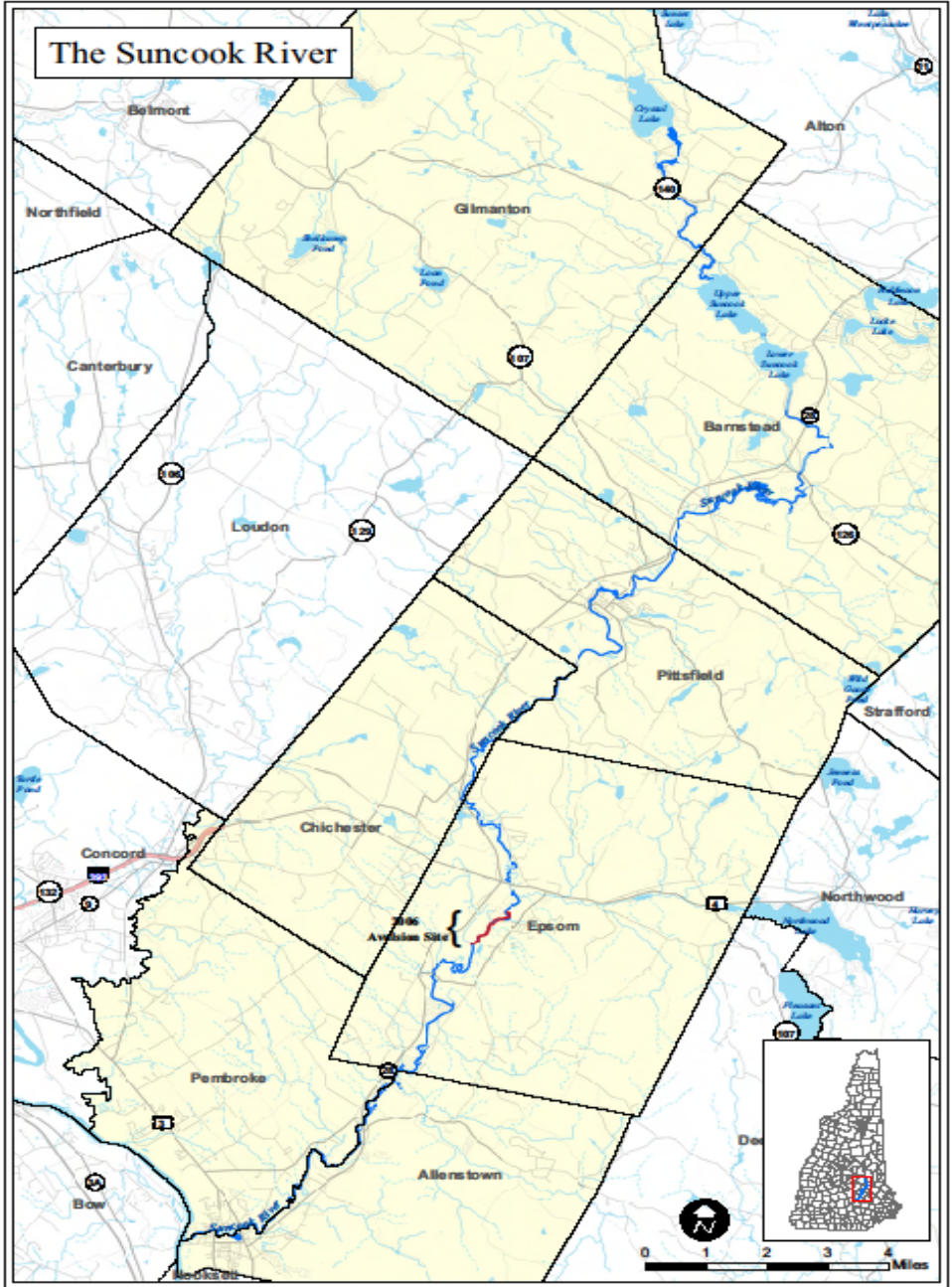


# The Suncook River



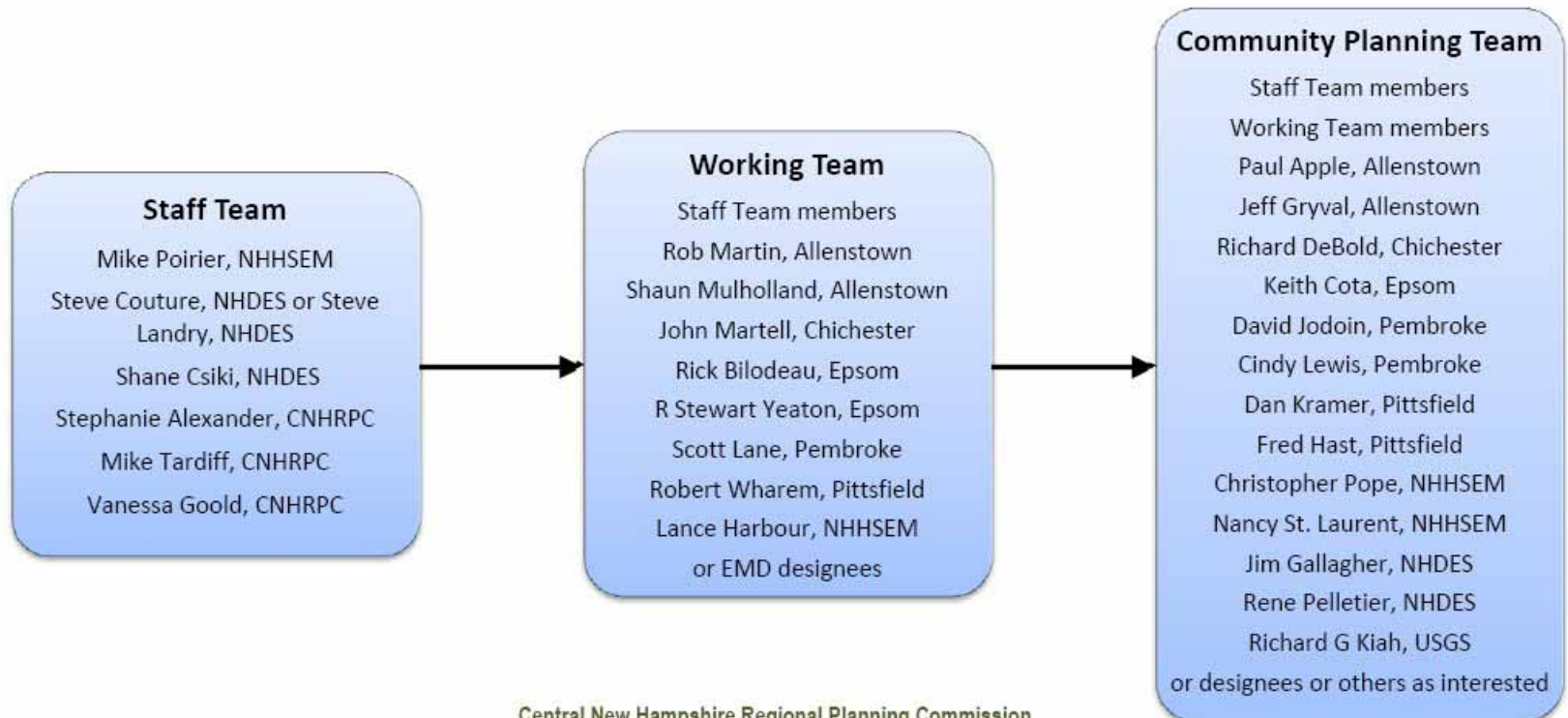
Suncook River Community Planning Team  
and its Support Teams

January 18, 2011

Narrative Description

1. **Staff Team**, comprised of NHHSEM, NHDES, and CNHRPC staff. This group will be working on the ground to facilitate the completion of these tasks.
2. **Working Team**, comprised of the Staff Team plus the Emergency Management Directors/emergency responders of the 4 communities. This group will provide direction and support to the Staff Team, helping to set priorities and working together to ensure that the communities' needs are met.
3. **Community Planning Team**, comprised of the Staff Team, Working Team, other NHHSEM and NHDES staff members, and the community representatives including Boards of Selectmen and Town Administrators, which is the full group. This group will provide the overall oversight and make the policy decisions which guide the efforts of the Working Team and the Staff Team.

