



TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, including back up information, 8 days prior to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to the requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: January 21, 2015 Date of Meeting: February 12, 2015
 Submitted by: Donna Pohli Time Required: Approximately 20 minutes
 Department: Community Development Background Info. Supplied: Yes
 Speakers: Donna Pohli and Tim Thompson, AICP, Community Development

CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition/Resignation/Retirement:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Hearing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business:	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Business:	X	Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nonpublic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

TITLE OF ITEM

2015 Milfoil Grant Funds for Naticook Lake

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

To ask the Town Council to accept and authorize the expenditure of up to \$2,412.50 of the grant from NHDES for milfoil control via Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) in addition to the Town's matching share of \$8,237 this fiscal year for DASH for variable milfoil control efforts in portions of Naticook Lake. This totals \$10,649.50. We ask that the Town's share be expended from the Milfoil Capital Reserve Fund. This request represents funding to allow for treatment in 2015 to control milfoil.

REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA:	31:95-b	Warrant Article:
Charter Article:	8	Town Meeting:
Other:		N/A:

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Requirements:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easel:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Meeting:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Seating:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptop:	<input type="checkbox"/>	None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:	Donna Pohli	Address:	Community Development Dept.
Phone Number:	603-424-3531	Email Address:	dpohli@merrimacknh.gov

APPROVAL



Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

6 Baboosic Lake Road

Town Hall - Lower level - East Wing

Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

603 424-3531

Fax 603 424-1408

www.merrimacknh.gov

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 21, 2015
To: Nancy Harrington, Chair, & Members, Town Council
From: Donna Pohli, Assistant Planner, Community Development
Subject: 2015 Milfoil Grant Funds for Naticook Lake

Attached for your information are documents pertinent to the 2015 milfoil grant funds recently awarded to the Town of Merrimack. Should the Council vote to accept and authorize the expenditure of funds, the necessary paperwork will be completed, notarized and forwarded to the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for processing.

Naticook Lake was treated for milfoil in 2013 and 2014 and has responded well to the treatment, but since it has not been monitored for a very long period of time, treatment is necessary for multiple years. Amy Smagula, Limnologist/Exotic Species Program Coordinator with the NHDES explains that, in order to maintain the quality and keep milfoil to a minimum, milfoil treatment will need to occur during 2015. Due to insufficient grant funds, NHDES does not suggest herbicide treatment in 2015 so this year's request is only pertinent to diver assisted suction harvesting (DASH).

The attached map is one used for the bids request provided by Ms. Smagula. Ms. Smagula hopes that Naticook Lake can be treated this year.

With respect to the 2015 grant funding, the NHDES selected AB Aquatics from several companies' bids to complete the DASH in Naticook Lake again this year. According to the NHDES map sent out with bid requests, the divers would dive and/or perform diver-assisted suction harvesting (DASH) over ten days from May through October. The work performed by divers is part of the long-term management plan and is part of the transition from herbicide treatment to non-chemical control as milfoil is reduced in Naticook Lake. The NHDES reviewed bids for both technical merit of the approach and cost of the project. As recommended by Ms. Smagula, bids were obtained based upon over 35 areas that require DASH this year (as shown on the attached image sent out with the bid requests).

The NHDES received requests for funds from many groups and, according to Ms. Smagula, grants were awarded on a 25% matching level for 2015 in order to assist as many groups as possible. Due to the number of requests received, the grant amount for Merrimack was awarded for up to \$2,412.50 for:

1. Diver/DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting) work up to \$2,412.50 (based on an as needed basis), to be performed by AB Aquatics.

In order to maximize effectiveness, the DASH should begin prior to the new fiscal year beginning in July.

As the Council is probably aware, Naticook Lake is also host to numerous events including a YMCA triathlon that is scheduled for June 14, 2015. The triathlon's swim route and typical motorboat routes from the boat ramp to fishing areas pass through the few remaining milfoil plants. Naticook Day camp during the summer, Wasserman Park, YMCA Camp Sargent, Veteran's Memorial Park and several homes surround Naticook Lake.

