

**Town of Nelson
Selectmen's Meeting
3:00 PM**

October 8, 2025

Executive Board Attending: Brenna Kucinski, Mike Blaudschun, Don Carlisle, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others attending: J. Filipi, M. Tarr

Absent:

Brenna called the October 8, 2025 meeting of the Nelson Select Board to order at 3:06 PM.

●Police Chief J. Filipi came before the Board with a department update:

- Patrols have begun in the Village on weekday afternoons during after school events.
- Filipi will check on the days and times and plan to be present at least part of each event
- The Laptop computer battery needs replacement and it has been recommended that replacement of both Police computers is overdue. The remaining budget for this year will be closely checked to see if one (or both) could be purchased this year.
- New batteries are also needed for the speed sign at an approximate cost of \$200. Will try to get the largest batteries possible for longer run time. Not sure if lithium batteries are an option as they may not work in the cold. Filipi suggested sleek newer signs for purchase in the future at a cost of approximately \$8,000 for two. The Board did not favor a purchase at this time.
- Filipi would like to investigate options for upgrading the internet service at the Police station. This would greatly improve the reception for the new security camera system.
- The 2014 cruiser has been checked by Keene Transmission and they find no urgent problem with filings in the fluid but recommend an annual fluid change to keep checking. This car is getting rusty and may be slowed by undercoating the vehicle.
- Filipi plans on a 7-year rotation of vehicles with a new one purchased every seventh year.

●Mike then made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for October 1, 2025 as recorded.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● Brenna reported that she confirmed with legal counsel at NHMA that the two Non-Public sessions held on September 16 and 17, 2025 were held legally as they were each held within a properly posted meeting and a separate public notice was not required. This corrects the information previously conveyed from NHDRA following a citizen's complaint of a lack of public posting.

● Mike made a motion to approve the manifest for October 8, 2025 as presented.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

●Following a review of submitted plans, Mike made a motion to approve a Building Permit for L. & K. Dahmen for a roof mounted solar array.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● Upon reviewing a request for 2026 Budget funding, Mike made a motion to approve \$1,000 to be added to the Social Services warrant article for CASA for Children, noting that it is the same amount as last year. Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● Following a brief discussion, Mike made a motion to approve membership renewal with Clean Energy NH in the amount of \$300.
Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● Mike made a motion to approve a Town Hall Rental for the Nelson School to hold a retirement party for one of their teachers.
Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● Mike made a motion to approve a Purchase Request submitted by the Fire Department for the purchase of AED pads in the amount of \$2,635.
Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● Following up on a concern from the Conservation Commission regarding “View” cutting at a new house lot on Old Stoddard Road, W. Kassotis visited the site and found all cutting had been approved by DES and well within appropriate setbacks. Brenna further reported that the Conservation would like to be informed of all Building Permit applications near water or wetlands. The Board considered this to be outside of the Conservation Commission’s authority and may be considered by landowners as an invasion of privacy. Brenna made a motion not to report Building Permits to the Conservation Commission and to continue the normal site inspection by W. Kassotis as he acts on behalf of the Select Board.
Mike seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● At another site visit, W. Kassotis reports that the large mountain of garbage bags at a location on Center Pond Road is finally being cleaned up.

● Don presented a request from B. Roeder that the Select Board respond to the hazards listed in the Granite Lake Dam Inspection notice and to begin some action to address the needed repairs. Items #2 and #4 of the report are the primary concerns. M. Tarr was present at today’s meeting and reviewed the report and photos of the damaged areas. Tarr agreed that the repair outlined in #2 could be handled by the Town Highway Department but #4 will likely be difficult and costly. Tarr will consult with service and repair providers and seek a cost estimate. (The entire report is attached to these minutes.) Don will report back to B. Roeder and keep him informed of the progress.

● M. Tarr will meet with the Fire Chief for an in-depth look at what is needed for sufficient access to the proposed site for a dry hydrant at Center Pond. If this is to have year-round access the road will need to be improved. Tarr and Sarcione will need to report their recommendations to the Board before a warrant article can be developed.

● Edie reported that a letter had arrived that warranted discussion in Non-Public session.

4:28 PM

● Brenna made a motion to move into Non-Public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Litigation. Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0 by roll call vote. Mike – yes, Don – yes, Brenna – yes

4:39 PM

● Upon returning to Public session, Brenna made a motion to seal the minutes. Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0 by roll call vote. Mike – yes, Don – yes, Brenna - yes

● With nothing further, Brenna made a motion to adjourn.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned 4:41 PM

Next regular meeting October 15, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Minutes for October 8, 2025

Brenna Kucinski, Chair

Michael Blaudschun, Selectman

Don Carlisle, Selectman

Granite Lake Dam Report Attached to these minutes.



