



— ACT —
AMMONOOSUC
CONSERVATION
T R U S T

Annual Report 2023



FISCAL YEAR 07/2022 - 06/2023

From Our Board President

Dear ACT Friends and Supporters,

I would like to express my gratitude to the many individuals and business sponsors who supported ACT during the 2022-2023 fiscal year. It was a busy time for ACT with accomplishments made possible thanks to our many generous members and donors. To date we have conserved 5,282 acres located in 15 towns.



Last summer ACT launched a search for an Executive Director and in September 2022 we welcomed Kimberly Cartwright as our new ED. Kim came to us with many years of land trust experience in a variety of roles. I would be remiss not to acknowledge Rosalind Page for stepping in as our interim ED. Rosalind agreed to serve as a mentor for Kim and joined Rick Walling as a Conservation Projects Manager. Rosalind and Rick are responsible for reviewing potential conservation projects and, as needed, securing grant funding.

We continued to communicate with a passionate group of people from Coös County about the possibility of expanding conservation opportunities there. We encouraged residents and business leaders from Coös to become ACT members, volunteers, and committee members. Our staff have reached out to Coös County Conservation Commissions and other groups to share our mission and initiatives and gain local support.

ACT is fortunate to have a dedicated staff that believes passionately in the importance of conserving land for future generations. With the support of our members, donors, community partners, and business sponsors we look forward to another successful year.

Thank you!

Marilyn Booth

Marilyn Booth
Board President

FEELING INSPIRED TO VOLUNTEER?
GET IN TOUCH WITH THE OFFICE &
JOIN IN THE FUN!



Our Mission

The Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (ACT) works with landowners and community partners to permanently protect land in New Hampshire's North Country for public benefit.

ACT preserves farms, wild and working forests, waterways, and places of natural and cultural importance. We help build healthy communities by creating opportunities for meaningful connections to the natural world and to each other.



PO Box 191, 297 Main St
Franconia, New Hampshire 03580
Tel. (603) 823 - 7777
Email info@act-nh.org
Web 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, WMSI, GALE RIVER COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL, AND ACT ARCHIVE.

A Note from ACT's Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Looking at the trends during 2022-2023: air fryers, regenerative farming, psychological safety, AI, carbon markets . . . reminds us that the world as we know it continues to change, grow, and expand.

What has Changed at ACT?

Our Staff and Board: I was hired by ACT as the new executive director, bringing an extensive background in land trust and operations management to an organization moving from its founders' circle to a more diverse board and professional staff. Seven individuals joined our committees and board in fostering our work and by representing their communities of Colebrook, Dummer, Franconia, Lancaster, Lisbon, Randolph, and Stewartstown.

Our Collaborations: We placed greater emphasis on collaboration, joining forces with our peer conservation organizations and funders. One example is our teaming with The Nature Conservancy to identify and prioritize lands with critical conservation value in northern Coös County. We continued to build our partnerships with Profile High School, providing two seniors with conservation related internships, Gale River Cooperative Preschool, Littleton Food Co-op, and the Franconia chapter of the New England Mountain Bike Association (FA-NEMBA) to name a few. We shared our success in the community with our many business partners.

Our Focus: As a professional, respected, and accomplished conservation organization in Northern Grafton County, ACT made a commitment to extend our conservation options to those in the further reaches of our territory. One project in Bath, two in Haverhill, and one in Franconia began this year. We also made a commitment, secured grant funding, added committee representation, and hired staff to extend conservation opportunities to landowners in Coös County.

Our Determination: In the winter of 2022, we completed a conservation project which had been in discussion for five years as we curated a land management plan to suit the wishes of the donating landowners on the Grote Wildlife Sanctuary in Franconia. This parcel is adjacent to our Wells Road Trail Access property where long-term plans for parking access and trail connectivity will be realized. We also continue to assist in negotiations with the long-running (2019-Present) Profile Community Trail endeavors and will continue to give our support. After eight years of talks at the municipal level, the Cooley-Jericho Community Forest is now formally managed via a four-town stewardship team, with a clearly defined management plan and a signed Memorandum of Understanding.

What has not changed at ACT is the need for your role as a volunteer, participant, supporter, advocate, and as stewards of the land.



