

**Vermont Clean Water Fund Board
Working Meeting Agenda**

Date/Time: Friday, October 6, 2017, 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: National Life Building Main 2– 1 National Life Drive, The Catamount Room (N215)

Welcome, Approval of Agenda **2:00-2:05 pm**
Agency of Administration Secretary and Clean Water Fund Board Chair Susanne Young

Review State Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Clean Water Fund Budget Process **2:05-2:10 pm**
Agency of Natural Resources Secretary Julie Moore

Prepare Final Recommended FY2019 Clean Water Fund Allocations **2:10-2:40 pm**
Clean Water Initiative Program Manager Kari Dolan

- Summary of September 2017 public comment period and responses
- Allocating FY2019 Capital Bill bond premium from sale of bonds (\$2.26 million)
- Proposed adjustments to FY2019 allocations based on public comments

Update on Common Signage for State-Funded Clean Water Projects **2:40-2:45 pm**
Buildings and General Services Principal Assistant to the Commissioner Erik Filkorn

Comments from the Public **2:45-2:55 pm**
Secretary Susanne Young

Next Steps/Future Meeting **2:55-3:00 pm**
Secretary Susanne Young

Adjourn **3:00 pm**

Supporting Materials:

1. September 5, 2017 Draft Clean Water Fund Board Meeting Minutes
2. FY2019 Clean Water Fund Board Budget Process
3. Compilation of FY2019 Clean Water Fund Public Comments
4. Responses to FY2019 Clean Water Fund Public Comments
5. Final Draft FY2019 Clean Water Fund Priorities and Allocations (October 5, 2017)

**Vermont Clean Water Fund Board
Meeting Minutes**

Date/Time: Tuesday, September 5, 2017, 3:00pm – 4:30pm

Location: National Life Building Main 2– 1 National Life Drive, Winooski Room M240

Clean Water Fund Board Members/Designees:

Susanne Young, Agency of Administration (AoA) Secretary and Clean Water Fund Board Chair

Julie Moore, Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) Secretary

Michael Schirling, Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) Secretary

Anson Tebbetts, Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM) Secretary

Attendees:

Karen Adams, Town of Colchester

Jason Aronowitz, AoA

Emily Bird, Dept. of Environmental
Conservation (DEC)

Eric Blatt, DEC

Diane Bothfeld, AAFM

Jared Carpenter, Lake Champlain Committee

Chris Cochran, ACCD

Kari Dolan, DEC

Dan Dutcher, VTrans

Brad Ferland, AoA

Erik Filkorn, Buildings & General Services

Jen Hollar, VT Housing & Conservation Board

Joanna Pallito, DEC

Ashley Romeo-Boles, Vermont Chamber of
Commerce

Sue Scribner, VTrans

Welcome, Approval of Agenda and Past Meeting Minutes

3:00-3:05 pm

Agency of Administration Secretary and Clean Water Fund Board Chair Susanne Young

- Anson Tebbetts motioned for approval of previous Board meeting minutes
- Julie Moore seconded the motion
- No objections
- Minutes approved

Review State Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Clean Water Fund Budget Process

3:05-3:10 pm

Agency of Natural Resources Secretary Julie Moore

- See supporting materials

Update on Clean Water Fund Property Transfer Surcharge Receipt Revenues

3:10-3:15 pm

Agency of Administration Assistant Director Budget and Management Sam Winship

- See supporting materials
- Receipt revenues for FY2018 are preliminary, but so far, the year is above forecast
- Noted that the first \$1 million of the property transfer tax surcharge goes to affordable housing

Final FY2018 Clean Water Fund Allocations

3:15-3:25 pm

Department of Environmental Conservation Clean Water Initiative Program Manager Kari Dolan

Proposed Action: Approval of Final Allocations

- Final FY2018 Clean Water Fund Allocations were updated to support the costs of 300 reusable clean water project signs (required by statute)

- Remainder of surplus FY2017 revenue will be used to partially restore DEC's allocation (reduced previously to accommodate \$1 million redirected from the Clean Water Fund to affordable housing)
- Julie Moore motioned for approval of final FY2018 Clean Water Fund Allocations
- Anson Tebbetts seconded the motion
- No objections
- Final FY2018 Clean Water Fund Allocations approved

Draft FY2019 Clean Water Fund Allocations

3:25-3:45 pm

Clean Water Initiative Program Manager Kari Dolan

- Summary of July 2017 public comment period and responses to online questionnaire
 - DEC provided responses to July 2017 public comments (see supporting materials)
- Proposed adjustments to FY2019 allocations based on public comments
 - FY2019 allocations were updated based on the July 2017 public comment period, and include a cover memo summarizing those changes (see supporting materials)
 - Clean Water Fund statutory priorities, and how they relate to each allocation, are summarized in a separate document (see supporting materials)
 - For the FY2019 Clean Water Fund allocations, the Board is only providing recommendations to allocate Capital funds and property transfer tax surcharge funds; funds from the Transportation and Appropriation bills have already been allocated
 - FY2019 Capital Bill includes \$2.26 million in bond premiums from the sale of bonds; bond premiums materialize from bond sales interest, and behave like Capital funds; the Clean Water Fund Board will need to recommend how to allocate these funds, however, spending authority for these funds does not yet exist, and will be authorized through the FY2019 Capital Bill in the upcoming Legislative session
 - A proposal for allocating bond premium funds will be developed at the Secretary-level prior to the Clean Water Fund Board making its final budget recommendation on October 20, 2017; the recommendation will be based on agencies' ability to manage additional resources, cost effectiveness of activities, and funding demand
 - Noted agencies' limited capacity to administer pass-through funds at current staffing levels and recommended to identify opportunities to build capacity where feasible

Proposed Action: Approval of Final Allocations

- Julie Moore motioned for approval of final draft FY2019 Clean Water Fund Allocations
- Anson Tebbetts seconded the motion
- No objections
- Final draft FY2019 Clean Water Fund Allocations approved

Discussion:

- During prior Board working meetings, the Board discussed the potential to integrate the Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid program into VTrans' allocation; VTrans will discuss internally and with ANR; prior to October 20, 2017, the Board will decide where the program resides before making their final FY2019 Clean Water Fund budget recommendation
- Allocation #3 from the September 5, 2017 FY2019 Clean Water Fund Allocations for ANR to support the Agronomy and Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) was recommended to be integrated into AAFM's draft allocation #2; this adjustment reduces administrative costs by eliminating the redundancy of having two agencies manage similar work

- Julie Moore motioned to amend the final draft FY2019 Clean Water Fund Allocations by integrating ANR's allocation #3 into AAFM's allocation #2
- Anson Tebbetts seconded the motion
- No objections
- Amendment to the final draft FY2019 Clean Water Fund Allocations approved

Progress Report on the Water Quality Funding Working Group (H516, Sec. 26) 3:45-3:55 pm
 Agency of Natural Resources Secretary Julie Moore

- Water Quality Funding Working Group has been meeting biweekly since late June 2017 to evaluate long term clean water funding options; recommendations will be summarized in a report and submitted to the Legislature by November 15, 2017
- Working Group will present their draft recommendations to an advisory group beginning September 8, 2017

Upcoming Legislative Reporting Requirements 3:55-4:05 pm
 DEC CWIP Nonpoint Source Coordinator Emily Bird

- Interim report on available clean water federal funding was submitted to the Legislature by AoA Secretary on September 1, 2017 (see supporting materials)
 - The Trump Administration's proposed budget would negatively impact Vermont's ability to administer clean water programs, and leadership has been in regular communication with Vermont's delegation on this issue
 - The Legislature has requested testimony on this topic the week of September 11, 2017
- Listing of FY2018 capital-funded clean water projects due November 1, 2017
 - Agencies will submit a listing of projects funded with capital funds in FY2018 as of October 15, 2017 to DEC by October 20, 2017 using the DEC-provided template
 - DEC will compile the projects list and submit to the Legislature by November 1, 2017
- Vermont Clean Water Initiative 2017 Investment Report due January 15, 2018
 - Agencies are on track to produce the Investment Report and the review process will begin in October 2017

Update on Common Signage for State-Funded Clean Water Projects 4:05-4:10 pm
 Buildings and General Services Principal Assistant to the Commissioner Erik Filkorn
 Proposed Action: Approve Draft Plan

- See supporting materials for the final draft *Implementation Plan for the Use of Signage to Identify Clean Water Projects Funded by the State of Vermont*
- Buildings and General Services will make applicable committee chairs aware of the plan and begin production of the signs
- Julie Moore motioned to approve the *Implementation Plan for the Use of Signage to Identify Clean Water Projects Funded by the State of Vermont*
- Michael Schirling seconded the motion
- No objections
- *Implementation Plan for the Use of Signage to Identify Clean Water Projects Funded by the State of Vermont* approved

Comments from the Public 4:10-4:20 pm
 Agency of Administration Secretary and Clean Water Fund Board Chair Susanne Young

- Jared Carpenter, Lake Champlain Committee: Thank you for taking the time to respond to the July 2017 public comments; Lake Champlain Committee may comment with recommendations for allocating the \$2.26 bond premium funds

Next Steps/Future Meeting

4:20-4:25 pm

Secretary Susanne Young

- AoA is hiring a financial analyst to assist in accounting for clean water funds; AoA will coordinate with agencies' financial officers to determine how the new hire can assist
- Schedule October 2017 Clean Water Fund Board working meeting and meeting

