

Carrie Castonguay, Manager
Board of Selectmen
Town of New Gloucester
385 Intervale Road
New Gloucester, Maine 04260

January 3, 2019

Dear Carrie and Members of the Board of Selectmen,

We are writing to let you know of our recent donation of roughly 40 acres on Upper Woodman Road to the Royal River Conservation Trust (RRCT). This land comprises a one-and-a-half-mile loop trail along Meadow Brook to what is known locally as the Big Falls. This land consists of roughly 25 acres in Auburn and 15 acres in New Gloucester. We purchased the Auburn land in 1988 from Fred Huntress and the New Gloucester land in 1995 from Reginald Parent.

This land has always been a very special destination and scenic hike for us and the local New Gloucester community. The trail starts off on the right-hand side of Upper Woodman Road, drops down along the banks of Meadow Brook, and rises up to a set of beautiful water falls (which we have always called the Big Falls) and then continues to a lovely secluded pond in the woods at the top of the falls. The trail then loops back further along Upper Woodman Road in Auburn. We have always maintained trails to the Big Falls and welcomed all hikers, dog walkers, horseback riders, hunters, and other recreational users.

It is the intent of this gift to the Royal River Conservation Trust that the land will continue to be open and available for the public to enjoy for years to come. We are pleased that the land will be preserved, the habitat conserved, and this important part of the Royal River watershed continue to be protected. We believe that the vision and mission of RRCT are consistent with our historic use of the land and our desired goal of maintaining areas of natural beauty in New Gloucester that can also be available to the general public.

We have always appreciated and valued the many areas natural beauty and open, undeveloped land in New Gloucester. We have been stewards of Big Falls and its surrounding land for over 35 years. We are pleased to be able to donate this land to RRCT, an organization that we are confident will continue this stewardship for years to come. We hope with this gift that many others will be able to access this place of beauty that has given us so much joy over the years.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Michael and Julie Fralich
402 Woodman Road
New Gloucester, Maine 04260

Cc: Scott Hastings