

### The State of New Hampshire

## **Department of Environmental Services**

JUN16'22 AM 8:46 RC

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

June 14, 2022

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

### REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to amend a **SOLE SOURCE** agreement (PO# 1081915) with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) (VC# 175772-R001), Pembroke, NH, by increasing the contract award amount by \$9,900 to \$32,700 from \$22,800 to continue the development of stage/discharge ratings at each of three gage locations and extending the end date of the agreement to June 30, 2023 from July 1, 2022, effective upon Governor and Council approval. The original agreement was approved by the Governor and Council on May 6, 2020, Item #122. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in the following account:

FY 2023

03-44-44-440010-76010000-102-500731

\$ 9,900

Department of Environmental Services, PPG Carryover Funds, Contracts for Program Services

### **EXPLANATION**

This agreement is **SOLE SOURCE** because USGS is the national leader in stream flow measurement. The NHDES Instream Flow Program uses daily stream flow data to evaluate protected instream flow conditions and for applying management. Public confidence in the data quality is important to water users because these measurements will define the management of New Hampshire's water resources. USGS is uniquely qualified to carry out this study with a high degree of accuracy that has earned the public's trust.

This Amendment seeks to add funds to the project to extend the development of stage rating curves derived from field measurements of streamflow at each gage location for an additional year. Rating curves require continued updates because of changes to the stream beds. To date, \$20,363 of the original grant award of \$22,800 has been spent.

The amendment has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General as to form, execution, and content.

We respectfully request your approval.

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AMENDMENT OF JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR

### WATER RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS Amendment Number 1

Agreement #: 20LGJFANH000008 Customer #: 6000000093 Tax ID #: 02-6000618

This an	nendment is for Joint Funding Agreeme	ent 20LGJ	FANH00008, dated July 1, 2020.
with the maintenance of the main	neir respective authorities there shall nance of three staff gages and to devel	be maint	bility of appropriations and in accordance rained in cooperation the operation and aintain stage-discharge ratings for federal ogram. The USGS legal authority is 43
2. Para follows	graphs 2a of the agreement are hereby: :: (a) \$ \$0.00 by the party of the		
	July 1, 2022	to June 3	0, 2023
Par follows	agraph 2b of the agreement are hereby ::	X increas	ed decreased by \$9,900 to read as
	(b) \$ 32,700 by the party of the se July 1, 2022		
within Treasu		the due don thereof,	ate, interest will be charged at the current that the payment is delayed beyond the
	UNITED STATES	NEV	W HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF
DEPA	RTMENT OF THE INTERIOR		ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
U.	S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY		
Ву:	JOHNATHAN Digitally signed by JOHNATHAN BUMGARNER BUMGARNER -04'00' Date: 2022.06.15 08:21:34	By:	Mother Cutt
	(Signature)		(Signature)
	Johnathan Bumgarner		Robert R. Scott
	(Name) Director		Commissioner NHDES
	(Title)		(Title)
Data		Date	6/15/22

Approved as to form, substance, and execution:

Joshua C. Harrison, Asst. Atty. General.

Office of the Attorney General.



# Development of stage-discharge ratings at select sites in New Hampshire

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

U.S. Geological Survey, New England Water Science Center, NH-VT Office in cooperation with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

### Background

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Instream Flow Program requires streamflow data at select locations to manage Designated Rivers. As demands on streamflow in the form of regulation, withdrawals, and diversions increase, it is critical to ensure that there is adequate streamflow to meet various objectives, such as public water supply, agricultural and industrial water usage, recreation, and aquatic habitat protection. Typically, streamflows are determined at U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) streamgages. However, it is impractical to gage all streams in New Hampshire and at many sites where streamflow data is needed, streamgages do not exist. In 2018 USGS, in cooperation with NHDES, evaluated methods to estimate streamflow by employing record extension techniques used to reconstruct historic records of streamflow by correlating between streamflows at the site of interest and concurrent streamflows at a nearby long-term USGS streamgage (Olson and Meyerhofer, 2019). In 2020, alternative methods for providing streamflow data at select locations were implemented by 1) installing and maintaining USGS staff gages at three select sites in New Hampshire and 2) collecting field measurements of discharge for the development of stage-discharge ratings.

