

Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee (SoRLAC)
September 17, 2026
7:00pm - 8:30pm SoRLAC meeting minutes
Milford Police Station

Attendees: Cory Ritz, Robert Clemens, Alan Preston, Marion Kastner, Eric Doberstein, Marshall Buttrick, Andrew Duane, Rich Hart, Celeste Barr, Jaclyn Hodgkins

Absent: Marcy Stanton, George May

Agenda

1. New Business:

- a. MDs Trash Removal – *Chuck Ritchie from Fieldstone presented.*
 - i. Please see - [Plan Set Drawings](#)
 - ii. Comment from Nate Chamberlin, “The project is being fast tracked and was conditionally approved at the planning board last night so we would like to discuss it with the SoRLAC at the meeting this week. We realize this is a little early but plan on filing the AoT application in the coming weeks. We look forward to reviewing the plan with the commission Thursday evening.”

After the presentation there was discussion about the Savage well shed and if the state had decommissioned it per state regulations. This should be reviewed and determined. A recommendation was made to have the plans show the proximity of the Souhegan River to the site to be developed.

2. Old Business:

- a. Review and approve August minutes. *Marshall made a motion to approve the August minutes, Eric 2nd, all in favor, Rob and Marion abstained.*
Marion to send August minutes to NRPC and verify July minutes have also been sent.
- b. **Village Landing:** DES has requested more information for both the AOT and Shoreland permits. This is not yet settled, there is still a lot of work to be done. *Cory has sent initial comments.*
 - i. [DES Shoreland Letter](#)
 - ii. [DES AOT Letter](#)
- c. **New Power Poles** (Milford, Amherst, Merrimack). DES had asked AECOM to respond to SoRLAC comments. *Cory responded and AeCOM also responded to the comments made by both the state and Cory.*

- i. [AECOM Response Letter](#)

3. Corridor Management Plan

- a. Section 604(b) Water Quality Planning Grant and Section 319 Watershed Assistance Grant Submitted to DES on Sept 11. Should hear back in November.
 - i. Project, "Beaver Brook Restoration Blueprint"
 - ii. [Application](#)

4. SWA - discussion

- a. Follow-up discussion on the potential creation of an SWA subcommittee. Discussion to include potential structure, responsibilities, and whether creation of a subcommittee works for SoRLAC, particularly if SoRLAC were to establish a treasurer position and manage funding-related activities.
- b. *Rob Clemens moved to endorse the SWA to be a subcommittee of SoRLAC and be chaired by Eric Doberstein. Andrew Duane 2nd. Opened to the group for discussion. Final vote, all in favor.*
- c. *The set up of the SWA as a subcommittee will require a checking account to be created and a Treasurer appointed for SoRLAC. Cory Ritz moved elect Celeste Barr as Treasurer, Rob Clemens 2nd, all in favor.*
- d. *Once the bank account is opened Eric will notify Georg to move the current SWA funds into the account.*
- e. *Meetings will be held at the end of the SoRLAC meeting.*

5. Outreach:

- a. *Marcy has advised that she will be pulling back from the committee some. Marion is resigning from the committee after the October meeting to move out of state.*
- b. *Any upcoming events? No upcoming events were discussed, instead there was a lot of discussion about social media presence to help with the recruitment of members. Our current Facebook page needs updating but we cannot access it until George moves the access. Eric will work with George in the next month to complete this. Once we have access, Jaclyn will work on the page to update it and link to Twitter. If we can not get the administrator changed on the current Facebook page then Jaclyn will create a new one. Cory to create a SoRLAC email to be associated with the social media.*

6. Recruiting

No updates

7. Local updates:

- i. Souhegan Watershed Association – *discussed above.*
- ii. New Ipswich – n/a
- iii. Greenville

1. Souhegan Stream Cleanup Success!! A large mix of bottles, glass, cans and trash. Looked like old and new trash, dated a pull-tab Coors can to mid-80s, also found a Coke bottle dated 1987.



- iv. Temple – n/a
- v. Wilton – *Discussion was had about a new concern with arsenic in apple orchards. Temple is clear cutting some orchards near Wilton border. Alan is not sure where the concern is coming from but feels like it may become a bigger issue due to several of the surrounding towns having multiple orchards in the past.*
- vi. Milford – n/a
- vii. Amherst – *Rob received a letter from Matt Wood from the state announcing the draft 2026, 303(d) list of impaired surface waters and related documents. Cory, Marshall and others also received this letter. We are asking all members to review the documents and bring your comments to the October meeting. Cory will be able to submit comments the next day.*
- viii. Lyndeborough – *the Conservation Commission met with NRPC on maps for the town. These will be added to their Master Plan in 2027.*
- ix. Merrimack – *Andrew is requesting the town to look at the access to the Souhegan River at Wasson Park. He was asked to remove his request at this time as adding access would require a full renovation to make it ADA compliant. Early discussions of Fields Farm looking to add boat access to the Souhegan River.*
- x. RMAC & NH DES

30th Annual Source to Sea Cleanup

Friday, September 18, 2026 through Sunday, September 20, 2026

Join the Connecticut River Conservancy to remove trash from waterways, riverbanks and communities across the 410 mile Connecticut River watershed. All ages are welcome! [Visit the Source to Sea website to find a cleanup near you!](#)

October 24 (Saturday) Belmont NH. A Bug's Eye View of the River. Be a citizen scientist with this hands-on opportunity to learn about what is on the river bottom. Sponsored by New Hampshire Rivers Council [Register](#)

8. **Team SoRLAC:** [SoRLAC Members](#) ([nomination form](#))
9. **Next Meetings:**

- a. **October 15, 2026 – Connor Court Clubhouse – 8 Club House Way, Amherst – 6:00 pm**
- b. November 19 (Cory away)
- c. December 17
- d. January 21

10. **The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm, minutes taken by Marion Kastner.**

Resources

New Hampshire Rivers Council: <https://nhrivers.org/>
NH Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC): <https://www.rmac.des.nh.gov/>
Jurisdictional Areas in New Hampshire youtube video: [Jurisdictional Areas in New Hampshire](#)
Nashua Region Planning Commission (NRPC): <https://www.nashuarpc.org/>; [NRPC SoRLAC](#) (minutes)
Southwest Region Planning Commission (SRPC): <https://www.swrpc.org/>
[NH DES Rivers and Lakes Management and Protection](#)

Watershed management plans

[Souhegan River Watershed Management Plan 2025](#)
[Souhegan River Watershed Management plan \(2013\)](#) – Instream Flow focus
[Souhegan River Watershed Management Plan \(2006\)](#) – More topics

RMAC [State Lands Mapping Tool](#)

New Hampshire's Designated Scenic and Protected Rivers.

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/20bcd62420ee4952b343290cbeed2e9a/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouheganLAC/>

Build a watershed: <https://streamstats.usgs.gov/ss/>