

Hanover Conservation Council



*Community Conservation...
a Hanover Tradition.*

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

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Nancy Collier
Kathleen Harvard
Gail McPeck
Hugh Mellert
Bill Mlacak
Carl Renshaw

EMERITUS

Edwin Chamberlain
James Hornig
Robert Norman
Brian Quinn

Adair Mulligan
Executive Director



THANK YOU

Our many supporters, volunteers, and friends make the Hanover Conservation Council's programs possible.

- ✧ The Barrette Family Fund of the NH Charitable Foundation – Upper Valley Region
- ✧ The Byrne Foundation
- ✧ The Occum Family Fund of the NH Charitable Foundation – Upper Valley Region
- ✧ The Osilas Foundation
- ✧ The Elizabeth Parkhill Charitable Trust
- ✧ Upper Valley Region Community Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
- ✧ Chippers, Inc.
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- ✧ Hanover Lions Club
- ✧ I.T. Stuff for NonProfits
- ✧ Mill Gardens
- ✧ National Park Service Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program
- ✧ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program
- ✧ Anonymous
- ✧ Over 300 Hanover households (See Supporter List)

Volunteer Trip Leaders: Jim Barrett, Tom Bickel, Maureen Bolton, Ehrhard Frost, Elisha Huggins, Sarah Mahlab, Gail McPeck, Hugh Mellert, David Merker, Arthur Mudge, Bob Norman, Carl Renshaw, Pip Richens, Bill Shepard, Dr. Alcott Smith, John Taylor, Jed Williamson

Balch Hill Stewardship Committee: Jan Assmus, Clyde Barbour, Ed Chamberlain, Rob Chapman, Rob Harris, Barbara McIlroy, David Pollock, Lois Roland, Ellis Rolett

Mink Brook Stewardship Committee: Jim Barrett, Maureen Bolton, Cal Felicetti, Brenda Knight, Larry Litten, Sarah Mahlab, Rich Menge, Hilda Sokol

Slade Brook Stewardship Committee: Kathy Harvard, Gail McPeck, Hugh Mellert, Daniel Morrison

Letter from the President

Friends,

This year our trail led among ancient trees and over steep slopes to another summit.

Protecting the dramatic Rinker-Steele Natural Area gave the Council a chance to conserve another special place cherished by the community, this time as the Town's private partner. The Council now holds an easement permanently protecting this Town-owned land connecting the Ferguson Field, Storrs Pond, and Oak Hill.



Betsy McGean

We embarked on a strategic conservation planning process to guide us to Hanover's highest conservation goals...healthy rivers and streams, wildlife habitat, clean drinking water, recreational access close to home, and the beautiful landscapes that make Hanover such an inspiring place to live.

In June, we bid a fond farewell to Molly Donovan, who nurtured the Council's growth for a decade, and we welcomed conservation biologist Adair Mulligan as our first full-time Executive Director.

The Council's nearly half-century of community conservation work has brought many successes, large and small, as our centerfold Conservation Footprint map illustrates. Each step along the trail brings us more appreciation for the natural treasures that define our town.

Thank you for your support and active engagement!

Betsy McGean

Betsy McGean

President



The Hanover Conservation Council is dedicated to the conservation of land and water, and to deepening the appreciation of natural resources for the benefit of the Hanover community and beyond.

We achieve our mission through land conservation, active management and stewardship, science-based information sharing, community education, and support for conservation-oriented public policies.

Now in its 48th year, the Council is a private, nonprofit organization. While not a Town entity, the Council partners frequently with the Town and other local and regional organizations.

CONSERVATION

The Council celebrates the protection of the Rinker-Steele Natural Area in partnership with the Town of Hanover and its Conservation Commission. The 24-acre Natural Area provides important wildlife habitat and recreational connections to surrounding forests and trails. Steep slopes clothed with ancient forest offer a glimpse of the post-glacial landscape of Hanover. The Council worked closely with the Town on the area's Management Plan and trail map, and contributed \$25,000 from our Land Action Fund to assist the Town in purchasing the Steele tract.



