

The State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

July 23, 2018

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu and The Honorable Council State House Concord, NH 03301

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REQUESTED ACTION

Approve Daniel W. Ayer Revocable Trust's request to perform the following work on the Cocheco River in Dover. File # 2018-00515. This project will not have significant impact on or adversely affect the values of the Cocheco River.

Impact 1,020 square feet of tidal wetland to replace an existing tidal docking structure. The new structure will be constructed from an existing 4 foot x 4 foot landing and stairs (located landward of the highest observable tide line) and consist of a 3 foot x 36 foot ramp, a 12 foot x 12 foot seasonal landing float and six 8 foot x 16 foot seasonal floats configured parallel to shore. The overall structure length seaward of the highest observable tide line is 46 feet, providing eight slips on 502.5 feet of frontage on the Cocheco River.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) imposed the following conditions as part of this approval:

- 1. All work shall be in accordance with plans by MJS Engineering dated January 31, 2018, and revised through May 22, 2018 and received by the NHDES on May 23, 2018.
- No less than 5 state business days prior to starting work authorized by this permit, the permittee shall notify the NHDES Wetlands Bureau Pease office and the local conservation commission in writing of the date on which work under this permit is expected to start.
- 3. This permit shall not be effective until recorded at the Strafford County Registry of Deeds office by the permittee. A copy of the recorded permit shall be submitted to the NHDES Wetlands Bureau prior to construction.
- 4. Any future work in jurisdiction as specified in RSA 482-A on this property will require a new application and approval by the NHDES Wetlands Bureau.
- No person undertaking any activity shall cause or contribute to, or allow the activity to cause or contribute to, any violations of the surface water quality standards in RSA 485-A and New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wq 1700.
- 6. This tidal docking structure will be constructed from an existing 4 foot x 4 foot landing and stairs (located landward of the highest observable tide line) and consisting of a 3 foot x 36 foot ramp, a 12 foot x 12 foot seasonal landing float and six 8 foot x 16 foot seasonal floats configured parallel to shore with an overall structure length seaward of the highest observable tide line of 46 feet, providing eight slips on 502.5 feet of frontage on the Cocheco River, shall be the only docking structure on this water frontage.
- 7. There shall be no removal of mature trees along the shoreline of the river on this property associated with the construction of the dock and access way.

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- 8. Construction of the dock shall occur from a barge equipped with a crane, at low tide, to reduce potential impacts to the river bank and the estuarine intertidal and subtidal wetlands.
- 9. Decking shall have at least 3/4-inch spacing between the decking planks to provide sufficient sunlight penetration and rainfall to underlying vegetation.
- 10. Appropriate siltation/erosion/turbidity controls shall be in place prior to construction, shall be maintained during construction, and shall remain in place until the area is stabilized.
- 11. Work shall be conducted in a manner so as to minimize turbidity and sedimentation to surface waters and wetlands.
- 12. Work shall be conducted in a manner that avoids excessive discharges of sediments to fish spawning areas.
- 13. The seasonal structures, including but not limited to the gangway and float, shall be removed during the non-boating season and stored on the existing pier or in an upland location.
- 14. All construction-related debris shall be properly disposed of outside of the areas subject to RSA 482-A.
- 15. Within three days of final grading or temporary suspension of work in an area that is in or adjacent to wetlands or surface waters, all exposed soil areas shall be stabilized by seeding and mulching during the growing season, or if not within the growing season, by mulching with tack or netting and pinning on slope's steeper than 3:1.