Please find enclosed, the following materials:

- NHDES email dated January 12, 2015 from Amy Smagula, Limnologist/Exotic Species Program Coordinator notifying the Town of Merrimack of the Naticook Lake project selection;
- AB Aquatics, Inc. bid proposal dated November 13, 2014;
- Map of Diver/DASH services of recent growth in 2014 from NHDES.

Suggested Motion:

That the Town Council vote to accept and authorize the expenditure of up to \$10,649.50 for DASH program at Naticook lake of which \$2,412.50 is from a grant from NHDES for milfoil control via DASH, and the Town's portion is \$8,237.00 to be funded from the from the Milfoil Expendable Capital Reserve Fund and further more; the Town Council authorizes the Town Manager or her delegate to execute any and all documents which may be necessary.

Ec: Eileen Cabanel, Town Manager
Paul Micali, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director
Timothy J. Thompson, AICP, Community Development Director
Matt Casparius, Parks and Recreation Director
Roger Gettl, Jean Towns, and Murray Collette, Lake Naticook Conservation Association

Cc: Correspondence
File

DIVER AND DASH BID NOTE
PLEASE PROVIDE A BID FOR PERFORMING
DIVER AND/OR DIVER-ASSISTED SUCTION HARVESTING
AS OUTLINED BELOW:

TARGET SPECIES: VARIABLE MILFOIL
TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS: UP TO 10 DAYS
BREAKDOWN OF DAYS: PLEASE FACTOR IN DIVE TIME IN SPRING,
SUMMER AND FALL FOR THIS WATERBODY, AS NEEDED TO ADDRESS
ACTIVE GROWTH.

DES WILL PROVIDE SHAPEFILES OR OTHER GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
FOR DIVERS TO USE ON THIS PROJECT, AND WEED WATCHERS WILL
MARK AREAS OF GROWTH TO GUIDE DIVERS. THIS MAP IS INTENDED
AS A REFERENCE FOR SITES FOR SPRING DIVING, AND ADDITIONAL SITES
MAY BE ADDED AS NEEDED.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DIVERS WILL BE USING GPS UNITS TO LOCATE WORK
SITES WITHIN THE LAKE, FOR ENHANCED ACCURACY.

BIDS ARE DUE AT NHDES BY FRIDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2014.

Naticook Lake

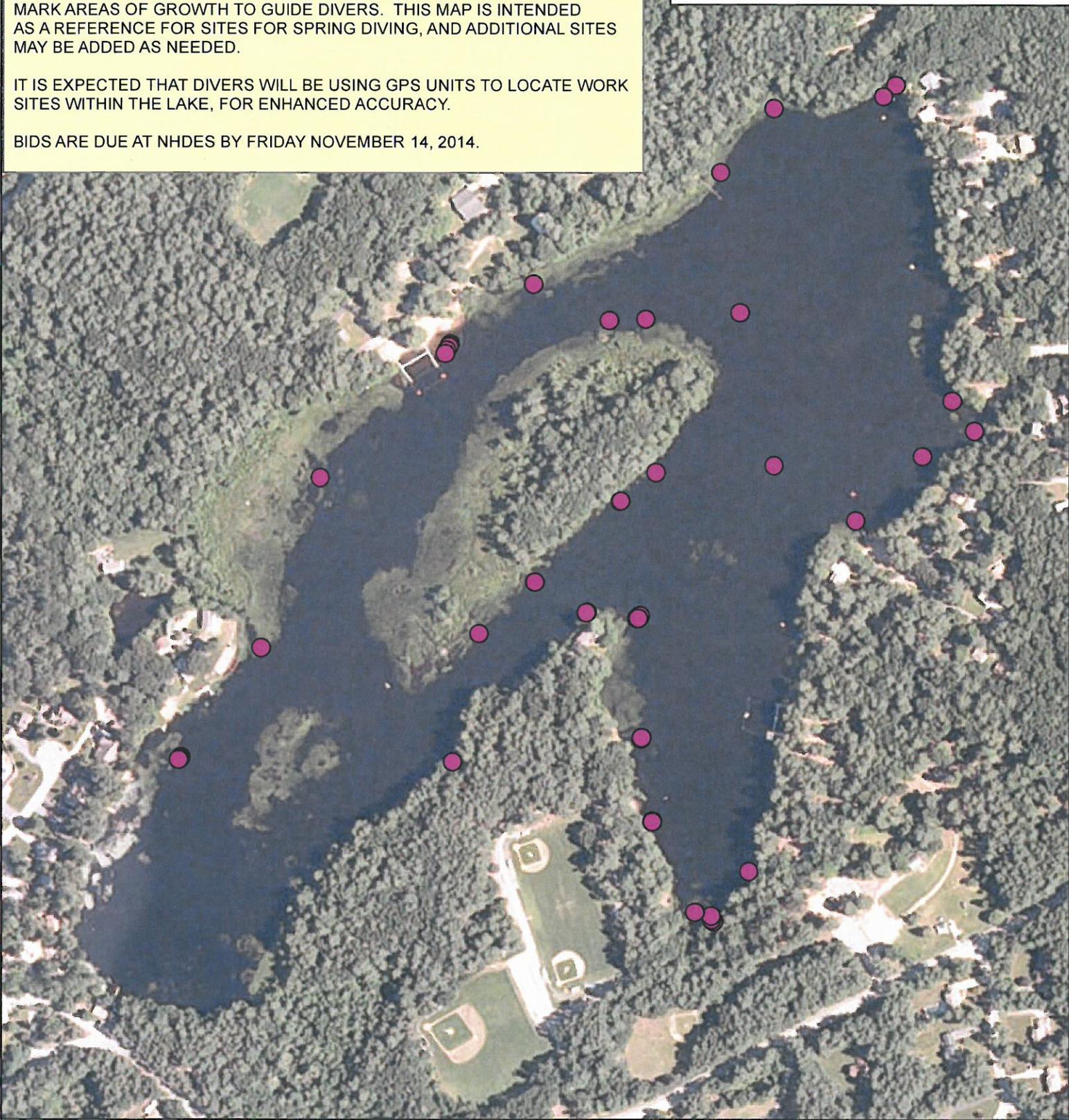
Merrimack



Legend

 Naticook_Diver_or_DASH_Areas_for_2015

0 0.04 0.08 0.16
Miles





86 Maple Street Henniker, NH 03242
603-475-1503

November 13, 2014

Dear Donna Pohli and Amy Smagula,

RE: Bid response to mitigate *Myriophyllum heterophyllum* (exotic milfoil) on Naticook Lake, Merrimack, NH.

Thank you for your request for services to harvest invasive weeds. AB Aquatics, Inc. provides the highest quality invasive weed removal in the Northeast. Our company values; quality, knowledge and integrity, are carried out in each project we undertake. We have evolved from humble beginnings to the largest DASH harvester in the state. We continue to refine our services to meet the unique requirements for each of our client's and their water bodies while consistently demonstrating a high level of environmental awareness and attention to detail.

We are excited about our continuing efforts in 2015 to raise the standard in the invasive weed management industry. We will be investing in our fleet of DASH units, further modifying each for its specific purpose and upgrading their technology. Along with investing in our equipment we will continue to invest in our people. Every year we strive to recruit top talent and to continue training our returning team members. Finally we are excited about our new ability to generate maps of the work we complete. This will serve as a more comprehensive way to show you exactly what has been accomplished under the water.

AB Aquatics, Inc. is pleased to provide the following pricing and terms:

1. Rates are \$965.00 per 8-hour day and are inclusive of a diver and diver assisted suction harvester device (DASH). Rates include 6 hours of actual diver time. Rates also include all necessary permitting and reporting requirements to NH DES.
2. A DASH mobilization charge of \$100 dollars per DASH unit will be assessed at the start of each scheduled period that we visit your water body.
3. If at the discretion of AB Aquatics, Inc., we determine, by weather, scheduling, or that harvesting will be deemed unsafe or ineffective, AB Aquatics has the option to reschedule harvesting operations to another time. Client will not be charged for additional transportation or any hours not completed. Further the standard 6 hours of daily dive time may be extended or shortened to maximize the use of good weather days. The maximum dive time billed will not exceed the total contracted days. If the total hours of diving are not achieved during the scheduled days, AB Aquatics will prorate any unused dive days.

