

# N.H. Lakes Management Advisory Committee

[N.H. Lakes Management and Protection Program](https://www.lmac.des.nh.gov/)  
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<https://www.lmac.des.nh.gov/>

January 25, 2023

The Honorable Andrew Renzullo, Chair  
House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 305-307  
Concord, NH 03301

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

Dear Chair Renzullo 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 add a requirement that temporary seasonal docks not impact wildlife in order to exempt from permitting requirements.

The LMAC supports the principle of ensuring that temporary seasonal docks that are likely to impact wildlife be subject to the permitting process so that alternate placement or opportunities for avoiding or minimizing impacts can be considered. However, there is not a reasonably practicable way for a homeowner to know if their dock placement would have impacts on *any* wildlife species. There are, however, tools to check if threatened or endangered species use the location under consideration. In addition, the nest locations of Common loons, one of our iconic threatened species, are generally well known because of the work of the Loon Preservation Committee to rope off nesting areas to prevent disturbance. As a result, we support the bill with either of two amendments: to either allow permit exemptions when a temporary seasonal dock does not affect common loons, or when the same is true for any threatened or endangered species.

Loons are among the iconic species of New Hampshire, and one in which the public has great interest. We are aware that at least one temporary seasonal dock has been installed in the past that disturbed a loon nest and led to its failure. Amending the bill would preserve our iconic wildlife while still being reasonable for homeowners and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to implement.

The LMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with 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.

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

**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 • Jennifer Gilbert, NH Dept. of Business and Economic Affairs • Mark Hemmerlein, NH Dept. of Trans. • Shawn Jasper, NH Dept. of Ag, Markets & Food

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Chair, House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee  
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**In conclusion, the LMAC supports with amendment 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) 366-5531 or [Jared@cruisenh.com](mailto:Jared@cruisenh.com).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jared Maraio', written in a cursive style.

Jared Maraio  
Chair

cc: Representatives Crawford, J. MacDonald, and Rung  
Senator Fenton  
LMAC Representatives  
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES