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\_\_\_Approved with changes

## Effingham Conservation Commission Work Session Minutes, March 19, 2012

1. The work session was called to order at 6:08 p.m.
2. Guests and members of the public: Jory Augenti, George Bull, Joanna Bull, Planning Board; Mike Cauble, Master Plan Committee; Malin Clyde, UNH Extension; Jeff Libby, Town Forester; Kamal Nath; Wendy Scribner, UNH Extension Carroll County Forester; Henry Spencer, selectman-elect and Carroll County Commission; Amanda Stone, UNH Extension; Susan Yakutis, Master Plan Committee.
3. Amanda Stone provided an overview of the Wildlife Action Plan and Taking Action for Wildlife community assistance program.
4. Malin Clyde provided an update on the Wildlife Action Plan as an initiative to incorporate habitat information into planning documents for New Hampshire towns. Information had been available for game species and for threatened or endangered species, but not for the vast number of species outside those categories. So far 123 species have been identified as in decline or without enough data to evaluate them.

Information is available on 27 different habitat types with criteria and suggestions for maintaining and improving them. Fish and Game has information organized into chapters and appendices. Categories include Community Stories and Landowner Stories about projects that have been done.

The TAFW team will generate a list of work tasks to help ECC, the Master Plan Committee and Planning Board incorporate the WAP data into the Natural Resources chapter of the Master Plan. A second meeting will be scheduled.

5. The TAFW team provided a lengthy presentation of maps of the town showing habitat types and values. They suggested that the town needs to establish priorities among the various habitats and land areas, taking habitat value and connectivity into account.
6. Kamal Nath pointed out that unless land is specifically held by a conservation organization or is under a conservation easement it is not really protected, just presently undeveloped.
7. ECC will review the priorities map, suggesting adjustments if necessary, and develop summaries of existing studies to incorporate into the natural resources chapter of the master plan. UNH will send fact sheets and other supporting material.
8. Attendance: Members present: Emelyn Albert (*Chair*); Dave Goulet (*Secretary*); Al Levesque (*alt.*); Harry Libby; Tim White (*Recording Secretary*); Jack Williams (*Vice Chair*); Virginia Wrabel; Absent: Stephanie Barnes (*alt.*); Steve Zalewski (*alt.*).
9. The work session just sort of ended around 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Tim White, Recording Secretary

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