### **Objectives**

The purpose of this proposed workplan is to continue the collection of field measurements of discharge and the development of stage-discharge ratings at the three selected locations (table 1) for State Fiscal Year 2023.

Table 1. Select locations for USGS staff gages in New Hampshire [TBD, to be determined].

Site Number	Name	Drainage Area (sqmi)	Period of continuous record
01090812	Piscataquog R blw Gorham Bk, near Goffstown, NH	75.9	
01084000	North Branch River near Antrim, NH	54.8	1924-70, 2009-11
01137940	Ammonoosuc R blw Lisbon Dam, at Lisbon, NH	288	2009-2011

### Approach

Staff gages are established at three locations, two of which were previously maintained as USGS streamgages (table 1). Field measurements will be collected over a range of conditions with emphasis given to normal and below-normal streamflow's (less than 75-percent flow duration). Six to ten discharge measurements will be collected annually to establish and maintain the stage-discharge rating at each location. Discharge measurements will not be collected during periods affected by backwater from ice. Stage-discharge ratings will not be developed for periods of temporary backwater from ice or debris. Streamflow data are collected and finalized in accordance with USGS techniques and methods as published in the following documents:

- A) Discharge Measurements at Gaging Stations, https://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/tm3-a8/
- B) Stage Measurement at Gaging Stations, https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/tm3A7
- C) Levels at Gaging Stations, https://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/tm3A19/
- D) Computation of Continuous Records of Streamflow, https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/twri03A13

Additional references in surface water techniques and methods can be viewed at <a href="https://www.usgs.gov/mission-areas/water-resources/science/science-topics/techniques-and-methods">https://www.usgs.gov/mission-areas/water-resources/science/science-topics/techniques-and-methods</a>

### Relevance and Benefits

Results from this study will provide data that are critical to the wise management of New Hampshire's water resources. The information can be used by New Hampshire water-resource managers for planning, management, and permitting decisions to help ensure adequate water for consumptive use, water-quality standards, recreation, and aquatic habitat protection.

### **Products**

Field measurements and ratings will be quality assured according to USGS protocol. Field measurements will be published and publicly available through the USGS National Water Information System: Web Interface. Stage-discharge ratings will be provided through the USGS ratings depot at

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwisweb/get\_ratings?site\_no=XXXXXXXX&file\_type=exsa where XXXXXXXX refers to the eight digit USGS streamgage identifier (table 1).

### Project Staffing, Costs, and Funding

Work required to meet the objectives will be carried out by hydrologic technicians from the USGS. These USGS staff will collaborate, as needed, with state officials. The total cost of the project is \$9,900 to be provided by NHDES with rating development and maintenance costs of \$3,300 per site per year.

### Reference

Olson, S.A., and Meyerhofer, A.J., 2019, Development and evaluation of a record extension technique for estimating discharge at selected stream sites in New Hampshire: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2019–5066, 23 p., <a href="https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20195066">https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20195066</a>.

### For further information contact:

Richard Kiah, rkiah@usgs.gov, or (603) 226-7819



### The State of New Hampshire

## **Department of Environmental Services**



### Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

April 17, 2020

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

DATE LEMAY 2020

**REQUESTED ACTION** 

Authorize the Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to enter into a **SOLE SOURCE** agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Pembroke, NH, (VC# 175772-R001), in the amount of \$22,800 for installing staff gages at three locations and develop stage ratings based on field measurements of streamflow at each gage location, effective as of July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022, upon Governor and Council approval. 100% General Funds.

Funding is available in the following account with the ability to adjust encumbrances between State fiscal years through the Budget Office, if needed and justified. Funding for fiscal year 2022 is contingent upon continuing appropriations and availability of funds.

FY 2021

FY 2022

03-44-44-442010-1518-102-50731

\$13,050

\$9,750

Department of Environmental Services, Lakes-Rivers Management, Contracts for Program Services

### **EXPLANATION**

The agreement is **SOLE SOURCE** because USGS is the national leader in instream flow knowledge. The results from this study will provide data that are critical to the management of New Hampshire's water resources. The information will be used by New Hampshire water-resource managers for planning, management, and permitting decisions to help ensure adequate water for consumptive use, water-quality standards, recreation, and aquatic habitat protection.

