

## **Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee**

February 16, 2006

Merrimack, NH

Present at meeting: Diane Fitzpatrick, Spencer Brookes, Marshall Butterick, Kleta Dudley, George May and Celeste Barr.

January 2006 minutes were approved.

### **Updates**

Steve Couture is back at the NH DES from Iraq.

Souhegan River management plan status- NRPC is still incorporating NHDES comments into the plan. It is almost ready for distribution.

SorLAC display will premier at the Trails Expo February 26 at the Milford Town Hall hosted by the Milford Conservation Commission. Spencer will staff the booth this day. Celeste, George and Diane will also be there.

Display will travel:

March 7-14 New Ipswich then to Greenville Town Hall

April 11 Merrimack voting

April 18 Wilton

Spencer will get Amherst dates from Rich Hart.

Celeste will update the SORLAC contact list and distribute.

Instream flow meeting—Diane and Spencer attended. Interesting to note are findings that riparian vegetation is changing with water flow ie. The flood control dams have affected vegetation. Sycamores have replaced silver maple. The flood control dams alter water temperature and fish habitat.

The green bridge in Milford is the demarcation for the upper and lower Souhegan river based on gradient and river bottom. The key problem area of water 'drawouts' is Stony Brook.

Legislature decided that sludge cannot be spread within 250' of a protected river.

George will check with Carl Paulsen, NH Rivers Program regarding the alert about a landfill siting on the Merrimack River.

Updates

New Ipswich-- Kleta reported that Doug wrote a wetlands ordinance to go on the ballot.

Greenville- There is a new 30 acre SPNHF area in the watershed. It can be accessed by a NH Div of Trails old rail bed.

Wilton—Abbot Hill Acres Road has a proposed subdivision of 13-14 houses. The developers have verbally agreed to riparian rights and powerline access. This is a cluster development.

The Natural Resource Inventory is progressing in Wilton.

Next meeting March 16 in Wilton Town Hall.

April Meeting will be in Greenville.

May meeting will have an optional hike at 6 pm to Wildcat Falls and the Merrimack Village Dam. The group will meet at the Merrimack Fire Station near the dam at 6 pm.

The regular meeting will start at 7:30 in the town hall.

June meeting will be held in New Ipswich.