

# N.H. Rivers Management Advisory Committee

January 29, 2013

The Honorable Shannon Chandley, Chair  
Resources, Recreation and Development Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 305  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: HB 292 - An Act requiring milfoil decals on private vessels registered in other states or countries and operating on the inland waters of New Hampshire.**

Dear Chairperson Chandley and Members of the Committee:

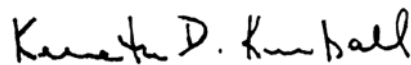
The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its unanimous support for House Bill 292, which requires milfoil decals on private vessels from other states and countries when operating in our waters. The RMAC is in favor of this proposed legislation provided that the requirement does not pertain to non-motorized watercraft. The RMAC believes that it is in the best interest of the state to not extend this condition to canoes, kayaks and other non-motorized vessels as they rarely use trailers which transport exotic species from one waterbody to the next. Further, the RMAC is concerned that if the decal were required for non-motorized craft that this would deter canoeist and kayakers and that they would recreate less often on the state's waters.

Exotic species impact the recreational opportunities that our rivers provide, the fish and aquatic species that our rivers support, and their introduction and spread negatively impacts the state's economy. It is important that New Hampshire continues to combat exotic species. The RMAC concurs with the purpose of HB 292 as numerous rivers or portions of them are already infested with milfoil and other exotic plants and animals. The revenue generated by the decals can and should be used to prevent the further introduction and spread of these intruders into our river and lake ecosystems.

The RMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) on the administration of RSA 483, the Rivers Management and Protection Program. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is comprised of members from the business, agriculture, hydroelectric, municipal government, water supply, conservation, recreation, fish and game, and historical interests. Among its other responsibilities, the RMAC is charged with reviewing legislation relevant to the RMPP and with advising the DES Commissioner on the merits of such legislation.

In conclusion, the RMAC unanimously supports HB 292 provided that the milfoil decal is not required of non-motorized craft. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at (603) 466-8149 or [kkimball@outdoors.org](mailto:kkimball@outdoors.org).

Sincerely,



Kenneth D. Kimball, Ph.D., Chairman  
Rivers Management Advisory Committee

cc: Rep. Ahlgren  
Rep. S. Schmidt  
Rep. Spang  
Sen. Bradley  
RMAC Members (via electronic mail)  
LAC Chairs (via electronic mail)  
Comm. Burack, DES

Voting Members:

**Kenneth D. Kimball**  
Chair  
Recreational  
Interests

**Michele L. Tremblay**  
Vice Chair  
Conservation  
Community

**Roger Noonan**  
Agricultural Community

**Donald L. Ware**  
Public  
Water Suppliers

**James W. Ryan**  
NH Fish & Game  
Commission

**Allan G. Palmer**  
Business & Industry  
Association

**Gary L. Kerr**  
Granite State  
Hydropower  
Association

**Larry T. Spencer**  
Conservation  
Commissions

**Anne Krantz**  
Historic/Archeological  
Interests

**Fredrick J. McNeill**  
Municipal  
Officer

**Kathryn P. Nelson**  
Local River  
Management  
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Non-Voting Members:

**Susan Slack**  
NH Office of  
Energy & Planning

**Johanna Lyons**  
NH Department of  
Resources and  
Economic  
Development

**John Magee**  
NH Fish & Game  
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**Kevin Nyhan**  
NH Department of  
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**Jacquie Colburn**  
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