The NHDES Instream Flow Program uses daily stream flow data collected at USGS gaging stations to evaluate protected instream flow conditions for applying management. High-quality and reliable results are important to ensure actions are undertaken only when required. NHDES needs sustained measurements of stream flows at more locations than are currently available. These three staff gages and stage ratings would allow NHDES to obtain daily flow data at currently ungaged locations and to post the data to the NHDES website for public use.

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu and The Honorable Council

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This expenditure is critical at this time to prevent the Instream Flow Program from falling behind schedule for development of protected instream flows for New Hampshire's Designated Rivers under RSA 483. This expenditure also takes advantage of a window of opportunity for USGS availability. See Attachment A for more information.

Under the this Agreement, staff gages will be established by USGS at three locations, two of which were previously maintained as USGS streamgages. The timing of installations will depend on obtaining permissions from land owners. Field measurements will be collected over a range of conditions with emphasis given to streamflows at or below normal conditions (less than 75-percent flow duration). Streamflow data will be collected and finalized in accordance with USGS techniques and methods.

Under this Agreement, NHDES will provide \$22,800 (100%) to USGS to install the staff gages and develop stage ratings based on field measurements of streamflow at each gage location. The agreement has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General as to form, execution, and content.

We respectfully request your approval of this item.

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

Form 9-1366 (May 2018)

# U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey Joint Funding Agreement FOR

**Water Resource Investigations** 

Customer #: 6000000093 Agreement #: 20LGJFANH000008

Project #: LG40FDZ TIN #: 02-6000618

Fixed Cost Agreement YES[X]NO[]

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into as of the July 1, 2020, by the U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, New England Water Science Center, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, party of the first part, and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services party of the second part.

- 1. The parties hereto agree that subject to the availability of appropriations and in accordance with their respective authorities there shall be maintained in cooperation the operation and maintenance of three staff gages and to develop and maintain stage-discharge ratings (per attachment), herein called the program. The USGS legal authority is 43 USC 36C; 43 USC 50, and 43 USC 50b.
- 2. The following amounts shall be contributed to cover all of the cost of the necessary field and analytical work directly related to this program. 2(b) include In-Kind-Services in the amount of \$0.00
  - (a) by the party of the first part during the period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022
  - (b) \$22,800 by the party of the second part during the period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022
  - (c) Contributions are provided by the party of the first part through other USGS regional or national programs, in the amount of:

Description of the USGS regional/national program:

- (d) Additional or reduced amounts by each party during the above period or succeeding periods as may be determined by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties.
- (e) The performance period may be changed by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties.
- 3. The costs of this program may be paid by either party in conformity with the laws and regulations respectively governing each party.
- 4. The field and analytical work pertaining to this program shall be under the direction of or subject to periodic review by an authorized representative of the party of the first part.
- 5. The areas to be included in the program shall be determined by mutual agreement between the parties hereto or their authorized representatives. The methods employed in the field and office shall be those adopted by the party of the first part to insure the required standards of accuracy subject to modification by mutual agreement.
- 6. During the course of this program, all field and analytical work of either party pertaining to this program shall be open to the inspection of the other party, and if the work is not being carried on in a mutually satisfactory manner, either party may terminate this agreement upon 60 days written notice to the other party.
- 7. The original records resulting from this program will be deposited in the office of origin of those records. Upon request, copies of the original records will be provided to the office of the other party.
- 8. The maps, records or reports resulting from this program shall be made available to the public as promptly as possible. The maps, records or reports normally will be published by the party of the first part. However, the party of the second part reserves the right to publish the results of this program, and if already published by the party of the first part shall, upon request, be furnished by the party of the first part, at cost, impressions suitable for purposes of reproduction similar to that for which the original copy was prepared. The maps, records or reports published by either party shall contain a statement of the cooperative relations between the parties. The Parties acknowledge that scientific information and data developed as a result of the Scope of Work (SOW) are subject to applicable USGS review, approval, and release requirements, which are available on the USGS Fundamental Science Practices website (https://www.usgs.gov/about/organization/science-support/science-quality-and-integrity/fundamental-science-practices).