Exploring Greensboro Ridge.

We are working on several new opportunities to protect special lands in Hanover, including further partnerships with the Town and Dartmouth College. We continue to welcome inquiries from landowners pursuing protection of their land and water, either directly with the Council or with a conservation buyer secured with the Council's help.

STEWARDSHIP

Caring for the Council's 315 acres involves the usual trail work and monitoring, but increasingly involves confronting the scourge of invasive plants. Aggressive buckthorn, knotweed, honeysuckle, and other invaders crowd out the native flora preferred by wildlife. The Council has hired biologists and licensed professionals to control invasives on 35 acres at Mink Brook and also at the Balch Hill Natural Area.



Our magnificent new hand-crafted bridge at the Mink Brook Nature Preserve greatly enhances this beautiful area, linking trails on both sides of Hanover's largest stream. Look for further links and trail improvements soon. We value the spirit and commitment of each of our properties' stewardship committees, and welcome new volunteers who love the outdoors to join us.

Invitation to cross Mink Brook.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Our members have explored Hanover's conserved open spaces with us for nearly half a century. This year, we led 21 free Outdoor Adventures, drawing nearly 200 people, exploring everything from the geologic history of Greensboro Ridge to the spring migrants of Slade Brook's forests. We were pleased to offer a biologist-led exploration of the Mink Brook Highlands in the Greensboro/Great Hollow Road area for town officials and representatives of a local employer/landowner.

We published a new trail guide for the Mink Brook Nature Preserve, and prepared a trail map for the Rinker-Steele Natural Area in consultation with our community partners. Find our trail maps at www.hanoverconservation.org.



Naturalist-led snowshoe hike.

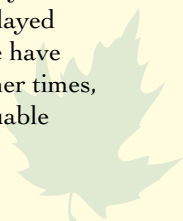
ADVOCACY

The Council is an active voice for a sensible approach to development affecting the Greensboro Road/ Route 120 corridor, an area of both surprising ecological richness and strong development pressure. We continue to educate voters about the value of municipalizing Hanover's drinking water infrastructure and encourage the future long-term protection of the watershed lands to ensure the safety of this, the public's most basic need.

CONSERVATION FOOTPRINT

Our nearly half-century history of partnerships, conservation action, and advocacy has led to a constellation of successes. In the early days of the environmental movement, before conservation capacity grew in the region, the Hanover Conservation Council assisted in protecting sensitive and threatened lands all over the Upper Valley.

The Council's conservation "footprint" extends to nearly 2000 acres. Beyond our own lands and those we protect with easements, the Council has played a role in protecting hundreds more acres over the years. Sometimes we have stepped in on the Town's behalf when rapid action was required; at other times, we've assisted a private landowner or state agency in conserving a valuable parcel. Please turn the page to visit these places.