Kim Cartwright
Executive Director



Board & Staff

2022/23 Board of Trustees

Marilyn Booth, President, Landaff
Ned Brewer, Vice President, Franconia
Jeff Burt, Treasurer, Franconia
Margaret Gale, Assistant Secretary, Bethlehem
Ellen Pritham, Secretary, Easton
Katrine Barclay, Lisbon
Chris Nicodemus, Franconia
Harry Roberston, Sugar Hill
Alayna Signorello, North Woodstock
Caleb Winder, Assistant Treasurer, Franconia
Charlie Wolcott, Sugar Hill

ACT Staff

Sheelagh Higginson, Operations Manager
Kim Cartwright, Executive Director
Jesse Mohr, Conservation Ecologist & Land Manager
Rosalind Page, Conservation Projects Manager
Rick Walling, Conservation Projects Manager
Conor McCourt, Trails Manager & Conservation Projects Assistant
Katrina Meserve, Outreach Manager

ACT Advisors

Rebecca Brown, Sugar Hill
Julie Renaud Evans, Milan
Doug Evelyn, Sugar Hill
Dave Govatski, Jefferson
Ken Kinder, Pike
Brendan Whittaker, Brunswick, VT

Welcome New Board Member, Harry Robertson

Harry was raised in Sugar Hill, where he learned from a very young age to love skiing at Cannon, hiking, and being outdoors.

After college, he moved to the Boston area for his IT career, where he and his wife Patty raised a family. The years away from Sugar Hill were filled with frequent visits home to see family, hike, ski, mountain bike, and rock climb. Harry continues these activities today. During his younger years working in his father's construction business and always has a personal carpentry project underway.

Harry's father Phil was part of the group that worked to make Sugar Hill its own town - creating the youngest town in NH. His father was also an avid environmentalist. Harry has been an active member of the ACT Lands Committee for a few years, loving monitoring, searching for boundaries, trail and view clearing.

Business Partner Spotlight

The Littleton Food Co-op & Becky Colpitts



ACT and the Littleton Food Co-op have partnered on many projects and events over recent years. The Co-op's connection to community and work towards sustainability align with ACT's commitment to land preservation. Among the many amazing staff at the Co-op is their Community Outreach and Membership Services Coordinator, Becky Colpitts. Alongside the Co-op, Becky has been an important asset to ACT.

Becky appreciates connecting with Co-op partners locally, regionally, and statewide. She is passionate about her work on the North Country Food and Agriculture Council, where she is part of the backbone team. She especially enjoys connecting with organizations, like ACT, working for resilient food systems, and conserving farmland.

Becky loves collaborating with partners to create mutually beneficial projects and events. She delights in connecting in-person and believes it's instrumental in relationship building. She values the members and owners, questions, suggestions, and innovative solutions to issues facing the Co-op and our community.

We are so thankful for partnerships like Becky's and the Littleton Food Co-op, who demonstrate commitment to a strong community.





Cooley-Jericho Community Forest Bridge Build
CJCF in Easton, NH created in 2013

TOTAL ACRES CONSERVED

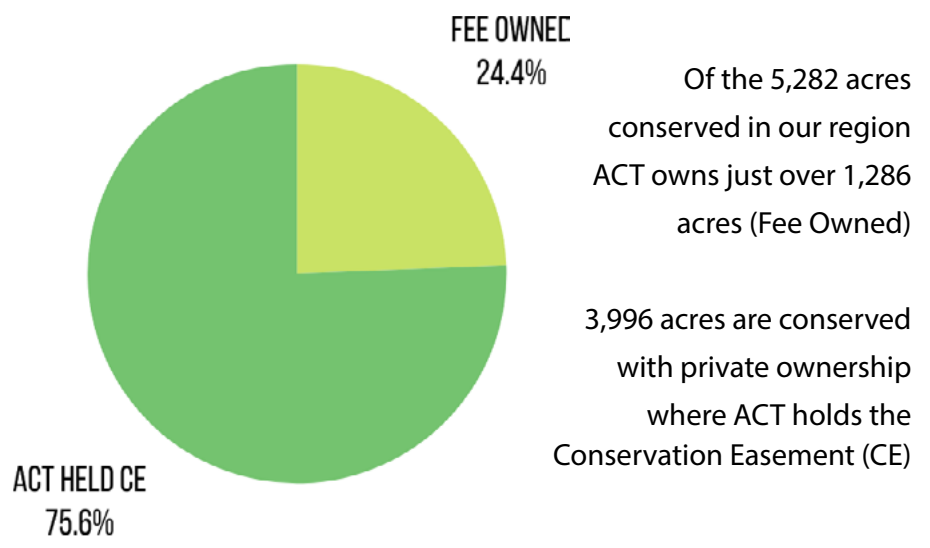
5,282

That's just under 3,995 football fields!

