



Connecticut River Joint Commissions

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CRJC Upper Valley Subcommittee Annual Report - 2018

The Upper Valley Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) consists of appointed volunteers from the Vermont towns of Hartford, Norwich, Thetford, Fairlee, and Bradford, and the New Hampshire towns of Lebanon, Hanover, Lyme, Orford, and Piermont. We meet every two months to discuss and act on river-related issues.

The Subcommittee provides a local voice to help steward the resources on or affecting a portion of the Connecticut River, particularly on topics related to the maintenance of good water quality and wildlife habitat. The Subcommittee is one of five that make up the Connecticut River Joint Commissions since 1989. Specific responsibilities include providing advice to NHDES, VTANR and municipalities on matters pertaining to the river; reviewing and commenting on proposed permits and plans; and maintaining a corridor management plan.

The Subcommittee stayed updated on a number of issues including dam management and the FERC relicensing process, NHDES Wetlands Rules, Jacob's Brook restoration project in the Town of Orford, and construction plans for River Road in the Town of Lyme. The Subcommittee reviewed and commented on a series of permits from across the region and on a range of issues such as culvert replacement, wetland impacts, mitigation approaches, alteration of terrain and stormwater drainage. The Subcommittee hosted presentations on the White River Tactical Basin Planning Process and Living Shorelines. In addition, the members have distributed the CRJC Homeowner's Guide for Water Quality Protection and the CRJC Shoreline Buffer Fact Sheet to central town locations (e.g. Public Library or Town Office). Finally, the Subcommittee has started a "Living Shorelines" initiative.

There are currently openings on the Subcommittee. There is one representative in Fairlee. There is no representation from Bradford. If you or someone in your community is interested in working with volunteers from area communities on river conservation issues and serving as a liaison to the Upper Valley Subcommittee, please contact our staff support Olivia Uyizeye at uyizeye@uvlsrpc.org to learn more.