January 8, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
Office of the Governor  
State House  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

The Honorable Stephen J. Shurtleff  
Speaker of the House  
State House, Room 311  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

The Honorable Donna Soucy  
Senate President  
State House, Room 302  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

The Honorable Martha Fuller Clark, Chair  
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
State House, Room 103  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

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

The Honorable Cathryn Harvey, Chair  
House Fish and Game Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 307  
Concord, NH 03301
Pursuant to RSA 233-A:2, IV, I am pleased to present the Public Water Access Advisory Board’s (“PWAAB” or “Board”) 2018 Annual Report. The PWAAB is made up of two members representing the general public and representatives of constituent groups from the following interests: motorized and non-motorized boating, hunting, fishing, rivers, lakes and coastal interests. In addition, it includes representatives from the State agencies that have public water regulation and access responsibilities. It also includes two state senators and two representatives from their bodies’ relevant committees.

The general charge of the PWAAB is to advise, coordinate, monitor, review and recommend as to state agency public water access efforts, including Fish and Game’s statewide public boat access program. It also recommends to Fish and Game priorities for the siting and development of public boat access. See RSA 233-A:2, II.

The Fish and Game Department has a duty to “establish priorities for the siting and development of public boat access areas, based on the demands and needs for different types of public boat access areas and public water bodies . . . .” RSA 233-A:4, I.

This report is organized starting with this general report of the PWAAB, followed by separate individual reports by the member state agencies of the Board as follows:

Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) – Ken Gallagher
Department of Environmental Services (DES) – Jim Gallagher
Fish & Game Department – Garret Graaskamp
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) – Bill Gegas
Department of Safety, Marine Patrol – Capt. Timothy Dunleavey
Department of Transportation – Rebecca Martin
Governor’s Commission on Disability

RSA 233-A:2, IV requires that the PWAAB’s Annual Report, “shall include a list of existing public access points, and a target date for publication of all access points”. That information is found in a number of different sources and media. The most comprehensive source is available on-line through GRANITView, an on-line mapping application, at: https://granitview.unh.edu/. (Once on this webpage click on the “View Layers” tab at the top of the page, then open [expand by clicking the “+” sign] and check the “Cultural Society and Demographic” and “Label Features” check boxes. Within the “Cultural...” layer open and check the box for the nested database titled “Access Sites to Public Waters”. Within the “Label Features” layer progressively open and check the boxes for the following nested databases: “Label Recreation” and “Label Access Sites to Public Waters.” By zooming into the map, the names of the access sites will appear near the access locations. Additional site information will appear by clicking on the symbol for the access location (i.e., yellow triangles for boat ramp sites). That information is a product of an ongoing effort by the Office of Strategic Initiatives since the early 1990s to inventory all available public access to the State’s public waters, whether publicly or privately owned, whether they are free or charge a fee, etc.

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The Fish & Game Department has published a “New Hampshire Boating & Fishing Public Access Map” since 1999. That map contains a list of, and directions to most publicly owned and operated access sites to the State’s public waters. It has been widely distributed throughout the state including the state highway information centers, state agencies and Fish and Game license agents. The current edition was published in late 2009. The most up to date version is available electronically on the Google Maps platform at: http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/maps/boatfish/index.html. In addition, all of the more than 135 access sites to public waters managed by the Fish & Game Department, as well as many managed by other agencies and organizations, are listed with site details at that Department’s website: https://wildlife.state.nh.us/access/documents/access-sites.pdf. Bathymetry (water depth) maps of over 400 lakes and ponds, with some showing access sites and information are also found at the Fish and Game website: http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/maps/bathymetry.html. Efforts to update these resources are ongoing.

The DES Coastal Program has also developed a map of public water access facilities in the 17 communities that make up the coastal zone. Its “New Hampshire Coastal Access Map” is available to the public in either hard copy or on the Coastal Program’s website: http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/coastal/documents/coastal_access_map.pdf.

Using specific activity and facility filters the DNCR’s Division of Parks and Recreation website offers a “State Park Finder” tool that allows users to narrow down a target list of State Parks, Wayside Areas, and Historic Sites that provide various types of access to public waters: https://www.nhstateparks.org/. The website is also designed to be mobile device friendly eliminating the need for the Division to maintain a separate mobile app.


Much of the Board’s work with regard to advising, monitoring and coordinating state agency public water access efforts, is detailed in the attached reports of the above State agencies listed at p. 2-3. In that regard, the Board and these agencies have been particularly focused on inventorying and prioritizing access on the State’s major lakes and rivers, including all those in the State’s Rivers Management and Protection Program.

At the request of the Office of Energy and Planning (now Office of Strategic Initiatives), the Board has continued its review and updating of the State’s 1991 Public Water Access Plan, focusing on the plan’s criteria for the recommended number and types of boat access sites and beaches on lakes and rivers. Since surveys have shown that the public is most interested in access to the State’s largest lakes and rivers, the Board has conducted an individual review of existing general public access at the State’s 35 largest lakes (500 acres or more in size), looking at the adequacy of boating access and swimming
access separately for each such water body. Maps of the access sites on each of these lakes are available at: http://www.nh.gov/osi/planning/services/gis/public-access/index.htm. In 2013, the Board also began a process to review the adequacy of river access, identifying 23 major rivers to review. The Board worked with most of the Local Advisory Committees for those rivers in the Rivers Management and Protection Program to identify existing access sites and determine river stretches where access is inadequate. The Board also worked with OSI to develop customized maps showing existing access sites, dams and other pertinent information.

The Board generally meets every other month, except for the Summer. Its minutes, prior annual reports and other general information can be accessed from the Fish and Game Department website (http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/access/pwaab.html). In addition, in 2018 the Board monitored legislation that concerned or affected public water access. It has also monitored state surplus land disposals, where it has an advisory role to the Department of Transportation and the Council on Resources and Development with regard to the sale or lease of state lands that do, or could, provide public access to the State’s waters.

Thank you for this opportunity for providing information about our Board and its work. If you have any questions or would like further information please do not hesitate to contact me at (603) 695-8641, tquarles@devinemillimet.com or our Board’s administrative assistant, Tanya Haskell at (603) 271-3511, tanya.haskell@wildlife.nh.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Thomas Quarles, Jr., Chair
Public Water Access Board

cc: All Board members (by email)
The role of the Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) as a member of the Public Water Access Advisory Board (PWAAB) is: 1) to assist in providing information and planning guidance regarding the development of access to New Hampshire’s water bodies, and 2) to provide an up-to-date inventory of the water access sites in New Hampshire.

The Office of Strategic Initiatives provides technical and information support, with an emphasis on providing mapping services using the available Geographic Information System (GIS) information. This information is readily available and can be used by state agencies and the general public to view, create, and disseminate information about public access sites. GRANITView, the most comprehensive public interface for the state’s geographic information system, is the main conduit for making this information available to the public. Additionally, OSI staff have assisted with research and site visits to verify access conditions and information.

In 2018, OSI staff continued a review of the state’s Road to Public Waters (RTPW) access sites, working with the Department of Fish and Game to compare OSI’s comprehensive inventory of water access sites (“Allsites”) with the original RTPW records housed at Fish and Game.

Throughout the year, OSI continued to maintain the “Allsites” inventory, adding sites and updating info on existing ones as needed, based on input from PWAAB, NH Fish and Game, and OSI field checks. OSI also supplied copies of the inventory to PWAAB members and interested members of the public upon request, in addition to supplying new updates to GRANITView.

PWAAB actively participates in the state’s surplus land review process by making recommendations to the Council on Resources and Development (CORD), which is chaired by OSI’s director. This process ensures PWAAB is able to review surplus land properties and offer comments and recommendations on properties that provide the opportunity to acquire and or enhance public access sites.
Ken Gallagher, principal planner and geographic information system specialist, has represented OSI on the board since September 2015 and continues to provide GIS mapping and technical support.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Kenneth R. Gallagher
Principal Planner
During 2018, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) engaged in numerous programs and activities associated with recreational opportunities and public access to the state’s waters. These programs and activities are described below. NHDES continues to be active in its efforts to expand and improve public access opportunities across New Hampshire.

**NHDES Bureaus and Programs that Support Public Access**

**Dam Bureau**

The NHDES Dam Bureau owns and operates 113 dams, and also operates and maintains 100 dams belonging to the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department (NHF&G). NHDES provides boating recreational opportunities by regulating the water level of these dam-controlled waterbodies. Many of these dam sites have public access facilities, which require constant maintenance, repairs and enhancements. As part of the operation plans for each of the dams, the opportunity to improve public access is fully evaluated.

**Maintain and Monitor Existing Lease Agreements**

The Bureau owns lake and riverfront parcels on waterbodies across the state, and it leases many of these properties and facilities to several communities and other agencies across the state. NHDES works cooperatively with towns and agencies to provide public access opportunities at these locations: Bow Lake, Strafford; Lovell Lake, Wakefield; Suncook Lake, Barnstead; Goshen Lake, Goshen; Oliverian Brook Flood Control Impoundment, Benton; Deering Reservoir, Deering; Milton Three Ponds, Milton; and the Waumbek and Rowe sites on the Salmon Falls River, Milton.

**Major Repairs to Existing Dams and Impoundment Structures**

**Childs Bog – Harrisville:** Completed repairs needed to preserve this 155-acre impoundment. The work included removing the left and right abutment walls and reconstructing new walls with downstream drainage systems. The heights of the abutment walls were also increased by 2 feet to improve the discharge capacity of the dam. There is a car top boat access site at the project.

**Chesham Pond Dam – Harrisville:** Completed the design of the repairs to the dam including replacement of the deteriorated gated outlet works and training wall. Construction will be performed in 2019. There are no public boat ramps on the lake, but the lake is accessible at the dam, which is just upstream of Chesham Road.

**Lake Armington Dam – Piermont:** Reconstructed this deteriorated concrete dam and its earth abutments. The dam is owned by NHF&G and is located in White Mountain National Forest property. There is a state-owned boat ramp that provides public access to the lake.

**Island Pond Dam – Stoddard:** Completed the design for the reconstruction of the outlet structure, which will be constructed in 2019. There is a town-owned public access site on the pond.
Mendums Pond Dam – Nottingham: Installed railing on the dam crest to eliminate fall hazard. The University of New Hampshire maintains a public boat ramp that is opened during the boating season between the hours of 11:30 AM and 7:00 PM. The dam is accessible through the University of New Hampshire’s recreation area which abuts the dam.

Drowns and Dolloff Dams – Pawtuckaway Lake - Nottingham: Installed railing on the upstream side of the crest of the dam to eliminate fall hazards. Nottingham’s town beach abuts Drowns Dam and both dams are accessible to the public. There is a state-owned boat ramp on the lake, and Pawtuckaway State Park has two other access sites to the lake.

Berry Bay Dam, Ossipee Lake – Ossipee, Freedom and Effingham: Completed the plans and specifications to replace this deteriorated dam and equip the new dam with hydraulically-operated spillway gates to increase the discharge capacity of the dam and reduce the risk of in-lake flooding. Work is schedule to begin in the summer of 2019. The new dam will be built 50 feet downstream of the existing dam, and the existing dam will be used as a cofferdam during construction to maintain the levels of Ossipee Lake during construction. There is a state-owned park on the lake, as well as state-owned and town-owned boat ramps on the lake and its tributary rivers.

Goose Pond – Canaan and Enfield: Initiated pre-design investigations necessary to design repairs to reduce seepage through the dam and rehabilitate the earth embankment. There is a NHDES-owned public recreation area on the lake including a boat ramp.

Wetlands Bureau

The Wetlands Bureau and Shoreland Program continue to work with permit applicants to ensure that public services are provided whenever a marina is proposed for a lake, a river, or the seacoast. Private marinas may charge a launch fee that is unregulated by NHDES. The Wetlands Bureau and Shoreland Program are working with the NHF&G Public Access Program to develop maintenance plans, including schedules and protocols, for various public access sites owned by NHF&G across the state.

In 2018, the Wetlands Bureau issued the following permits:

- 115 Seasonal Dock Notifications (new docks).
- 214 standard dock permits (new or repair/replace/reconfigure).
- 4 dock permits at public access sites (repair/replace/reconfigure - three on Lake Winnipesaukee and one on Lake Sunapee).
- 98 beach permits (new or replenish).
- 1 beach permits at public access sites (replenish/Opeeche Bay in Laconia).
- 14 boat ramp permits (repair).
- 1 boat ramp permit at a public access site (repair/Lake Winnipesaukee in Center Harbor).

