

RESOURCE

Volume 13 No.3



THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION

OF NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENTISTS

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DES Wetlands Bureau Rulemaking Initiative

By Linda Magoon

The Department of Environmental Services Wetlands Bureau (DES) is launching an initiative to re-write its wetlands and shoreline administrative rules (Env-Wt 100 - 900). The decision to re-write the rules is in recognition of the fact that because administrative rules have a statutory expiration date, various rules sections have evolved and or have been re-adopted over the years, resulting in sections with varying expiration dates and creating a format that is not as "user friendly" to the regulated community as it could be.

Over the last six months, Wetlands Bureau permitting staff participated in a series of process improvement meetings known as a "Lean" event. Two Lean events were conducted. The overarching goals identified from the Lean events were to:

1. Enhance user predictability and transparency of the regulatory process;
2. Increase internal consistency and standardization of the review process, thereby increasing efficiency; and
3. Provide for scientifically-based decisions that protect New Hampshire's sensitive and important natural resources.

Some specific goal details include:

1. Issuance of science-based regulatory decisions, which protect and preserve the long-term ecological integrity of important and sensitive resources and systems;



Submitted by Ray Lobdell



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2. Reduce the staff time spent verifying that the information submitted is complete and accurate, by standardizing data requirements, and having specific, approved, data collection and evaluation methodologies.
3. Use a minimum number of processes to keep things simple; Notification or Application, *but* have processes that provide the depth of information to appropriately support the regulatory decision.

To meet these goals, a DES "Rules Team" was formed to strategize on ways to streamline the permitting and notification process and to research how best available science may be incorporated into the new rules.

DES is committed to obtaining and incorporating public input and stakeholder involvement throughout this process. To that end, listening sessions will be scheduled throughout the state to solicit feedback. Please check the DES website at www.des.nh.gov for the schedule and updates. We will also post a link to the NHANRS website (www.nhanrs.org) once the schedule becomes available, update the NHANRS website, and communicate important information periodically via e-mail to our members.

Turtle

By Morgan Thibeault

Green and Brown tinted
4 small webbed feet
shell as hard as a rock
the glistening of the sun
people as you are slow,
but yet you swim so smoothly through the water.

You seem to know so much
within your small little head.
Your eyes large
all knowing.
You can live to be over 100.
isn't that extraordinary?

Morgan Thibeault is a Concord High School Student with a strong interest in Marine Biology



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THE 2013 NHANRS COASTAL WETLANDS CONFERENCE

By Bill Kuriger,
Wetland Discipline Chair

The 2013 NHANRS Coastal Wetlands Conference was a big success, thanks to those who presented their new research results on October 18th. and the great venue of The Seacoast Science Center at the Odiorne Point State Park in Rye. The consensus of those who attended was that we all learned something new that can help us in our careers, and thus help coastal wetlands science progress.

Kara McKeton of The Nature Conservancy started the conference with her presentation titled *Cleaning Great Bay Estuary and Building Community with Oysters!* A great talk, but it was also her presence and professional delivery, overcoming a slight hardware technical glitch that let everyone know we were going to have good day. Save the oysters!

Emily DiFranco, of FB Environmental Associates presented innovative new ways to track pollution with her talk titled *Effective Bacteria Source Tracking – Dogs, Sampling, and Other Tools.*

Adrienne Harrison, NOAA-IMSG; Jamie Carter, NOAA-TBG; and Rachel Stevens, GBNERR and NHFG presented detailed local maps from the latest models tracking potential sea level rise with their presentation *An Assessment of Predicted Sea Level Rise Impacts to New Hampshire's Coastal Wetlands.*

Jennifer Karberg, PhD., Nantucket Conservation Foundation, Inc., presented a talk titled *Salt Marsh Restoration, Vegetation Reestablishment and Phragmites Control with Tidal Reintroduction in the Medouie Creek Wetland Complex, Nantucket MA.* Jennifer showed the progress being made at her sites.

Photo 1. Viewing the coastal restoration area at the 2013 Coastal Wetlands Conference.



At 12:00 we took a lunch break and dined on Jitto's pizza and subs. Evidently the Jittos steak bomb is some meal. One comment was we needed more vegetarian pizza.



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After lunch we all learned the intricacies of dune restoration with the terrific presentation of Susanne Schaller, M.S., of Bar Mills Ecological titled *Landscaping At the Beach: Adaptive Management and Dune Restoration in Southern Maine*. Susanne's' experience, which she unselfishly shared, provided a real learning opportunity for those in attendance.

Peter M. Hanrahan of Everett J. Prescott, Inc. presented an encyclopedic, chronological slide show, with interludes, of *The Evolution of Coastal Erosion Control Technology*. This presentation was full of useful information.

Peter, a big fan of Roger McGuinn of the old rock group the Byrds, included a slide in his talk about Roger. Peter was the second person who idolized and who had been befriended by Mr. McGuinn at the Science Center, the other being an older gentleman giving a presentation there the night before our conference. This guy had brought a unplugged version of The Ballard of Easy Rider, a song of Rogers on his computer, which he played over the fantastic sound system at the Science Center.

The Ballard of Easy Rider

James Roger McGuinn

The river flows, it flows to the sea
Wherever that river goes that's where I
want to be
Flow river flow, let your waters wash
down
Take me from this road to some other
town

All he wanted was to be free
And that's the way it turned out to be
Flow river flow, let your waters wash
down
Take me from this road to some other
town

Flow river flow, past the shaded tree
Go river, go, go to the sea, flow to the sea



Photo 2. The restoration area we were looking at.

Peter's presentation also taught us of a relatively new technique that is restoring beaches and returning beach sand to eroded beaches around the world.



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David Bailey of the University of New Hampshire presented a very nice summary and the technical challenges of his studies of Winter Flounder. His talk was titled *Evaluating Estuarine Quality Using Direct and Indirect Measurements: A Case Study Using Winter Flounder*.

The day ended with a presentation and weather friendly field trip by Leonard A. Lord, PhD, Rockingham County Conservation District. His talk was titled *Restoration of a Globally Rare Marsh and Associated Systems at Odiorne Point State Park, Rye, NH*.

We also want to thank our sponsors, including [Normandeau Associates](#), [VHB](#), [GZA Environmental, Inc.](#) and [Everett J. Prescott, Inc.](#) Along with the [Seacoast Science Center](#), which helped with the terrific facility, these companies helped ensure a successful conference. Thanks to everyone who attended.



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date of Public Notice: November 5, 2013
Response Requested by: November 29, 2013
File Number: NAE-2013-00714
In Reply Refer To: Greg Penta
Phone: (978) 318-8862
E-mail: gregory.r.penta@usace.army.mil

Proposed Department of the Army New England General Permit for Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont

On December 4, 2013, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, will hold an open house at our Headquarters Office, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742 from 2:00-7:00 pm to discuss the proposed New England General Permit (NE GP). This will be an opportunity for the public to sit down with us in an informal setting and present their views and opinions, and for the Corps to acquire information which will be considered in evaluating the proposal. Please call us to request a meeting in other states. The Corps issued a 45-day public notice on June 13, 2013 and extended the comment period until August 28, 2013. The draft that went out to public notice and the most recent draft of the NE GP are provided at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/regulatory.aspx> >>State General Permits>> New England (draft). Please contact Greg Penta at (978) 318-8862 or gregory.r.penta@usace.army.mil by November 29, 2013 to RSVP as we will need to register guests with our security.



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Strategic Plan Update

by Linda Magoon

Many of us know that planning is a way of looking toward the future and deciding what an organization will do in the future. Strategic planning is an effort to produce decisions and actions that guide and shape what the organization is, what it does, and why it does it. Because NHANRS currently does not have a strategic plan, the NHANRS Board of Directors decided to engage in the strategic planning process. Two Board members attended a Strategic Planning session sponsored by the NH Center for Non-Profits, and in August, the Board participated in a strategic planning "retreat" to discuss long-term challenges, opportunities, and goals. As a result, the Board identified five goals:

1. Advocate wetland and natural resource policies at the local and state level that use the latest sound wetland and natural resource science;
2. Recruit natural resource professionals to become members of NHANRS to recognize the benefits of membership;
3. Promote and provide outreach opportunities to natural resource professionals at an affordable cost to help achieve greater professional competence and increase public trust;
4. Ensure that NHANRS remains a viable and sustainable organization; and
5. Develop and implement a system to monitor and evaluate decisions regarding NHANRS' future activities.

Although it appears that NHANRS is doing many of these things now, creating specific objectives and action items is critical for goal implementation and future sustainability. The Board is in the process of reviewing these specific criteria with the goal of formally adopting a three-year strategic plan by January 1, 2014. Once finalized, it will be posted on the NHANRS website.

For updates on the strategic planning process, visit our new website at www.nhanrs.org, and click on the "About" link, or feel free to contact the NHANRS office by e-mail at assistant@nhanrs.org.