The State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

Mr. Butch Roeder
Granite Lake Village
667 Granite Lake Road
Nelson, NH 03457

April 26, 2024

RE: **Inspection Notice:** Granite Lake Dam, D166002, High Hazard, Nelson

Dear Mr. Roeder:

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Dam Bureau (NHDES) is responsible for ensuring the safety of dams in New Hampshire through its dam safety program. In accordance with RSA 482:12 and Env-Wr 302.02, an inspection of the subject dam was conducted on October 18, 2023. Based upon the results of the inspection, along with information in our files that indicates your dam likely meets current discharge criteria for its hazard classification, only routine maintenance items were identified.

You should implement the following recommendations, which are aimed at improving the condition of the dam and extending its longevity, at the earliest practical date.

1. During the inspection, it was mentioned by attendees of the Granite Lake Village District that the flashboard pins do not appear to be intentionally failing/tripping as expected. You should engage the services of an engineering consultant qualified in dam-related work per Env-Wr 403.03 (a)(1) to evaluate the suitability of the pins for the flashboard system and need for potential replacement. Calculations for the pin design should be submitted to NHDES for approval, likely as part of the application for a permit to reconstruct the dam.
2. It is recommended that you fill the gap underneath the concrete jersey barrier at the right downstream side above the groin (see photo E). This gap will likely serve as an outlet for roadway runoff, and allows concentrated flow in close proximity to the end of the masonry wall and down the groin. Filling this hole will divert runoff past the end of the jersey barriers, serving to protect the integrity of the masonry wall while reducing the likelihood of surface erosion issues in the groin, similar to what previously transpired at the left groin.
3. Continue to monitor and make repairs to concrete components of the dam. Several isolated cracks with efflorescence were observed on the upstream face of the dam (see photos A&B). While these cracks are minor in scope and appear to be non-structural in nature, advancing concrete deterioration will likely compel the need for repairs in the future. Repairs of this nature may involve routing and sealing cracks and patching spalled areas.
4. Continue to monitor the deteriorated concrete portions along the fasciae of the roadway culvert over the spillway. The upstream edge of the culvert slab is spalling and crumbling, but the distress is isolated to the outer limits of the slab away from roadway traffic and not of significant concern at this time. On the downstream side, the concrete headwall exhibits spalling, cracking and efflorescence (see photos C&D). This headwall is important for retaining the roadway embankment fill over the slab. Considering that the culvert is owned and maintained by the Town of Nelson, it may become necessary to coordinate with the town regarding the need for repairs and maintenance as concerns arise that could adversely affect the spillway.

5. Cut and remove minor brush and overgrowth observed on the left downstream slope (see photos C&D). Such vegetation should be removed and kept at least 15 feet from the entire footprint of the dam and all components of the dam to preserve a buffer for inspection, access and maintenance/repair. After clearing occurs, any disturbed areas should be properly regraded and protected with an appropriate ground cover (grass, riprap stone or other treatments) to prevent erosion of or damage to the dam and its components. It is understood that the Granite Lake Village association owns the dam, but the Town of Nelson owns and maintains the culvert. If required NHDES encourages you to evaluate a maintenance easement and/or other maintenance/access agreement.
6. Debris or other material was noted within the culvert at the spillway and should be removed as soon as possible (see photo G). It is recommended to regularly check the spillway for debris to be removed. Such material will obstruct flow, lessen the dam's ability to function efficiently and increase the risk that the dam may be overtopped – which could lead to failure.
7. It is recommended that you monitor the condition of the masonry portions of the dam and complete maintenance as required. Downstream masonry walls generally appear competent and stable, with slight displacement of one stone observed on the left wall (see photo D), but no major signs of instability were noted such as significant bulging, outward tipping, or missing stones. However, it should also be appreciated that masonry walls are difficult to inspect given their variable nature, and it is recommended that you continually monitor, compare, and evaluate conditions (see also photos C, D, E, & F)).
8. It is recommended that you monitor seepage and leakage through the dam. Seepage and leakage were not noted during the 2023 inspection although historic staining has been observed adjacent to the right downstream wall of the culvert that could be indicative of past/periodic seepage (see photo F). It is recommended that you include attention to this area in your written Operation, Maintenance and Response form so that individual observations may be compared over time to note changes or trigger the need to take remedial action. Should existing conditions worsen notably or new areas develop, or if discharge becomes cloudy/muddy (an indication that soil material may be moving within the dam or its foundation), please contact NHDES immediately.
9. The erosion issue identified in 2021 at the left downstream groin created by concentrated roadway runoff at the end of the concrete jersey barrier has been satisfactorily remedied. Small stone rip rap was placed within the eroded drainage path, and vegetation has successfully been re-established. Continue to monitor this area in case the erosion returns and requires additional repair measures.
10. Review and update (if necessary) the existing Operation, Maintenance and Response form for the dam dated September 14, 2021. If updates are made, please submit the revised form to NHDES. The form should include all pertinent dam and contact information, as well as describe the type and frequency of the maintenance and monitoring items that routinely occur at the dam. A blank form may be found at: <https://www.des.nh.gov/water/dam-maintenance-and-management>. Scroll down and select the Dam Permitting and Forms tab and then the Find Permit Applications box.

