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Community

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Vice Chair
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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

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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

Allen Wyman
NH Dept. of Agriculture,
Markets & Food

Vacant
NH Dept. of Business
and Economic Affairs

STAFF

Tracie Sales
Program Administrator

Vacant
Program Assistant

NH Rivers Management Advisory Committee

NH Rivers Management and Protection Program



April 9, 2024

The Honorable Kevin Avard, Chair
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Statehouse Room 103
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 1314 *An act relative to the comprehensive state development plan.*

Dear Chair Avard and Members of the Committee,

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **support of House Bill 1314**, which would require consideration of drinking water, surface water, wetlands and wildlife in the state development plan.

The RMAC supports this bill because

- Having adequate and clean sources of drinking water is essential for the citizens, visitors and businesses of the state;
- Water resources and wildlife habitat are not included in the existing state development plan;
- New Hampshire's rivers, lakes, and wildlife are among the reasons people cite for moving to or visiting New Hampshire;
- Clean water and outdoor space are important contributors to New Hampshire's economy, so it is important to account for their continued protection in the state's development plan; and
- Having a statewide strategy for development that includes resource protection could be a helpful tool for responsible growth.

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 1314, feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or 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

cc: Senator Watters
RMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES