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Conservation
Community

Larry T. Spencer
Vice Chair
Conservation
Commissions

Edna Feighner
Historic/Archeological
Interests

Christopher Hodgdon
NH Fish & Game
Commission

Mark Lombardi
Granite State
Hydropower
Association

Frederick J. McNeill
Municipal Officer

Allan G. Palmer
Business & Industry
Association

Norman Sims
Recreational Interests

Ruth Ward
Local River Management
Advisory Committees

Donald L. Ware
Public Water Suppliers

Vacant
Agricultural Community

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Jennifer Gilbert
NH Office of
Strategic Initiatives

Mark Hemmerlein
NH Department of
Transportation

Kayla Henderson
NH Department of
Safety (Interim)

John Magee
NH Fish & Game
Department

Gail McWilliam Jellie
NH Department of
Agriculture,
Markets & Food

Vacant
NH Department of
Natural and Cultural
Resources

Staff:

Tracie Sales
Program Manager

Jen Drociak
Watershed Coordinator

Mariah Mitchell
Program Assistant

N.H. Rivers Management and Protection Program

N.H. Rivers Management Advisory Committee

March 26, 2019

The Honorable David Watters, Chair
Senate Transportation Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 103
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 188 *An act amending the definition of headway speed*

Dear Chair Watters and Members of the Committee:

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 188, which removes the six mile per hour portion of the definition of headway speed. The RMAC supports this bill but recommends an amendment which retains the six mile per hour maximum.

The RMAC believes that a maximum speed of six miles per hour is important to retain, but knows that the definition of "headway speed" should focus on the phrase "slowest speed." The RMAC recommends changing the language to read:

VI. "Headway speed" means the slowest speed that a boat can be operated and maintain steerage way, not to exceed 6 miles per hour.

The RMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to administer RSA 483, the Rivers Management and Protection Program. 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 supports HB 188 with an amendment that leaves the six mile per hour maximum, but moves the phrase in the definition.

Should you have any questions regarding our testimony, please feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or MLT@naturesource.net.

Sincerely,



Michele L. Tremblay
RMAC Chair

The Honorable David Watters
Chair, Senate Transportation Committee
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cc: Rep. Charlie Saint Clair
Rep. Casey Conley
Rep. David Hout
RMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES
Tom O'Donovan, Director, Water Division, NHDES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES
Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Manager, NHDES
Local River Management Advisory Committee Chairs