



LOCAL RIVER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2019 - 2020 BIENNIAL REPORT



NH Rivers Management and Protection Program

RSA 483:8-a III(a)

As a Local Advisory Committee, it is your duty to report biennially to the Rivers Management Advisory Committee and the commissioner, and annually to the municipalities, on the status of compliance with federal and state laws and regulations, local ordinances, and plans relevant to the designated river or segment, its corridor, and tributary drainage areas.

Please provide the following information and submit to riversprogram@des.nh.gov by February 1, 2021.

Local Advisory Committee Information		
Date: <u>01/28/2021</u>		
Local Advisory Committee: Ammonoosuc River		
Your Name: Connie McDade for Richard Walling, Chairman	Title: Corresponding Secretary	
Meeting Information		
How many regular meetings did your LAC hold?	2019: <u>6</u>	2020: <u>6</u>
How many total volunteer hours did your LAC contribute? (Estimate = # Meetings and Events x Avg. # Attendees x # Hours per Meeting)	2019: <u>171</u>	2020: <u>230</u>
Permit Notifications/Applications		
How many permit notifications/applications did your LAC review? <i>Please include state (Shoreland, Wetlands, AoT, Dam, AST/UST, Waste, etc.), federal (NPDES, FERC, etc.), and municipal permit applications.</i>	2019: <u>10</u>	2020: <u>16</u>
Of these, how many did your LAC provide comments/responses to?	2019: <u>8</u>	2020: <u>16</u>
Water Quality Monitoring		
Did your LAC participate in VRAP or another water quality monitoring program?	2019: ____	2020: ____
Cleanup Events		
How many river cleanups did your LAC organize or participate in?	2019: ____	2020: ____

Continued on next page.

Please answer the following questions or attach your LAC Annual Reports:

Management Plan

When was your river corridor management plan or its most recent update adopted? If it has been more than eight years, or the plan is incomplete, what preparations are underway to complete or update the plan?

Plan adopted June 2013

In 2019 and 2020 LAC experienced a decline in membership, reduction in the number of meetings held, and shortened length of meeting hours. Priority was given to review of applications and issuance of letters of comment. Updating the management plan had to be postponed. See Other category on last page for update.

Did your LAC implement any recommendations included in the river corridor management plan? If so, please describe.

2019: Protect water quality

2020: Protect water quality

Supportive of VRAP activities to monitor water quality in the Ammonoosuc River

Outreach and Education

Did your LAC conduct any outreach/educational endeavors, special meetings, events, or monitoring programs? If so, please describe.

2019: Letter of Support to SPNHF to raise funds to acquire shoreland along the Ammonoosuc River to conserve 1.8 mile stretch of the river in Bethlehem, as important trout habitat frontage along the main stem of the river and six-feeder streams 10/02/19. Two LAC members attended TU Meeting on 10/10/19 with Guest Tom Howe, SPNHF Senior Director of Land Conservation. Some members contributed their own funds to the project.

2020: Letter of Support to Lisbon DWGTF 3/30/20

Letter of Support to TU stream crossing project Childs Brook 8/4/20

Environmental letter for Bridge Preservation Route 302 to NHDOT 1/11/20

Grants and Special Recognition

Did your LAC receive any grants or special recognition for projects? If so, please describe.

2019:

2020:

Other

Is there anything else that you would like to report regarding the LAC's work and/or accomplishments, or any significant concerns or issues regarding the designated river? If yes, please describe.

Concurrent review of the Ammonoosuc River Management Plan found that the Plan does not address the importance of tributary streams that flow into the river, especially during times of duress. Less winter snow fall, drier summers, and nutrient loading have led to seasonal decrease of the river flow, which has increasingly stressed the riparian ecosystem. Cool forested tributaries flowing into the river serve as a buffer system for the river and help sustain the cold water trout populations. Important measures to include in plan update: the protection of headwater streams, conservation of associated wetlands, and surveillance, maintenance, and rehabilitation of tributaries, as needed.