Form 9-1366 (May 2018)

U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey **Joint Funding Agreement FOR** 

Customer #: 6000000093 Agreement #: 20LGJFANH000008

Project #: LG40FDZ TIN #: 02-6000618

### **Water Resource Investigations**

9. Billing for this agreement will be rendered guarterly. Invoices not paid within 60 days from the billing date will bear Interest, Penalties, and Administrative cost at the annual rate pursuant the Debt Collection Act of 1982, (codified at 31 U.S.C. § 3717) established by the U.S. Treasury.

### **USGS Technical Point of Contact**

**Customer Technical Point of Contact** 

Name:

Richard Kiah

Name: Address: Wayne Ives

Supervisory Hydrologic Technician

Hydrogeologist

Address:

331 Commerce Way Suite #2

29 Hazen Drive

Telephone:

Pembroke, NH 03275-3718 (603) 226-7819

Telephone:

Concord, NH 03302 (603) 271-3548

Fax: Email: (603) 226-7894 rkiah@usgs.gov

Fax: Email:

wayne.ives@des.nh.gov

### **USGS Billing Point of Contact**

**Customer Billing Point of Contact** 

Name:

Amanda Arsenault **Budget Analyst** 

Name:

Address:

Wayne Ives

Address:

196 Whitten Rd.

Hydrogeologist

29 Hazen Drive

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wayne.ives@des.rih.gov

U.S. Geological Survey **United States** Department of Interior

**New Hampshire Department of Environmental** Services

#### Signature

JOHNATHAN S BUMGARNER #

Date: 03/24/2020

Name: Johnathan Bumgarner

Title: Director, New England Water Science Center

Signatures

By Wayne Ives

Date: 3/26/2020

Name: Wayne Ives

Title: Instream Flow Specialist

By Kut (28) Date: 4/5/20

Name: Robert R Scott

Name: Joshua Haccison Title: Assistant Attorny General NH Dept. of Justice

& As to form, substance, and execution.

## AHACHMENT A

## **USGS**

## Development of stage-discharge ratings at select sites in New Hampshire

July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022

U.S. Geological Survey, New England Water Science Center, NH-VT Office in cooperation with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

### Background

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Instream Flow Program requires streamflow data at select locations to manage Designated Rivers. As demands on streamflow in the form of regulation, withdrawals, and diversions increase, it is critical to ensure that there is adequate streamflow to meet various objectives, such as public water supply, agricultural and industrial water usage, recreation, and aquatic habitat protection. Typically, streamflows are determined at U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) streamgages. However, it is impractical to gage all streams in New Hampshire and at many sites where streamflow data is needed, streamgages do not exist. In 2018 USGS, in cooperation with NHDES, evaluated methods to estimate streamflow by employing record extension techniques used to reconstruct historic records of streamflow by correlating between streamflows at the site of interest and concurrent streamflows at a nearby long-term USGS streamgage (Olson and Meyerhofer, 2019). The purpose of this proposed workplan is to implement alternative methods for providing streamflow data at select locations by 1) installing and maintaining USGS staff gages at three select sites in New Hampshire and 2) collecting field measurements of discharge for the development of stage-discharge ratings.

### **Objectives**

The purpose of this workplan is to:

- 1. Install and maintain USGS staff gages at three select locations (table 1).
- Develop and maintain stage-discharge ratings based on field measurements of streamflow at each location for a period of two years.

Table 1. Select locations for USGS staff gages in New Hampshire [TBD, to be determined].

Site Number		Drainage Area	
raumper	Name Name	(sqmi)	Period of record
TBD	Piscataquog River near Goffstown, NH	TBD	
01084000	North Branch River near Antrim, NH	54.8	1924-70, 2009-11
01137940	Ammonoosuc R blw Lisbon Dam, at Lisbon, NH	288	2009-2011

### **Approach**

Staff gages will be established at three locations, two of which were previously maintained as USGS streamgages (table 1). The timing of installations will be dependent on obtaining permissions from landowners. Staff gages will be established at previously monitored locations on the North Branch near Antrim (USGS station 01084000) and Ammonoosuc River at Lisbon (USGS station 01137940) if landowner permission is granted. A suitable location for erecting a staff gage on the Piscataquog River near Goffstown will be selected based on consultation with the NHDES Instream Flow Specialist.