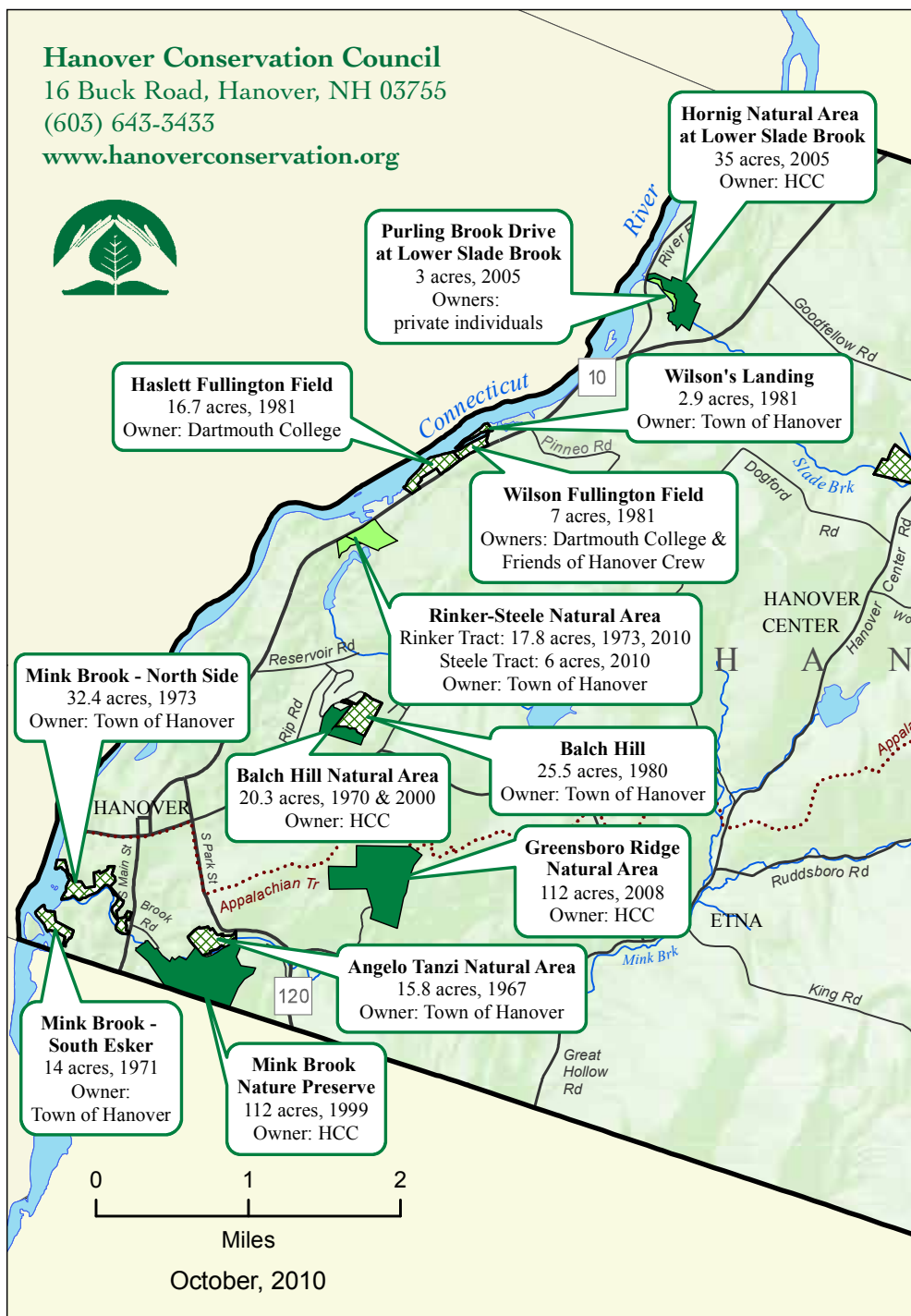
Hanover Conservation Council – Land Conservation Footprint

