-Jericho Community Forest - Easton
- Wells Rd Trail Access - Franconia
- Ammonoosuc Meadows Floodplain Area - Littleton
- Ammonoosuc River Wildlife Management Area - Lisbon
- Foss Forest - Sugar Hill
- Gale Family Forest - Lyman
- Whipple Farm - Sugar Hill
- MacCornack-Evelyn Forest - Sugar Hill

ACT Held Easements:

- Brebner Farm & Forest - Bethlehem
- Creamery Pond and Lower 40 - Sugar Hill
- Gardner Mountain - Lyman
- Godfrey Memorial Conservation Area - Lyman
- Ilacqua Wildlife Conservation Area - Littleton
- Jean Chamberlin Conservation Areas (North & South) - Bath/Haverhill
- John L. and Jean P. Wedick Natural Area - Bethlehem
- Johnson Farm and Islands - Monroe
- Lawrence Family Forest - Franconia
- Lloyd's Hills Conservation Area - Bethlehem
- Lupine Field - Sugar Hill
- McGee-Echoridge Farm - Lancaster
- Michelsen Conservation Area - Landaff
- Overlook Farm - Sugar Hill
- Pearl Lake Shorefront - Lisbon
- Perkins-Porter Family Preserve - Sugar Hill
- Peters Farm - Bath
- Pettyboro Farm - Lyman
- Red Oak Farm - Lisbon
- Rexford Conservation Area - Whitefield
- Robie Farm - Piermont
- Rt 116 Mitigation - Bethlehem
- Stewart Maple Farm - Sugar Hill
- Sunset Hill Golf Course - Sugar Hill
- Tranquil Vewe Croft - Lisbon
- Walling-Wharey Conservation Area - Bath

For a [locator map](https://act-nh.org/land-conservation) of all of ACT's conserved properties go to: act-nh.org/land-conservation





ACT's Year in Photos

Though this year was a tough one, with a lot of learning and transitions of all kinds we found lots of good, too! We took part in a bank restoration project on the Ammonoosuc River, we helped kids get outside with their families through programming and a guided trail and a new StoryWalk®, we improved our public trails and put up kiosks to help you spend time outside on local land. We got outside together to walk and do yoga. Thank you for joining us or getting out to enjoy the land on your own and finding your happy place on local conservation lands!



Annual Report

'20-'21 fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

We are deeply grateful to all of our members and supporters.

Because of you, our incredible community, the Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust not only survived but thrived in the midst of a global pandemic. Thanks to your commitment, we were able to continue both our conservation and community partner projects and are now growing to better serve our region. Thank you for all your support, time spent, and advocacy of conservation in the North Country!

▲ indicate sustaining members who generously contribute monthly to ACT.

■ indicate ACT's Headwaters Society who give at or above \$1,000 as their annual membership.

★ indicates ACT Board of Trustees, committee members and volunteers.

\$10,000 +

Arthur Daily ■
John & Pamela Evans
Perkins Porter Family Fund
Linda Michelsen
Tami Nason ■
Ping Chow &
Chris Nicodemus ■ ★
Melinda Richmond Fund ■

\$5,000 +

S. Jeffrey Burt ■ ★
Badger Peabody & Smith
Margo & Greg Connors ▲ ■ ★
Bayard Henry ■
Timothy D. & Judy Sykes ▲ ■
Charles Weed &
Louise Eastman Weed ■

\$2,500 +

Thom Brown ■
Kevin & Joanne Jones ▲ ■ ★
M.A. Langston ■
Vincent Lunetta ■
Carl & Nancy Martland ■ ★
John & Tracy Neeson ■
Charles & Polly Wolcott ■ ★

\$1,000 +

John Maki & Ralph Bradley ■
Edward & Jane Brewer ▲ ■ ★
Richard & L. Katrina Cashman ■
Robert & Anita Craven ■
Ann & Edward Craxton ■
Edward & Lisa Cutler ▲ ■
James & Alexandra Dannis ▲ ■
Ray & Eileen Dionne ■ ★
Martha M. & Douglas Evelyn ■
Jamie & Katie Fagan ■
Thomas E. Frank ■
Scott & Lisa Gilbert ■