Hazard Classification: High

The dam is classified as high hazard, because the sunny day and 100-year storm event dam breach failure scenarios will directly impact a residence at 498 Granite Lake Road, located approximately 600 feet downstream of the dam.

Condition Assessment Rating: Satisfactory

Based on a 2017 preliminary evaluation by NHDES, Granite Lake Dam is anticipated to pass the 100-year storm (Inflow Design Event) with approximately 1.1 feet of freeboard. Other observations mentioned above constitute minor maintenance issues.

The dam is able to pass its design storm event with at least one (1) foot of remaining freeboard and has no deficiencies beyond the maintenance items identified above. For these reasons, NHDES has given the dam a Condition Assessment Rating of Satisfactory. Under the criteria that NHDES uses to rate the condition of a dam, a dam with a condition assessment rating of Satisfactory is one with issues that are limited to such things as minor tree or brush growth, minor surface erosion of earthen sections, previously evaluated normal/historical leakage or seepage, marginal vegetative cover quality, small areas of non-structural deterioration to concrete, metal or timber components, small amounts of debris in the outlets or other issues that are presently not deemed to affect the continued safe operation of the dam.

Please note that you are receiving this Inspection Notice because of the relatively minor nature of the deficiencies observed and because available information in our files indicates that the dam is likely able to pass its design event without overtopping. Such assessments are subject to change, and are reviewed and updated periodically in response to changes in watershed characteristics, updated rainfall data and other information and/or improved methods of analysis. Should you consider performing modifications to spillways or other outlet works, regardless if such recommendations are included above, then a more in-depth analysis of the dam related to its contributing watershed, structural characteristics and hazard classification should be completed to ensure that any modifications proposed meet the design requirements consistent with current dam safety regulations. In addition, should you consider performing work that otherwise meets the definition of "reconstruction" (see below), please contact the Dam Bureau for guidance.

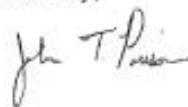
RSA 482:2X. "Reconstruction" means:

- (a) A change in the height, length, or discharge capacity of the structure;
- (b) Restoring a breached dam or one in ruins;
- (c) Modification of flashboards which either increases their height or increases the headwater elevation at which the flashboards will fail; or
- (d) A change in the structural configuration of a dam

You are urged to implement the recommendations listed above at the earliest practical date and commit to regular maintenance and monitoring of your dam. Additional information specific to dams and dam-related topics may be viewed at the NHDES website (des.nh.gov) by selecting the Water then Dams links.

If the condition of the dam has changed since the inspection, or if you have any other questions or comments related to the dam, please contact me at (603) 271-7507 or via email at John.T.Poisson@des.nh.gov. You may also write to the Water Division at the address listed on the bottom of the cover page.

Sincerely,



John T. Poisson, P.E.
Dam Safety Engineer
Dam Safety & Inspection Section

Enclosures: 2023 Inspection Photos, Copy of 2021 OMR, Blank OMR form
cc: Town of Nelson
JTP\\was\\s\\WD-Dam\\damfiles\\D166002\\Insp Docs\\20240426 D166002 IN.docx

D166002 - Granite Lake Dam, Nelson

Inspected: October 18, 2023



A - Upstream Left Side



B - Upstream Right Side



C - Downstream Left



D - Left Downstream Masonry and Head

D166002 - Granite Lake Dam, Nelson

Inspected: October 18, 2023



E - Right Downstream



F - Downstream Right Slope



G - Debris in Spillway



H - Left Downstream End of Barrier (Repair