LCBP Projects funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Fiscal Year 2022 & 2023

Grantee	Project Title	Project Description	Jurisdiction	Timeline	Funds
AOP Restoration & Implementation					
Vermont Natural Resources Council	Reconnecting Vermont Rivers through Dam Removal in the Lake Champlain Basin	This project targets four dams that have been selected based on ecological benefit for removal, hazard mitigation, landowner and stakeholder support, and distribution throughout Vermont. Dams to be removed include: 1) Breadloaf Dam on a tributary to Otter Creek, in West Rutland, Rutland County, VT; 2) 1 dam in Barre City on the Stevens Branch of the Winooski River, Washington County, VT; and 3) Connolly Pond Dam on a tributary of the Mill River of Otter Creek in Shrewsbury, Rutland County, VT. An engineering final design will be completed for the removal of Wainwright Mill Dam (aka Halnon Brook Dam) on Tributary #10 of the Otter Creek in Salisbury, Addison County, VT.	VT	Start - 1/25/23 Final Report due - 12/31/25	$299,722
Vermont River Conservancy	Engineering Four Winooski River Dams for Removal and Developing Corridor Protection	This project restores water quality and habitat connectivity while enhancing recreational opportunities by conducting engineering studies, assessments, and permitting to remove four dams on the Winooski River and North Branch. The project also prioritizes Stevens Branch and Great Brook opportunities for river corridor protections and engages landowners in those easement opportunities.	VT	Start - 4/12/23 Final Report due - 3/31/25	$299,023
SUNY Plattsburgh	Assessing the Impact of Private Roads on Aquatic Habitat Connectivity in the Missisquoi and Ausable Basins	In response to a lack of existing data on private road-stream crossings in the Lake Champlain Basin, this project identifies crossings on private land in the Missisquoi and Ausable watersheds using high resolution LiDAR data; assesses which identified crossings act as barriers to aquatic connectivity; conducts interviews to understand landowner perspectives on culvert management; and offers information and support to landowners within our study areas. This work will result in a prioritized list of parcels with crossings, field assessments of previously unknown crossings, and a publication on the attitudes of private landowners toward road crossings and their impacts, sharing which strategies are effective at increasing landowner knowledge on how to implement road crossing best management practices.	NY	Start - 2/3/23 Final Report due - 7/31/26	$116,950
Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District	Restoring Access to Upstream Habitat on a Tributary to Stannard Brook in the Lamoille River Watershed	The outcomes of this project are to restore access to 2.9 miles of high-quality climate change resilient eastern brook trout habitat; and improve water quality and restore river and floodplain function, decreasing community vulnerability to climate change. The current structure under Hutchins Farm Road in Stannard, Vermont is perched, blocking access to high-quality climate change resilient habitat for eastern brook trout; mis-aligned, creating hydraulic impacts on the upstream side; and too small, resulting in insufficient vertical and floodplain connection for the channel along this stretch of stream. The output of this project is to remove one fish passage barrier.	VT	Start - 6/1/23 Final Report due - 12/31/24	$150,000
Friends of the Winooski River	Lockwood Brook Culvert Replacement	This project will replace an undersized, perched culvert on German Flats Road in Fayston with a new culvert that will reconnect Lockwood Brook. The new structure will be an open-bottom arch that is fifteen feet wide, eight feet tall, and 58 feet long. Project outputs will include fulfillment of an excavation contract, coordination among local, state, and federal partners, and construction oversight. Project outcomes will include lower water temperatures, enhanced ecosystem integrity and stream equilibrium, improved flood resilience, and reconnection of 2.5 miles of upstream habitat that provides thermal refugia and spawning and foraging habitat for wild trout.	VT	Start - 4/26/23 Final Report due - 1/31/24	$150,000
Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District	Mettowee River Headwaters AOP: Sugar House Lane Barrier Removal	This project is the removal of a dam and associated undersized bridge to reduce erosion, improve sediment transport, and restore aquatic organism passage on the Mettowee River. It is the final in a series of six projects implemented in the Mettowee River Headwaters by a multi-partner team. The outputs from this project will include removal of a dam and undersized bridge with the bridge replaced with one that passes the 100-year storm, and restoration of the Mettowee River stream channel in the vicinity. The Mettowee River will be opened to fish passage from the falls at Butternut Bend to the Headwaters on National Forest.	VT	Start - 6/1/23 Final Report due - 1/31/25	$102,000
Vermont Natural Resources Council	Engineering Dam Removal in the Brewster River Watershed	This project restores aquatic organism passage and habitat, while improving water quality, flood resilience, and public safety along the Brewster River. The outputs of this project will be stakeholder meetings, engineering design plans, topographic surveys, and permitting for the removal of Morses Mill Dam, Smugglers Notch Access Road Dam, and the Grist Mill Dam.	VT	Start - 6/1/23 Final Report due - 12/31/25	$100,000
The Nature Conservancy New York	Right-sizing a culvert on Phelps Brook and Roscoe Road, Boquet	This project replaces a failing road stream crossing with an upgraded culvert to restore aquatic organism passage on Phelps Brook in the Boquet River Watershed. Objectives include removing the temporary culvert currently in place, installing the upgraded culvert, and restoring the natural streambed and riparian habitat at the construction site. The outcomes will be approximately 7 miles of trout stream habitat reconnected and improved public safety and lowered road maintenance costs due to reduced flooding impacts for the Town of Lewis.	NY	Start - 7/31/23 Final Report due - 1/31/24	$159,253
Trout Unlimited	Saranac River Reconnection	The goal of the project is to complete the dam removal at Fredenburgh Falls and Indian Rapids, removing the remains of the dams to improve aquatic organism passage, protect water quality, restore portions of the stream channel, reduce flood and erosion risk, and increase safety for recreationalists. The removal of the two dams in the context of the fish ladder construction underway downstream at the Imperial Mills dam (estimated start summer 2024) will reconnect just under 28 miles of the Saranac River and its tributaries to Lake Champlain.	NY	Start - 7/7/23 Final Report due - 12/31/23	$374,950
Lamoille County Conservation District	Joe Brook Culvert Replacement	The objective of the proposed project is to restore aquatic organism passage in Joe Brook at Foote Brook Road, a tributary to Foote Brook in the Upper Lamoille River, by replacing the only known barrier, with a 1.2 bankfull spanning, open-bottom structure in Johnson, VT. AOP will be restored to 8.5 miles of upstream, coldwater habitat for native brook trout.	VT	Start - 9/19/23 Final Report due - 1/31/25	$259,556
Orleans County Conservation District	Corrow Basin Rd-Taft Brook Trib Culvert Replacement	A culvert that is located on an unnamed tributary to Taft Brook in the Upper Missisquoi River watershed in Westfield VT will be replaced. This culvert is one of 8 priority culverts identified through the work of the Upper Missisquoi AOP workgroup and 2020 field assessments on over 50 culverts. The current culvert is undersized and is prone to overtopping during flood events. This brook features prime coldwater habitat and thermal refugia for brook trout, and the culvert replacement will open 2.5 miles of habitat upstream.	VT	Start - 2024	$150,000
Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District	Trout Brook Reservoir Dam Removal Final Design	The objective of this project is to create a final design for the removal of the Trout Brook Reservoir Dam and restoration of the Trout Brook in Berkshire, VT, to reconnect 4.8 miles of aquatic organism habitat (Mississquoi River watershed).	VT	Start - 2024	$116,987
Ausable River Association	Moss Road Bridge Replacement Project – North Branch Boquet River, Essex County, NY	The objective of this project is to replace an undersized culvert crossing with a bridge on a high-priority road-stream crossing that is critical to reconnecting salmon spawning habitat and protecting water quality in the North Branch Boquet River in Lewis, NY.	NY	Start - 2024	$249,986
Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District	Restoring Access to Upstream Habitat on Stannard Brook	The objective of this project is to remove a culvert that is a fish passage barrier and replace with a bridge in Stannard, VT, restoring access to 5 miles of upstream high-quality climate-resilient brook trout habitat (Lamoille River watershed).	VT	Start - 2024	$250,000
