



January 28, 2026

**Mt Ida Project (FERC No. 5465)**

Ms. Shannon Ames, Executive Director  
Low Impact Hydropower Institute  
68 Harrison Ave Ste 605 PMB 113938  
Boston, Massachusetts 02111-1929

**Subject: Low Impact Hydropower Institute Application for the Mt Ida Project (FERC No. 5465)**

Dear Ms. Ames:

On behalf of Mt Ida Hydro LLC (MTHLLC), exemptee for the Mt Ida Project (FERC No. 5465) located on the Poestenkill Creek in Troy, NY, Relevate Power herein provides the attached application requesting certification of this facility.

The current application includes the following required submittals as modified to address comments received by LIHI as part of the intake review:

- Introduction
- Project Description and LIHI Table 1.a
- Zones of Effect descriptions and overview maps and images
- Matrix of Alternative Standards for each Zone of Effect identified (LIHI Table 2.b) and evaluation of the LIHI certification standards for each requisite criterion including water quality, fish passage and recreation (LIHI Tables 3 – 10)
- Sworn Statement and Waiver Form
- Facility Contacts Form (LIHI Tables 11 – 14)
- List of hyperlinks and supplemental documentation for pertinent FERC and regulatory documents for the Project

Please call me at (207) 233-1995 or email me at [Kelly.Maloney@relevatepower.com](mailto:Kelly.Maloney@relevatepower.com) if you have any questions or need additional information regarding this submittal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Maloney".

Kelly Maloney  
VP, Regulatory Compliance



**LOW IMPACT HYDROPOWER INSTITUTE CERTIFICATION APPLICATION  
FOR THE MT IDA PROJECT (FERC No. 5465)**

**January 2026**



**LOW IMPACT HYDROPOWER INSTITUTE CERTIFICATION APPLICATION**  
**FOR THE MT IDA PROJECT (FERC NO. 5465)**

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## LOW IMPACT HYDROPOWER INSTITUTE CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

### FOR THE MT IDA PROJECT (FERC No. 5465)

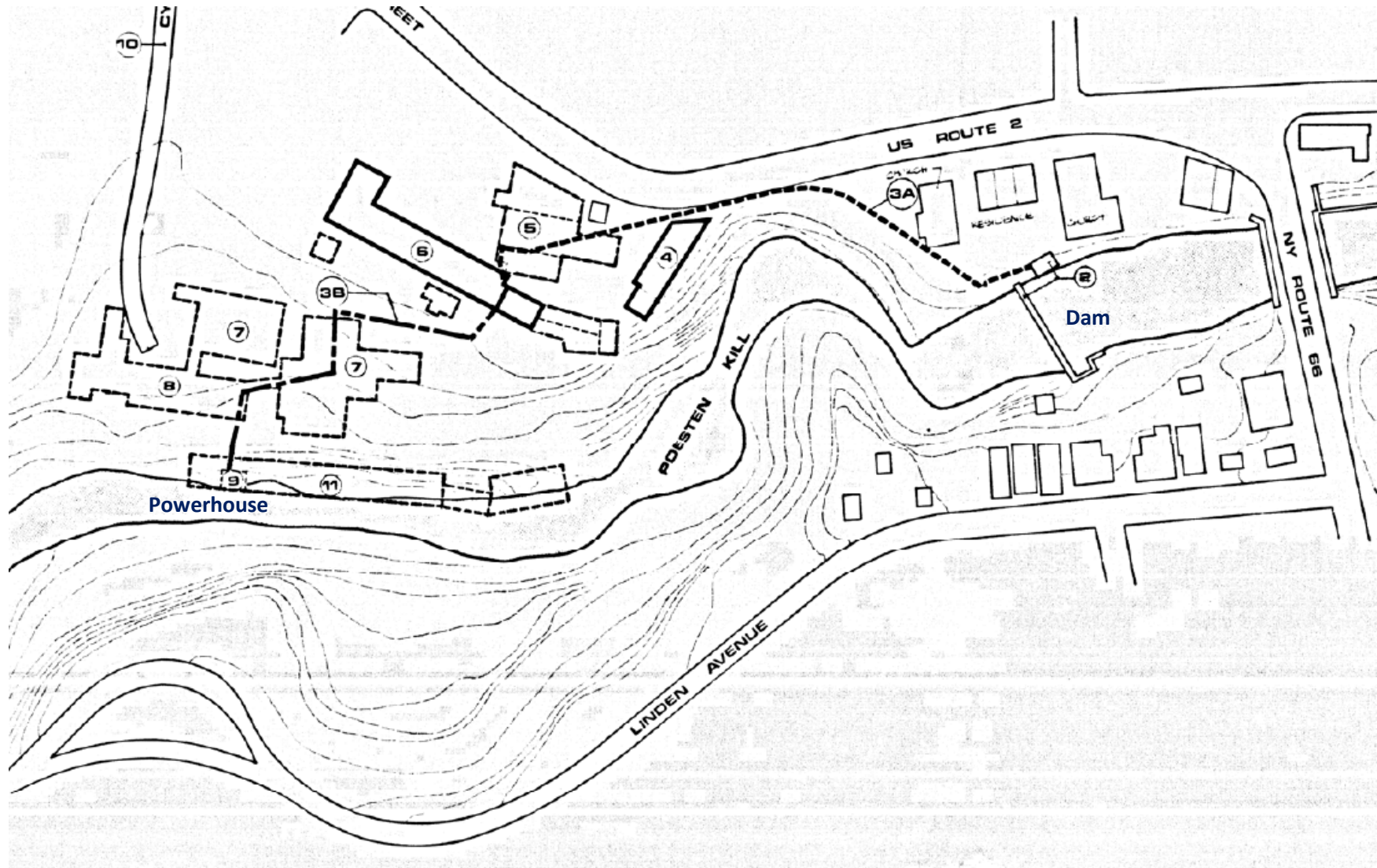
#### 1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