Adjourn

4:30 pm

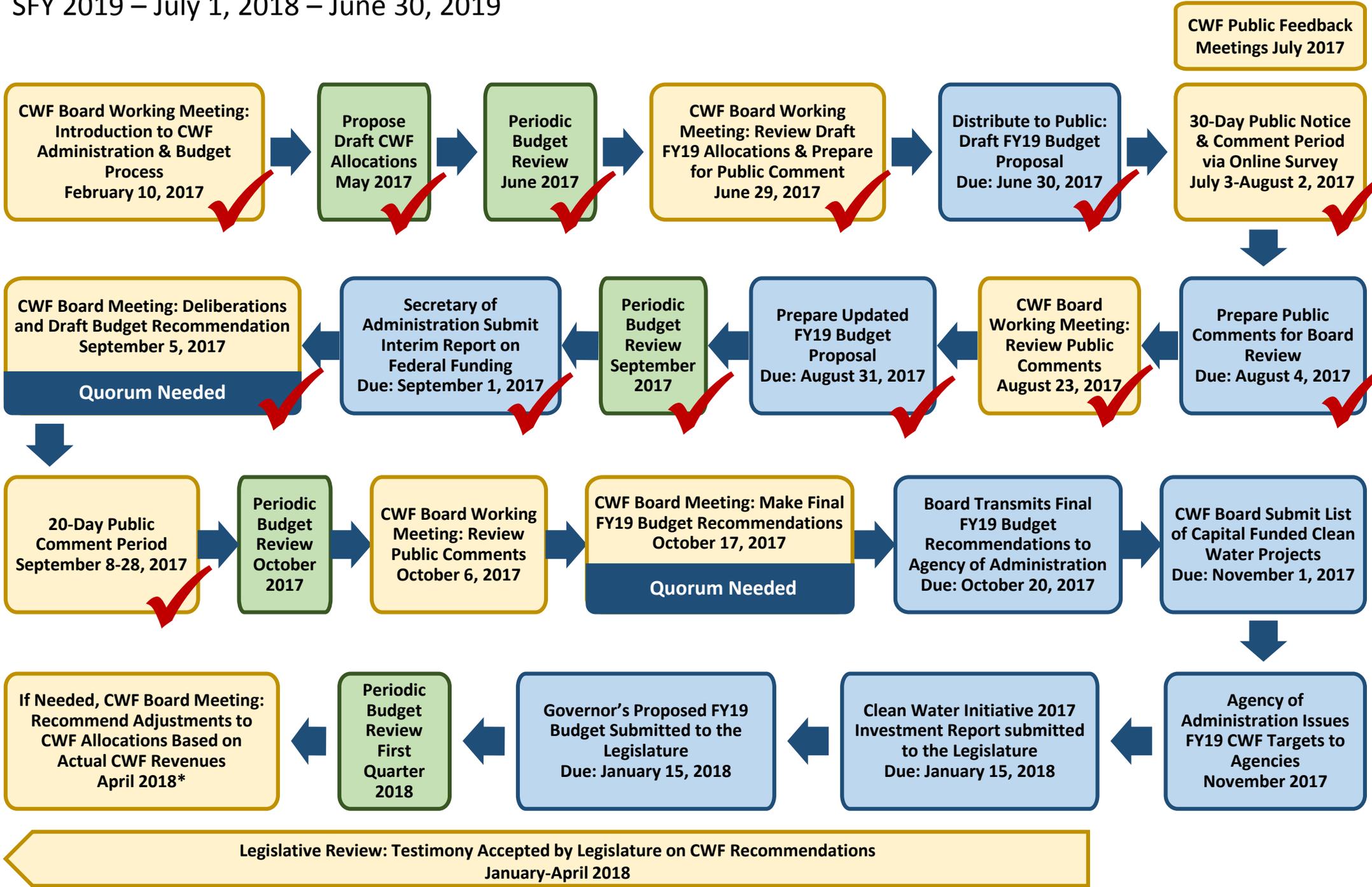
- Meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm

Supporting Materials:

1. June 29, 2017 and August 23, 2017 Draft Clean Water Fund Board Meeting Minutes
2. FY2019 Clean Water Fund Board Budget Process
3. FY2017-2018 Clean Water Fund Revenue Summary and Forecast
4. Draft Memorandum: Final FY2018 Clean Water Fund Allocations
5. Compilation of FY2019 Clean Water Fund Public Comments
6. Draft Proposed FY2019 Clean Water Fund Priorities and Allocations
7. Draft Interim Legislative Report on Available Clean Water Federal Funding
8. Draft Template for Listing of FY2018 Capital-Funded Clean Water Projects
9. Vermont Clean Water Initiative 2017 Investment Report Timeline

Clean Water Fund (CWF) State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019 Budget Process (February 2017 – April 2018)

SFY 2019 – July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019



- Clean Water Fund Budgetary Process
- Task of Interagency Finance and Reporting Committee
- Public & Legislative Process

Updated 9/29/2017
*Approximate dates provided



September 28, 2017

Ms. Kari Dolan
Program Manager
Clean Water Initiative Program
Vermont Dept. of Environmental Conservation
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-3522

Via Email: Kari.Dolan@vermont.gov

Re: Vermont Clean Water Fund Final Draft Distributions for the FY19 Draft Budget

The Lake Champlain Committee and the Vermont Chapter of the Sierra Club again appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Vermont Clean Water Fund Final Draft Distributions for the FY19 Draft Budget. Having commented thoroughly on the previous Draft Recommendations, here we only offer comments on the allocation of the bond premium funds that were not included in the Draft Recommendations.

The "Summary of SFY2018 - 2019 Clean Water Appropriations," notes that \$2,259,988 is available from the "FY19 Capital Bill: Bond premium from sale of bonds." It is our understanding that this bond premium has not been allocated to any Sectors or programs. To date, the Municipal Wastewater Control Sector and the Developed Lands and Roads Sector have received adequate funds due to the infusion of Capital bond money. However, as we stressed in our comments on the FY19 Draft Recommendations, more funds need to be allocated to the Agricultural Pollution Control and the Natural Resources Restoration Sectors, as many of the programs in these sectors cannot utilize restricted money from capital bonds or the state and federal transportation money. The additional funds from the bond premium, while restricted in use, will allow more unrestricted funding from the Property Transfer Tax Clean Water Surcharge to be shifted to assist the agricultural and natural resources sectors, essentially swapping out unrestricted funds for restricted funds where possible.

To reiterate past comments, more unrestricted funds overall should be shifted to agricultural programs, particularly technical assistance for farmers, as capital funding is largely dedicated to development, municipalities, and roads projects. Agricultural technical assistance programs are important early in this clean water process. These programs will pay dividends in the immediate future as management practices change and less phosphorus and sediment is discharged into Vermont waters. As we have also mentioned in the past comments, if the Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets is at distribution capacity due to limited staff, the funds for programs such as the Agronomy and Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) should be distributed as a block grant to other groups, particularly the UVM Extension.

It is inequitable that municipalities have received abundant funds for pollution reduction from roads and other impervious surfaces while the agricultural community lags behind with a \$14 million gap because of the expediency and low political risk of Capital funds. The agricultural sector contributes the highest percentage of any sector to the phosphorus and sedimentation runoff that pollutes Lake Champlain and Vermont waters. Reduction of these sources of pollution is among the most cost-effective remedies available and more funding should be shifted to this sector. One-time funding will have a big impact on clean water in the long term.

As to the Natural Resources Restoration Sector, we reiterate our previous comments that more funds need to be allocated to this program for easements, land purchases, and restoration projects. For some floodplains, particularly those in agricultural use to grow crops such as corn, the most effective way to protect water quality is simply to ease or purchase the land so it is taken out of use. More projects and programs in the natural resources sector are eligible for capital funds than in the agriculture sector, and a concerted effort should be made to take more floodplain and river corridor lands out of agricultural production from willing sellers.

We appreciate the explanation of the various funding sources and programs that support natural resources restoration articulated in the *Summary of Public Comments on the Fund Allocation Priorities for the Clean Water Fund Board, September 6, 2017*. But, we nonetheless continue to highlight the need for more unrestricted funds to help identify willing sellers of land in river corridors and flood plains that can then be purchased with capital funds in subsequent years.

We recommend that the \$200,000 from the Clean Water Fund currently recommended for planning purposes be bolstered by unrestricted funds that can be shifted from other programs and replaced with bond premium money. These funds can help establish the foundation of a buy-out program from willing sellers to take river corridors and flood-prone lands out of agricultural production. Once such parcels and sellers are identified, capital funds could be used to implement this approach in subsequent years. Further, if payments to an owner for identified lands are spread out over several years, more lands could be removed from production immediately with the knowledge that future capital funds will be used to continue payments to willing sellers.

In conclusion, we again thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed FY19 allocations from the Clean Water Fund Board. We ask that the unallocated bond premium funds be used to offset unrestricted funds from programs that are eligible for capital funds to bolster the underfunded Agricultural Pollution Control and the Natural Resources Restoration Sectors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lori Fisher".

Lori Fisher
Executive Director
Lake Champlain Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Nelson".

Mark Nelson
Chair
Vermont Chapter of the Sierra Club

Albin D. Voegele
292 French Hill Road
P.O. Box 147
Saint Albans, Vermont 05478

29 September 2017

VIA: Email

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
ATTN: Clean Water Initiative Program
1 National Life Drive, Main 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3522

Greeting:

By way of introduction, The Town of Saint Albans Select Board has appointed me to serve as the Town's representative to the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) and (separately) as a member of the NRPC Clean Water Advisory Committee. In those capacities, I would like to make several comments regarding the Clean Water Program.

With the support and assistance of the NRPC the Town of Saint Albans (TSA) is beneficiary to the following programs: (1) the Regional Water Education Program, (2) the Eco-Restoration Program, (3) help with the Road Erosion Control Inventory and (3) Phase 1 of the French Hill Road Stream Geomorphic Assessment.

More recently the Town has received a number of grants to repair and improve roadside control of water run-off. Without exception the Town Manager, Director of Administration and the Director of the Department of Public Works are extremely appreciative of all the assistance and support they have received from the NRPC to address the difficult and expensive interventions needed by the Town's MS4 permit to improve the quality of the water running into Lake Champlain.

In summary, on behalf of the Town of Saint Albans and personally, it is our hope that the Clean Water Initiative Program funds will continue as important resources for municipalities to meet MS4 requirements for storm water mitigation. Concurrently, it is our hope that the Northwest Regional Planning Commission will be afforded all the financial resources it needs to continue its mission in actively assisting and support municipalities comply with the goals and requirements of its MS4 permits and proactively remediate the damages to our ecosystem caused by neglect and historical lack of educational information.

