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Chair
Recreational Interests

Michele L. Tremblay
Vice Chair
Conservation
Community

Anne Krantz
Historic/Archeological
Interests

Alan Larter
Granite State
Hydropower
Association

Fredrick J. McNeill
Municipal Officer

Roger Noonan
Agricultural Community

Allan G. Palmer
Business & Industry
Association

James W. Ryan
NH Fish & Game
Commission

Larry T. Spencer
Conservation
Commissions

Ruth Ward
Local River Management
Advisory Committees

Donald L. Ware
Public Water Suppliers

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Mark Hemmerlein
NH Department of
Transportation

Patrick Hummel
NH Department of
Resources and
Economic
Development

John Magee
NH Fish & Game
Department

Gail McWilliam Jellie
NH Department of
Agriculture,
Markets & Food

Elizabeth Peck
NH Department of
Safety

Susan Slack
NH Office of
Energy & Planning

Staff:

Vacant
Rivers and Lakes
Coordinator, NHDES

Tracie Sales
Watershed Planner,
NHDES

N.H. Rivers Management and Protection Program

N.H. Rivers Management Advisory Committee

February 10, 2016

The Honorable Gary Daniels, Chair
Senate Capital Budget Committee
State House, Room 103
Concord, NH 03301

RE: **SB 368-FN-A** *An act making a capital appropriation for department of environmental services monitoring equipment.*

Dear Chair Daniels and Members of the Committee:

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) appreciates the opportunity to express its unanimous support for Senate Bill 368, making a capital appropriation of \$260,000 for purchase of monitoring equipment for use in the Great Bay and Hampton-Seabrook Estuaries.


Five of the rivers designated into the Rivers Management and Protection Program flow into the Great Bay. Of these five, both the Lamprey River and the Exeter-Squamscott River have tidal segments designated into the Program, and therefore closely linked to the estuary. While some of the appropriation will be used to replace aging water quality monitoring equipment, the rest will be used to add water quality evaluation capability to areas that are currently unmonitored, including some in the Squamscott River. Monitoring our estuaries not only provides information as to our estuaries' health, which is critical for New Hampshire's coastal economy as well as the survival of fish and wildlife, but also provides clues to the success of green infrastructure projects installed upstream and the cleanliness of those rivers that flow into the estuary.

The RMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to administer RSA 483. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is comprised of members from 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 Program and with advising the NHDES Commissioner on the merits of such legislation.

In conclusion, the RMAC unanimously supports SB 368-FN-A, which appropriates \$260,000 for estuarine water quality monitoring equipment.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at kkimball@outdoors.org or (603) 466-8149.

Sincerely,



Kenneth D. Kimball, Ph.D., Chair

The Honorable Chris Christensen, Chair
Resources, Recreation and Development Committee
January 26, 2016
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cc: Sen. David Watters
Sen. David Boutin
Sen. Martha Fuller Clark
Sen. Nancy Stiles
Rep. Adam Schroadter
RMAC Members

Thomas Burack, Commissioner, NHDES
Eugene Forbes, Director, Water Division, NHDES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES
Tracie Sales, Watershed Planner, NHDES
Local River Management Advisory Committee Chairs