Review of Sedges of Maine. A Field Guide to Cyperaceae

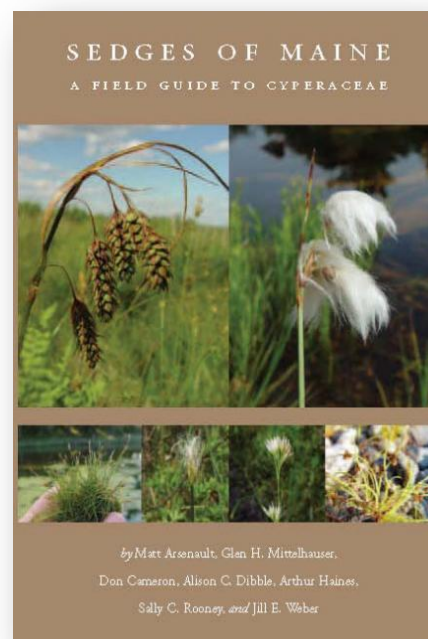
By Sandy Crystall, PWS

"SEDGES OF MAINE: A FIELD GUIDE TO CYPERACEAE," by Matt Arsenault, Glen H. Mittelhauser, Don Cameron, Alison C. Dibble, Arthur Haines, Sally C. Rooney and Jill E. Weber, August 2013, University of Maine Press, 712 pages, paperback, \$29.75.

I had been eagerly awaiting the release of this field guide. In 2011, I took a sedges and rushes workshop at Eagle Hill that was taught by Andrew Hipp. Dr. Hipp is with the Morton Arboretum in the Chicago area and a contributor to some photographs in the book. Our class used a draft copy of the book during our forays in the field and found the photographs to be valuable in providing an idea of whether we were on the right track, as well as identifying the specimen correctly.

www.nhanrs.org

November 2013



by Matt Arsenault, Glen H. Mittelhauser,
Don Cameron, Alison C. Dibble, Arthur Haines,
Sally C. Rooney, and Jill E. Weber



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At 712 pages and full of many photographs, it is a little heavy for a field guide, but extremely valuable with the information (and photographs) it provides.

The taxonomy follows Haines' *Flora Novae Angliae* (2011). Inside are:

- Key To Genera
- Photos and Descriptions of Genera
- Genus pages
- Index by Common and Latin names
- Quick Index to Cyperaceae Genera (if you know the genus)
- Quick Index to *Carex* species and Sections

A Master (dichotomous) Key for *Carex* directs you to one of seven keys that provide the section of *Carex* for the specimen being keyed-out. Within each *Carex* Section, the dichotomous key for the section provides photos of the species that can assist you in using the key.

Among the book's strong points is the use of photographs of the plant in its habitat, as well as photos of perigynia, achenes and leaves (not all for all species, mind you). Almost all species have photos of live specimens with very few images of pressed specimens where fresh specimens were unavailable. For at least one group of *Carex*, three similar species are photographed together – *Carex lacustris*, *C. utriculata* and *C. vesicaria*. Some images show the cut cross section of leaves – such as the “M”-shaped – *Carex lacustris*. (I have always referred to them as “W” shaped!)

For *each species*, an entire page of descriptive text is provided, including:

- Key features
- Description of plant, stems, leaves, inflorescence, carpellate scales, perigynia and achenes
- Distribution and habitat
- Similar species
- Comments (examples include: introduced, if species was previously included within another Section of *Carex*, ranking by Maine Natural Areas program, variety found in Maine, taxonomic issues, including hybridization, seasonal information to identify it)
- Other names (generally other common names, though some additional Latin names are provided for some species.)

Since the Cyperaceae are often a key component of many New Hampshire wetlands and there is significant overlap between Maine's Cyperaceae species and those of New Hampshire, this provides substantial information for wetland scientists and anyone interested in the identification of sedges in New Hampshire. According to the NH Natural Heritage Bureau 25 percent of Cyperaceae taxa in New Hampshire are endangered, plus additional taxa in other conservation concern categories. Additionally, there are new species being identified in New Hampshire (Joann Hoy, 2011, *Trichophorum planifolium*).

I encourage you to take a look at this guide. It should find a place on your shelf, if not in your field pack!



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NHANRS 2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE

The **NHANRS** 2014 Annual Conference will be held at the Grappone Center in Concord, NH, on Friday January 24, 2014, from 8:00am - 4:00pm.

This year we will focus on several topics:

- **Non-point source pollution, wastewater and water quality in Great Bay**
Presentations by Ted Diers (DES Watershed Management Bureau), Dr. Tom Ballestero (UNH Stormwater Center), and Bill Arcieri (Vanasse Hangen and Brustlin, Inc.)
- **Climate Change at the national level and DOT planning in NH**
Presentations by Michael Simpson (Antioch University) and Lisa Ferrisi (Normandeu Associates, Inc.)
- **Ticks: New species, new diseases – what those in the field should know**
Presentations by Dr. Alan Eaton (UNH Cooperative Extension) and Abigail Mathewson (DHHS)

Several changes, in addition to the change in venue, are occurring this year.