Respectfully,

Al Voegele

From: Adam Lougee <alougee@acrpc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 10:31 AM
To: ANR - Clean Water VT
Subject: Comments of ACRPC regarding funding of Clean Water Act Implementation
Attachments: Adam Lougee.vcf

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission believes DEC needs to dedicate funding to creating a project pipeline in order for this program to be successful. ACRPC believes the pipeline needs to go beyond identifying and prioritizing projects. While that is a good first step, it is only a first step. It does not create a project that is "Ready to go". In order to create a project ready for construction, DEC must support the interim steps of planning, engineering and budgeting for priority projects identified. Both VTrans and BGS devote considerable resources to creating their pipeline. When they present to the legislature, they use multi-year budget cycles that request funding for planning and engineering, and then construction. Rolling forward, this creates the pipeline of projects completed. DEC should consider a similar process for its priority projects.

Sincerely,

Adam Lougee, Director
ACRPC



From: Nancy Mongeur [mailto:nmongeur@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, September 09, 2017 9:54 AM
To: ANR - Clean Water VT <ANR.CleanWaterVT@vermont.gov>
Cc: Myott Larry <larry.myott@gmail.com>; Hendrickson Ray & Hilda <hillhendy@surfglobal.net>
Subject: Clean Water Fund Comments

Good Morning,

As I sit here worried about my winter home that is about to get slammed by Irma, I'm also worried about my registered homestead on Lake Carmi in Franklin, VT.

The water quality is deplorable and deadly. Most of the camps are second homes that pay higher taxes and most take their household water directly from the lake. So to close public access to the lake because it is toxic is the least that can be done and not enough. This poison is getting into our homes.

When you have to close your windows so the smell doesn't ruin dinner, when you can't wash or shower or do your dishes, things have gone too far.

Many of us around the lake are doing what we can to help prevent further contamination like policing our septic systems, doing shoreline environmental projects, switching to environmentally friendly personal and household products. Many farmers are investing greatly to help remediate the problem (while others simply can't afford too).

All this helps to prevent further contamination but it will take a huge and costly effort to get rid of the toxins already present in the lake.

If this lakes cannot be cleaned up, the whole Lake Champlain basin is doomed. Lake Carmi is the 4th largest lake fully contained within Vermont and eventually runs into Lake Champlain. I'm not being an alarmist; this is fact.

The State of Vermont owns a huge portion of our shoreline and owns a huge obligation towards helping to getting it clean. Not to mention the State's obligation to its citizens. Without clean water humankind dies.

Please include in your budget funding to enforce already established laws, provide financial assistance to help landowners and farmers to do the right thing, fund research and, most importantly, fund remedial solutions to clean up the lake. Save Vermont!

Below are a few photos for your reference (I wish we had smell-a-photo). There are better examples on the webpages.

You can also see a constant stream of Lake photos and concerns at the following web pages:

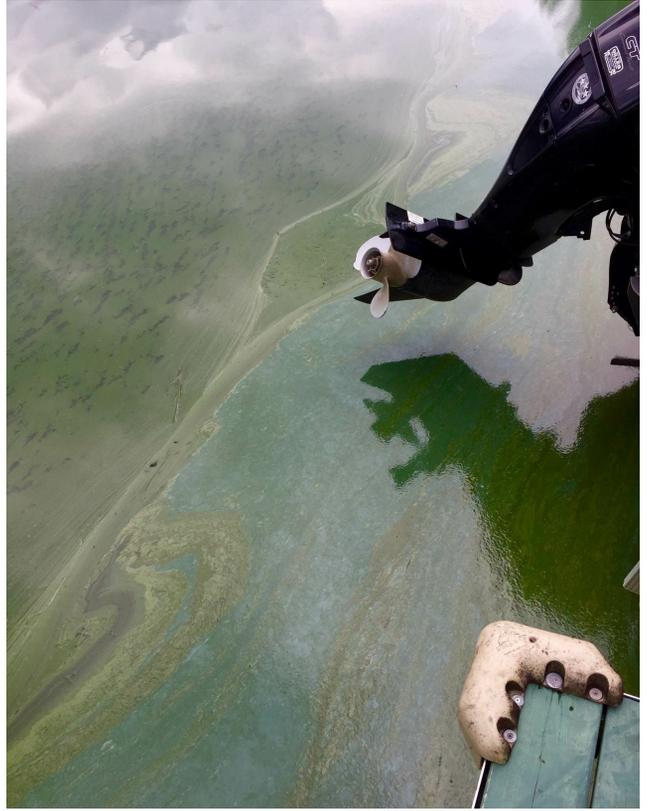
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/74001133924> - Lake Carmi Campers

<https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Lake-Carmi-214912375235939/?fref=ts> - Friends of Lake Carmi

<https://www.facebook.com/franklinwatershed/?fref=ts> - Franklin Watershed Committee

Thank you for listening. Please do the right thing.

Nancy Mongeur
Lake Carmi
Franklin, VT





Adam Lougee, ACRPC
President

Tom Kennedy, SWCRPC
Vice-President

Charlie Baker, CCRPC
Secretary/Treasurer

**VAPDA Comments on the
 Clean Water Fund FY19 allocations**
 September 28, 2017

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed FY19 Clean Water Fund Allocations. VAPDA believes that investing in water quality is a necessary and important long-term investment in our State that will improve our environment, health, and economy.

- **Allocation #3 - Increase investment in Tactical Basin Planning.** To do a better job of integrating the partners (RPCs, conservation districts, watershed associations, municipalities) in the tactical basin planning process more resources are needed. In FY17, the RPCs received \$330,000 for this work to integrate the municipalities. We recommend, based on conversations with the conservation districts, that \$500,000 is needed to fully integrate the partners into the basin planning process.
 - **Allocation #6 - Increase Investment in Project Development.** There is a clear need for increased investment in getting non-transportation projects ready for capital funding. It appears that there are about 20% CWF funds available for the transportation projects (Allocations #13 and 14). The same percent of investment needs to be invested in developing high-priority, non-transportation projects from the tactical basin plans to determine which projects in each sector will achieve the greatest water pollution reduction per dollar invested. Currently, there is only 7% in CWF in Allocation #6. We recommend increasing the investment in project identification, planning, and preliminary engineering under Allocation #6 to between \$460,000 and \$900,000. This investment is critical if we are to getting projects ready for capital investment.
 - **Allocation #7 - Municipal Grants in Aid Pilot Project.** This has been extremely successful in its first year as a pilot program and we are pleased to see additional funds proposed for next year. This project could serve as a model for project delivery in future years. The second year of this program should continue to be managed by DEC in partnership with the RPCs to provide for continuity of the program for municipal officials. We support this increased investment in this program.
2. **Grant Applications.** We sincerely appreciate the level of effort and investment that the State has put into developing new revenues and programs for water quality improvement. We are hearing a lot of concerns from applicants about the number and timing of the grant application processes. We ask DEC and VTrans to consider whether the grant application cycles could be reduced so that there is one round in the late Fall to correspond with municipal budget cycle and a second round in the late Spring. We would also ask you to consider reducing the number of applications to just two types – one for transportation and the other for non-transportation projects. This would allow the agencies to determine the most appropriate funding source without doing separate applications for each.
 3. **Cost Share.** The State of Vermont should examine cost share requirements and consider lowering or eliminating cost share for high priority projects identified during basin planning or other project development processes.

Respectfully submitted by Charlie Baker, VAPDA Natural Resource Committee Chair. Thank you for your consideration.

Strengthening the Capability of Governments



September 26, 2017

Attention: Clean Water Initiative Program
Department of Environmental Conservation
1 National Life Drive, Main 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3522
anr.cleanwatervt@vermont.gov

Dear Commissioner Boedecker:

I am writing on behalf of the Windham Regional Commission (WRC) to comment on the proposed Clean Water Fund Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Priorities. The WRC has long partnered with its towns, the Agency of Natural Resources, the Windham County Natural Resource Conservation District, watershed and fish and wildlife organizations, and other partners to identify, plan for, and implement clean water initiatives. Clean water affects our health, quality of life and our regional economy. The quality of our waters is in many ways the embodiment of the quality of much of the work that we do as a regional commission. Indeed, it is one of the principle drivers of the policies contained within our regional plan. We are thrilled that the legislature and ANR have recognized the roles regional planning commissions do and can play in the implementation of the Clean Water Initiative Program.

First, I'd like to comment on the value and exceptionally smooth roll out of the Grants In Aid project. This was an excellent means by which to further raise awareness within the towns of the Municipal Roads General Permit, help them get work underway so they understand what the permit requires and how it is to be implemented, and to carry out a "sea trial" of sorts to begin implementation of the rule to understand what works and what needs to be improved.

Our chief concern is that there seems to be a lack of priority placed on the definition and design of projects. In addition to the development of basin planning and the identification and prioritization of projects, funding for the scoping and engineering of projects is essential. I have attached a summary of the VTrans Project Definition Process Guidebook for your reference and pasted in the process flow chart. It is our experience that the project design and development workflow for water quality and habitat projects is ostensibly the same as that one would follow for transportation or other infrastructure projects. We have followed this workflow for several projects using ecosystem restoration grant funding.

You may also want to consider if there are efficiencies to be had through a contracting process similar to the VTrans design-build initiative. That could result in getting projects done more quickly for less money with high-performance results.