EXPLANATION

The NHDES Wetlands Bureau approved this project on June 21, 2018. The NHDES supported its decision with the following findings:

- 1. This is a Major Project per New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 303.02(a), projects in sand dunes, tidal wetlands, or bogs, except for the repair of existing structures pursuant to New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 303.04(v).
- 2. The need for the proposed impacts has been demonstrated by the applicant per New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 302.01.
- 3. The applicant has provided evidence which demonstrates that this proposal is the alternative with the least adverse impact to areas and environments under the department's jurisdiction per New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 302.03.
- 4. The original parcel, including approximately 42 acres with approximately 2,500 feet of water frontage on the Cocheco River, was subdivided into an open-space subdivision plus a 13 acre conservation parcel with 1,400 feet of water frontage now held by New Hampshire Fish and Game. The remainder of the subdivision (approximately 29 acres with 1,055 feet of water frontage) is dedicated as openspace waterfront parcels, including the proposed tidal docking structure, shared by residents of the inland portion of the subdivision.
- Pursuant to New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 204.05, in correspondence dated February 17, 2018, the applicant requested a waiver to New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 402.21, Modification of Existing Structures. The existing tidal docking structure on the subject frontage (depicted as "Pier #2" on the approved plan set) was permitted by the NHDES Wetlands permit #2003-02241.
- 6. In accordance with New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 402.14, Exceptions to Frontage Criteria, the proposed structure will accommodate eight boat slips on 502.5 feet of water frontage, which would otherwise typically qualify for only seven boat slips.

- 7. A conventional subdivision on this property could have yielded eight waterfront lots, each presumably eligible for individual tidal docking structures and each with multiple slips. Alternatively, the primary lot was subdivided in such a way as to conserve the natural waterfront, reduce the potential number of structures and slips on this reach of the Cocheco River, and reduce the overall environmental impact.
- 8. In accordance with New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 204.04, a waiver will be granted if the project will not have an adverse impact to the environment or natural resources of the state, public health, or public safety, and the strict compliance with the rule will provide no benefit to the public and will cause an operation or economic hardship to the applicant.
- 9. Consistent with New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 204.04, the Department finds that the alternative configuration proposed will minimize adverse environmental impact to the surface water and shoreline and, therefore, waives the standard configuration requirements set forth by New Hampshire Administrative Rules Env-Wt 402.13 and 402.21.
- 10. The dock is the minimum length necessary to provide full tide access at this location and to a water depth which will prevent the float and vessel from sitting on the mud at low tide.
- 11. The decking of the dock will have a minimum of have 3/4-inch spacing between the decking planks. Further, the applicant will be utilizing a barge and crane to complete construction of the dock from the water to minimize impacts to the wetland resource.
- 12. The applicant has demonstrated by plan and example that each factor listed in New Hampshire Administrative Rule Env-Wt 302.04(a) and (c), Requirements for Application Evaluation, has been considered in the design of the project.
- 13. NH Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) has record of a sensitive species and an exemplary natural community within the vicinity of the project (NHB18-0468).
- 14. In correspondence dated February 13, 2018, the NHB stated that the project is not expected to adversely impact the sensitive species or the exemplary natural community.
- 15. In correspondence dated February 08, 2018, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (iPaC Consultation Code: 05E1NE00-2018-SLI-0941) identified the Northern Long Eared Bat and Small Whorled Pogonia, both federally threatened, to be within the vicinity of the project.
- 16. On June 19 2018, the results of the NHDES staff field inspection found that the site is accurately represented in the application.
- 17. In accordance with RSA 482-A:8, NHDES finds that the requirements for a public hearing do not apply as the permitted project is not of substantial public interest, and will not have a significant impact on or adversely affect the values of the estuarine resource, as identified under RSA 482-A:1.
- 18. In correspondence dated June 21, 2018, the Pease Development Authority, Division of Ports and
- Harbors, determined that the project would not have a negative effect on navigation in the channel.
- 19. In correspondence dated March 23, 2018, the Dover Conservation Commission stated no opposition to the project as proposed.
- 20. In correspondence dated February 22, 2018, signed authorization was provided by the applicant to allow their agent to act on their behalf throughout the permitting process.
- 21. No comments of concern were received by the NHDES from local governing organizations.

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Application file documents are being forwarded to the Governor and Executive Council in connection with their consideration of this matter pursuant to RSA 482-A:3,II.(a) as it is a major project in public waters of the state.

We respectfully submit this request for your consideration.

