

Mascoma River Corridor Management Plan, Phase 1 **Project Summary**

In anticipation of the Mascoma River designation, UVLSRPC sought and secured funding to assist the Mascoma River Local Advisory Committee with the creation of a Corridor Management Plan, which serves as the guiding document for the river's balanced management and protection. Funding for this project is provided by NH Department of Environmental Services through Section 604(b) of the Clean Water Act.

This project will accomplish the first phase of the creation of a River Corridor Management Plan: identify the critical issues for the Mascoma River. The second phase, projected to be completed 2013-2014, will address management strategies. For Phase 1, UVLSRPC will identify priority issues through brainstorming sessions and a community survey. UVLSRPC will conduct one public educational workshop related to a critical river issue.

The desired outcome of this project is 1) to engage the public in the stewardship of the Mascoma River watershed and 2) to identify priority issues to be included in the Mascoma River Corridor Management Plan.

Roles and Responsibilities

UVLSRPC will work closely with the Mascoma River Local Advisory Committee through all aspects of this project. UVLSRPC will attend at least six LAC regular meetings to gather information, facilitate discussion and present survey results and report findings. In addition, UVLSRPC and the LAC will co-sponsor one educational workshop on a priority issue.

UVLSRPC will serve as the project facilitator, taking the lead with facilitating the development of a workplan, administering the survey, facilitating the prioritization of key issues, organizing speakers and logistics for the educational workshop and developing reports and other written materials.

The Mascoma River LAC will inform the workplan process, develop the content of the survey, will contribute local knowledge and experience to the prioritization of key issues and will decide on the format and content of the educational workshop.

Objectives, Tasks and Deliverables

Objective 1: By January 31, 2012, UVLSRPC will have established a planning framework for the development of the Mascoma River Corridor Management Plan with MRLAC.

Deliverable 1A: A workplan for the development of the Mascoma River Corridor Management Plan

Task 1. Conduct a meeting with MRLAC to discuss the structure of the plan and the planning process, to be accomplished in two phases. Review with MRLAC the information gathered during the river nomination and other relevant studies or reports; identify potential issues to be addressed in the plan.

Task 2. Create a workplan for Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the planning process; present to MRLAC for adoption.

Objective 2: By June 30, 2012, UVLSRPC will have conducted a community survey for the Mascoma River, in collaboration with MRLAC.

Deliverable 2A: Develop and conduct community survey.

Task 3. Work with MRLAC to develop survey questions and format.

Task 4. Create print and online versions of survey.

Task 5. Mail printed surveys to riparian landowners and public officials in the watershed.

Task 6. Distribute online survey via community e-mail distribution lists and other means.

Deliverable 2B: Develop summary report of survey results

Task 7. Compile survey results into a summary report; distribute to MRLAC; post results online.

Objective 3: By September 30, 2012, UVLSRPC will have developed a report on priority issues for the Mascoma River, in collaboration with MRLAC.

Deliverable 3A: Develop a report on priority issues.

Task 8. Conduct a brainstorming session with MRLAC to review and synthesize survey results to identify priority issues for the river and its watershed.

Task 9. Develop a draft report, identifying and explaining priority issues.

Task 10. Review draft report with MRLAC.

Task 11. Prepare final version of report for distribution and posting online

Objective 4: By December 31, 2012, UVLSRPC will have conducted an educational workshop addressing a specific priority issue for the river, in collaboration with MRLAC.

Deliverable 4A: Organize and conduct educational workshops.

Task 12. Solicit ideas and co-sponsorships from MRLAC and other community groups, such as Conservation Commissions and lake associations.

Task 13. Schedule event and coordinate with guest speaker(s).

Task 14. Publicize workshop via email distribution lists, press releases and targeted mailings to key community members and organizations.

Task 15. Conduct workshop; provide handouts or other educational materials; post workshop materials online.

Schedule and Budget

Task#	Brief Description of Task	Proposed Date(s)	Requested grant amount	Estimated Volunteer Contribution*	Additional funding source	Total cost of task
1	MRLAC meeting 1	11/30/11	539	208	0	747
2	Develop workplan	1/31/12	692	0	0	692
3	Develop survey questions	3/31/12	1,005	208	0	1,213
4	Create print/web surveys	4/30/12	607	0	0	607
5	Mail paper surveys	4/30/12	1,559	0	0	1,559
6	Conduct online survey	4/30/12	297	0	0	297
7	Compile survey results	6/30/12	1,198	0	0	1,198
8	Brainstorming session with MRLAC	6/30/12	1,034	208	0	1,242
9	Draft report of issues	7/31/12	489	0	0	489
10	Review draft with MRLAC	8/31/12	232	417	0	649
11	Create final report	9/30/12	1,265	0	0	1,265
12	Solicit ideas and support for workshop	9/30/12	232	417	0	649
13	Schedule workshop	10/31/12	348	0	0	348
14	Publicize workshop	12/31/12	396	208	0	604
15	Conduct workshop	12/31/12	837	208	0	1,045
Totals			\$10,730	\$1,874	0	12,604

Mascoma River Corridor Management Plan, Phase 2 **Project Proposal (draft)**

The goals of Phase 2 are to develop strategies and a timeline to address the issues identified in the first phase and to publish the Mascoma River Corridor Management Plan. To accomplish these Phase 2 goals, UVLSRPC plans to provide technical assistance to the Mascoma River Local Advisory Committee to do the following:

- Engage community partners in the plan's development and keep partners updated on MRLAC's progress, such as the Lebanon Source Water Protection Committee, Mascoma Watershed Conservation Council, and local planning boards;
- Provide a web-based and non-web-based platform for public plan review and comment;
- Facilitate the development of management strategies and an implementation timeline;
- Publish and publicize the development of plan, including presentations to local planning boards to facilitate acceptance/adoption of the plan.

UVLSRPC will work closely with the Mascoma River LAC through all aspects of this project. UVLSRPC will serve as the project facilitator and manager, taking the lead on coordinating engagement of community partners, creating platforms for public comment and review, facilitating plan development and developing reports and other written materials.

The Mascoma River LAC will develop management strategies and the implementation timeline, will contribute their invaluable local knowledge and experience to the plan's development and will be active to publicizing the Corridor Management Plan when complete.

The estimated cost of the project is \$7,880. In addition, it is anticipated that MRLAC members will contribute at least \$1,000 of in-kind match in volunteer service during the development of the plan.