HMCA Activities Update

by Diana Todd

for sharing at the March 14, 2016 meeting of the HPC

A summary of what HMCA has been doing in the interval since the last HPC meeting in early January.

1. VLT shared the results of the survey for invasive plants that was conducted in late fall 2015. The good news: very few invasive plants were found, most of them were single plants, none were large swaths. The caveat: due to time/effort constraints, the investigator limited the survey to areas that were easily accessible: roadsides and trail heads. These are the areas that are normally first colonized by invasive plants.
2. Two of Prof. Jaime Tanner’s Ecology students shared the results of their field studies that were conducted on Hogback. Both papers have been posted on the Hogback website.
3. The grant proposal submitted to the VT Fish & Wildlife Watershed Grants program seeking funding to hire the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps to help with the ESH project in fall 2016 was turned down. Applications have been submitted to the Windham Foundation and the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund.
4. The HMCA Board of Directors met jointly with the HPC twice to discuss ideas relating to the proposed Biodiversity Inventory.
5. The scheduled animal tracking clinic with George Leoniak was cancelled due to icy conditions that made tracking virtually impossible and just plain walking hazardous.