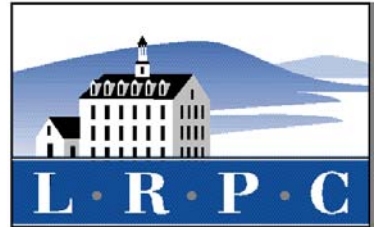


LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

103 Main Street, Suite #3
Meredith, NH 03253
tel (603) 279-8171
fax (603) 279-0200
www.lakesrpc.org



Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Management Plan *Meredith, Paugus, & Sanders Bays*

NOTES

LWWMP Public Presentation
Meredith Community Center
January 5, 2010
1:00 – 3:30 pm

1:00 Rick called the meeting to order and introduced members of the LWWMP group. Everyone in the room introduced themselves and their affiliations.

Rick explained that the LWWMP is taking a subwatershed approach that involves the towns of Gilford, Laconia and Meredith. This is in contrast to considering the entire Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed as a whole.

Rick began the presentation, explaining that the project focuses on phosphorous. He went through the watershed planning and implementation process.

Erica and Pat presented phosphorous data, comparing the state monitoring data with the modeling data. Pat explained that there has been spotty water sampling in the lake throughout the years, leading to the need for modeling phosphorous levels rather than relying on simply water quality monitoring data. Erica explained that the entire Lake Winnepesaukee is considered Oligotrophic, but that the individual bays may not be classified as such.

Comment: It is important to note that the bays, that have the most phosphorous and invasive aquatic plants, are where visitors see the lake.

Comment: There needs to be more communication between groups that are monitoring water quality as there should be a standardization for collecting water quality.

Erica explained that that is a goal of the project. One of the outcomes is a website that will be a way for groups to share information and perhaps develop a comprehensive and collaborative annual report that covers the water quality of Lake Winnepesaukee.

Comment: It was noted that DES is limited to reviewing plans when it qualified for review under Alteration of terrain < 50,000 square feet with the shoreland zone and < 100,000 square

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feet outside of the shoreland zone or CSPA. The commenter asked what municipalities can do when it falls below that, but is still significant. S. Landry replied that DES will collaborate with municipalities to develop protocols.

Comment: How can we get more water quality monitoring happening?

Pat responded that municipalities could work with UNH to train more volunteers throughout the watershed.

Rick responded that the group hopes to move from the models to actual sample data. He posed the question of whether or not the state maximum phosphorous level is an acceptable benchmark for communities. Whether or not subdivision regulations are good enough.

Comment: How should municipalities address developed properties - issues that do not go in front of the planning board? How to approach the small projects?

Comment: There should be a Low-impact Design component to building permits.

Comment: Phosphorous in soap? Commenter suggested education is necessary about this.

Comment: We should be working with landscaping companies, educating them on the danger of over-fertilizing. Contractor/Landscaper certification program

Comment: Need BMPs for small-scale projects and retrofits. [Perhaps creation of a BMP guide or slimmed down version of the DES stormwater manual]

Comment: This is going to take a lot of money that is not necessarily available.

Comment: Prevention is much more cost-effective than clean-up.

Comment: Need technical assistance at the local level - design a roadmap for municipalities. Set a subwatershed water quality goal and have a plan for monitoring those values. Creation of a “roadmap” and being able to present that to boards for buy-in.

Creation of sub-groups:

Discussion finished the meeting by possibility of creating sub-groups or committees. Perhaps the following would be appropriate:

- Outreach/Education

- Fundraising

- Local Technical Assistance (land use, regulatory, BMPs, etc.)

- Water Quality

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Several attendees volunteered to participate in a subgroup or assist where they can. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm. The LWWMP team encouraged people to sign the sign-in sheet to stay updated on their progress.

White Board Notes

Questions:

- Communication between players (better)
- Standardization of data
- Fragmented efforts
 - Coordination
 - Effectiveness
 - Outcomes

- What triggers state action? Would entire lake need to exceed state limit before intervention?
- If land disturbance falls below state permit threshold and water is determined impaired - what happens? How will mandate be addressed?
- How can more water quality happen?
 - How can individuals/towns do more?
 - Organize more volunteers and work with LWWMP and State.
- Where do shoreline parcels fit into land use categories
- What can you do with existing lots of record and small parcels within available or new regulatory strategies? Perhaps integration within building permit process.

- "P" standard and how to achieve it
 - education
 - regulation
- Long-term / consistent monitoring in lake, near-shore and tributaries
- Effectiveness of our actions