



Connecticut River Joint Commissions – 2016 Town Report

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Website at <http://www.crjc.org>

CRJC continues its mission to preserve the visual and ecological integrity and working landscape of the Connecticut River Valley. With five local subcommittees and over 100 volunteers, it is guiding the watershed's growth by reviewing and commenting on proposed actions, from large scale development projects including the Northern Pass, to proposed regulatory changes, such as shoreland protection rules.

CRJC assisted with the installation of new wake speed signs at launches in VT and NH, and supported the Connecticut River Watershed Council with the 25th Source-to-Sea Cleanup. Along with the Conte Wildlife Refuge, CRJC is working to present educational programs about the river and clean water in the watershed.

Of note, during FY2016 the CRJC actively participated in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of the three TransCanada hydroelectric dams on the lower Connecticut by reviewing studies performed by TransCanada and communicating its concerns about project operations to FERC, particularly those related to erosion, mercury, climate change and economic impact.

CRJC advocates for the establishment of a mitigation and enhancement fund for the southern reach of the river as a means to compensate for unavoidable impacts from dam operations. In this role, CRJC Commissioners met with the governors of both VT and NH to draw attention to the relicensing process and enlist their support.

At the Commission annual meeting in June 2016 the following officers were elected to serve during the FY2017: *Rick Walling, President (NH); Jason Rasmussen, Vice President (VT); Mary Sloat, Treasurer (NH); Steven Lembke, Secretary (VT).*