Watershed Management Bureau

The Watershed Management Bureau uses a holistic and integrated approach to achieve clean water goals. Both regulatory and non-regulatory programs work together within the Bureau to integrate science, policy, planning and education to address water quality and quantity, nonpoint source pollution, stormwater, and exotic species. There are over 20 programs and activities within the Bureau several of which contribute to and support public access in New Hampshire.
Clean Vessel Act Program

The New Hampshire Clean Vessel Act (CVA) program is a cooperative effort between NHDES and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The federal Clean Vessel Act provides funds to states for the construction, renovation, operation, and maintenance of pumpout/dump services as well as education and outreach. Since 2002, New Hampshire funding has been applied to the operation of a mobile pumpout service along the coast. In 2015, a second mobile pumpout vessel was added to specifically service Hampton Harbor. In addition to the mobile services, funding is applied toward the repair or construction of new pumpout facilities. These grants have also been used to implement an Operation and Maintenance (O&M) funding program that has assisted marinas in general seasonal upkeep costs since 2006. Program participants ensure existing pumpout resources remain in proper working condition by using O&M reimbursement.

These options are key factors in maintaining a No Discharge Area (NDA) for New Hampshire waters. Federal law prohibits the discharge of treated or untreated boat sewage in water that is designated a NDA. All waters within three miles of the New Hampshire shoreline and the Isles of Shoals are part of the coastal No Discharge Area. Tidal and estuarine waters, including all bays and rivers to the tidal dams, are also incorporated in the coastal NDA. All inland waters are designated as an NDA and New Hampshire also enforces more stringent “no discharge” regulations for inland waters under state law.

Coastal Waters: Three stationary pumpout locations and two mobile pumpout boats are currently available to the recreational boating public along New Hampshire’s coast. All of the stationary facilities have taken part in CVA funds at one point either for initial installation or seasonal repairs. One of the three locations (Great Bay Marine in Newington) was awarded 2018 CVA Operation and Maintenance funding for their stationary pumpout unit. One stationary facility (Hampton River Marina in Hampton) that was out of order for the 2018 season was granted repair/replacement funding and the facility is now operational.

The mobile pumpout services receive CVA funding through multi-year contracts. Since 2002, approximately 185,000 gallons of sewage have been removed from recreational boats through the use of the mobile pumpout services. During 2018, a mobile pumpout vessel operated in Hampton Harbor from June through October and a state-owned mobile pumpout vessel operated in all other coastal waters from May through November. The two services documented 1,016 captain hours, about 618 serviced boats, and the proper disposal of an estimated 13,865 gallons of sewage/wastewater. The popularity and effectiveness of the mobile pumpouts have been evident in the consistency in numbers of boats using the service and wastewater pumped since the program’s implementation. Seasonal activity within the recreational boating community varies from year to year depending on economic and weather conditions.

Inland Waters: New Hampshire has approximately 18 pump/dump facilities with 16 (12 of which are public access) devoted to Lake Winnipesaukee and one public facility on Lake Winnisquam. A public dump station is located within Sunapee Harbor on Lake Sunapee. Approximately 50% of the available pump/dump facilities have taken part in CVA funding at one point or another either for initial installation or seasonal repairs. Three marinas on Lake Winnipesaukee were awarded 2018 CVA Operation and Maintenance funding for their stationary pumpout units.

Promotion of proper boating practices and the No Discharge Area designation was continued in 2018 by providing outreach and education material to marinas and boaters. No marine toilet, sink, or shower on any boat operated upon fresh waters of the state shall be so constructed or operated as to discharge graywater or sewage (whether it is treated or not) per RSA 487:2-3.
The CVA program anticipates funding construction, renovation, and maintenance of systems as necessary in 2019. Currently there is one grant that is pending approval, which would provide funding to replace a failing stationary pumpout on Lake Winnipesaukee. Education and outreach to marinas, pumpout / dump stations, and the boater community in general will continue both for inland and coastal waters.

**Public Beach Inspection Program**

**Freshwater Beach Program:** The goal of the NHDES Public Beach Inspection Program is to better understand the relative frequency of elevated bacteria at public swimming beaches in New Hampshire. Most freshwater beaches in the program are only inspected three times between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Over time, most notably since 2003, we have gained awareness of which beaches are typically “clean” and which have recurring bacterial issues. The Beach Inspection Program inspects and reports E.coli bacteria results from over 200 freshwater town, state, federal, and private association beaches. New Hampshire beaches are also sampled by other agencies and municipalities, some monitoring weekly, and results are reported to NHDES. In 2018, freshwater beaches were inspected by the Beach Inspection Program from June 4 to August 27. During 2018, 695 inspections were conducted of New Hampshire freshwater beaches for E.coli bacteria. A total of 1,853 E. coli samples (plus 110 field duplicates) were collected. Samples were analyzed by the New Hampshire state laboratory as well as outside laboratories which were reported to NHDES. In 2018, 312 E. coli samples exceeded the state standards, resulting in the issuance of 89 freshwater beach advisories. This is an increase of 7 advisories from the summer of 2017, with the highest number of bacteria advisories issued during the swim season since 2003. Most advisories only lasted 2 days, with an average of 7 advisory-days in 2018 and 4 advisory days since 2003. In total, there were 576 freshwater beach advisory-days in 2018. One beach was preemptively posted for the entire season due to bacterial exceedances in the past (preemptive advisory days were not included in this count). To see result details for each beach in 2018, 202 short beach reports are available on the NHDES OneStop database for freshwater beaches monitored.

**Cyanobacteria Bloom Watch:** The NHDES Beach Inspection Program also implements visual surveillance for cyanobacteria blooms during each beach inspection, with approximately 600 cyanobacterial beach inspections conducted in 2018. Since 2003, NHDES has issued cyanobacteria lake warnings (or beach advisories) when concentrations exceeded 70,000 cells/ml. Initially, the decision to issue a lake warning or beach advisory was dependent on the location, severity, and distribution of the bloom. Since 2017, NHDES has issued cyanobacteria lake warnings regardless of its first reported location (whether a bloom occurs at a beach, far away from a beach, or on a lake without a public beach). The purpose of a cyanobacteria lake warning is to inform the entire lake of these cyanobacterial bloom events. This reasoning is due to the dispersal nature of a bloom, as it can move with wind, currents, and cycles between growth and decay. Bloom accumulations also occur on private shorelines and inaccessible locations. NHDES further relies on public notification of bloom sightings for these reasons.

In 2018, NHDES observed 313 samples for cyanobacteria (in addition to regular beach inspections made) due to public complaints alone. In 2018, NHDES issued 34 cyanobacteria related advisories/warnings at 30 different waterbodies. Cyanobacteria beach advisories overlapped with lake warnings at 12 locations where beaches were also affected by cyanobacteria. Two of those beaches were state parks; Silver Lake State Park in Hollis and Jericho State Park in Berlin. Elm Brook Park (Hopkinton), Silver Lake (Hollis), Long Pond (Pelham) and Middle Danforth Pond (Ossipee) each experienced two separate advisories in the summer of 2018. The separate events were likely related but surfaced at different times. Two separate bloom events (entirely different locations and species) occurred on or near Lake Winnipesaukee; Weirs Channel and Winter Harbor. Three public water systems experienced cyanobacteria blooms (though no
advisories for drinking water were necessary at the time); Massabesic, Waukewan and Arlington Mill. Additionally, one combined advisory affected two waterbodies; White Oak Pond and Pipers Cove-Squam, as it appeared to be a connected bloom through the outlet stream of White Oak Pond to Squam Lake. Over 70% of samples were confirmed to contain cyanobacteria in both 2017 and 2018. In 2017, there were 19 cyanobacteria advisories and lake warnings between May 30 and October 6. These events increased in 2018 to 34 advisories, but with increased sample effort (175 samples in 2017 and 313 in 2018). The 2018 season had the highest number of reported blooms (exceeding the 70,000 cells/ml threshold) on record probably due to increased public awareness and sampling effort. The earliest reported bloom was May 23, 2018 and the latest reported bloom was November 2, 2018. The total number of cyanobacteria advisory or warning days was 884 (up from 285 days in 2017). The average length of an advisory was 26 days, with 3 days as the shortest and 89 days as the longest number of days for the cyanobacteria lake warnings. *Anabaena circinalis (Dolichospermum)* was the most common type of cyanobacteria observed by NHDES. Other common taxa included *Microcystis*, *Oscillatoria*, *Woronichinia* and *Gloeotrichia*. Cyanobacteria and harmful algal bloom monitoring efforts continue to develop with the NHDES Public Beach Inspection Program.

**Coastal Beach Program:** The coastal beach program of the NHDES Public Beach Inspection Program is a federally-funded program that provides resources for coastal beach research and monitoring. In 2018, NHDES inspected 16 coastal public swimming beaches. During the swim season (Memorial Day through Labor Day) six beaches were inspected twice weekly, four were inspected weekly, and six beaches were sampled twice a month according to a tiered monitoring assessment. In 2015, the summer sampling frequency was reduced from weekly to twice a month at both Sawyer Beach and Seabrook Town Beach because both had been removed from the 303(d) impaired list in the most recent NHDES report to EPA. The 2016 water quality assessment was completed in 2017 with a few more beaches removed from the impaired list (Wallis Sands at Wallis Road aka. Pirates Cove, Cable Road Beach in North Jenness, Jenness State Park Beach, Bass Beach, and Seabrook Harbor Beach). However, the tiered monitoring assessment remained unchanged for the 2018 swim season. Changes have been made for the 2019 swim season based on the improving conditions of these coastal beaches.

During the 2018 swim season, NHDES conducted 245 inspections and collected 800 samples plus 82 field duplicates for a total of 882 Enterococci analysis. The 2018 swim season in New Hampshire was 102 days long, translating into 1,632 beach days collectively for all 16 beaches. There was an increase in the number of samples exceeding the state standard of 104 MPN/100ml for Enterococci. Bacteria results from coastal beach inspections resulted in one or more advisories from eight of the 16 coastal beaches with a total of 11 coastal beach advisories (Hampton Harbor, Seabrook Harbor, Jenness Beach at Cable Road, Sawyer Beach, Northside Beach at Plaice Cove, North Hampton State Beach, Wallis Sands Beach at Wallis Road, and New Castle Town Beach). There were 37 total advisory days in 2018 compared to 21 total advisory days in 2017. In 2017, there were nine total coastal beach advisories issued at seven coastal beaches (Bass Beach, Foss Beach, North Beach, North Hampton State Beach, Wallis Sands State Park, Wallis Sands Beach at Wallis Road, and New Castle Town Beach). The mean length of advisory days in 2018 was 3.5 days (up from 2.3 days in 2017). Additionally, the NHDES Beach Program sampled twice weekly during the swim season (26 scheduled visits) at the culvert north of North Hampton State Beach and at an outlet from a creek at Wallis Sands Beach in order to better understand the source of bacteria for these particular beaches. Despite the apparent increase in advisories, over 98% of coastal beach samples are considered “clean” since 2003, and more than 96% of samples collected in 2018 were “clean.” There are 16 short reports available on the NHDES OneStop database for each coastal beach monitored in 2018.
Exotic Species Program

In 2018, the Exotic Aquatic Species Program inspected 87 waterbodies (several of them multiple times) for exotic plant species infestations. The Exotic Species Program anticipates conducting at least the same number of lake inspections in 2019 for waterbodies with a high potential for exotic species infestations. The total number of management actions for exotic plant control in 2018 included hand pulling 34 times, suction harvest 36 times, and 28 herbicide treatments.

Also in 2018, the Exotic Species Program tracked 87 infested waterbodies, with 113 total infestations. No new infestations were documented in 2018. Most infestations of invasive aquatic plants in New Hampshire are variable milfoil. No zebra mussels have yet been reported in New Hampshire, but the Asian Clam has been documented in a number of waterbodies, and the Chinese mystery snail is in dozens of waterbodies.

Milfoil Control Funds: In 2018, NHDES provided milfoil grants (at the 25% match level) to 43 organizations to control the growth of exotic aquatic plants. Control projects included a mix of diver hand removal, diver-assisted suction harvesting, and herbicide treatment. Some benthic barrier placement was also conducted.

