

Upper Connecticut River Mitigation and Enhancement Fund

Grant Awards 2003 - 2015

2015 Grants

American Rivers, a national river-conservation organization, was awarded \$35,039 to support engineering design and permitting to remove the Sargent/Osgood/Roundy dam along the White River in Randolph, VT.

Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust of Sugar Hill, NH received \$69,300 to support implementation of the Clean Water/Healthy Trout project, which will protect and restore important stream banks in the Ammonoosuc River watershed.

Connecticut River Watershed Council of Greenfield, Mass. received three grants:

- \$59,225 to support cost-share payments for four farm-conservation projects along the Connecticut River in Orford and Piermont, NH, and Bradford, VT.
- \$116,150 to support replacement of a culvert on Abbott Brook/Maple Hill Rd in Strafford, VT; and
- \$77,000 to support removal of the Groton #9 Dam on the Wells River in Groton, VT.

The Nature Conservancy/Vermont was awarded two grants:

- \$63,000 to support an assessment of habitat restoration for the endangered Dwarf Wedgemussel in the upper Connecticut River; and
- \$443,000 to support the Lower White River Land Conservation Project in Sharon, VT.

Trout Unlimited received two grant awards:

- \$125,000 to support the final phase of the Nash Stream Restoration Project in Odell and Stratford, NH.
- \$114,000 to support a two-year project involving in-stream restoration in the Paul Stream watershed in Ferdinand and Granby, VT.

Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife was awarded \$43,600 for a three-year project to support introduction of the endangered Jessup's Milk Vetch to the upper Connecticut River.

Vermont Land Trust of Montpelier received a grant of \$40,000 to support conservation of a 35-acre parcel with significant riparian buffer protection along the Moose River in East St. Johnsbury, VT.

Vermont River Conservancy of Montpelier, VT was awarded two grants:

- \$98,000 to support conservation of a 55-acre parcel along the upper Connecticut River which includes floodplain forest, wetlands and hayfields; and
- \$64,750 for conservation of a 106-acre parcel with one-half mile of frontage along the East Branch of the Nulhegan River in Bloomfield, VT.

2014 Grants

Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust of Sugar Hill, NH received a \$5,000 award to develop a program of private voluntary stream corridor conservation in the lower Ammonoosuc watershed.

Connecticut River Watershed Council of Greenfield, MA received \$218,100 to continue several aquatic and terrestrial-habitat restoration projects along Oliverian & Eastman brooks, and along the Waits & Wells rivers.

New Hampshire Fish & Game Department was awarded \$22,500 for purchase of a 95.5-acre parcel along the Upper Ammonoosuc River in Stark, NH.

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Vermont Land Trust of Montpelier received a grant of \$65,525 for conservation of a 70-acre parcel along the Connecticut River adjacent to the Guildhall Swamp Preserve in Guildhall, VT.

Vermont River Conservancy of Montpelier, VT was awarded three grants:

- \$12,300 to complete legal research, landowner outreach, and court actions necessary to clarify ownership and lay the groundwork for future acquisition of Fiddlehead Island in the Connecticut River in Monroe, NH;
- \$38,200 for conservation of a river-corridor easement on a 32-acre parcel along the Nulhegan River in Bloomfield, VT; and
- \$83,975 for purchase of a 70-acre parcel at the confluence of the East Branch and main stem of the Nulhegan River in Bloomfield, VT.

2013 Grants

Connecticut River Watershed Council received a two-year grant of \$154,027 to restore aquatic and terrestrial habitat along Connecticut River tributaries, including Eastman Brook, Oliverian Brook and the Wells River.

Essex County Natural Resources Conservation District was awarded a \$65,300 grant to continue a multi-year floodplain forest restoration effort on conserved properties in and around the Maidstone Bends section of the Connecticut River.

New Hampshire Fish & Game Department received \$87,000 for a multi-year effort to remove barriers and improve in-stream fish habitat along Ingersoll and Scott Brooks, both within the Connecticut Lakes Natural Area in Pittsburg, NH.