Jessica Griffiths &
Tim Wennrich ■
Alicia & David Groom ■
Jim & Carrie Hamblin ■
Lynn Harrison &
Barbara Hazard ■
Teresa & Joseph Hurley ■
Marilyn Johnson ■
Beth & Randall Kunz ■
Chris & Yolanda Laganos
Louise & Robert Lawrence Jr. ■
Katharine and Anthony Leness ■
Alan & Harriet Lewis
Eileen Mahoney &
James Pasman ▲ ■ ★
Linda & James McDermott ▲ ■
Edith C. McKown ■
Rosalind Page &
Tom Simpson ▲ ■
Amy Patenaude &
Charles Gunn ■
James & Judith Perkins, Jr. ■
Henry & Jean-Marie Peterson ■
Louisa C. Porter ■
Richard & Mary Jay Powers ■
Spencer Purinton ■
Christian & Kathleen Rehl ■
Stephen Webster & Robin Ross ■
Austin & Deborah Smith
Lili Winslow
Sara Daley & Daniel Zajic ▲ ■

\$500 +

Marilyn & Rachael Booth ▲ ■ ★
David & Deborah Brooks
Christopher & Judy Cabot
Lisa & Bill Caselden ▲ ■
Nancy Collis & Howard Feist
Judith & Murray Danforth
Elise Drake
Chris & Rose Ellms

Brooke Farr
Kenneth Hunter
Kenneth & Amy Kinder ■
Katharine Moore
Katrina Ogilby
Christopher & Sylvia Perry
Howard & Ellen Pritham ★
Anwiti Bahuguna &
Paul Racunas ▲
Jamey and Laura Shachoy
Christopher & Wendy Thayer ★
William & Sally Waterhouse
Stephen & Nova Wheeler

\$250 +

Katrine Barclay ▲ ■ ★
John & Karen Bracken
D. Kent Butterfield
Jeffrey Carter
Judy Chambliss & Jack Fowler
Brenda Clark
Gail P. & Allan R. Clark
Jeanne & Steven Cummings
Catherine Eames
Jeanette Fournier
John & Ailsa Gagel
Margaret Gale &
David Van Houten ▲ ■ ★
Alan Glidden & Jeanne Sabin
Ernie & Naomi Hannaford ▲
Paula & Snowden Henry
Christine Hopkins & Nicole Sullivan ▲
Patricia Hunt & Philip Tanner
John & Maria Hynes
Jessica Knapp &
Mark Mendelsohn
Mark & Kim Koprowski
KC Kriegel
Amber Lessard & William Tickle
Meghan Lytton

James Seagraves & Janet Marshall
 Sharon Mellaci ▲
 Thomas Meredith
 Caroline Mock
 Michael & Suzanne Morley
 Brooke O'Day
 Diana & Dermot Pelletier
 Gail Gilmore & Marisel Perez ▲
 Barbara & Walter Perlowski
 Sarah Pinney
 Pollard Brook Association
 Members
 Alice Poole
 Robert Quidone & Philip Magnuson
 Robert & Wendy Reasenberg
 Kay Reid & Art Green ▲
 Alice Rocke & Ben Merrill ▲
 Phil Roshak & Dr. Jennifer Childs
 William & Kerry Saltonstall
 John Sauter
 James & Marie Snyder
 Frederick Steady
 Joyce & Chris Thoma
 Winifred Ward
 Gary & Joan Way
 Caleb & Phoebe Winder
 Paula & John Wright
 Janet Young

Up to \$249

Dan Allegretti & Judit Noyes ▲
 Barbara Stirk-Anderson & Don Anderson
 Elizabeth Andrews & Frances Avrin & Marty Zafran ★
 Keith Batchelder
 Roberta Arbree
 Susan Argetsinger
 Doug Arion
 Jack & Kathrine Aydelott
 Peter & Judith Aydelott
 Sharon & John Barry
 Edmond & Lynn Bart
 Patricia Bassett & Jeffrey Bates
 Bruce & Ann Beane
 Mary & Donald Beaudin
 Anderson & Kathrene Bell
 Michael & Tina Betley
 Cheryl & Steven Bianchi
 Cecilia Blewer & Clayton Young
 Donald & Lissa Boissonneault
 Ronald & Alison Bolt
 Russ & Anita Bonnievie
 Tom & Shirley Boucher