Milfoil and Other Exotic Plants Prevention and Research Fund: No research grants were awarded in 2018 due to lack of formal submission of proposals.

Public Education and Outreach: NHDES distributed numerous boat launch signs and educational pamphlets throughout the state, including a new publication promoting a message of “Clean, Drain, and Dry.” There are more than 500 volunteer Weed Watchers across the state working in cooperation with NHDES on more than 300 waterbodies.

Management of Exotic Species: Control activities funded with grants included a mix of non-chemical and chemical controls. Additionally, NHDES staff performed numerous diver and diver assisted suction harvesting activities on various waterbodies across the state.

Mercury in Fish Program

The NHDES Jody Connor Limnology Center (JCLC) organizes a fish-tissue analysis program for both state and national fish tissue studies. The JCLC processes and analyzes fish tissue for mercury content. Fish are submitted by the general public from around the state for analysis. The Biology Section of the Watershed Management Bureau is currently working on updating the long-term study in which certain ponds are monitored over time to allow for trend analysis on the concentration of mercury in New Hampshire fish tissue.

The JCLC plays a critical role in the state’s mercury in fish tissue study program. NHDES is responsible for organizing the collection of fish specimens for state and national fish tissue studies. All data collected in this program are used to support both state-wide advisories as well as individual lake advisories for human fish consumption. Fish are collected by VLAP volunteers using traditional fishing methods, by NHDES and NHF&G staff using fish electroshock boats during the summer months and at ice fishing tournaments during the winter. The number of fish collected and processed by JCLC over the past several years has ranged from a high of 341 in 2015 to a low of 42 in 2010. The number of fish processed in 2018 was 46.

The data are used to conduct risk assessments for mercury exposure for the game fish-consuming public. This risk assessment results in statewide and, if appropriate, waterbody-specific fish
consumption advisories for various species of fish. The data are also used to track trends over time in the mercury content in fish tissue. A summary report was initiated in 2015 and was finalized in 2017. The report includes data from 1992 through 2016. For the most current information regarding the consumption of freshwater fish, please visit the NHDES Health Risk Assessment webpage at: http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/pehb/ehs/hrap/index.htm

**Biomonitoring Program**

In 2018, the Biomonitoring Program assisted other Watershed Management Bureau staff with deployment and retrieval of 19 water temperature loggers and completing water quality monitoring at 40 trend monitoring sites and 28 synoptic monitoring sites between May and October. At 38 of these locations (28 trend, 10 synoptic), biomonitoring staff were responsible for coordinating the collection of macroinvertebrate data. With assistance from Watershed Management Bureau staff, rock baskets were deployed and retrieved approximately 8 weeks later. Collection of fish data occurred for 42 events (5 trend, 25 synoptic, 12 probability) at 40 different locations.

For the fifth consecutive year, NHDES and NHF&G worked cooperatively to complete fish surveys at several trend sites. The biomonitoring program also assisted NHF&G with Eastern Brook Trout surveys.

The Biomonitoring Program finalized the statewide probability based report assessing of the state’s wadeable rivers and streams for aquatic life use and primary contact recreation. The final report will be included with New Hampshire’s 2018 305(b) water quality assessment report to USEPA.

Biomonitoring Program efforts included in this report summarize the collection macroinvertebrate and fish data satisfying trend, synoptic and probability-based monitoring efforts. In 2018, biological monitoring included 118 macroinvertebrate samples (42 sample sites) and 40 fish samples, resulting in the generation of almost 34,000 combined data points. The number of macroinvertebrate data records is an estimate based on the average number of macroinvertebrates per sample collected from 2000-2013. Actual data will be available in mid-2019.

Fish identification data quality control measures relied on having an expert fish taxonomist on site during sampling. Any unknown species were documented with photos or retained for laboratory analysis and further consultation with other state agencies and partners. Several samples were preserved for laboratory identification in 2018, including american shad, fallfish, spottail shiners and common shiners from several sites.

All field data are reviewed for quality assurance and entered into the biomonitoring program’s Ecological Data Application System (EDAS) database. Additional data checks for completeness and accuracy are performed prior to uploading data to the NHDES Environmental Monitoring Database and later to the Environmental Protection Agency’s Water Quality Exchange Database.

**Surface Water Quality Assessments and Probabilistic-Based Sampling**

The federal Clean Water Act requires states to develop and adopt surface water quality standards that include designated uses for all surface waters, criteria to support the designated uses, and an antidegradation policy. Designated uses are the desirable uses that surface waters should support such as swimming (i.e., primary contact recreation) and fishing (i.e., aquatic life). Every two years NHDES must submit to EPA for approval a list of all impaired waters for which a Total Maximum Daily Load study is needed, commonly called the 303(d) List. EPA partially approved the 2014 and 2016 303(d) lists on March 16, 2018 and June 22, 2018, respectively. The most recent Draft, 303(d) List for the 2018
assessment cycle was released for public comment on January 24, 2019 and is expected to be submitted to EPA in the summer of 2019.

**Water Quality Monitoring of Rivers:** Since site-specific water quality assessments tend to focus on rivers and streams with known problems, the results of the assessments are not indicative of water quality statewide with respect to designated uses, including “primary contact recreation” (i.e. swimming) and “aquatic life.” To create a broader picture of water quality in the state’s rivers for those designated uses, NHDES also conducted a probabilistic assessment of wadeable streams having a watershed area of greater than 2 square miles which was used for the 2016 water quality assessment report. In other words, streams were randomly sampled between 2013 and 2017 to make inferences about the water quality of all New Hampshire’s streams. The assessment found that by stream miles, 59.2 percent supported the “aquatic life” designated use and 18.1 percent did not, while NHDES was unable to assess the remaining 22.7 percent. The assessment found that by stream miles, 70.3 percent supported the “primary contact recreation” (i.e. swimming) designated use and 7.0 percent did not, while NHDES was unable to assess the remaining 22.7 percent.

**Lake Assessment and Probabilistic-Based Sampling:** As part of the Lake Tropic Survey Program (LTSP) a total of 30 lakes were sampled in 2018 (10 from those selected in 2018; 10 from the 2017 selection; 10 from the 2016 selection). In 2018 the LTSP reported on lakes that were selected in 2015. The reports have been completely revamped and are being made available on both the NHDES Lake Water Quality Reports website and the Lake Information Mapper. Additionally, in 2018 the LTSP continued the state intensification sampling based on the EPA’s National Lakes Assessment (NLA) draw by sampling 18 lakes. The intensification effort was initiated in 2017 where 17 lakes were sampled to support this project that brings the total thus far to 35. This leaves 15 lakes to be sampled in 2019 to complete the NLA state intensification effort.

The last probabilistic sampling of New Hampshire lakes was completed in 2009 and the evaluation of that data in terms of supporting designated uses was used for the 2016 water quality assessment report. Fifty lakes out of a sample set of 1,004 lakes greater than ten acres were sampled. The results showed that over 95% of the lakes supported the “primary contact recreation” (i.e. swimming) use. All lakes supported the swimming use based on bacteria; the non-support lakes were due to elevated chlorophyll (planktonic algae) levels or the presence of a cyanobacteria scum. All lakes fully supported the secondary contact (i.e. boating) use. Less than 4% of the lakes fully supported the “aquatic life” use. Lakes did not support “aquatic life” use for a variety of reasons, and a given lake could be impaired for multiple reasons. Low pH values were the main cause for non-support (84%), followed by nutrients as represented by chlorophyll and total phosphorus (56%). Many of the lakes sampled had public access facilities.

**Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP)**

During 2018, 458 individual sampling events were conducted at a total of 175 lakes and ponds by 500 volunteers and VLAP biologists, including 182 lake deep spot stations and approximately 500 river/stream stations which feed these lakes. VLAP generated 15,561 total sample results requiring approximately 3,700 hours of sampling time. By sampling a lake several times each year over a period of years, long-term water quality trends can be discerned. The sampling efforts of the volunteer monitors supplement the significantly reduced sampling and assessment efforts of NHDES, saving the state personnel and travel costs estimated at $94,000 during 2018. Only through the help of volunteer monitors can such a volume of sampling be accomplished throughout the state, providing data on the cleanliness of New Hampshire’s lakes for swimmers and boaters.
Volunteer River Assessment Program (VRAP)

During 2018, VRAP supported 34 volunteer groups who monitored water quality at 235 river and stream stations. VRAP volunteers collected 6,010 field and laboratory parameters contributing approximately 750 hours of volunteer time. The majority of these data will be used for the 2018 305(b)/303(d) water quality report. For many of the VRAP rivers and tributaries, the volunteers provide NHDES with its only source of water quality data. As with VLAP, VRAP volunteers provide the agency with high-quality data while saving the state significant expense, estimated at a value of approximately $14,000 in 2018.

Rivers and Lakes Management and Protection Programs

The Rivers and Lakes Management and Protection Programs provide a mechanism for public recognition and management of important state waterbodies along with the development and implementation of statewide surface water management policies, including public access. Work conducted by staff and over 200 volunteers protects the state’s surface waters for the benefit of residents, visitors, and wildlife.

In 2018, Local River Management Advisory Committee (LAC) volunteers reviewed 224 permit applications to ensure that water quality and habitat in the state’s designated rivers would be maintained or enhanced by the projects proposed. Among the comments frequently submitted on these applications are requests to add or improve the public’s access to rivers or the lakes through which they flow. For example, one project supported by the LACs in 2018 was the reconstruction of the Greeley Park boat ramp on the Merrimack River in Nashua. In addition, one new LAC was formed on the newly designated Warner River which immediately began working with the Town of Warner Conservation Commission in support of a trail through the town along the Warner River.

Rivers and Lakes Program staff regularly provide the PWAAB with information specific to proposed waterfront state surplus land disposals and work with state agencies in support of state access sites. None of the 2018 proposed property disposals had the potential for impacting public access to the state’s waters, though the Lakes Management Advisory Committee approved two lease disposals continuing private camp access to one lake.

Finally, both the RMAC and LMAC track legislation relating to public access to, and use of, the state’s surface waters. Both committees submitted letters of support on House Bill 1810, establishing a commission to study the effectiveness of laws related to the construction and placement of structures in public waterways, and on House Bill 1745, making appropriations for costs involved in controlling invasive aquatic species. They also followed other bills relating to docks, boat ramps, and fees on canoes and kayaks.

New Hampshire Coastal Program

**Adopt-A-Spot:** In 2018, the New Hampshire Coastal Program adopted a portion of the Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge at Fabyan Point on Great Bay in Newington, through the Blue Ocean Society’s Adopt-a-Beach Program and under the direction of a member of the management team at the refuge. Coastal Program staff committed to clean up this spot twice a year and to record the items collected on data cards provided by the Blue Ocean Society. In 2018, staff conducted two cleanups, with one in the spring and one in the fall. The total pounds of trash collected was 538lbs, including some large bulky items like barrels and coolers. The Coastal Program is planning to continue its participation in the Adopt-A-Spot program.
**Beach Cleanups:** Volunteers play an important role in keeping New Hampshire’s beaches clean. In 2018, the Coastal Program supported the Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation’s beach cleanup programs through grant funding. The grant supported the Society’s Adopt-a-Beach Program and the annual New Hampshire Coastal Clean Up, held in conjunction with International Coastal Cleanup Day on the third Saturday in September, as well as opportunistic cleanups conducted with local businesses, schools and project partners. The Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation achieved the following:

During the cleanups conducted in New Hampshire last year, 3,448 volunteers spent 4,042 hours removing 10,492 pounds of litter from New Hampshire’s beaches and Great Bay. Over 127,983 pieces of litter were recorded on data cards, helping the Society understand trends in marine debris and how to target outreach to prevent it from happening.

Volunteers continued to find biofilm chips (“Hooksett disks”) from the accidental spill in Hooksett, New Hampshire that occurred in March 2011. At least 93 disks were found in 2018. A web site and map (reportdisks.org) were developed to collect the sightings of these disks.

