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Community

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Commissions

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NH Fish & Game  
Commission

**Frederick J. McNeill**  
Municipal Officer

**Madeleine Mineau**  
Granite State  
Hydropower Assoc.

**Cory Ritz**  
Local River Management  
Advisory Committees

**Robert M. Roseen**  
Recreational Interests

**Donald L. Ware**  
Public Water Suppliers

**Vacant**  
Agricultural Community

**Vacant**  
Business & Industry  
Association

**Vacant**  
Historic/Archeological  
Interests

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

**Peter Bowman**  
NH Dept. of Natural and  
Cultural Resources

**Natasha Cole**  
NH Department of  
Safety

**Jennifer Gilbert**  
NH Dept. of Business  
and Economic Affairs

**Mark Hemmerlein**  
NH Department of  
Transportation

**Shawn Jasper**  
NH Dept. of Agriculture,  
Markets & Food

**John Magee**  
NH Fish & Game  
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STAFF

**Tracie Sales**  
Program Administrator

**Vacant**  
Program Assistant

# NH Rivers Management Advisory Committee

## NH Rivers Management and Protection Program



April 12, 2023

The Honorable Andrew Renzullo, Chair  
House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 305  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: SB 229** *An act relative to the administration of certain wetlands permits by the department of environmental services.*

Dear Chair Renzullo and Members of the Committee,

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **support of Senate Bill 229**, which makes various technical changes to wetlands permits.

The RMAC supports this bill because

- It clarifies areas of statutory ambiguity, thereby setting clearer expectations for permit applicants and reviewers;
- It alters the fee structure for alteration of terrain permit amendment requests to reflect the scope of the amendment, rather than the scope of the entire original project; and
- It simplifies the permit application process for parcels that cross municipal boundaries by requiring permit applications to be filed with municipalities where work will occur, as opposed to any municipality in which a part of the parcel occurs.

Collectively, these changes provide clarity and make it easier to apply for permits without changing the expected impact to wetlands and natural resources or burdening permit reviewers.

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 composed of members from business, agriculture, hydroelectric, municipal government, water supply, conservation, recreation, fish and game, and historical interests.

Should you have any questions regarding our testimony in support of SB 229, feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or [MLT@naturesource.net](mailto:MLT@naturesource.net).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Michele L. Tremblay', is written in black ink.

Michele L. Tremblay, Chair

ec: RMAC Representatives  
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES