

**Exotic Aquatic Weeds and Species Committee  
Organizational Meeting of 10 June 2013, LOB 307, 10:00 AM  
Minutes of Proceedings**

Members present: Rep. David Kidder (Vice Chair), Rep. Dennis Malloy, Rep. Rose Marie Rogers; Public Members Andrea LaMoreaux and Bob Reynolds (Clerk)

NHDES Representative: Amy Smagula (Exotic Species Program)

Members Absent: Rep. Ben Lefebvre (Chair), Rep. Adam Schroadter, Sen. Bob Odell

Guests present: None

Rep. Kidder called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He explained that Interim Chairman Lefebvre could not be present and that he had asked that Rep. Kidder chair the meeting today.

Rep. Malloy moved to approve the minutes, as written, from the April 10 meeting. Rep. Rogers seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

During the last meeting, Rep. Lefebvre was elected Interim Chair of the Committee because not all members were present. After discussion, Rep. Malloy moved to elect Rep. Lefebvre as (permanent) Chair. Rep. Rogers seconded. The motion passed 5-0. Mr. Reynolds moved to elect Rep. Kidder as Vice Chair. Rep. Rogers seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Rep. Kidder asked Ms. Smagula for her perspective on the invasive species program and related pending legislation. She mentioned that she had emailed copies of the newly published 2009-2012 Exotic Species Program Report to all members of the EAWSC. This is a comprehensive report on all activities regarding invasive species in NH, and will provide in-depth background information for the members. She explained that, while milfoil is currently the most common invasive aquatic species in NH, other destructive invasive species are already (or will soon be) infesting NH water bodies. Hydrilla is not here yet, but it is infesting nearby water bodies. Invasive "animal" species, such as Asian clam and Zebra mussels, have already infested some NH water bodies. Regarding pending legislation:

- HB292, a bill to create an invasives "sticker" program for boats not registered in NH, was retained by the House RR&D Committee. A subcommittee (Reps. Smith (Chair), Beaulieu, Gottling, Lovett, Merrow,

and Mullen) has scheduled a second meeting to collect needed information about how the sticker program would be implemented and to explore reasons why the Marine Trades Association dislikes this bill.

- HB411, a bill to repeal the provision to “sunset” portions of boater registration fees in 2015, was passed in the House and is pending in the Senate. This includes \$4.00 (dedicated to invasives research and prevention activities) of the \$7.50 per boat dedicated to fund the DES Exotic Species Program. Ms. Smagula promised to update the members on the status of this bill.

Rep. Kidder commented that the magnitude of the threat to NH lakes, rivers, and tourism industry from invasive species is huge, and that the EAWS Committee’s primary role is to educate legislators and the public and to marshal statewide resources to stay “ahead of the curve” to prevent and control invasive aquatic weeds and species in NH. We are slowly getting ahead of the variable milfoil threat, but we must stay ahead of the other looming threats.

Regarding education, he offered to contact Glenn Normandeau (Executive Director of NH Fish and Game Dept.) to invite him to a meeting to discuss how we can work together better. He also offered to contact the Lake Sunapee Association. Rep. Rogers offered to contact the Lake Wentworth Association. Ms. LaMoreux distributed information about the Lake Host Program’s “Clean, Drain, & Dry” campaign. She also offered to contact the NH Rivers Council to invite them to a meeting, and suggested that the Committee schedule a field trip later this summer to visit Cobbetts Pond which has recently been documented to contain a population of the Asian clam. Ms. Smagula offered to make a presentation on all invasive species threatening NH water bodies (the “Frightful Fourteen”). Mr. Reynolds offered to make a presentation on the toxicology and environmental impact of 2,4-D (the herbicide used to control variable milfoil). Rep. Kidder suggested that the committee hold some meetings “on the road” to establish close communication with citizens.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 24 at 10:00 am in Room 307 of the LOB. Ms. Smagula will make a presentation on the invasive aquatic weeds and species that threaten NH water bodies.

Mr. Reynolds moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 AM. Rep. Rogers seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Reynolds, Clerk