



– A CONSERVATION PLAN FOR CORNISH –
PROJECT UPDATE No.6, February 11, 2026
Community Winter Forum Highlights

Hello Everyone!

We're pleased to share highlights from our **third** Community Forum held on **Wednesday, February 11th**. Our goal was to show how public data, field surveys, and your feedback have shaped the draft recommendations for our town's Conservation Plan.

Where We've Been: Community Input

We reviewed our project timeline, moving from our 2025 start into the final stages of plan writing. Your input has been vital to this journey:

- **Forum I 5/21/25 Results:** Identified the natural resources you value most, such as forests, water, and farmlands.
- **Forum II 11/19/25 Results:** Turned those values into seven conservation priorities for the Plan's recommendations.

The Technical Side: Mapping & Co-occurrence

Moosewood Ecological shared draft maps and statistics grounding the plan:

- **Agricultural Resources:** 19.7% of Cornish consists of "important farmland soils," but only 15.6% is currently conserved.
- **Scenic Resources:** Approximately 21.9% of road-frontage along our designated scenic roads is protected.
- **Habitat & Connectivity:** We mapped the state's highest-ranked wildlife habitats and critical animal corridors.

To synthesize this, **Co-occurrence Modeling** was used to score and overlay resource layers like groundwater, flood zones, and stream buffers. Overlapping priorities indicate higher conservation value, helping us identify **18 specific Conservation Focus Areas (CFAs)**.

Wrapping Up & What's Next?

We closed the evening by sharing draft recommendations and answering questions to ensure our next steps reflect town priorities.

➡ The project is nearing completion, and we invite you to join us on **March 25th** for our monthly Commission meeting, when Moosewood Ecological will present the full working draft of the Conservation Plan.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support as we move forward with the Cornish Conservation Plan.

~~ Robin Kilfeather-Mackey, Project Manager, Conservation Commission