

MEETING MINUTES

NH Lower Merrimack Valley Stormwater Coalition Meeting

Zoom

Thursday, March 9, 2023, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Present:

<i>Dawn Tuomala, Chair</i>	<i>Milford</i>	<i>Scott McPhie</i>	<i>Nashua</i>
<i>Jeanne Walker, Chair</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Doug Starr</i>	<i>Nashua</i>
<i>Eric Slosek</i>	<i>Amherst</i>	<i>Sara Siskavich</i>	<i>NashuaRPC</i>
<i>Brandon Boisvert</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Andrea Bejtlich</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Craig Durrett</i>	<i>Derry</i>	<i>Deb Loiselle</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Sarah Large</i>	<i>FB Environmental</i>	<i>Tom Swenson</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Scott Ozana</i>	<i>Goffstown</i>	<i>Dena Hoffman</i>	<i>Pelham</i>
<i>Dave Gleason</i>	<i>Hazen and Sawyer</i>	<i>Christine Addington</i>	<i>Pembroke</i>
<i>Kevin Anderson</i>	<i>Hollis</i>	<i>Adam Mendozza</i>	<i>Pembroke</i>
<i>Joan Cudworth</i>	<i>Hollis</i>	<i>Victor (VJ) Ranfos</i>	<i>Pembroke</i>
<i>Ben Berthiaume</i>	<i>Hooksett</i>	<i>Todd Welch</i>	<i>Salem</i>
<i>Heidi Marshall</i>	<i>Hoyle-Tanner</i>	<i>John Klipfel</i>	<i>Salem</i>
<i>Samantha Lewis</i>	<i>Hoyle-Tanner/ Merrimack</i>	<i>Zach Swick</i>	<i>SNHRPC</i>
<i>Paul Elsholz</i>	<i>Laconia</i>	<i>Jamie Houle</i>	<i>UNHSC</i>
<i>Terrence Dolan</i>	<i>Milford</i>	<i>Amanda Furtado</i>	<i>VA Medical Center</i>
<i>Amy Gill</i>	<i>Nashua</i>	<i>Nick Germain</i>	<i>Wilton</i>

1. Introductions

- Roll call was done alphabetically by municipality or affiliation.

2. Approve meeting minutes

- February 9, 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

3. Wet Weather Sampling Overview

- Jaime Houle presented.
- Wet weather sampling is due by Year 7 for existing/old permittees and Year 10 for new permittees.
- In Year 4, there was little rain so it was hard to conduct wet weather sampling. Because of this, permittees will need to make up for lost time in Years 5 - 7.
- Results of dry weather sampling will help indicate if wet weather sampling needs to be done at any of the outfalls.
- Using current and historic information, you will want to fill out the [System Vulnerability Factor \(SVF\) spreadsheet](#).
- SVFs are things such as:
 - A catchment having a history of SSOs.
 - Common trenches.
 - Crossing of sewer and storm alignments where the storm is deeper than the sewer.
 - A list of all SVFs can be found in the SVF spreadsheet or in section 2.3.4.8.c.i.
- There are several SFVs that are required and several that are just suggested by EPA.
- Any outfall that has one or more SVFs has to have wet weather sampling conducted on it.

- Some permittees have decided to do wet weather sampling on all of their outfalls regardless of the presence of SVFs. This is completely up to each permittee and is not required.
- Wet weather sampling is conducted the same way as dry weather sampling with the only difference being that you want the outfalls to be flowing.
- It is important to keep track of your IDDE program progress indicators so that you can report them on your Year 5 Annual Report.
 - This includes metrics such as:
 - Number of SSOs and illicit discharges identified and removed.
 - Volume of sewage removed by fixing SSOs and illicit discharges.
 - Number of outfalls inspected.
 - All dry and wet weather sampling results.
- Q- In the SVF spreadsheet, what does the red lettering in the different SVFs mean?
A- The red lettering is language we added to the spreadsheet to help clarify things and is not taken directly from the permit like the black text is.
- Q- Do we have to do wet weather sampling on outfalls that discharge to bacteria impaired waterbodies even if nothing was found during dry weather sampling?
A- This is completely up to the permittee. At least look to see if there are any SVFs at those outfalls and make an educated decision based on that. It wouldn't hurt to check.

