

Souhegan WMPAAC Annual Report November 2010

Presented to His Excellency, Governor John H. Lynch
NH Senate President, Sylvia Larsen
Speaker of the NH House of Representatives, Terie Norelli
Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, Thomas S. Burack
and the State Library

November 1, 2010

by the

Souhegan River Water Management Planning Area Advisory Committee

In compliance with Laws of 2002, Chapter 278, the Souhegan River Water Management Area Advisory Committee is pleased to submit this annual report of the committee's findings and activities for 2010. This law defines the two committees for each river under the pilot program to advise the Instream Flow process—the Technical Review Committee (TRC) and the Water Management Area Advisory Committee (WMPAAC). According to Chapter 278, "Each Water Management Planning Area Advisory Committee shall make an interim report regarding its progress and findings on or before November 1 of each year of their existence to the Senate President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Governor, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, and the State Library."

NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) maintains a website for the Souhegan WMPAAC at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/rivers/instream/souhegan/wmpa.htm>. The website contains the minutes, agendas, and copies of all presentations and documents distributed at the WMPAAC meetings. UNH also maintains a Souhegan Instream Flow Project website at www.unh.edu/erg/souhegan/.

The Souhegan Water Management Plan is under development again as of September 2010 after being started in 2009 and then halted in January 2010 in favor of completing the Lamprey Water Management Plan. The Lamprey Plan's funding was closing in 2010 and so became the priority.

The Souhegan Water Management Plan will implement the protected flows established as water quality standards for the Souhegan Designated River by Commissioner Burack on April 1, 2008. The Souhegan protected flows are described in a report titled **Souhegan River Protected Instream Flow Report** and dated February 26, 2008 that can be found at the DES Public Information and Permitting Unit on Hazen Drive in Concord and at the State Library or at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/rivers/instream/souhegan/study.htm> under Task 7.

The Water Management Plan will include sub-plans that describe the management activities to be conducted by Affected Dam Owners and Affected Water Users to maintain the protected flows identified in the Souhegan River Protected Instream Flow Report. These management activities will be implemented when stream flows fall below the protected instream flow thresholds. Oversight and coordination of the development of the Water Management Plan is the chief responsibility of the WMPAAC.

Management of flows will be conducted for the Rare and Critical protected flows, but not for the Common flows. The Rare and Critical flows represent acute degradation of habitat conditions, whereas violation of the Common flow results in chronic impacts. Management under the Rare and Critical protected flows will incorporate the actions under the sub-plans including flow releases from dams,

water conservation and water use changes such as alternate sources, storage and changes in withdrawal timing. The frequency and duration of stream flows below Common protected flows will be tracked to determine whether harmful trends are occurring. Management of Common flow events would require larger, watershed-scale responses. If management is needed at Common flow levels, then additional watershed-scale management activities such as stormwater and impervious surface management would be the response necessary.

The management alternatives in the sub-plans of the Water Management Plans are being shaped by the Affected Dam Owners and the Affected Water Users and are scheduled for completion in the spring of 2011. The cost of alternatives will be part of the decision make process used by the Affected Dam Owners, Affected Water Users and DES to choose the most effective management alternatives. The Water Management Plan that describes the selected alternatives will go in detail before the public at a public hearing mid-summer of 2011.

Committee Changes

No committee changes were made this year, although Don Ware of Pennichuck Water Works is frequently acting as Stephen J. Densberger's stand in as an affected business water user.

**SOUHEGAN RIVER WATER MANGEMENT PLANNING AREA ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (WMPAAC)**

<p>Mr. Spencer C. Brookes II Committee member Souhegan LAC 56 Burns Hill Rd. Wilton, NH 03086 (603) 654-6771 sbrookes@tds.net [Representing the Local River Management Advisory Committee]</p> <p>Rep. D.L. Chris Christensen NH State House of Representatives 27 Greatstone Drive Merrimack, NH 03054-2342 (603) 424-2542 (800) 333-2279 repchristensen@adelphia.net [Representing the NH General Court]</p> <p>Mr. Ryan Crosbie EHS Coordinator Pike Industries, Inc. 3 Eastgate Park Rd. Belmont, NH 03220 (603) 527-5142 rcrosbie@pikeindustries.com [Representing affected business water users]</p> <p>Mr. Peter de Bruyn Kops (Acting Chair) 427-3 Amherst St. #341 Nashua, NH 03063 (603) 673-3551 water@acugen.com [Representing affected agricultural users]</p> <p>Mr. Stephen J. Densberger Executive Vice President Pennichuck Water Works P.O. Box 448 4 Water St. Nashua, NH 03061 (603) 882-5191 steve.densberger@pennichuck.com [Representing affected business water users]</p>	<p>Mr. Nelson R. Disco Chairman, Merrimack Planning Board 42 Wilson Hill Rd. Merrimack, NH 03054 (603) 424-3120 ndisco3@yahoo.com [Representing a local government official]</p> <p>Ms. Diane Fitzpatrick Committee member Souhegan River LAC 113 Lovejoy Rd. Milford, NH 03055 (603) 672-6016 diane-nh@earthlink.net [Representing the Local River Management Advisory Committee]</p> <p>Mr. F. Vincent Gerbino Quality Control Manager and Compliance Officer Monadnock Mountain Spring Water Co. 577 Greenfield Rd. Francestown, NH 03043 (603) 547-8300 monadnock3@tellink.net or Monadnock Mountain Spring Water P.O. Box 518 Wilton, NH 03086 (603) 654-2728 Ext. 222 [Representing affected business water users]</p> <p>Mr. Gordon Leedy Vice Chair Amherst Planning Board 7 North Meadow Rd. Amherst, NH 03031 (603) 644-0888 gleedy@vhb.com [Representing a local government official]</p>
---	---

<p>Mr. George May Chairman Souhegan River LAC 157 Naticook Rd. Merrimack, NH 03054 (603) 883-3409 georgemay@msn.com [Representing recreational interests]</p> <p>Mr. Timothy D. O’Connell 483 Federal Hill Rd. Milford, NH 03055 (603) 673-2963 tocnoc@aol.com [Representing a community citizen in the watershed]</p> <p>Ms. Nancy Rose Redling President Pratt Pond Association 190 Lower Pratt Pond Rd. New Ipswich, NH 03071-3108 (603) 878-4672 nancy@nroseassoc.com [Representing lake associations]</p> <p>Senator Sheila Roberge NH Senate 83 Olde Lantern Road Bedford, NH 03110-4816 603) 472-8391 sheila.roberge@leg.state.nh.us [Representing the NH General Court]</p>	<p>Mr. William F. Ruoff Director Milford Public Works 289 South St. Milford, NH 03055 (603) 673-1662 bruoff@milford.nh.gov [Representing a local government official]</p> <p>Ms. Minda Shaheen Nashua Regional Planning Commission 9 EXECUTIVE PARK DR Suite 201 Merrimack, NH 03054 603-424-2240, x-23, mindas@nashuarpc.org [Representing conservation interests]</p> <p>Mr. Robin Warren Amherst Country Club 69 Walnut Hill Rd. Amherst, NH 03031 (603) 673-1923 robinwar@aol.com [Representing affected business water users]</p>
--	---

Contact: C. Wayne Ives, P.G., Hydrogeologist
Instream Flow Specialist
Watershed Management Bureau
NH Department of Environmental Services
PO Box 95 - 29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302-0095
Telephone (603)-271-3548
Fax (603)-271-7894
Email Wayne.Ives@des.nh.gov
<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/rivers/instream/index.htm>