

Savanna Brunelle

From: Tyler Carmichael
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 1:31 PM
To: Savanna Brunelle
Cc: Grey Draper; Rob Mora
Subject: FW: East Coast Watercross Jet ski races

Savanna,

Can you please ensure that Conservation Commission receives the DES comments below when this goes to them for their review and comment?

Thank you!

Tyler



Tyler D. Carmichael | Assistant Director
City of Laconia | Planning and Community Development
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<https://www.laconianh.gov/>

From: Shawn Dudek <nolimitsshawn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 12:57
To: Tyler Carmichael <TCarmichael@laconianh.gov>; Amy Lovisek <ALovisek@laconianh.gov>; Kirk Beattie <KBeattie@laconianh.gov>
Subject: Fwd: East Coast Watercross Jet ski races

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Just so you guys are in the loop, DES has responded to me positively and the recommendations are all things we were handling well last year so we will keep up with making sure they are happy with our plan of action.

Shawn

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Diers, Ted** <THEODORE.E.DIERS@des.nh.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 6, 2026 at 12:39 PM
Subject: RE: East Coast Watercross Jet ski races
To: Shawn Dudek <nolimitsshawn@gmail.com>, Scott, Robert <Robert.R.Scott@des.nh.gov>

Hi Shawn,

Happy New Year! You are certainly getting an early start to the race season this year.

Seemed like a good event last year. Below are the recommended BMPs we discussed previously. I think we agree with the launch practices, we certainly don't want you to create a new problem!

- Observe and maintain at least a 150' setback from shore when operating beyond headway speed
- Try to set course in deeper water to avoid bottom disturbance while racing (bottom disturbance leads to resuspension of sediments and nutrients into the water column which can be detrimental to aquatic life and water quality)
- Minimize shoreline disturbance as much as possible from launch/remove activities and observers on shore, shorelines are buffers and protect lake health
- Have all craft arrive clean, drained and dried to avoid transport of aquatic invasive species, and have them repeat clean, drain, dry activities before launching at another waterbody and work with local Lake Hosts to coordinate checks of vessels being launch and removed from the lake. Make sure wash areas are contained, not draining directly to the lake.
 - Opechee has two known invasive plants- variable milfoil and water violet, and likely an invasive animal (spiny water flea)
- In 2025, high water levels were a factor due to rainstorms leading up to this event, making new shoreline areas sensitive to erosion that are not usually inundated with water. Might be good to reach out to us for additional recommendations once lake level is determined around the time of the actual event in 2026. Be prepared to alter course location to minimize shoreline impacts as a result of below/above normal lake level
- Quickly contain and clean up any leaks of coolant or petroleum products and report any discharges to NHDES
- Consider posting emergency spill response contact info and include it with racer packets.

Thanks,
Ted

Ted Diers, Assistant Director, Water Division

NH Department of Environmental Services

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Theodore.e.diers@des.nh.gov

NHDES would greatly appreciate your feedback and wants to hear from you. Please take a moment to fill out our short (5-question) [NHDES Customer Service Satisfaction Survey](#).

From: Shawn Dudek <nolimitsshawn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 10:06 AM
To: Scott, Robert <robert.scott@des.nh.gov>; Diers, Ted <THEODORE.E.DIERS@des.nh.gov>
Subject: East Coast Watercross Jet ski races

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Good Morning folks,

I am in the process of getting all of my permits into the proper channels for our second annual jet ski races on Lake Opechee and I wanted to get in touch with DES early on this time to make sure we have a good plan in place to have another great event in Laconia!

My dates for this years race will be June 5-7

We are willing and open to work with you on anything we need to make sure we have a safe event for the environment like last year, I have secured Getty Shine mobile detailing with his high heat pressure washer again and we can work with lake hosts like last year as well so we ensure all the equipment that touches the water is nice and clean!

The only change from last year that I will recommend and Ted can attest to this is we should steer away from having a ramp, ultimately the intention was good to have a ramp to try to avoid any extra erosion but the execution ultimately created more erosion, the bouncing up and down of the wood in the wet sand

created a large hole that we had to grade back out after so my recommendation is to not use a ramp and we monitor to make sure noone is getting stuck and creating ruts, our racers are very smart and aware and if someone is stuck we help push and its rarely an issue as almost all of the race skis are very light and the grade at this site is very mellow so its an easy in and out situation so I do not expect any ruts or erosion at all.

Thanks and I look forward to working with you again

Shawn Dudek

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