A new data card was used this year, based on volunteer feedback, to include more items and a guide to “tricky debris,” plus plenty of space to write-in additional items. This data card more accurately captures the litter that volunteers picked up compared to past data cards, and also provides more information that it can use in education and pollution prevention. In addition, for the second year, the data collected included recording microplastics, which are plastics between 1-5mm in size. They can include fragments of larger plastics such as bottles, films from straw wrappers, pieces of foam, and filaments of rope or synthetic fibers. Plastic fragments and foams were the predominant form of microplastic pollution encountered and were among the top five items collected overall on beach cleanups in New Hampshire in 2018. Cigarette butts continue to be the number 1 most recorded litter item found.
The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department’s “Statewide Public Boat Access Program” focus is to provide fair, adequate and reasonable public access to the State's waters. Funding for the program primarily comes from two sources: 1) A five-dollar surcharge placed on New Hampshire boat registrations; where this five–dollar surcharge and any other public access funds donated to the State are placed in a non-lapsing, continually appropriated, statewide public boat access fund; and, 2) the Federal Sport Fish Restoration Program, which collects excise taxes placed on sport fishing equipment, trolling motors, flashers, motorboat fuels, and import duties on tackle, pleasure boats and yachts. When a state accepts Federal Sport Fish Restoration Funds, it must use at least 15 percent of these monies for boating access projects. Federal boating access funds may be spent on the acquisition of land to develop new access facilities, or to renovate and improve existing facilities. Renovations and improvements may include items such as launching ramps, docks, fueling stations, buoys, retaining walls, parking lots, utilities and restrooms. Projects that help expedite access to open water may also be funded, including; channel improvements, vegetation clearance and the installation of navigational aids.

The Department uses the aforementioned funds to carry out the provisions of the Statewide Public Boat Access Program established under RSA 233-A. This statute directs the Department to acquire lands, construct, refurbish, maintain, operate, enforce and inspect new and existing public boat access facilities. During calendar year 2018, the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department continued its work to expand and improve public access to State
This report, as required under RSA 233-A:10, includes a summary of the Statewide Public Boat Access Program activities undertaken in 2018.

**LAND LEASE PROGRAM**

This program is designed to provide Department assistance to landowners who enter into a lease agreement with the Department and agree that the facility will remain open for public use for the life of the capital improvements. In return, the Department agrees to design, construct, operate, maintain, manage, inspect and/or enforce regulations pertaining to these public water access sites, or any combination of the aforementioned services. Access facilities that qualify for the program will be under control of the Department and will be operated as a Department facility for the life of the capital improvements.

The primary benefit of this program is that the public will enjoy increased boating and fishing opportunities, while the Department reduces its cost by not having to purchase land. The money that is saved can then be used towards additional construction projects and maintenance of existing facilities. Conversely, a participating town receives the benefit from a new access site, or an existing site repaired, with funds through the Statewide Public Boat Access Program.

Two towns are currently participating in the lease program. The Department is leasing the boat access facility on the Connecticut River in the town of Orford and the Webster Lake boat access facility in the City of Franklin. The Town of Conway town manager contacted the Department in August to inquire about establishing a lease arrangement for the town boat ramp to Conway Lake. It was pointed out that the ramp is located in the middle of the town beach area. Oversight by the Department would require closure of some level (perhaps all) of the public beach area for safety reasons and unrestricted use of the ramp by the general public. The Select Board has not re-contacted the Department about this opportunity.

**ICE DAMAGE REMEDIATION**

In 2018, the Department continued to monitor the problems of winter ice-damage to Fish and Game boat ramps. Since New Hampshire waters are subject to a freeze up each winter, some ponds and lakes are susceptible to boat ramp damage caused by the horizontal and vertical forces exerted from these ice loads. The damage is mostly confined to the
concrete planks ("logs") used in the boat ramp design, and can be so severe that it renders a ramp inoperable the following spring. This damage requires the Department to prematurely replace these ramps. The current standard for Department concrete plank ramps includes 12-feet long by 3-feet wide by 9-inch thick planks buttressed against a concrete anchor block (typically 12-feet long by 4-feet wide and 4-feet deep) at the shore line. At this point all ramps with this newer design have held up well over several seasons to forces from ice movement.

POWER LOADING

The Department is constructing longer and deeper ramps, where allowed under the wetlands rules, to deter the damage caused by loading and unloading boats from a trailer while under power, commonly referred to as “power loading”. In recent years power loading related damage has been repaired at Lake Winnipesaukee (interim ramp extension 2016, Downing’s Landing, Alton), Baxter Lake (2013, Rochester), Beaver Lake (2012, Derry) and Umbagog Lake (2010, Cambridge). These sites will be monitored to evaluate the success of the repairs. To this point the ramps have held up well. In the meantime, the Department will continue its ongoing education program to alert the public to the damage caused by loading a boat onto a trailer under power. Press releases, as well as signage at boat ramps are part of a program that alerts the public to the problem and asks for their cooperation.
LAKE HOST PROGRAM

Beginning in the summer of 2001, the Department has collaborated with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and the New Hampshire Lakes Association (NHLAKES) who promote the “Lake Host Program” for the benefit of NH waterbodies. The Lake Host Program covered 17 NH Fish and Game Department boat access areas in 2018 (Table 1), down from 22 in 2017. Coverage was supplied by members of a lake association, or other interested third-parties, under the auspices of the NHLAKES.

Table 1: 2018 Lake Host Program Monitoring at NHFG Department Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Lake Host Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaver Lake</td>
<td>Derry</td>
<td>Beaver Lake Improvement Assn. (Water St)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clough Pond</td>
<td>Loudon</td>
<td>Clough Pond Assn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crystal Lake</td>
<td>Enfield</td>
<td>Crystal Lake Improvement Assn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gorham Pond</td>
<td>Dunbarton</td>
<td>Town of Dunbarton (Gorham Pond)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merrymeeting Lake</td>
<td>New Durham</td>
<td>Merrymeeting Lake Assn. (Dam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newfound Lake</td>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>Newfound Lake Region Assn. (Wellington)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawtuckaway Pond</td>
<td>Nottingham</td>
<td>Pawtuckaway Lake Improvement Association (Fundy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Lake</td>
<td>Deerfield</td>
<td>Pleasant Lake Preservation Assn. (Deerfield)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potanipo Pond</td>
<td>Brookline</td>
<td>Town of Brookline Potanipo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powwow Pond</td>
<td>Kingston</td>
<td>Powwow Pond (F&amp;G)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Pond</td>
<td>Marlow</td>
<td>Sand Pond Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squam Lake</td>
<td>Holderness</td>
<td>Squam Lakes Assn. (RT 113)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stinson Lake</td>
<td>Rumney</td>
<td>Stinson Lake Assn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swains Lake</td>
<td>Barrington</td>
<td>Swains Lake Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarleton Lake</td>
<td>Piermont</td>
<td>Lake Tarleton Assn. Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren Lake</td>
<td>Alstead</td>
<td>Lake Warren Assn. (Rt. 123)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winnisquam Lake</td>
<td>Laconia</td>
<td>Lake Winnisquam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The intent of the program is to educate boaters about exotic invasive aquatic plants and their accidental introductions into State waters by boaters. There is always the potential for invasive aquatic plant fragments to travel from lake to lake by being attached to fishing equipment, boat trailers, boats and their motors. Lake Hosts educate boaters and anglers on the proper way to inspect their equipment where plant fragments tend to collect. In addition, anglers and boaters are taught how to properly dispose of invasive plant fragments so that accidental introductions can be prevented. The Lake Host Volunteer Program reaches thousands of boaters and anglers and will continue through the 2019 boating season.
LAND ACQUISITION

Each year, the Department receives offers and suggestions to purchase lands fronting public waters, as well as requests to address ownership issues associated with existing State-owned properties. In addition, the Department reviews State surplus land proposals, ensuring that State lands that harbor water access potential are not disposed of by the State. The parcels that have satisfactory conditions to capably provide public water access are transferred to the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department and are assimilated into the program for public use.

Each land offer requires staff to devote time to assess their access potential. Those properties that can provide opportunities to enhance water access, while meeting the legal, environmental, engineering and regulatory standards, are purchased for subsequent public access activities. In 2018, one property acquisition opportunity was in the queue (Success Pond, Township of Success). It is on-going from previous years and requires action and decisions by third-parties if it is to move forward (Table 2).

Table 2: 2018 Land Acquisition Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body</th>
<th>City/Town</th>
<th>Access Type</th>
<th>Project Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Success Pond</td>
<td>Success</td>
<td>trailered ramp</td>
<td>2018 November- The Conservation Fund negotiated an easement with the Dillon Family to cover the southern half of Success Pond. This opens the opportunity to establish a public road to Success Pond. Negotiations by the TCF among the landowners within the easement area are ongoing. Easement is held by DNCR.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PROGRAMMATIC, LEGAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND REGULATORY ISSUES

Programmatic, legal, environmental and regulatory issues involve securing all necessary permits; evaluating potential sites for hazardous wastes; investigating sites for potential historic resources; wetlands delineation; site design; legal package preparation; threatened and endangered species reviews for plants and animals; National Environmental Policy Act compliance and preparing funding grant applications. This work must be completed before the Department can purchase property for subsequent access development, or to improve an existing Department-owned site. The tasks associated with this work exemplify the
Department’s pro-active approach in addressing State and Federal requirements. This saves time and monies by addressing any issues that may create costly delays, or in the worst case, stop a proposed action from occurring. During the past year, programmatic activities were conducted at the following water bodies:

### Table 3: 2018 Programmatic Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Project Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut River</td>
<td>Claremont</td>
<td>Refurbish existing ramp, parking facilities</td>
<td>A bathymetric and site topographic and boundary survey was completed, but this project is on hold until the refurbishment construction of Downing’s Landing is underway and funding is available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Ashley Ferry Ramp)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Hole Pond</td>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>Refurbishment of boat ramp and fishing pier.</td>
<td>Permitting complete; The ramp was refurbished with larger Type B concrete planks in 2015. Five year extensions of the Wetlands and Shoreland permits were approved by NHDES thorough June and March 2021, respectively to allow time for refurbishment of the ADA Fishing Pier which was postponed because of a lack of funds in the Fisheries portion (85%) of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Act appropriation that covers this type of infrastructure. At this time, the Fisheries portion is dedicated and fully allocated to funding the NH Fish and Game Department fish propagation programs and hatchery infrastructure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winnipesaukee Lake</td>
<td>Alton</td>
<td>Redesign and Upgrade pre-existing marina facility- Downing’s Landing</td>
<td>State environmental permits were prepared and submitted for review at NH DES in December 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Downing's Landing)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Launch infrastructure was upgraded at two boat access areas in 2018. Through a cooperative approach among the NH Fish and Game Department, NH Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the NHFG construction staff fabricated a floating wooden seasonal dock system to enhance accessibility at NHFG’s existing boat launch to Lake Umbagog. The project work completed in June included building a wooden gangway (6 ft. x 10 ft.), wooden floating docks (two segments: 6 ft. x 20 ft. each), a dock float slope limiter, precast concrete landings, an ADA compliant gravel path, a precast concrete float anchor with chains, and other miscellaneous items. The project was funded to the 80 percent level by a Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant of $53,103 and 20 percent match from the Statewide Public Boat Access Program Fund. The NH Department of Transportation was the local administrator of the project and the liaison between the FHWA and NHFG.

Department forces upgraded an existing cartop (canoe/ kayak) launch to Eagle Pond in Wilmot. The parking lot was expanded to 8 spaces including one van accessible space. New infrastructure includes a 6-foot wide timber terraced gravel footpath to the launch, a stabilized low-abrasion launching/pedestrian surface to facilitate cartop boat access and construction of a plunge pool and level spreader adjacent to the end of the gravel footpath.

Table 4: 2018 Construction Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Project Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Pond</td>
<td>Wilmot</td>
<td>To construct a cartop access site.</td>
<td>The construction to upgrade this cartop access area was completed in October 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Umbagog</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>Construct floating seasonal dock</td>
<td>March- Docks were built at FG headquarters. June- The dock infrastructure was constructed and the docks were placed into service.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING FACILITIES

Considering the useful life of a facility is directly correlated to its upkeep, a pro-active maintenance program is a necessity. The Department currently performs maintenance at 135 access facilities. Maintenance activities are divided into two categories: Type I – Construction Crew Maintenance Activities; and Type II - General Maintenance Crew Activities. Construction Crew Maintenance Activities are those jobs that require the use of heavy equipment, whereas, General Maintenance Crew Activities are jobs of a lighter nature, and are usually done on a routine basis. Regularly scheduled operation and maintenance activities ensure safe, functional, attractive, and user-friendly public access sites. In addition, pro-active maintenance initiatives prevent little problems from becoming bigger problems that require costly repairs. As new access sites are constructed, the costs of operation and maintenance of these sites continues to increase.