##### 1.1 *Project Facilities*

The Mt Ida Hydroelectric Project works consist of a 150 ft long timber crib dam with a crest elevation of 214.3 ft (USGS) with a varying height of between 4.5 ft and 13 ft. The impoundment is approximately 1.4 acres in surface area and has a gross storage capacity of 12 acre ft at a normal surface elevation of 214.3 ft (USGS), which corresponds to the crest of the dam. The Project has a 525 ft long rock tunnel that is steel lined and gatehouse. A 60 inch diameter steel penstock, approximately 775 ft long, directs water from the tunnel to the powerhouse. The Project has two horizontal Francis turbines with a generating capacity of 1,460 kW each housed in a former mill building. The Project includes an approximately 450 ft long transmission line. The Project is operated in run of river mode utilizing water from and discharging to Poestenkill Creek. The Project's maximum hydraulic capacity is 210 cfs and the minimum hydraulic capacity is 40 cfs.. A minimum flow of 5 cfs is provided for aesthetic purposes during daylight hours.

An exemption from licensing for the Mt Ida Project was issued by the FERC on October 20, 1982 and amended on March 16, 1995 to reflect as built conditions and correct the authorized installed capacity.

Figure 1. Project Facilities – Mt Ida Project



**Figure 2. Mt Ida Project Facilities (Impoundment)**



**Figure 3. Mt Ida Project Facilities (Bypass Reach)**



Figure 4. Mt Ida Falls (Bypass Reach)

