

Compilation of Staff and LMAC and RMAC Discussion
 (February 18th and April 13th Joint Meetings)
Regarding Future Approaches to the Rivers and Lakes Programs
 June 25, 2015

S = Statute: suggestions that would require changes to RSA 483, RSA 483-A, RSA 483-B or some other statute in order to implement.

R = Rules: suggestions that would require changes to Env-Wq 1800 or some other rule in order to implement.

G = Guidance: suggestions that only require internal process or standard operating procedure changes in order to implement.

Process Approach – Status Quo (programs and statutes remain separate)	Outcome/Hybrid Approach (programs work together and are administered jointly, statutes remain separate)	Watershed Approach (programs unite, focus on watersheds integration and realignment of programs within WMB)
<p>Focus on efficiency of current processes and existing statute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements ongoing as time allows for Rivers Program (G). • Little happening due to lack of funding for Lakes Program, except processes transferred from Rivers Program. 	<p>Blend best approaches from LMPP and RMPP toward desired outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rivers – value to bottoms-up approach and statutory recognition. Can all rivers be “in” at a moderate level but rivers with motivated constituents can get extra privileges/ protections? (S) • Lakes – all in. Can lake associations apply for LAC-like privileges (permits, extra protections, etc.)? Need diversity of interests represented on deputized lake assoc. (S) 	<p>Outcomes focus to determine best mix of approaches to integrate DES watershed programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the goal of new watershed program? Improved water quality? Better state/local communication? Better river/lake group coordination? Attention to lakes by DES staff? Others? (S?/G)
<p>Identify processes that can be made more efficient</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete/In progress: River nominations (R/G), LAC permit review (R/G), LAC membership(S/G), RMAC membership nomination requirements (S), LAC communications (G) • Future: River corridor management plans (S/G), Lake management plans (S/G), DES more pro-active re. adding rivers to RMPP (G), Maintaining and recruiting LAC members (G). Reports to Legislature (G) 	<p>Parallel process to determine desired outcomes and “best of both worlds” approaches in existing programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning: high level vs. ground level • Regional lake caucuses? (S?/G) • Morph river corridor and lake mgmt. plans into EPA a-i Watershed-based plans? (S?/G) • 1st – 3rd order streams in SWQPA? (S) 	<p>Outcomes discussion and examination of current DES programs and resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include other DES programs? Other agencies? (S) • Morph river corridor and lake mgmt. plans into EPA a-i Watershed-based plans? (S?/G) • 1st – 3rd order streams in SWQPA? (S)

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<p>Identify current and new/changes processes from programs to best achieve outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify grants & funding sources (G) 	<p>Identify current and new/changes processes from programs to best achieve outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who are we serving? What population? (G) Needs assessment- improve existing programs vs. implement watershed approach Include lakes within existing Designated River watersheds? (S/R/G) Use VT’s hydrologic unit approach? (S) Coordinate within existing entities (i.e. Instream Flow Program, groundwater reclassification, NRCS, etc.) (S) Identify grants & funding sources (G) 	<p>Identify watershed approach to achieve outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who are we serving? What population? (G) Needs assessment- benefit achieved through watershed approach that cannot be accomplished otherwise.
<p>Mini-lean events to determine more efficient processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management plans (S?/G) Additional LAC responsibilities? (S/G) 	<p>Mini-lean events and measures development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measurement based on 303(d) list? (S) 	<p>Identify process improvements and integration elements for new approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include (some/all) lakes & rivers within designated watershed? Tiered approach? Given number of lakes, should they be grouped regionally? Priority for lakes that get additional protections, based on water quality, size, group motivation or other factor?
<p>Identify needed rule or statute changes to implement process improvement (minor)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In progress: RSA 483 administrative changes (S), Env-Wq 1800 (River Nomination rules), LAC Permit Review process (S/R/G). Future: RSA 483-A administrative changes (S), Lakes rules for management plans? (R) 	<p>Change rules and statutes as needed (moderate)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RMAC & LMAC combine to become WMAC? (S) RMAC & LMAC jointly take on oversight of SWQPA? (S) SWQPA changed to include 1st-3rd order streams (S) 	<p>Change rules and statutes as needed (major) and reallocate DES resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RMPP & LMPP combine to become Watershed MPP (S) RMAC & LMAC combine to become WMAC (S) Incorporate SWQPA into combined RSA 483/483-A? (S)