Robert R. Scott Commissioner

	WETLANDS PERMIT APPLICATION Water Division/ Wetlands Bureau Land Resources Management Check the status of your application: www.des.nh.gov/onestop
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	Standard Review (Minimum, Minor or Major Impact)
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	Mitigation Pre-Application Meeting Date: Month: Day: Year: X N/A - Mitigation is not required
	3. PROJECT LOSATION: Social wollard partitions in the submitted for each municipality that wolland furnation occur within the second
	ADDRESS: McKone Lane TOWN/CITY
	USGS TOPO MAP WATERBODY NAME: Cocheco River INA STREAM WATERSHED SIZE: NA LOCATION COORDINATES (If known): X:1,202,939 Y:252,516
	3. PROUNTIESE IN THE PROVIDE AND A LOSSE A
`-	Amend existing tidal dock permit 2003-02241 for the purpose of adding additional boat slips. The parcel was recently subdivided and the dock is part of a home owner's association. This application is to add six 8'x16' seasonal floats (768 sf) and to provide a total of 8 boat slips.
	5. STORELINE FRONTAGE
	□ NA This does not have shoreline frontage. SHORELINE FRONTAGE: (600'+415')/2=1015'
! 	Shoreline frontage is calculated by determining the average of the distances of the actual natural navigable shoreline frontage and a straight line drawn between the property lines, both of which are measured at the normal high water line.
-	G. RELATED NUDES WAND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROJECTS Plans from the film of the following permit applications are required and, the antical the second of the application, To determine from Land Resources (Management Remitted colored to the film of the context Management Victo France To determine from Land Resources (Management Remitted colored to the film of the context Management Victo France
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	a. Natural Heritage Bureau File ID: NHB <u>18</u> - <u>0468</u>
	 b. <u>Designated River</u> the project is in ¼ miles of:; and date a copy of the application was sent to the Local River Management Advisory Committee: Month: Day: Year: N/A
Ţ	Irm@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2147 NHDES Wetlands Bureau, 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095 www.des.nh.gov

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TRUST / COMPANY NAME Daniel W. Ayer Revocable Trust	MAILING		<u></u>	·····
TOWN/CITY: Dover	···		STATE: NH	ZIP CODE: 03820
	PHON			
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9. PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION (II) different than tappi	ean) 🤹 🕌			
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TRUST / COMPANY NAME:	MAILING	DDRESS:		•
TOWN/CITY			STATE	ZIP CODE:
EMAIL or FAX:		PHONE:		
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION: By initialing here I hereby electronically	authorize NHDE	S to communi	cate all matters rela	tive to this application
10. AUTHORIZED AGENT/INFORMATION				
LAST.NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.: Slevert, Michael		COMPANY	NAME MJS Engl	ineering, PC
MAILING ADDRESS P.O. Box 359	<u></u>			
TOWN/CITY: Néwmarket			STATE: NH	ZIP CODE: 03857
EMAIL or FAX mjs@mjs-engineering.com	PHONE: (603) 659-4	979	
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electronically			en de la companya de La companya de la comp La companya de la comp	
See the Instructions & Required Attachments decument for deating	100107060000	an and an	B (5)	
 By signing the application, 1 am certifying that: 1 I authorize the applicant and/or agent indicated on this form upon request, supplemental information in support of this per certain the reviewed and submitted information. & attachments of All abutters have been identified in accordance with RSA 48 4. Thave read and provided the required information outlined in 5. Thave read and understand Env-Wt 302.03 and have chosei 	rmit applicatio utlined in the Ir 2-A:3, I and Er I Env-Wt 302.0 n the least imp	n Istructions a Iv-Wt 100-90 4 for the app acting altern	nd Required Attac 20 Slicable project typ ative	hment document. jë.
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Im@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2147 NHDES Wetlands Bureau, 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095 www.des.nh.gov