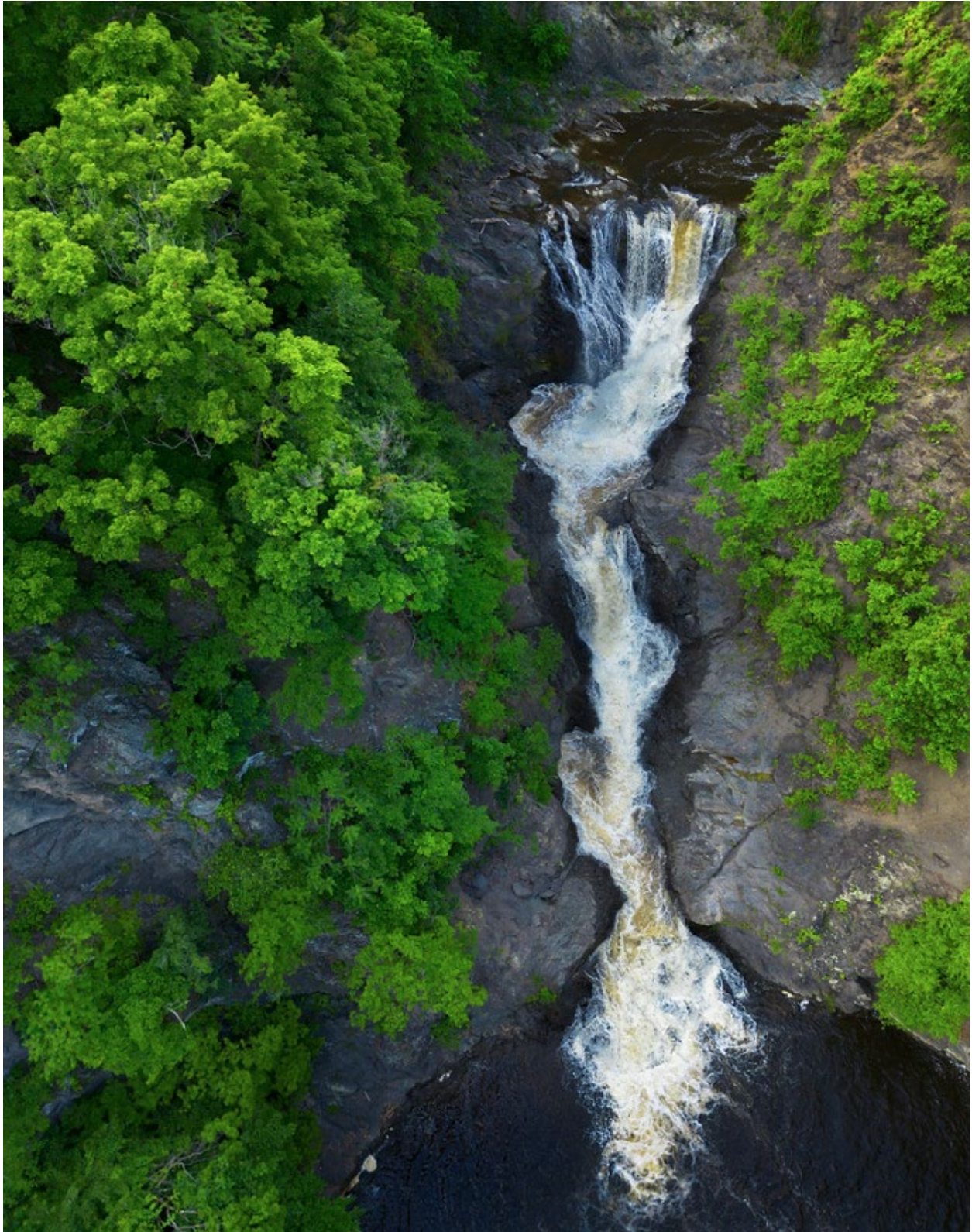


Figure 5. Mt Ida Powerhouse (Exterior)



**Figure 6. Mt Ida Project Facilities (Powerhouse) (Interior)**



Figure 7. Mt Ida Dam



**Figure 8. Mt Ida Dam Tailrace**



## **1.2 Project Operations**

MTHLLC operates the Project in run-of-river mode. The existing impoundment is approximately 1,000 ft long, with a surface area of about 1.4 acres at a normal full pond headwater surface elevation of 214.3 ft USGS. The Project has a gross storage capacity of an estimated 12 acre-ft, and the usable storage capacity is negligible, being a run-of-river project.

The Dam is operated to provide a continuous minimum flow of 5 cfs for aesthetic purposes at Poestenkill Gorge Park<sup>1</sup>. Article 2 of the exemption for the Mt Ida Project does not require a specific minimum flow but requires the Exemptee comply with any state or federal agency recommendations made.

Project operations, water levels and flows are dictated by the October 1982 Exemption Order and the Order Amending Exemption to correct the authorized installed capacity of the Project, issued by the FERC on May 15, 1995.

The Licensee employs a SCADA-based system to monitor and record key operational metrics such as pond levels, turbine output, and headwater and tailwater elevations. These systems are overseen by onsite personnel and reviewed regularly to ensure compliance with operational requirements.

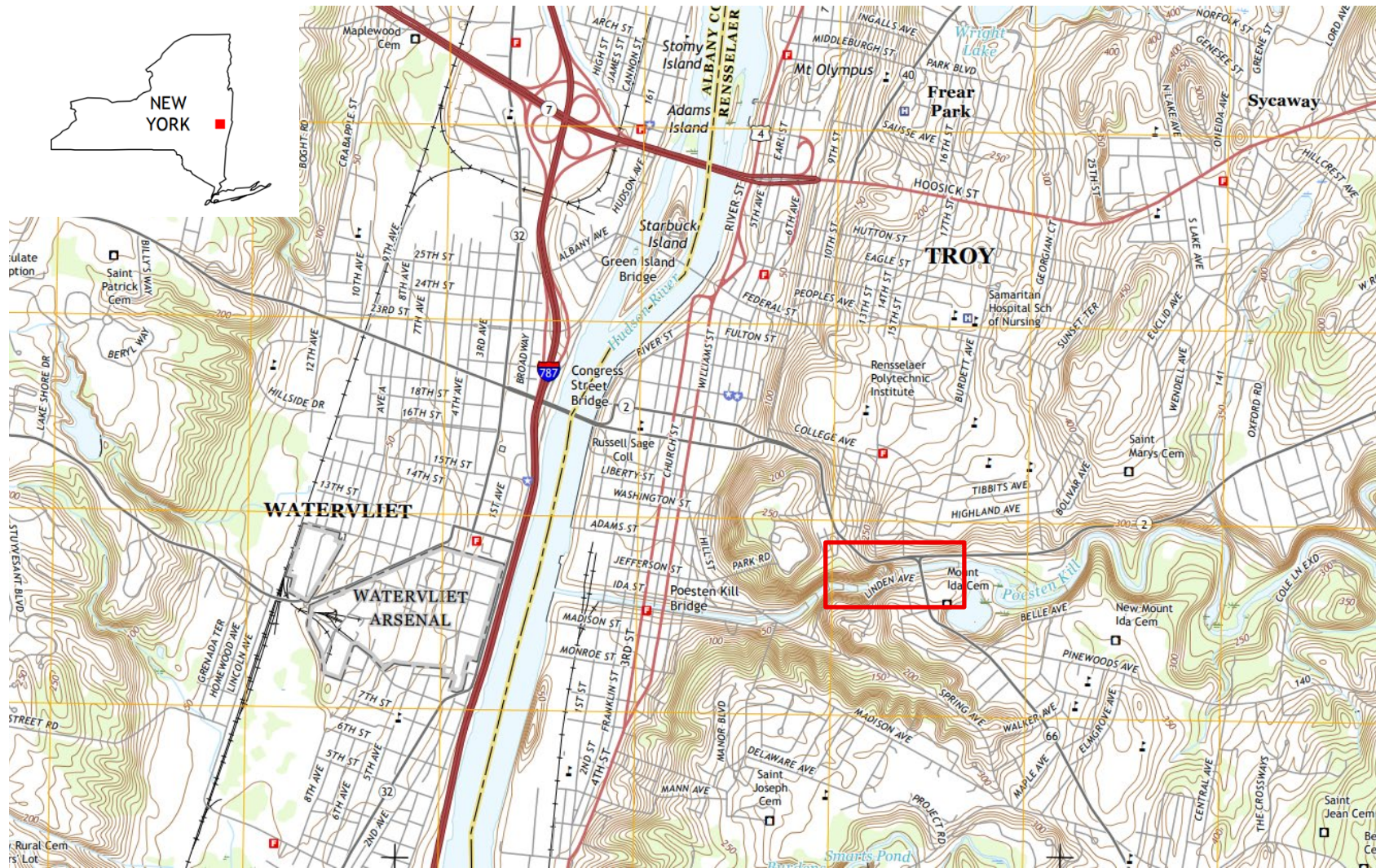
## **1.3 Project Location**

The Mt Ida Project (Project) is located on the Poestenkill Creek in the town of Troy in Rensselaer County, New York. The Poestenkill Creek is approximately 26.2 miles (mi) long from its headwaters at Dyken Pond in a westerly direction to the confluence with the Hudson River in Troy, New York. The Project Dam is approximately 0.8 miles upstream from the confluence of the Hudson River and Poestenkill Creek.

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<sup>1</sup> The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) submitted letters providing comments on the 1982 Exemption Application recommending a continuous minimum flow release of 5 cfs at all times.

Figure 9. Project Location – Mt Ida Project



Source: Excerpted from USGS 7.5 minute Topographic Map Troy South Quadrangle

## **1.4 Regulatory and Other Requirements and Compliance Status**

### **1.4.1 FERC Exemption and Compliance Status**

The Mt Ida Project received an exemption from licensing on October 20, 1982 and an amendment to the exemption order on March 16, 1995. The exemption amendment was issued to correct the total installed capacity and clarify the installed generating equipment.

No notices of violation of the existing exemption have been issued by FERC since the exemption order was amended in 1995 to reflect as built conditions.

### **1.4.2 Water Quality and Quantity**

As discussed elsewhere, the Mt Ida Project operates under the terms of a FERC exemption order and does not have a water quality certification (WQC). However, the Project is still subject to the water quality regulations of the state pursuant to the Clean Water Act and provides a 5 cfs minimum bypass reach flow to accommodate aesthetic views of Poestenkill Creek gorge at Poestenkill Creek Gorge Park, located on the southern shoreline of the bypass reach, and all flows outside of the generating capacity of the Project are passed via the spillway.

The Poestenkill Creek is regulated with 4 dams along its length (NYS, 2025a). Waters in the basin are used for hydropower generation, by the current exemptee, and was historically used for agriculture, industrial processes and residential drinking water (Warren, 2021).

The reach of the Poestenkill Creek, including the Mt Ida Project zones of effect are Class C. Class C waters “shall be suitable for fish, shellfish, and wildlife propagation and survival. The water quality shall be suitable for primary and secondary contact recreation, although other factors may limit the use for these purposes.” (NYS, 2025b)

### **1.4.3 Fish Passage**

There are no specific fish passage provisions of the Project’s exemption order. However, Exemption Standard Article 2 states: *The construction, operation, and maintenance of the exempt project must comply with any terms and conditions that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and any state fish and wildlife agencies have determined are appropriate to prevent loss of, or damage to, fish or wildlife resources or otherwise to carry out the purposes of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as specified in exhibit E of the application for exemption from licensing or in the comments submitted in response to the notice of exemption application.*

Neither the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) nor the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) indicated a need for fish passage facilities at the Project, recognizing the prevalence of resident, warm-

water species in project waters. In spite of this, trashracks at the intake are angled and sized to deter fish entrainment and natural falls in the bypass reach preclude upstream passage to the Project dam.

