



## Regional Plan Committee Monday October 25, 2021

### *Physical Location*

Central VT Regional Planning Commission Conference Room, 29 Main Street, Suite 2, Montpelier, VT  
(Facial coverings are required for in-person participation)

### *Remote Participation via Zoom<sup>1</sup>*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83946487391?pwd=VnJEdnVZdzBHTno5YUd2ajZgdzYxQT09>

Via phone: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 436 2866; Meeting ID: 839 4648 7391; Passcode: 858100

Download the app at least 5 minutes prior to the meeting start: [www.zoom.com](http://www.zoom.com)

## AGENDA

page	<b>4:00pm<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Adjustments to the Agenda</b> <b>Public Comment</b>
	<b>4:05pm</b>	<b>Election of Officers</b> Per the PRC Rule of Procedure, the RPC will elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the first meeting following the annual appointments.
<b>2</b>	<b>4:50pm</b>	<b>Regional Plan Conformance Review – Lamoille Tactical Basin Plan</b> Review draft Conformance Letter, consider any edits or additional comments, and recommend finalized letter for Board approval.
	<b>5:15pm</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>

Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in programs or activities are encouraged to contact Nancy Chartrand at 802-229-0389 or [chartrand@cvregion.com](mailto:chartrand@cvregion.com) at least 3 business days prior to the meeting for which services are requested.

**Next Meeting: TBD**

<sup>1</sup> Dial-in telephone numbers are “Toll” numbers. Fees may be charged to the person calling in dependent on their phone service.

<sup>2</sup> All times are approximate unless otherwise advertised



## MEMO

Date: October 20, 2021

To: Regional Plan Committee

From: Clare Rock, Senior Planner

Re: Regional Plan Conformance Review – Lamoille Tactical Basin Plan

**✉ ACTION REQUESTED: The Committee will be tasked with:**

- a) Review the attached letter
- b) Make any edits or additional comments
- c) Recommend letter to the Board for approval

The draft Lamoille Tactical Basin Plan has been released for review and comment. The most northern portion of the region (northern Woodbury) falls within the Lamoille watershed. CVRPC routinely reviews State plans for conformance with the Regional Plan and provides comments.

September-October, 2021	CVRPC staff completed a review of the <i>Draft Lamoille River Watershed, Basin 7, Tactical Basin Plan</i> .
October 14, 2021	Staff presented the review and draft letter to CVRPC's Clean Water Advisory Committee (CWAC) for review and comment.
October 25, 2021	The Regional Plan Committee is tasked with reviewing the attached letter which includes the regional plan conformance determination and comments from the CWAC.
November 9, 2021	Danielle Ozcwarski, VT Department of Environmental Conservation will present the draft Lamoille Tactical Basin Plan to the Board. The Board will also review the draft letter for approval and have the opportunity to make any additional comments.

To view the full plan

visit: <https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/documents/2021%20DRAFT%20Lamoille%20River%20Tactical%20Basin%20Plan.pdf>

To view the Story Map presentation of the draft plan

visit: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e3d32820004b4e07aaaf0ce15df6d53d>



1 November 9, 2021

2

3 Peter Walke, Commissioner  
4 Vermont Agency of Natural Resources  
5 Department of Environmental Conservation  
6 One National Life Drive  
7 Montpelier, VT 05602

8

9 Re: Draft Lamoille Tactical Basin Plan Conformance with the Central Vermont Regional Plan

10

11 Dear Mr. Walke,

12

13 The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) has reviewed the *Draft Lamoille*  
14 *River Watershed, Basin 7, Tactical Basin Plan*, dated October 2021. The purpose of this  
15 memorandum is to analyze the relative conformance of the Draft Tactical Basin Plan (TBP) with  
16 the relevant Goals, Strategies and Recommended Actions of the Regional Plan and the  
17 Woodbury Town Plan.

