

DLIA Newsletter Article

May 2026

Chloride Management Plan Advisory Committee (CMPAC) Update

In June of 2025, the Town of Deering Board of Selectmen approved the formation of the Chloride Management Plan Advisory Committee (CMPAC) to ensure the future health of Deering Reservoir as a key recreational and ecological resource for our town. The Board of Selectman appointed Bob Carter, Edward Cobett, Robert Compton, Peter Kaplan, John Rudd, James Card (Road Agent), and Michelle Johnson (Deering BOS) to serve on this Committee.

The Committee and three subcommittees met weekly throughout the summer and fall of 2025. Their efforts included:

- Detailed on-site examination of the current Salt Shed site and potential alternate locations outside the watershed (primarily the Town pit), and review of Highway Management practices.
- Review of all current water sampling locations and protocols and on-site examination of all contributing inlets into Deering Reservoir.
- On-site examination of all roads (both dirt and paved), including ditches, culverts and catch basins with focus on sedimentation from these roads with evaluation of existing road materials and Department practices that contribute to chloride and chloride-laden sediment that are being carried into Deering Lake.

The work done by CMPAC over four months resulted in a 42-page study with detailed analysis and recommendations including: (1) immediate, short term, & long-term actions to protect the Deering Reservoir, (2) actions to improve road management and maintenance procedures to diminish chloride pollution; and (3) actions to protect the town from liability resulting from the effects of a salt shed in the Deering Lake watershed. The Committee presented “The Report of the Committee’s Findings and Recommendations” to the Board of Selectmen at their meeting on October 22, 2025. See the following document for the complete report.

[cmpac_draft_final_document_10.20.2025.pdf](#)

The Deering Board of Selectmen formally approved the recommendation outlined in the CMPAC report at their meeting on December 3, 2025. The following motions were passed at this meeting:

- To formally accept the recommendations from CMPAC.
- To charge the Town Administrator with planning, developing, and presenting for consideration and approval the implementation of CMPAC recommendations in a timely manner.

- To appoint a new Implementation Committee to assist the Town Administrator with planning and development, and to present the implementation of CMPAC recommendations to the Board of Selectmen in a timely manner to protect our lake

As a result of these motions, the Board of Selectmen approved the formation of the new Chloride Management Implementation Committee (CMPIC) and appointed Ed Cobbett, Evan Johnson, Peter Kaplan, John Rudd, Charles Wood, along with James Card (Road Agent) and Deb DeFosse (Town Administrator) to serve on CMPIC. This new committee is tasked with assisting the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator to implement CMPAC's recommendations to mitigate the environmental impacts of chloride on Deering Reservoir and provide recommendations that will ensure chloride levels are kept to a minimum in order protect the health and ecology of the Deering Reservoir watershed. The first meeting of the CMPIC is planned for early May 2026.

We want to thank the Board of Selectmen for taking this issue seriously and also thank the volunteers on CMPAC and CMPIC for the hard work that has been completed and is yet to come to ensure the health of Deering Reservoir is protected for future generations.

John Rudd