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Community

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Vice Chair  
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Commissions

**Christopher Hodgdon**  
NH Fish & Game  
Commission

**Brooke Kenline-Nyman**  
Historic/Archeological  
Interests

**Frederick J. McNeill**  
Municipal Officer

**Madeleine Mineau**  
Granite State  
Hydropower Assoc.

**Cory Ritz**  
Local River Management  
Advisory Committees

**Mitchell Thayer**  
Business & Industry  
Association

**Donald L. Ware**  
Public Water Suppliers

**Vacant**  
Agricultural Community

**Vacant**  
Recreational Interests

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**Peter Bowman**  
NH Dept. of Natural and  
Cultural Resources

**Austin Brown**  
NH Department of  
Safety

**Mark Hemmerlein**  
NH Department of  
Transportation

**John Magee**  
NH Fish & Game  
Department

**Allen Wyman**  
NH Dept. of Agriculture,  
Markets & Food

**Vacant**  
NH Dept. of Business  
and Economic Affairs

STAFF

**Tracie Sales**  
Program Administrator

**Vacant**  
Program Assistant

# NH Rivers Management Advisory Committee

## NH Rivers Management and Protection Program



March 5, 2024

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

**RE: SB 543** *An act relative to establishing the state environmental adaptation, resilience, and innovation council.*

Dear Chair Avard and Members of the Committee,

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **support of Senate Bill 543**, which creates a stakeholder council to investigate ways to build resilience to environmental change in New Hampshire.

The RMAC supports this bill because

- Severe flooding, droughts, and cyanobacteria blooms are already having complex and far-reaching implications for public and private stakeholders in New Hampshire;
- These implications are expected to increase over time as events become more frequent and severe;
- Extreme flooding places significant strain on municipal budgets when roads, bridges, and other infrastructure are damaged and need repair or replacement;
- Cyanobacteria blooms decrease property values and tourism revenue;
- The council's work supports a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to identifying and addressing these types of impacts; and
- The council's work will help increase stakeholder awareness of the implications of environmental changes happening in New Hampshire.

The RMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to administer RSA 483, the Rivers Management and Protection Program. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is composed of members from business, agriculture, hydroelectric, municipal government, water supply, conservation, recreation, fish and game, and historical interests.

Should you have any questions regarding our testimony in support of SB 543, feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or [MLT@naturesource.net](mailto:MLT@naturesource.net).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michele L. Tremblay', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michele L. Tremblay, Chair

cc: Senators Watters, Rosenwald, Soucy, Perkins Kwoka, Whitley, Fenton, Prentiss, Altschiller, and Chandley  
RMAC Representatives  
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES