## **Connecticut River Joint Commissions**

#### Giving voice to New England's great river

New Hampshire - Connecticut River Valley Resource Commission Vermont - Connecticut River Watershed Advisory Commission



The Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) is a bi-state organization dedicated to helping preserve the visual, ecological, and working landscape of the Connecticut River Valley while encouraging and maintaining economic viability throughout.

Guided by this mission, the CRJC strives to help guide proposed watershed activities by initiating, reviewing, and commenting on a wide variety of projects and regulatory proposals such as shoreland protection, energy issues, and clean water initiatives. Commissioners and the local representatives are all united in a shared regard and reverence for the Connecticut River, the surrounding landscape, and the regional ecosystem. This spirit allows them to appreciate successes over the past century, and to identify and share efforts for responsible stewardship into the future. With its full commissions board and its five Local River Subcommittees (LRS), more than 60 volunteers regularly engaged in the CRJC mission during Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) or July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.



Wantastiquet region volunteers receive training from NHDES staff on water quality equipment, Walpole, NH, 2023.

Commissioners work in FY23 was informed by the CRJC's longstanding Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan, its current 2020-2025 Strategic Plan, and 30 years of experience. Commissioners prioritized efforts to advance bi-state discussions, advance water quality monitoring, and ensure stable organizational functioning. During FY23 the CRJC Commissioners specifically engaged in the following activities through research and proactive engagement of local and state stakeholders from both states:

- Water quality monitoring at 15 sites and a bi-state coordination on future monitoring needs;
- Series of four virtual expert presentations reaching 140 attendees;
- Climate migration in the Connecticut River Valley through a series of in-person and virtual events

# **Connecticut River Joint Commissions**

### Giving voice to New England's great river

New Hampshire - Connecticut River Valley Resource Commission Vermont - Connecticut River Watershed Advisory Commission



in conjunction with Antioch University New England reaching 400 attendees; and

• FERC hydro-power dam relicensing for the Vernon, Bellows Falls, and Wilder stations.

We are pleased and appreciate that both Vermont and New Hampshire have again agreed to fund and sustain the CRJC as we move forward on this array of projects. State funding allows the CRJC to consistently serve communities of the Valley. The CRJC acknowledges the funding assistance of the Vermont LaRosa Partnership to advance water quality monitoring during the 2022 and 2023 seasons.



### CRJC Bi-Monthly E-Newsletter Snapshots

In the coming year, the CRJC will:

- Convene bi-state discussions for collaborative management around topics that include but is not limited to water quality, climate migration, and agriculture;
- Provide two virtual expert presentations on two topics, Nitrogen impacts to the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound, as well as conservation and floodplain restoration;
- Implement activities on water quality monitoring with state partners and each LRS; and
- Convene stakeholders to gather input for the Tactical Basin Plans in Vermont.

The following individuals comprised the Executive Committee of the Joint Commissions for FY23: Jennifer Griffin, President (NH); Chris Campany, Vice President (VT); Ted Cooley, Secretary (NH); Jason Rasmussen, Treasurer (VT); Ken Hastings (NH); and Marie Caduto (VT).

If you would like more information on any of our projects, or if you are interested in assisting us, please e-mail us at <u>info@crjc.org</u>. For general information on the CRJC see <u>https://www.crjc.org/</u>