Type I Activities – 2018

Gravel placement and grading work by Department forces was needed at Gorham Pond (Dunbarton), Hopkins Pond (aka. Adder Pond) (Andover), Pine River/ Ossipee Lake (Ossipee), Potanipo Pond (Brookline) and Umbagog Lake (Cambridge). Seasonal flood-related silt was dredged from the Ashley Ferry ramp in Claremont under the auspices of a wetlands permit from the NH Department of Environmental Services.

Type II Activities – 2018

Keeping abreast of minor maintenance issues is important. All sites required mowing, brush removal and/or trimming to some degree. Trash is still an issue that is addressed each and every operating season. As in past years, seasonal employees collected several hundred 30-gallon bags of refuse from Department access sites. Installing informational signage at access facilities is effective informing visitors of our “carry-in/out” policy and does reduce the volume of litter.

Table 5 lists the 23 locations where kiosks were replaced, repainted or had metal roofs installed in 2018
### Table 5: 2018 Kiosk Maintenance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Repair Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Baxter Lake</td>
<td>Rochester</td>
<td>Metal Roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Coldrain Pond</td>
<td>New Durham</td>
<td>Metal Roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Connecticut River, Bedell Bridge</td>
<td>Haverhill</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Crystal Lake</td>
<td>Enfield</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Eagle Pond</td>
<td>Wilmot</td>
<td>New Kiosk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Garland Pond</td>
<td>Ossipee</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Great Bay, Adams Point</td>
<td>Durham</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Manning Lake</td>
<td>Gilmanton</td>
<td>Metal Roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Merrimack River, Sewalls Falls I (Sewall's Falls Rd)</td>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Merrimack River, Sewalls Falls II (2nd St.)</td>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Merrymeeting Marsh, Route 11</td>
<td>New Durham</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Newfound Lake</td>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 North Branch Contoocook River, Lovern's Mill</td>
<td>Antrim</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Pemigewasset Lake</td>
<td>New Hampton</td>
<td>Metal Roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Powdernmill Pond</td>
<td>Greenfield</td>
<td>Metal Roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Spectacle Pond</td>
<td>Meredith</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Squamscott River, Chapman's Landing</td>
<td>Stratham</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Streeter Pond</td>
<td>Sugar Hill</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Swains Lake</td>
<td>Barrington</td>
<td>Metal Roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 Tarleton Lake</td>
<td>Piermont</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Tewksbury Pond</td>
<td>Grafton</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Winnisquam Lake</td>
<td>Laconia</td>
<td>Metal Roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Wood Pond</td>
<td>Haverhill</td>
<td>Metal Roof, Painted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6 lists the 14 locations where the plank signs demarking the entrances to boat access areas were installed or had planks replaced in 2018.

### Table 6: 2018 Plank Sign Maintenance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Repair Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Androscoggin River</td>
<td>Errol</td>
<td>New planks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Beaver Lake</td>
<td>Derry</td>
<td>Replaced (destroyed by vehicle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Cedar Pond</td>
<td>Milan</td>
<td>New planks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Coldrain Pond</td>
<td>New Durham</td>
<td>New planks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Eagle Pond</td>
<td>Wilmot</td>
<td>New Sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Hopkins Pond</td>
<td>Andover</td>
<td>New planks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Keyser Pond</td>
<td>Henniker</td>
<td>New Sign</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11 Kimball Pond Dunbarton New bottom plank
9 Merrimack River East Concord New sign
10 Nay Pond Milan New planks
11 Stonehouse Pond Barrington New post
12 Swains Lake Barrington New planks
13 Umbagog Lake Cambridge New planks
14 Wood Pond Haverhill New planks

Nineteen sites were covered by contractor-maintained portable toilets. Each site received a handicap accessible and regular toilet unit except for the following locations. An additional regular toilet unit was added to the ramp facility at Lake Winnisquam in Laconia (Water Street Ramp) and at Lake Winnipesaukee in Alton (Downing’s Landing) to address the above average effluent volumes generated at these popular double ramps on major lakes. A total of forty rental toilets were deployed.

Table 7: 2018 Portable Toilet Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Service Type (ADA or Standard)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Androscoggin River</td>
<td>Errol</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Barbadoes Pond</td>
<td>Madbury</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Big Diamond Pond</td>
<td>Stewartstown</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Clarksville Pond</td>
<td>Clarksville</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Clough Pond</td>
<td>Loudon</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Crystal Lake</td>
<td>Enfield</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Fish Pond</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Lake Umbagog</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Lake Winnipesaukee</td>
<td>Alton</td>
<td>ADA and Two (2) Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Merrymeeting Lake</td>
<td>New Durham</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Mount Williams Pond</td>
<td>Weare</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Nay Pond</td>
<td>Milan</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Pine River (to Ossipee Lake)</td>
<td>Ossipee</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Pleasant Lake</td>
<td>Deerfield</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Powder Mill Pond</td>
<td>Greenfield</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Squam Lake</td>
<td>Holderness</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Swains Pond</td>
<td>Barrington</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Turtletown Pond</td>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>ADA and Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Winnisquam Lake</td>
<td>Laconia</td>
<td>ADA and Two (2) Standard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES
Many of the big lake boat launches see heavy activity during the boating season to the point of filling the parking areas to capacity with boaters waiting to launch. Such situations can result in confusion and tension while boaters wait to launch or retrieve their craft. For this reason, Fish and Game staffed five of our launches in 2018 with Conservation Officers to keep the peace and assist with traffic flow on weekends and holidays. Details begin on the Memorial Day weekend and run through the Labor Day weekend at the following sites:

- Newfound Lake, Bristol
- Pleasant Lake, Deerfield
- Squam Lake, Holderness
- Winnipesaukee Lake, Alton
- Winnisquam Lake, Laconia

Conservation Officers also respond to complaints regarding rule violations at any boat access facility during their regularly scheduled patrols.

Respectfully submitted,

Garret W. Graaskamp, P.G.
Coordinator, Statewide Public Boat Access Program
2018 REPORT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

STATEWIDE PUBLIC BOAT ACCESS PROGRAM
# NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

**Calendar Year Report of Revenue and Expenses**

20-07500-21170000  
*Statewide Public Boat Access*  
01/01/2018-12/31/2018

### REVENUE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>000</td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>314,018.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>009</td>
<td>Statewide Public Boat Access (Agency Income)</td>
<td>568,916.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL REVENUE:** $882,935.43

### EXPENSES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>ENCUMBERED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>010</td>
<td>PERSONAL SERVICES -PERMANENT</td>
<td>170,436.03</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>018</td>
<td>OVERTIME</td>
<td>31,648.93</td>
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<tr>
<td>020</td>
<td>CURRENT EXPENSES</td>
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<td>022</td>
<td>RENTS LEASES OTHER THAN STATE</td>
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<tr>
<td>023</td>
<td>HEAT, ELECTRICITY AND WATER</td>
<td>1,969.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>026</td>
<td>ORGANIZATIONAL DUES</td>
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<tr>
<td>030</td>
<td>EQUIPMENT NEW/REPLACEMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>039</td>
<td>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</td>
<td>1,118.04</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>041</td>
<td>AUDIT FUND SET ASIDE</td>
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<td>046</td>
<td>CONSULTANTS</td>
<td>151,631.48</td>
<td>67,582.32</td>
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<td>047</td>
<td>OWN FORCES MAIN.-BUILD.&amp;GROUNDS</td>
<td>9,306.13</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>048</td>
<td>CONTRACTUAL MAIN.-BUILD&amp;GROUNDS</td>
<td>40,711.28</td>
<td>1,450.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>050</td>
<td>PERSONAL SERVICES - TEMPORARY</td>
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<tr>
<td>060</td>
<td>BENEFITS</td>
<td>105,744.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>070</td>
<td>IN STATE TRAVEL</td>
<td>28,116.86</td>
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<tr>
<td>080</td>
<td>OUT OF STATE TRAVEL</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>CONTRACTS FOR OPERATIONAL SVCS</td>
<td>7,362.55</td>
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<td>217</td>
<td>INTERAGENCY PAYMENTS</td>
<td>46,560.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>307</td>
<td>STATEWIDE PUBLIC BOAT ACCESS</td>
<td>50,571.53</td>
<td>50,962.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL EXPENSES:** $760,996.65  
$119,995.02
2018 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

1. Eagle Pond, Wilmot (Refurbish / Upgrade cartop access)
2. Umbagog Lake, Cambridge, NH (Construct & Install a seasonal floating boarding dock)
Eagle Pond (Wilmot, NH)
Ramp Refurbishment 2018
Pre-Construction (2016)

Eagle Pond Launch Area - Pre-Construction
Path to pond just above the launch area.
Eagle Pond (Wilmot, NH)
Ramp Refurbishment 2018
Pre-Construction (2016) – Continued

View towards Route 4 and the entrance to the parking area

View of the parking area and path to the launch
Eagle Pond (Wilmot, NH)
Ramp Refurbishment 2018
Post-Construction (October 2018)

Eagle Pond Launch Area (Low-abrasion mat) - Post Construction

Access path looking towards launch area
Eagle Pond (Wilmot, NH)
Ramp Refurbishment 2018
Post-Construction (October 2018) – Continued

Access path looking away from the launch toward the parking lot

View of entrance and parking lot
Umbagog Lake (Cambridge, NH)
Seasonal Floating Boarding Dock Construction (2018)

View of ramp looking north prior to dock installation in November 2017

View of ramp looking north after dock installation in June 2018
The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources Division of Forests and Lands, and Division of Parks and Recreation (DNCR) manages 219 State owned properties (including but not limited to state forests, parks, trails, natural areas, beaches, waysides, scenic areas, and historic sites) comprising 169,169 acres, 42 conservation easements comprising 244,823 acres, and 3 federal owned properties comprising 13,446 acres for a range of natural resource values including public recreation and forest management. Many of DNCR managed lands have water resources including developed beaches, boat launches, and shore access to the Atlantic Ocean and numerous lakes, ponds, rivers and streams. The DNCR also manages several federally funded grant programs that may be used to acquire and/or develop state, local or private lands for public water access purposes. The following is a report of activities relative to public water access within the 2018 calendar year.

DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

State Parks Operations/Planning/Development

- Umbagog Lake State Park (Cambridge): Construction on a new bathhouse commenced in September. The new 1,440 square foot bathhouse design includes men’s and women’s toilet rooms, family bathroom, shower stalls (3), laundry area, and dishwashing area. Limited site improvements will be made during this phase. Construction is expected to complete in June 2019. The Umbagog Lake State Park basecamp campsites will be closed from September 5, 2018 to June 30, 2019 for the construction of a new bathhouse. Remote sites will remain open during construction. Campsites at the basecamp may be available June 20, 2019 to June 30, 2019, depending on construction progress. (ALLSITES #5502)

- Jericho Mountain State Park (Berlin): Access to Jericho Lake beach was improved for more universal access. A ramp consisting of two approximately 30’ legs to bring grade within ADA guidelines was installed from parking area into the picnic area. Approximately 450’ of pathways that were hardened with crushed ledge and stone dust and graded, connect the ramp to recreational features in the picnic area and the beachfront. (ALLSITES #9878)

- Ellacoya State Park (Gilford): A service contract was initiated to repair/reconstruct the failed retaining wall, east of the Poor Farm Brook outlet, along the bank of Lake Winnipesaukee during the fall of 2018. Failure of the retaining wall has resulted in washouts within the campground lawn area. Due to unusually high water levels during the fall of 2018, the project contract end has been extended to be completed in 2019. (ALLSITES #9997)

- Jenness State Beach (Rye): The parking area and facilities were closed in September to commence with the removal of the old bathhouse and construction of a new one which is anticipated to be open in May 2019. The 1040 square foot facility will include a women’s room with 5-toilets, a men’s room with 2-toilets and 3-urinals, a family bathroom, and three unisex changing rooms. Other project improvements include: a widened paved pedestrian path between the seawall and parking area to the
bathhouse, an equipment storage rack for temporary use when visitors use the facilities, designated motorcycle parking spaces, and pedestrian beach access at the north end of the parking area. (ALLSITES #8916)

**Bureau of Historic Sites**
No relevant activity to report.

**Office of Community Recreation**

*Land and Water Conservation Fund Local Assistance Program:*

LWCF is a matching grant program funded by the National Park Service and managed in NH by DNCR. Local government entities are eligible to receive assistance for recreational land acquisition and/or development for public use. The following water access related projects were selected in 2018 under Grant Round-29:

- **#33-00716, City of Franklin, Mill City Park at Franklin Falls:** The City will develop a new 12+/- acre park on former mill/industrial land located in the downtown area off Willow Street, between an abandoned railroad bed and the north bank of Winnipesaukee River. This includes the acquisition of 2.2 acres from two in-held private parcels. Proposed development includes restrooms, multi-use trail, event area/pavilion, campground, bike pump-track, picnic areas, and parking. This project will be completed in conjunction with other grant funded projects including converting two abandoned railroad trestles into pedestrian bridges, and the clean-up of the Winnipesauke River bottom of industrial debris, and creating competitive level whitewater features within the river.