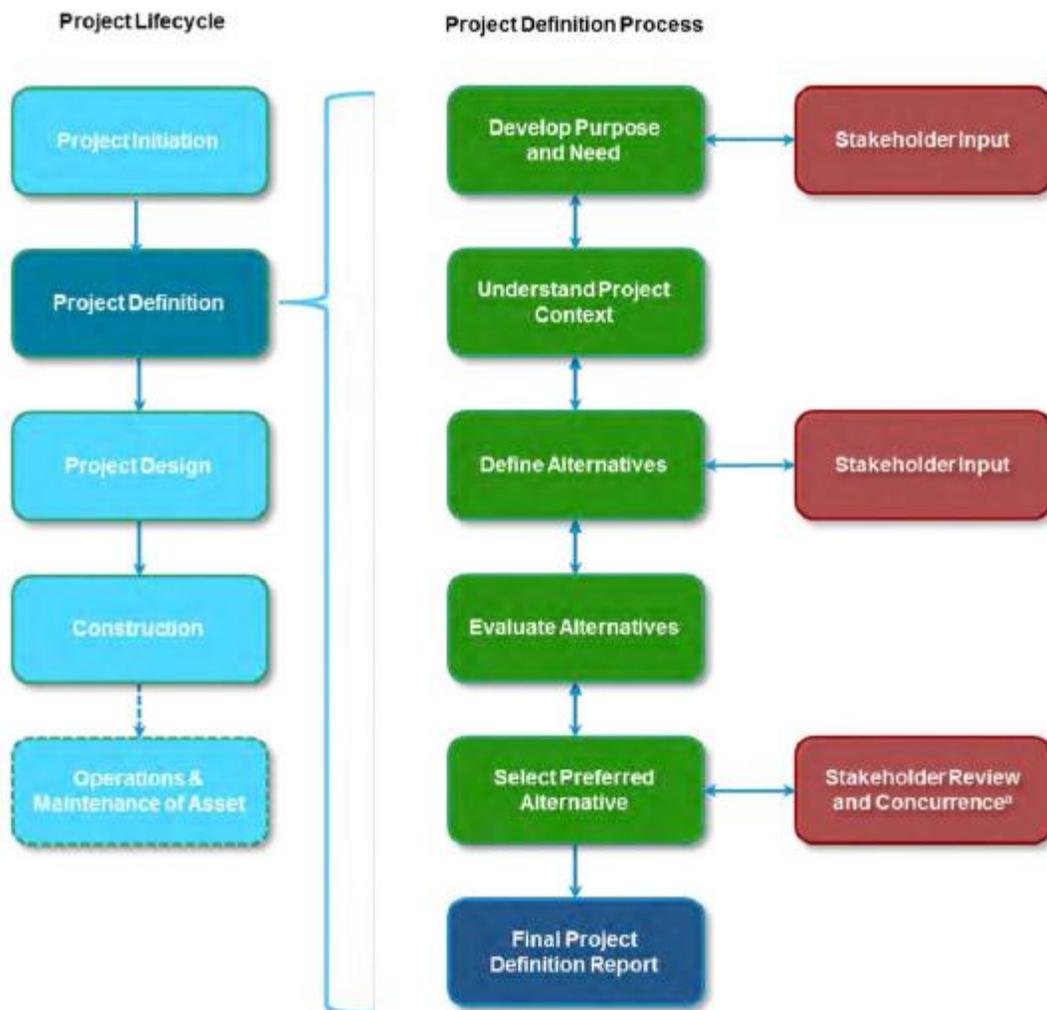
Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Chris Company,
Executive Director

Figure ES.1 Project Definition Process



^a "Stakeholder review and concurrence" means that stakeholders have been presented with a description of the preferred alternative and why it was selected; have been provided the opportunity to comment on the selection; and that VTrans has considered any stakeholder concerns and addressed them to the extent practical. The final determination of the preferred alternative is made by VTrans considering all stakeholder input.

From: Catherine Dimitruk <cdimitruk@nrpcvt.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 4:29 PM
To: ANR - Clean Water VT
Subject: Clean Water Fund Comments

Northwest Regional Planning Commission Comments
Clean Water Fund FY19 allocations
September 28, 2017

Municipal Grants in Aid Pilot Project. This has been extremely successful in its first year as a pilot program and we are pleased to see additional funds proposed for next year. This project could serve as a model for project delivery in future years. The second year of this program should continue to be managed by DEC in partnership with the RPCs to provide for continuity of the program for municipal officials.

Cost Share. The State of Vermont should examine cost share requirements and consider lowering or eliminating cost share for high priority projects identified during basin planning or other project development processes.

Project Development. A significant, targeted investment must be made in project development. Relying solely on grant applications from willing partners will not result in development of the most effective projects for improving water quality. The State of Vermont should identify and fund the development of projects that are identified as high priorities in the Basin Planning process.

Public Outreach and Information. Providing detailed, easily accessible public information about projects that are funded and completed and publicizing project successes will help to build support for the programs. It will also encourage additional participation from municipalities and property owners.

Common Grant Application. The amount of funding available is of tremendous benefit to Vermont's communities and landowners and is appreciated. However, each month there are one or more grant applications announced or due, and it is challenging to find the resources to apply for the grants and often difficult to determine which is the best grant program for individual projects. In future years, NRPC encourages the Agencies to work together to develop common application materials and streamlined, coordinated application processes.

Thank you for considering NRPC's comments.



Catherine Dimitruk | *Executive Director*
Northwest Regional Planning Commission | 75 Fairfield Street, St. Albans, VT 05478
Phone: 802.524.5958 | **Fax:** 802.527.2948 | **Website:** www.nrpcvt.com

From: Jim Sullivan <jsullivan@bcrcvt.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 1:00 PM
To: ANR - Clean Water VT
Subject: Clean Water Fund Comments

The Bennington County Regional Commission would like to reinforce other comments regarding the need to include sufficient project development costs in the final budget. Some water quality improvement projects are straightforward and can be accomplished with relatively little pre-development planning and design, but others are complex and may involve work in and around sensitive environments and infrastructure. Moreover, an assessment of needs, and of project benefits and costs, will help to ensure that important projects continue to move forward and that the most critical are identified as priorities for implementation. Funds spent on project development should never reduce the effectiveness of the initiative, of course, but a reasonable set aside for project planning will go a long way toward ensuring its long-term value to the state. Regional planning commissions have worked with the state and local governments for many years to identify and “scope” transportation projects, thus ensuring that the most critical needs are met in the most cost-effective manner possible. Similar consideration should be given to implementation of projects addressing the water quality needs of the state.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

James Sullivan
Director
Bennington County Regional Commission
111 South Street - Suite 203
Bennington, VT 05201
802-442-0713 x5
jsullivan@bcrcvt.org

From: James H. Maroney, Jr. <maroney.james@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2017 3:32 PM
To: ANR - Clean Water VT
Subject: Clean Water Week Comments/Suggestions

Dear Kari:

I will keep this short in the hope that these three points will make an impression.

1) Vermont passed Act 64, the so-called “Clean water law,” which the secretary never loses an opportunity to remind us will take twenty-five years to take effect. Yet the state is already celebrating clean water as if it had already been attained, when irrespective of its flaws (see below) the law has not even been funded.

2) Virtually all of us on both sides of the debate agree that conventional dairy is the largest contributor to both lake pollution and to greenhouse gas generation. Yet by design Act 64 imposes no material constraints upon the conventional dairy industry, which the law permits to continue business as usual.

3) State support for the conventional dairy industry has been based for fifty years upon helping farmers lower costs, which savings they convert to new capacity — more land, more cows, larger barns and equipment in order to make more milk. But since the industry is drowning in milk, bigger production means steadily falling prices, which drive small and medium-size farm attrition, which means more land on which large conventional farmers spread NPK fertilizer, the principal cause of lake and atmospheric pollution.

James H. Maroney, Jr.

Oliver Hill Farm
1033 Bullock Road
Leicester, VT 05733
Cell: (802) 236-7431

September 20, 2017

Kari Dolan
Clean Water Initiative Program
Department of Environmental Conservation
1 National Life Drive, Main 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3522

Dear Kari Dolan,

Thank you and the Clean Water Board for giving the public the opportunity to provide comments regarding the Clean Water Board's proposal for FY19 allocations. The opportunity for the public to provide input in the budget allocations is essential considering that surface water quality is a public resource and the maintenance and restoration of water quality provides public benefit.

The Clean Water Initiative should strongly consider devoting funding for project development, including preliminary feasibility analysis, project scoping and design, and cost estimation. Devoting funding to project development will ensure that there are numerous projects ready for bidding and construction in the future. Without these critical steps, projects are not developed to level where they are ready for construction.

The Municipal Grants-In-Aid Program has been extremely popular and successful in our Region, as 27 out of our 30 towns participated in the Program this year. We recommend that the Clean Water Initiative Program continue to expand the Municipal Grants-In-Aid Program as municipal roads are a large source of sediment pollution and continue to be a long-term maintenance concern for municipalities. As municipalities work towards improving their roads to meet the Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) more money should be devoted to road related projects.

Sincerely,



Peter G. Gregory, AICP
Executive Director

CC: Michael Storace
Planner

William B. Emmons, III, Chair ~ Peter G. Gregory, AICP, Executive Director
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From: Peter G. Gregory <pgregory@trorc.org>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 9:14 AM
To: ANR - Clean Water VT
Cc: Tom Kennedy; Charlie Baker; Christopher Damiani
Subject: Clean Water Fund Comments

Hello;

Additional comments I have for you to consider. These are shared by other regional planning commission directors.

1. If you really want to incent communities to invest in projects that may have huge water quality improvements, you must be more flexible on match amounts.
2. Are you statutorily directed to require 50% match on Lake Champlain municipal projects? If not, why would a program be set up to dampen enthusiasm for tackling projects that may have a direct link in addressing the TMDL?
3. There are many projects around the state, that could have a major positive impact on pollution reduction, that no sponsor (municipality, watershed group, RPC) will ever take on because of the match. I recommend that you consider these "state" projects, funded at 100% and have the RPCs manage them for you. We already do construction management on roadway and ACCD HUD funded disaster construction projects.

Thank you.

Peter G. Gregory, AICP
Executive Director



Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission
128 King Farm Road | Woodstock, Vermont 05091
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From: Bob Buermann <rbuermann@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 10:27 PM
To: ANR - Clean Water VT
Subject: Clean Water Fund Comments

The Grants in Aid pilot project has had a very successful first year. Additional funding as proposed would be welcome. The partnership between DEC and the RPCs has ensured an efficient roll out of the program with a simple and efficient grant process and onsite technical assistance. South Hero is one of the first communities in the state to complete our work, constructing 10 new BMPs on 2 connected road segments. If the program remains as is, South Hero will be interested in continuing to participate in future years and this could serve as a model for providing grant funds to municipalities.

Regards,
Bob Buermann
21 Richards Road
South Hero

email rbuermann@hotmail.com cell 802-238-4492 home 802-372-5470

From: Tasha Wallis <tasha@lcpcvt.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 3:14 PM
To: ANR - Clean Water VT
Subject: FW: Clean Water Fund Budget

Below are comments submitted by the Lamoille County Planning Commission regarding the Clean Water Budget per the public process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Project development is critical to ensure that there are “shovel ready” projects in future years. Most communities have neither the personnel (town engineers, public works staff) or financial resources to complete project scoping and development without State support. Project development also identifies opportunities to incorporate water quality into other municipal infrastructure investments – such as major road repairs or pedestrian infrastructure upgrades – allowing limited public funds to be used to the maximum benefit.