MUNICIPAL SIGNATURES

12 CONSERVATION COMMISSION SIGNATURE

ne signature below certifies that the municipal conservation commission has reviewed this application; and Waives its right to intervene per RSA 482; A 11, Believes that the application and submitted plans accurately represent the proposed project (and Hastnotoblection to permitting the foropos

DIRECTIONS FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION

in dexpedited review ONLN/ requires that the conservation commission sisignature is obtained in the space ab 24 Expedited review requires the conservation commission signature be obtained prior to the submittat of the original application to the slown/City/Clerk-torsignature

3 FilherConservation Commission may refuse to sign lift the Conservation Commission does not sign this statement for any reason the application is not eligible for expedited review and the application will be reviewed in the standard review time frame.

135 TOWN // CITY/ CLERK SIGNATIURE

As required by Chapter 282 Ar8 (amended 2014). It hereby centify the defailed plans, and nour USCS location imaps with the town/city indice hereby centry that the applicant has filed four application forms four

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DIRECTIONSFOR TOWN/GITY/GUERK

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Return the signed original application form and attachments to the applicant so that the applicant may submit th application form and attachments to NHDES by mail or hand delivery. IMMEDIAnEL% distribute a copy of the application with one complete set of attachments to each of the following bodies: the municipal conservation Commission the local governing body. (Board of Selectmentor Town/City) Council) and the Planning Board and

Retain on ecopy of the application form and one complete set of attachments and make them reasonably accessible for public review.

DIRECTIONS FOR APPLICANT Submit the single, or ignal permit application form bearing the signature of the frown/ City. Clerk radditional w materials, and the application fee to WHDES by mail or hand delivery.

> Im@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2147 NHDES Wetlands Bureau, 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095 www.des.nh.gov

mmission signature

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15: APPUICATIONIFEE: Seather Instructions & Required Attachments document for further Instruction ☐ Minimum Impact Fee: Flat fee of \$ 200 ⊠ Minor or Major Impact Fee: Calculate using the below table below Permanent and Temporary (non-docking) sq. ft. X \$0.20 = \$ Temporary (seasonal) docking structure: 768 sq. ft. X \$1.00 = \$768 Permanent docking structure: sq. ft. X \$2.00 = \$ Permanent docking structure: sq. ft. X \$2.00 = \$ Projects proposing shoreline structures (including docks) add \$200 = \$200 Total = \$968	Vernal Pool				
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Minimum Impact Fee: Flat fee of \$ 200 Minor or Major Impact Fee: Calculate using the below table below Permanent and Temporary (non-docking)	AS #APPLICATION FEES Sea (he)	asingentous 3 Resulties Attachine	មេទី៤ខែការព្រះព្រៃដែល។	ivida and interior	
Temporary (seasonal) docking structure: 768 sq. ft. X \$1.00 = \$ 768 Permanent docking structure: sq. ft. X \$2.00 = \$ Projects proposing shoreline structures (including docks) add \$200 = \$ 200 Total = \$ 968	☐ Minimum Impact Fee: Flat fee ☑ Minor or Major Impact Fee: Ca	of \$ 200 Iculate using the below table below	, ,	<u>======================</u> ==============	
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Projects proposing shoreline structures (including docks) add \$200 = <u>\$ 200</u> Total = <u>\$ 968</u>	· · · ·	Permanent docking structure:	sq	a.ft. X \$2.00 = \$	
	Proje	- octs proposing shoreline structu	···· ·		
The Application Fee is the above calculated Total or \$200, whichever is greater =	•	7	•	Total = \$ 968	
	The Applics	ation Fee is the above calculated T	otal or \$200 whi	·	

