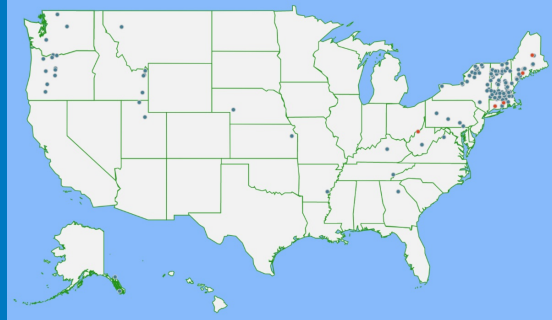




2019 Year in Review

In 2019, LIHI issued 19 new certifications and recertified an additional 16 projects. As we enter 2020, we have 30 new certification and recertification applications actively being reviewed.



The number of Certified facilities grew by 12.5% in 2019!

Today, the Low Impact Hydropower Institute portfolio consists of 153 active certificates, with a total of 255 powerhouses located on 93 rivers across 23 states. These facilities range from capacities of 45 kilowatts to several hundred megawatts. In totality, LIHI certifications represent over 15 gigawatt-hours of annual generation.

You Power Us

For the second year in a row, LIHI is putting its operations where its program is - LIHI energy use, including at its office and each employee's homes, is covered by the purchase of Green-e Certified renewable energy certificates (RECs) sourced from LIHI Certified hydro facilities. We are proud to be 100% renewable and to support our Certificate holders.

LIHI and Department of Energy Collaborate

To support LIHI's goal of adding value to LIHI Certificates – on both the generation and conservation sides - LIHI's executive director, Shannon Ames agreed to participate in a number of US Department of Energy efforts last year.

As a result, LIHI was featured in three major published reports, each of which is available in our [online library](#).

The first report, *Review of Environmental Metrics Used Across Multiple Sectors and Geographies to Evaluate the Effects of Hydropower Development* was written and published by Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Esther Parish et al. (2019). This report looks at FERC-licensed hydropower projects, LIHI Certified hydropower projects, and those with assessments conducted under the International Hydropower Association's Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol. The purpose of the work was to lay the groundwork for efficient

licensing processes by understanding the number and breath of metrics used to assess hydropower projects.

The second, also led by Oak Ridge National Laboratory was *A Checklist of River Function Indicators for Hydropower Ecological Assessment*, by Pracheil et al. (2019). This report took the metrics research a step further and created a series of indicators to summarize the environmental impacts described by the metrics listed in Parish et al. (2019).

The third report by McManamay et al. (2019), *Instruction Manual - River Function Questionnaire*, describes a tool to help stakeholders identify relevant environmental impacts of a hydropower project to inform which studies would best support their relicensing efforts. The next step, which is currently under development, is building on the tool by adding interactive features.

Shannon served on the mission advisory board for these efforts along with a number of LIHI board members and advisors.

In 2020, she will continue as a "hydropower visionary" assisting with the updating of the HydroVision report originally published in 2016. Work has already started with a review of the various goals and outcomes identified in the original report. Questions being explored include whether the outcomes are still relevant or whether they need to be adjusted to better fit today's hydropower environment.

Shannon has also been supporting work by various academic institutions to understand the dynamics of decision making around the use of dams. The first report on this research is entitled *A Multiscale Approach to Balance Trade-offs Among Dam Infrastructure, River Restoration, and Cost* by Roy et al. (2019) and is also available in our [online library](#).

LIHI will continue to support efforts by the Department of Energy and research institutions to ensure that Low Impact Certified hydropower is understood, valued, and considered in policy development at the state and national levels.

LIHI at Northwest Hydropower Association

Join LIHI at Booth #44 at the upcoming [Northwest Hydroelectric Association Annual Conference](#) being held in Seattle, WA February 18-21.



News of Note

Mass Mussel Die-Off: National Public Radio reports a mass mortality event concerning freshwater mussel species in the Midwest and Pacific Northwest. These critical species are key to the filtering of freshwater systems and provide stability and structure in these habitats. The cause of the event is unclear. Click [HERE](#) for the article.

Supreme Court Decision on CWA Section 401: A decision by the Supreme Court rejected the practice of withdrawing and refiling applications for state water quality certification to avoid the one-year limit required for state action. Richard Glick, LIHI board

member, explains [HERE](#).

If you are interested in a quick overview of how **hydropower is included in various New England state renewable portfolios**, the Sun Journal wrote this excellent [recap](#).

Interesting efforts in New York and elsewhere to remove non-powered dams as reported in the New York Times - [It's Fish vs. Dams, and the Dams Are Winning](#)

Wishing you all the best in the New Year



Low Impact Hydropower Institute | LowImpactHydro.org

(c) Low Impact Hydropower Institute 2020

STAY CONNECTED