Tasha Wallis

Executive Director

Lamoille County Planning Commission

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direct dial: 802-851-6346 | main number: 802-888-4548

Steven A Judge
75 Lyon Road, P.O. Box 476
Royalton, Vermont 05068
802-763-7963
vermontmilk@gmail.com



September 21, 2017

Attention: Clean Water Initiative Program
Department of Environmental Conservation
1 National Life Drive, Main 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3522

Dear Board Members, Clean Water Initiative Program

Enclose please find my recommendations for steps that can be taken to clean up Lake Champlain. I also included my resume as a way of introduction.

I owned and operated dairy farms in Shoreham, Vermont for over a decade and am very familiar with the nutrient and sediment pollution entering Lake Champlain from agricultural sources.

Best of luck,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Judge", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steven A Judge

Five Simple Steps for Cleaning Up the Lake Champlain Watershed And Lake Champlain

- 1) Require cover crops for all tilled agricultural land that would otherwise be left open during the late fall, winter and early spring.**
- 2) Prohibit the spreading of manure on bare ground lacking cover crops outside of the growing season.**
- 3) Allow the spreading of manure outside of the growing season until December 1st and after April 1st ONLY on fields that have cover crops or perennial crops that are capable of retaining the manure and preventing runoff.**
- 4) Develop state programs that will provide incentives for farmers in the Champlain Valley and other sensitive regions of Vermont to plant perennial forage crops such as hay, trefoil and alfalfa instead of corn. Limit the intervals that those fields can be plowed to every three or five years.**
- 5) In 2014 50,000 tons of commercial fertilizer were applied to Vermont's cropland. The spreading of commercial fertilizer must be carefully regulated and commercial fertilizer applicators and their employees should be required to receive formal training and be certified.**

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE FUND ALLOCATION PRIORITIES FOR THE CLEAN WATER FUND BOARD

A. GENERAL COMMENTS – THE CLEAN WATER INITIATIVE

1. Author: Northwest Regional Planning Commission, Catherine Dimitruk, Executive Director
 - a. The state should provide detailed, easily accessible public information about projects and publicizing successes will build support and encourage greater participation.
Response: The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Clean Water Initiative Program (CWIP) is working on a web-based portal to improve sharing of information with the public. We also are enhancing our annual report to contain more information about projects and successes for each watershed. We welcome additional input on this topic.

2. Author: James Maroney, Leicester, VT
 - a. The commenter notes that Vermont passed Act 64, the Clean Water Law, yet the law has not been funded.
Response: Since the passage of Act 64 in June of 2015, the state is making progress in ramping up new programs, permits and project implementation. The state continues to evaluate the amount of state subsidy needed to support clean water improvements across the state to meet state and federal requirements. The Office of the State Treasurer, in consultation with state agencies, released a report on this topic earlier this year.¹ Subsequently, the Vermont General Assembly established a Working Group on Water Quality Funding, pursuant to Act 73, Section 26. The mission of the Group is to continue to evaluate the state's clean water funding needs, the timing of those needs, and how to best meet those needs in the short term and over time. A report is due to the General Assembly by mid-December 2017.

B. TARGETING CLEAN WATER FUND PRIORITIES

1. Author: Lake Champlain Committee, Lori Fisher, Executive Director, Sierra Club Vermont Chapter, Mark Nelson, Chair
 - a. The \$2,259,988 in “FY19 Capital Bill, Bond premium from sale of bonds” has not been allocated to any sectors or programs. More funds need to be allocated to the Agricultural Pollution Control and the Natural Resources Restoration sectors, noting that the programs in these sectors cannot utilize restricted money from capital bonds or transportation funding. While these funds are restricted in use, it should allow more unrestricted funds from the Property Transfer Tax Clean Water Surcharge to be shifted to the agricultural and natural resources sectors.

¹ State of Vermont, Office of the State Treasurer, Clean Water Report, Required by Act 64 of 2015, January 15, 2017: http://www.vermonttreasurer.gov/sites/treasurer/files/committees-and-reports/FINAL_CleanWaterReport_2017.pdf

Response: Please note that we are achieving the state's natural resources restoration goals using a combination of DEC ecosystem restoration grants targeted at priority areas and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board's capital funds for water quality purposes. Also note that each sector benefits from having some amount of flexible funding, such as the preparation of stormwater master plans within the stormwater sector. Please refer to the draft memorandum that outlines some priorities for the bond premium funds (which are to be managed as capital funds). These funds could provide added support for the agricultural, stormwater and natural resources sectors.

- b. The commenter stated that is inequitable that municipalities have received abundant funds for pollution reduction from roads and other impervious surfaces while the agricultural community is facing a \$14 million gap because of expediency and low political risk of capital funds. This sector contributes the highest percentage of any sector to the phosphorus and sediment runoff that pollutes Vermont's waters. Reduction of these sources are among the most cost-effective actions.

Response: Please note that federal and state agricultural funding to support the delivery of technical assistance to farmers is substantially higher than in past years, and is increasing the level of agricultural management practice implementation. Federal funding for agriculture water quality improvements in Vermont is approximately \$22 million this year, compared to approximately \$8 million in past years. The state continues to pursue additional funding opportunities such as the USDA Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCP), which currently is bringing \$16 million to Vermont for agricultural water quality improvement.

2. Author: Nancy Mongeur, Franklin VT

- a. The commenter raises concerns that Lake Carmi's water quality is deplorable and deadly. Carmi is the 4th largest lake fully situated in Vermont and a source of drinking water for some property owners. Please include funding to enforce already established laws, help landowners and farmers do the right thing, fund research and fund remedial solutions to clean up the Lake.

Response: We agree that the current condition of Lake Carmi is unacceptable. We are committed to continuing work already in progress and ramping up additional efforts to protect Lake Carmi. DEC is collaborating with the Agency of Agriculture, Foods, and Markets (AAF) to identify and fund projects necessary to meet requirements of the [Lake Carmi Phosphorus TMDL](#)² as well as the [Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL](#).³ With approval of the Lake Champlain TMDL in 2016,

² Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Phosphorus Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Lake Carmi, October 2008:

http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/WSMD_mapp_2009_Carmi%20P%20tmdl.pdf

³ US Environmental Protection Agency, Phosphorus TMDLs for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain, June 20, 2016: <https://www.epa.gov/tmdl/lake-champlain-phosphorus-tmdl-commitment-clean-water>

additional resources became available for clean water projects across the Lake Champlain Basin. In the Lake Carmi watershed, these projects largely entail intercepting and rerouting phosphorus-laden sediments eroding from agricultural fields, roads, and shoreland properties. Examples include planting cover crops on agricultural lands, restoring buffers between agricultural fields and waterways, installing best management practices on municipal and private roads, and incorporating lake-friendly practices into shoreland management. Extensive educational outreach and farm inspection efforts are in place, with the expectation that enforcement will ramp up as farmers become familiar with new Required Agricultural Practices. In addition, important manure cleanup projects are in progress under the auspices of AAFM, and wetland conservation/restoration projects are in the pipeline for clean water funding. Additionally, we are also pursuing a project that involves the design and installation of an in-lake phosphorus management project.

3. Author: Town of St. Albans, Albin Voegele, Town of St. Albans Representative to the Northwest Regional Planning Commission
 - a. The Town of St. Albans is appreciative of the assistance and support from the Northwest Regional Planning Commission to address difficult and expensive projects necessary as part of the state stormwater permit referred to as the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. The Town of St. Albans hopes that funding via the Clean Water Initiative Program continues to help municipalities meet MS4 requirements for stormwater mitigation. The Town would like the Northwest Regional Planning Commission to receive the financial resources it needs to support municipalities comply with permits and restore ecosystems caused by neglect and historical lack of educational information.
Response: The State of Vermont recognizes the important role that the regional planning commissions (RPCs) play in providing technical assistance to the municipalities in their region. We are conducting two pilot projects – a Municipal Grant-in-Aid project and a Clean Water Block Grant pilot project – as potentially efficient ways to continue to leverage our partnerships with the RPCs and other organizations to support municipalities’ efforts to implement clean water improvement projects.

4. Authors: Northwest Regional Planning Commission, Catherine Dimitruk, Executive Director, Bennington County Regional Commission, Jim Sullivan, Executive Director
 - a. The state should target significant investment in project development. Relying solely on grant applications from willing partners will not result in developing the most effective projects. Vermont should fund the development of projects identified as high priorities in Basin Planning Process.
Response: DEC has developed a process to add priority projects from basin planning and permit-based inventories and plans into the projects data base. We also recognize the value of project development in developing and implementing sound and cost-effective clean water improvement projects.

5. Author: Bennington County Regional Commission, Jim Sullivan, Executive Director, and Lamoille County Regional Commission, Tasha Wallis, Executive Director

a. Scoping project to assess needs, benefits and costs, similar to scoping of transportation projects, help to ensure that the most important projects move forward. Project development ensure that there are “shovel ready” projects in the future. Most communities have neither the personnel or financial resources to complete project scoping and development without state support. Project development also identifies opportunities to integrate water quality improvements into other municipal investments, which maximizes the project’s public benefit.

Response: We agree and are developing tools to help prioritize projects based on cost-effectiveness in achieving water quality goals. Note that the state can use Clean Water Fund revenues to support project scoping, although those funds are limited.

6. Author: James Maroney, Leicester, VT

a. Conventional dairy is the largest contributor to lake pollution and greenhouse gas generation, yet Act 64 imposes no material constraints upon the conventional dairy industry.

Response: Thank you for your comment. Please note that the scope of this comment period focuses on the FY2019 clean water allocations. Please refer to the State of Vermont response to comments on the 2017 Final TMDL Phase I Implementation Plan⁴ and EPA’s TMDL Response to Comments⁵ on this topic. Please note that we have shared your comments with the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. We welcome your continued engagement on this topic.

b. State support for the conventional dairy industry has been based on 50 years of helping farmers lower costs, which have been converted into more land and cows in milk production. The surplus of milk and falling prices are causing a decline in small and medium-size farms and an increase number of larger conventional farmers who are spreading NPK fertilizer, the principal cause of lake and atmospheric pollution.

