Lamprey River Advisory Committee

Overseeing the Lamprey Wild and Scenic River FY11 Accomplishments—1st and 2nd Quarters

Background

- 1991 Wild and scenic study authorized and advisory committee formed.
- 1996 Lamprey River designated by Congress.
- Four towns: Epping, Lee, Durham and Newmarket.
- Classification/Mileage: Recreational / 23.5 miles 11.5 miles were designated on November 12, 1996 and another 12 miles were designated May 2, 2000.
- Major partners: Lamprey River Watershed Association, NH Department of Environmental Services, local municipalities, riverfront landowners
- Outstanding resource values:
 - <u>Ecology</u>: Most important tributary to the Great Bay. Undeveloped floodplain, shoreline and wetlands provide an outstanding diversity of wildlife habitats and support regionally significant populations of freshwater mussels;
 - <u>Anadromous Fish</u>: NH's most important anadromous fishery because of its species diversity and habitat quality.
 - <u>Archaeology</u>: Wadleigh Falls site is recognized as one of the earliest and most important in the state and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Land Conservation

- Closed on two land conservation projects.
- Placed 745.4 acres with a total of 9,077 feet of frontage on the Lamprey, Piscassic and Pawtuckaway Rivers under conservation.
- Held site walks held at numerous other properties, and conducted appraisals.

Owner	Partners	Acres	River Frontage	Town	\$ Leveraged
Friel	NRCS, SELT	531.4	6,877'	Epping	\$1,559,707
Bell	Towns of Raymond	214	2,200' (Pawtuckaway)	Raymond and	\$105,400
	and Epping, and Open			Epping	
	Space Institute				

Outreach and Education

- Completed beta version update of Lamprey River Advisory Committee's website under a contract with ActOne Creative.
- Offered third program of a three part series called "A Sense of Time and Place along the Lamprey." (First two were offered in FY2010)
 - Hosted an event called "Lamprey on the Horizon" that focused on current issues including impairment and recreation.
- Worked with Oyster River High School on project to document vernal pools.
- Published several outreach articles in the local press.
- Implemented small grants program:
 - Received presentations from the four recipients of 2010 Small Grants.
 - Released an RFP for the 2011 grant cycle.

Recreation

- Executed contract with Doane's Landscaping for a hand-carry boat launch near Wadleigh Falls in Lee.
 - o Purchased materials to build the boat access.
 - Researched signage warning boaters of a downstream dam/waterfall.
- Worked on the development of an informational kiosk at the waterfront park in Newmarket.

Water Quality/Quantity

- Funded continued water quality monitoring and research by the UNH Lamprey River Observatory.
- Participated in the Water Management Planning Area Advisory Committee meetings for the New Hampshire instream flow program.

History and Archaeology

- Installed an information kiosk at the John Hatch Memorial Park at the Wiswall Dam.
- Participated in project design meetings for the Wiswall Dam & Fish Ladder Project.
 - Ensured that a critical corner of the old sawmill foundation will be preserved in situ.

Wildlife

- Completed a study to document mollusk populations in the Lamprey River Watershed including the status of the state-listed Brook floater mussel. The study was conducted under contract by Biodrawversity LLC.
- Received a presentation by Matt Carpenter of NH Fish and Game on the status of a watershedwide survey to document the fish community at the catchment level and identify any observed habitat impacts.
- Approved a proposal for a dragonfly survey by a UNH undergrad student to be conducted under the direction of NH Audubon.

Project Review

- Reviewed all proposed projects for the designated portions of the Lamprey River, and provided input on those potentially affecting other portions of the river.
 - Provided comment to the NH Department of Environmental Services regarding adjustment of its §401 Water Quality Certificate for Durham/UNH water withdrawal.
 - Reviewed and commented on the Wiswall Dam & Fish Ladder Project.

Miscellaneous

- Participated on committee to designate remaining portions of the Lamprey River under the NH River Management and Protection Program.
 - Legislation doing so (HB149) passed the NH House in March and is now being considered by the NH Senate.