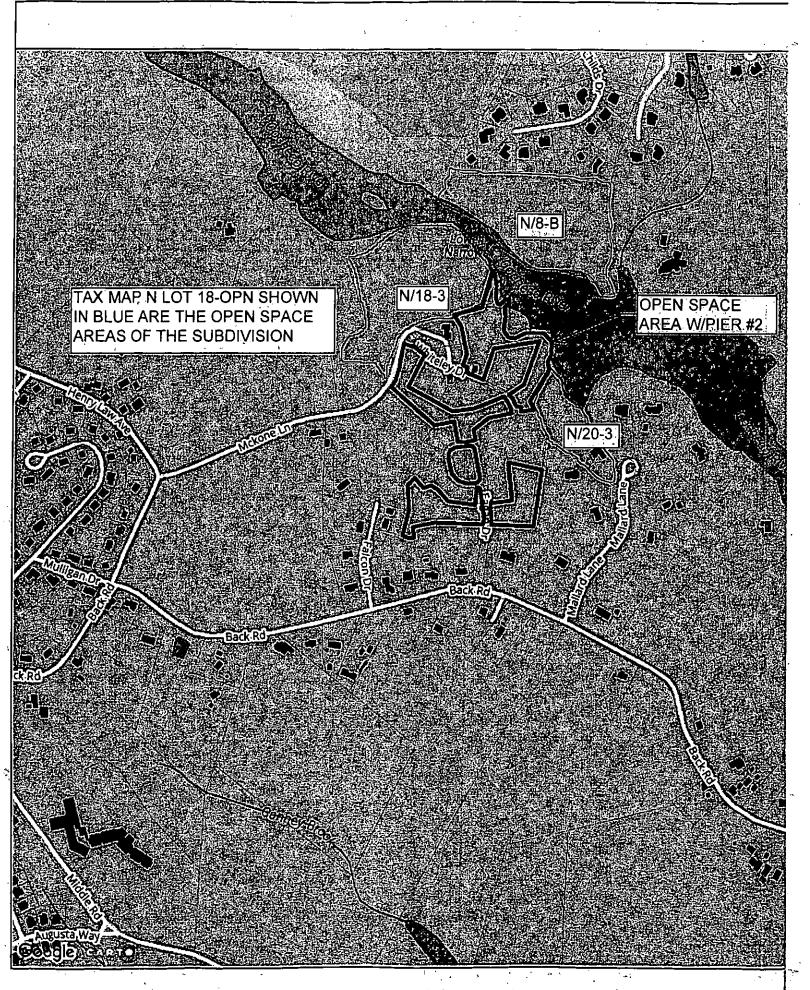
Irm@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2147 NHDES Wetlands Bureau, 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095 www.des.nh.gov

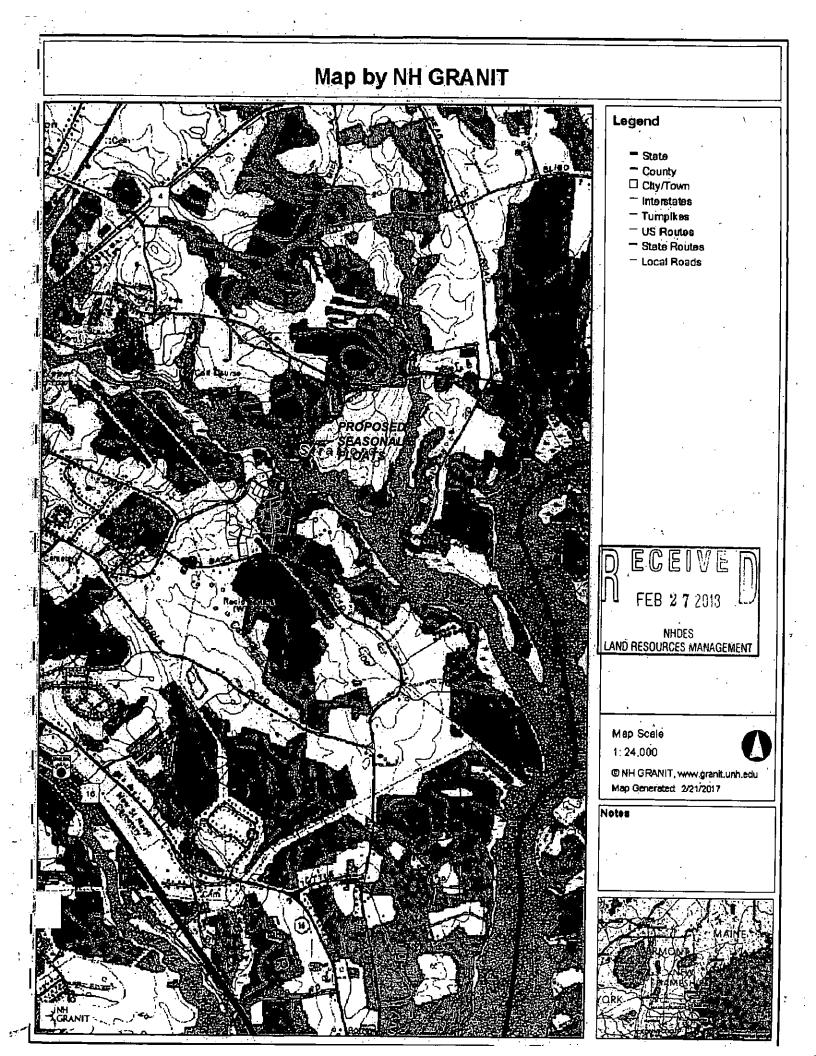
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Memo

