

# Marlboro Conservation Commission

Minutes for Monday May 23, 2016

In attendance: Adam Gebb (chair), Ashley Bies, and Tom Groves.

Surveying of established wildlife crossings on the North Side of Marlboro.

1. Discussion of extending some wildlife crossings to include additional suitable habitat where wildlife is likely using natural corridors. As well as discussing the possible removal of some fences along roadways for existing landowners in order to improve potential or existing road crossings.
2. The addition of new wildlife crossings where the topography, housing locations, or riparian zones limit wildlife to crossing in particular areas.
3. Wildlife road crossings – observations/notes
  - #9 – Parcel data available for land owned by Marlboro in this location – to expand this crossing to include other suitable habitat. (Replaced flagging)
  - #5 – This crossing is important due to its proximity to Newfane to the North, as well as the natural landscape funnel and the convergence of Adams Brook and the Marlboro Branch. There has been spring bear activity reported here.
  - #3 – Two brooks/streams – Gulf Brook and the Marlboro Branch provide an important crossing here – deer have been reported crossing here – the habitat contains meadows, forest and riparian areas.
  - #24 – This area is undeveloped save 1 house – the site is particularly rich and also close to the Newfane town line – many small tributaries were observed crossing under the road.
  - #1 – Flagging at this site is intact. Some of the stone walls on either side of the road are impassible by wildlife – and they're likely not crossing here. Increasing the side of this crossing was discussed – increasing the length up to the residence near the town line where the high rock wall ends.
  - #6 – This location has no guard rails or fences – characterized as a flood zone of the Marlboro Branch, wetlands, relatively open understory with an 80% closed canopy – has steady wildlife traffic. Replaced flagging at this location.
  - #2 – Possible location for increasing the size of crossing or a new crossing. The flagging here was replaced before the driveway. Location has a ridgeline on either side of a riparian crossing – isolated wetlands to the north – generally forested.
  - #7 – This location has a beautiful large meadow with significant wetlands – where it's bracketed on both sides by a small stream.
  - #8 – Flagging at this location was replaced. Site has large field, stream crossing and browse activity off of road.

Prepared by:  
Tom Groves