

2016 Faculty Biographies

as of 2.15.16

Keith Ainsworth, Managing Member, Law Offices of Keith R. Ainsworth, Esq., LLC – Keith Ainsworth, Esq., a New Haven environmental litigator, has been representing conservation interests for 25 years. The immediate past-chair of the Environmental Law Section of the CT Bar Association, Keith represents many land trusts, non-profits, municipalities, businesses and individuals in land use matters before agencies and in state and federal courts. Attorney Ainsworth's background in environmental science and biology brings a science and fact-based attention to environmental advocacy. Attorney Ainsworth has dedicated his career to management of environmental, conservation and land resources. An avid outdoorsman, he is on the national leadership council of CT Trout Unlimited, a life member of the Madison Land Conservation Trust, a member of the Connecticut Land Conservation Council and friend and advisor to countless intervenors in public process. (A.1, C.3)

David Allen, Partner, Conservation Consulting Group – David Allen is the principal consultant for Development Conservation, a consulting business specializing in fund development for nonprofit conservation organizations. David's background includes more than 30 years working in annual fundraising, major donor development, communications, and marketing. He worked for Nature Conservancy chapters in Oregon, Texas, and Wisconsin over a 13-year career and in senior management for the Madison, Wisconsin-based Sand County Foundation. He has devoted his professional career to helping conservation organizations and land trusts pursue excellence in all aspects of their conservation endeavors. Practice specialties include Development Audits, major gift development training, and campaign fundraising (both annual and capital). (A.13, S.2)

Judy Anderson, Principal, Community Consultants – Judy Anderson of Community Consultants has worked in the land trust sector for 25 years. She currently assists nonprofit organizations throughout the country on practical and strategic conservation initiatives incorporating local communities, climate change, governance, communications and community-based outreach and fundraising strategies. Judy also coaches land trusts in systems development, easement drafting and stewardship, and building connections to the land to ensure their work withstands the test of time. Judy led the Columbia Land Conservancy as its Executive Director, building the organization to a staff of 18, with over 200 easements and public conservation areas. Under her leadership, CLC membership increased from 400 to 1,700 in five years while raising additional funds for land acquisition and building organizational capacity. (A.8, S.1)

Andrew Benson, Digital Marketing Specialist, The Nature Conservancy – Andrew is the Digital Marketing Specialist for the Nature Conservancy in Southern New England. Previous stints with the Conservancy include serving as Social Media Coordinator for the New Jersey and Pennsylvania chapters. He served on the editorial board of the newspaper at Northwest Missouri State University, where he won various awards for photography, reporting, television production and promoting convergence among multiple media outlets. In addition, Benson covered high school football for ABC affiliate KQTV and served a term as Vice Chairman of the Platte County, Missouri Democrats in Action committee. Under his leadership, active youth political involvement tripled. (B.7)

William Betty, Cougars of the Valley, Punchbowl Puma Posse – I have dedicated 15 years researching this charismatic carnivore after encountering cougars in my backyard, in nearby woods or observing them crossing roads on multiple occasions in two Rhode Island counties. Beginning in 2000, I've attended every major cougar Workshop in the US and Canada (8). My practical experience with nature's perfect predator includes 14 sightings and close encounters which span a period of 43 years. One virtually certain close encounter was at a distance of six inches. Nearly all of these incidents took place in daytime under ideal conditions. Six other observations are "possible" or "probable". Over the years, I've driven pumas off deer kills, chased them off away from children and pets and observed them bounding across interstate I-95. Nine members of my family have also seen catamounts in New England (3 states). My article in Eco RI News (May 2015) "Border Jumpers", outlines the same arguments. (H.2)

Kelly Boling, Project Manager, Trust for Public Land – Kelly Boling manages land-protection projects for The Trust for Public Land, working on urban, suburban, and rural conservation initiatives throughout New England. Previously, he was a senior land project manager at Scenic Hudson, in which capacity he conserved more than 3,000 acres along the Hudson River, between New York City and Albany. Prior to that, Kelly was a Connecticut-based conservation consultant, and served for many years on the conservation and planning commissions in the Town of Washington. Before moving to Litchfield County, Kelly lived in New York City, where he managed the interactive media practice for Burson-Marsteller. (A.4, S.3)

Lori Paradis Brant, Executive Director, Steep Rock Association – As the new executive director at Steep Rock Association, Lori leads the staff in their efforts to conserve ecologically and historically significant landscapes in the Shepaug River Valley and in and around the Town of Washington to enhance the community's connection with nature. Lori's collaborative nature supports her focus on community partnerships and volunteerism, which helps increase engagement in and support of local conservation efforts. Prior to her new role, Lori was the education director and Project Learning Tree co-coordinator for Connecticut Forest & Park Association. Lori currently serves community roles as the chair of the CT Urban Forest Council and the Beacon Falls Conservation Commission. (A.7)

Lisa Brodlie, Aspetuck Land Trust – Lisa Brodlie is a vice-president of the Aspetuck Land Trust, VP of Land Management. (B.1)

Mary Buchanan, Conservation Associate, Highstead – Mary Buchanan is Conservation Associate at Highstead in Redding, Connecticut. She graduated from Connecticut College in 2014 with a degree in Biological Sciences and has completed additional GIS training since. As Conservation Associate at Highstead, she provides mapping support to both the Fairfield County Regional Conservation Partnership and the Hudson to Housatonic Regional Conservation Partnership, and has conducted research on conservation funding in New England to help inform efforts to advance the Wildlands and Woodlands vision. (A.4)

Margot Burns, Environmental Planner, Lower CT River Council of Governments (Facilitator) – Margot Burns is an Environmental Planner at the Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG) located in Essex, CT where she is the Coordinator for the Lower CT River and Coastal Region Land Trust Exchange and RiverCOG RCP. She is Secretary of the CT Resource, Conservation, and Development Area; a member of the steering committee of the CT Land Conservation Council, sits on the board of the Friends of CT State Parks; a new participant on the UConn Sea Grant Extension Advisory Board; and a member of the Chester Conservation Commission. The Agency seeks to protect the environment and beauty of its Region and the State through the land use planning process and coordination and collaboration of its many partners. (B.2),

