



Upper Valley Subcommittee Annual Report - 2017

The Upper Valley Subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions 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 reviewed and commented on a wide range of regulatory applications, including river shoreline stabilization, wetlands activity, bridges over tributaries, stormwater management, wastewater projects, and private waterfront structures.

We actively participated in the Wilder Dam federal re-licensing process, by submitting a detailed analysis of the Preliminary Licensing Proposal (PLP), and continuing comments on Erosion Studies #2 and #3. In response to our comments and those of others, these studies are currently being revised to include more data on river velocities and erosive soils. We continue to assert that the fluctuations in the river levels by the normal and storm operations of Wilder Dam are exacerbating erosion of the riverbank.

The Upper Valley Subcommittee held a joint meeting with the Mascoma River Local Advisory Committee to discuss restoration of eroding banks by the K-Mart Plaza in Lebanon.

We will continue our coordination with other river conservation and planning organizations, such as the Connecticut River Conservancy, the New Hampshire Rivers Council, the Connecticut River Paddlers, the White River Partnership, the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission, and the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission.

For more information or to become involved in the work of the Subcommittee, please contact Chairman Jim Kennedy (james.kennedy@valley.net).