Anne C. Bowdoin
 Helen Bowdoin
 Sandy & Andy Brackett ▲
 Elizabeth Bramhall
 Joan & Milton Bratz
 Richard & Angie Bronson
 Ivan Ash & Angela Broscoe ▲★
 David & Susan Brown
 Deborah Brown & Raymond Lobdell
 Judy & Kathrine Brubaker
 Barbara Buckley
 Suzy Burlock
 Donald & Mary Ann Butson
 Peter & Annette Carbonneau
 Vicki Giella & Russell Carlson
 Lydia Carmosino
 Robert S. Chase
 Agnes & Philip Chase Jr.
 David Chamberlin & Jeanie Munro
 Dale & Marilyn Childs
 Mary & David Choate
 Cary & Christina Clark
 Mary Jo Clasby O'Neill ▲
 Lila Cohen ▲
 Ron & Tova Cohen
 Bob & Muffy Copenhaver
 Michael & Donna Cordingley
 Bernadette Costa
 Katherine & Dennis Cote
 David & Andrea Craxton
 Janice Crosby
 Audrey Crowe
 Joe Cushing
 David & Susan Dahill
 Harry Dale
 Hannah Delfiner
 Ned Densmore & Kathleen Lovett
 Stacey Doll
 Joanne D'Onfro
 Thomas Doran
 Sarah & Roger Doucette
 Leslie & Alice Dreier
 James and Leslie Drew ★
 Robert C. Dwyer
 Timothy and Elizabeth Egan
 Sarah & Theodore Elmendorf
 Donna Kaye D. & Rick Erwin
 Kevin & Julie Renaud Evans
 Barbara Fisher
 Joseph Fitzgerald ★
 Jody & Art Flescher
 Dayna Flumerfelt
 Linda & Richard Foote

Susan M. Ford
 Ellen Foster
 William & Elizabeth Fraser
 Nancy Freeman & David Reis
 Elaine French
 Ashley & Joseph Garrison ▲
 Emelyn Gilmore
 Marsha & Roger Gingue
 Brian Griffin
 Ken Haberman ★
 Linda & Mark Hansen ▲★
 Melanie Harding
 George & Ann Hartmann
 Deborah & Robert Neil Harvey
 Gary & Beth Harwood ★
 Becky & Andrew Hatfield ★
 Joseph & Kathleen Head
 Sheelagh Higginson ▲
 Alexandra Hill
 Janet Hill & Edward Martin
 Elizabeth & Carl Hjelm
 William & Rita Holmes
 Elizabeth & Stephen P. Horan
 J. Parker Huber
 Sigmund & Anne Hudson
 Hudson Hughes
 Brad Hurst
 Friends In Council
 of Lisbon, NH
 Brian and Peggy Irwin
 Tilia Jacobs
 Cheryl Jensen
 Jacki Katzman
 Danforth & Lynn Kenerson ★
 Pamela Kipp
 Bruce Kirmmse
 Andrea & William Knowles ★
 Laura Kogelman & John Weinstock
 Mary Lou Krambeer
 Karl Krueger
 John & Claudia Lachapelle
 Alice O'Leary & Barry LaCroix
 Robert & Cynthia Lanchester
 Lianna Lee
 Nelson Leese ▲
 Sandra Letourneau
 Richard & Claire Lewis
 Karl & Ardell Lippmann
 James Logan
 Liane & William Luke
 Jan Martland
 Edmund Marvelli, Jr. & Mary Kathrine Foley Marvelli
 Betty Matthews ▲
 Kenneth & Carole McCarthy