Cary Chadwick, faculty, UConn Dept. of Extension, Geospatial Extension Educator, UConn Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) – Cary Chadwick is a faculty member in the Department of Extension at UConn. As a Geospatial Extension Educator, she coordinates the Geospatial Training Program for CLEAR, spending her time teaching hands-on technical trainings on the use of geospatial technologies such as geographic information systems (GIS) and global positioning systems (GPS). Cary is also involved in a number of collaborative research projects that integrate geospatial technologies to better manage and understand natural resource systems. Cary, along with Emily Wilson (CLEAR), developed and teaches all geospatial technology components of the NRCA field experience. (A.6, B.6)

Laura Cisneros, Coordinator, NRCA, Assistant Extension Educator, UConn Dept. of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) (Facilitator) – Laura Cisneros is the coordinator of the NRCA and an Assistant Extension Educator in the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment at UConn. She recently received her Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UConn. Her research and teaching interests focus on understanding how human activities affect ecological communities and using this understanding to inform students and citizens about the intimate role that humans play in global sustainability. (A.6)

Thomas Curren, Consultant – Thomas Curren envisioned and managed the Northeast Land Trust Consortium of the Pew Charitable Trusts from 2006 through 2012. In that time he leveraged \$12 million in challenge grant funds to help land trusts raise an additional \$60 million, and helped them protect more than 800,000 acres in the Northeast. Prior to working with Pew, Tom was executive director of the Lakes Region Conservation Trust in New Hampshire, and served as director of development of the Crotched Mountain Foundation, the New Hampton School, and Spaulding Youth Center. He and his wife, folklorist Kathy Neustadt, live and farm on 108 acres in Danbury, New Hampshire. (A.14)

Beth Critton, Attorney, Shipman & Goodwin – Beth Bryan Critton is a land use and municipal attorney at Shipman & Goodwin, LLP, where she also handles tax appeals on behalf of municipalities and non-profit organizations. She previously served as assistant corporation counsel for the Town of West Hartford. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (“ATC”), which protects and maintains the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine, and is Chair of ATC’s Stewardship Council. Beth is past chair of the CT Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. She received awards from CFPA in 2011 as an outstanding advocate for outdoor recreation and from CT-AMC in 2014 for her work on legislation relating to recreational liability. Beth is a frequent speaker on risk management and recreational liability. (B.1)

Sharon Danosky, President, Danosky & Associates – Founder and president of Danosky & Associates, has dedicated her career to working with not-for-profit organizations. As both a consultant and a senior executive for numerous charitable organizations, she has transformed organizations into highly effective charities of choice in their communities. Sharon conducts seminars and lectures through her affiliations with the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Connecticut Association of Non-Profits, Connecticut Community Foundation, Connecticut Land Conservation Council, Fairfield County Community Foundation, Westchester Association of Development Officers, Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut and the Rhode Island Foundation. Most recently Sharon achieved her certification as a BoardSource Certified Governance Trainer. She is also a sought-after presenter at regional, national and international conferences including BoardSource and Land Trust Alliance Rally. (A.10)

Gillian Davies, PWS, NHCWS, RSS, CESSWI, Senior Wetland Scientist, BSC Group – Gillian has been working as a Senior Wetland Scientist at BSC Group, Inc. since 2003. Prior to that, she was a Circuit Rider for the Division of Wetlands & Waterways in the Northeast Region at Mass DEP. She is currently the President Elect of the international Society of Wetland Scientists, as well as Past President of the New England Chapter of the Society of Wetland Scientists. She served as Chair of the SWS 2015 Annual Meeting Program Committee for the Providence Annual Meeting, where the theme was: Changing Climate. Changing Wetlands. Gillian was a contributing author to the Massachusetts Climate Change Adaptation Report (September, 2011) that is intended to guide climate adaptation policy in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Gillian has a Master’s of Environmental Studies from the Yale School of Environmental Studies, and a bachelor’s degree from Williams College. She is a Professional Wetland Scientist, a Registered Soil Scientist, a New Hampshire Certified Wetland Scientist, and a Certified Erosion, Sediment, and Storm Water Inspector, with 25 years of experience working in the wetlands field. (C.4)

Victor DeMasi, Redding Wetland Conservation Officer, Research Affiliate, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History – Victor DeMasi is a wetland conservation officer in his hometown of Redding and a research affiliate at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History in New Haven. He busies himself with preserving open space in town and preserving butterflies in the museum. His field work with butterflies contributed almost a thousand citations to the recently published Connecticut Butterfly Atlas. He has contributed articles to scientific publications and his mark-recapture studies with Swallowtail butterflies was recently cited in the book Swallowtails of the Americas. Recent butterfly study trips with his spouse Roanna, a photographer have been several times to Amazon forest in Guyana, Nicaragua, and yearly studies in montane California assessing the impact of climate change on that fauna. His work in south America was recently featured in The Yale Environmental News. (H.3)

Dave Dickson, Geospatial Extension Educators, UConn CLEAR – Dave Dickson is an Extension Educator at the University of Connecticut's Center for Land Use and Research (CLEAR). The mission of the Center is to provide information and assistance to land use decision makers and other audiences in support of better land use decisions, healthier natural resources, and more resilient communities. (B.6)

