

Groundswell Conservancy Policy

Name: Conservation Easement Monitoring

Approval: Approved by Stewardship Committee May 20, 2013
Approved by Executive Committee July 11, 2013
Amended by Executive Committee October 14, 2020

Land Trust Alliance Standards and Practices 11C. Conservation Easement Monitoring. 1. Adopt a written policy and/or procedure for monitoring conservation easements that establishes consistent monitoring protocols and recordkeeping procedures. 2. Monitor each conservation easement property at least once per calendar year... (b) Promptly document the annual monitoring activities for each conservation easement.

The Groundswell Conservancy monitors its conservation easements annually.

Annual monitoring includes:

- physical inspection of the property covered by the conservation easement;
- consultation with the landowner about the restrictions the conservation easement places on the property;
- comparison of current conditions of the property to the conditions depicted in the baseline report, including baseline photo documentation and the individual restrictions the conservation easement places on the property;
- documentation and filing of each monitoring event;
- providing copies of the annual monitoring documentation to the landowner, easement holders, and others with interest in the easement.

Each report will be completed within three months after the monitoring visit.

Groundswell Conservancy is accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. Policies may be updated to reflect changing accreditation standards and practices, as well as changing local organizational needs.