Though ACT owns some of this land, also called Fee Owned (~24%), most of ACT's conserved land 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 share these values through our logo, which reminds us every day where our focus lies.








CONSERVATION IN YOUR BACKYARD!

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

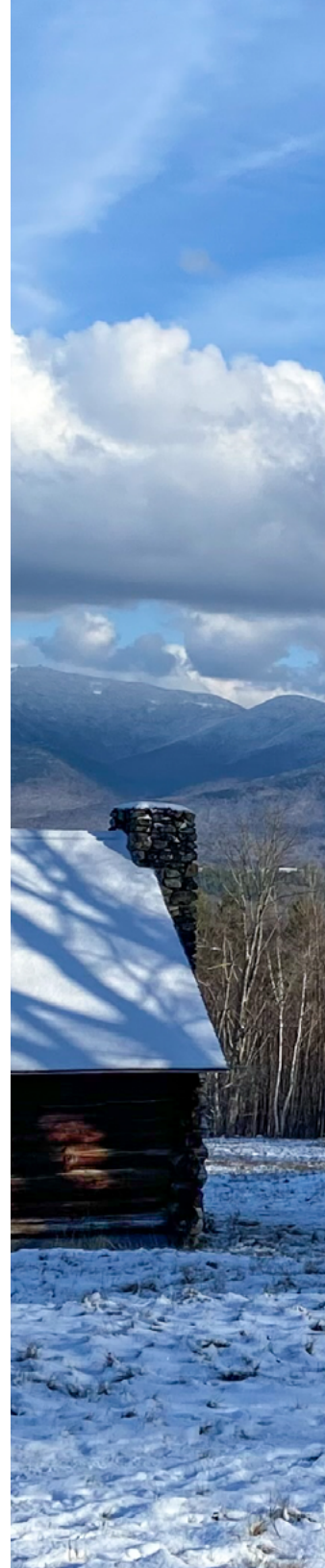
ACT Fee Owned:

- 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 
- Grote Wildlife Sanctuary - Franconia 

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

This last year was an exciting one! Thank you for participating in ACT events and making great memories throughout the North Country.



Annual Report

'22-'23 fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

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

Thanks to your commitment, our incredible community of members, partners, and volunteers, the Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust has continued both our conservation and community partner projects and are growing to better serve our region. Thank you for all of your time spent and advocacy of conservation and community connection 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, advisors, staff and committee members.

\$10,000 +

Anonymous Donor ■
Peter & Mary Grote ■
Melinda Richmond Fund ■

\$5,000 +

S. Jeffrey Burt ■□
Richard & L Katrina Cashman ■
Dr. Rebecca &
Dr. Peter Forkner ■
Scott & Lisa Gilbert ■
Vincent Lunetta ■
Charles Weed &
Louise Eastman Weed ■

\$2,500 +

Edward & Jane Brewer ▲■□
Greg & Margo Connors ▲■□
Edward & Lisa Cutler ▲■
Alicia & David Groom ■
Kevin & Joanne Jones ■□
Carl & Nancy Martland ■□
Chris Nicodemus &
Ping Chow ■□
Louisa C. Porter ■
Elinor Winslow ■

\$1,000 +

Marilyn & Rachael Booth ▲■□
John Maki & Ralph Bradley ■
Thom Brown ■
Lisa & Bill Caselden ▲■
Ann & Edward Craxton ■
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Jessica Griffiths &
Tim Wennrich ■
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Beth & Randall Kunz ■
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Robert Quidone &
Philip Magnuson ■
Edith C. McKown ■
Tami Nason ■

Rosalind Page &
Tom Simpson ▲■□
James & Judith Perkins, Jr. ■
Henry & Jean-Marie Peterson ■
Ben Pignatelli ■
Spencer Purinton ■
Anwiti Bahuguna
Charles & Paul Racunas ▲■□
Christian & Kathleen Rehl ■
Austin & Deborah Smith ■
Timothy D. & Judy Sykes ▲■
Charles & Polly Wolcott ■□
Sara Daley & Daniel Zajic ▲■

