

Dear Mary Anne Tilton,

Please consider and incorporate my brief written comments below with process of establishing the final wetland rules concerning Forestry.

I have many comments, and wish to share my most important one here.

As you have heard again and again, the proposed rules are very, very complicated and lack clarity-with all due respect as you have clearly worked arduously and know them very well. Our forest industry is gifted with many high-level thinkers and doers. Many of these folks and other sharp stake holders spoke to the very confusing nature of the proposed forestry rules throughout all of the public meetings. I understand the spirit of scoping the public is to learn what is the proposed rules look like from the “outside users”. Once the public provides respectfully appropriate feedback, the authors need to ask the question: “Are these proposals user-friendly, practically effective and efficiently fair?”. The recurring feedback theme echoed that the forestry rules are a labyrinth. If intelligent professionals cannot understand these proposed forestry rules, how will the layman landowner? Our forest industry has been over delivering water quality BMP’s for the past 2 decades because we understand them and value them.. The landowners, woodsmen, educators, natural resource professionals respect the current rules and BMP’s because they are results oriented and respectfully regulated-both self and jurisdictionally. One, public comment from Charlie Leveque, a certified sustainable forestry auditor throughout the forests of USA, spoke that should these proposed forestry rules become law, “the new rules would elevate NH to the highest wetland regulation east of the Mississippi River”.

The points above are a very good indicator that the new rules qualify an undue blend of confusion and complexity. This fact needs to be carefully and seriously considered stronger than it has to this point in the process and be reflected in final rules that are easier to understand that will foster better compliance.

Thank you for your great deal of effort on this project.

Sincerely,

Jeremy G. Turner

NHPLF #318

VTPLF#1869

Meadowsend Timberlands Ltd.

Meadowsend Consulting Co.

Jeremy G. Turner

Managing Forester

mtlforests.com

603.526.8686-Main Office

603.481.1091-Mobile



Long Live The Forest