Constance McDade
 Scott McGrath
 Lois McGee
 Mike & Amy McKeever
 Penny McKinnon & Ed Zuk
 Lynn & Edward McNamara
 David & Meghan McPhaul
 Lorraine & Rick McPhillips
 Zhenye & Claire Mei
 Douglas Mellor Jr.
 John Micalizzi
 Linda Moleta & Michael Romano
 Stephen & Marilyn Monsein
 Frances Moyer
 Peter H. Moyer, M.D.
 Robert & Alice Muh
 William & Anne-Marie Nichols
 Erik Nilsen ▲
 Mary O'Brien & Rebecca Steeves
 Jayne O'Connor
 Ken Parker & Mary Ruppert
 Alexander Perkins
 Laura Chang & John Petrofsky
 Chuck & Betsey Phillips ▲
 Kristofer Pieper ▲★
 Neil Pilotte
 Rita Poland
 John & Mary Polaski
 Ralph Porfido
 Rick & Cheryl Quintal
 Laura Gilbert & Janet Ray
 Jonathan & Elizabeth Redwine
 Ellen Rennie
 Susan Retz & Charles Lovett
 Douglas & Katherine Rigler
 Mark & Sandra Roberts
 Dennis & Karen Rosolen
 Kathryn & Kevin Ryan ★
 Richard & Heidi Sagar ★
 Sonya Salanti ▲★
 David & Darleen Sarausky
 Jane Schmidt
 Eric Shaw White
 Lynn & Bill Sheridan ★
 James & Barbara Shuchman
 Alayna Signorello ★
 Nathan Simon
 Mary Sloat
 Kathleen Smith
 Norma St John ★
 Matthew & Elizabeth Steele
 R. Newcomb & Trina Stillwell
 Frederick Stone
 Mary Sturtevant ★
 Dijit Taylor
 Harriet Taylor

Katharine Terrie
 Jae Kim & Jason Tors ▲
 Parker & Phyllis Towle
 Stevan K. & Caroline S. Trooboff
 Edith Tucker
 Debbie Tuel
 Henry & Janet Vaillant
 William & Carol Vales ★
 Wendy Vandenhoeck
 James R. Viar
 Arthur Vogel
 Claire & Fred Von Karls
 Camille Wharey & Rick Walling
 Ruth Ward
 Richard & Donna Webb, Jr.
 Milton & Mary Weiler
 Ann Whitney & Richard Johnson

Funders & Foundations

Cheshire County Conservation District / NH Farm Future Fund
 Drinking Water Groundwater Trust Fund
 Franconia Area NEMBA
 Franconia Conservation Commission
 Fresh Sound Foundation
 Island Foundation
 LCHIP
 New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
 NH GOFERR
 NH SCC Moose Plate
 Tillotson Fund
 US SBA - PPP

Sponsors, Partners & Friends

Adaptive Sports of the North Country
 Ammonoosuc Chapter of NH Audubon
 Crosstown Motors
 CT River Conservancy
 Franconia Library
 Friends of Profile Trails
 Franconia Community Trail
 Gale River Cooperative
 Preschool
 Jeanette Fournier

Roxanne Wessels
 Kenneth & Polly Whitestone
 Dorothy Wiggins ▲
 William Wilczek & Barbara Beck-Wilczek
 Bethany Williams
 Robert Owen Williams
 Timothy Williams
 Susan & Frederic Winthrop
 Marc & Lynn Wunderman
 Donna Wyre



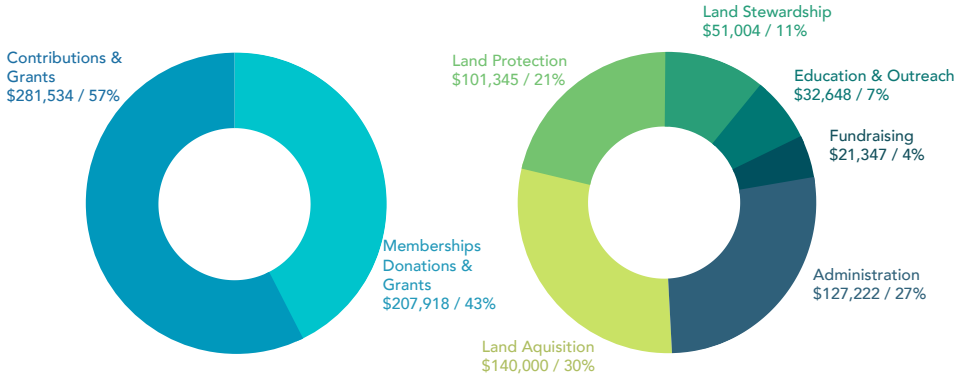
Littleton Co-op
 Mad Professor Mushrooms
 NH Audubon
 NRCS
 Pollard Brook
 Polly's Pancake Parlor
 Profile HS Sustainability Club
 Root to Rise
 Routed by Stacey
 SPNHF
 The Colonial Theatre
 Wellness at Work
 WMSI
 Robyn Van Vechten
 Nikki Barrett

