

## TOWN OF WINDHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN/TOWN ADMINISTRATOR 3 NORTH LOWELL ROAD, WINDHAM NH 03087-0120

February 10, 2018

**To:** New Hampshire Department of Transportation

From: Windham Board of Selectmen, Windham Town Administrator and

Cobbett's Pond Improvement Association

Subject: Request No/Low Salt Roadway Designation

As you may know, Cobbett's Pond in Windham has been classified by the EPA as a threatened or impaired water body and is on the EPA's 2017 303 (d) list.

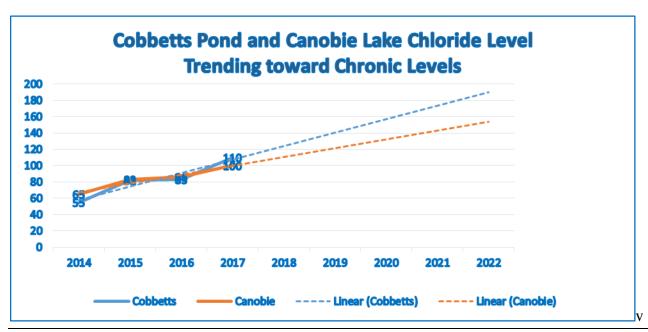
Over the past decade the Cobbett's Pond Improvement Association (CPIA) has been partnering with the NH DES, EPA, Town of Windham and residents to improve water quality. To date, we have been awarded four section 319 grants to support our efforts, and have invested over \$450,000 within the watershed implementing storm water treatment systems.

The pond itself is completely surrounded by residential roads with a second tier of transportation corridors including Route 111, Route 111A, Cobbett's Pond Road, and I-93.

Last Summer, CPIA Board Members, volunteers and the NH DES commenced a study on Chloride and conductivity in Cobbett's Pond.

The results of the DES study demonstrate chloride levels rising in Cobbett's Pond and Canobie lake and watershed. This trend has a negative impact on the water quality and aquatic life within the ponds and watershed.

The following chart demonstrates the median chloride levels within Cobbett's Pond and Canobie Lake have <u>doubled</u> from 2014 thru 2017. The dotted Linear Trend lines show Chloride levels are trending toward the chronic level (230 mg/L) status that impacts water quality and all aquatic life (plants, fish, turtles, amphibians, etc.).



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These findings were presented to Windham town officials during the Board of Selectmen's meeting on December 18, 2017. Attendees included the Windham Board of Selectmen, Windham Town Administrator, Public Safety officials, and members of the Cobbett's Pond Improvement Association. After reviewing the data and discussing Green SnowPro snow removal best practices, the group approved to send this request to the Department of Transportation supporting No/Low Salt road designations by the Department of Transportation.

The Town of Windham Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and the Cobbett's Pond Improvement Association respectfully request the Department of Transportation designate the roadways (Route 111, Route 111A, Cobbett's Pond Road, and I-93) surrounding Cobbett's Pond as No/Low salt roadways. The goal being to reduce the negative impact of road salt within Cobbett's Pond and surrounding watershed.

Please respond as to the next steps required to implement our request.

Respectfully,
Ross McLeod
For the Windham Board of Selectmen
David Sullivan
Town of Windham Town Administrator
Jason Alosky
President
Cobbett's Pond Improvement Association

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