

2019 Local Advisory Committee Workshop Speaker Biographies (In Order of Presentations)

Lori Sommer, Wetland Mitigation Coordinator, NHDES Wetlands Bureau

Lori Sommer has over 30 years of experience in natural resource conservation and management. Lori currently oversees the NHDES Wetland Mitigation Program and crafted the Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund, the first in-lieu fee program in New England. The program has received regional and national attention as a comprehensive watershed approach to protecting high quality aquatic habitats. Lori holds a Bachelor's degree in wildlife management from the Ohio State University and Masters of Sciences in Resource Economics from UNH. She has served as President of the NH Association and Natural Resource Scientists and as Vice Chair for Five Rivers Conservation Trust. She resides in Hopkinton with her husband, two children and assorted pets. (603) 271-4059 / lori.sommer@des.nh.gov

Mary Ann Tilton, Assistant Administrator, NHDES Wetlands Bureau

Mary Ann has worked at NHDES for 30 years, and currently serves as the Assistant Administrator of the Wetlands Bureau. Mary Ann has a B.A. in Botany and Zoology from Connecticut College, a M.S. in Zoology from the University of Rhode Island, and a J.D. from the UNH Law School. Mary Ann serves as the main point of contact for the wetlands rules updates. / (603) 271-2929 / maryann.tilton@des.nh.gov

Susan Paschell, Senior Associate, the Dupont Group

Susan has worked in the legislative arena for over 35 years, in both New Hampshire and Maine. Her professional experience includes work as a public school teacher; as a senior researcher for the policy committees of the NH House of Representatives; and as a lobbyist for numerous business and non-profit clients, including health care, behavioral health, social and juvenile justice, transportation, and energy interests. Susan's strong communications skills offer clients support and guidance with news media relations, copy editing, and crafting and publishing editorial and commentary pieces. Susan spent several terms as a committee member on the Upper Merrimack Local Advisory Committee representing the Town of Bow. She has also been a member and officer of the Board of Directors of Red River Theatres, Concord's independent arts cinema, since 2004. Susan is a graduate of Goddard College and Harvard University's Graduate School of Education. / (603) 228-3322 x 107 / spaschell@dupontgroup.com

2019 Local Advisory Committee Workshop Speaker Biographies - Continued

Michael Hansen, Senior Vice President of Civil Engineering, The H.L. Turner Group

Michael is a civil engineer, Bow resident, and member of the Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee. His professional experience focuses on floodplain and stormwater management. His experience with floodplain management includes working with FEMA regulations and requirements to help offset adverse effects to work performed within the regulated floodway and 100-year floodplain as well as compiling NO-Rise certifications and Letter of Map Revisions (LOMR). He is also experienced in hydraulic river modeling, natural channel design, stormwater system design, wetland restorations, site plan reviews, field inspections and construction oversight. / (603) 426-8797 / mh16200@gmail.com

Jana Ford, Communications Specialist, NHDES Public Information Office

Jana worked as a newspaper editor for more than 15 years before joining the NHDES Public Information Office in 2016. Throughout her newspaper career, she was responsible for curating articles, photos, and more for print and web publishing, ensuring accurate, consistent and compelling content on a daily basis. Her last eight years in journalism were spent at the Concord Monitor, where she served as the day editor and social media manager. Upon joining the NHDES team, one of Jana's main tasks was to take charge of the agency's social media presence. In the last two-plus years, she – along with a team of program assistants – has tripled the agency's exposure on Twitter, brought the agency into compliance with the New Hampshire statewide social media policy, established an internal policy and guidance document for staff, launched the agency's Facebook page, and established a social media mission statement and strategy to guide the agency going forward.

(603) 271-8332 / jana.ford@des.nh.gov