



Connecticut River Joint Commissions Partnership Projects

Basin 11: West - Williams - Saxtons Rivers

2006

Important Bird Areas of the Upper Connecticut River

Grant awarded: \$4,000

Submitted by: Audubon Society of New Hampshire

Project location: River towns from MA border to Springfield, VT

This award funded conservation planning for two Important Bird Areas in the CT River Valley, identified through a project by the Audubon Society of NH and the Green Mountain Audubon of VT previously funded by the Partnership Program.

Aquatic Invasive Plants Outreach & Survey

Grant awarded: \$5,000

Submitted by: Sullivan County Conservation District

Project location: CT River from Brattleboro to Canaan

The goal of this project is to raise awareness about preventing the spread of invasive aquatic plants in the CT River, by holding a series of workshops and field trips that focus on invasive plant identification and control.

2005

Dummerston Covered Bridge Erosion Control

Grant awarded: \$4,000

Submitted by: Dummerston Conservation Commission

Project location: Dummerston, VT

This project reconstructed a highly eroded river access trail next to the town's historic covered bridge. The stream bank was restored and landscaped to reduce sediment-laden storm water runoff into the West River.

Stream Geomorphic Assessment at Ball Mountain Brook

Grant awarded: \$4,000

Submitted by: West River Watershed Alliance

Project location: Stratton & Jamaica, VT

The project enabled informed management decisions by local planners concerning stream restoration and identified likely erosion-prone areas in the Ball Mountain Brook watershed.

2004

Stream Geomorphic Assessment at Ball Mountain Brook

Grant awarded: \$5,000

Project location: Stratton & Jamaica, VT

Submitted by: West River Watershed Alliance

This project was a combined volunteer and professional effort to enable informed management decisions by local planners concerning stream restoration, and help identify likely erosion-prone areas in the Ball Mountain Brook watershed. This project was a first step in developing a basin-wide strategy to address sediment loading in the West, Williams, and Saxtons Rivers, major tributaries of the Connecticut River.

Upper CT River Important Bird Areas Project

Grant awarded: \$4,500

Project location: VT and NH Towns along the Connecticut River

Submitted by: Audubon Vermont

Audubon Vermont worked with the Audubon Society of New Hampshire to map and identify Important Bird Areas in the Upper Connecticut River corridor. These efforts were the first steps in protecting habitat critical to birds along this significant migratory flyway, and engaging local volunteers in monitoring and conserving these sites.

2002

Herrick's Cove Important Bird Area Conservation Project

Grant awarded: \$4,900

Project location: Rockingham, VT

Submitted by: Audubon Vermont

Grant funds established a citizen-scientist-based program for monitoring and wildlife activities at Herrick's Cove, home to 300 species of birds and a major stopover for migrating waterfowl. Data collected will guide future management of the property.

2001

Old Mill Clean-up, Saxtons River

Grant awarded: \$1,000

Project location: Saxtons River VT

Submitted by: Village of Saxtons River

The grant helped initiate a larger-scale effort to improve public access to the Saxtons River. Initial work included cleanup of the village-owned land abutting the river, creation of footpaths, and erection of historical displays at the old foundations on the site.

1999

Water Quality Monitoring of the Saxtons River

Grant awarded: \$1,400

Project Location: Westminster, VT

Submitted by: The Compass School with Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center

The students of the Compass School assisted the Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center to expand BEEC's water quality monitoring of the Saxtons River, and produced a television program on this topic in partnership with Falls Area Community Television.

1998

Jamaica Village Water Quality & Septic Study

Grant awarded: \$2,500

Project Location: Jamaica, VT

Submitted by: Jamaica Planning Commission

The Jamaica Planning Commission conducted a comprehensive analysis of surface and ground water quality and of septic systems within Jamaica Village. This provided information on the carrying capacity of the area and on the need for municipal facilities. It also helped the town address future development.

Southern Windsor County Regional Water Quality Plan

Grant awarded: \$4,700

Project Location: multi-community, VT

Submitted by: Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission

The Planning Commission, working with the Ottauquechee Natural Resources Conservation District, area schools, conservation commissions, and volunteers, completed a regional water quality plan. Watershed surveys were conducted for prioritized sections of the Mill Brook, Black River, Black River North Branch, and Williams River.

West River Water Quality in Londonderry

Grant awarded: \$700

Project Location: Londonderry, VT

Submitted by: Londonderry Planning Commission

The Londonderry Planning Commission sponsored a panel discussion and public forum to educate citizens and officials about water quality issues relating to the West River mainstem. Specific topics included the elevated *E.coli* counts at local monitoring sites, the value of local septic regulations, and alternatives for wastewater treatment.

West River Watershed Planning Inventory

Grant awarded: \$4,600

Project Location: West River watershed, VT

Submitted by: Windham Regional Commission

The Commission assisted with the formation of a West River Watershed Steering Committee and two watershed planning groups. These groups worked to form a watershed organization, develop community forums, and identify and locate significant resource inventory information digitized into GIS watershed inventory maps.

The Connecticut River Joint Commissions' Partnership Program offers grants of \$500-5000 to communities and organizations within the Connecticut River Watershed for projects that implement the Connecticut River Management Plan and the Connecticut River Scenic Byway Plan. For more information, see www.crjc.org/partnership.htm.

Total grants provided in this basin: \$46,300