#### 1.4.4 Land Management

Lands within the Mt Ida FERC project boundary are generally limited to those necessary for operation and maintenance of the Project and for other Project purposes. The Project does not have an abundance of shoreline lands, with the project boundary generally following the full pond elevation of the impoundment, plus lands encompassing the project structures and immediate adjacent lands. Exemption orders do not convey the right of eminent domain.

#### 1.4.5 Recreational Resources

There are no FERC-approved Project specific recreation facilities or access points at the Project. The Project impoundment is very short, backwatering approximately 1,000 ft to the upstream, breached Ida Lake Dam and offers no public access. The shoreline is surrounded by businesses to the north and a cemetery to the south.

The Poestenkill Creek gorge area, downstream of Mount Ida Dam (Mount Ida Dam bypass reach) is considered dangerous for recreation purposes and several fatalities have occurred in this reach as a result of trespassing or inadvertent falls. There is one park which provide recreation opportunities immediately adjacent to and downstream of the project dam: Poestenkill Creek Gorge Park (on lands along the bypass reach but not providing access to the bypass).

#### 1.4.6 Cultural Resources

There are no specific articles relevant to cultural and historic resources. However, any modification of project structures, other than in-kind replacement, would require an amendment of exemption from the FERC, which would necessitate agency consultation, including with the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Further, any of these modification and any maintenance or repair efforts involving ground disturbance, would necessitate a permit from the state, requiring consultation with SHPO pursuant to NYS regulations 14.09 Part 426.

Poesten Kill Gorge Historic District, which includes the project structures and several former mill buildings (only some of which remain), is listed on the National Register of Historic Properties (NPS, 2025; NYS, 2025). The New York State Division for Historic Preservation indicated that the Project was an acceptable use of the historic district resources (Mt Ida Associates, 1982).

Relevate initiated preliminary outreach and consultation with federally recognized Native American tribes (listed in Section 6.3). No responses were received. There are no known or identified traditional cultural properties within the project area.

**Table 1. Facility Information**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Information Requested</b>	<b>Response (include references to further details)</b>
<b>Name of the Facility</b>	Facility name (use FERC project name or other legal name)	Mt Ida Project (FERC No. 5465)
<b>Reason for applying for LIHI certification</b>	1. To participate in state RPS program (specify the state and the total MW/MWh associated with that participation (value and % of facility total MW/MWh) 2. To participate in voluntary REC market (e.g., Green-e) 3. To satisfy a direct energy buyer’s purchasing requirement 4. To satisfy the facility’s own corporate sustainability goals 5. For the facility’s corporate marketing purposes 6. Other (describe)	1. Yes. MA Class II RPS program. 100% of the Mt Ida Project generation output is qualified, estimated to be 8,266 MWh (1993 – 2023). 2. No 3. No 4. Yes, but participating in the MA RPS program is currently the primary reason 5. Yes, but participating in the MA RPS program is currently the primary reason.
	If applicable, amount of annual generation (MWh and % of total generation) for which RECs are currently received or are expected to be received upon LIHI Certification	100% of the Mt Ida Project generation output is qualified, estimated to be 8,266 MWh (1993 – 2023) is qualified for the MA Class II RPS program
<b>Location</b>	River name (USGS proper name)	Poestenkill Creek
	Watershed name (select region, click on the area of interest until the 8-digit HUC number appears. Then identify watershed name and HUC-8 number from the map at: <a href="https://water.usgs.gov/wsc/map_index.html">https://water.usgs.gov/wsc/map_index.html</a> )	Poestenkill Creek at Troy NY – 01358500
	Nearest town(s), county(ies), and state(s) to dam	Troy, Rensselaer County, NY
	River mile of dam above mouth	RM 1.2
	Geographic latitude of dam	42°43'17.34"N
	73°40'35.65"W	73°40'35.65"W
<b>Facility Owner</b>	Application contact names	Kelly Maloney, VP, Regulatory Compliance

<i>Item</i>	<i>Information Requested</i>	<i>Response (include references to further details)</i>
	Facility owner company and authorized owner representative name. <b>For recertifications: If ownership has changed since last certification, provide the date of the change.</b>	Mt Ida Hydro LLC Kelly Maloney, VP Regulatory Compliance  This is a new certification
	FERC licensee company name (if different from owner)	
<b>Other Owners</b>	If different from hydro facility owner, Provide the dam owner(s)/operator(s) entity names (see also Table 11).	
<b>Regulatory Status</b>	FERC Project Number (e.g., P-xxxxx), issuance and expiration dates, or date of exemption	Mt Ida Project FERC No. 5465 Exemption Issued October 20, 1982 (amended March 16, 1995)
	FERC license type (major, minor, exemption) or special classification (e.g., "qualified conduit", "non-jurisdictional")	Exemption
	Water Quality Certificate identifier, issuance date, and issuing agency name. Include information on amendments. Include links or copies.	N/A
	Hyperlinks to key electronic records on FERC e-library website or other publicly accessible data repositories	See Sections 6.0 and 7.0 for hyperlinks to, or documentation of, relevant records, including FERC Exemptions and Amendment Orders; FERC and regulatory filings; and other key documents.
<b>Powerhouse</b>	Date of initial operation (past or future for pre-operational applications)	Mt Ida: 1840 (hydromechanical)
	Total installed capacity (MW) <b>For recertifications: Indicate if installed capacity has changed since last certification</b>	2.92 MW
	Average annual generation (MWh) and period of record used <b>For recertifications: Indicate if average annual generation has changed since last certification</b>	8.266 MWh (Period of Record: 1992 to 2024)
	<u>Mode of operation</u> (run-of-river, peaking, pulsing, seasonal storage, diversion, etc.) <b>For recertifications: Indicate if mode of operation has changed since last certification</b>	Run-of-river