\$500 +

James & Karen Beardsley
Christopher & Judy Cabot
Robert & Anita Craven
Catherine Eames
Martha M. & Douglas Evelyn
Kenneth Hunter
Mark & Kim Koprowski
Alice O'Leary & Barry LaCroix
William Tickle & Amber Lessard
Caroline & George Mock
Katrina Ogilby
James Pasman &
Eileen Mahoney ▲
Richard & Mary Jay Powers
Howard & Ellen Pritham □
Stephen Webster & Robin Ross ▲
Jamey & Laura Shachoy
Eric Shaw White
Frederick Steady
Emily MacKay & Mike Stubna

Christopher & Wendy Thayer □
Margaret Gale &
David Van Houten ▲□
Laura Wernick
Caleb & Phoebe Winder □

\$250 +

Katrine Barclay ▲□
Lynn Bart ▲
Judy Chambliss & Jack Fowler
Philip Chase
Jeanne & Steven Cummings
Nancy Collis & Howard Feist
Jody & Art Flescher
Ernie & Naomi Hannaford ▲
Lisa & Kurt Haus
Paula & Snowden Henry
Nicole Sullivan &
Christine Hopkins ▲
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Nelson Leese ▲
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Zhenye & Claire Mei
Sharon Mellaci ▲
John & Leah Micalizzi
Brooke O'Day
John Petrofsky & Laura Chang □
Robert & Wendy Reasenber
Art Green & Kay Reid ▲
Douglas & Katherine Rigler
Maddie & Jon Ritter ▲
Andrew & Christine Schmitt
Barry Taylor
Tanya Tellman
William & Sally Waterhouse
Gary & Joan Way
Stephen & Nova Wheeler
Donna Wyre

Up to \$249

Paul Amey
Barbara Stirk-Anderson &
Don Anderson
Susan Argetsinger
Doug Arion
Richard & Susan Ball
Sharon & John Barry
Elizabeth Andrews &
Keith Batchelder
Bruce & Ann Beane
Mary & Donald Beaudin
Kathrene & Anderson Bell
Michael & Tina Betley
Dana Blais
Lissa Boissonneault
Russ & Anita Bonnevie
Tom & Shirley Boucher
Anne C. Bowdoin
Helen Bowdoin
Sandy & Andy Brackett ▲
Joan & Milton Bratz
Richard & Angie Bronson
Ivan Ash & Angela Broscoe ▲ □
David & Susan Brown
Judy & Kathrine Brubaker
Barbara & Kevin Buckley
Bruce Caplain & Alya Querioga
Robert S. Chase
Dale & Marilyn Childs
Phil Roshak & Dr Jennifer Childs
Sarah Turtle & Bill Church
Brenda Clark
Cary & Christina Clark
Mary Jo Clasby O'Neill ▲
Lila Cohen ▲
Michael & Donna Cordingley
Bernadette Costa
Janice Crosby
Joe Cushing
David & Susan Dahill
Paul & Janet Damiano
Marion Resta Detwiler ▲
Priscilla & Mike Didio
Katie Doherty □
Joanne D'Onfro
James & Leslie Drew □
Robert C. Dwyer
Matthew Elia
Kevin & Julie Renaud Evans □
Barbara Fisher
Dayna Flumerfelt
Linda & Richard Foote

Donald & Jessie Foster
Ellen Foster
Jeanette Fournier
William & Elizabeth Fraser
John & Alisa Gagel
Ashley & Joseph Garrison ▲
F.P. Garvan II
Marsha & Roger Gingue
Ken Haberman □
Linda & Mark Hansen ▲
Trevor & Isabel Hardy
Andrew Harris
Deborah & Robert Neil Harvey
Becky & Andrew Hatfield □
Bayard Henry
Sheelagh Higginson ▲ □
William & Rita Holmes
Sigmund & Anne Hudson
Cliff Hughes
Philip Tanner & Patricia Hunt
Teresa & Joseph Hurley
Brad Hurst
John & Maria Hynes
Brian & Margaret Irwin
Cheryl Jensen
Susan Jensen
Joan Nicosia-Karpf
Jacki Katzman
Danforth & Lynn Kenerson
Pamela Kipp
Bruce Kirmmse
Jessica Knapp & Mark Mendelsohn
Andrea & William Knowles □
Laura Kogelman & Jon Weinstock
Janice Kranz ▲
Robert & Cynthia Lanchester
Barbara Langworthy
Deborah Brown &
Raymond Lobdell
Susan Retz & Charles Lovett
Ned Densmore &
Kathleen Lovett
Liane & William Luke
Meme Luttrell
Jamie & Victoria Macmillan
Edmund Marvelli, Jr. &
Mary Kathrine Foley Marvelli
Betty Matthews ▲
John Maycock
Sam Mayne
Constance McDade
Scott McGrath
Pam & Steven McNary

