Fall New England Wetlands Webinar Series



NOVEMBER

Cooperative Management and Regulation

An Alternate Regulatory Mechanism for Vernal Pools

Presented by: Aram Calhoun, University of Maine Elizabeth Hertz, Maine DACF

Protection of vernal pools has been a highly charged issue in Maine for nearly a decade coming to a head in front of the legislature several years ago. Developers asserted that vernal pool regulation was stopping development; biologists and ecologists maintained that not only were current regulations reasonable, but that they failed to protect vernal pool species. The controversy led to creation of a very robust stakeholder group that has been working for the past 5 years on an alternate regulatory mechanism to streamline regulation of vernal pools in municipally identified growth areas in exchange for vernal pool protection in rural areas. The Vernal Pool Special Area Management Plan creates a partnership among federal and state regulators and the municipality which becomes the permitting authority.



November 12, 2015 1:30-3:00 pm

- **REGISTRATION IS** REQUIRED.
- WEBEX ACCESS
- 1-866-777-5715 CODE: 996 353 35

Register

here!

Wetland-Specific Water Quality Standards

Presented by: Sandy Crystall, New Hampshire DES

New Hampshire has standards and tools to evaluate the condition of flowing and standing surface waters, as envisioned by the Clean Water Act under §303(d) and 305(b). However, NH has no comparable standards or tools for wetlands. In order to provide essential assessment capabilities to ensure wetlands are protected and restoration needs are identified, NH has been working on development of these wetland-specific standards. This presentation reviews the development and content of NH's plan and the background and framework to develop wetland-specific water quality standards for NH so these aquatic resources may be protected and assessed in a manner comparable to surface waters.

Questions?