Hanover Conservation Council

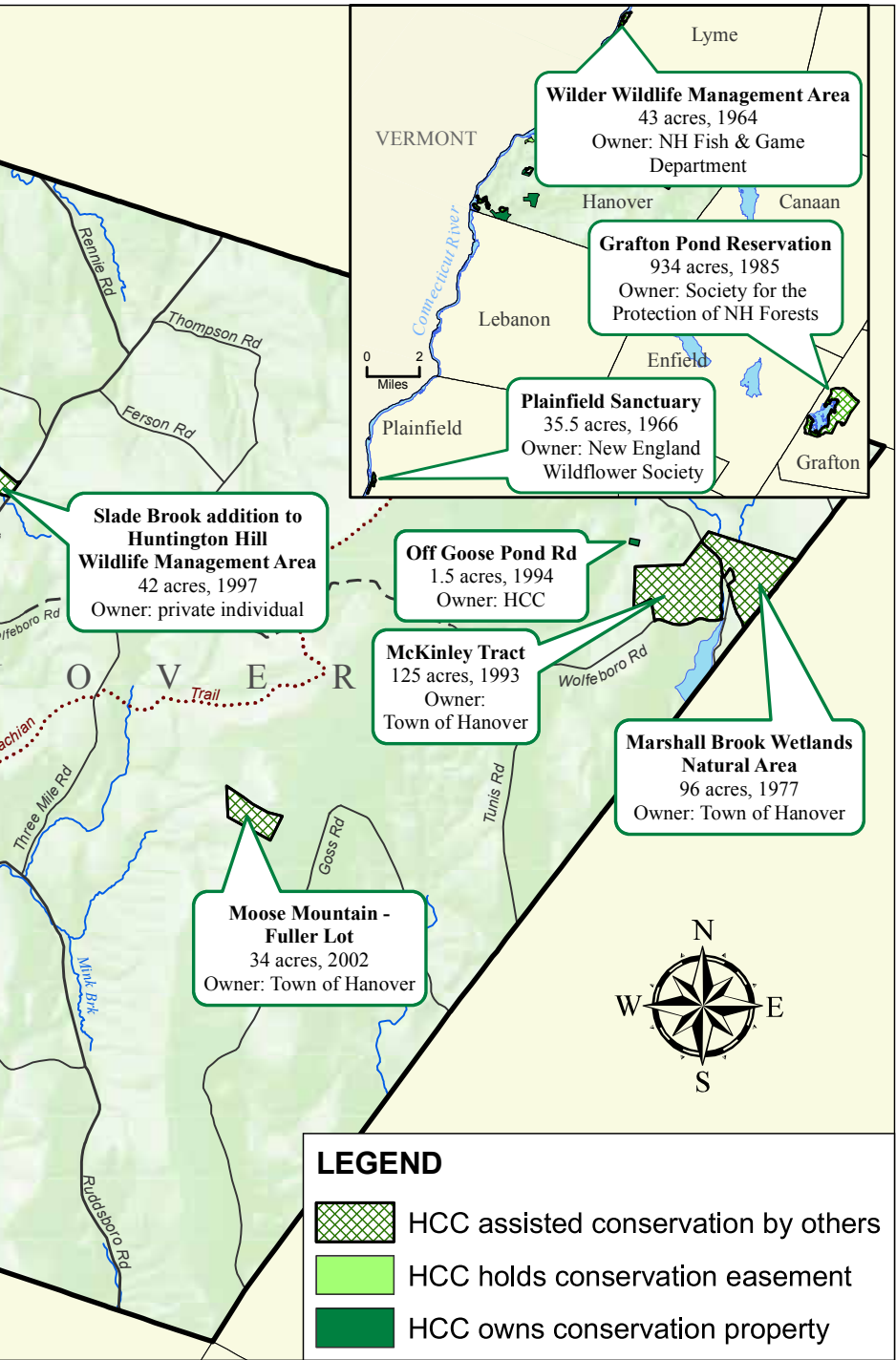
16 Buck Road, Hanover, NH 03755

(603) 643-3433

www.hanoverconservation.org



1963 to present





Reflections at Rinker Pond.

Financial Report

June 30, 2010 and 2009

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 519,915	\$ 551,622
Other current assets	1,183	1,183
Office equipment, net of depreciation	2,683	1,673
Land improvements	8,303	1,623
Land held for conservation purposes	682,296	682,296
Total	1,214,380	1,238,397

*A copy of the
2010 financial
statement is
available for
review at our
office.*

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$ (21,743)	\$ (2,235)
Temporarily restricted net assets	555,450	533,336
Permanently restricted net assets	680,673	707,296
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	1,214,380	1,238,397

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions	\$ 64,308	\$ 53,718
Membership income	17,843	16,945
Investment income	4,294	8,315
Total Support and Revenue	86,445	78,978

EXPENSES

Programs	\$ 85,391	\$ 66,725
Management and General	25,071	30,916
Total Expenses	110,462	97,641

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS

	\$ (24,017)	\$ (18,663)
Net assets, beginning of year	1,238,397	1,257,060
Net assets, end of year	1,214,380	1,238,397



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2010 Annual Report

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www.hanoverconservation.org