

## NH LAKES Advocacy Alert!



January 21, 2015

### A PUBLICATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE LAKES ASSOCIATION

Thank you for filling out our annual advocacy survey last fall or for otherwise letting us know what lake management and protection policy issues are most important to you.

If you are a NH LAKES member and have read our Winter *Lakeside* newsletter, you know that our primary focus during the 2015 legislative session is on improving aquatic invasive species (AIS) prevention and control (i.e. management) programs that will protect and benefit lakes throughout New Hampshire. But, AIS prevention and management is not our only area of interest in this state legislative session.

Other issues on which we will advocate include: funding for agency programs that are designed to ensure safe, clean and healthy lakes; and broader issues such as the need for a reinvestment strategy for water infrastructure construction, repair and replacement (dams, drinking, waste, and storm water).

AIS is where we will put most of our resources this legislative session and where we will need your support the most. We have secured sponsorship for three Legislative Service Requests (LSR's - the precursor to an actual Bill) which are listed below. Each LSR or Bill number below is a live link to the the [NH General Court website](#) where you can find the most up-to-date information and status on these LSRs/Bills and others being considered by the legislature. The NH LAKES-sponsored LSRs/Bills are:



NH LAKES is proud to be one of the organizing sponsors of the Green Eggs and New HAM-shire 2015 Environmental Policy Breakfast. Join lawmakers, advocates, business leaders, and the general public - and learn about some of the most pressing environmental issues state legislators face in the upcoming session and beyond.

When: Wed. Jan. 28, 2015  
Time: 7:30 - 9:30 am  
Where: Grappone

**This event is FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

To register, [CLICK HERE.](#)

**Navigating the State Legislature**

- **HB 281:** *Defining "exotic aquatic animals" and relative to the duties of the exotic aquatic weeds and species committee.* Note: This Bill should be the least controversial, but perhaps the most important in the long run, as it seeks to add animals to the purview of the Exotic Weeds and Species Committee which previously has dealt only with invasive plants.
- **H-0750-R:** *Relative to banning the use of boats on certain waters with a confirmed aquatic invasive infestation.* Note: This LSR may not move forward and become a Bill due to the adequacy of the current restricted use powers that are already in place.
- **H-0751-R:** *Authorizing a program to inspect boats for the presence of aquatic invasive species.* Note: This LSR has already morphed, but has not yet been officially amended, and is now designed to be inserted into RSA 270-D:4. The draft amendment requires groups that must get on-water event permits for events such as fishing tournaments and boat parades to document inspection of participating boats for AIS, much like the courtesy boat inspections that NH LAKES Lake Hosts provide.

It is hard to go into great detail here regarding our strategy as things can change quickly. Please check out the links provided, or contact me directly if you have any specific questions or suggestions at [tobrien@nhlakes.org](mailto:tobrien@nhlakes.org) or (603) 226-0299.

Thank you, in advance, for taking action when we call on you to contact your State Senator and Representatives to advocate on behalf of our lakes!

On behalf of the New Hampshire Lakes Association,

**Tom O'Brien**  
President and Policy Advocate



**Find your Legislator!**  
[Click here.](#)

**Meeting & Hearing Schedule:**

NH House: [Click here.](#)  
NH Senate: [Click here.](#)

**Find a Bill**  
[Click here.](#)



NH LAKES is the only statewide member supported nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting New Hampshire lakes and their watersheds.

**Join us as a member at**  
[www.nhlakes.org](http://www.nhlakes.org)

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