



Connecticut River Joint Commissions

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CRJC Wantastiquet Subcommittee Annual Report - 2018

The Wantastiquet Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) consists of two volunteer nominated by each of the following municipalities: Westminster (Paul Harlow and Jim Calchera), Putney (Joe Grutta), Dummerston (Daniel Mark and Jack Lilly), Brattleboro (Kathy Urffer and Michael Fairchild), and Vernon (Andy White) in Vermont; and Walpole, Westmoreland (Perry Sawyer), Chesterfield (Roland Vollbehr), and Hinsdale (Joe Conroy) in New Hampshire.

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, projects by the Connecticut River Conservancy, lead poisoning of loons, and mitigation funds for the bridge construction. The Subcommittee reviewed and commented on a series of permits from across the region and on a range of issues such as gas station locations. The Subcommittee hosted a presentation on Stream Restoration using woody debris, updates from the Hinsdale-Brattleboro Existing Bridges Committee, and Aquatic Invasive Species. Members continue to outreach to new members and identify a chair. Finally, 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).

There are currently openings on the Subcommittee in several communities. There is one representative in Westmoreland, Chesterfield, Hinsdale, Putney and Vernon. There is no representation from Walpole. 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 Wantastiquet Subcommittee, please contact our staff support Olivia Uyizeye at uyizeye@uvlsrpc.org to learn more.