Field measurements will be collected over a range of conditions with emphasis given to normal and below-normal streamflow's (less than 75-percent flow duration). Six to ten discharge measurements will be collected annually to establish and maintain the stage-discharge rating at each location. Discharge measurements will not be collected during periods affected by backwater from ice. Streamflow data are collected and finalized in accordance with USGS techniques and methods as published in the following documents:

- A) Discharge Measurements at Gaging Stations, <a href="https://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/tm3-a8/">https://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/tm3-a8/</a>
- B) Stage Measurement at Gaging Stations, https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/tm3A7
- C) Levels at Gaging Stations, https://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/tm3A19/
- D) Computation of Continuous Records of Streamflow, https://pubs.cr.usgs.gov/publication/twri03A13

Additional references in surface water techniques and methods can be viewed at <a href="https://nd.water.usgs.gov/pubs/wdr/wdrnd001/htdocs/d.publicationsw00.html">https://nd.water.usgs.gov/pubs/wdr/wdrnd001/htdocs/d.publicationsw00.html</a>

### Relevance and Benefits

Results from this study will provide data that are critical to the wise management of New Hampshire's water resources. The information can be used by New Hampshire water-resource managers for planning, management, and permitting decisions to help ensure adequate water for consumptive use, water-quality standards, recreation, and aquatic habitat protection.

### **Products**

Field measurements and ratings will be quality assured according to USGS protocol.

Field measurements will be published and publicly available through the USGS National Water
Information System: Web Interface. Stage-discharge ratings will be provided through the USGS ratings depot at

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwisweb/get\_ratings?site\_no=XXXXXXXX&file\_type=exsa\_where XXXXXXXX refers to the eight digit USGS streamgage identifier.

### **Project Timeline**

Timeline for this project is shown below [FY, fiscal year].

Task	State FY 2021 State FY 202						022	<b>2</b>																
	J	A	S	0	N	D	3	F.	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	0	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	j
Staff installation	×	X	*.			* 16 (2)	N.		#W.)\								13.7			1 1	100 mg/s			
Rating development and maintenance	x	x	X	X	X	X	1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2			x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X

### Project Staffing, Costs, and Funding

Work required to meet the objectives will be carried out by hydrologic technicians from the USGS. These USGS staff will collaborate, as needed, with state officials. The total cost of the

project for the two-year period is \$22,800 to be provided by NHDES with installation costs of \$1,100 per site and rating development and maintenance costs of \$3,250 per site per year.

Task	State Fiscal Year						
	2021	2022					
Staff installation	\$3,300						
Rating development and maintenance	\$9,750	\$9,750					
Total	\$13,050	\$9,750					

### Reference

Olson, S.A., and Meyerhofer, A.J., 2019, Development and evaluation of a record extension technique for estimating discharge at selected stream sites in New Hampshire: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2019–5066, 23 p., <a href="https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20195066">https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20195066</a>.

### For further information contact:

Richard Kiah, rkiah@usgs.gov, or (603) 226-7819



# Development of stage-discharge ratings at select sites in New Hampshire

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

U.S. Geological Survey, New England Water Science Center, NH-VT Office in cooperation with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

### Background

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### **Objectives**

The purpose of this proposed workplan is to continue the collection of field measurements of discharge and the development of stage-discharge ratings at the three selected locations (table 1) for State Fiscal Year 2023.

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- D) Computation of Continuous Records of Streamflow, <a href="https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/twri03A13">https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/twri03A13</a>

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### Relevance and Benefits

Results from this study will provide data that are critical to the wise management of New Hampshire's water resources. The information can be used by New Hampshire water-resource managers for planning, management, and permitting decisions to help ensure adequate water for consumptive use, water-quality standards, recreation, and aquatic habitat protection.

### **Products**

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Field measurements will be published and publicly available through the USGS National Water Information System: Web Interface. Stage-discharge ratings will be provided through the USGS ratings depot at

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### Project Staffing, Costs, and Funding

Work required to meet the objectives will be carried out by hydrologic technicians from the USGS. These USGS staff will collaborate, as needed, with state officials. The total cost of the project is \$9,900 to be provided by NHDES with rating development and maintenance costs of \$3,300 per site per year.

### Reference

Olson, S.A., and Meyerhofer, A.J., 2019, Development and evaluation of a record extension technique for estimating discharge at selected stream sites in New Hampshire: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2019–5066, 23 p., https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20195066.

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Richard Kiah, rkiah@usgs.gov, or (603) 226-7819