

Rattlesnake Gutter Trust Monitoring - RGT-Owned Property Form

1. Property Name: East Leverett Meadow Year: 2022

2. Date of Monitoring: December 13, 2022

Recommendations from last year's monitoring:

None concerning monitoring. There is an active stewardship plan for ELM (see attached).

3. Monitors:

Mike Williams and Rocky Adriance

4. Describe the monitoring route briefly (also draw on map):

We walked around the Meadow in a counterclockwise loop, starting behind Williams' house (42 Cushman Rd.). After looping the Meadow, we walked the access trail to Cushman Rd. and then along Cushman Rd. back to Williams house (42 Cushman Rd.).

5. Action Items requiring attention:

None, in particular. See attached list for on-going projects

6. List any problems with monitoring map or photos:

No problems.

7. Describe alterations. Draw on map, take photos.

Natural	Human Made
None Observed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None Observed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After missing last year due to excessive wetness, the Meadow strips were mowed this year in November. Strip #1 (50') in each of the 8 150' strips.

8. Monitoring recommendations for next year:

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Normal monitoring. Note that the ELM access trail passes through part of the Kuzmeski CR..

Stewardship Plan for Upcoming Year:

9. Last Year's Stewardship Plan / Goals / Accomplishments:

The S. Seaman polinator garden was enlarged (doubled in size) and planed with a variety of polinator-friendly plants, purchased by RGT. Thanks to Ingrid Pfohl for watering. Kelly Klinger (faculty member in Environmental Science at UMass brought a class (split into two sections) on four separate days. They made a plan and then worked to remove invasives and with Rocky's help pulled stumps of woody plants.

10. Last Year's Actual Costs ~ \$1300 for polinators and mowing

11. Goals, planned activities to meet those Stewardship goals and timeline for the coming year:

See attached. One major goal is to add an informative sign near the polinator garden about preserving the meadow, endangered species, and polinators.