Lorraine & Rick McPhillips
Douglas Mellor, Jr.
Thomas Meredith
Andrew Metz
Karen Meyers ▲
Linda Michelsen
Peter H. Moyer, M.D.
Robert & Alice Muh
David Chamberlin &
Jeanie Munro
Erik Nilsen &
Elizabeth Hall-Nilsen ▲
Dan Allegretti & Judit Noyes ▲
Jayne O'Connor
Diana & Dermot Pelletier
Stephen, Jaykaye &
Eloise Pelletier □
Jay Perreault
Megan Perryman ▲
Kristofer Pieper
Maryevelyn & Neil Pilotte ▲
Sarah Pinney
Lawrence & Karen Plate
John & Mary Polaski
Brendan Prusik
Rick & Cheryl Quintal
Michael Ransmeier
Laura Gilbert & Janet Ray
Jonathan & Elizabeth Redwine
Nancy Freeman & David Reis
Michael Rhodes
Sally Roberts
Mark & Sandra Roberts
Marcia Roosevelt
Dennis & Karen Rosolen
E. H. Roy □
Miriam Russell
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Randall & Deirdre Saulnier
Alexis Scavetta
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Norma St. John
Katherine Stuart
Geoffrey Swift
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Joyce & Chris Thoma
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Edith Tucker □
William & Carol Vales
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Ruth Ward
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Richard & Donna Webb, Jr.
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Donald & Carol Wharton
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Deborah Wooten-Angelo
Paula & John Wright
Marc & Lynn Wunderman
Cecilia Blewer & Clayton Young
Gabrielle & Jerome Zadow
Frances Avrin & Marty Zafran

Funders & Foundations

Anonymous Donor
Amazon Smile
American Biltrite Inc.
Davis Conservation Foundation
Fresh Sound Foundation
Henry P Kendall Foundation
Island Foundation Inc.
LCHIP
New Hampshire Charitable
Foundation (NHCF)
NH Farm Future Fund / Cheshire
County Conservation District
NH State Conservation Commission
(Moose Plate)
Seiche
Town of Franconia
Tillotson Foundation
Annamarie Pennucci

Sponsors, Partners & Friends

Adaptive Sports of
the North Country
Ammonoosuc Community
Health Services
Badger Peabody & Smith
Becky Hatfield

Bethlehem Public Library
Bill Oliver
Bill Vales
Boy Scout Troop 209
Cavanaugh & Son
Copper Cannon Camp
Cross NH Adventure Trail
Crosstown Motors
Crumb Bum Bakery
CT River Conservancy
Dave Govatski □
Easton Conservation Commission
FA-NEMBA
Franconia Inn & Outdoor Center
Franconia Public Library
Frederica Wolfe
Free 99.1
Gale River Cooperative Preschool
Granite Backcountry Alliance
Granite Outdoor Alliance
Heidi Holman
Jennifer Correia
Kinsman Valley Club
Lafayette School
Littleton Bike & Fitness
Littleton Coin Company, LLC
Littleton Food Co-op
Littleton Public Library
Meadowstone Farm
Mount Cabot Maple Farm
New England WireTechnologies
NH Audubon
NH Gives
Nikki Samuels
NRCS
P&S Equipment
Students from the PSU
Environmental Science & Policy
Program
Polly's Pancake Parlor
Profile High School
Rachelle Lyons
Rek-lis Brewing
Rooted by Stacey
Stonehouse Mountain Mapping