Response: Thank you for your comment. The scope of this comment period focuses on the FY2019 clean water allocations. However, we have also shared your comments with the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. We appreciate your engagement in discussions about the agricultural economy in Vermont.

⁴ Vermont Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDLs Phase I Implementation Plan Response to Public Comments, March 1, 2017: <http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/erp/docs/2017-03-01Phase1PlanResponsetoComments.pdf>

⁵ Environmental Protection Agency, Phosphorus TMDLs for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain: Response to Comments, June 17, 2016: https://ofmpub.epa.gov/waters10/attains_impaired_waters.show_tmdl_document?p_tmdl_doc_blobs_id=79165

7. Author: Steven Judge, Royalton
 - a. Here are five simple steps for cleaning up Lake Champlain Watershed and the Lake: (1) require cover crops for tilled agricultural land that would be left open in the late fall, winter and early spring; (2) prohibit manure spreading on bare ground that lack cover crops outside the growing season; (3) allow manure spreading until Dec. 1st and after April 1st only in field that have cover crops or perennial crops that are capable of preventing runoff; (4) provide incentives for farmers to plant perennial forage crops instead of corn and limit plowing to every 3-5 years; and (5) In 2014, 50,000 tons of commercial fertilizer were applied to Vermont cropland. Carefully regulate spreading and require formal training and certification for commercial fertilizer applicators.
Response: Thank you for your comment. The scope of this comment period focuses on the FY2019 clean water allocations. However, I have shared your comments with the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. We welcome your continued engagement on this topic.

C. CLEAN WATER FUND GRANT MANAGEMENT

1. Author: Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies (VAPDA), filed by Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Charlie Baker, Executive Director
 - a. The commenter would like DEC and the Vermont Transportation Agency (VTrans) to evaluate the number and timing of grant application cycles in order to better correspond with municipal budget cycles. The commenter also recommends two separate grant types (transportation and non-transportation-related) to help applicants determine the most appropriate funding source.
Response: State agencies have different grants to address a variety of purposes. The intent of DEC holding multiple grant rounds is to allow project proponents to select a grant cycle that best meets their needs and to secure accurate cost information for each project. DEC will consider these comments and anticipates supporting a minimum of three grant rounds per year. We also see value in improved coordination of state grant programs and will consider this recommendation.
2. Author: Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC), Adam Lougee, Executive Director, and Windham Regional Commission Chris Campany, Executive Director
 - a. Commenters recommend that DEC dedicate funding to create a project pipeline that supports: (a) project identification and prioritization, the interim of planning and engineering and (b) construction. ACRPC notes that the Vermont Transportation Agency (VTrans) and the Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS) have in place a process to support a multi-year project pipeline. Project scoping and engineering design of projects is essential. DEC should consider VTrans Project Definition Process Guidebook as a reference.

Response: We agree, and have adopted a multi-step approach to create a pipeline. We will continue to evaluate how to improve our project development processes.

3. Author: Windham Regional Commission, Chris Company, Executive Director
 - a. DEC may want to consider a contracting process similar to the VTrans design-build initiative to complete projects in an efficient manner and on time.
Response: DEC will evaluate this initiative. Note that DEC currently has a contracting process, although limited staff capacity to manage contracts. DEC also launched a block grant process with the regional planning commissions and conservation districts to support both contract and grant-based project implementation.

4. Author: Northwest Regional Planning Commission, Catherine Dimitruk, Executive Director; Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission, Peter Gregory, Executive Director
 - a. Consider lowering or eliminating cost share for high priority projects identified during basin planning or other project development processes. Greater flexibility will help to incent communities to invest in projects.
Response: DEC will evaluate this recommendation.

 - b. We encourage the agencies to work together to develop common application materials and streamlined coordinated application processes.
Response: DEC will evaluate this recommendation.

5. Author: Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission, Peter Gregory, Executive Director
 - a. The Clean Water Initiative should strongly consider devoting funding for project development, including preliminary feasibility analysis, project scoping and design and cost estimation. Devoting funds for project development will ensure that there are projects ready for construction in the future.
Response: We agree, and have adopted a multi-step approach to create a pipeline. We will evaluate how to improve this process.

 - b. Are you statutorily directed to require 50% match on Lake Champlain municipal projects? If not, why would a program be established to dampen enthusiasm to implement projects that can assist in achieving the goals of the TMDL?
Response: We will evaluate this recommendation, especially with respect to catalyzing early adoption of water quality best practices. Note, however, that DEC is committed to maximizing outcomes associated with state investments by leveraging wherever possible, federal and local funds. Leveraging funds helps to achieve local project stewardship. We also want to ensure geographic equity by making available resources to achieve clean water improvements across the state. Additionally, we are committed to maximizing the use of other funding

options to support clean water improvement projects, such as low interest financing.

- c. Consider having the RPCs manage those “state-sponsored” pollution abatement projects that do not have a sponsor. These projects should be funded by the state with no match requirement. For example, RPCs have experience in road-related construction management and ACD HUD-funded disaster construction projects.

Response: We will evaluate this recommendation.

D. SPECIFIC COMMENTS REGARDING DRAFT CLEAN WATER FUND FY19 ALLOCATIONS (REFER TO TABLES 2-7)

Allocation #2 (Table 2), Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM): Agricultural Support

1. Author: Lake Champlain Committee, Lori Fisher, Executive Director, Sierra Club Vermont Chapter, Mark Nelson, Chair
 - a. More unrestricted funds should be shifted to agricultural programs, particularly technical assistance for farmers. If AAFM is at distribution capacity due to limited staff, the funds for programs such as the Agronomy and Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) should be managed as a block grant.

Response: Thank you for your comment. The need for technical assistance for farmers is ongoing. We swapped VTrans Clean Water Fund allocations with AAFM capital funds to provide more flexibility to the AAFM. As stated above, the additional federal and state funds is helping to meet this need. For example, the USDA Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), which is bringing \$16 million to Vermont for agricultural water quality improvement, includes over \$3 million in technical assistance. The ACAP program, included in this allocation, will help the state continue to provide technical assistance.

Allocation #3 (Table 3), Agency of Natural Resources (ANR): Partner Support

1. Author: Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies (VAPDA), filed by Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Charlie Baker, Executive Director
 - a. VAPDA would like to see an increase from \$330,000 to \$500,000 for this allocation to fully support the integration of partners (RPCs, conservation districts, watershed associations, municipalities) into the tactical basin planning process.

Response: Thank you. Current funding levels attempt to balance funding for the tactical basin planning process and funding for project implementation.

Allocation #6 (Table 3), ANR: Stormwater planning/implementation;

1. Author: Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies (VAPDA), filed by Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Charlie Baker, Executive Director
 - a. VAPDA recommends increasing the investment in identification, planning and preliminary engineering for non-transportation projects to \$460,000 - \$900,000.
Response: We have adopted a multi-step approach to support these steps. We also merged together planning and implementation projects to allow for an optimization among projects involving identification, planning, engineering and construction.

Allocation #7 (Table 3), ANR: Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Pilot Project

1. Author: Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies (VAPDA), filed by Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Charlie Baker, Executive Director, Northwest Regional Planning Commission, Catherine Dimitruk, Executive Director
 - a. VAPDA and NWRPC support the increase of funding for this pilot project, which has been extremely successful in its first year as a pilot program.
 - b. Commenters support having DEC manage this pilot project to provide continuity of the program.
Response: We appreciate your feedback on this pilot project.
2. Author: Windham Regional Commission, Chris Campany, Executive Director
 - a. WRC acknowledges the value and exceptionally smooth roll out of this pilot project. It was an excellent means of raising awareness of the Municipal Roads General Permit and help them get work underway to understand the permit.
Response: We appreciate your feedback on this pilot project.
3. Author: Northwest Regional Planning Commission, Catherine Dimitruk, Executive Director
 - a. The Municipal Roads Grants in Aid pilot project could serve as a model for project delivery in future years.
Response: Thank you for your suggestion.
4. Author: Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission, Peter Gregory, Executive Director
 - a. This program has been extremely popular and successful, with 27 of our 30 towns participating this year. We recommend that the Clean Water Initiative Program continue to expand the Grants-in-Aid Program, as municipal roads are a large source of sediment pollution. As municipalities work towards improving their roads to meet the Municipal Roads General Permit, more money should be devoted to road-related projects.
Response: We appreciate your feedback.

5. Author: Bob Buermann, South Hero
 - a. The Grants in Aid pilot project had a very successful first year. Additional funding as proposed would be welcome. The partnership between DEC and the RPCs has ensure a simple and efficient program. South Hero constructed 10 new BMPs on two connected road segments. South Hero will be interested in participating in future years, and the approach could be a model for providing future grants to municipalities.
Response: We appreciate your feedback.

Allocation #8 (Table 3), ANR: Natural Resources Restoration

1. Author: Lake Champlain Committee, Lori Fisher, Executive Director, Sierra Club Vermont Chapter, Mark Nelson, Chair
 - a. More funds need to be allocated to this sector. The most effective way to protect water quality, particularly with respect to agricultural cropland, is to ease or purchase floodplain and river corridor land and take these lands out of production from willing sellers.
Response: Thank you for your comment. We are considering the use of the bond premium funds to further support this sector. We will continue to look for those restoration opportunities with willing landowners.
 - b. The commenter continues to highlight the need for more unrestricted funds to help identify willing sellers of lands in river corridors and floodplains that can be purchased with capital funds in future years.
Response: As stated above, we recognize that each sector benefits from having some amount of flexible funding. We attempted to arrive at a set of allocations that can support this need across all sectors. The state is committed to meeting the expected pollutant load reduction targets associated with natural resources restoration, as described in the Lake Champlain TMDL and other restoration plans. We are achieving the state's natural resources restoration goals using a combination of DEC ecosystem restoration grants targeted at priority areas and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board's capital funds for water quality purposes.