Jenny Dickson, CT DEEP Wildlife Division – Jenny Dickson is a supervising wildlife biologist employed by the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection. As leader of the DEEP's Wildlife Diversity and Outreach Programs, she specializes in threatened and endangered species, songbirds, inland and freshwater wetland birds, reptiles and amphibians, and small mammals, including bats and in public education and watchable wildlife recreation. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource Conservation with a specialty in wildlife from the University of Connecticut and a Master of Science degree in Wildlife Management from West Virginia University. Jenny has also worked as a research biologist for the federal Environmental Protection Agency on a songbird toxicology study and as a naturalist at the Kellogg Environmental Center in Derby, Connecticut. She has served as vice-chair of the Northeast Partners in Flight Working Group, president of the New England Chapter of The Wildlife Society, a member of the executive committee of the Northeast Bat Working Group, and is the current chair of the Northeast Fish & Wildlife Diversity Technical Committee. She was recently appointed to assist the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies with a Blue Ribbon Panel exploring long-term conservation funding. A current focus is implementation of Connecticut's Wildlife Action Plan—including providing conservation information to local land managers, researchers, conservation organizations, and the public to advance wildlife conservation. (B.2)

Judith Dobai, President, Farrell & Farrell Consulting Services – Judith Dobai, managing partner with Farrell & Farrell Consulting Services, Inc., leads a consultancy providing contracted business services, including financial and database management, for non-profit organizations. She has worked with non-profit organizations for over 25 years and has extensive experience with database planning and reporting. Dobai is also a member of the East Haddam Land Trust. (C.7)

Rick Doran, President, Great Meadows Conservation Trust – Rick Doran has served on local land use boards and commissions in Rocky Hill and Wethersfield. He is a life member of the Great Meadows Conservation Trust where he has been an officer, including past Secretary and past President. Rick is the current Treasurer, where he coordinates the risk assessment and insurance protection for the land trust. His career was as an insurance underwriter and reinsurance broker, involved in risk analysis for liability, workers compensation and specialty lines of insurance. (A.11)

Laurie Doss, Head of Science Dept., Kent Marvelwood School, Director, Kent Land Trust – Laurie Doss is a teacher with 29 years of secondary teaching experience and is Head of the Science Department at Marvelwood School. Laurie is on the Board of Directors for the Kent Land Trust and is a consultant to the Kent Conservation Commission. Since 2001, under the guidance of the Institute for Bird Populations, Laurie and her students have operated a MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) constant effort bird banding station on land trust property. She has also mentored seven UConn NRCA students over the years. (A.6, C.6)

Syma A. Ebbin, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Residence, Dept. of Agricultural and Resource Economics Avery Point Campus, UConn – Syma Alexi Ebbin is a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics and teaches courses in environmental and marine science and policy at the Avery Point campus. She also serves as the Research Coordinator for Connecticut Sea Grant. Syma has been a Board member of the Groton Open Space Association since 2009 and serves as the Educational and Youth Liaison for the organization. In the past she has worked with the Connecticut Fund for the Environment on open space issues and has also been active in state and municipal governance. In 2008, Syma was appointed by the Governor to the Eastern Long Island Sound Council, and since 2011 has been Co-Chair of the Long Island Sound Assembly. Syma received a PhD from the Yale Department of Forestry and Environmental Studies, an MS degree in fisheries from the University of Alaska and a BA in Biology from Williams College. She lives in Groton and enjoys hiking and cross-country skiing with her family on Groton's dedicated open space. (A.7)

Paul Elconin, Director of Land Conservation, Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust – Paul Elconin is the Director of Land Conservation at Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust. Paul has BS in Environmental Biology from Yale University and a MS in Forest Resources Management from the State University of New York-College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF). While at ESF, Paul researched landowner motivations for granting and satisfaction with their conservation easements, and his findings were published and distributed to land trusts nationwide. Paul has spent much of his professional career working in land conservation. He was a wildlife ecology field technician on wolf and grizzly bear projects for government agencies and taught environmental education in Minnesota and California. Prior to joining Weantinoge in 2014, Paul was the Stewardship Coordinator at the Open Space Institute for 13 years, the “Circuit Rider” for the Land Trust Alliance of New York, and a consultant to land trusts in New York State. (A.12, B.5)

David Emond, Ecological Technician, CCT, SLT – David Emond holds an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts and works in the land trust community as a professional Land Steward/Ecological Technician and Field Documentation Specialist. He is a master birder and professional photographer, and has a focused interest in creative production and postproduction workflows in UAV work. Dave serves on the board of directors of the New Hartford (CT) Land Trust. (A.9)

Linda P. Francois, Partner, Cooper, Whitney, Cochran & Francois (Facilitator) – Linda Francois is a partner in the New haven general practice law firm of cooper, Whitney, Cochran & Francois, where she has represented landowners, land trusts and municipalities in land protection transactions, conservation restriction (easement) donations, bargain sales and purchases, and open space initiatives throughout Connecticut for 20 years. Attorney Francois is also a director and president of the Bethany Land Trust, Inc. (C.3)

Rebecca French, Director of Community Engagement, CT Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) – Dr. Rebecca French is the Director of Community Engagement for the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) at the University of Connecticut. Dr. French works with community leaders in vulnerable municipalities, state policy makers, and local and regional organizations to solicit their input into the work of the research institute and to ensure the dissemination of information developed by the CIRCA faculty and staff. Dr. French served as the Project Director for the CIRCA National Disaster Resilience Competition staff and serves as an advisor on town and state projects on green infrastructure, resilience financing models, and science policy for climate adaptation. Previously, she was a AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellow at the US EPA and served as an AGU Congressional Science Fellow in the Office of Senator Sanders (I-VT). She holds a doctorate in geosciences from Virginia Tech and has published and presented multiple papers on climate adaptation, geosciences, and the role of citizen science and crowdsourcing in environmental protection. (B.3)

Andy George, President, Colchester Land Trust – Andy George, President, Colchester Land Trust has lived in Colchester for 38 years. Andy joined the CLT in 2004, became a Board member in 2007 and was elected president in 2010. He has served as Board president for 6 years. Andy is a member of the Land Trust Alliance, the CLCC and the Colchester Conservation Commission. Andy was honored to speak at the recent LTA Rally on Sacramento, CA last fall. Andy continues to focus on the CLT's mission of preserving and protecting open space in Colchester and beyond. (C.9)

