

NH Lakes Management and Protection Program

NH Lakes Management Advisory Committee

April 1, 2015

Voting Members:

David Packard
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NH Lakes Assn.

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Scientific Community

Linda Brownson
State Conservation
Committee

Fred Clews
NH Fish & Game
Commission

Robert Compton
Planning Boards

John Cooley
Conservation
Community

Kimberly Hallquist
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Marine Trades
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Tourism Industry

Dick Smith
Fishing Interests

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NH Association of
Realtors

Martha Twombly
Conservation
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VACANT
NH BIA

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Vice Chair
NH Office of Energy
& Planning

Capt. Tim Dunleavy
NH Dept. of Safety

Eric Feldbaum
NH Dept. of Resources
and Econ. Dev.

Garret Graaskamp
NH Fish & Game Dept.

Mark Hemmerlein
NH Dept. of Trans.

**David Rousseau/
Bob Wolff**
NH Dept. of
Ag, Markets & Food

Staff:

Jacquie Colburn
Rivers and Lakes
Coordinator

Tracie Sales
Watershed Planner

Senator Jeb Bradley, Chairman
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Room 100, State House
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 281 Defining "exotic aquatic species of wildlife" and Relative to the Duties of the Exotic Aquatic Weeds and Species Committee

Dear Chair Bradley and Members of the Committee:

The Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) is writing to express its support for House Bill 281 as amended, defining "exotic aquatic species of wildlife" and relative to the duties of the Exotic Aquatic Weeds and Species Committee.

HB 281 would expand the duties of the Exotic Aquatic Weeds and Species Committee to include the study of Best Management Practices (BMPs) in other states for controlling and eradicating exotic aquatic wildlife and make recommendations based on this study on how to control invasive aquatic species of wildlife found in New Hampshire. Despite our best efforts over the past 50 years, the number and types of exotic species in New Hampshire's lakes has continued to expand, and as our weather patterns change and our waters warm, we anticipate the arrival of even more exotic aquatic plants and animals. Therefore, expanding the scope of the committee to include wildlife is appropriate. To better control existing and new exotic species, implementing the BMPs identified by the committee will help the state, Lake Hosts and volunteers in their efforts to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic species and maintain the health and functions of our valuable surface water resources.

The LMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with NHDES on the administration of RSA 483-A, the Lakes Management and Protection Act. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is comprised of 19 members representing academia, business, conservation organizations, lake associations, tourism, fish and game commission, marine trades, realtors, municipal government as well as several state agencies. Among its other responsibilities, the LMAC reviews legislation relevant to the state's lakes and ponds and the Lakes Program, and advises the NHDES Commissioner on the merits of such legislation.

In conclusion, the LMAC supports HB 281, which would define "exotic aquatic species of wildlife" and expand the duties of the Exotic Aquatic Weeds and Species Committee. This action will further aid in the protection of our State's vital water resources. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (603) 634-2299 or david.packard@eversource.com.

Sincerely,



David Packard, Chair
Lakes Management Advisory Committee

cc: Rep. Suzanne Gottling
Rep. Chris Christensen
Rep. Suzanne Smith
Rep. James Grenier
Rep. Judith Spang
Sen. Gerald Little

Sen. Martha Fuller Clark
Thomas Burack, Commissioner, DES
Eugene Forbes, Director, Water Division, DES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., DES
Jacquie Colburn, Lakes Coordinator, DES
LMAC Members