MEMORANDUM

To: Clean Water Fund Board
 From: Kari Dolan, DEC Program Manager, Clean Water Investment Program
 Subject: Recommended Adjustments to DEC Clean Water Funds
 Date: October 5, 2017
 Through: Emily Boedecker, Commissioner
 CC: Pete LaFlamme, Watershed Management Division Director
 Mary Borg, Watershed Management Division Deputy Director
 Joanna Pallito, Administration and Innovation Division Director
 Rebecca Ellis, DEC Deputy Commissioner

Attached is the third draft of the Clean Water Fund FY19 allocations. Three adjustments were made to the draft allocations:

- Allocation #1 (Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets allocation for On-Farm Implementation) and Allocation #13 (Vermont Agency of Transportation Municipal Mitigation Assistance Program): This draft reflects a “swap” of \$435,000 of Clean Water Funds and new capital funds between the agencies of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM) and Transportation (VTrans). This adjustment affords AAFM greater flexibility in how it delivers technical and funding assistance to farmers. The adjustment will not affect VTrans Municipal Mitigation Assistance program, since the projects that VTrans supports under this program are capital-fund eligible:

AGENCY	Allocation Number	Clean Water Fund FY2019	Capital, New (H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4))
AAFM	#1	Increased by \$435,000	Decreased by \$435,000
VTrans	#13	Decreased by \$435,000	Increased by \$435,000

- Allocation #7 (Agency of Natural Resources allocation for the Municipal Grants-in-Aid Pilot Project): This draft reflects a \$10,000 reduction in the new capital funding level to correct a mathematical error.
- We added a new table (Table 10, page 11) to present a draft proposal for a \$2.3 million allocation from the bond premium stemming from the state’s recent sale of general obligation bonds. This allocation reflects the original set-aside in the Governor’s SFY2018 budget and is shown on Table One below – the SFY2018-2019 Clean Water Appropriation (page 3).

VERMONT CLEAN WATER FUND DRAFT DISTRIBUTIONS FOR FY19 DRAFT BUDGET

Purpose: As directed by Act 64 (2015) and modified by H.876 (2016), the Vermont Clean Water Fund Board is to develop an annual revenue estimate and propose a budget for the Clean Water Fund.

Implementation Policies: The Clean Water Fund provides additional state funds above current allocation levels to complement, enhance and leverage existing resources. The use of the Fund is to maximize opportunities for the restoration and protection of Vermont's water ways by prioritizing and targeting resources. To maximize the effectiveness of this Fund, the Fund should strengthen and complement existing state assistance programs (e.g., grant and loan pass-through programs), wherever feasible.

Contingency to Avoid Overruns: Ten percent of the anticipated annual revenues from the surcharge on the property transfer tax are set aside as a contingency to avoid the risk of spending more funds than the amount available in the Clean Water Fund for that fiscal year.

Priorities: The Board shall make its recommendation based on the following priorities, as stated in Act 64 Sec. 37 (10 VSA §1389(e)). Please refer to a separate document entitled, *Vermont Clean Water Fund SFY19 Distribution Priorities* for more information about state priorities.

What's New for FY19: The State Legislature directed an additional \$11,112,944 of FY19 capital funds, targeted for clean water improvement projects, to be dispersed using the Clean Water Fund Board budget setting process. The tables in this document present draft allocations of Clean Water Funds, FY19 capital funds (H.519), the additional \$11,112,944 of FY19 capital funds (H519, Section 11 (f)(4)), and general funds as part of the Appropriations Bill:

Tables:

Table 1, page 3: Summary of SFY2018-2019 Clean Water Appropriations

Table 2, page 4: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

Table 3, page 5-6: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Natural Resources

Table 4, page 7: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Transportation

Table 5, page 7: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Administration

Table 6, page 8: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Commerce and Community Development

Table 7, page 8: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Vermont Housing & Conservation Board

Table 8, page 9: Summary Recommendations for SFY19 Clean Water Funding, by Sector

Table 9, page 9: Table 2: Summary Recommendations for SFY19 Clean Water Funding, by Agency

Table 10, page 11: Recommendation to Support Clean Water Improvement Using State FY19 Bond Premium from Sale of Bonds

Table 1: Summary of SFY2018-2019 Clean Water Appropriations

The following tables present a draft proposal for distributing the FY19 Clean Water Fund revenues and Capital Funds, highlighted in yellow.

	Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D	Column E
	Baseline (2-year total)	As Passed House & Senate (5/5/2017)			Filling Gap = D-A (2-year total)
Capital Bill, H.519 Section 11: Clean Water Investments		FY18	FY19	FY18 & FY19	
(a)(1) & (e)(1) AAFM BMP & CREP	\$3,800,000	\$3,450,000	\$2,000,000	\$5,450,000	\$1,650,000
(a)(2) AAFM Water Quality Grants & Contracts	\$-	\$600,000	\$-	\$600,000	\$600,000
(b)(1)&(f)(1) DEC Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF)	\$2,400,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$(200,000)
(b)(2)&(f)(2) DEC Ecosystem Restoration Grants	\$7,460,000	\$6,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$11,000,000	\$3,540,000
(b)(3) DEC Municipal Pollution Control Grants (prior)	\$35,000	\$2,982,384	\$-	\$2,982,384	\$2,947,384
(b)(4)&(f)(3) DEC Municipal Pollution Control Grants (new)	\$3,306,500	\$2,704,232	\$1,407,268	\$4,111,500	\$805,000
(c) VTrans Municipal Mitigation Program	\$-	\$1,400,000	\$-	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000
(d)(1) VHCB: water quality projects	\$3,750,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,750,000	\$5,550,000	\$1,800,000
(d)(2) VHCB: farm grants or fee purchase water quality projects	\$-	\$1,000,000	\$-	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
(f)(4) FY19 Statewide Clean Water Implementation	\$-	\$-	\$11,112,944	\$11,112,944	\$11,112,944
	\$20,751,500	\$21,936,616	\$23,470,212	\$45,406,828	\$24,655,328
Transportation Bill H.494					
State Highway Compliance	\$16,280,000	\$8,140,000	\$8,140,000	\$16,280,000	\$-*
Section 14: Transportation Alternatives (for stormwater)	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	\$4,400,000	\$2,200,000*
Section 8: Municipal Mitigation (for stormwater)	\$2,880,000	\$1,240,000	\$1,240,000	\$2,480,000	\$(400,000)*
Section 8: Municipal Mitigation, Federal Highway Administration(FHWA)	\$-	\$5,442,342	\$5,442,342	\$10,884,684	\$10,884,684*
	\$21,360,000	\$17,022,342	\$17,022,342	\$34,044,684	\$12,684,684
Appropriations Bill					
DEC Federal match pass through for DEC Clean Water SRF	\$20,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$-*
DF&W Watershed Grants Program	\$70,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$70,000	\$-*
AAFM Farm Agronomic Practices Program	\$300,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$-*
AAFM Water Quality Grants and Contracts	\$594,000	\$297,000	\$297,000	\$594,000	\$-*
AAFM Operational Funds	\$750,000	\$375,000	\$375,000	\$750,000	\$-*
Clean Water Fund	\$-	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000
FY19 Capital Bill: Bond premium from sale of bonds	\$-	\$-	\$2,259,988	\$2,259,988	\$2,259,988*
GRAND TOTAL	\$63,825,500	\$53,815,958	\$57,609,542	\$111,425,500	\$47,600,000

* Rows 15-18, 22-26, 28: Appropriations for FY19 are projected.

Vermont's baseline annual spending on clean water projects is close to \$32 million, including more than \$15 million in federal funds.

In FY18, Vermont has appropriated \$54 million for clean water projects (state and federal funds).

In FY19, Vermont is projected to spend \$58 million on clean water efforts (state and federal funds).

Over 2 years, this represents an increase of \$48 million over baseline spending, or \$24 million average annual increase (state and federal funds).

Table 2: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	CWF	Capital in FY19 Budget Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11	Capital, New Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4)	Total
1	Agriculture (AAFM)	On-Farm Implementation Grants & Contracts	Farm water quality capital improvements, matching USDA funds in Lake Champlain Basin (LCB) and supporting priority projects outside of the LCB; Farm agronomic practices (FAP) that exceed existing state and USDA funding resources	\$760,000 (increased by \$435,000)	\$2,000,000 (e)	\$1,615,000 (decreased by \$435,000)	\$4,375,000
2	Agriculture (AAFM)	Grants & Contracts	Incentives for farmers to implement phosphorus reduction practices above regulatory requirements, including riparian and wetland restoration programs; Technology or other infrastructure that facilitates nutrient management development, data management and record keeping on farms; Creation of a Research Farm to study water quality runoff impacts from farm management systems and conservation practices; Alternative phosphorus reduction strategies (e.g., grassed-based farms, phosphorus separation strategies); Support for farm acquisition in order to overlay a conservation easement to establish agricultural practices that reduce phosphorus loading; Support for the Agronomy and Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) - contract to deliver agronomic (field-based) technical support to farmers statewide	\$535,000	--	--	\$535,000
2b	Agriculture (AAFM)	Operating ¹	Increased on farm oversight to enforce regulatory requirements, ensure all statewide investments on agricultural operations are on compliant farms, and meeting legal requirements for water quality	\$375,000	--	--	\$375,000
SUBTOTAL (FY19) =				\$1,670,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,615,000	\$5,285,000

¹ The Clean Water Fund supported this allocation for three years. This draft allocation is to ensure support while AAFM seeks alternative funds.

Table 3: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Natural Resources

#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	CWF	Capital in FY19 Budget Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11	Capital, New Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4)	Total
3	All Sectors (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Partner support for project implementation involving delivery of technical and implementation services for projects that are identified and prioritized in Tactical Basin Plans, TMDLs, Act 64 and 2016 Combined Sewer Overflow Policy	\$630,000	--	--	\$630,000
4	All Sectors (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Improved water quality monitoring, mapping and tracking to evaluate effectiveness of implementation, including the use of watershed associations and the LaRosa Partnership	\$200,000	--	--	\$200,000
5	All Sectors (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Investments in innovative technologies, practices or policies that facilitate, optimize or accelerate cost-effective nutrient removal strategies	\$200,000	--	--	\$200,000
6	All Sectors (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Stormwater planning/implementation: (a) project identification & planning (b) assistance in developing stormwater utilities; (c) construction; (d) capital equipment assistance; (e) pilot block grant program to support construction of clean water improvement projects	\$300,000	\$3,600,000 (f)(2)	\$1,000,000	\$4,900,000 ²

² Stormwater projects located within a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) community require 50% match. Road-related clean water projects require 20% match (cash or in-kind). All other projects are incentivized to provide match at this time. See Ecosystem Restoration Grant Application Manual: http://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/erp/docs/Application_Manual.pdf.