18

### 19 Introduction

20 The CVRPC has the opportunity to provide recommendations to the Agency of Natural  
21 Resources regarding tactical basin plans pursuant to Vermont Statutes Title 10, Chapter 47,  
22 §1253(d). Statute directs regional planning commissions to:

- 23 ■ (2)(G) ... the Secretary [of Natural Resources] shall: develop, in consultation with the  
24 regional planning commission, an analysis and formal recommendation on conformance  
25 with the goals and objectives of applicable regional plans.
- 26 ■ (3)(D) ... [the regional planning commissions are to] assist the Secretary in implementing  
27 a project evaluation process to prioritize water quality improvement projects within the  
28 region to assure cost effective use of State and federal funds.

29

30 CVRPC staff completed a review of the *Draft Lamoille River Watershed, Basin 7, Tactical Basin*  
31 *Plan* in September-October, 2021. Staff then presented the review to CVRPC's Clean Water  
32 Advisory Committee (CWAC) on October 14, 2021 for review and comment, to the Regional  
33 Plan Committee on October 25, 2021 for review and comment, and to the CVRPC Board of  
34 Commissioners for review and approval on November 9, 2021. Based upon this process the  
35 CVRPC presents these comments to the VT Agency of Natural Resources.

36

37 Central Vermont Regional Plan Conformance

1 The *Draft Lamoille River Watershed, Basin 7, Tactical Basin Plan* and the *2016 Central Vermont*  
2 *Regional Plan, amended 2018 and 2020*, contain overarching conforming Goals and Objectives.  
3 The accompanying table on pages 4 through 10 lists the TBP's top objectives and strategies and  
4 identifies those Regional Plan goals, policies, and actions which are mutually supportive. (See  
5 attachment titled "Conformance Analysis of Goals & Objectives: Draft Lamoille Tactical Basin  
6 Plan to the CV Regional Plan"). CVRPC found that the Draft Lamoille TBP conforms to the  
7 following main policies and strategies of the Land Use, Outdoor Recreation, Economic,  
8 Emergency Management, and Transportation Goals in the Regional Plan:

- 9 • **General Land Use Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3a; Goal 7, Policy 3:** Promoting sound  
10 management, conservation, and use of natural resources, and employing Acceptable  
11 Management Practices (AMPs) on all agricultural operations. The TBP objectives and  
12 strategies to develop BMP projects and Implement Nutrient Management Plans for  
13 farmers conforms to these policies.
- 14 • **General Land Use Goal 1, Policy 2, Goal 7, Policy 1, 2, 4, and 5; Transportation Goals 2**  
15 **& 5, Policy 1:** Adopting policies and practices to reduce stormwater runoff volume and  
16 minimizing negative environmental impacts associated with the transportation system.  
17 The TBP objectives to identify and address negative impacts from stormwater ,  
18 implement high priority projects from stormwater master plans and MRGP road erosion  
19 inventories, and replace/retrofit high priority stream crossings.
- 20 • **General Land Use, Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3f; Policy 5, Strategies 5a-c, 5e; Goal 3,**  
21 **Policy 1; Facilities, Services, and Utilities; Emergency Management Goal 1, 2, Policies**  
22 **1-9:** Supporting municipalities to 1) limit development in hazard zones 2)enhance their  
23 flood hazard regulations 2) implement land use policies and regulations that consider  
24 disaster resilience. The TBP objectives to work with Towns to increase their ERAF rating,  
25 develop projects to increase flood resilience, protect river corridors from erosive and  
26 flood damage, and return floodplains to their natural function conforms to these  
27 policies.
- 28 • **General Land Use, Goal 1, Policy 7, Strategy 7a-b; Goal 2, Policy 4, Goal 7, Policy 3;**  
29 **Economic Goal 2, Policy 7c-d, Policy 8, Strategy D:** Minimizing forest and habitat  
30 fragmentation, and ensuring that resource extraction operations follow AMP's.  
31 Promoting UVA program and implementing land use policies for continued, sustainable  
32 and protected productive forests. The TBP objectives to reduce runoff and erosion from  
33 forests, develop forestland focused workgroups, implement forestry AMPs, and  
34 maintain and increase UVA enrolled forestland conforms to these policies.
- 35 • **General Land Use Goal 1, Policy 2, Strategy 2b & 5d, Policy 3, Strategy 3b and Strategy**  
36 **3d; Goal 4, Policy 8; Outdoor Recreation Policy 7:** Preserving wetlands to protect their  
37 function and productivity, improving wetland identification and mapping, and  
38 maintaining classification of wetlands. The TBP objectives to protect and restore  
39 wetlands, provide outreach on Class 1 wetland assessment, and provide support for  
40 wetland mapping conform to these policies.

