



# NHCP Stream Survey Presentations

Final Report

Grant # 13G059

November 2003 – September 2004



**Figure 1. Volunteers in Training in Henry Law Park, Dover**  
A Final Report to the New Hampshire Coastal Program

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## Executive Summary

For this project, Great Bay Cost Watch (GBCW) was charged with presenting their survey results to five communities where surveys were conducted and making that information available to anyone who requests it. All of the presentations were successful in generating local interest in improving the identified issues on the waterways. GBCW volunteers benefited by seeing their work being used to help local people and learned more about their own influence on the waterways as well. The handouts were appreciated by many of the participants who collected and kept notes in them. The database is complete and ready for distribution.

## Introduction

GBCW has a long record of grass roots contact with the people who live around the Great Bay area. Starting with its basic water quality monitoring program in the Great Bay Estuary, which began in 1990, it has expanded into a larger program which includes specialized monitoring and educational outreach. The basic monitoring done in the Great Bay Estuary is now up to 21 sites. Five coastal sites are now also part of the phytoplankton monitoring program, started in 1999.

This project has been an outgrowth of both specialized monitoring and education outreach. It began with a grant from the New Hampshire Coastal Program in 2002 to conduct instream habitat assessment surveys around the Great Bay Estuary. In 2003, the work on that grant was completed and a new grant was approved to have GBCW share their findings with property owners, interested groups, and towns. It is hoped that the education provided to these groups will generate new projects to help educate the public and potentially repair/reverse some of the observed damage.

## Project Goals and Objectives

Three presentations were to be completed in this last quarter: the Lamprey River, Greenland, and College Brook. All of the PowerPoint® presentations were completed and handouts were put together. Several report requests were made, and sent out. One request for the database was made. It has been sent out with the completed PowerPoint® presentations.

**Figure 2. GBCW Volunteer John Crandall with the GPS under the MUB at College Brook.**



## Activities

### *Prepare data for public use*

- In the first quarter, the database was reviewed and modified. The database was improved and completed by the end of the third quarter. There is now a copy for groups requesting it available on CD.

### *Program Development*

- All five PowerPoint® presentations have been completed and are available. All five presentations have been offered and public participation was strong, as expected. Selections of handouts were provided at each presentation.

### *Schedule Programs*

- The Hodgson Brook presentation was April 14, 2004, at Red Hook Brewery, 7:00 – 8:30 PM. Twenty One people attended.
- The Exeter River presentation was at the Exeter River Alewife Festival. Fifteen people signed our list and asked questions. Members of the Exeter Watershed Coalition came to the display and observed our efforts.

- The Lamprey River presentation was at the Lamprey River Advisory Committee meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The Pickering Brook and Winnicut River (Greenland) presentation was provided to the Greenland Conservation Commission. There was a great deal of interest in the report with several active audience members. The conservation commission had a number of questions as well. Considering the nature of the questions, the citizens present seemed interested in finding out how a former factory had affected the watershed. They may choose to start a project in which they can investigate this question.
- The College Brook presentation was given at the Memorial Union Building (MUB) at the University of New Hampshire (UNH). Three very active citizens were there who shared concerns about one particular property owner and how they are affecting the brook. Two other people wrote to GBCW afterward, and requested the College Brook report since they were unable to participate that evening. Since all of these people are already active, we expect that they will use this information to the benefit of the watershed.

#### *Program Publicity*

- Postcards have been sent to property owners and interested organizations. E-mails have been sent to GBCW volunteers and members.
- Volunteers have spread the word, and events have been posted on the “GBCW Doings” page of the UNH Marine “Docent Doings.”
- The College Brook Presentation was announced in the “Saltwater News,” an online newsletter published by the UNH Marine program, edited by Linda Wade.
- The UNH website advertised events for GBCW.

#### *Conduct Follow-up Activities*

- Reports and the database will continue to be provided to those who request them. The original data has been archived at the NHCP office.



**Figure 3. Volunteers Lydia Scott and Karen Diamond working on the Lamprey River.**

## Results and Discussion

As expected, many property owners and waterway users were interested in these results. All of the presentations attracted both public groups. During each one, at least one person learned how to discover better ways of managing their property and how to help improve the waterway being discussed.

We anticipate that at least one project will be generated by these presentations. Hodgson Brook has multiple projects started, and will use this information to either add a project or improve another. The Exeter River presentation was completed at the Exeter River Alewife Festival. No specific project was discussed, however a closer connection with the Exeter Watershed Coalition was made, and the GBCW grass roots contact through the festival was continued. The Lamprey River presentation was offered to the Lamprey River Advisory Committee, where several active members were interested in combining this information with other studies. Greenland has two large proposed projects which may be influenced by these results. At this meeting, Greenland considered opening another GBCW monitoring site and providing ongoing

financial support for the site. The College Brook presentation has the potential to help Durham target specific areas in which they can improve the water quality.

The database was used to respond to varied data requests. For example, if one person/group wants to know about a waterway instead of a single town, the database can provide a report that includes all of the sites for that waterway. If a single town has multiple waterways, a report can also be generated for it.

## Conclusions

A thirst for more knowledge is out there. While this project was in operation, GBCW received many inquiries by property owners, environmental groups, and curious onlookers about how they can improve their own behaviors and help the environment. The questions asked most frequently were “What did you find?” and “How can we fix it?”