Table 3 (Continued): State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Natural Resources

#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	CWF	Capital in FY19 Budget Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11	Capital, New Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4)	Total
7	Stormwater Controls (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Municipal Roads Grants-In-Aid Pilot Project to help municipalities comply with the Municipal Roads General permit (MRGP)	--	\$900,000 (f)(2)	\$2,097,944 (decreased by \$10,000)	\$2,997,944
8	Natural Resources (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Flood resilience/Water Quality and Forest Health Projects, targeting restoration of wetlands, river corridors, floodplains, riparian areas and forest health projects, e.g.: (a) improvements in resilience and water quality; (b) restoration of unstable stream channels to natural stability (equilibrium conditions); (d) urban forestry water quality projects; and (e) trainings in compliance with logging practices that protect water quality	\$200,000	\$450,000 (f)(2)	\$300,000	\$950,000
9	Natural Resources (ANR)	Forest, Parks and Recreation Grants & Contracts	Portable skidder bridges for water quality improvements at logging areas per: H.495 Section 15	--	\$50,000 (f)(2)	--	\$50,000
10	Wastewater (ANR)	DEC- Grants & Contracts	Municipal assistance in optimization, asset management and other improvements related to TMDL implementation	\$100,000	--	--	\$100,000
11	Wastewater (ANR)	DEC- Grants & Contracts	DEC Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF)	--	\$1,200,000 (f)(1)		\$1,200,000
12	Wastewater (ANR)	DEC- Grants & Contracts	DEC Municipal Pollution Control Grants (new projects)	--	\$1,407,268 (f)(3)	\$2,500,000	\$3,907,268
SUBTOTAL (FY19) =				\$1,630,000	\$7,607,268	\$5,897,944	\$15,135,212

Table 4: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Transportation							
#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	CWF	Capital in FY19 Budget Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11	Capital, New Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4)	Total
13	Municipal Roads (VTrans)	Municipal Mitigation Assistance Program	Inventory, prioritization and implementation to address municipal gravel and non-gravel road-related stormwater mitigation projects, in compliance with state road general permit, and including replacement of undersized culverts	-- (decreased by \$435,000)	--	\$1,400,000 (increased by \$435,000)	\$1,400,000
14	Municipal Roads (VTrans)	Municipal Mitigation Assistance Program	Funding to be used in conjunction with federal-aid funds to treat comingled stormwater from both highway and other sources	--	--	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
SUBTOTAL (FY19) =				--	--	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000

Table 5: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Administration							
#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	CWF	Capital in FY19 Budget Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11	Capital, New Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4)	Total
15	Agency of Administration		Stormwater payments to municipalities with stormwater utilities (\$25,000 per municipality with a stormwater utility Per: 10 V.S.A. 1389 (e)(1)(H))	\$100,000	--	--	\$100,000
SUBTOTAL (FY19) =				\$100,000	--	--	\$100,000

Table 6: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD)							
#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	CWF	Capital in FY19 Budget Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11	Capital, New Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4)	Total
16	ACCD	Better Connections (in Coordination with ANR and VTrans)	Pilot funding for municipalities to incorporate stormwater management strategies into a comprehensive transportation, land use and economic development action plans.	\$100,000	--	--	\$100,000
17	ACCD	Downtown Transportation Fund (in Coordination with ANR and VTrans)	Pilot funding for capital improvements within or serving a designated downtown to incorporate stormwater management BMPs into the corresponding transportation (streetscape) improvements.	--	--	\$200,000	\$200,000
SUBTOTAL (FY19) =				\$100,000	--	\$200,000	\$300,000

Table 7: State Fiscal Year 2019 Recommendations – Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB)							
#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	CWF	Capital in FY19 Budget Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11	Capital, New Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4)	Total
18	VHCB	Clean Water Conservation and Farm Improvements	Water quality improvement projects, conservation projects and easements	--	\$2,750,000	\$1,000,000	\$3,750,000
SUBTOTAL (FY19) =				--	\$2,750,000	\$1,000,000	\$3,750,000

Table 8: Recommendations for FY19 Clean Water Funding By Sector*	CWF	Capital in FY19 Budget Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11	Capital, New Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4)	Total
Agriculture	\$1,670,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,050,000	\$5,285,000
Stormwater Management – Non-Road Developed Lands	\$500,000	\$3,600,000	\$1,200,000	\$5,300,000
Stormwater Management – Transportation/Road Related	--	\$900,000	\$4,497,944	\$5,397,944
Municipal Wastewater	\$100,000	\$2,607,268	\$2,500,000	\$5,207,268
Natural Resources Restoration	\$200,000	\$500,000	\$300,000	\$1,000,000
Clean Water Land Conservation	--	\$2,750,000	\$1,000,000	\$3,750,000
All Sectors Support	\$1,030,000	--	--	\$1,030,000
Contingency Reserve*	\$500,000	--	--	\$500,000
TOTAL	\$4,000,000	\$12,357,268	\$11,112,944	\$27,470,212

Table 9: Recommendations for FY19 CWF By Administering Agency*	CWF	Capital in FY19 Budget Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11	Capital, New Capital Bill, H519, Sec. 11 (f)(4)	Total
Agency of Agriculture	\$1,670,000	\$2,000,000	\$1,615,000	\$5,285,000
Agency of Natural Resources – Ecosystem Restoration	\$1,530,000	\$5,000,000	\$3,397,944	\$9,927,944
Agency of Natural Resources – Municipal Wastewater, CSO Controls	\$100,000	\$2,607,268	\$2,500,000	\$5,207,268
Agency of Commerce and Community Development	\$100,000	--	\$200,000	\$300,000
Agency of Transportation	--	--	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000
Agency of Administration	\$100,000	--	--	\$100,000
Vermont Housing and Conservation Board	--	\$2,750,000	\$1,000,000	\$3,750,000
Contingency Reserve*	\$500,000	--	--	\$500,000
	\$4,000,000	\$12,357,268	\$11,112,944	\$27,470,212

* A contingency reserve avoids the risk of spending more funds than are available in the fiscal year.

The FY2019 Clean Water Appropriations Budget includes a \$2.3 million allocation from the Bond premium that was the result of the state sale of general obligation bonds. Table 10 below identifies draft recommendations for use of these funds:

#	Agency	Project	Description	Amount
1	AAFMM	Phosphorus Extraction Equipment at Dairy Farms	Pilot a project to purchase of phosphorus extraction equipment for use at: (a) 3-4 farms that are operating manure to methane digesters and (b) 3-4 farms that are separating manure into solids and liquid portions for other uses. Phosphorus removal equipment is estimated at \$300,000 to \$450,000 per farm with a manure to methane digester and/or manure separators. Vermont has 15 farms with manure to methane digesters and 10 additional farms with separators.	
2	ANR	Aeration System at Lake Carmi	Pilot an aeration system for Lake Carmi in Franklin, VT. The Lake is impaired by excessive phosphorus pollutant loading, which is contributing to the frequency of harmful algae blooms. The lake restoration strategy pursues aeration in combination with nutrient pollutant reduction projects across all sources.	
3	ANR	Expansion of the Municipal Roads Grants in Aid Pilot Project	Increase funding for the Municipal Roads Grants-In-Aid Project, a new pilot initiative to provide funding directly to participating municipalities (via the regional planning commissions) to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) on municipal roads, ahead of the forthcoming state Municipal Road General Permit (MRGP). The first year of this pilot project resulted in 186 municipalities enrolling (75% of eligible municipalities), and an estimated 29 road-miles meeting MRGP compliance.	
4	ANR	Augmentation of Natural Resource Restoration Projects for TMDL Compliance	Increase funds to target natural resource restoration projects that reduce nutrient and sediment pollution to better meet the natural resources restoration portion of the Lake Champlain TMDL and other federal and state directives. The focus is to target those floodplain and river corridor projects that will also maximize benefits including flood resilience, public safety and habitat improvement.	
5	ANR	Recovering Phosphorus from Waste streams	Engineering feasibility project to recover phosphorus from municipal waste streams, animal manure and food and food-processing waste using anaerobic digestion	
Total				

Acronyms

AAFM: Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

ACAP: Vermont DEC's Agronomy and Conservation Assistance Program, a program that provides support to partners in the delivery of agronomic (soil and nutrient management) assistance to farmers

ACCD: Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development

ANR: Agency of Natural Resources

BMP: Best Management Practices, activities to address water quality impacts from land-based sources that are the result of precipitation-driven runoff and erosion.

CWF: State of Vermont Clean Water Fund

DEC: Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, a department under ANR

FAP: Farm Agronomic Practices, a set of practices for farmers to employ to minimize losses of soil, nutrients and agricultural waste from runoff and erosion to enhance soil health

FED: Vermont DEC's Facilities Engineering Division

LCB: Lake Champlain Basin. Vermont's portion of the LCB represents approximately half the land mass of Vermont

LiDAR: Standing for "Light Detection And Ranging," is a state-of-the-art mapping technology that produces high resolution maps as baseline information to aid in identifying priority water quality needs. Other applications include flood and erosion hazard mapping, landslide hazard mapping and transportation project support

LCBP: Lake Champlain Basin Program

Stormwater Utilities: is a system adopted by a municipality or group of municipalities under 24 V.S.A. chapter 97, 101 or 105 for the management of stormwater runoff.

TMDL: Total Maximum Daily Load; a pollution budget that establishes the maximum amount of a pollutant a waterbody can receive from many different sources of that pollutant while still meeting water quality standards. Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, 33 U.S.C. Section 1251 et seq., Section 303(d)

USDA: United States Department of Agriculture, which, as part of the federal Farm Bill, offers a number of conservation programs to protect water quality and improve soil health

VTrans: Vermont Transportation Agency