Greg Good, Land Trust Accreditation Commission – is a review specialist with the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. He began his land conservation career as a Colorado Conservation Trust fellow with Larimer County Open Lands then became the deputy director of Orient Land Trust. As the former executive director of North Olympic Land Trust, Greg became familiar with accreditation when that organization went through the process. (C.9)

Eric Hammerling, Executive Director, Connecticut Forest & Park Association (Facilitator) – Eric Hammerling is the Executive Director of the Connecticut Forest & Park Association, the first conservation organization established in Connecticut (1895). Eric is responsible for CFPA's budget, operations, and oversees its programs on Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails, Environmental Education, Land Conservation, and WalkCT. Eric is also the programmatic lead for CFPA's state and federal advocacy efforts. (A.2)

Eric Hansen, Managing Partner, Ferrucci & Walicki, LLC – Eric Hansen is the managing partner of the forest management consulting firm Ferrucci & Walicki, LLC (F&W). For over a decade now Eric has worked throughout New England for a variety of governmental agencies and private organizations. F&W takes a holistic approach to the management of forests, and works with landowners to help them understand the complexity of their property, and to develop and achieve their goals. His business is based in Middlefield, Connecticut, and he works with clients throughout Connecticut, and in MA and NY. (B.4)

Shane Hetzler, Founder and Principal, Back Forty Forestry, LLC – Shane has more than ten years experience as a forester and conservation professional. He holds a Master of Forestry degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Shane is a passionate advocate of open spaces, and the myriad benefits they provide. Drawing on expertise that spans from West Africa to the western United States, he represents the next generation of natural resource professionals, wholly dedicated to creating linkages between people and the lands that sustain us. (A.5, B.4)

Drew M. T. Iacovazzi, Financial Planner, Lindberg & Ripple – Drew works at Lindberg & Ripple in the wealth transfer and estate planning division where he assists individuals and families in the process of building, protecting and preserving wealth. He has been with the firm for over four years and has enjoyed working with both executives and business owners. Outside of the office, Drew enjoys spending time with his wife Jackie, fly fishing, skiing, and trail running. (C.10)

Mike Jastremski, Connecticut Water Protection Manager, Housatonic Valley Association (C.6)

Henrietta Jordan, Principal, Trailmarker Consulting – Henrietta Jordan specializes in services to land trusts, including Land Trust Standards and Practices organizational assessments, assistance with preparing for and applying for accreditation, and strategic planning. She formerly worked as policy and assessments manager for the Northeast Program of the Land Trust Alliance and as review manager for the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. In addition to her consulting practice, she works as the Land Trust Alliance's Circuit Rider for New York State. (A.12)

Marge Josephson, President, Naromi Land Trust – Margery Josephson, Ph.D., is President of Naromi Land Trust, Sherman CT. Marge has been President of Naromi since 2004 and a Board member for many years before that. She also served for 20 years on the Sherman Wetlands Commission. These positions involve working closely with town and regional officials to protect the ecology of the town and surrounding area. (B.5)

Kip Kolesinskas, Consulting Conservation Scientist, CT Dept of Agriculture – Clients include the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, American Farmland Trust, and the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension. Formerly State Soil Scientist for Connecticut and Rhode Island, USDA NRCS and Program Manager for the Federal Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) in CT where he worked extensively with farmers, educators, government and nonprofits. He is a recognized regional and national speaker on soils and land use planning, farmland protection, climate change adaptation, farmland access, and wetlands. (C.1)

David Kozak, Senior Coastal Planner, CT DEEP – David Kozak is a senior coastal planner with CT DEEP with over 20 years of experience working with municipal regulatory agencies, conservation commissions and land trusts. His work focuses on local and state land conservation planning with a focus on coastal land conservation and was the lead in developing CT's Coastal and Estuarine Land Program Plan and coordinating the update of the coastal element of the new CT Green Plan. Dr. Rebecca French is director of community engagement and is CT Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation. (B.3)

Dr. Gerald H. Krause Professor Emeritus University of Rhode Island – Dr. Gerald H. Krause is a Professor Emeritus at URI. For 28 years he taught courses related to Resource Management, Geography/Cartography and environmental quality. He received his MA from the University of Northern Illinois and his Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Pittsburgh. He has over the years published several articles, attended numerous workshops and conferences in his field

and has conducted research in Southeast Asia, the Pacific and New England. Since his retirement Professor Krause has been active in the University's Speakers Bureau and has produced videos for local Land Trusts, National Wildlife Refuges and the Discovery Channel. Currently he is involved in the Mountain Lion monitoring project and community education regarding local wildlife issues. (H.2)

Meghan Lally, Environmental Analyst, CT DEEP Bureau of Land Protection & Water Reuse – Meghan Lally is an Environmental Analyst with the CT DEEP Bureau of Land Protection & Water Reuse. Ms. Lally coordinates the CT DEEP Riffle Bioassessment by Volunteers (RBV) volunteer water quality monitoring program, including overseeing annual training for new RBV participants. Prior to joining CT DEEP, Ms. Lally served as the director of a water protection program for a local watershed-based non-profit organization. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science and a Master of Science degree in Natural Resources: Land, Water, & Air from the University of Connecticut. (C.6)

Christine Lent, Consultant, CPA, Danosky & Associates, LLC – Christine Lent, an experienced certified public accountant, has been providing financial management services to both for-profit and non-profit organizations for over three decades. Christine joined forces with Danosky & Associates to help non-profit organizations develop and streamline their financial systems, business processes and reporting so that they can unlock their full potential, ensure long-term sustainability and fulfill their missions. (C.8)