Financial Highlights

'20-'21 fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Operating Income:
Total Income: \$489,452

Operating Expenses:
Total Expenses: \$473,566



Income Category Definitions:

Memberships, Donations & Grants: membership dues, personal donations, event donations, employer matches, private, organizational and government grants, merchandise sales.

Contributions & Grants: trails program manager donations, personal donations for land acquisition, private and public institutional grants designated for specific purposes.

Expense Category Definitions:

Land Acquisition: Costs associated with negotiating and acquiring both donated and purchased land easements.

Land Protection: Expenses for new landowner outreach, grant funding outreach, grant writing, new project analysis for conservation values, due diligence of proposed easements, staff support for volunteer lands committee projects, baseline documentation reports.

Land Stewardship: Expenditures dedicated to annual property monitoring and reporting, land management plans, signage, kiosks, trails repair and management, staff management of over 100 volunteers and landowner communications.

Education & Outreach: Costs associated with ACT's Community Education & Outreach commitment such as building and sustaining local partnerships with other organizations, individuals, and businesses, guest speaker programs, website and social media management, marketing and publicity, on-line newsletters and public educational events.

Fundraising: Expenses for donor appeal letters, capital campaigns, membership management and communication, grant writing, donor stewardship and gift acknowledgement.

Administration: Overall operating expenses such as: staff salaries, rent, utilities, accounting and bookkeeping, legal advisors, insurance policies, technology and website costs, national accreditation and tax reporting compliance, staff education, and grant reporting requirements.

Please direct all finance questions to Executive Director Rosalind Page (rpage@act-nh.org).



Schaller Trail - Foss Forest
Sugar Hill, NH

ACT Committee Updates

Finance

Jim Pasman, Chair



We were fortunate to acquire two new committee members, Stephen Pelletier and Caleb Winder, retain a recent addition to our team, and welcome a new external Accountant.

The committee focused on the potential revenue and expense impact the pandemic could have imposed on the organization both in terms of human resources (being able to meet payroll) and operating expenses while year over year revenues were dropping over 25%.

The Land Trust Alliance hosted a Covid Response Planning Seminar that established Five Key Metrics to support a long-term financial planning process with critical goals for non-profit businesses like ours. Using the Five Key Metrics (5KM) model outlined, the Finance Committee identified that ACT has 3 of 5 in place and will continue implementing the last two measures when further data and methodology are available.

Finally, with the 2021 Balance Sheet showing Total Liabilities and Equity of \$3.57 million, ACT is in strong financial position to sustain and support its mission now and in the future.

Outreach

Joanne Jones, Chair



Despite the pandemic, the Community Outreach Committee was still able to offer programs and activities that allowed ACT to safely engage with our members, supporters and the community at large.

Instead of doing in-person speaker events as we've done in the past, we switched to virtual presentations. Offerings ranged from a very popular talk on mushrooms by Dr. Thomas Stoughton of Plymouth State University to a virtual star party conducted by ACT member Gary Ghioto.

Though we chose not to hold group hikes, we had several self-guided activities like a scavenger hunt at Bronson Hill, a new nature trail at Whipple Farm, and a StoryWalk® at the Foss Forest. There were also two outdoor yoga sessions last September as part of ACT's Mindfulness Series.

We look forward to slowly returning to some indoor events and small group hikes to once again engage in person with the community.



Lands
Chris Nicodemus, Co-Chair
Charlie Wolcott, Co-Chair

ACT's Lands Committee is now monitoring 34 properties annually, that's 7 more just this year. We thankfully also grew by two members, adding Patrick Hurley and Chris Thayer.