NH NATURAL HERITAGE BUREAU NHB DATACHECK RESULTS LETTER

To: Mike Schlosser, MJS Engineering, PC 5 Railroad Street Newmarket, NH 03857

From: Amy Lamb, NH Natural Heritage Bureau

- Date: 2/12/2018 (valid for one year from this date)
 - Re: Review by NH Natural Heritage Bureau
 - NHB File ID:
 NHB18-0468
 Town:
 Dover
 Location:
 Tax Maps:
 Tax Map N Lot 18-OPN5

 Description:
 Amend existing tidal dock permit 2003-02241 for the parpose of adding additional boat slips.
 The proposed temporary impact is for adding seasonal floats only.
 There are monoposed permit 2003-02241 for the parpose of adding additional boat slips.
 The proposed temporary impact is for adding seasonal floats only.

As requested, I have searched our database for records out are speares and exemplary natural communities, with the following results

State 2 Federal

Comments: Recent aerial photography does not show an existing dock within the mapped areas Please clarify the location of the proposed work; there is an existing dock to the northwest of the mapped areas (seemap below).

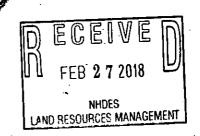
Notes

Natural Community

Low brackish riverbank marsh Superson the second provided expression of th

Codes: "E" = Endangered, "T" = Threatened, "SC" = Special Concern, "-+ = an exempliary natural community, or a fare species tracked by NH Natural Heritage that has not yet been added to the official state lists An asterisk (*) indicates that the most recent report for that occurrence was more than 20 years ago.

A negative result (no record in our database) does not mean that a sensitive species is not present. Our database on information gathered by qualified biologists and reported to our office. However, many areas have never been surveyed, or have only been surveyed for certain species. An on-site survey would provide better information on what species and communities are indeed present.



Department of Natural and Cultural Resources Division of Forests and Lands (603) 271-2214 fax: 271-6488

