

NEIWPCC PROCLAMATION YEAR OF CLEAN WATER

WHEREAS on October 18, 2022, the nation marks the 50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act, which aimed to prevent, reduce, and eliminate pollution in the nation's water to "restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters"; and

WHEREAS this landmark environmental legislation that has been central to the important progress we have made as a Nation in improving the quality and health of our rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, and watersheds; and

WHEREAS NEIWPCC's collaborative efforts among its member States to control and abate pollution in the Northeast has served as a model for the Clean Water Act; and

WHEREAS the citizens of this Nation are dependent on clean waters to protect public health; and

WHEREAS the Northeast's abundant lakes, rivers, and streams provide its citizens with numerous recreational and commercial opportunities and greatly enhance their quality of life; and

WHEREAS clean water plays a vital role in the economic prosperity of the Northeast by providing a sustainable fishing industry; yielding a robust tourism industry; sustaining our agricultural sectors; and supporting industry; and

WHEREAS NEIWPCC and its member States have cooperated with the Federal Government under NEIWPCC's Compact since 1947 and, later the Clean Water Act, to significantly reduce all forms of water pollution, improving the quality and health of our rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, and watersheds; providing for recreational pursuits, allowing said waters to be hospitable for aquatic life and public health; and

WHEREAS in the last 50 years, the overall health of our marine waters, lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands has also dramatically improved; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that NEIWPCC does hereby proclaim the year beginning October 18, 2022, as the Year of Clean Water in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act.

Unanimously adopted on Thursday, September 8, 2022

Peter LaFlamme, Chair

Susan Sullivan, Executive Director

NEIWPCC