<i>Item</i>	<i>Information Requested</i>	<i>Response (include references to further details)</i>												
	Number, type, and size of turbines, including maximum and minimum hydraulic capacity of each unit	5 Turbine-Generators – Flygt (three fixed propellers and two adjustable blade <table border="1" data-bbox="987 386 1458 659"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="987 386 1097 533">Unit</th> <th data-bbox="1097 386 1243 533">Max Hydraulic Capacity (cfs)</th> <th data-bbox="1243 386 1458 533">Unit Authorized Installed Capacity (MW)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="987 533 1097 575">1</td> <td data-bbox="1097 533 1243 575">105</td> <td data-bbox="1243 533 1458 575">1,460</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="987 575 1097 617">2</td> <td data-bbox="1097 575 1243 617">105</td> <td data-bbox="1243 575 1458 617">1,460</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="987 617 1097 659">Total</td> <td data-bbox="1097 617 1243 659">210</td> <td data-bbox="1243 617 1458 659">2,920 kW</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Unit	Max Hydraulic Capacity (cfs)	Unit Authorized Installed Capacity (MW)	1	105	1,460	2	105	1,460	Total	210	2,920 kW
Unit	Max Hydraulic Capacity (cfs)	Unit Authorized Installed Capacity (MW)												
1	105	1,460												
2	105	1,460												
Total	210	2,920 kW												
	Trashrack clear spacing (inches), for each trashrack	1.5 inch clear spacing												
	Approach water velocity (ft/s) at each intake if known	1.68 fps (based on gross area of sq ft cfs and max flow of 210 cfs)												
	Dates and types of major equipment upgrades <b>For recertifications: Indicate only those since last certification</b>	None												
	Dates, purpose, and type of any recent operational changes <b>For recertifications: Indicate only those since last certification</b>	No operational changes from run-of-river operations has occurred.												
	Plans, authorization, and regulatory activities for any facility upgrades or license or exemption amendments	No current plans.												
<b>Dam or Diversion</b>	Date of original construction and description and dates of subsequent dam or diversion structure modifications	1840 – Original construction  1982 – Rehabilitation and repowering												
	Dam or diversion structure height including separately, the height of any flashboards, inflatable dams, etc.	4.5 ft to 13 ft (avg 10.5 ft)												
	Spillway elevation and hydraulic capacity	See above.												
	Tailwater elevation (provide normal range if available)	Maximum tailwater elevation of 51.7 ft (USGS)												

<i>Item</i>	<i>Information Requested</i>	<i>Response (include references to further details)</i>
	Length and type of all penstocks and water conveyance structures between the impoundment and powerhouse	Penstock consists of two sections: i) Upper Section: Rock cut tunnel 525 feet in length, 48 inches wide by 60 inches high, with a steel liner to be inserted. ii) Lower Section: Circular steel penstock to be 60 inches in diameter and 775 feet in length.
	Dates and types of major infrastructure changes	See “Date of original construction and description and dates of subsequent dam or diversion structure modifications” section above.
	Designated facility purposes (e.g., power, navigation, flood control, water supply, etc.)	Power
	Source water	Poestenkill Creek
	Receiving water and location of discharge	Poestenkill Creek
<b>Conduit</b>	Date of conduit construction and primary purpose of conduit	N/A
<b>Impoundment and Watershed</b>	Authorized maximum and minimum impoundment water surface elevations <b>For recertifications: Indicate if these values have changed since last certification</b>	Minimum impoundment elevation 214.3 ft (USGS) (crest elevation). No maximum specified.
	Normal operating elevations and normal fluctuation range <b>For recertifications: Indicate if these values have changed since last certification</b>	Run of river project is operated to maintain at least minimum pond elevations specified above which allows flow over the spillway to satisfy aesthetic flow requirements.
	Gross storage volume and surface area at full pool <b>For recertifications: Indicate if these values have changed since last certification</b>	Gross Storage Volume: Estimated 12 acre-ft. Surface Area: 1.4 acres at full pond
	Usable storage volume and surface area <b>For recertifications: Indicate if these values have changed since last certification</b>	Negligible; run-of-river