The Nature Conservancy-VT Chapter was awarded \$48,715 to restore floodplain forest on 267 acres of new state 'wildlife management area' and to re-vegetate 2.9 miles of shoreline along the Connecticut River, in Canaan and Lemington, VT.

Trout Unlimited was awarded two grants to continue multi-year stream-restoration projects:

- \$30,000 to improve in-stream habitat on the East and Middle Branches of Indian Stream in Pittsburg, NH; and
- \$70,000 for in-stream habitat work in the Nulhegan River watershed in Essex County, VT.

Upper Valley Land Trust was awarded a \$10,000 grant to support permanent protection of a town-owned parcel along the Ompompanoosuc River in Thetford, VT.

Vermont Land Trust received four separate grants to support land-conservation projects along the Connecticut River:

- \$70,000 to support a permanent conservation easement on the 148-acre Johnson parcel in Newbury, VT, protecting 1,660 feet of river frontage.
- \$80,580 to secure a permanent conservation easement on a 129-acre parcel in Maidstone, which protects 2,100 feet of river frontage and 10 acres of wetland.
- \$73,011 for a permanent conservation easement on a 145-acre parcel in Guildhall, protecting 2,660 feet of river frontage and 40 acres of wetland.
- \$54,430 for a river corridor management easement on 20 acres in Guildhall, VT, involving nearly a third of a mile of river frontage. This is a joint project with VT Department of Environmental

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Conservation and is the first easement of its kind to protect and manage the floodplain along the Connecticut River.

Vermont River Conservancy was awarded three separate grants:

- \$36,000 to conserve a 16-acre parcel in Columbia, NH, for public access and to protect 4,000 feet of river frontage;
- \$15,750 to secure permanent public access to the Connecticut River and riparian restoration on a parcel in Lemington, VT; and
- \$12,500 to secure a permanent conservation easement on a 30-acre floodplain forest in Guildhall, VT, protecting Connecticut River frontage and an existing campsite that is part of the Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail.

2012 Grants

Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust was awarded \$113,500 to work with Vermont River Conservancy to conserve the Johnson Farm and related Connecticut River islands in Monroe for riparian protection, farmland and wildlife habitat conservation and river recreation enhancement.

Connecticut River Watershed Council received a grant of \$57,681 to develop plans for restoration of aquatic and terrestrial habitat in Piermont and Haverhill, NH and Bradford, Newbury and Wells River, VT, working closely with White River Natural Resources Conservation District.

Essex County Natural Resources Conservation District was awarded \$30,360 to restore floodplain forest on a 70-acre riverfront property owned by The Nature Conservancy in Maidstone, VT.

Society for the Protection of NH Forests received \$200,000 to support purchase of a permanent conservation easement on Maple Leaf Farm along Indian Stream near its confluence with the Connecticut River in Pittsburg, NH.

The Nature Conservancy-NH Chapter was awarded a grant of \$450,000 to support land conservation that will protect floodplain and wetland ecosystems along the Connecticut River in Northumberland, NH and Maidstone, VT.

The Nature Conservancy-NH Chapter received a \$50,000 challenge grant to purchase and permanently protect the Leigh parcel in Canaan, VT, which is adjacent to the larger Johnson Farm protection project.

Trout Unlimited was awarded separate grants for three multi-year stream-restoration projects:

- \$50,000 for continuation of restoration efforts in the Indian Stream watershed;
- \$100,000 for continuation of restoration efforts in the Nash Stream watershed; and
- \$75,000 for continuation of restoration efforts in the Nulhegan River watershed.

Vermont Land Trust received \$9,920 to support permanent conservation of a 496-acre forested parcel near the Comerford Reservoir in Waterford, VT.

Vermont River Conservancy was awarded two separate grants:

- \$4,500 to implement a stewardship program for long-term maintenance of new campsites and access points along the upper Connecticut River; and
- \$24,000 to support acquisition of two riparian parcels adjacent to the White River Wildlife Management Area in Sharon, VT.

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2011 Grants

Essex County Natural Resources Conservation District received \$5,000 to support a third year of work to restore floodplain forests along the northern Connecticut River, with priority given to existing protected lands.

