



Certification Comments &lt;comments@lowimpacthydro.org&gt;

---

## Stevens Mill Project Comments

1 message

---

**Sean McDermott - NOAA Federal** <sean.mcdermott@noaa.gov>  
To: comments@lowimpacthydro.org

Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 9:16 AM

NOAA Fisheries staff have reviewed the LIHI certification application of Franklin Power, LLC, Eagle Creek Renewable Energy, for the Stevens Mills Project (FERC No.3760). The Stevens Mill Project is located on the Winnepesaukee River in Franklin, NH.

Based on the information provided, we have no objections to recertification at this time as long as Franklin Power implements the conditions and recommendations of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For future recertifications, we recommend LIHI coordinate the review of all the applications in the watershed at one time. A watershed approach to LIHI certification will help streamline the process and facilitate consistency of requirements among projects.

In addition, NOAA Fisheries is working with the Merrimack River Technical Committee to develop a watershed based comprehensive plan. The central focus of this plan is the restoration of diadromous fishes to the Merrimack River watershed, including the Winnepesaukee River. The final comprehensive plan will be filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for consideration under their Federal Power Act regulations, Section 10(a). This will ensure the equal consideration of non-power uses of the river. Once completed, the recommendations of this comprehensive plan should be considered in the LIHI certification process for the development of conditions that support low impact standards for flows, water quality and fish passage.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

-Sean

--

Sean McDermott  
Hydropower Program Coordinator  
Habitat Conservation Division  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
978-281-9113