

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Region 1 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Boston, MA 02109-3912

July 3, 2023

Harvey J. Pine Ph.D. TMDL Program Coordinator Watershed Management Bureau New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095

RE: Advance Restoration Plan Acceptance for Lake Winnisquam

Dear Mr. Pine:

Thank you for submitting the Lake Winnisquam Watershed-Based Plan (dated July 2022) to EPA for acceptance as an advance restoration plan. Lake Winnisquam was placed on the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) list of impaired waters in 2008 due to excess turbidity leading to non-support of Aquatic Life Integrity (ALI) designated use. The management plan (together with supplemental information in the submittal letter) includes an analysis of sediment loading, the reduction needed to meet water quality standards, specific actions needed to achieve that reduction, available funding sources to pay for needed actions, and a schedule and milestones to guide implementation progress.

Consistent with the EPA memorandum from Benita Best-Wong, dated August 13, 2015, with the subject line, "Information Concerning 2016 Clean Water Act Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 Integrated Reporting and Listing Decisions" and the EPA TMDL Vision framework ("the Vision")¹, the submitted plan was written to inform and guide pollutant load reduction implementation. The plan includes the relevant elements specified in these memoranda and we accept the Lake Winnisquam Watershed-Based Management Plan as an advance restoration plan to be counted towards WQ-27, which is a performance measure used to track progress in implementing the CWA 303(d) Program Vision, for FY2023.

Thank you again for your submittal of this thorough and informative restoration plan. Sincerely,

Jacqueline Leclair, Chief Water Quality & Wetlands Protection Section

¹ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. December 2013. "A Long-Term Vision for Assessment, Restoration, and Protection under the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Program." Access: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-07/documents/vision 303d program dec 2013.pdf