Friends of the Winooski River, Inc.	Designs for Removal of Three Barriers to Aquatic Organism Passage in the Winooski River Watershed	The objective of this project is to develop final engineering designs for the removal of the East Calais Mill dam in the Kingsbury Branch of the Winooski River in Calais, VT, and the replacement of two culverts in the Stevens Branch of the Winooski River in Barre Town and Williamstown, VT, for the purpose of improving aquatic organism passage.	VT	Start - 2024	$233,002
Vermont Natural Resources Council	Dam Removal Implementation - 3 Dams Across 3 Watersheds	The objective of the proposed project is to remove three dams to improve aquatic organism passage and support healthy riverine habitat, while at the same time improving water quality, flood resilience, and public safety. Dams to be removed are: Morses Mill Dam in Cambridge, VT (Lamoille River Watershed), Mountain School Dam in Shrewsbury, VT (Otter Creek), and Rouleau Pond Dam in Williamstown, VT.	VT	Start - 2024	$250,000
Ausable River Association	Aquatic Organism Passage Project Prioritization in the Ausable Basin	This project will help AsRA prioritize impacted road-stream crossings for replacement across the Ausable Basin utilizing updated NAACC barrier assessments, stakeholder (town, county, agency) input, brook trout and other native species presence, flood risk, and in-field geomorphic assessments. Replacing these undersized culverts with properly fitted and designed culverts or bridges creates climate-ready flood resiliency within our communities as well as habitat connectivity and climate resiliency for native aquatic organisms.		Start - 2024	$68,000
Town of Crown Point	Penfield Dam Removal Feasibility Study	The objective of the proposed project is to conduct a feasibility study to assess the impact of Penfield Pond Dam removal on aquatic habitat, ecosystem health and fish passage, to evaluate changes in the floodplain, and to assess dam and sediment removal alternatives. The completed Dam Removal Feasibility Study will be utilized to inform the decision-making process for the future of the Penfield Pond Dam (Lake Champlain Direct).	NY	Start - 2024	$43,000
				Total Awarded:	**$3,372,429**
Strategic Land Acquisition Grants					
		Request for Proposals anticipated for release late 2023. Grant awards anticipated to occur by early spring 2024.			
Conservation Tree Nursery Support Program					
Intervale Center	Intervale Conservation Nursery: Improving Business Strategies and Partnerships for Long-Term Success	This project will expand the Intervale Center's capacity to provide native trees and shrubs for conservation partners throughout the Lake Champlain Basin. Through investments in business and partnership development, they will double their annual output of native stems while keeping prices stable, working toward the goal of providing 70,000 stems for sale by 2027. Intervale Center will also pilot an innovative cost-sharing program to explicity involve and benefit socially disadvantaged communities.	VT		$173,265
Redstart Inc.	Redstart's Native Restoration Tree Nursery Improvement and Expansion	This project will support investments in infrastructure, equipment, supplies, and staffing to allow Redstart to increase nursery production of important native trees and shrubs from about 6,000 stems annually to at least 30,000 stems annually. This effort will be built on Redstart's strengths and pursued in an efficient collaboration with other nurseries operating with a shared goal of increasing nursery stock availability and maintaining affordability within the Lake Champlain Basin.	VT		$150,000
Ausable River Association	Growing Local: The Ausable Conservation Nursery at Uihlein Farm	This project will fund the expansion and repair of nursery infrastructure, the purchase of additional supplies, equipment and plant materials, and provide additional staff capacity in order for Ausable River Association to grow hyper-local, elevation-hardy, woody plant stocks at a scale that by 2026-2027 will measurably enhance the native plant supply available for habitat conservation projects.	NY		$651,000
Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District	Seedling Cooperative and Managerial Capacity at the Champlain Valley Native Plant Restoration Nursery	Funding will increase nursery staffing and seedling production at the Champlain Valley Native Plant Restoration Nursery. PMNRCD plans to add a three quarter to full-time, permanent staff position at the nursery, introducing a supervisory position to help oversee day-to-day operations under the direction of the current nursery manager. They will also analyze how best to increase seedling production through expanded facilities geared toward seed germination and a potential partnership with Redstart that takes advantage of seed collection capabilities and their space for field growing seedlings.	VT		$39,085