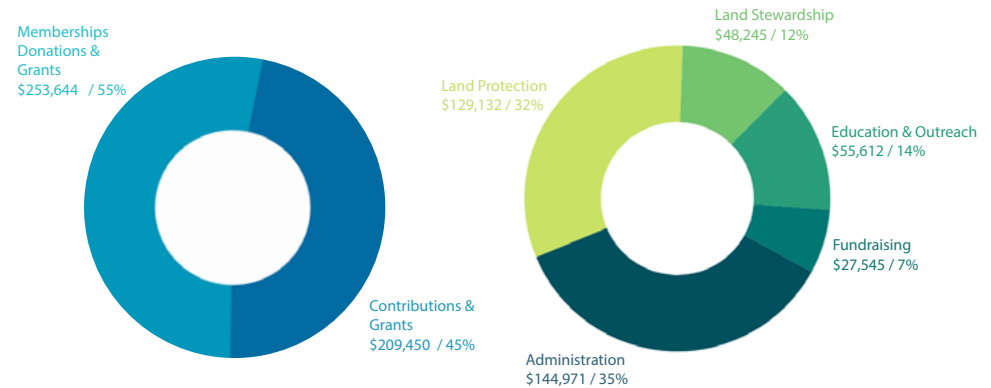


Financial Highlights

'22-'23 fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Operating Income:
Total Income: \$463,094

Operating Expenses:
Total Expenses: \$405,505



Income Category Definitions:

Memberships, Donations & Grants: Membership dues, personal donations, event donations, employer matches, private, organizational and government grants including federal pandemic relief, and 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 & Protection: Costs associated with negotiating and acquiring both donated and purchased land easements. 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 landowner communications, and over 50 volunteers.

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, tax reporting compliance, staff education, and grant reporting requirements.

Please direct all finance questions to Executive Director Kim Cartwright (kcartwright@act-nh.org).

ACT Committee Updates

Finance

Jeff Burt, Treasurer

Caleb Winder, Assistant Treasurer

There were several notable highlights for the Finance Committee in the past fiscal year. We were fortunate to acquire two new members, Shayne Burke and John Petrofsky who joined our strong and diverse team, all of whom have significant financial experience. Each member brings a different skill set which is key to a well-balanced group. Committee members continue to put in numerous hours of time and energy as volunteers.

Our accountant has phenomenally strong experience with land trusts and the technical skill sets needed to have full confidence in “the numbers.” She continues to attend all Finance Committee meetings, adding much needed perspective and advice. She has been working diligently with ACT staff this year to bring much needed clarity to the internal accounting reports.

The Finance Committee continued to use the Four Key Metrics (4KM) to support a long-term financial planning process with critical goals for non-profit businesses like ours. The four critical goals are correction of structural deficits, establishing annual operating surpluses, developing healthy operating reserves, and a diversified revenue mix. Stephen Pelletier deserves recognition for continuing to work on the 4KM reports every month for the Finance Committee, preparing spreadsheet reports and data input automation for each of the measures for each committee meeting.

Outreach

Joanne Jones, Chair

Margaret Gale, Co-Chair

The Outreach Committee had a busy year with a variety of events and activities. A number of outdoor events were held including a kayaking trip on the Connecticut River, a geology walk at Bronson Hill, tours of Meadowstone Farm in Bethlehem and Mount Cabot Maple Farm in Lancaster, and a community bonfire at Whipple Field. Committee member Emma Brandt organized several family events including a nocturnal animal exploration at Foss Forest, an animal tracking event at Whipple Field, and a nature walk at Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge.

Several virtual talks were offered on topics ranging from feeding birds in winter (with Dave Govatski) and the state of NH butterflies (with Heidi Holman) to the effects of light pollution (with Rachelle Lyons). ACT and three other event partners brought Ben Kilham to Franconia for a very well-attended program on NH bears. The Colonial Theatre and ACT partnered to offer the New Leaf film series.

ACT is very grateful for all the event partners who helped us throughout the year. These include the Littleton Food Co-op, the Colonial Theatre, Gale River Cooperative Preschool, Meadowstone Farm, and Polly’s Pancake Parlor, to name a few.

Finally, the committee bid farewell to Jake Acito, Outreach Coordinator, in November 2022, and Gal Potashnick, ACT’s Outreach and Member Services Director, in April 2023. In June we welcomed Katrina Meserve as the new Outreach Manager.



