

## Public Hearing Minutes

### **Nomination of the Mascoma River into the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Program**

**August 5, 2010**

**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission, Lebanon, NH**

**6:30 pm – 7:15 pm**

#### **Members Present**

Michele L. Tremblay, Vice Chair  
Anne Krantz  
Jim Ryan  
Larry Spencer

#### **Representing**

Conservation Interests  
Historical & Archaeological Interests  
NH Fish & Game Department Commission  
NH Association of Conservation Commissions

#### **Term**

Dec. 28, 2008 V  
June 15, 2010 V  
Sept. 28, 2012 V  
Sept.28, 2010 V

#### **DES Staff Present**

Laura Weit-Marcum  
Jenn Rowden  
Carolyn Guerdet

NHDES Acting Rivers Coordinator  
NHDES Lakes and Rivers Asst. Planner  
NHDES Administrative Assistant

#### **6:30 Opening**

Vice Chairman Michele Tremblay opened the meeting with the introductions of the Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) present. She then asked those present in the audience to introduce themselves. Ms. Tremblay then reviewed the purpose of the Mascoma River Nomination.

Laura Weit-Marcum, Acting Rivers Management Coordinator gave an overview of the Rivers Management Protection Program. She also reviewed the purpose and the nomination process. Following the public hearing, the DES Rivers Coordinator and the Rivers Management Advisory Committee will make their respective recommendations to the DES Commissioner. The DES Commissioner will review the nomination and must make a determination whether to forward the nomination to the General Court for legislative approval within 45 days.

A history and review of major facts and findings of the river was given. Rachel Ruppel gave an overview of the work that had been done on the nomination. Shawn Donovan expressed the need for protecting the river as a water supply for the City of Lebanon and as a community resource.

Vice Chairman Tremblay then opened the floor for a question and answer period.

- 1) Frank Gould asked about the effect the designation would have on Mascoma Lake. Laura answered that the designation goes around the lake and that the Mascoma Lake Association was in support of the nomination. This also gives the Mascoma Lake Association an opportunity to have a member on the Local River Advisory Committee (LAC). Larry Spencer noted that it improves the communication between towns, planning boards, and conservation commissions.
- 2) Barbara Hirai asked about the costs involved. Laura noted that most LACs have either no budget or a very small budget. Having a LAC is a low budget endeavor with some fund raising, donations from businesses and the towns, and some pass-through funds from DES.

The floor was then opened for public comment. All comments received were in favor of the nomination and were given by the following:

Kathy Larson  
Stephen Wood  
Jim Martel  
Judy Macnab  
Barbara Hirai  
Adair Mulligan  
Dave Barley  
Kevin Webb

Anne Krantz and Jim Ryan both praised the nomination committee on their fine work.

Vice Chairman Tremblay then closed the public hearing, noting that written comments will be accepted until August 19th. Comments can be submitted to NH Department of Environmental Services, Attn: Laura Weit-Marcum, Acting Rivers Coordinator, 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095. She thanked everyone for coming and their show of support. She reminded all in attendance that the RMAC meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup> is open to the public if they would like to attend.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.**