N.H. Lakes Management Advisory Committee

N.H. Lakes Management and Protection Program 29 Hazen Drive; PO Box 95; Concord, NH 03302-0095; Tel: 603-271-8811 https://www.lmac.des.nh.gov/

April 23, 2024

The Honorable Kevin Avard, Chair Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Statehouse, Room 103 Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 472 - AN ACT relative to the placement of temporary seasonal docks.

Dear Chair Avard and Members of the Committee:

The Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) is writing to express its support with amendment of House Bill 472, which will allow the Fish and Game Department to promulgate rules regulating the use of temporary seasonal docks or anchored seasonal platforms in order to protect threatened or endangered species.

The LMAC is aware of at least one temporary seasonal dock from a previous year that was installed in a way that disturbed a loon nest and led to its failure. Loons are among the iconic species of New Hampshire, and one in which the public has great interest. Having rules to govern the placement of temporary seasonal platforms would preserve our iconic wildlife while still being reasonable for homeowners seeking to enjoy a local waterbody. The LMAC suggests amendment to provide funding for the Fish and Game Department to carry out the enforcement that would be required if such rules were created.

The LMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to administer RSA 483-A, the Lakes Management and Protection Program. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is comprised of 19 members representing academia, business, conservation organizations, lake associations, tourism, fish and game commission, marine trades, realtors, municipal government as well as several state agencies.

In conclusion, the LMAC supports HB 472 for the reasons stated above. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (603) 569-3114 or stevewingate@roadrunner.com.

Respectfully,

ec:

Representative Crawford

Senator Fenton

LMAC Representatives

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES

Steve Wingate, LMAC Legislation Subcommittee

LMAC VOTING MEMBERS: Andrea LaMoreaux, Chair NH LAKES • Ryan Cardella, Marine Trades Association • Tiffany Grade, Conservation Community • Janet Kidder, Planning Boards • Frank Lemay, NH Business & Industry Assoc. • Joanie McIntire, NH Association of Realtors • Amanda McQuaid, Scientific Community • Lisa Morin, State Conservation Committee • Susan Price, NH Fish & Game Commission • Dick Smith, Fishing Interests • Steve Wingate, Conservation Commissions • Vacant, Municipal Official • Vacant, NH Travel Council

LMAC Non-Voting Members: Garret Graaskamp, Vice Chair, NH Fish & Game Dept. • Capt. Tim Dunleavy, NH Dept. of Safety • Eric Feldbaum, NH Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources • Mark Hemmerlein, NH Dept. of Trans. • Heather Shank, NH Dept. of Business and Economic Affairs • Allen Wyman, NH Dept. of Ag, Markets & Food