- **#33-00718, Town of Lincoln, Riverfront Park:** The Town will develop a new 20+/- acre park on former mill/industrial land located in the downtown area behind Jean’s Playhouse, between Main Street and the north bank of the East Branch Pemigewasset River. Proposed development includes a skate park, multi-use trail, a canoe launch, parking, and site work. Later development phases include a dog park, a bike pump-track, event area/pavilion, and parking.

- **#33-00721, Town of Littleton, Littleton Health Park:** The Town will develop a new 5+/- acre park located in the downtown area off Riverglen Lane, between an abandoned railroad bed and the south bank of the Ammonoosuc River. This includes the acquisition of the 5+/- acre proposed park property. Proposed development includes outdoor fitness equipment, event area/pavilion (winter skating rink), community gardens, walkways, and parking.

- **#33-00723, Town of Windham, Moeckel Pond Dam Restoration:** The Town will restore a historic impoundment to re-establish deeper waters of the 40 acre Moeckel Pond for public recreational use. The development area abuts 55 acres of existing conservation land with over 2000’ of shoreline along Moeckel Pond. Additional proposed development includes car-top boat access, a trailhead and parking.
Bureau of Trails

Recreational Trails Program Grants:
RTP is a matching grant program funded by the Federal Highway Administration, and managed in NH by DNCR. Various managers of public trail system (including water trails) are eligible to receive assistance for trail development, improvement and repairs, trailhead/trailside facilities, trail maintenance equipment, land acquisitions, and education.

- **#18-24, Northern Forest Canoe Trail**: At a car-top access site on the west bank of the Androscoggin River in Errol (downstream from the Errol Dam, upstream from the Route 26 bridge), the NFCT stabilized erosion issues at this steep banked site and made improvements to usability by installing steps with a center rail/slide. (ALLSITES #9887)

DIVISION OF FORESTS AND LANDS

Natural Heritage Bureau

- **Ossipee Lake Natural Area (Ossipee)**: The annual inventory of plants in this globally rare natural community system occurred in September 2018. The sustained and improving population trends of several species of plants listed as threatened in NH is a sign of the success of the management plan. No new access has been added and no further restrictions have been implemented. The designated public use area remains as access by boat only. (ALLSITES #9907)

Land Management Bureau
No relevant activity to report.

Forest Management Bureau
No relevant activity to report.
DATE February 6, 2019

FROM Captain Timothy C. Dunleavy

AT (OFFICE) Marine Patrol HQ, Gilford

SUBJECT 2018 Annual Report

TO Colonel Christopher J. Wagner
Director, Division of State Police

Attention: Major Matthew S. Shapiro
Executive Major

Major John A. Encarnacao
Commander, Operations Bureau

Captain Nathan A. Noyes
Commander, Field Area III

Colonel Wagner,

Please find attached a copy of the Marine Patrol 2018 Annual Report. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. I would be happy to discuss any of the information contained in the report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy C. Dunleavy ID #003
Captain, Marine Patrol Bureau
The Division of State Police Marine Patrol is the only boating law enforcement agency with jurisdiction on all of the State’s Great Ponds. This includes all bodies of water ten acres or more in size.

The Marine Patrol’s mission is to ensure that all who use our public waters may do so in a safe environment and that a reasonable balance is maintained among the many competing uses. The Marine Patrol endeavors to maintain the high standard of residential, recreational and scenic values that have made New Hampshire a popular recreation destination.

The eight full-time sworn officers of the Marine Patrol possess a wide range of experience and skills. Most have instructor level certifications in the use of force disciplines including defensive tactics and firearms, as well as specific boat related certifications. Specialties include Boating Accident Reconstruction/Advanced Crash Reconstruction, Tactical Boat Operation, Personal Watercraft Operation, Boating Safety Instructors, Seated Field Sobriety Testing and Search and Rescue. Officers routinely assist and offer training at the Police Standards and Training Council (PSTC) Academy and at local police and fire departments.

Marine Patrol’s sworn personnel routinely patrol over 265 of the state’s 975 public bodies of water during the boating season. The Lake Winnipesaukee patrol, the largest covering 72 square miles, covers eight towns and two counties. The Atlantic Ocean patrol covers 158 miles of shoreline from Great Bay to Seabrook. In 2018, Marine Patrol employed 31 seasonal officers. The peak recreational boating season in New Hampshire typically runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day with significant traffic on weekends from late April through late October.

The 2018 season brought the greatest amount of boating activity on our State’s waterways since the mid-2000’s. Most activity increased with a few exceptions due to a rainy August which brought higher water levels. Arrest numbers increased from 51 to 59, accidents dropped from 50 to 39 (with a reduction in personal injury accidents from 18 to 15) with fatalities remaining at 5. For the reporting year 2018, Seasonal Marine Patrol Officers generated the following activity;

- Responded to 1923 calls for service
- Issued 1769 warnings
- Issued 728 summonses
- Issued 90 defective equipment tags
- Made 51 arrests
- Assisted 140 boaters in distress
- Performed 36 water rescues
Conducted 25 courtesy boat inspections
- Investigated 39 accidents, 25 property damage accidents, 15 personal injury accidents and 5 fatalities.
- Responded to/Investigated 12 boat fires
- Investigated 12 Drownings (Not boat related)
- Investigated 65 reports of hazards to navigation

The Marine Patrol not only conducts waterborne law enforcement operations, it also serves as the primary responder to many inhabited islands for both law enforcement and medical emergency calls. All officers are certified in basic first aid and CPR and are trained in the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AED’s). Officers responded to 24 medical aid calls and performed 8 welfare checks.

Marine Patrol Officers also responded to 12 trespassing complaints, 16 disturbances (domestic, etc.), 10 wildlife complaints, 9 reports of missing persons, recovered 104 missing/drifting boats, and performed 17 outside agency assists.

In addition to the sworn personnel, Marine Patrol employs 11 full-time civilian employees and three seasonal counter clerks. These employees provide a tremendous amount of support to the sworn personnel and are often the “face” of the Marine Patrol for those members of the boating public conducting business transactions. Civilians provide boating education opportunities, issue permits for moorings, swim lines, water events and parasailing. They also provide commercial boat inspection and license opportunities. Both sworn and civilian personnel maintain all the navigation aids on our lakes, ponds and rivers with floats and buoys assembled by the Maintenance Mechanics.

**Commercial Vessel Section**

Any vessel for hire, excursion vessels, and boats operated in association with schools or camps are required to be inspected annually for seaworthiness and proper safety equipment. In addition to thorough inspections, the boat can only be operated by a licensed commercial boat operator.

For the reporting year 2018, Marine Patrol Officers registered 648 commercial boats, inspected 565 commercial boats and administered 563 Commercial Boat Operator Exams. Civilian staff scheduled all exams and inspections in addition to processing 501 new license and renewal license applications. Officers conducted 24 regional public inspection/testing days and 26 public exam sessions at the request of the Commercial Boating Community.
Water Event Permits Section

The Permits Section of Marine Patrol issues permits for water events such as fireworks displays over the water, races, triathlons, long distance swims, various fundraising events and fishing tournaments. In addition, permits are issued for every swim line and water-ski slalom course placed on public waters.

For the 2018 season, Marine Patrol issued 515 water event permits, 88 swim line permits 37 slalom course permits, one ski jump permit and one parasail permit.

Navigation Maintenance Section

The Marine Patrol Navigation Mechanics currently maintain the Division’s fleet of approximately 80 boats. Mechanics are factory trained in the repair of both Mercury and Bombardier Marine Engines. These certifications allow Marine Patrol to maintain “Dealer Status” with these manufacturers giving the Marine Patrol warranty center benefits.

Marine Patrol boats range in length from 10 feet (Yamaha 4 stroke personal watercraft) to 40 feet (twin diesel jet drives on Winnipesaukee and the Atlantic Ocean). All routine maintenance and major repairs are completed in-house on these boats.

In addition to the boats and engines, approximately 75% of the Marine Patrol’s boats are routinely towed around the state on trailers. These trailers are also maintained and repaired on site in Gilford and Belmont. The Mechanic Section is also certified as a Motor Vehicle Inspection Station and performs routine maintenance and annual state inspections on the fleet of boats and boat trailers.

The Marine Patrol also maintains approximately 2,140 navigation aids. This includes 1,700 buoys, 327 floating regulatory buoys, and 130 floating light buoys. The Marine Patrol purchases the raw materials for the buoys and the mechanics build them at a significant savings to the state.

Buoys are maintained by both officers and mechanics throughout the boating season. In addition to the installation and removal of navigational aids every spring and fall, personnel responded to replace and/or repair 205 aids in 2018.

Moorings Program

A mooring permit is required before placing a mooring on any of the seven lakes to which the law applies. Those lakes include Winnipesaukee, Winnisquam, Sunapee, Newfound, Ossipee, Squam and Bow. Effective October 1, 2017, Pleasant Lake in Deerfield was added to the moorings permit required list.
The Program permitted 2,580 moorings in 2018, issued 5,348 mooring decals and processed 144 new applications. 154 new mooring were approved. In addition, they processed 733 boat registrations. 32 moorings new were permitted on Pleasant Lake in Deerfield.

**Boating Education Program**

During the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, the Boating Education Program conducted 185 boating classes (an increase of 34) and 168 (an increase of 17) public proctored exam sessions at 26 different venues around the state. The boating classes yielded 3,749 newly certified boat operators while 3,362 persons received their certificates after completing the online course and taking a proctored exam. Three persons were issued their “NH Only” certification by successfully completing the test-out option.

Since the mandatory education requirement became law, Marine Patrol has certified approximately 231,015 persons.