- 1 • **General Land Use Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b; Outdoor Recreation Policy 7:** Generally  
 2 opposing downgrading of water classifications and supporting maintenance/upgrading  
 3 of classifications. The TBP objective to recommend reclassification of Cooper Brook to  
 4 B(1) for fishing conforms to these policies.
- 5 • **General Land Use Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3b, 3d, 3g; Outdoor Recreation Policy 5, 7:**  
 6 Generally opposing downgrading of water classifications and supporting  
 7 maintenance/upgrading of classifications and restoring and protecting lake shoreland  
 8 areas. The TBP objectives to develop lake watershed action plans, priority shoreland  
 9 restoration projects, improve Nichols Pond shoreland condition, and increase lake  
 10 protections through reclassification conform to these policies.
- 11 • **General Land Use Goal 1, Policy 3, Strategy 3c:** Protecting public health and safety and  
 12 supporting the betterment of surface water quality in the region. The TBP objective to  
 13 protect public health and safety and ensure public use and enjoyment of waters and  
 14 their ecological health conforms to this policy.
- 15 • **General Land Use Goal 1, Policy 3:** Supporting the betterment of surface water quality.  
 16 Identifying and addressing pollutants in Kate Brook (habitat alterations due to  
 17 channelization, rip-rap, dredging) conforms to this policy.

#### 18 Conformance with Woodbury Town Plan:

19 Woodbury is the only Central Vermont Town in the Lamoille TBP. In general the *draft*  
 20 *Woodbury Town Plan, dated September 9, 2021* includes goals and objectives consistent with  
 21 the TBP. The following goals and objectives conform with objectives and strategies in the TBP  
 22 that improve water quality, protect wetlands, lakes, ponds, and streams, promote ecologically  
 23 sensitive forest management, conserve forest blocks, implement stormwater BMPs for roads  
 24 and impervious surfaces:

- 25 • **Natural Features and Ecological Systems Goal, Objectives A, B & C:** Protecting and  
 26 conserving Woodbury's forests, lakes, ponds, and wetlands; maintaining and improving  
 27 water quality and protecting shorelines; protecting wetlands, floodplains and riparian  
 28 areas; maintaining and improving ecological integrity of forest and habitat blocks.
- 29 • **Working Lands Goal:** Committing to sound management practices of working lands.
- 30 • **Transportation Goal, Objective B, Action ii:** Maintaining environmental integrity of  
 31 Woodbury's roads, maintaining and improving road system for increased water quality  
 32 and flood resilience, and participating in the MRGP.
- 33 • **Municipal and Regional Facilities and Services Goal, Objective G, Action x:** Managing  
 34 stormwater mitigation systems where feasible and implementing recommendations of  
 35 the Stormwater Management Plan.

#### 37 Other Comments

38 CVRPC offers the following general comments:

- 39 • The TBP recommends reclassification of surface waters (Chapter 2, Table 3 & Figure 11).  
 40 There is no guidance and little information relating to the process of reclassification and  
 41 what the regulatory land use restrictions would be once waters are reclassified. Please

1           provide more clarification and direction within the plan on reclassification of Surface  
2           Waters.

3  
4   Thank you for the opportunity to review the *Draft Lamoille River Watershed, Basin 7, Tactical*  
5   *Basin Plan*. We look forward to working with ANR on the Plan implementation and other  
6   related projects in the future.

7  
8   Sincerely,

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10  
11   Bonnie Waninger  
12   Executive Director

DRAFT