



2018 Conservation Program Initiatives

New England Conservation Finance Network: Assist in developing a communications platform and strategy for a regional network of conservation finance practitioners, building on existing national efforts, and recent interest within New England. This project will involve repackaging existing content, identifying hot topics, assembling mailing lists, and blog writing and editing.

Regional Conservation Partnership (RCP) Coordinator/Leaders Meeting and Network Gathering: Assist Highstead staff with organization, audience cultivation, and administration for a two-day training and conference for over 250 regional conservation practitioners at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA.

Evaluate Conservation Funding Trends: Build on recent Highstead work to catalog public and private funding for regional conservation. Update existing sources and identify new sources of information on philanthropic private and public grants, and private investments in forest and agriculture protection in New England.

Northern Appalachian Trail Landscape Partnership: Support a developing partnership of organizations working in the landscape surrounding the Appalachian Trail corridor with various activities that may include research on conservation trends, partner outreach, serving as a liaison with student groups, mapping, and administrative tasks.

Hudson to Housatonic Regional Conservation Partnership (H2H): Assist Highstead staff and H2H partners with activities related to land protection and landowner engagement, including strategic conservation mapping, developing tools to facilitate collaboration, and supporting outreach within cross-boundary focus areas. Assist with meeting and event organizing across the interstate region.

Regional Conservation Partnership (RCP) Network Peer Exchange: Develop a “who’s who” of Regional Conservation Partnerships that catalogs RCP characteristics and areas of expertise, by synthesizing findings from past surveys, and conducting additional research and outreach. Support Highstead Conservationist with monthly RCP Coordinator Conference Calls, Webinars, and other activities.

RCP Spotlight Series: Work with the Conservationist to develop a series of stories on the activities of specific RCPs that align with the steps to RCP success as outlined in the RCP Handbook. These stories will help illustrate best practices and be posted on various websites, social media platforms, and E-news editions.

RCP Network Pooled Match Inventory: Work with Highstead Conservationist and Harvard Forest staff to develop content for a website on the network’s new conservation finance tool. The website will be a hub to track data associated with large federal grants. This may include developing web-maps and reaching out to conservation groups to promote use of the tool.

New England Forest Policy Group: Provide administrative support to three or more working groups of this region-wide coalition intent on increasing resources for forest conservation across New England.