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NH Rivers Management Advisory Committee

NH Rivers Management and Protection Program



January 12, 2026

The Honorable John Janigian, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
Granite Place, Room 159
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 1810 *An act relative to a road salt fee to support certified winter road maintenance practices.*

Dear Chair Janigian and Members of the Committee,

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **support of House Bill 1810**, which creates a road salt fee.

The RMAC supports this bill because

- Road salt, when stored improperly and used in excess, causes chloride pollution in the state's surface waters leading to saltier aquatic environments which impact native species and drinking water supplies;
- Roads are often built along rivers and the salt that scatters and bounces as well as the salt that which dissolves will enter rivers;
- The salt reduction program ensures that road salt is handled properly so as to limit chloride pollution and ensures training is available for state and municipal road salt handlers; and
- This program requires adequate funding to carry out its necessary duties for the preservation of our state's surface water quality.

The RMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to administer RSA 483, the Rivers Management and Protection Program. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is composed of members from business, agriculture, hydroelectric, municipal government, water supply, conservation, recreation, fish and game, and historical interests.

Should you have any questions regarding our testimony in support of HB 1810, feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or MLT@naturesource.net.

Sincerely,

Michele L. Tremblay, Chair

cc: Representative Darby
RMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES