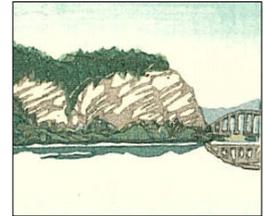


Upper Valley River Subcommittee

New Hampshire – Piermont, Orford, Lyme, Hanover, Lebanon
Vermont -- Bradford, Fairlee, Thetford, Norwich, Hartford



Meeting Minutes—November 19, 2012

Members Present: Marc White, Lynn Bohi, Jim Kennedy, Linda Matteson, Caryl Collier, Sue MacKenzie, Bill Bridge, John Mudge, David Kotz and Rachel Ruppel, staff consultant

Minutes: Approval of Sept. 19, 2012 minutes was moved by Jim, with a second by Lynn –motion passed unanimously.

Wilder Dam Relicensing: The Subcommittee discussed key issues that the Subcommittee would like to raise: (1) the impact of water level fluctuation and rate of change on bank erosion; (2) can funding for the now-shelved Atlantic salmon restoration program be re-programmed toward management of resident native fish species?; (3) what land does TransCanada own and what recreational uses are allowed?; (4) a clear explanation of flowage rights, including erosion of flooded land and tax issues; (5) how will invasive species be managed?; (6) how will endangered species be protected? Rachel will share these issues with CRJC and other stakeholders, and work on getting a clarification about flowage rights.

Recreation Plan Review: The Subcommittee reviewed the 2008 plan to determine what updates need to be made before 2013 print publication. Rachel was asked to check boat launch information, mercury regulations, bicycle route improvements (through Safe Routes to School program and Complete Streets initiatives), and invasive species management, specifically the treatment against spreading Didymo. Bill noted that the railroad corridor is not mentioned, which is an impediment to accessing the river on the VT side. Jim stated that he will talk to some fish experts about the status of fisheries. Also noted was ValleyQuest, the Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail, and the Blueway designation. The Subcommittee recommended an explanatory foreword as well as annotations in the text of the report, to include these updates.

Rachel was asked to send out the website address for the map of impaired waters in NH.

Goals and Priorities for 2013: The Subcommittee discussed goals and priorities briefly, focusing on permit review, dam relicensing and publishing the Recreation Plan. Marc asked Rachel to send out an email to ask for additional ideas for the Subcommittee.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on January 28, 2012—this is the fourth Monday of the month, as the third Monday is the Martin Luther King Day holiday.

Respectfully submitted, Rachel Ruppel, Staff Consultant



a local subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions

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