Lands

Chris Nicodemus, Co-Chair

Charlie Wolcott, Co-Chair

Preservation of sensitive habitats, enhancing appreciation of sustainable landscapes, preserving farmland, protection of our precious water resources and serving as a resource for education and outdoor recreational opportunities are central to the Trust’s mission and the function of the Lands Committee.

ACT’s Lands Committee added two properties to our portfolio of monitored properties in the current year and our workload continues to increase with the Trust’s expansion into Coös County while our work in northern Grafton County continues at a steady pace. We have 19 designated agricultural properties that require special attention of ACT staff to work with landowners to ensure best management practices and sustainable farms for the future. EH Roy and Katie Doherty joined the committee from Coös County. ACT welcomed Conor McCourt to staff to help both in the field and with administration, and additional volunteers have joined us in monitoring activities. A total of 36 properties are on the roster with additional projects currently under review.

Accomplishments in the past year beyond our annual monitoring have included a post Covid ramp up of events on ACT properties including a holiday season bonfire at Whipple Field, multiple staff and volunteer-driven maintenance days, the installation of the Rebecca Brown Bridge over the Salmon Hole Brook in the Cooley-Jericho Community Forest, design work for future improved parking at several ACT fee-owned locations, collaborations with multiple local organizations focusing on stewardship, recreation and community engagement. We thank our volunteers and the ACT staff for their dedication, enthusiasm, and selfless effort, and most especially the landowners for their commitment and generosity.

Development

Katrine Barclay, Chair

In the fall of 2022, the Development Committee connected with local businesses to offer sponsorship opportunities to co-sponsor or underwrite ACT events, collaborate on social media, and promote their business to ACT members. Business sponsors supporting ACT enable your dollars to go further.



Our staff actively applied for grant funding to cover the related costs of new initiatives (e.g., our Profile High School spring internship program), land conservation projects, tools, equipment, technology, and for elevating our operational capacity. \$360,000 was secured in 2022-23 through three simultaneous foundation grants for covering staff expenses and seed funding for expanding conservation into Coös County over the next three years.

ACT’s Headwaters Society consists of donors who give \$1,000 or more annually. This fiscal year ACT celebrated the Headwaters Society members at a summer gathering which included an engaging and informative presentation by Jesse Mohr, our Staff Ecologist and Land Manager, on ACT’s Strategic Conservation Plan.

Volunteer Spotlight

Kevin & Joanne Jones

ACT volunteer since: 2017

What brought you to ACT?

As we recall, we first heard about ACT after reading an article in the Littleton Courier shortly after ACT came into existence in 2000. We've always been passionate about land conservation, so we decided to become ACT members (and have been members ever since!). When we started living full-time in the North Country in 2017, we began to volunteer for ACT, initially doing trail maintenance at Cooley-Jericho Community Forest.

What keeps you active with us?

It gives us a great deal of pleasure to give back to ACT and help the organization achieve its goals and mission.

What is your favorite volunteer activity? Why?

We both agree that being trail maintainers for ACT at the Bronson Hill Conservation Area is probably our favorite volunteer activity. We love being outdoors and working together on different maintenance tasks. We also enjoy the group trail workdays and working with some of the other trail maintainers on a project, such as installing bog bridges or cleaning up storm damage.

What do you love most about ACT?

We love that ACT is so dedicated to helping landowners conserve and protect their land for all to enjoy both now and in the future. It is impressive to see the list of properties that ACT has conserved in the past 23 years.



What's one thing you'd share with a friend who'd like to volunteer?

We would tell a friend that ACT has a variety of different tasks that interested individuals can volunteer for. There is really something for everyone to do! We think that anyone will find, like we have, that it is very rewarding work and a great way to be part of the North Country community.

What do you hope for the future of ACT?

We hope that ACT will continue to grow as an organization and conserve even more land in the North Country. With the new Coös initiative and ACT's increasing partnerships in the North Country, this is a very exciting time for ACT and all those who are involved in it.



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) _____

Address _____

Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

I WOULD LIKE TO PAY VIA:

Credit Card / Number: _____

Exp: _____ CVV: _____

Automatic Bank Transfer (please donate online act-nh.org/donate-1)

Check

Please make my donation anonymous

MAIL TO:
Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust
PO Box 191
Franconia, NH 03580





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CONSERVATION
T R U S T

PO Box 191
Franconia, NH 03580