<i>Item</i>	<i>Information Requested</i>	<i>Response (include references to further details)</i>														
	Describe requirements related to impoundment inflow and outflow, elevation restrictions (e.g. fluctuation limits, seasonality) up/down ramping and refill rate restrictions.	Operated in a run-of-river mode where inflow equals outflow. Flows in excess of station hydraulic capacity or during times of flows less than the minimum powerhouse capacity are spilled over the spillway. No ramping or refill rate restrictions.														
	Upstream dams by name, ownership and river mile. If FERC licensed or exempt, please provide FERC Project number of these dams. Indicate which upstream dams have downstream fish passage.	Mt Ida Dam, State of New York, RM 1.4														
	Downstream dams by name, ownership, river mile and FERC number if FERC licensed or exempt. Indicate which downstream dams have upstream fish passage	None.														
	Operating agreements with upstream or downstream facilities that affect water availability and facility operation	None														
	Area of land (acres) and area of water (acres) inside FERC project boundary or under facility control. Indicate locations and acres of flowage rights versus fee-owned property.	Water: 1.4 acres impoundment, approximately 1.9 acres bypass reach (exemption – no project boundary) Land: approximately less than 1 acres														
<b>Hydrologic Setting</b>	Average annual flow at the dam, and period of record used	Period of Record 2014 to 2024 <table border="1" data-bbox="987 1587 1422 1877"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Average Flow (cfs)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2014</td> <td>231.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015</td> <td>169.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016</td> <td>147.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>225.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>318.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>233.44</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Average Flow (cfs)	2014	231.85	2015	169.18	2016	147.05	2017	225.45	2018	318.16	2019	233.44
Year	Average Flow (cfs)															
2014	231.85															
2015	169.18															
2016	147.05															
2017	225.45															
2018	318.16															
2019	233.44															

Item	Information Requested	Response (include references to further details)																											
		2020	199.39																										
		2021	269.28																										
		2022	188.79																										
		2023	306.01																										
		2024	192.41																										
		<b>Average</b>	232.86																										
	Average monthly flows and period of record used	Period of Record 1974 to 2024 <table border="1" data-bbox="987 604 1479 1094"> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>Average Flow (cfs)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>January</td><td>214.64</td></tr> <tr><td>February</td><td>197.81</td></tr> <tr><td>March</td><td>353.89</td></tr> <tr><td>April</td><td>451.89</td></tr> <tr><td>May</td><td>251.50</td></tr> <tr><td>June</td><td>169.76</td></tr> <tr><td>July</td><td>124.63</td></tr> <tr><td>August</td><td>116.53</td></tr> <tr><td>September</td><td>119.60</td></tr> <tr><td>October</td><td>181.98</td></tr> <tr><td>November</td><td>207.11</td></tr> <tr><td>December</td><td>244.09</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Month	Average Flow (cfs)	January	214.64	February	197.81	March	353.89	April	451.89	May	251.50	June	169.76	July	124.63	August	116.53	September	119.60	October	181.98	November	207.11	December	244.09
Month	Average Flow (cfs)																												
January	214.64																												
February	197.81																												
March	353.89																												
April	451.89																												
May	251.50																												
June	169.76																												
July	124.63																												
August	116.53																												
September	119.60																												
October	181.98																												
November	207.11																												
December	244.09																												
	Location and name of closest stream gauging stations above and below the facility	USGS gage 01332500 "Hoosic River Near Williamstown, MA". Note: project flows calculated from this gage pro-rated by a drainage factor.																											
	Watershed area at the dam (in square miles). Identify if this value is prorated and provide the basis for proration.	249.42 sq mi																											
<b>Designated Zones of Effect</b>	Number of zones of effect	3																											
	Upstream and downstream locations by river miles	Zone 1: Mt Ida Impoundment; RM 1.2 to 1.4 Zone 2: Mt Ida Bypass Reach; RM 0.95 to 1.2 Zone 3: Mt Ida Project Tailrace and Regulated Downstream River Reach; RM 0.0 to 0.95 (to confluence of mainstem Hudson River)																											
<b>Pre-Operational Facilities</b>																													

<i>Item</i>	<i>Information Requested</i>	<i>Response (include references to further details)</i>
<b><i>Expected operational date</i></b>	Date generation is expected to begin	N/A
<b><i>Dam, diversion structure or conduit modification</i></b>	Description of modifications made to a pre-existing conduit, dam or diversion structure needed to accommodate facility generation. This includes installation of flashboards or raising the flashboard height. Date the modification is expected to be completed	N/A
<b><i>Change in water flow regime</i></b>	Description of any change in impoundment levels, water flows or operations required for new generation	N/A



## **2.0 LIHI CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND COMPLIANCE STATUS**

The Mt Ida Project is not currently LIHI-certified; this is an initial application for certification.

