

# 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

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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. While the Vermont and New Hampshire Commissioners and the local representatives focus on independent activities, they 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 2022 (FY22) or July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.



*Ashley Ferry Boat Landing, Claremont, NH, 2022.*

Commissioners work of FY22 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 a full review of organizational functioning, as well as advance bi-state interaction, especially on water quality. During FY22 the CRJC Commissioners specifically engaged in the following activities through research and proactive engagement of local and state stakeholders from both states:

- Water quality conditions and data gaps of the Connecticut River
- FERC hydro-power dam relicensing for the Vernon, Bellows Falls, and Wilder stations
- Climate migration in the Connecticut River Valley
- Series of virtual expert presentations on watershed management topics for CRJC Commissioners, local representatives, and the public
- Public meeting laws that support CRJC functioning as a bi-state organization that convenes representatives from 53 riverfront communities

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We are pleased 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 continues to value connection, advocacy, and mutual support, and is dedicated to elevating collective efforts and collaborating with partners. The CRJC acknowledges the funding assistance of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and the Vermont LaRosa Partnership to advance water quality monitoring in the Connecticut River during the 2021 and 2022 seasons.



In the coming year, the CRJC will:

- Continue to make improvements to CRJC communications to be accessible and informative
- Convene bi-state staff and stakeholders to discuss collaborative management of the Valley around topics such as local business, local government, agriculture, riverfront landowners, recreation, and conservation
- Advance activities on water quality priorities with state partners and each LRS
- Convene stakeholders to gather input for the Tactical Basin Plans in Vermont
- Produce a New Hampshire Biennial LRS report

The following individuals comprised the Executive Committee of the Joint Commissions for FY22: Steve Lembke, President (VT); Jennifer Griffin, Vice President (NH); 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 [info@crjc.org](mailto:info@crjc.org). For general information on the CRJC see <https://www.crjc.org/>

*CRJC Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022 or July 1, 2021 through June 20, 2022*