Vincent A. Liberti, Jr., Partner, Halloran & Sage LLP – Vincent is the Chair of the Business Succession Planning and Estate Planning and Probate Practice Groups at Halloran & Sage LLP. Vincent empowers clients by providing asset protection through developing their personal estate planning and business models. He advises them in efficiently acquiring, managing and distributing their assets in the most optimal and tax-efficient ways. His practice encompasses matters dealing with wealth acquisition, preservation and transfer using wills, trusts, and sophisticated estate planning techniques; capital gains, gift and estate tax analyses; asset protection methods; business formation and succession planning; elder law; probate administration; fiduciary representation; and real estate transactions, including IRC Section 1031 tax deferred exchanges. He represents individuals, couples and family-owned businesses and fiduciaries. Prior to establishing a legal practice, Vincent was involved in real estate and mortgage brokerage. (C.10)

Larry Lunden, Director, Great Meadows Conservation Trust – Larry Lunden has served as the Land Management Chairman of the Great Meadows Conservation Trust for the past 20 years. He has attended the annual conference for many years, and works to implement the LTA Standards and Practices at the land trust. He has always been an out-of-doors person since his youth. His father was a land surveyor, and he learned much of the trade from him. After retiring from the State of Connecticut, he has been able to pursue his interests to the fullest. He is a board member of the Connecticut Audubon Society. In addition he is a property manager for the Hartford Audubon Society, managing a preserve in East Granby. Other interests include bird watching, letterboxing, playing piano, and driving trolleys for the Connecticut Trolley Museum. (A.11)

Ray Lyons, Conservation Attorney – Ray Lyons, a conservation attorney in Harvard, MA, represents landowners, the New England Forestry Foundation, the Northeast Wilderness Trust, and works with many conservation organizations to protect forests, farmland, and other important open spaces throughout New England. He is a member of the Land Trust Alliance's Conservation Defense Advisory Committee and previously served on his town's Planning Board and Greenway Committee and as a trustee of his local conservation land trust. He holds a BA in Music from Ithaca College and a law degree from Suffolk University. (A.11, B.1, C.3)

Connie Manes, Manes Consulting, Land Trust Alliance Northeast Circuit Rider – Based in Kent, Connie provides organizational assessment, strategic planning, and policy development services to nonprofit conservation organizations throughout the northeast, with a specific focus on Land Trust Standards & Practices and land trust accreditation. Since 2013 she has served as a Land Trust Alliance Circuit Rider providing direct assistance to all-volunteer land trusts. Connie is the part-time Executive Director of the Kent Land Trust, an accredited land trust, and the Manager of the Litchfield

Hills Greenprint Collaborative, a Regional Conservation Partnership of 24 land trusts in northwest Connecticut. Connie is a Steering Committee member of the Connecticut Land Conservation Council, and chairs its Training and Education Subcommittee. She was recently named to the 14-member Standards Advisory Team providing support in the 2016-2017 initiative to revise Land Trust Standards & Practices, and serves on the Editorial Board of the Land Trust Alliance's *Saving Land* magazine. She holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Pace University and a Juris Doctorate from New York University School of Law. Connie chairs Kent's Conservation Commission and serves on the board of the Village Center for the Arts as its Secretary. In her remaining free time she can be found at the hockey rink with her three young sons, running or hiking, or searching for critters in local streams. (A.3, B.9, C.5)

Christopher Martin, CT DEEP Division of Forestry – Chris Martin has been Connecticut's State Forester and Forestry Director for the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) since 2008. DEEP Forestry administers numerous USDA Forest Service's Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act programs addressing identified needs within Connecticut's Forest Action Plan and is charged with sustainably managing over 170,000 acres of State Forests held by the Agency in public trust. Chris also currently serves as chair for the National Association of State Foresters Forest Science and Health Committee and is active in many national forest policy matters including Wildfire Disaster Funding Act and a multi-federal agency strategic plan to combat invasive forest pests. Chris is a certified and licensed forester in Connecticut and Maine, and the Society of American Foresters. Prior to serving in Connecticut, Chris was a Senior Planner and Water Resource Forester for the Maine Forest Service where he coordinated statewide monitoring of timber harvests and helped develop protocols to analyze forest practice effects on water quality, biodiversity, and residual forest stand quality. (B.2)

Donna Merrill, Member and past co-Coordinator, Fairfield County Regional Conservation Partnership – Donna Merrill is past co-coordinator of the Fairfield County Regional Conservation Partnership (FCRCP) and a member of the Partnership's Steering Committee. She is a Conservation Commissioner for the Town of Wilton CT and an officer and Trustee of the Wilton Land Conservation Trust. Donna represents the FCRCP in the Hudson to Housatonic (H2H) Conservation Initiative, a 2-state collaboration funded by the US Forest Service. She is a graduate of the Wharton School of Finance, University of Pennsylvania and holds a Certificate of Landscape Design from the New York Botanical Gardens. (A.4)

Todd Mervosh, TM Agricultural & Ecological Services, LLC – Todd Mervosh is general manager of TM Agricultural & Ecological Services, LLC based in Suffield, CT. His primary areas of expertise are weed control methods and diagnosis of plant problems. A native of Illinois, he earned a B.S. degree at the University of Illinois, an M.S. in agronomy / weed science at the University of Wisconsin, and a Ph.D. in agronomy / weed science at the University of Illinois. For over 20 years, Todd was a scientist at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in Windsor. He conducted weed management experiments in a variety of crops, especially Christmas trees and nursery plantings. He also did extensive field research on control of non-native invasive plants including Oriental bittersweet, bush honeysuckles, Japanese knotweed, pale swallow-wort, Japanese stiltgrass and mile-a-minute weed. Todd is a consultant to growers and property managers about effective and environmentally sound vegetation management strategies, including proper use of herbicides. He is licensed in Connecticut as a supervisory pesticide applicator.