The Town Thetford, VT received a \$13,000 challenge grant for a Phase II geomorphic assessment of the East Branch of the Ompompanoosuc River.

The Nature Conservancy-NH Chapter was awarded a grant of \$78,230 to acquire, conserve and restore the Potter Farm in Northumberland, NH.

Trout Unlimited received \$30,000 for a two-year, stream-connectivity project in the Nulhegan River watershed.

Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife received \$5,000 to search for a site for introducing a new population of the globally rare Jesup's milk vetch.

Vermont Land Trust was awarded \$92,246 to support permanent conservation of the LeFoll property in Maidstone, VT and develop a paddlers' campsite.

Vermont Law School Land Use Clinic received \$6,840 to conduct a summary and analysis of laws and regulations affecting the installation of river-friendly culverts in NH and VT.

Vermont River Conservancy was awarded \$24,400 to support two public-access projects on the upper Connecticut River (in Canaan and Maidstone, VT).

White River Natural Resources Conservation District received \$27,804 to support outreach to riparian buffer landowners with high-value parcels within the Wells River and Ompompanoosuc River watersheds.

White River Partnership received \$12,886 to support a riparian buffer restoration project along the White River in South Royalton and aquatic-organism-passage improvements to a culvert on Broad Brook.

2010 Grants

Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District received \$22,500 to support culvert inventories (using the VT state protocol) in the Passumpsic River watershed with a goal of developing a list of priority culverts whose replacement would improve fish passage and aquatic habitat.

Essex County Natural Resources Conservation District received \$22,000 to support a second year of work to restore floodplain forests along the northern Connecticut River, with priority given to existing protected lands.

The Town of Lunenburg received \$5,000 to conduct a feasibility study for creation of a town forest with 20-25 acres of shoreland property along the Connecticut River.

The Town of Thetford Conservation Commission was awarded a grant of \$10,500 to map existing wetlands in order to update the VT State Wetland Inventory map and add wetlands not currently on that map, thus improving state regulatory protection to wetlands in Thetford.

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Trout Unlimited received \$200,000 to continue a successful stream and watershed restoration effort in the Nash Stream State Forest.

Trout Unlimited also will receive \$125,000 toward the second year of a multi-year restoration effort on Indian Stream, part of TU's Upper Connecticut River Home Rivers Initiative.

Trust for Public Land received \$75,000 to support the Lyman Community Forest Project, a collaborative effort to protect 1,081 acres of upland forest in Lyman, NH.

Vermont Center for Ecostudies received \$5,000 to support the second year of a three-year vernal pool mapping project in 29 towns within the MEF service area in east-central Vermont.

Vermont Land Trust was awarded \$40,700 to conduct outreach to farmland owners along the upper Connecticut River in Essex County, in collaboration with a similar effort in NH being led by Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust.

Vermont River Conservancy received \$24,500 to support riparian buffer restoration and recreation improvements at three sites (two on the Connecticut River, one on the Nulhegan River).

Vermont Youth Conservation Corps received \$67,832 for a two-year project to repair and stabilize 8-16 high-priority erosion sites along Class IV roads in nine towns in the White River watershed identified in a comprehensive town road inventory conducted by state and regional partners.

West Fairlee Conservation Commission received \$24,550 to conduct a Phase II geomorphic assessment of the Ompompanoosuc River from W. Fairlee to Thetford and three of its tributaries, and conduct two riparian buffer planting projects.

2009 Grants

Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust was awarded **\$50,086** to support a landowner outreach program to target conservation of strategic floodplains, riparian areas and farmland in the upper Connecticut River watershed.

The **City of Lebanon, NH**, received **\$3,823** to support development of a conservation plan for Chambers Memorial Reserve and Alana Cole Park.

Connecticut River Joint Commissions received **\$86,000** to complete stream-restoration and bank-stabilization efforts on the lower Mohawk River in Colebrook, NH.

Connecticut River Joint Commissions also received **\$78,805** to conduct a Phase 2 fluvial geomorphic assessment of the Ammonoosuc River, coordinated with the Ammonoosuc River corridor planning process.