12. Anticipated costs (both on-going and for this next year):

~~\$ 2000 see stewardship plan - attached

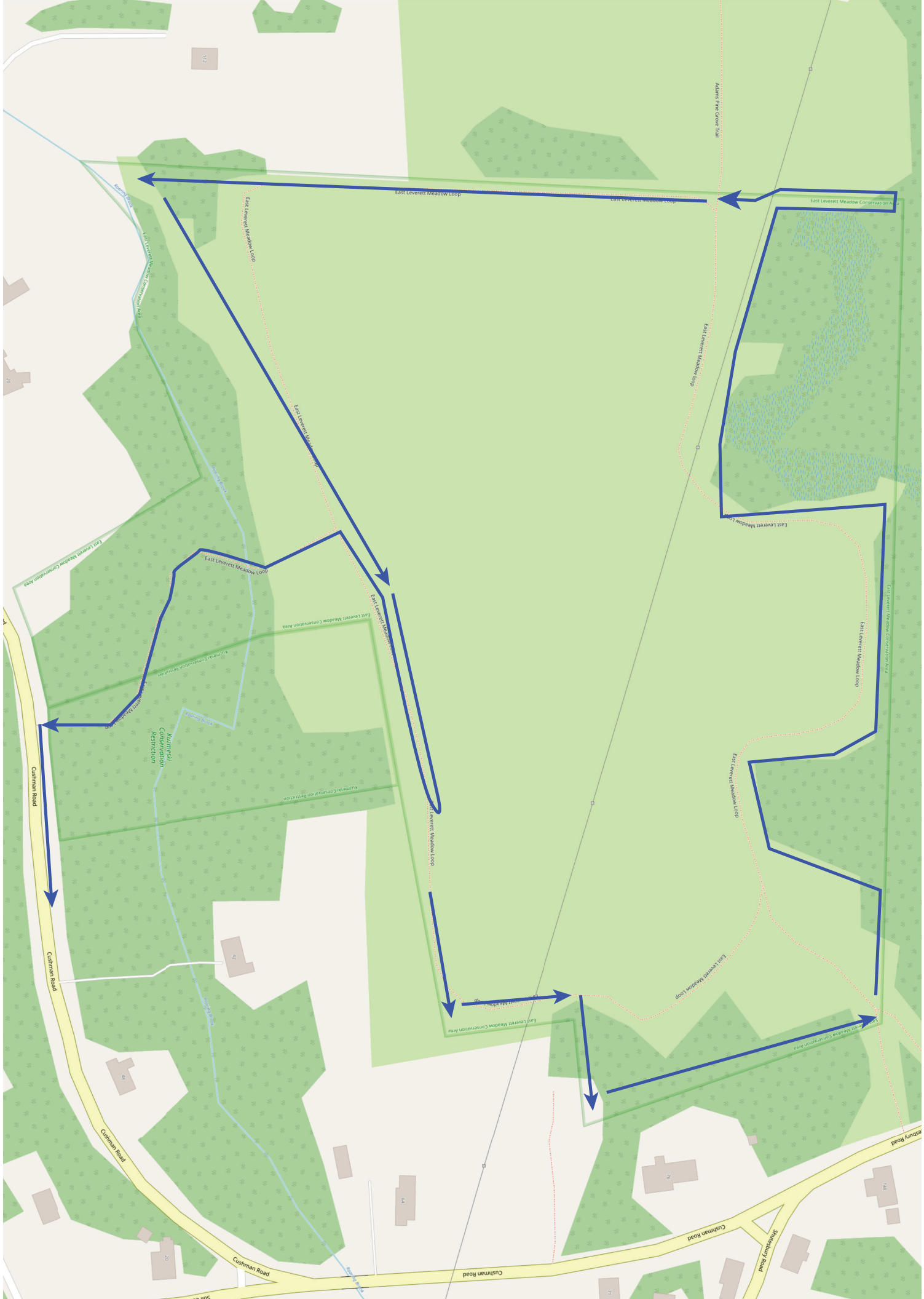
Signed: Michael L. Williams

Date Signed: 12/17/2022



Still to do:

- Ask to present this report at the next RGT Board Meeting
- Print out and sign 3 copies:
 - 1. Put one in the Green Field Notebook
 - 2. Give one to the person who puts the reports in the Blue Archive Notebook at the Leverett Family Museum.
 - 3. Mail (or give) a copy to the land owner(s)
- Send an electronic copy of this report to the person who puts it on the Board-only section of the RGT website.



East Leverett Meadow Loop

East Leverett Meadow Conservation Area

East Leverett Meadow Loop

East Leverett Meadow Loop

East Leverett Meadow Loop

East Leverett Meadow Loop

East Leverett Meadow Conservation Area

East Leverett Meadow Loop

East Leverett Meadow Loop

East Leverett Meadow Conservation Area

Kumasiel Conservation Restriction

East Leverett Meadow Conservation Area

East Leverett Meadow Loop

Cushman Road

Cushman Road

Cushman Road

Cushman Road

Cushman Road

Cushman Road

Subversary Road

Subversary Road

ELM Stewardship Plan
2022

Goal	Purpose	Labor and Materials	Timeframe	Budget Allowance	Outcome
Bush hog the meadow once a year	control goldenrod consistent with turtle survival	Rocky bush hog	every November	\$900	mow 1/3 meadow once per year in 50' wide strips. Begun in 2016. Too wet to mow this year.
Prescribed burns (in select areas)	Control goldenrod, increase plant diversity, diminish thatch from annual bush hogging	TBD	Spring. On a rolling basis. No area to be burned more than once every 3 years	TBD	still pursuing this
Maintain "refugia" areas	keep some areas free of activity, as control zones	none	Mow in Nov w/ the rest of the meadow	None	establish four 50' x 50' plots that will never be mowed, as control areas
Add more sets to the pollinator garden, clear the old tarp	establish more local flowering plants in the meadow	Purchase local pollinator sets from Nasami	Spring	\$250	George and Ingrid, with a work party. Nasami unable to fill our order this year.
Prune and maintain apple trees in NE	return this orchard to health, add beauty to the meadow	one or more mowing/bush hogging per year, misc pruning	already underway with Joe Sincuk's help	None	needs pruning this year. Keeping the orchard bush hogged.
Better signage at both entries to ELM	tell visitors what we're trying to do in ELM. Make kiosks attractive and updated. Add a bench?	Rocky and others to build these, Julie C to write and illustrate?	Sometime this summer	\$500	Needs a design
Control invasives around the borders	continue Pete and Molly's recommendations	annual work parties	Pull buckthorns with rootballs after they leaf out	None	Needs a work party date. George?
Move kestrel box to shady side of shagbark	It will stay cooler		When the ground thaws	None	
Two narrow bog bridges on the South foot path	Two spots are normally flooded	If these are narrow, the tractor can straddle them while mowing. Use 4x4's for bases	Spring work party	\$300	
Interpretive signs at old distillery sites	Good story in unexpected place	TBD	TBD	TBD	Needs more research (Rocky)
Maintain benches along the footpath	all need repairs or new legs		Spring	\$50	Continuing
Repair Americorps bridge across Roaring Brook	Needs to be winched back upstream and pinned to the pier.	Use 8-10" Timberlock screws		\$40	
Clean and re-stock mailbox with maps	It's full of mice...				