#### Fall 2021 News & Information



# **National Policy Update**

The bipartisan infrastructure bill was signed into law by President Biden on November 15, 2021. Of the \$1.2 trillion of funding outlined in the new law, over \$2 billion will go to dams, including:



- \$553 million for a new section 247 of EPAct of 2005 which will provide grants to hydropower owners to add generation, increase dam safety, and enhance environmental performance at eligible facilities.
- \$800 million for dam removals (for willing dam owners).
- \$800 million for state dam safety efforts.

LIHI continues to work with the 71 members of the Uncommon Dialogue on hydropower, dam safety, and river restoration. Efforts are still underway to include components of the 21st Century Dams Act into the "Build Back Better" plan. Even if that effort is not successful, the coalition will continue to push toward the enactment of the full bill. More discussions are coming that we hope will result in opportunities to monetize environmental performance.



## **Open Comment Period**

As a reminder, the <u>open comment period</u> for the updated recertification process is ongoing. Please submit your comments to <u>comments@lowimpacthydro.org</u> by 5:00 PM EST on December 6, 2021.

# **LIHI Written into Local Legislation**

In June, the town of Ithaca, New York implemented a local energy code that has expanded provisions beyond those required in New York's Energy Conservation Construction Code. This <u>Energy Code Supplement</u> aims to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions from new construction and major renovations, as well as



transition existing infrastructure to renewable sources of energy by 2026. As a part of this ambitious energy transition, LIHI Certified Hydropower has been included as an eligible source of renewable energy in the program. LIHI commends the town of Ithaca on their leadership in combatting the climate

crisis and is grateful for their recognition of LIHI Certified Hydropower.



# 2020 Annual Report

As 2021 winds down, we're finally ready to share our 2020 year in review. Like the rest of the world, LIHI faced great uncertainty in 2020. But we grew along the way and are excited to carry those lessons as we continue to move forward. Check it out <u>here</u>.

## **News and Happenings**

- A Glimpse into the Bill Zeedyk Documentary: Thinking Like Water
- Sen. Hassan & Rep. Kuster Op-Ed: <u>A Dam Good Idea Making a</u> lasting difference by investing in the infrastructure of our dams
- CBS Sunday Morning: In Utah, it's raining fish

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