Karen, Robert and Gillian Monger, The 3 Foragers (H.4)

George Moore, Executive Director, Lyme Land Conservation Trust – George Moore, past president of the Lyme Land Trust and currently its Executive Director, has a background in marketing, largely in the professional photographic equipment industry. Although a novice at video photography, he quickly discovered that skills he possessed in communications and organization as well as a love of storytelling were important in creating an effective video. As Executive Director, Moore oversees the creation of the Trust's communications materials - newsletters, website and administers the successful membership program. (H.5)

Rachel Murray, Land for Good – Rachel Murray is the CT Field Agent for Land For Good. She has a Masters in Sustainable Food Systems, and a decade of work on farms and various food system projects. She lives in Roxbury, CT.

Rebecca Neary, The Warren Land Trust – Rebecca Neary is the President of the Warren Land Trust. She, her husband, and their two children have been in Warren for over a dozen years. She is an avid runner, and recreational cyclist, hiker, skier and snow-shoer. Rebecca has a PhD in History from Columbia University, and has taught Russian, East European, and European Women’s history, primarily at Drew University in New Jersey. (C.9)

Rod Parlee, Chairman, Town of Bolton Conservation Commission, Board of Directors (Tolland County Regional, Representative), Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission (C.6)

Amy Blaymore Paterson, Executive Director, Connecticut Land Conservation Council – Amy Blaymore Paterson joined the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC) in 2010 as its first Executive Director. Working with the CLCC Steering Committee, Amy provides the Connecticut conservation community with technical assistance, training and advocacy to further advance permanent land conservation across the state. Before joining CLCC, Amy served as a Project Manager for The Trust for Public Land and worked for over twenty years as an attorney, concentrating her practice in land preservation and environmental protection. (A.7)

Jeff Perkins, Member, Natchaug Jam – Jeff Perkins is a retired New London 7th grade Social Studies teacher, founding member and board member of the Eastern Connecticut Forest Landowners Association/Wolf Den Land Trust, a member of Natchaug Jam, Rusty Implements, the Colts, and the Silage Brothers. He plays banjo, ukulele, and mandolin and traditional, contemporary, and original songs. (H.1)

Jean Pillo, Vice Chair, Town of Woodstock Conservation Commission, Watershed Conservation Project Manager, Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Water Quality Monitoring Program Coordinator, The Last Green Valley (C.6)

Leslie Ratley-Beach, Conservation Defense Director, Land Trust Alliance, Vice-President, Alliance Risk Management Services – Leslie Ratley-Beach joined The Land Trust Alliance as its first Conservation Defense Director in August 2007. Leslie led the effort that created the first ever national conservation defense liability insurance program (TerraFirma Risk Retention Group LLC) and she continues to coordinate the delivery of TerraFirma services to the land trust insured owners, as well as leading the Alliance’s conservation defense initiative. Leslie has a law degree from Boston University (1985) and Bachelors’ degrees from University of Oregon and practiced law first in Massachusetts and then in Vermont. (A.11, B.1, C.3)

Catherine Rawson, Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust – Catherine Rawson is the executive director of Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust, vice-chair of the Connecticut Land Conservation Council Steering Committee and a Greenprint Steering Committee member. A graduate of Bates College and Vermont Law School, where she studied environmental law, Catherine also has a Master’s Degree in Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Prior to joining Weantinoge, she served as an assistant attorney general for the state of Connecticut. (C.9)

Vikki Reski, Treasurer, Wintonbury Land Trust – Vikki Reski, ASLA- Registered Architect and Landscape Architect and owner of Cinquefoil, a land planning and consulting firm; past Secretary and current Treasurer of the Wintonbury Land Trust; member of the Bloomfield Conservation Energy and Environment Committee active in land management work, Secretary of Ironwood Community Partners, a community interest consulting nonprofit corporation and an organic gardener. Joyce has over thirty years of professional experience in a number of soil conservation positions in Connecticut. She is currently Assistant State Conservationist for the Conservation, Stewardship and Easement Programs. (B.7)

Gail Kalison Reynolds, UConn Extension, Haddam Land Trust – Gail Kalison Reynolds, MFS, directs the UConn Extension Master Gardener Program in Middlesex County and conducts field research for UConn IPM on biological controls for insect pests. She has a B.S. in biology from Yale University and a Master of Forest Science degree in terrestrial ecology from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and many years of Information Technology experience. She has directed technology use for the Haddam Land Trust for the past decade. A Certified Information Systems Security Professional, a Certified Information Security Manager, an Information Systems Security Architecture and Management Professional, and a Certified Systems Software Lifecycle Professional, she will demonstrate low-cost technology solutions for enhancing organizational functionality of your land trust. In addition, Gail is the Chairman of the Haddam Conservation Commission and Manager of the Higganum Farmers' Market. (C.7)

Roger Reynolds, Legal Director, Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound – Roger Reynolds is the Legal Director for Connecticut Fund for the Environment and Save the Sound. He directs matters in federal and state court and administrative agencies to protect Long Island Sound and the land, air and water of Connecticut. He is also an adjunct professor at University of Connecticut School of Law where he established and teaches the Environmental Law Clinic and teaches Negotiation. Before joining CFE/Save the Sound, Roger was an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Connecticut where he was lead counsel for the state on numerous environmental, consumer protection, and antitrust cases. He clerked for Justice Richard N. Palmer on the Connecticut Supreme Court and received his J.D. from NYU Law School. (A.1)

Peter Roche, Consultant, Danosky & Associates – Peter Roche: Peter Roche is the founder and president of IPR, Inc., a financial and corporate public relations firm. Prior to establishing IPR in 1995, Mr. Roche was a managing director and chairman of the media task force at Burson-Marsteller, a leading global communications and public relations firm. He also served there as director of corporate and financial media and supervised a variety of top-tier corporate accounts. Mr. Roche has considerable experience serving the non-profit sector including projects and board memberships with Helen Keller International (Board), Mizzenotop Day School (Board), New Milford Hospital, South Kent School, Sherman Library Association (Board), WHDD Radio, and Yale University. (A.10)