Flow Chart



Item	Task	Town(s)	Description/Key Steps
<b>Short-term Solutions – ability to complete within 12 months</b>			
A	Engage the CNRPC in project management and technical assistance	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	CNRPC are facilitators for the individual projects, assisting with solving problems, but not necessarily completing these tasks. Key roles are to provide organizational support, provide information, and to ensure the appropriate parties are involved in each meeting and project.
B	Install river gauge in southern stretch of Suncook River	Varies, depends on where it's (they're) installed. High priority to Allenstown	Electronically monitored gage. NH HSEM could fund installation under EMPG. Sediment is going up by the month. One gage is presently in North Chichester. Issues are the match and annual maintenance funds.
C	Request a commitment from DOT to provide adequate route signing for detouring traffic off of Route 28 when the road is closed for flooding	Allenstown requested this, but could be installed in Pembroke or Epsom. High priority to Allenstown	When Route 28 closes, Allenstown wants to keep traffic off of town River Road, and channel to Buck Street (state maintained) in Pembroke. Town wants variable message boards and aluminum signs. Coordinate with NHDOT for sharing of resources.
D	Request a grant for a portable (trailer mounted) emergency generator for Allenstown to operate the emergency shelter during a flood emergency	Allenstown	EMPG grant has been submitted.
E	Review/update the emergency plan for the dams that operate in the Suncook In watershed to ensure maximum mitigation effect during floods	Allenstown & Pembroke	Work with DES to encourage them to review the 4 plans: 1 at Thomas Hodgdon (Allenstown), 1 at Mill at Main Street (Pembroke), 1 at Irish Pond (Allenstown), Buck Street (Pembroke). Dam operations should be reviewed. Buck Street dam is presently being demolished. NHDES has their procedures on how they work on their dams' emergency plans, review annually.
F	Formally survey/inquire of the residents of the floodplain to determine their interest in acquisition and other mitigation solutions	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	Work with each Town to see whether they are interested in surveying at-risk residents of the floodplain. Identify roads and survey homes (see K). 12 homes are on Batchelder Road (Pembroke). There are immediate needs with 35 homes in Pembroke & Allenstown.
G	Examine the history of previous mitigation projects of Round Pond	Epsom	The Town's well is behind the Epsom School, and residents are concerned with breach/avulsion of Round Pond. The pond is starting to erode and will breach through at some point. One option is to dry-flood the well. See also P & Q. Currently funding an FEH study for the entire breach of the River, which will identify at-risk structures (1 year out to completion).

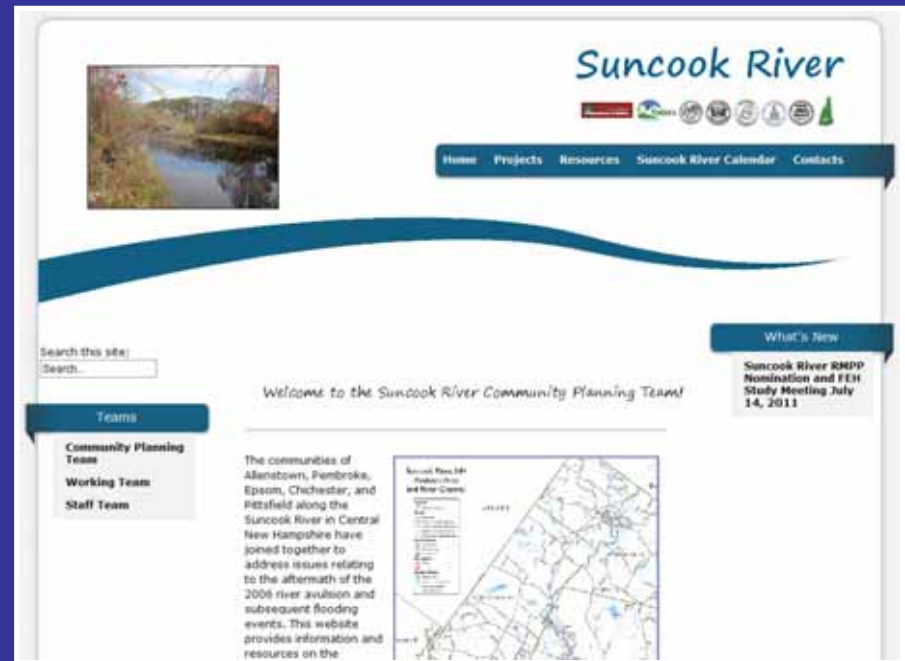
Item	Task	Town(s)	Description/Key Steps
H	Conduct a presentation to residents to explain river morphology issues in terms that are easily understood	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	The public presentation must be modified to explain the River conditions clearly to residents.
I	Replace/upgrade Batchelder Road culvert	Pembroke	The culvert should be replaced or upgraded as needed.
J	Replace/remove state owned culvert by King's Court turnaround	Epsom	The culvert should be replaced or removed as needed. Unknown whether culvert is private or Town/State owned.
K	Identify at-risk homes and pre-record emergency notification warnings that can be sent to at-risk floodplain occupants during a flood emergency utilizing the new state Public Notification System	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	Allenstown did a survey, 9 homeowners in the program now, had identified 101 homes; 22 bought, 3 buying now, plus new application this year. Epsom needs help on 1 acquisition, HHSEM will help prepare the application. FEMA considers a cost benefit analysis, and the owner takes 75% value of home/25% is Town match. The internal warning systems would be town-specific.
L	Provide all residents within the special flood hazard areas with NFIP information and restrictions and ensure that municipal officials and the remaining town residents are aware of the NFIP flood insurance availability.	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	Public outreach on the NFIP will be different for every Town. Make sure that all residents are informed of the NFIP and building restrictions. The Community Rating System (CRS) program could possibly be used to supplement the education.
M	Develop a checklist of local emergency management/ public safety action items for flood events along the Suncook River and consider Incident Annex	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	Determine whether each of Town has a checklist and see if it could be shared/modified.
N	In conjunction with each town's legal counsel, develop an appropriate and consistent response that the communities can provide to property owners that have questions regarding property line issues related to the change in the course of the Suncook River.	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	Determine an appropriate response for riparian ownership.
O	Request state commitment to capital projects for funding non-federal share of certain mitigation projects	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	Facilitate obtaining the state funding used as match for federal grants. Two capital budget requests have been made: install grate control structures and mitigate at-risk structures. The budget hearings will start in January. Boards of Selectmen should ask State Representatives for support.
P	Coordinate with the NRCS to determine whether there may be eligible projects to assist agricultural property owners in the flood plain.	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	Determine if any NRCS grant programs could help farmers, and provide the information.

