

April 26, 2024, 8:30 – 9:30 by Zoom

### **RMAC/LMAC Joint State Lands Mapping Subcommittee meeting**

*Attending –*

RMAC: Brooke Kenline-Nyman, John Magee, Larry Spencer, Michele L. Tremblay (Chair)

LMAC: Garret Graaskamp, Janet Kidder, Steve Wingate

RMAC/LMAC: Mark Hemmerlein

NHDES: Tracie Sales, Nisa Marks

GUEST:

(Lisa Morin, Cory Ritz, Pete Bowman and Shane Bradt unable to attend.)

Note that the meeting scheduled for April 18, 2024 was cancelled.

Michele opened the meeting by asking Mark to review the analysis of the subcommittee's recommendations that he had sent out after the last meeting. Mark had summarized the retain/release results in the three completed counties by score and outcome, separately for the RMAC and LMAC. The top section of each table contains average scores for each scoring factor.

In the RMAC analysis, overall average values are nearly the same as the retain average values because so many more parcels have been retained for the RMAC. Most scoring factors score below a 0.3 average when a parcel was recommended for release (not including road access). Scores matter more on release recommendations than on retention recommendations. Several members asked clarifying questions about the scoring and analysis. Janet asked how the state acquired these lands. Mark said in many different ways, including gifts and purchases. She followed up asking if those who have donated land would be upset if it was disposed. Michele responded that conditions can be put on the deeds.

John asked if every parcel that scored a 6 or higher, or some other, score was retained. Mark reminded the group that the correlation between score and subcommittee recommendation was stronger in releasing low scoring parcels than in retaining high scoring parcels.

On the LMAC side, scores did not show significant trends. Michele asked about results on proximity to a lake (vs. water as a whole) or access to water. Mark reiterated the lack of trend, and John wondered if that was because water access also picks up streams. Mark also reminded the group that LMAC results do not include No Recommendation parcels, but John responded that our process may have changed as we learned more. Michele noted that we may need to go back through our earlier Release parcels to ensure that the Release vs. No Recommendation is consistent. Michele also reminded everyone that lakes still need to be evaluated in Sullivan County.

Some discussion ensued about the definitions and how to understand Release and No Recommendation. Garret agreed with Mark that No Recommendation means the parcel is outside of jurisdiction. Garret also commented that development around rivers and lakes is

different, with more development around rivers than lakes that may impact scores in some categories.

For next week, Michele is concerned about changing process midstream. Are we going to change any criteria? Michele mentioned Cory's histogram to potentially weight the scored attributes. For rivers, Mark recommends only looking at parcels that score 3 or less as the chances are high a parcel with a score of 4 or higher will be retained.

Garret reminded the group of Shane's analysis and that we should look at that again before a decision. Garret will send that analysis to Michele before the next meeting.

John pointed out the 0.4 average score for water access for RMAC Release. RMAC retains most of the time when a parcel is near a stream. Michele notes that being able to say that every parcel was examined for its importance to river or lake health and public access will add strength to the RMAC's and LMAC's recommendations, as opposed to a more automated process based only on score.

Michele asked the group to review the state lands guidance documents and noted the great job Shane did on the video for the mapping tool. If there is interest from members, she will ask Shane for refresher on the tool during a separate session.

Lakes will get together for a separate session to complete parcels in Sullivan County; that meeting will be scheduled next week.

Next steps:

- Garret will forward Shane's analysis combined with his thoughts to Michele for forwarding to the group prior to the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
- All members will review the guidance documents on the State Lands Mapping pages of the [RMAC](#) or [LMAC](#) websites.
- If there is interest, Michele will ask Shane to give a presentation about the dashboard at a separate session of the subcommittee.

Next meeting: Friday, May 3, 2024. Mark H. and John M. unable to attend.