

To whom this concerns,

I work for Meadowsend Timberlands who manages private land and also owns over 10,000 acres within the state. We practice forestry on a thousand+ acres a year and are well educated in the importance of water quality, wetland systems, and aquatic habitat. Below are my comments on the newly proposed wetland rules.

The proposed wetland rules have many in the forest industry concerned with unintentional results. Harvesting timber in NH has been supported for years by NH Best Management Practices for Water Quality Protection. These guidelines have proven to be a success in keeping high water quality when they are properly utilized and followed. It seems unnecessary to add on further restrictions and complications to a system that is working, especially when no studies have shown when timber harvests that follow BMP's create negative impacts to streams, wetlands, and other fisheries. It is understood that changes do occur, but when they do occur it would be nice to see properly organized information rather than numerous cross sections and references to other rules. If a new rule is going to impact a specific field (such as forestry) than particular sections should be made that can clearly outline these rules so that anyone associated with this field can properly understand what is required for permitting, application process, and who is required to be notified.

My final thought is to please try not to fix something that is not broken. There are always bad eggs in any industry and new rules will not fix this. But those who are trying to be good stewards of the land (which is the majority) should not be punished because of a few.

Thank you for your time and dedication to water quality.

Ryan

*Meadowsend Timberlands Ltd.
Ryan Kilborn
Northern Regional Forester
Washington, VT-Field Office
603.526.8686-Main Office
802-323-3593-Cell*

WWW.MTLFORESTS.COM