This fiscal year, ACT closed on two properties. In Whitefield, the Rexford property easement helped protect high quality soils in former farm land. In Franconia, the purchase of the Van Pelt property on Wells Road protected important trail junctions in a well-established local trail system as well as created an opportunity for improving access to those local trails.

A new and long needed part-time Trails Program Manager position was created. Thanks to our generous community members for a successful fundraising campaign in preparation for posting a job search.

We feel it is imperative to assure folks are able to enjoy ACT's public lands, but with the pandemic a larger user base began creating parking challenges. A process has begun to address parking solutions for several ACT properties which we hope to complete by 2023.

Finally, our trails continue to improve with the help of both new and many long time volunteers. The Cooley-Jericho Community Forest has had significant signage upgrades for its hiking, biking and ski touring trails. ACT has also become more involved in the development of the Profile Community Trail helping make it a sustainable and long-lasting addition to trails in the area.



Development
Ned Brewer, Chair

During fiscal year 2020-2021 the Development Committee helped fundraise for ACT's normal operations through the usual membership renewal and bi-annual solicitations and helped exceed the goals set by ACT's Executive Director, Rosalind Page.

Each committee member, along with all of ACT's board members was also charged with soliciting funding for the new part-time Trails Program Manager position. Though funding campaigns are rare for ACT, the effort was another success, with enough raised to fund the position for two years.

To provide a member benefit long promised to the Headwaters Society, made up of donors who give \$1,000 or more annually, the committee started a newsletter for Headwaters Society donors to be distributed quarterly. Committee members also began contacting donors on a more regular basis to get to know them better and get feedback on ACT's work in the region. Finally, given the realities of COVID, we had to postpone the annual Headwaters event, but are hopeful to bring it back in future as conditions allow.

Volunteer Spotlight

Ivan Ash & Angela Broscoe
ACT members since: 2012

What brought you to ACT?

In the fall of 2012, we attended a hike, led by Rebecca [ACT's founding Executive Director], at what would eventually become the Cooley-Jericho Community Forest. After the hike she spoke about ACT and plans for the Easton property to become the CJCF. We were intrigued by the opportunity to help bring it to reality.

How long have you been ACT volunteers?

We have been members of ACT since the fall of 2012, and when the CJCF committee was formed joined that also and continue to be involved.

What keeps you active with us?

Knowing that what we do is a way of giving back to all who have paved the way before us. Being able to combine our love of the outdoors with doing something so worthwhile, gives us a sense of accomplishment and pride, from clearing trails to assisting on a hike or an event.

Do you have a favorite ACT event? Why?

We especially like hikes and events that focus on the outdoors, both the natural such as bears and coyotes, and manmade or historical like stone walls. Why? We both enjoy learning and helping out where needed.

What is your favorite volunteer activity? Why?

Angela: Co-leading hikes for people that prefer less strenuous hikes on easier terrain at a more leisurely pace.

Ivan: We both enjoy working on the Outreach Committee and helping out at in-person events as well as potluck suppers at the Easton Town Hall.

Why? The interaction with likeminded people is very rewarding.

What do you love most about ACT?

ACT's dedication to preservation of land, native plants, and animals make us proud to be a part of ACT.

What would you share with someone asking if they should volunteer?

Don't hesitate to join, no matter your activity level, there is always meaningful work for someone interested in preserving the environment.

What do you hope for the future of ACT?

We hope that ACT continues to be a source of inspiration to others who want to make the forest a place people can go for renewed wellbeing while making it a safe habitat for native plants and wildlife.

We also hope that ACT, as it grows, expands its activities to more towns in Northwestern New Hampshire while continuing to expand on its relationship with other conservation groups.



JOIN US! ACT THRIVES
THANKS TO YOU.

- Yes! I want to join ACT to help conserve land for the North Country's future.

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL (donations to ACT are tax deductible)

- \$35 (basic membership) \$500
 \$100 \$1,000+ Headwaters Society
 \$250 Other \$ _____

MONTHLY GIVING

I would like to donate \$_____ monthly to land protection and community connection in the North Country starting on _____ (MM/DD).

First Name(s) _____

Last Name(s) _____

Local Address _____

Other Address _____

Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

I WOULD LIKE TO PAY VIA:

- Credit Card / Number: _____

Exp: _____ CVV: _____

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