

New York – Lake Champlain Basin Dam Task Force

Mission

The NY-LCB Dam Task Force promotes and facilitates the restoration of stream connectivity and function in the New York portion of the Lake Champlain Basin. It is a cooperative effort among federal and state agencies, private organizations, and individuals.

Description

The NY-LCB Dam Task Force is a collaboration of partners that coordinate efforts related to aquatic organism passage in the New York portion of the Lake Champlain Basin. The task force serves as a forum for parties interested in restoring aquatic organism passage through the modification or removal of dams and other barriers that no longer function as intended and/or impede natural stream function. The group shares best practice information to restore connectivity to historic species ranges while preserving cultural resources and interpretation. The NY-LCB Dam Task Force first met in May, 2019 and is modeled after the successful Vermont Dam Task Force.

Members:

Adirondack Park Agency | Ausable River Association | Lake Champlain Basin Program
Lake Champlain Committee | Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board
Lake Champlain Maritime Museum | Lake Champlain Sea Grant
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation | SUNY Plattsburgh
The Nature Conservancy - Adirondack Chapter | Trout Unlimited | US Fish and Wildlife Service

Contact:

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Current work:

- The Educational Materials Sub-group is working to create a print and online brochure about dam removal.
- Another sub-group is looking at opportunities to restore connectivity on the lower Saranac River which has three dams.
- LCMM's High School Watershed Science Apprenticeship Program is focusing on dams in the basin through a LCBP E&O grant and the workgroup members will be acting as a resource for the student participants.
- Trout Unlimited has received funding from LCBP to create a Dam Screening Tool. Workgroup members will serve on this project's advisory committee.