

**Upper Saco Valley Land Trust
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Land Trust Acquires Scenic South Conway Easements

Our community recently received an amazing gift from Conway resident and Selectman Howard "Crow" Dickinson. At the end of December 2007, Mr. Dickinson donated two conservation easements to the Upper Saco Valley Land Trust, permanently protecting over 700 acres and more than two miles of road frontage on Gulf Road, Baird Hill Road, Greeley Road and Leavitt Road in South Conway from development. All of these roads are designated as "scenic roads" by the Town of Conway under New Hampshire RSA 231:157.

The Upper Saco Valley Land Trust is extremely grateful to Mr. Dickinson for the opportunity to protect this important community resource. In addition to protecting the property's scenic values, the easement protects its forest resources and significant wildlife habitat. Combined with several other conservation easements which have been donated to the organization over the years, more than 1,700 acres in South Conway are now permanently protected by the Land Trust.

"The Upper Saco Valley Land Trust has been great to work with and made the conservation easement donation process understandable and simple." said Mr. Dickinson. "I highly recommend the organization to other landowners who are interested in protecting their land as well."

Because of the generosity of Mr. Dickinson, the Earle family and several of their neighbors, this rural area will remain much as it is now for future generations to enjoy. To truly appreciate what a significant contribution these easements are to the community, take the time to drive along the scenic back roads of South Conway. You won't be disappointed.

The Dickinson easements contribute to the Upper Saco Valley Land Trust's most successful year ever. The Land Trust closed on nine conservation easements in 2007, which were donated to the organization by generous land owners throughout the Valley. We have now acquired a total of 26 conservation easements permanently protecting 3,778 acres from development.

The Upper Saco Valley Land Trust is a private, nonprofit organization working in partnership with local landowners in the watershed of the upper Saco River in New Hampshire and Maine to permanently protect the lands and waters that define our communities and enrich our quality of life. For more information about supporting our work by becoming a contributing member or learning more about the conservation easement process call 603-356-9683 or visit our website www.usvlt.org.