Connecticut River Watershed Council was awarded **\$22,000** to support the North Country Clean Rivers Campaign.

Essex County Natural Resource Conservation District received **\$18,000** to support restoration of floodplain forests along the northern Connecticut River.

North Country Council received **\$40,000** to support the Ammonoosuc River Local Advisory Committee's project to develop a river corridor management plan pursuant to NH RSA 483:10.

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Trout Unlimited was awarded **\$80,000** for a multi-year restoration effort on Indian Stream, part of TU's Upper Connecticut River Home Rivers Initiative.

Vermont Center for Ecostudies received **\$5,000** to support the first year of a three-year vernal pool mapping project in 31 towns in northeastern Vermont.

Vermont Land Trust received **\$135,695** to conserve two shoreland parcels along the Connecticut River in Maidstone, VT, protecting 229 acres and 8,000 feet of river frontage.

Vermont River Conservancy was awarded **\$108,000** to conserve three parcels (two on the Nulhegan River, one of the Connecticut River), protecting 64 acres and 7,460 feet of river frontage.

White River Partnership received **\$89,112** to support the Upper White River Restoration Project, protecting three properties involving 94.4 acres and 10,800 feet of river frontage.

2008 Grants

Connecticut River Joint Commissions received **\$81,942** for engineering design and project implementation to restore the alluvial fan at the Mohawk River mouth and stabilize the riverbank at the Colebrook Business Park.

Society for the Protection of NH Forests was awarded **\$500,000** to conserve 2,100 acres and five miles of Connecticut River frontage in Clarksville, NH.

The **Town of Lisbon, NH** received **\$3,900** to complete soil-sediment analysis at the Pearl Lake Dam, which is slated for removal.

Upper Valley Land Trust received **\$178,973** to conserve two parcels involving 676 acres and 13,200 feet of Connecticut River frontage, continuation of the Connecticut River Farmland Protection Initiative.

White River Partnership received **\$68,000** to implement the Ayers Brook Corridor Restoration Project along five miles of the brook, including stream bank restoration and land conservation.

2007 Grants

Caledonia County NRCD received **\$20,837** to expand a current program involving road improvements and culvert replacements to reduce sediment runoff, improve fish passage and enhance habitat.

Connecticut River Watershed Council received **\$19,800** to create a guide to freshwater mussels of the Connecticut River watershed.

Essex County Natural Resources Conservation District received **\$5,000** to conduct a riparian buffer inventory along the upper Connecticut River.

Israel River Volunteer Advisory Group received **\$5,000** to complete a fluvial geomorphic assessment of the Stag Hollow Brook watershed in Jefferson.

Lisbon Regional School received **\$3,500** for a fluvial geomorphic assessment of a portion of the Ammonoosuc River near Lisbon, NH.

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Orange County Headwaters Project received **\$5,000** to conduct a wetland and vernal pool inventory Corinth and Washington.

Town of Lisbon, NH received **\$18,330** to remove an unused dam on Pearl Lake Brook.

Trust for Public Land received **\$50,000** to support the Brushwood Community Forest Initiative, which would establish a new 1,200-acre town forest in W. Fairlee, VT adjacent to other protected lands.

Upper Valley Land Trust received **\$140,000** to conserve 123 acres in Haverhill, NH.

Upper Valley Land Trust received **\$162,500** to support the Connecticut River Farmland Protection Initiative.

Vermont River Conservancy received **\$166,000** to support pre-acquisition planning and land acquisition along the Nulhegan River corridor.

West Fairlee (VT) Conservation Commission received **\$4,935** to conduct a town-wide wetlands inventory.

2006 Grants

Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District received **\$21,763** to implement sediment-reduction and habitat-improvement projects along the Stevens River in Barnet and Peacham, VT

Connecticut River Joint Commissions received **\$13,000** for a habitat restoration/sediment reduction project on Mill Brook near its confluence with the Upper Ammososuc River in Stark, NH.

Connecticut River Joint Commissions received **\$21,170** to complete a sediment-loading study along the Mohawk River.