**Staff Development and Recruiting**

In September of 2018, the Marine Patrol filled their vacant Staff Development and Training Position. With a primary focus on recruiting, the bureau attended 12 different recruiting events from September 14, 2018 to December 31, 2018. These events included career fairs, college/campus visits and various regional employment security sponsored events. In addition, all public relations events that are attended by the Bureau include a recruiting theme as well as the promotion of boating education courses and safety practices. In 2018 Marine Patrol attended 60 public relations events. These include boat shows, corporate safety fairs, outdoor shows, county fairs, school visits, marina customer appreciation events, and a variety of lake association meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy C. Dunleavy ID #003
Captain, Marine Patrol Bureau
State of New Hampshire

Inter-Department Communication

2018 Martine Patrol Personnel
61 Persons as of December 31, 2018

Sworn Staff:

Full Time
Timothy Dunleavy, Marine Patrol Captain
Crystal McLain, Marine Patrol Lieutenant
Dave Ouellette, Marine Patrol Sergeant
Joshua Dirth, Marine Patrol Sergeant
Seth Alie, Marine Patrol Sergeant
Scott McLain, Marine Patrol Officer II
Nicholas Haroutunian, Marine Patrol Officer II

Part-Time
Philip Carpenter, Marine Patrol Supervisor
Richard Griffin, Marine Patrol Supervisor
David Jones, Marine Patrol Supervisor
Brian Starck, Marine Patrol Supervisor

Edward Boisvert, Marine Patrol Officer I
Nicholas Boisvert, Marine Patrol Officer I
Levi Clark, Marine Patrol Officer I
John Curran, Marine Patrol Officer I
William Dansereau, Marine Patrol Officer I
Eric Diaz, Marine Patrol Officer I
Hugh Dougherty, Marine Patrol Officer I
Jeremy Heinrich, Marine Patrol Officer I
Michael Jelley, Marine Patrol Officer I
Kristopher Kimball, Marine Patrol Officer I
Marianne Marchesi, Marine Patrol Officer I
Jonathan Mercurio, Marine Patrol Officer I
Jonathan Moore, Marine Patrol Officer I
Jason Patten, Marine Patrol Officer I
Edward Piscopo, Marine Patrol Officer I
Kurt Swett, Marine Patrol Officer I
Peter Torosian, Marine Patrol Officer I

Mitchell Briggs, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee
Nathan Cobis, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee
Gordon Dagnall, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee
Brian DeFranzo, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee
State of New Hampshire
Inter-Department Communication

Drew Fessenden, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee
Michael Gendron, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee
Warren Green, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee
Pamela Heath, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee
Thomas Houghton, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee
David Nelson, Marine Patrol Officer Trainee

Civilian Staff:

Full Time
John Howard, Navigation Maintenance Mechanic Supervisor
Stephen Whelton, Navigation Maintenance Mechanic
Michael Roubo, Navigation Maintenance Mechanic
Stephanie Colcord, Staff Development and Training Specialist
Carolyn Parry, Business Administrator I
Robert Mulligan, Program Specialist I
Nancy Levesque, Program Assistant I
Mary Jo Howe, Administrative Supervisor
Cindy Moretto, Secretary II
Elaine Clark, Counter Clerk III
Janice-Ann Sinclair, Counter Clerk II

Part-Time
Anna Griffin, Executive Secretary
Miriam York, Seasonal Clerk
Wendy Tetrault, Seasonal Clerk
John Byette Jr, Boating Education Instructor (Program Assistant II)
David Carle, Boating Education Instructor (Program Assistant II)
Robert Freese, Boating Education Instructor (Program Assistant II)
Paul French, Boating Education Instructor (Program Assistant II)
Richard Horner, Boating Education Instructor (Program Assistant II)
Audrey Johnson, Boating Education Instructor (Program Assistant II)
Frederick Latham, Boating Education Proctor (Program Assistant I)
Richard Many, Boating Education Instructor (Program Assistant II)
William McDill, Boating Education Instructor (Program Assistant II)
Arthur Stern, Boating Education Instructor (Program Assistant II)
Mr. Thomas Quarles  
Chairman  
Public Waters Access Advisory Board  
11 Hazen Drive  
Concord NH 03302  

December 10, 2019

Dear Chairman Quarles:

Throughout 2018 the Department of Transportation actively participated as a member of the Public Waters Access Advisory Board (PWAAB). The Department has continued to monitor and provide our transportation expertise on various PWAAB related projects.

- The Department has been able to provide transportation related insight to various surplus land reviews that were of interest to the PWAAB. When requests have been submitted for disposition of the Department’s surplus lands where a public water access interest exists, the Department has coordinated with the Board and considered recommendations from PWAAB related to the conditions for disposal of the property. For example, the Department coordinated between PWAAB and the Town of Enfield to ensure that the final plans and deed language for the Mascoma Lake property transfer to the Town were mutually acceptable for the Mascoma Lakeside Park.

- The Department has played an active role in investigating public water access issues pertaining to State Highway Right-of-Way.

- The Department has also been able to provide transportation related insight to various projects that are active on the PWAAB project matrix as well as for projects not on the matrix but of interest to the board.

- The Department has responded to inquiries, and facilitated sign installation where suitable, regarding installation and/or replacement of signs for public water access points on State Highways. One example is the installation of the sign for Forest Lake in Whitefield.

- The Departments Division of Project Development investigates opportunities to improve access to public waters during the design process of our projects as well as through our regularly scheduled inter-agency coordination meetings with various natural resource agencies. The Department’s Project Development staff have coordinated with PWAAB, including regarding the Hinsdale Anna Hunt Island RTPW site, and have incorporated PWAAB guidance into project design and mitigation for impacts to public access.

- The Department has participated in information gathering regarding the Road to Public Waters Files.
The Department shares the goal of the Board to provide adequate access to public waters of our State and is glad to be a willing partner.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

Rebecca Martin
Senior Environmental Manager
State of New Hampshire
Governor’s Commission on Disability

The Honorable Christopher T. Sununu, Governor

Executive Council Members

Councilor Joseph D. Kenney
Councilor Andru Volinsky
Councilor Russell E. Prescott
Councilor Christopher C. Pappas
Councilor David K. Wheeler

Charles J. Saia, Executive Director
November 1, 2018

His Excellency Christopher T. Sununu, Governor
State House
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Sununu:

Pursuant to RSA 275-C:6 VI and in conjunction with RSA 20:7, it is my privilege to submit the annual report of activities of the Commission and staff from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, as required by RSA 275-C:6 VI.

According to the University of New Hampshire’s Institute on Disability, 12.3% of the NH population—or about 1 in 8—individuals in the State of New Hampshire have a disability. While the GCD takes on many tasks in the interests of these individuals, its primary duties are to advise and inform the Governor, State Agencies and the Public on disability-related issues.

During FY18, the GCD strategically and purposefully took on a mindset of partnering with other state agencies, advocacy groups or organizations to reach a maximum audience. The tool of digital communication took on a greater importance and role in serving the citizens of NH. This was dramatically demonstrated with the roll-out of New Hampshire’s ABLE program, known as STABLE NH, and its continued promulgation through webcasts, web postings, social media, broadcast and video.

The GCD dynamically supported others in their accessibility focused agendas, branded and adapted Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) materials to answer the public’s questions, oversaw a lively Legislative Committee and other subgroups as a means to fulfill its mandate to inform, advise and educate regarding policy and administration of programs and services for those with a disability.

Intense collaboration with Legislators, Advocates, Attorney General’s office, and sister agencies, such as the Treasury and the Secretary of State’s office, were all pieces of the puzzle that fit together as the GCD made strides to ensure better futures for those with disabilities.

The GCD received ongoing grants to administer programs essential for communications for those with a disability. In addition, the Client Assistance Program, which is 100% federally funded continues to be a source of information and intervention regarding employment issues for those with a disability.

The GCD looks forward to continuing our collaborative efforts across New Hampshire.

Charles J. Saia
Executive Director
Governor’s Commission on Disability
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Organization Chart

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
COMMISSION MEMBERS

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY I

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR I

PROGRAM SPEC II

PROGRAM SPEC III

STATEWIDE IND. LIV. COUNCIL

CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

PROGRAM ASSISTANT I

OMBUDSMAN
Commission Members - Gubernatorial Appointed
As of June 30, 2018

Paul Van Blarigan, Chairman
H. Dee Clanton
Barry Conway
Laura Davies
Ann Dillon
Nancy Druke
Ellen Keith
Paul M. Kelley
Mark Lemieux
Irene Lover
Mariellen MacKay
Thomas Manning
Anne Martin
Edmund Meskys
Michael Racette
John Richards
Frederick Roberge
Susan Stearns
Clyde Terry
Sandra Teti

Ex-officio Members

William Finn, Department of Education, Services for Blind and Visually Impaired

Kenneth Merrifield, Commissioner, Department of Labor

George Copadis, Commissioner, Department of Employment Security

Jeffrey Meyers, Commissioner, Department of Health & Human Services

Lisa Hinson-Hatz, Department of Education, Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation
Internal Committees of the Governor’s Commission on Disability

Executive Steering Committee
Nomination/Governance Committee
Architectural Barrier Free Design Committee
Legislative Committee
Governor’s Accessibility Awards Committee
Telecommunications Equipment Assistance Program Committee
Accessible Parking Work Group
Workforce Focus Group

External Committees of which the Governor’s Commission on Disability is Statutorily Assigned or Affiliated with

Commission on Deafness & Hearing Loss
Legislative Commission on PTSD & Traumatic Brain Injury
Statewide Coordinating Council for Community Transportation
Medical Care Advisory Council
Public Water Access Advisory Board
New Hampshire State Rehabilitation Council
Statewide Independent Living Council
Statewide Trail Advisory Committee
Joint Committee on Code Enforcement
Building Code Review Board
Executive Director
Charles J. Saia

As the Executive Director, Charles J. Saia is responsible for all operations of the Governor’s Commission on Disability.

The Executive Director ensures operational efficiency and compliance with governing statutes and regulations. He acts as a liaison between the Commission, the Governor’s Office, the public, the Agency office, and the State legislature.

In conjunction with the Executive Steering Committee, he provides the vision for the future of the Commission and ensures that its intended mission is fulfilled. The Executive Director works closely with other State agencies, gubernatorial-appointed commissions, committees, and boards to improve and expand accessibility throughout the State of New Hampshire. Other responsibilities include providing data and other pertinent information for proposed and existing legislation, testifying before legislative bodies, conducting Commission meetings alongside the Chairman of the Commission, overseeing several internal committees, and supervising the functions of all day-to-day operations of the Commission.

In addition, beginning in December of 2017, the Executive Director as co-administrator of STABLE NH launched the program in New Hampshire.

Whether it is the Governor’s Accessibility Awards, or the dedication of a walking trail made accessible, the Executive Director often speaks at events focused on disability and may be called upon to address a group when the Governor’s schedule will not allow his attendance.
Staff Operations

Each member of the staff of the Governor’s Commission on Disability performs a variety of tasks essential to the agency’s success. Although each position is defined by specific skills and responsibilities, collaboration within the Commission is considerable, as the members of the staff will come together to contribute to the success of the office. For example, a general inquiry from a member of the public is typically directed to the Administrative Secretary at the onset, but it could and may be taken by any member of the staff.

As the first line of communication between the Commission and the public, the Administrative Secretary manages all incoming correspondence. The Administrative Secretary coordinates professional public meetings with various bureaus, committees, and commissions and plans public events and activities. The position develops procedural, computer-based systems and implements various creative, and highly technical projects and services, under the supervision of the Executive Director.

The Business Administrator fields a large number of inquiries, as well. As the office’s fiscal agent and manager of the Commission’s financial functions, the Business Administrator is responsible for the coordination and integration of a variety of business activities. This includes management of Federal grant fund responsibilities, administration of fiscal operations, developing and implementing agency budgets, purchasing, processing of incoming funds, reconciling payroll, cost containment, and various budget matters. In addition, the Business Administrator maintains detailed department records, and provides personnel and human resource support.
Staff Operations

General inquiries are often directed to the Research and Information Specialist, who explains to the public the central mission of the Governor’s Commission on Disability. The position hosts educational events that inform people of the opportunities available to people with disabilities and of issues pertaining to them. Much of the position’s research involves compliance with laws related to disability in both the public and private sectors, which may involve coordination with other State agencies and departments. The position requires a wide range of knowledge of disability-related legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Fair Housing Act, the Architectural Barriers Act, and the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Inquiries pertaining to accessibility and architectural design fall under the domain of the Accessibility Specialist, who reviews State and public properties for compliance with both the Americans with Disabilities Act and the New Hampshire Code for Barrier-Free Design. The position consults with public entities and individuals to ensure compliance with existing law and to identify methods for improving access for individuals with disabilities to goods and services. To this end, the Accessibility Specialist performs site visits and provides technical assistance related to architectural compliance. Additional activities include, under the supervision of the Executive Director, tracking and reporting legislative activity, serving on committees, and assisting with grant fund efforts.

An inquiry made by a client of Vocational Rehabilitation will likely be taken by the Ombudsman for the Client Assistance Program (CAP). CAP is a service that provides vocational training, mediation, and rehabilitation for individuals with disabilities.
Staff Operations

The CAP Ombudsman is well versed in Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act and as such, is in a position to offer solutions to common problems encountered with workforce accommodations, the Family Medical Leave Act, and the like. The Ombudsman acts as a facilitator between the CAP and its clients, developing solutions to complicated problems in the workplace. Requiring substantial knowledge of occupational practices and laws, this position is a pivotal component of the State of New Hampshire’s effort to provide educational outreach to the disability community. In addition, this position involves considerable interaction with other State agencies, thereby fostering interagency relationship development.

