



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

September 7, 2021

Wendy Garland, Director
Environmental Assessment Division
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0017

RE: Alternative Restoration Plan Acceptance for Great Pond

Dear Ms. Garland:

Thank you for submitting the Great Pond Watershed-Based Management Plan (dated March 2021) to EPA for acceptance as an alternative restoration plan. Great Pond was placed on the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) list of impaired waters in 2010 due to elevated phosphorus levels and declining water clarity. The management plan (together with supplemental information in the submittal letter) includes an analysis of phosphorus loading, the reduction needed to meet water quality standards, specific actions needed to achieve that reduction, available funding sources to pay for needed actions, and a schedule and milestones to guide implementation progress.

Consistent with the EPA memorandum from Benita Best-Wong, dated August 13, 2015, with the subject line, "Information Concerning 2016 Clean Water Act Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 Integrated Reporting and Listing Decisions" and the EPA TMDL Vision framework ("the Vision")¹, the submitted plan was written to inform and guide pollutant load reduction implementation. The plan includes the relevant elements specified in these memoranda and we accept the Great Pond Watershed-Based Management Plan as an alternative restoration plan to be counted towards WQ-27, which is a performance measure used to track progress in implementing the CWA 303(d) Program Vision, for FY2021.

Thank you again for your submittal of this thorough and informative restoration plan.

/S/

Melville P. Coté, Jr., Chief
Surface Water Protection Branch

¹ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. December 2013. "A Long-Term Vision for Assessment, Restoration, and Protection under the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Program." Access: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-07/documents/vision_303d_program_dec_2013.pdf

Data for entry in EPA's National TMDL Tracking System									
TMDL/Plan Name *			Great Pond Alternative Restoration Plan						
Number of TMDLs*			1 Alternative Restoration Plan						
Type of TMDLs*			Nutrient						
Number of listed causes/parameters (from 303(d) list)			2						
Lead State			Maine						
TMDL Status			Accepted						
Individual TMDLs listed below									
Action ID#	Segment name	Segment ID #	TMDL, Protection Plan, OR Alternative*	Pollutant name(s)	Impairment PARAMETERS/Cause(s) name	Pollutant endpoint	Unlisted ?	ME DEP Point Source & ID#	Listed for anything else?
R1_ME_2021_01a	Great Pond	ME0103000310_5274L	ARP	Phosphorus, total	Phosphorus, total; Secchi disk transparency	8.5 ppb Phosphorus	Listed	N/A	N/A
TMDL Type			Alternative Restoration Plan						
Establishment Date (approval)*			Sep 7, 2021						
Completion (final submission) Date			Jun 30, 2021						
Public Notice Date			N/A						
EPA Developed			No						
Towns affected* (in alphabetical order)			Belgrade and Rome, ME						

*Abbreviations:
TMDL = TMDL
Protection Plan = PP
Alternative Restoration Plan = ARP