We look forward to partnering with you through this winter to schedule an assessment and discuss your long-term goals.

If you have any questions or need any additional information please feel free to contact me directly at 603-475-1503.

Thank you for providing AB Aquatics, Inc. the opportunity to provide Naticook Lake, Merrimack, NH invasive weed mitigation services.

Sincerely,

Bob Patterson, IV
President
AB Aquatics, Inc.
bob.patterson@abaquatics.com
603-475-1503

Becky Thompson

From: Smagula, Amy <Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015 4:12 PM
To: Donna Pohli
Subject: Naticook Lake- 2015 Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant Notification

The Department of Environmental Services (DES), Exotic Species Program has selected your exotic aquatic plant control project to receive a grant for 2015 control activities.

Specifically, DES will provide funds as follows:

Diver/Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) Grant: Up to \$2,412.50 for DASH/diving activities (to be calculated as up to 25% of costs incurred for actual dive days for up to 10 days in 2015). Note that this does not factor in mobilization costs for divers. The dive contractor is AB Aquatics. DES will survey the lake regularly in 2015, to help guide dive efforts to maximize the effectiveness of this technique.

Herbicide Treatment Grant: Due to insufficient grant funds we suggest no herbicide treatment in 2015, unless local funds are available to pursue this option, should it be needed.

Note: We apologize for the fact that this grant award is likely lower than expected. The lower grant award for 2015 is the result of a combination of factors, including:

- *Increased number of requests for grant funds and costs of combined projects overall, relative to grant funds available to award. Specifically, DES received requests for 43 control projects, totaling \$1.2 million, with only about \$200,000 available in control grant funds in 2015.*
- *Lack of "surplus" funds available for transfer like in past years. Much of the surplus funding was spent down through grants over the 2012-2014 grant cycles, and no surplus funds exist at this time for transfer to supplement control grants.*
- *Lack of ability to spend newly allocated grant funds. As you may know, legislation passed in 2014 to increase the boat registration fee by \$2/boat to increase revenues for control grants. Those funds will be collected starting January 1, 2015, and are therefore not budgeted or available for the 2015 grant cycle (we cannot spend it before we accrue it). These funds will be available for 2016 grants.*
- *We expect to be able to award higher match levels in 2016 and beyond, and apologize for the inconvenience this year.*

I have worked through a variety of scenarios and have selected the best control options for your waterbody's infestation status, based on funds that are available and control methods that are needed/appropriate. In many cases final recommendations will not match up with bid guidance you were provided with this fall. If you wish to go above and beyond those that are recommended here, at your own cost, then I would be glad to provide recommendations about those options that are most logical and appropriate given your site-specific conditions (in many cases they would follow the original bid guidance and final bids for your waterbody).

DES is now in the process of preparing the necessary paperwork to proceed with obtaining approval on the above outlined grant allocation. In the next two weeks you will receive another email with grant agreement documents attached, as well as guidance on how to complete and return those documents. If you are not able to provide the balance of the funds for the projects outlined above from a local source, please notify me immediately.

If you are able to provide the balance of the costs for this project from local sources, and plan to accept these grant funds, then at this time please contact the contractor(s) listed above and inform them that you plan to accept their bid for work in 2015, and work with them on the next steps that they need to take in their own process of moving forward. If your project includes an herbicide component, note that the permit process for herbicide treatment needs

to begin in January, so that a permit can be obtained in a timely fashion for your control project, therefore rapid attention to this is critical.

Again, please confirm with me that you are willing to go forward with this project at this grant level, and if so, I will be in touch in the next week or two with more information and the paperwork for the grant.

Sincerely,
Amy Smagula

~~~~~  
Amy P. Smagula  
Limnologist/Exotic Species Program Coordinator  
NH DES  
29 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03301  
Phone: 603-271-2248  
Fax: 603-271-7894  
Email: [Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov](mailto:Amy.Smagula@des.nh.gov)