Sarah Shrewsbury, Principal, Vineyard Consulting – Sarah Shrewsbury started Vineyard Consulting to help nonprofits start or enhance their major gift fundraising programs. Sarah applies her two plus decades of experience as a major gift officer for organizations like Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and The Nature Conservancy of CT to help your organization identify, cultivate, solicit and close major gift donors. Sarah is a former board member of Guilford Land Conservation Trust and currently serves on their Advisory Committee. (B.10)

Robert Simmons, Chief Hydrogeologist, HRP Associates, Board Member, Northeastern Cave Conservancy – Robert Simmons is the Chief Hydrogeologist for HRP Associates, Inc. and a Board Member of the Northeastern Cave Conservancy (NCC). NCC (www.necaveconservancy.org) is a not-for-profit corporation committed to the conservation, study, management, and acquisition of caves and karst areas having significant geological, hydrological, biological, recreational, historical, or aesthetic features. To these ends, the NCC combines the resources and expertise of affiliated cave explorers, educators, scientists, landowners, and conservation officials. The NCC programs are focused mainly on the preservation of caves and karst. Outreach includes education in schools and local communities, establishment of park spaces on karstlands, and educational messages about the significance of groundwater pollution on this sensitive underground ecosystem. (C.2)

Margaret E. St. John, Attorney, Withers Bergman – Margaret St. John is an attorney at Withers Bergman LLP. Margaret's practice focuses on transfer tax planning and estate planning for individuals and their families. Margaret's practice also includes advising private foundations and non-profit organizations on tax matters and counseling individuals with respect to planned giving. Margaret's publications include an article entitled, "Termination of Charitable Remainder Trusts," published in *Trusts and Estates Magazine*. Margaret graduated from Quinnipiac University School of Law, magna cum laude. While at Quinnipiac University School of Law, Margaret was the Editor-in-Chief of the *Quinnipiac Probate Law Journal*. (C.10)

Rebecca McKay Steinberg, Assistant Director of Land Conservation, Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust – Rebecca McKay Steinberg is the Assistant Director of Land Conservation at Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust. She helps to manage over 180 fee lands, coordinate volunteers, lead educational programs, and identify conservation partnerships in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut. Rebecca holds a Master of Environmental Science from the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and enjoys playing the mandolin, pinhole photography, and backpacking with her dog, Grover. Weantinoge (www.weantinoge.org) was founded in 1965 to benefit the general public through the preservation of natural areas, fish and wildlife, and working farmland. Weantinoge is now the largest land trust in Connecticut and the 18th largest in the United States by the number of lands it protects. Over its 50-year history, Weantinoge has permanently protected more than 9,000 acres in 17 communities throughout Northwest Connecticut. The organization's protected lands include designated wilderness areas, 15 working farms, streambelts, viewsheds, critical watershed lands, and 12 nature preserves open to the public with 18 miles of hiking trails. (C.2)

Graham Stevens, CT DEEP Office of Constituent Affairs/Land Management – Graham Stevens is the Office Director of Constituent Affairs and Land Management at Connecticut DEEP –responsible for the Department's Land Acquisition and Management, Brownfields, Environmental Justice, and Indian Affairs programs. Prior to his current role, Graham served as Chief of Staff to both Commissioner Amey Marrella and Commissioner Gina McCarthy and worked for nine years in the Department's Remediation Division on Brownfield redevelopment issues. (B.2)

Alicia Sullivan, Connecticut State Director, Trust for Public Land – Alicia Sullivan, Connecticut State Director of The Trust for Public Land, is a Connecticut native who lives in Madison and oversees the conservation and park creation programs for the state. She joined The Trust for Public Land in September of 1998 as a Project Manager and also held the title of Philanthropy Manager prior to becoming State Director. Before joining The Trust for Public Land, Alicia worked for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and as a volunteer Attorney for the Connecticut Fund for the Environment. She graduated from the University of Vermont, then Pace University School of Law with a J.D. and Certificate in Environmental Law. (S.3)

Beth Sullivan, Avalonia Land Conservancy – Beth represents Avalonia Land Conservancy (ALC) in Southeast, CT. She is the chairperson of ALC's StoningtonTown Committee and holds positions on the Stewardship and Communications committees. Included in Avalonia's mission is not only protection and management of preserved lands, but also education about these special resources. Beth enjoys studying the land, entire habitats, from the large view to the very small elements. But she also loves teaching the love of the land to the next generation. She has also discovered a very eager audience in the senior community in town who still enjoy getting out, being active and learning about the land around them. In addition to writing a weekly blog: AvaloniaeTrails.blogspot.com as an educational outlet, she is active with land management efforts and hopes to lead more field trips for all ages. (A.7)

David Sutherland, Director of Government Relations, The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter (Facilitator) – David has been the Director of Government Relations with the Nature Conservancy's Connecticut Chapter for the past 25 years, and has been the co-leader of the Chapter's Diversity and Inclusion initiative for the past three years. He is a member of the Connecticut Land Conservation Council's Steering Committee. (B.7)

Sue Sutherland, Avalonia Land Conservancy; Greenway Land Trust of Southeastern Connecticut – Retired finance executive and corporate treasurer for a large global manufacturing company. Over 30 years experience negotiating transactions for sales, debt, foreign exchange, leasing, real estate, insurance, etc. Since 2007, identified, negotiated and teamed with other volunteers and the State to add over 1,000 acres forming two new greenways. **Of the seven total transactions, three of these acquisitions have closed with one more scheduled to close shortly.**