North Country Council was awarded **\$49,148** to complete a three-year inventory, assessment and delineation of wetlands along the Connecticut River floodplain and adjacent region.

Orange County Headwaters Project received **\$218,133** to purchase development rights on a 604-acre property, protecting significant wetlands and shoreland.

Passumpsic Valley Land Trust was awarded **\$317,100** to complete the removal of East Burke Dam and associated site restoration.

Society for the Protection of NH Forests received **\$180,000** to conserve four parcels of land (involving 400 acres and 6,000 feet of frontage) along the Connecticut River and its tributaries in Colebrook and Columbia, NH.

Strafford Conservation Commission received **\$25,000** to complete Phase 3 data collection and design for restoration projects on three reaches of the Ompompanoosuc River in Strafford, VT

The Nature Conservancy – NH & VT Chapters received **\$118,600** to support land conservation, landowner outreach and habitat research along the "Maidstone Bends" section of the Connecticut River in VT and NH.

Trout Unlimited received **\$220,000** to support the Nash Stream Restoration Project, which will restore

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more than nine miles of fish habitat along Nash Stream and access to more than four miles of tributary habitat.

Upper Valley Land Trust was awarded **\$97,500** to protect three parcels of farmland as part of the Connecticut River Farmland Protection Program.

Upper Valley Land Trust also received **\$30,500** to augment previous awards for the Connecticut River Farmland Protection Program.

White River Partnership received **\$39,900** to develop a community-based river-corridor management plan for Ayers Brook, including one reach-level restoration/protection project involving 3-4 landowners.

2005 Grants

Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District received **\$18,510** to conduct a Phase 2 geomorphic assessment in the Stevens River watershed, complete a restoration project, and establish a landowner outreach program.

Connecticut River Joint Commissions received **\$33,602** to implement a riverbank stabilization project on the Connecticut River in Colebrook, NH, and a Phase 2 geomorphic assessment in the vicinity of Groveton, NH.

Connecticut River Joint Commissions received **\$26,980** to conduct Phase 1 and Phase 2 geomorphic assessments of the Mohawk River and Upper Ammonoosuc River.

Connecticut River Watershed Council received **\$10,000** to create an inventory process for barriers to fish migration in the upper Connecticut River basin.

Essex County Natural Resources Conservation District was awarded **\$16,560** to conduct a Phase 1 and Phase 2 geomorphic assessment on four Connecticut River tributaries (Keyser Brook, Leach Stream, Willard Stream, and Bolger Brook).

Johns River Conservation Group was awarded **\$98,000** to replace a town-owned dam in Whitefield with a rock ramp fishway.

Town of Littleton received **\$38,750** to support continuation of the Ammonoosuc River Corridor Assessment and Enhancement project in seven towns.

Northwoods Stewardship Center received **\$24,480** to conduct a survey of invasive plant species in the Passumpsic River and its northern tributaries and a 2-week pilot project to demonstrate control methods.

Passumpsic Valley Land Trust received **\$470,500** to protect 21 high-priority parcels along the Passumpsic River through purchased or donated conservation easements or fee purchase of land.

Passumpsic Valley Land Trust also received **\$40,125** to complete all necessary steps to remove the East Burke mill dam and restore the site.

Upper Valley Land Trust was awarded **\$25,000** to protect two parcels of farmland in Bath involving approximately 200 acres, part of the larger Connecticut River Farmland Protection Program.

2004 Grants

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Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District was awarded **\$49,763** to work with landowners to protect and improve their riparian corridor along a 2-mile section of the Passumpsic River from Lyndonville to East Burke, Vermont.

Town of Colebrook received **\$80,000** to support the purchase and protection of a 79-acre parcel along the Connecticut River and design recreational facilities.

Connecticut River Joint Commissions received **\$32,600** to support a completion of a fluvial geomorphology assessment of the 85 miles of Connecticut River from Murphy Dam in Pittsburg, NH to Gilman Dam in Lunenburg/Dalton.