4. Existing/Old Permittees [Year 5 Requirements](#) Review

- Tom presented
- For existing/old permittees, everything that is due for MCM #3 is just to update the requirements you have been working on:
 - Update your system map.
 - Outfall and interconnection inventory and ranking.
 - SVFs for every catchment investigated.
 - Start wet weather sampling.
 - Retest any removed or fixed illicit discharges.
 - Define and describe indicators of IDDE program progress.
 - Provide [IDDE training](#) to all employees involved with IDDE testing.
- How are permittees approaching conducting wet weather sampling after a rain event in a safe and timely manner?
 - Amy Gill - Nashua has hired a consultant and they don't live nearby so it is difficult to properly time the sampling.
 - Dena Hoffman- Pelham's consultant and I keep an eye on the weather and then try to coordinate with ourselves and the lab we deliver our samples to about a day or a two prior, so they are aware. A couple weeks ago when it was 50 and rainy, we were planning on going but then it ended up not raining much so we cancelled that morning. We only sample during the workday because our lab doesn't take samples after 2 PM for E. Coli. It's been frustrating.
 - Eric Slosek - We watch the weather and note on the calendar to try to plan ahead.
 - It is well worth documenting the efforts taken to sample, even if it's not successful. This way EPA knows that you are trying.
 - Tom shared that the Seacoast Stormwater Coalition members are having the same issues.

5. New Permittee [Year 5 Requirements](#) Review

- Tom presented
- New permittees have a few things due for MCM #3 in Year 5:
 - Update sanitary sewer overflows (SSO) Inventory

- Complete Phase I mapping: interconnections, municipally owned stormwater treatment structures and open channel conveyances
- Update outfall and interconnection inventory and ranking
- All outfalls/interconnections (excluding Problem and excluded Outfalls) shall be inspected for the presence of dry weather flow within six (6) years of the permit effective date. The permittee shall screen all High and Low Priority Outfalls in accordance with their initial ranking developed in Section 2.3.4.7.a.
- Begin addressing Problem Catchments. Dry weather screening is not required. Proceed directly to source investigations
- Written [catchment investigation procedures](#)
- Document [System Vulnerability Factors \(SVF\)](#) for every catchment investigated
- Start wet weather sampling (this is due in Year 10)

6. Year 5 Requirements Table Updates

- Tom presented.
- We added a few things to both the current/old and new permittee Year 5 Requirements Tables. These are not new requirements but things we have already been doing. We just added them to the tables, so everyone was aware of them.
- From Appendix F and H
 - If you have a Bacteria Impairment or TMDL you must:
 - Conduct pet waste outreach
 - If your community has septic systems, conduct septic system outreach
 - Catchments draining to any waterbody impaired for bacteria or pathogens shall be designated either Problem Catchments or HIGH priority in implementation of the IDDE program. You can use the [Outfall ranking template](#) to meet this requirement.
 - If you have a Nitrogen or Phosphorous Impairment
 - Conduct outreach on fertilizer use
 - Conduct outreach on pet waste
 - Conduct outreach on yard waste in the Fall

7. Existing Single Lot Erosion Control Discussion

- Jeanne presented
- Jeanne wanted to know how to control erosion issues in single family lots. Bedford geared their ordinances towards commercial lots, not private. New developments are not included in the older rules. There has been a lot of issues with runoff from these sites. Does anyone have building codes or zoning codes that captures this?
- Dave Gleason - I am new to the region so maybe there is something comparable here but in Northeast Ohio many municipalities issue a separate riparian setback ordinance preventing development from encroaching within a certain distance from top of bank: <https://crwp.org/riparian-setbacks/>. These ordinances are separate from their erosion control ordinances.
- Merrimack had the same problem. There was no erosion control on sites being developed and they couldn't keep up with trying to correct the issues.
- Milford has regulations in place to regulate construction on smaller private lots, but more is needed.
- The State does not have a buffer for smaller streams, but some municipalities do have their own buffers.