Mace Chasm Farm, LLC	Expanding Nursery Capacity to Include Native Species for Regional Wholesale, Bareroot Market	Mace Chasm Farm will expand their offerings from wholesale bareroot, grafted fruit trees to wholesale, native, bareroot shrubs/trees for conservation projects in the Lake Champlain Basin. Funding will allow them to maintain price stability for their trees and shrubs while making the infrastructural investments needed to grow their production to an estimated 10,000-20,000 stems per year.	NY		$56,455
Missisquoi River Basin Association	MRBA Native Plant Nursery	The MRBA Native Plant Nursery will establish a localized nursery within the Village of North Troy, Vermont, providing locally-grown tree nursery stock for riparian plantings, education and job opportunities, and a useful and enjoyable community space. While one major goal of the project is to propagate bare root riparian plants and establish a native seed nursery, it will also provide an opportunity for training and education in natural resource conservation: they will offer summer residencies to college students and professionals in transition to provide training and experience in the operation of a conservation tree nursery.	VT		$401,477
Verterra LLC	Startup Project for a Native Plant Nursery	Funding will help cover some of the initial startup costs for this new nursery which will propagate and grow native tree nursery stock in the Lake Champlain Basin. The long-term goal is to produce 30,000 plants per year and establish strong working relationships with local non-profits and other native plant suppliers and educate the public about the benefits of planting native trees and shrubs.	VT		$150,000
				Total Awarded:	**$1,621,282**
Wetland and Floodplain Restoration Program in New York					
Ausable River Association	East Branch Restoration Program – Project Area 7, Ausable River Watershed	The restoration of Project Area 7 (PA7) will restore a critical floodplain area and improve geomorphic, physicochemical, and biological functions in an impaired reach on the East Branch Ausable River. As one of 13 priority projects identified in the East Branch Restoration Program (EBRP), PA7 is integral to flood resilience, public safety, stream function, and habitat restoration while enhancing wetland environments and increasing floodplain access.	NY		$500,000
				Total Awarded:	**$500,000**
Aquatic Invasive Species Management and Spread Prevention					
Upper Saranac Foundation	AIS Management and Spread Prevention Equipment Replacement	This project will fund equipment improvement and replacement for AIS management and spread prevention will support the Upper Saranac Foundation(USF) dive crew with a reliable and dependable outboard motorboat engine enabling the continuation of successful aquatic invasive species management; providing clean waterways and ensuring the sustainability of our natural public resources for future generations.	NY		$22,354
Friends of Moody Pond	Intensive adaptive management response to remove Eurasian watermilfoil from Moody Pond, Essex County, NY	This project will support an intensive two-year harvest of Eurasian watermilfol (EWM) from Moody Pond to enable a transition to minimal maintenance and prevention activities for the long-run.	NY		$10,000
Town of Dresden	Upgrading Aquatic Plant Harvesting Equipment for the New York portion of the Lake Champlain Water Chestnut Harvesting Program	This project will Upgrade the invasive water chestnut mechanical harvesting equipment for the Town of Dresden portion of work in the Lake Champlain Water Chestnut Harvesting Program.	NY		$166,928
Greensboro Association	Caspian Lake Decontamination Station	The Greensboro Association will build and maintain a Decontamination Station to support the VT Public Access Greeter Program efforts to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species by boats and trailers at the headwaters of the Lamoille River Basin which feeds to the Lake Champlain Basin.	VT		$21,750
Vermont Youth Conservation Corps	Kayak Fleet for Water Chestnut Management with Conservation Crews	With this funding VYCC will double the size of their kayak fleet and purchase a van so more conservation crews can assist with VT DEC's management of invasive water chestnut.	VT		$96,100
				Total Awarded:	**$317,132**