**VOTING MEMBERS** 

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Conservatior Community

Larry T. Spencer

Vice Chair Conservation Commissions

Christopher Hodgdon

NH Fish & Game Commission

**Brooke Kenline-Nyman** 

Historic/Archeological Interests

Frederick J. McNeill Municipal Officer

Madeleine Mineau

Granite State Hydropower Assoc.

Cory Ritz

Local River Management Advisory Committees

Mitchell Thayer

Business & Industry Association

Donald L. Ware

Public Water Suppliers

Vacant

Agricultural Community

Vacant

Recreational Interests

Non-Voting Members

Peter Bowman

NH Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources

Austin Brown

NH Department of Safety

Mark Hemmerlein

NH Department of Transportation

John Magee

NH Fish & Game Department

Heather Shank

NH Dept. of Business and Economic Affairs

Allen Wyman

NH Dept. of Agriculture, Markets & Food

**STAFF** 

Tracie Sales

Program Administrator

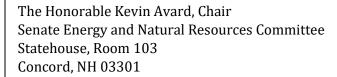
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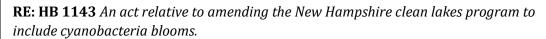
Program Assistant

## **NH Rivers Management Advisory Committee**

NH Rivers Management and Protection Program

April 30, 2024





Dear Chair Avard and Members of the Committee,

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **support of House Bill 1143**, which allows the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to provide remedial actions for cyanobacteria blooms under the clean lakes program.

The RMAC supports this bill because

- Cyanobacteria blooms are increasing in severity, frequency, and duration, and have been reported in rivers over the last two years;
- Blooms negatively affect river and lake ecosystems and the public's enjoyment of them;
- Blooms reduce the economic value associated with our rivers and lakes, making their prevention an important priority;
- This bill creates a mechanism for permitting certain types of management that
  are the best available methods for reducing the likelihood of blooms in some
  locations;
- This bill implements a key priority in the state's cyanobacteria plan; and
- Creation of this program was strongly supported by the diverse stakeholders who participated in the development of the state's cyanobacteria plan.

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 HB 1143, feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or <a href="MLT@naturesource.net">MLT@naturesource.net</a>.

Sincerely,

Michele L. Tremblay, Chair

ec: Representative Rung RMAC Representatives

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES

29 Hazen Drive; PO Box 95; Concord, NH 03302-0095; Tel: <u>603-796-2615</u> <u>https://www.rmac.des.nh.gov/</u>