Jamie Sydoriak, CT DEEP Office of Constituent Affairs/Land Management – Jamie Sydoriak assisted the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection revise the State's Comprehensive Open Space Plan. She received her M.S. degree in Environmental Science and Policy from Plymouth State University, and her graduate research focused on grassland

bird habitat conservation and socio-ecological relationships. Her research raised awareness and attracted funding to continue landowner outreach initiatives in the Upper Connecticut River Valley. Her current interests include conservation planning, strategy, policy, and public engagement efforts. (B.2)

John Volin, Head of the Department of NRE, Director, UConn Environmental Sciences Program – John Volin is the Head of the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment and the Director of UConn’s Environmental Sciences program. He is also the Associate Director of the newly created Eversource Energy Center. In 2010, John founded and directs the Natural Resources Conservation Academy. (A.6)

Lisa Wahle, Wildlife Management Specialist, CT DEEP – Lisa Wahle is a wildlife biologist, contracted through the Wildlife Management Institute to work with the CT DEEP and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) on the Regional New England Cottontail (NEC) Initiative. She works with private landowners to develop habitat management plans for NECs, and coordinates with NRCS and other entities to fund those projects. She also provides technical assistance to the CT DEEP Wildlife Division for statewide NEC projects. Lisa earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry and a Master of Science degree in Natural Resource Management from the University of Connecticut. She has worked in environmental education and protection for more than 25 years. (C.1)

Kathy Wandelmaier, Vice-President, Brookfield Open Space Legacy, Inc. – Kathy has served on BOSLI's board since 2007. She is a UCONN certified Master Gardener and holds a certificate in Garden Design from the Institute of Ecosystem Studies. She graduated from Rutgers College with a BA in Business Administration. (C.2)

Rebecca Washburn, Northeast Conservation Manager, Land Trust Alliance – Rebecca Washburn is the Northeast conservation Manager for the Land Trust Alliance. Prior to joining the Alliance, Becca served as Stowe Land Trust’s Assistant Director for six years, managing stewardship and outreach programs among many other duties including helping the land trust achieve accreditation. Her earlier career was focused on stewardship and land protection at the Green Mountain Club and the VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation. A native of mid-coast Maine, Becca received her B.A. in Anthropology with a concentration in archaeology from Bard College in 1999. (A.5, B.5)

Adam Whelchel, Director of Science, The Nature Conservancy – Dr. Adam Whelchel’s twenty-five year career in leadership positions has catalyzed partnerships with strategic direction and transformative conservation while with government agencies, private firms, academic institutions, and non-profits in the United States, China, Southeast Asia, Caribbean, and Africa. Adam Whelchel is a dynamic communicator called upon to assist diverse groups from around the world with team building and strategic planning. As a Director of Science for The Nature Conservancy in Connecticut, Adam currently focuses on building resilient communities via the Coastal Resilience Network and Global Resilient Cities Initiative. Recently, Adam served as a key advisor on the Puerto Rico Climate Adaptation Plan and as a Lead Author for the U.S. National Climate Assessment. Adam is a member of the IUCN-CEM North America-Caribbean region. (C.4)

Harry White, Ecologist/Conservation Director, Cornwall Conservation Trust (CCT), Salisbury Association Land Trust (SLT), and Sharon Land Trust – Harry White is a Yale-trained ecologist and serves as Conservation Director for three land trusts in Northwest Connecticut and works for Northeast Wilderness Trust across northern New England. He has been professionally engaged in land trust operations, stewardship, habitat restoration, acquisitions, and GIS for over 18 years. Equipped with a deep understanding of the stewardship and scientific challenges that face land trusts, he has been exploring innovative methods to improve land management and science work in the conservation community. He is a pioneer in the successful deployment of UAVs in the science, stewardship, and management of land trust lands in the Northeast on preserves of up to 10,000 acres. White is an experienced UAV builder and operator and is currently involved in the integration of UAV-derived datasets into geographic information systems. (A.9)

Wayne Woodard, Preserve Manager, Sunny Valley Preserve, The Nature Conservancy – Wayne Woodard manages the Sunny Valley Preserve for the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. He graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts with an Associate’s Degree in Animal Science. Wayne managed

a variety of commercial agricultural operations and land use projects before joining The Nature Conservancy. In addition to managing the Sunny Valley Preserve, he assists the Connecticut Chapter with preserves that have agricultural lands and preserves that have buildings. Wayne has over 30 years' experience in managing farmland, conservation land, and developed properties. (C.1)

Thomas Worthley, Associate Extension Professor, UConn Cooperative Extension Service and UConn Dept. of NRE – Tom Worthley is Associate Extension Professor at UConn's Cooperative Extension Service and UConn's Department of Natural Resources and the Environment. He has written a number of scholarly articles and also teaches courses in Forest Management and Dendrology. He has worked extensively with the NRCA during the field experience and as a community partner. (A.6, B.4)

Anthony Zemba, Environmental Specialist, Fitzgerald & Halliday – Anthony is an Environmental Specialist with Fitzgerald and Halliday, Inc., a Hartford-based community, mobility, and environmental planning firm. Anthony has 28 years of professional experience in natural resource management, assessment, and planning with an emphasis on community ecology, wildlife habitat management, and wetland science. Anthony has a BS in Biology with an ecology concentration from Eastern Connecticut State University, and an MS in Environmental Science with an ecology concentration from the University of New Haven. He also holds professional certifications in Soil Science, Ecology, Stormwater Management, and Hazardous Materials Management, and is an adjunct lecturer at the University of New Haven Graduate School of Environmental Science.

Jane Zirlis, Principal, JVZ Consulting, LLC – Jane Zirlis is an organizational consultant, facilitator, coach and mediator. A former president and now life member of the Land Trust in her town, Jane is an LTA consultant partner, conducting AYO's in the Northeast. With extensive and varied board experience, she specializes in strategic planning, governance, and conflict management. Jane's consulting practice in the for-profit and not-for-profit world uses practical and pragmatic techniques to integrate the commitment and talents of the individual with the goals and success of the organization. (B.8)