

A RESOLUTION authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement for the analysis of periphyton, including diatoms and attached algae, in samples collected from the non-tidal portion of the Delaware River.

WHEREAS, using funds from DRBC's Clean Water Act Section 106 grant awarded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Commission staff in cooperation with staff of the National Park Service currently collect biological and water quality data for the Commission's Special Protection Waters (primarily, the non-tidal Delaware River) as part of a multi-year effort to further define and assess measurable changes to existing water quality; and

WHEREAS, studies involving biological monitoring performed by DRBC staff since 2006 show that periphyton samples are excellent indicators of water quality for non-tidal waters of the Basin and ultimately will be an important component of indices of biological integrity (IBI) currently being developed for these waters; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's Clean Water Act Section 106 grant for the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2016 includes funds for periphyton studies; and the Commission plans to include the collection and analysis of periphyton samples in our Section 106 grant applications for the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Commission issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) on June 12, 2015 and a revised RFP on July 8, 2015 for the analysis of periphyton samples collected during 2015, 2017 and 2019 and received four proposals; and

WHEREAS, staff's evaluation of the proposals, including the projected costs, indicated that Rhithron Associates, Inc. was the lowest qualified bidder; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delaware River Basin Commission:

1. The Executive Director is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Rhithron Associates for the analysis and evaluation of diatoms and attached algae in periphyton samples collected from the non-tidal Delaware River in 2015, 2017 and 2019 as described in Rhithron's proposal dated July 8, 2015.
2. The total cost of the agreement shall not exceed \$42,422.00 for samples collected in 2015, 2017 and 2019 or the sum of this amount and additional funds expressly awarded to the Commission or allocated by it for this purpose.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

*Kara S. Coats*

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Kara S. Coats, Chairwoman *pro tem*

*Pamela M. Bush*

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Pamela M. Bush, Commission Secretary

ADOPTED: March 16, 2016