

From: John Monroe [mailto:john.monroe@sunlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2012 3:30 PM
To: Baskin, Kathleen (EEA)
Subject: Comments on SWMI Framework

Kathleen Baskin, P.E.
Director of Water Policy and Planning
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street
Boston, MA

Dear Ms. Baskin,

I am writing to respond to the Sustainable Water Management Initiative (SWMI) "Framework" proposal.

Parts of the proposal are important improvements, such as minimum streamflow criteria. However, there remain serious deficiencies that must be corrected.

Quality. The framework must explicitly protect the quality of rivers that currently support native fish and organisms and restore the quality of those that are degraded.

Quantity. Water withdrawal allowances are too high. We know (better than ever before) how much water is needed support healthy river ecosystem, yet the framework guarantees that certain basins will be depleted by permitted withdrawals.

The science makes it clear what is needed. We know what to do.
We need your leadership to support the good scientific work done by state staff to establish sensible safe yields.

Sincerely,

John Monroe

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