

**Shellfish Conservation Committee  
Pemaquid Watershed Plan  
October 18, 2018  
Bristol Town Hall**

*Committee members present: S. Burke, D. Cheney, S. Termine*

*Also present: M. Burns, K. Feidel, C. Hall, C. Shubert*

**Testing results.**

There were a total of 11 test sites. All test sites had samples taken before, during and after a big rainfall:

- 2 in Bristol Mills
- 1 at Hatch Town Bridge
- 3 along Little Falls Brook
- 2 in Lower Pemaquid River (below Boyd's Pond)
- 2 in a tributary emptying in Schoolhouse Cove
- 1 in a tributary emptying in Coombs Cove.

High levels of E. coli were found in the tributaries leading to Schoolhouse Cove and Coombs Cove. It was suggested that more testing be done above and below the current test sites to pinpoint pollution sources.

One test site in Bristol Mills tested high for E. coli. This was most likely a run off spot from a nearby pig farm. Test sites at Pemaquid Falls indicated lower levels.

Little Falls Brook showed high levels at the Carl Bailey site but unexpectedly low levels at the mouth of the river.

Cheney asked about independent testing by shellfish harvesters and/or other members of the community. It was recommended and noted that Waldoboro had done some independent testing.

Shubert asked if Bristol's plumbing inspector would be willing to check some of the septic systems near the test spots. It was noted that there are currently no routine checks.

Feidel reported that the DEP uses UNH for DNA testing. Currently, there is no DNA test for beaver. The lab at UNH has tried several times to make an E. coli marker for beaver but have been unsuccessful.

Hall recommended that the Shellfish Committee ask for an appropriation at town meeting for additional testing and work on the watershed plan.

**Follow up.**

Burns will submit a report on action taken and future planned action. Hall and Feidel will wrap up existing grant requirements. All agreed that DMR needs to be more involved in the process.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rachel Bizarro