Item	Task	Town(s)	Description/Key Steps
Mid-range Solutions – have steps that could begin within 12 months but completion of the entire project may take longer			
Q	Prevent avulsion of Round Pond	Epsom	See also G & Q.
R	Mitigate the potential for damage to the Epsom well house	Epsom	Damage to the Town well house could result from a Round Pond breach. The Town could add this project to the Hazard Mitigation Plan. A project could be to dry-flood proof the well with a floodwall around pumphouse and aluminum stoplogs inserted during flooding events. The well is located in the Epsom Village Water District. See also G.
S	Stop head-cutting of the Route 4 bridge	Chichester	DOT is involved in the installation of grate-control structures to help stop the head-cutting.
T	Remove hazardous debris (that could exacerbate damage during a flood) from the Suncook River channel and banks	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	Debris is throughout the River and keeps flowing down stream. Agencies should meet to determine if easements are possible from private landowners to remove the debris. Identify the critical areas where debris will cause problems. Permits will be needed.
U	Develop plan/pass legislation that would allow state to pay non-federal share of mitigation grants with a condition that towns be able to pay the amount back through some type of tax process	Epsom	Develop plan/pass legislation that would allow state to pay non-federal share of mitigation grants with a condition that towns be able to pay the amount back through some type of tax process
Long Term Solutions – completion clearly long-term and/or may require critical steps/studies to be conducted to determine if such a solution is even feasible			
V*2	Update Floodplain delineation maps	Allenstown Chichester Epsom Pembroke	Incorporate the new USGS floodplain data layer into FEMA floodplain maps.
W*2	Stabilize the banks of the river in certain places to protect critical infrastructure		Stabilize the banks of the river in certain places to protect critical infrastructure
X	Dredge/remove sediment		Dredge/remove sediment
Y	Mitigate the potential for damage from ice jams against bridges		Cold River Research Lab (federal) will conduct field research and develop reports if needed.
Z	Establish a "Suncook River Advisory Commission"		The Suncook River Team wants to establish a group something similar to other river advisory commissions.

Suncook River Community Planning Team Meetings  
*with Municipal Representation*  
December 2010 – July 2011

- Community Planning Team Meetings = 3
- Working Team Meetings = 7
- Miscellaneous Meetings = 16

**Total = 26\***



\*Total does not include 8 Staff Team Meetings between CNHRPC, DES and DOS.

**Suncook River Community Planning Team**  
*Municipal Representation*  
December 2010 – July 2011

- **Allenstown**
  - Paul Apple
  - Jeff Gryval
  - Chief Rob Martin
  - Chief Shaun Mulholland
- **Chichester**
  - Richard DeBold
  - John Martell
- **Epsom**
  - Rick Bilodeau
  - Keith Cota
  - John Hickey
  - R Stewart Yeaton
  - Kevin Reeves
- **Pembroke**
  - David Jodoin
  - Fred Kline
  - Chief Scott Lane
  - Cindy Lewis
  - David Sheldon
- **Pittsfield**
  - Paul Skowron
  - Ed Vien
  - Chief Robert Wharem
  - Fred Hast
  - Dan Kramer