

From: Bill Weale [REDACTED] 

Subject: 911 call: Howdy's Trail

Date: July 15, 2020 at 8:25 PM

To: Fairlee Town Administrator townadministrator@fairleevt.org

Cc: Peter Berger peter.berger@fairleevt.org, Josh Hickman Josh.Hickman@fairleevt.org, Cathy McGrath Cathy.McGrath@fairleevt.org, David Paganelli [REDACTED]

BW

Hi Tad—

I just got back from a walk around a loop involving Bald Top Road, Howdy's Trail, the Chestnut project and Cross Mtn Trail.

The recent runoff from the erosion of Howdy's Trail finally broke through the deep rutting and channeling and into the brook it follows. The breach is about 100 yards before the brook runs into Glen Falls Brook at the Bald Top Road parking lot. In other words, the location is about 100 yards N on Howdy's Trail from the culvert which carries Glen Falls Brook under Howdy's Trail. It's before the location that the Rivendell Trail crosses Howdy's Trail.

Enough gravel has fallen into the brook to impede its flow and continues to fall in as the road drains. Most of the part of Howdy's Trail up to Jim O's landing was more severely eroded and needs immediate attention. From here, erosion will accelerate with each thunderstorm or rainy period.

Given the proximity of Howdy's Trail to the brook and given that there is active flow of gravel, soil and other debris into the brook, I believe this rises to the level that the state should be notified and be involved in any repairs. One of the local foresters has told me this is the point where the state should be notified and has referred me to the office that should be called.

This will get very expensive if it's not tended to immediately and more so if it's not done "by the book."

I need to hear from you or the SB that proper procedures have been put in place. I'll be in Montpelier tomorrow (Thursday) AM. Home by noon is my plan. I'll do anything I can to help. Please keep me informed. I'll get the ball rolling late tomorrow if I haven't heard back.

Best,

Bill

PS

David Paganelli has been a great help to my effort to help you. I haven't spoken with or emailed him in a few days, but I'm cc'ing him here to keep him informed and to let you know he has repeatedly said he is ready to help if we need it.





