

# Upper Connecticut River Mitigation and Enhancement Fund

## Grant Awards 2015 – 2019

### 2019 Grants

**American Rivers** was awarded \$110,100 to restore connectivity to 30 miles of the Gale River by removing the South Branch Gale River Dam in Bethlehem, New Hampshire.

**The Connecticut River Conservancy** received five grants:

- \$129,674 for 2019 restoration work at Pine Mill Dam & Clark Pond Dam;
- \$6,950 for a planning & feasibility assessment of the removal of the remnant dams at North Stratford, NH (Lyman Falls) and Guildhall, VT (Wyoming Paper Co) in order to remove significant recreational hazards.
- \$9,597 for riparian buffer restoration on the Jacobs Brook in Orford.
- \$7,426 for riparian buffer restoration on the West Branch of the Ompompanoosuc River.
- \$109,108 for the final engineering design for removal of Harvey's Lake Dam in Barnet, VT.

**The Nature Conservancy of New Hampshire** received \$7,000 for acquisition and permanent protection of land adjacent to TNC's Maidstone Bends Preserve.

**Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission** was awarded \$13,160 for the preparation of a petition to designate the White River mainstem as an *Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW)*.

In partnership with Trout Unlimited, the **Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife** was awarded \$54,000 to improve Brook Trout habitat by strategically adding large woody material to approximately 19 miles of the Paul Stream Watershed over three years.

**The Vermont River Conservancy** has been awarded two grants:

- \$9,994 to complete a recreational access path stabilization project along the Nulhegan River.
- \$4,079 for a portage and access trail improvement project along the Connecticut River at Dodge Falls in Bath, NH, including the installation of a 15-20 step stone staircase, a bog bridge over a seep, and corridor definition and clearing.

**The White River Partnership** received \$107,640 to restore 30 miles of connectivity by implementing a project to remove the Upper & Lower Eaton Dams, which are the first two dams on the First Branch of the White River.

### 2018 Grants

**The Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust** received three grants to support land conservation efforts along the Connecticut River:

- \$63,300 for conservation of a 200-acre parcel located at the confluence of the Connecticut and Ammonoosuc Rivers in Bath;

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- \$35,500 for conservation of a 12-acre parcel that will conserve important shoreland and floodplain habitat along the Ammonoosuc River in Bath; and
- \$19,025 to protect 33 acres of floodplain forest and other riparian habitat in Haverhill.

**The Connecticut River Conservancy** received three grants totaling \$278,102:

- A \$247,802 grant will support removal of the Norwich Reservoir Dam along Charles Brown Brook in Norwich, Vermont;
- \$25,300 will support final riparian restoration and monitoring of the East Burke Dam removal site on the East Branch of the Passumpsic River in East Burke, Vermont; and
- A grant of \$5,000 will enable engineering design for removal of the Harvey's Lake Dam along the Stevens River in Barnet, Vermont.

**The Nature Conservancy's New Hampshire Chapter** received a two-year, \$23,000 grant to support outreach to Connecticut River landowners to promote land conservation along high-priority reaches of the upper Connecticut River, including the Maidstone Bends.

**Trout Unlimited** received \$30,000 to continue in-stream restoration along the Black Branch of the Nulhegan River in northeastern Vermont.

**The Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife** will use a three-year, \$40,789 grant to establish new populations of the federally-endangered Jesup's milk-vetch on several sites along the Upper Connecticut River.

**The Vermont River Conservancy** was awarded two grants totaling \$11,437 to support canoe-campsite development and management along the Connecticut River.

**The White River Partnership** received two grants totaling \$95,204 to support two dam-removal projects:

- \$57,109 will help purchase land to facilitate removal of the Hyde Dam on the Second Branch of the White River; and
- \$38,095 will support engineering design for eventual removal of Upper and Lower Eaton Dams on the First Branch of the White River.

### 2017 Grants

**Connecticut River Joint Commissions** was awarded \$5,000 to support revised public education materials.

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

- \$27,600 for final engineering design plans for removal of the old Norwich Reservoir Dam on Charles Brown Brook in Norwich, VT;
- \$57,500 for removal of the Geer Dam, a former small hydro dam on the Ompompanoosuc River in West Fairlee, VT; and

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- \$149,500 for removal of Clark Pond Dam and Pine Mill Dam plus related fish passage improvements on Clark Brook in Haverhill, NH.

**Hanover Conservancy** was awarded \$5,000 for the South Esker conservation project in Hanover, NH.

**Trout Unlimited** received three grants:

- \$58,000 for in-stream Brook Trout habitat restoration in the Yellow Branch and Black Branch watersheds of the Nulhegan unit of the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge in northeastern Vermont;
- \$13,000 for tributary restoration in the West Mountain Pond watershed in Maidstone, VT; and
- \$29,300 for the final year of in-stream restoration activities within the Nash Stream State Forest in northern New Hampshire.

**The Trust for Public Land** of Montpelier, VT was awarded \$50,000 to support the Victory Hill conservation project in Victory, VT.

**Vermont Land Trust** of Montpelier, VT received \$50,000 to support the Halls Brook Watershed project to expand the Newbury Town Forest in Newbury, VT.

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

- \$4,500 to develop an overnight shelter and trail access to the Nulhegan River at the confluence of the main stem and East Branch in Bloomfield, VT; and
- \$2,550 to support paddler and angler access along the Passumpsic River in Passumpsic Village in Barnet, VT.

**White River Partnership** of South Royalton, VT, was awarded \$69,348 for planning and engineering to remove the Hyde Dam, which would restore 60 miles of free-flowing habitat on the Second Branch of the White River in Vermont.

### 2016 Grants

**Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust** of Sugar Hill, NH received three grants:

- \$68,000 to conserve a 203-acre parcel in Bethlehem, part of the Clean Water/Healthy Trout initiative;
- \$47,700 to conserve the 117-acre Lawrence parcel in Franconia, also part of the Clean Water/Healthy Trout initiative; and
- \$76,550 to conserve a 150-acre parcel along the Connecticut River in Bath.

**Appalachian Mountain Club** of Gorham, NH received \$7,000 to support an update to the MEF Priority Conservation Area and Priority Connectivity Projects reports, using new and recently revised data, such as updated Wildlife Action Plans for New Hampshire and Vermont.

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**Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District** of St. Johnsbury, VT was awarded \$30,000 to replace a culvert with a bridge on the Water Andric River in Danville, VT, reconnecting eight miles of river habitat.

**Connecticut River Watershed Council** of Greenfield, MA received four grants:

- \$5,000 for riparian buffer plantings on a conserved parcel along the Connecticut River in Haverhill, NH;
- \$5,000 for pre-removal planning for three small dams along Clark Brook in Haverhill, NH;
- \$42,375 for engineering design and permitting to remove a dam on the Ompompanoosuc River in W. Fairlee, VT; and
- \$206,435 for engineering design, permitting and removal of East Burke Dam on the Passumpsic River in East Burke, VT, restoring 99 miles of free-flowing habitat.

**The Nature Conservancy/New Hampshire** of Concord, NH was awarded \$114,856 to conserve a 48-acre floodplain parcel along the upper Connecticut River in New Hampshire.

**The Nature Conservancy/Vermont** of Montpelier, VT was awarded \$92,625 to complete the protection of Great Guildhall Swamp, a large A-ranked spruce-fir-tamarack and northern white cedar swamp that drains directly into the Connecticut River near Guildhall, VT.

**Trout Unlimited** received \$84,997 to complete a comprehensive assessment of more than 750 stream crossings in 19 New Hampshire towns in the Upper Ammonoosuc River watershed.

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

- \$5,000 for a public access, water quality and riparian lands restoration along the Passumpsic River; and
- \$12,500 to support conservation of riparian lands and public access at the covered bridge across the Connecticut River in Columbia, NH.

**White River Partnership** of South Royalton, VT, was awarded \$95,920 to support removal of the Sargent/Osgood/Roundy dam in Randolph, VT, reconnecting nearly 100 miles of free-flowing habitat along the First Branch of the White River.

### 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:

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- \$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.