The Conservation Fund was awarded **\$20,000** to support acquisition of conservation easements along the Connecticut River between Lake Francis and Moore Reservoir.

Coos County received **\$8,900** to implement a shoreland protection project along the Connecticut River at the County Farm using bioengineering techniques.

Town of Hanover/Hanover Conservation Council/Dartmouth College/Pine Park Assn. received **\$33,800** to implement a restoration plan for portions of Girl Brook in Hanover, pursuant to an MEF-funded study.

Town of Littleton was awarded **\$25,000** to support the Ammonoosuc River Corridor Assessment and Enhancement project in seven towns.

North Country Council received **\$33,001** to continue and expand a three-year Vernal Pools Inventory and Education Project in a 13-town area (from Pittsburg to Haverhill) and develop school curriculum about vernal pools.

Profile School received **\$24,850** to identify culverts, bridges and dams within the Ammonoosuc River watershed that prevent the movement of adult and juvenile salmonids through such structures.

Strafford Conservation Commission was awarded **\$11,000** to develop a riparian restoration program along the Ompompanoosuc River between Strafford and South Strafford, VT.

Upper Valley Land Trust received **\$250,000** to support permanent conservation of 3 parcels of farmland containing 285 acres along the Connecticut River in Bath, NH and Fairlee, VT and the Wells Rivers in Newbury, VT

Upper Valley Land Trust also received **\$24,000** to support operating and stewardship costs associated with conservation easement donations on at least 4 parcels with Connecticut River frontage in Orford, NH.

Upper Valley Land Trust also was awarded **\$11,000** to support permanent conservation and public access on a 10-acre parcel on the White River in Royalton, VT.

2003 Grants

Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District received **\$23,285** to support working with landowners to reestablish a natural stream corridor along a two-mile stretch of the East Branch of the Passumpsic River from northern Lyndonville to East Burke, VT.

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Connecticut River Watershed Council received **\$14,500** to support a community education program on the benefits of removal of unused, unusable dams for river habitat restoration.

Connecticut River Watershed Council also received **\$5,000** for planning, engineering and community outreach related to removal of Lower Eaton Dam from the First Branch of the White River.

Coos County was awarded **\$10,000** for a fluvial geomorphic assessment and restoration design for a section of eroding riverbank along the County Farm.

Town of Hanover received **\$5,000** for planning and public awareness to assess restoration and enhancement options for Girl Brook.

Johns River Conservation Group was awarded **\$5,000** to assess salmonid habitat on the Johns River in Whitefield, NH to promote removal of a dam.

Lancaster Conservation Commission received **\$8,040** for evaluation of the effects of an Israel River dam on ice control, river flow, aquatic life and fish migration.

Lyndon State College received **\$21,681** for a comprehensive inventory of plants and selected insect groups along the northern Connecticut River for use with other information to guide strategies to restore the streambed and stream banks.

Town of Newbury was awarded **\$40,000** for pre-acquisition planning to acquire and restore an important parcel along the north bank of the Wells River.

North Country Council was awarded **\$24,000** for a two-year project to inventory vernal pools along the Connecticut River floodplain in 13 NH towns (from Pittsburg to Haverhill) and develop school curriculum about vernal pools.

Norwich (VT) Conservation Commission received **\$2,795** to draft a plan to restore and manage a riparian forest.

Passumpsic Valley Land Trust received **\$25,000** for a feasibility and engineering study of possible removal of the East Burke mill dam in East Burke, VT.

Passumpsic Valley Land Trust also received **\$10,250** to complete an inventory of shoreland owners and initiate a landowner contact program along the main stem and East Branch of the Passumpsic River between Newark and East Barnet, VT.

Upper Valley Land Trust received **\$150,000** to support protection of 7 parcels involving 700 acres of ecologically sensitive farmland along the Connecticut and Ammonoosuc Rivers in Bath, Piermont, and Haverhill, NH

Vermont Leadership Center received **\$16,145** to support the NE Kingdom Conservation Service Corps' effort to complete a restoration project along the Sleepers River.

White River Partnership received **\$23,074** to support riparian restoration projects along the Middle and First Branches of the White River.