# New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions

SERVING NEW HAMPSHIRE'S COMMUNITIES SINCE 1970

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**56th Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions**
**November 7, 2026 | Pembroke, NH**

# Session C

## 2:15- 3:30PM

## 1C

### LAUNCH YOUR NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY to the NEXT LEVEL

**Peter Steckler,** Northeast Conservation Services

Is your Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) working for you?
How do you use it? How do you want to use it? Join this participatory workshop to learn how fellow commission members are using their NRIs—and how you can maximize yours. We will explore practical ways to increase NRI effectiveness and discuss how to successfully pivot your inventory into a strategic Conservation Plan. None of us has all the answers, but together we can take our NRIs to the next level!

## 2C

### WETLANDS INDENTICATION, FUNCTIONS & VALUES; FIELD TRIP

**Sandy Crystall,** Professional Wetlands Scientist
**Mary Ann Tilton,** NH DES

Participants must sign up for Session 2 B to attend this field trip.

This is an extension of the Wetlands classroom session B.

## 3C USING WILDLIFE CAMERAS IN ECOLOGICAL MONITORING

**Jaime McGuigan,** Access Conservation

Wildlife cameras are an accessible tool for observing wildlife and documenting how animals use a landscape. This session will introduce using trail cameras for ecological monitoring, with a brief classroom overview followed primarily by an outdoor field demonstration. We will look at camera placement, settings, habitat features, and wildlife sign that can inform where and how a camera is deployed. Participants will see equipment in use, work through practical considerations of setting up a camera, and discuss how camera observations can inform conservation and land management decisions. Participants will leave with a foundation for using wildlife cameras on their conservation properties.

## 4C BOOST YOUR ECONOMY WITH TRAILS

**Andy Bohannon,** CPRP, Deputy City Manager City of Keene

Recreational trails create opportunities for outdoor activity, strengthen community identity, and support local economies. This session explores how collaborative partnerships can enhance promotion, expand funding, and improve understanding of trail infrastructure. Communities that invest in trails often see boosts in tourism, economic development, and public engagement. Effective grant management, wayfinding signage, and strategic promotion can further elevate a community as a recreation destination. This session highlights how Keene, NH built strong collaborations to shape a trail system that defines the city as a vibrant place to live, work, and play.

## 5C READ AND UNDERSTAND CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

**Lisetta Silvestri,** Ransmeier & Spellman P.C.

Is your conservation commission considering holding a conservation easement, or do you already have easements and would like to better understand the easement terms? Learn more about the language of conservation easements and the legal requirements of monitoring conservation land. Lisetta will go over the basic framework of the Conservation Easement and common provisions. She will explain the history of the Conservation Easement and the importance of including the common provisions. She will leave enough time for questions and will invite participants to share their experiences.

## 6C TRAIL FINDER: What, why, and how?

**Russell Hirschler,** Upper Valley Trails Alliance/ Invasives

**Emma Tutien**, UNH Extension

Trail Finder is a free, interactive mapping site designed to help New Hampshire and Vermont residents and visitors find hiking, walking, snowshoeing, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, paddling trails, and accessible adventures across the two states. Our goal is to help people get out, be active, and explore our state's treasures, both those well-known and more hidden. This session will provide an introduction and demonstration of how to use the robust functionally of Trail Finder, and how Conservation Commissioners (and other trail managers) can get public trails into Trail Finder and use Trail Finder as a tool in promoting their town's conservation lands and engaging the public in their work. We will also share how Trail Finder is promoting accessible trails across NH.

## 7C INVASIVE SPECIES IDENTIFICATION & CONTROL

**Wendy Scribner & Mike Gagnon,** County Extension Foresters

Communities are increasingly facing the challenge of controlling non-native invasive species on properties throughout the state. These species are often able to outcompete our native species and can reduce native biodiversity, influencing forest health and regeneration, wildlife habitats, and recreational activities. Join Wendy Scribner and Mike Gagnon, Natural Resources Specialists with UNH Cooperative Extension, to learn how to identify and control a variety of different invasive plant species.

## 8C CLIMATE ADAPTATION ACTION

**Toni Lyn Morelli;** Research Ecologist, USGS Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center, Adjunct Professor, Department of Environmental Conservation, U Mass

As New England's species, ecosystems, and livelihoods are threatened by extreme weather, loss of snow, and warming lands and waters, local municipalities and practitioners look to solutions. Climate adaptation focuses on conducting and translating research to minimize the impacts of climate change, including threats to biodiversity and human welfare. Strategies range from resisting to directing change. This session will present the latest climate trends for New England and New Hampshire specifically, and highlight tools and examples that show how people in the region are working to adapt to these changes.