The first question was easy for us to answer with the results at our fingertips. Having a flexible database made this possible to do that in an efficient manner. We will continue to use Microsoft Access for our data reporting.

Since we are not professionals in this field, the second question was more complicated for us to answer. All attendees were asked to get involved with local environmental groups, start new projects and to educate themselves. When the issues were basic, we were able to provide basic advice, such as posting anti-littering signs, and talking to UNH Cooperative Extension about how use plants to stop erosion. When the issue was beyond our scope, people were referred to the literature, web resources, and asked to seek professional advice. This question may be better answered in a conference type of setting where attendees may choose several professional talks to listen to.

This project has been of mutual benefit to GBCW and NHCP. GBCW volunteers and staff learned about what individuals can do to improve their environment. Many members learned about invasive species, planting vegetation to prevent erosion and many other helpful tips. NHCP was able to get its message out, and to encourage and guide participants into starting new projects.

## Recommendations (for future work or management strategies)

Since the Microsoft Access database was exceptionally helpful for handling the data and creating usable reports, we recommend that additional training for volunteers be made available. Currently, one staff member of GBCW has the training to effectively create and modify a database. It is inefficient to rely on a single person for this valuable resource.

As this project progressed, it became clear that while some groups had strong networking capabilities, others have none. Individual property owners were

difficult to involve for some of the areas, because the property owners live in other locations. It would have been helpful to be able to reach more of the residents/business employees who interact with these waterways on a daily basis. They are more likely to become active in the community when they feel included in it.

Continued support of grassroots organizations like GBCW is strongly recommended. These sometimes small groups are made up of active community members who are ready, willing and able to further the goals of NHCP. In this project in particular, it was observed that many of the participants are active in multiple groups on numerous levels. They are likely to choose projects that work well with pre-established groups, making them more efficient.



## Appendices

A CD of the final database, database to share and PowerPoint® presentations is included.

### Appendix A Handout List

Book “Best Management Practices to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution, A guide for Citizens and Town Officials,” January 2004. New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), Andrea Donlon and Barbara McMillan.

Fact Sheets – Dover Agway, “Composting.”

Fact Sheets – a variety of UNH Cooperative Extension topics found at <http://ceinfo.unh.edu>.

News Letter “North Mill Pond Times,” Winter 2004, Advocates for the North Mill Pond.

Pamphlet “Great Bay Cost Watch,” GBCW, UNH Cooperative Extension, and New Hampshire Sea Grant.

Pamphlet “NH Sea Grant Program Guide 2004” NH Sea Grant, UNH Cooperative Extension and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Pamphlet “You can be part of the Solution” New Hampshire Estuaries Project (NHEP).

PowerPoint® Presentations – handouts with three PowerPoint® slides per page and note space were provided with each presentation.

Report “Great Bay Coast Watch 1990 – 1999,” GBCW, UNH Cooperative Extension, and New Hampshire Sea Grant.

Soil Test request forms, “Homeowner Soil Test,” Commercial Greenhouse and Nursery Soil Test,” and “Commercial Compost Test Information,” “Commercial Fruit, Vegetable, Turf, and Landscaper Soil Test.” UNH Cooperative Extension found at <http://ceinfo.unh.edu>.

# Time and Mileage Summary Report Final Report



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



## Project *NHCP Instream Outreach*

**Grant Number** 13G059    **Project Starts** 11/1/2003    **Project Ends** 9/30/2004

**Report Time and Milage**

**Activity Clerical Work**

	Time (min.)	Miles
Summary for 'Activity' = (13 detail records)		
<b>Sum</b>	<b>2085</b>	<b>171.5</b>

**Activity Special Function - College Brook**

	Time (min.)	Miles
Summary for 'Activity' = (1 detail record)		
<b>Sum</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>10</b>

**Activity Special Function - Exeter Alewife Festival**

	Time (min.)	Miles
Summary for 'Activity' = (1 detail record)		
<b>Sum</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>0</b>

**Activity Special Function - Greenland**

	Time (min.)	Miles
Summary for 'Activity' = (3 detail records)		
<b>Sum</b>	<b>1620</b>	<b>62</b>

**Activity Special Function - HB**

	Time (min.)	Miles
Summary for 'Activity' = (14 detail records)		
<b>Sum</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>119</b>

**Activity Special Function - Lamprey**

	Time (min.)	Miles
Summary for 'Activity' = (4 detail records)		
<b>Sum</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>50</b>

Appendix B continued

Project *NHCP Instream Outreach*

Grant Number 13G059    Project Starts 11/1/2003    Project Ends 9/30/2004

**Summary for 'Project' = (36 detail records)**

	Time (Minutes)	Miles	
Sum	6810	412.5	
Value	\$1,877.29	\$154.69	
	Time (Minutes)	Miles	Time Value : \$ 16.54
Grand Total	6810.00	412.50	Mileage Value: \$ 0.375
Total Value	\$2,031.98		

**Matching Funds**

Source	Amount	Inkind Match	Comments
UNH Cooperative Extension	\$6,780.00	Salary	
UNH Cooperative Extension	\$2,477.00	Indirect	
UNH Cooperative Extension	\$2,746.00	Fringe	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$12,003.00</b>		

**Donations**

Amount	Date Given	Comments	Contact ID
\$0.00		None	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		

**Grand Total Match: \$14,034.98**