

**Hodgson Brook Local Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, March 6, 2007 from 4:30 -- 6:00 PM**  
**NH Community Technical College, Pease International Tradeport**

In attendance: Ann Smith, Jen Drociak, Doug DePorter, Steve Miller, Dave Burdick, Ted Walsh, Dan Coons, Peter Britz, Stephen Jones, Natalie Landry, Barbara McMillan, Julia Peterson, Maria Stowell, Candace Dolan.

Dave Burdick Chaired the meeting. The HBAB reviewed the minutes from the December 12, 2006 meeting. No changes were noted. A motion to approve was forwarded and seconded. Minutes passed unanimously.

Ted Walsh, NHDES VRAP Water Quality Specialist reviewed the results of the data collected during the 2006 sampling season and presented the *New Hampshire Volunteer River Assessment Program 2006 Hodgson Brook Watershed Report*. Ted stressed the importance and value of the QAQC processes all volunteer-collected VRAP data must pass to be included in the reports. These quality control measures include field analytical quality control criteria which if they are exceeded disqualify the data from use.

Ted discussed the results of all parameters measured by volunteers and DES installed data loggers during the sampling season. These data points included Dissolved Oxygen (01-GFB and 01-BAT did not meet NH Class B standards on seven and five occasions respectively), pH (the same two stations did not make standards on two occasions each), Turbidity (again 01-GFB and 01-BAT did not meet NH Class B Standards on three and two occasions). Ted reported that Specific Conductance levels were variable and high throughout the entire watershed. Site 01-BAT consistently measured the highest, likely indicative of the road salts deposited on nearby roads and parking lots. Data loggers deployed in October at four sites in the Brook showed the effects high rainfall events have on flushing the system. Specific conductance levels dropped dramatically for a short time after > 2' of rainfall. As rainwater began to flow out of the watershed, specific conductance levels began to rise again.

Ted commented that there is an anticipated upcoming standard for conductivity. Discussion ensued about the possible amendable sources of chloride in the 01-BAT drainage area i.e. Pannaway Manor neighborhood and numerous parking lots.

Ted also spoke briefly about the staff gauge and flow measurements recorded at 0M-HOB and the use of the data to develop a rating curve which will allow stage height readings taken by volunteers to be accurately converted to flow readings. The total volume of discharge will allow us to estimate pollutant loading. A recommendation was made to continue to take occasional flow measurements during the summer at this station for the purpose of adding additional data points to the rating curve.

A subcommittee of HBAB members including Steve Jones, Natalie Landry and Candace Dolan was established to review the design of the current data collection plan and determine if changes are necessary during the 2007 season.

Possible locations for Hodgson Brook signs were reviewed, discussed and prioritized by the board. Two locations were identified as high priority sign sites and they were the restored section of Grafton Ditch which is visible on the right side of Grafton Drive coming in off Route #33 and the Corporate Drive crossing at Newfields Ditch across the street from the Pease sewage treatment plant. The outreach subcommittee will meet on March 20<sup>th</sup> to review the sites and discuss possible options.

Because the meeting was running late Natalie Landry only spoke very briefly about the three new projects planned for the new grant and upcoming work plan which will be discussed further at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6:00 pm at the NH Community Technical College.

A motion was raised to adjourn and seconded. A unanimous vote was made to adjourn.