- The **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING** will take place immediately following lunch to address elections and updates to the by-laws. *We need your participation!*
- This year undergraduate and graduate students are invited to present **POSTERS** of their research. It's good information for us and a great opportunity for the students. Please circulate the *Call for Posters*, link on our website, to candidate students and professors.

Please join us!





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NHANRS Launches New Website

By Linda Magoon

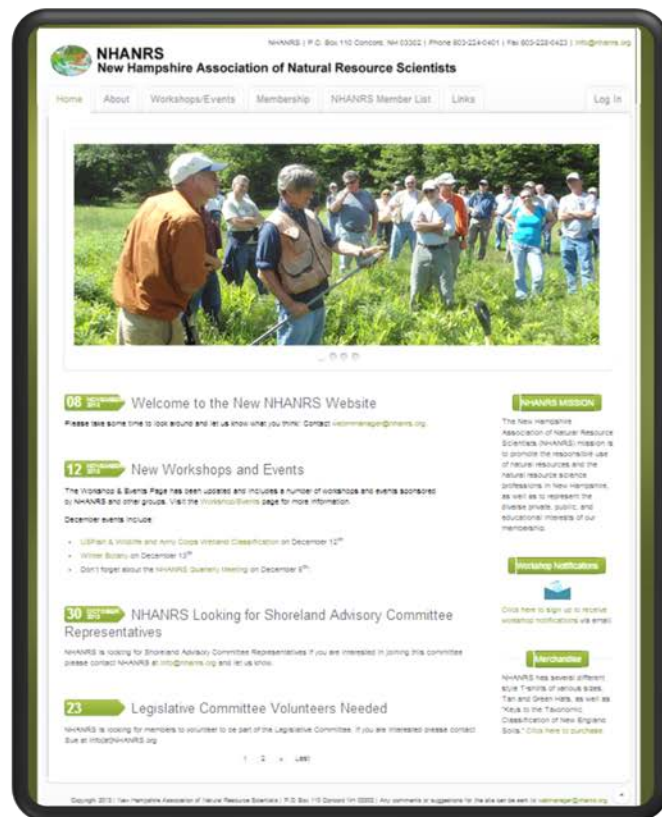
NHANRS is proud to announce the unveiling of its new website! In development since May and launched in early November, the new website is designed to be more "user-friendly" in terms of organization and more technologically up-to-date. Designed and created with the assistance of [E. Crane Computing Web Development Services](#), the new site incorporates a PayPal® feature that allows, for the first time, on-line registration for workshops and quarterly meetings. A prominent NHANRS members link provides the public with the ability to locate a natural scientist, which can be sorted by state certification, with a Google map of the office location "linked" to the particular member. This is invaluable to NHANRS members as the public often does not know how to locate a natural resource consultant.

The NHANRS "members only" page has information on job opportunities, past issues of our newsletter, and numerous presentations from previous workshops. The username and password are as follows:

Username: **nhanrsonly**

Password: **hydr1c** yes that is a number 1

We hope you like the new site! A big thanks to **Kathy Barnes** for her invaluable assistance in creating our new website and offering us suggestions on how to use technology to bring more members to NHANRS. Because we are still in the initial phases of roll-out, if any member is experiencing a problem or has a question, be sure to e-mail our Web Manager at webmanager@nhanrs.org. If you thinking of creating a web presence or updating your current website, contact Kathy at kb@ecrane.com or feel free to visit E-Crane's website at <http://ecranewebdesignstudio.com/index.htm>



Editor's Correction:

In the August 2013 *Newsletter Resource*, the article **DES Releases the Draft Great Bay Nitrogen Non-Point Source Study for Public** was incorrectly attributed to Cindy Balcius. The article was written by Matthew Wood, NHDES Water Quality



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RESOURCE SUBMITTAL GUIDELINES

Mail all advertising inquiries, articles, suggestions, or letters of opinion to NHANRS: P.O. Box 110, Concord, NH 03302 or webmanager@nhanrs.org. Photos and illustrations are encouraged.

NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENTISTS MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the responsible use of natural resources and the natural resource science professions in New Hampshire, as well as to represent the diverse private, public, and educational interests in our membership.

The means by which we accomplish this are:

- Communicating with our members regarding issues that affect our professions
- Representing our members' interests with local, state and federal legislators and policy makers
- Supporting prudent civil/urban planning processes
- Providing continuing education for our members and the general public
- Enhancing the public's appreciation of the role that natural resources and natural resource professionals play in everyday life

Visit the [NHANRS Workshops/Events web page](#) for a complete listing of NHANRS events and events by other organizations.

Our web site often has listings for workshops from groups including MAPPS (of Maine), AMWS (of Mass), NH Timberland Owners Association, Belknap & Merrimack County Conservation Districts, and more. New workshops and events are added monthly.

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P.O. Box 110
Concord, NH 03302-0110