DNCR/NHB 172 Pembroke Rd. Concord, NH 03301

New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau - Community Record

Low brackish riverbank marsh

Legal State Federal: N		Conservation Status						
	lot listed	crotal retrained (need more information)						
State. 14	, instea	State: Critically imperiled due to rarity or vulnerability						
Description								
Conservatio		Fair quality, condition and/or landscape context ('C' on a scale of A-D).						
Comments	on Rank							
Detailed De	escription	2004: Dominant species are Spartina alterniflora (smooth cord-grass), Amaranthus						
		cannabinus (water hemp), and Typha angustifolia (narrow-leaved cattail). Less frequent are						
•		Lemna minor (lesser duckweed), Polygonum hydropiper (water-pepper), Argentina egedii						
•		(coastal silverweed), Eleocharis parvula (small spike-rush), Ranunculus cymbalaria (seaside						
		crowfoot), Lilaeopsis chinensis (eastern lilaeopsis), and Samolus parviflorus (false water						
		pumpernel). 1988: Forms a narrow zone along the river, dominated by Sparting alterniflora						
		(smooth cord-grass). A few stands of Typha angustifolia (narrow-leaved cattail) exist.						
		mostly less than an acre in size. Rare plant species present are Samolus parviflorus (false						
		water pimpernel), Lilaeopsis chinensis (eastern lilaeopsis), and Eleocharis parvula (small snike-nish). Sparting cleaning on a construction of the sparting cleaning of the sparting of the sp						
		spike-rush). Spartina alterniflora (smooth cord-grass) is dominant. A few stands of Typha angustifolia (narrow-leaved cat-tail) exist. Many exotic species are present. The bases of						
		steep, rocky slopes support virtually no emergent vegetation.						
General Are	a:	2004: This low marsh lies adjacent to a sparsely or narrowly vegetated high brackish tidal						
		<i>riverbank marsh</i> . The high tidal riverbank is often an unvegetated zone grading into the						
		adjacent upland. Some characteristic species are <i>Solidago sempervirens</i> (seaside goldenrod)						
		and Sparting pectingta (fresh-water cord-grass). Along most of the riverbank community.						
		moderate residential and commercial development occurs on adjacent lands. High levels of						
		development occur along the west end of the riverbank in downtown Dover. 1988: A narrow zone along the river. Bordered by steep forested slopes and heavily impacted areas.						
General Con	nments:	the story and the story of the of story included and stores and nearing impacted aleas.						
Managemen	t	2004: Several invasive species occur on the higher margins of the riverbank community,						
Comments:		especially at the west end nearest downtown Dover. They include Lythrum salicaria (purple						
		loosestrite), Phalaris arundinacea (reed canary-grass), Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum (true						
		watercress), Polygonum cuspidatum (Japanese knotweed), and Solanum dulcamara						
		(nightshade). These plants should be monitored. 1988: Guard against future development.						
		Current disturbance includes impacts by rock fill, dams, clearing, and power plant construction.						
ocation								
urvey Site 1 Ianaged By		Cocheco River Narrows						
ianageu Dy	•	Great Bay Megasite						
County: Si	trafford							
•	over							
	4.2 acres	Elevation: 20 feet						
recision:	Withi	n (but not necessarily restricted to) the area indicated on the map.						
virections:	Coche	Pro River downstream of downtown Down 2004. The state is the last state is the						
	down	Cocheco River downstream of downstown Dover. 2004: The tidal riverbank marsh extends from downstown Dover (beginning downstream of Washington Street) to the mouth of the Cochece For						
	the tic	downtown Dover (beginning downstream of Washington Street) to the mouth of the Cocheco. For he tidal marsh nearest downtown Dover, park at Henry Law Park. For the tidal marsh 0.75 miles						
	eastw	astward, from Henry Law Avenue, turn north onto access road to baseball fields. Park in lot for						
	baseb	all fields and walk NE, across power line corridor, to Cocheco River. 1988: Tidal wetlands and						
	shores	along Cocheco River between upper and lower narrows, due east and just downstream of						
	downt	own Dover.						
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First reported:	* 1988-09-13		Last reported:	2004-09-23
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LIST OF OWNERS OF ABUTTING PROPERTY (This includes property directly across the street or streams from the land under consideration. List must also include any and all preparers of plans, studies, etc...)

ABUTTER: MAP N/LOT 18-3 & 8-B			 - ,		<u> </u>
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH & GAME DEPARTMENT 11 HAZEN DRIVE CONCORD, NH 03301	· · · · ·				
ABUTTER: MAP N/LOT 20-3				1	
PAUL & LUANN MAROLD DÖVER, NH 03820		·		•	·
		-		<u>. </u>	

PLEASE PROVIDE NAME & MAILING ADDRESS