8. Winter Maintenance Year 5 Requirements Check-In

- Tom presented.
- Does anyone have any questions about what we talked about during last month's meeting?

- We are still working on creating a list of private parking lots with 10 or more spaces for municipalities. Hopefully we will have this done next month.

9. Winter Maintenance Trainings and Events

- Tom presented.
- There are many winter maintenance related [UNH T2 Trainings](#) coming up this Fall. They are geared more towards specific subjects, rather than the general refresher courses they had been teaching. Tom will post these on the NH MS4 Calendar as they become available.
- The Annual SIMA Snow & Ice Symposium is coming up. See the upcoming events sections for details.
- The 2023 NH Salt Symposium is happening this year on September 13th. There will be a larger municipal component this year and we encourage everyone to attend.

10. Recent Projects or Structural Control Measures for Stormwater Coalition Meetings

- Jeanne presented.
- This year is Year 5 of our 5-year permit. Congratulations to everyone for collectively being a great example for MS4 communities in our area of NH!
- We want to recognize the efforts we've made over the last five years.
- We propose having our July coalition meeting being in-person. If one of our communities has a project that they implemented to meet the permit requirements, we could meet there and get a tour. Previously, we went to the Manchester WWTF.
- For anyone with a Phosphorus or Chloride impairment, you will need to implement a BMP by the end of Year 6. This could be a great way to get ideas on what you could do.
- We also can showcase the nonstructural control measures you've done for the chloride impairments.
- If you have a project, please reach out to Jeanne, Dawn, Tom, or Deb.

11. Updates and Upcoming [Events](#)

- **Funding Opportunities for New Hampshire's Connecticut River Valley and Coastal Communities Workshop**
 - March 23rd
Edward Cross Training Center Complex, Multipurpose Room
722 Riverwood Drive
Pembroke, NH
[Agenda and Registration](#)
- **NHDES Water Infrastructure Funding Workshop**
 - April 10th - April 14th
 - You have to register for EACH individual session
[Agenda and Registration](#)
- **Annual SIMA Snow & Ice Symposium**
 - June 13th - June 16th
Hartford, Connecticut
[Agenda and Registration](#)
- **2023 NH Salt Symposium**
 - September 13th
NH Motor Speedway
1122 NH-106
Loudon, NH
Details and Registration Coming Soon

- **2023 Asset Management Conference for Water Infrastructure**

November 2nd

8:00-3:30 (registration starts at 7:30 am)

Edward Cross Training Center Complex

722 Riverwood Drive

Pembroke, NH

Details and Registration Coming Soon

- **[NHDES Infrastructure Funding Webpage](#)**

Information on any available funding will be posted on this website.

Use the [email alerts page](#) to receive updates from NHDES pertaining to CWSRF/ARPA/Infrastructure funding opportunities.

All upcoming events and funding deadlines, that are currently known, can be found on the [important dates page](#).

12. Upcoming meeting dates for 2023 – Mark your calendars! Meetings occur on the 2nd Thursday of each month, unless otherwise noted. We will continue working on the elements necessary for Year 5 requirements of the permit and update the SWMP template as needed. Following are the topics that are planned for the monthly meetings. Please note that topics may change dependent on priorities identified during the year.

2023 Meeting Dates

April 13th: Appendix H Nitrogen and Phosphorous Impairment Requirements, Appendix F and H Chloride Impaired Maps, MCM #4 and #5

May 11th: Appendix H Nitrogen and Phosphorous Impairment Requirements and Appendix F Phosphorous TMDL Requirements, MCM #6

June 8th: Appendix F Phosphorous TMDL Requirements

July 13th: Prepare for Year 5 Annual Report

August 10th: Prepare for Year 5 Annual Report

September 14th: Prepare for Year 5 Annual Report

October 12th:

November 9th (Veterans' Day on 10th) or 16th:

December 14th: 🎄 Holiday Meeting

Please email potential agenda items and/or presentations to Deb Loiselle at deborah.s.loiselle@des.nh.gov. These will be considered for upcoming meetings and very helpful in the development of the monthly agendas.

13. Sign-in Sheet – Your names will be documented during introductions.