Any questions regarding the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) are answered by the SILC Program Assistant. The Program Assistant supports the functions of the Statewide Independent Living Council and is a liaison between the Statewide Independent Living Council and the Governor’s Commission on Disability. The position is housed at the Governor’s Commission on Disability under an agreement with the Department of Education. The SILC Program Assistant informs the public about the responsibilities of the Council and explains how to apply for Council membership. In addition, the Program Assistant completes special projects under the supervision of the Executive Director.

Due to the demands of communication of initiatives and projects, workgroups within the Governor’s Commission on Disability operate to monitor speaking engagements, panel discussions, social media, podcasts through partnering, and video.
Purpose

The Governor’s Commission on Disability is statutorily created pursuant to RSA 275-C, and is a statewide agency whose purpose is to serve people with disabilities. Through the provision of the following non-comprehensive list and supporting descriptions, the Governor’s Commission on Disability fulfills its purpose.

- Advise the Governor, State Agencies and the NH Legislature on the needs, rights and interests of citizens with disabilities;
- Coordinate and monitor state agency compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act;
- Make recommendations regarding the adequacy of state programs, plans, and budgets for services for persons with disabilities;
- Recommend legislation while monitoring and reporting on bills of interest to persons with disabilities;
- Sponsor programs to educate the public about disability related issues;
- Implement and operate the 100% federally funded Client Assistance Program designed to resolve problems that arise between persons with disabilities and vocational rehabilitation;
- Administer the Telecommunications Equipment Assistance Program to distribute telecommunication devices to persons with specific impairments impacting telephone use;
- Serve as the State affiliate for the New England ADA Center;
- Operate an information resource and problem-solving center;
- House the Statewide Independent Living Council, an independent cross-disability council, which provides leadership and advocacy in support of the independent living philosophy; and,
- Implement the statutory requirements imposed by RSA 275-C:11 regarding the Governor’s Commission on Disability Architectural Barrier Free Design Committee.
The Governor’s Commission on Disability’s Initiatives

The Governor’s Commission on Disability has a number of initiatives designed to raise awareness of disability-related issues in the State. By working to ensure that the maximum number of people possible understand the challenges faced by, and opportunities available to, individuals with disabilities, the Commission fosters a more compassionate cultural environment and builds towards its perpetual goal of access for all.

Part of this work involves the distribution of educational materials to provide the public with immediate answers to everyday questions pertaining to disability. This may include manuals and pamphlets on the Americans with Disabilities Act and, for example, the rights of individuals with service dogs. The Commission promotes guidelines for accessible parking, through online posting of educational materials, and distribution of brochures at public events and tradeshows.

Supporting Justice Broderick’s Campaign to Change mental health initiative, the Commission has partnered at events as a speaker and distributes literature both through social media and at public events. Continuing in the model of partnering, the Governor’s Commission on Disability has supported through presence and, as a speaker, gatherings on mental health, architectural accessibility, diversity and inclusion in employment, and employment leadership in hiring and maintaining employment for those with disabilities.

The Governor’s Commission on Disability made available written and digital materials, and promotional items, to help educate about the newly introduced financial program, STABLE NH, as New Hampshire’s ABLE savings account program. The monumental step of Legislators appointing Executive Director Chuck Saia and NH State Treasurer Bill Dwyer co-administrators resulted in a series of STABLE NH presentations, podcasts, webinars and live meetings with groups, agencies and individuals throughout the Granite State.
The Governor’s Commission on Disability’s Initiatives

Other work involves collectively presenting as a panel as a response to requests by groups or organizations, who seek to have a better understanding of the Governor’s Commission on Disability and the ADA.

In its partnership with the Union Leader, the Commission submits a monthly publication announcing upcoming events, trainings, workshops, and seminars on disability-related issues; and once a year, the Commission, in conjunction with the New England ADA Center, presents a public workshop in which architectural plans can be read and discussed.

The Governor’s Commission on Disability fashions the biennial Governor’s Accessibility Awards. This event is designed to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of individuals or leadership within a business or organization which support independence, inclusiveness, accessible environments, and/or services for individuals with disabilities. The Commission remains grateful for the Governor’s support and ongoing participation in this event.
The Client Assistance Program (CAP) is a 100% federally funded and mandated program originating from the Rehabilitation Services Act of 1973, as amended. The primary focus of CAP is employment and associated topics as relevant to individuals with disabilities. CAP provides services to clients of Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living Services as well as to citizens with questions relative to Title I of the ADA (Employment).

CAP is an unbiased source of information, resources, and policy interpretation. CAP also provides advocacy and mediation on both individual and systemic levels. CAP strives to find resolution among involved parties at the lowest possible level of intervention with the least amount of disruption in services as possible.

The program, under the supervision and guidance of the Executive Director of the GCD, is administered by the CAP Ombudsman.

CAP empowers the GCD to provide services to consumers of both Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living services at no cost to the consumer or general funds.

CAP activities complement the work of the GCD and strengthen the ability of the GCD and CAP working together to assist those with disabilities in removing barriers to program participation and employment.

CAP is able to provide counsel, training, and services to individuals, collaborative partners, and agency staff utilizing a variety of forums and mediums lending to effectiveness.
Client Assistance Program (CAP)

CAP strives to resolve issues before they escalate and saves time and costs associated with involved litigious activities. Benefits to NH citizens include improved program access and equitable service delivery.

CAP can provide relevant evaluation and interpretation of policy to providers of Vocational Rehabilitation and Independent Living service providers to inform systemic changes to procedure and program delivery.

With Phase I of the STABLE NH program coming to an end, Phase II will consist of educating peer trainers (or program ambassadors) and CAP is exploring the logistics and possibilities of becoming involved, especially with a focus on Transitional Youth audiences.
The Telecommunications Equipment Assistance Program (TEAP)

RSA-362-E establishes the Governor’s Commission on Disability to administer the Telecommunications Equipment Assistance Program. The program enables qualified persons in New Hampshire to access telephone service through the use of telecommunications equipment assistance.

The Telecommunications Equipment Assistance Program provides access to those persons whom, without appropriate equipment, would not be able to use telecommunication services effectively and thus would be unable to access public safety programs. As a part of the outreach function, applications will be made widely available to ensure that those qualified to be equipment recipients have the opportunity to apply.
Statewide Independent Living Council

The Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) was created through Title V of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It is a non-partisan, non-governmental organization of volunteers, who work to promote equal rights and access for individuals with disabilities in the State of New Hampshire. It provides leadership and advocacy in the realm of independent living, fosters a culture of informed choice, individual control, peer support, and self-sufficiency for all people with disabilities.

The Statewide Independent Living Council is housed in the Governor’s Commission on Disability and is fully funded by federal resources from Title VII through the New Hampshire Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. The Statewide Independent Living Council works closely not only with the Governor’s Commission on Disability and Vocational Rehabilitation, but with other organizations, such as Service Link, Granite State Independent Living, the Developmental Disabilities Council, Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, and the Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire, among others, to ensure that it is reaching the maximum number possible of individuals with disabilities.
The National Federation for the Blind’s “Newsline for the Blind”

The Governor’s Commission on Disability is annually appropriated to fund the National Federation of the Blind's "Newsline for the Blind," otherwise known as, “NFB Newsline”. Newsline for the Blind is an audio information service that provides access to over four hundred written publications.

This electronic service gives any blind, visually impaired, or print-disabled person access to newspapers, magazines, and television listings, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. The service can be accessed by using a telephone, the internet, and by downloading to a digital talking book player or MP3 playing device. Subscribers can also choose to have publications sent directly to their email addresses, allowing them to read on their computer or portable device.
Various Highlights

- Collaborated as co-administrator of the STABLE NH program with the State Treasurer to educate and make available to the citizens of New Hampshire the opportunity and benefits of an ABLE savings and investment program. A robust speaking and presentation schedule, social media campaign and other resources were coordinated to support the effort.

- Collaborated with the Secretary of State’s office to develop and implement a Hello Campaign, which repurposed 288 phones. These phones were initially used during a voting cycle, paid by federal funds, to assist with voting accessibility for those with disabilities. The distribution of the free phones touched the lives of those with disabilities in 11 communities with the assistance and cooperation of 14 agencies and organizations.

- Collaborated with the Department of Motor Vehicles to distribute updated public distribution materials, including Accessible parking information.

- Developed a fluid communication strategy to provide accurate and updated information, including:
  
  Website Postings
  Facebook Interactions
  Twitter Updates
  Promotional Material Distribution
  PowerPoints.

- Created universal, accessible documentation for all materials disseminated by the Governor's Commission on Disability, including:
  
  Newsletters
  CAP Rack Cards
  PSAs
  Eblasts
  Updated Accessible Parking Brochure and Resources.
Various Highlights

- Public meetings with accessible elements for each meeting, or upon request, that include:
  - CART reporting
  - Event/Personal Assistants
  - American Sign Language Interpreters
  - Ubi-Duo Communication Devices
  - Public Announcement System
  - Large Print Material
  - Video Remote Interpreting, under review

- Client Assistance Program
  - Participated in transition aged youth informational sessions.
  - Presented to a peer support agency for people having experienced mental health challenges.
  - CAP has endeavored to build and maintain positive, productive and mutually beneficial relationships with Vocational Rehabilitation staff to promote open communication and quality service delivery to New Hampshire citizens.
Mental Health & Wellness Initiative

The Governor’s Commission on Disability continues to be a source of referral and information with the Department of Personnel's Employee Assistance Program, to bring an increased awareness of mental health and wellness to State of New Hampshire employees. With support from the Campaign to Change Direction, and the former Chief Justice of the New Hampshire Supreme Court, John T. Broderick Jr., the Governor’s Commission on Disability’s vision strengthened to decrease the barriers and stigma of mental health issues.

Agency and Public Education

The Governor’s Commission on Disability intends to build upon its existing commitment to education of the public and State Agencies. With its Wellness Initiative, Architectural Plan Reading Workshops, partnering with the staff at the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Community Accessibility Site Visits, and plans for further, statewide education regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Governor’s Commission on Disability will move to the forefront of disability issue education.
Summary of Receipts and Expenditures
FY 2018

FY 2018 REVENUE SOURCES

FY 2018 EXPENDITURES
Summary of Receipts and Expenditures
FY 2018

The Governor’s Commission on Disability strives to ensure that all of its financial resources are applied to the most productive purpose and with the maximum efficiency. To ensure transparency in this process, below please find a summary of the Commission’s receipts and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2018.

Approved Budget   732,319.00

Expenses:
- Operating Costs      50,558.08
- Program Costs        142,336.58
- Personnel Costs      476,313.54

Total Expenses        669,208.20

Revenue Sources:
- Statewide Independent Living Council               24,679.12
- New England ADA                                     23,050.00
- Client Assistance Program                           112,025.03
- Newsline for the Blind                               29,100.00
- Telecommunications Equipment Assistance Program     96,000.00

Subtotal Revenue     284,854.15
General Fund          384,354.05

Total Revenue        669,208.20
Vision:

One Voice, Partnering and Communication

Our hope is to solidify and deepen our pattern of partnering with our sister agencies and be a front line ADA resource. And our hope is to become the one, unifying voice that speaks to all of New Hampshire’s citizens about the Granite State’s passionate commitment to inclusiveness and access for all.

We anticipate that with maturing of New Hampshire’s ABLE savings account program, STABLE NH, the Governor’s Commission on Disability will continue to be proactive in promoting better futures for those with disabilities. Community interaction will be highly prioritized as peer trainers or “ambassadors” are educated and deputized to carry the program’s message forward.

We also see ourselves as continuing to be involved in panel discussions that bring together stakeholders who will roundtable and problem solve on ADA related issues throughout the State. We embrace workforce diversity and inclusion.

Grant development is a focus of the Governor’s Commission on Disability and will be an asset to the current programs, such as the Telecommunications Equipment Assistance Program, Newsline for the Blind, and the Client Assistance Program.

Lastly, continuous and better strategic communication with the assistance of partners and technology remains a priority, with attention to such developing issues as disabilities in the workforce, and the silent disability—mental health issues.

With the recent history of fast paced progress, it is foreseeable that the Governor’s Commission on Disability will continue to over achieve in its endeavors, while remaining true to its mission…Access for All.
Acknowledgements

The Governor’s Commission on Disability wishes to thank the constituents of New Hampshire for the unrelenting support towards the mission and purpose of the GCD.

In addition, elected officials, legislative members, and the Governor and Council are recognized and praised for their commitment to

access for all.