

EXHIBIT 48 (AR H.38)

Phone Log

Contact: Fred Short, UNH

Phone #: (603) 659-3313

Date: November 18, 2011

RE: Eelgrass issues in Great Bay

In the adaptive management plan submitted to EPA and NHDES, the Coalition cites several items that came from the technical review committee. One of these items is the following:

“Eelgrass losses in Great Bay do not appear to be a result of either insufficient transparency or excessive epiphyte growth”

I called Fred to see if this characterization was correct. We had previously discussed the light attenuation issue and how its importance varies throughout the estuary depending on whether or not the eelgrass beds are intertidal or subtidal. For the subtidal beds light attenuation is a significant issue. For the intertidal beds light attenuation is not the major issue since the beds can get their light needs at low tide. However, as the tide rises the light attenuation is an issue.

With respect to epiphytes, Fred told me that epiphytic growth has historically not been an issue in Great Bay because this growth seemed to be controlled by grazers. However, this year he has noted an increase in the amount of epiphytic growth in Great Bay proper.