### 3.0 ZONES OF EFFECT

Zone 1 – Impoundment (RM 1.2 to 1.4): The Mt Ida Project Impoundment Zone of Effect backwaters from the Mt Ida Project Dam (FERC No. 5465) upstream to the remnants of the decommissioned Ida Lake Dam.

Zone 2 – Bypass Reach (RM 0.95 to 1.2): The Mt Ida Project also includes an approximate 0.25 mi-long Bypass Zone of Effect, which discharges into the Poestenkill Creek gorge.

Zone 3 – Tailrace/Regulated River Reach (RM 0 to 0.95): The Mt Ida Project powerhouse tailrace extends approximately 0.95 miles downstream merging with the mainstem of the Hudson River.

The reach of the Poestenkill Creek upstream of the Mt Ida Project receives flows from the Dyken Pond Dam, which impounds the headwaters. The Mt Ida Project is operated in a run-of-river mode with minimum impoundment fluctuations and river flows in excess of or below the capacity of the Project passed into the bypass reach via the spillway dam. In addition, the Mt Ida Project has voluntary minimum flow provisions of 5 cfs for aesthetic purposes. This reach is designated as Class C, and historic water quality monitoring indicates that this reach meets water quality standards (NYSDEC, 2025b; OEI, 2019).

There are no anadromous fish species in this section of the Poestenkill Creek, which is dominated by resident species such as largemouth and smallmouth bass (Mt Ida Associates, 1982). In addition, the Poestenkill gorge waterfall just below the Project dam is approximately 30 ft (max single drop 118 total ft) in height precluding passage. As such, there are no upstream and downstream fish passage facilities at the Project for anadromous/catadromous fish.

Other than the dam and powerhouse parcel, shoreline lands are not located within the project area. The shoreline lands at the Mt Ida Project are unaffected by Project operations, as the Project is managed for a stable headpond, and only Project structures occupy lands within the project area.

There are no federally listed threatened or endangered species identified for the project area (USFWS, 2026) though Atlantic and short-nose sturgeon have the potential to occur in the Hudson River. There are no critical habitats identified for the project area. No state listed rare plants or animals nor significant natural communities are identified for the project area (NYSDEC, 2025a).

There are no known archaeological sites at the Project but the Project is part of an area listed on the NRHP (NPS, 2025, NYS, 2025), the Poestenkill Gorge Historic District. Archaeological and historic sites are at little risk due to stable headpond management operations and run of river operations mimic the natural hydrograph and the project was redeveloped in the 1980s in consultation with SHPO to maintain the historic character of the rehabilitated project structures.

There are no recreation facilities in the Zones of Effect as this area is surrounded by steep shoreline and



of limited expanse. There is one parks which provides recreation opportunities immediately adjacent to the Project Zone of Effect 2 – Bypass Reach: Poestenkill Creek Gorge Park, which provides views of Poestenkill Creek Gorge/Mount Ida Falls.

Figure 10. Zones of Effect – Mt Ida Project



### 3.1 Zone 1 – Mt Ida Impoundment

The Project Dam backwaters the Poestenkill Creek to the base of the decommissioned Ida Lake Dam. The Zone of Effect for this reach extends from RM 1.2 (the location of the project dam) to RM 1.4 (the location of the remnants of the Ida Lake Dam).

**Table 2. Zone 1 – Mt Ida Impoundment Zone Matrix of Alternative Standards**

Criterion		Alternative Standards				
		1	2	3	4	Plus
A	Flow Regimes		X			
B	Water Quality	X				
C	Upstream Fish Passage	X				
D	Downstream Fish Passage	X				
E	Shorelines and Watershed	X				
F	Threatened and Endangered Species	X				
G	Cultural and Historic Resources		X			
H	Recreational Resources	X				

### 3.2 Zone 2 – Mt Ida Bypass Reach

Mt Ida Dam includes a concrete spillway structure with a steel lined flume and penstock. The dam spillway provides 5 cfs flows for aesthetic purposes plus flows in excess of or below the capacity of the powerhouse. The bypass reach of the Project extends approximately 0.25 miles below the Dam from approximately RM 0.95 to RM 1.2 and consists of a high gradient, bedrock gorge. The Project is operated in a run-of-river mode.

**Table 3, Zone 2 – Mt Ida Bypass Reach Zone Matrix of Alternative Standards**

Criterion		Alternative Standards				
		1	2	3	4	Plus
A	Flow Regimes		X			
B	Water Quality		X			
C	Upstream Fish Passage	X				
D	Downstream Fish Passage	X				
E	Shorelines and Watershed	X				
F	Threatened and Endangered Species	X				
G	Cultural and Historic Resources		X			
H	Recreational Resources	X				

**3.3 Zone 3 - Mt Ida Project Tailrace and Downstream Regulated River Reach**

The Project includes a single powerhouse approximately 0.25 miles downstream of the Mt Ida dam spillway. The tailrace begins at RM 0.95 (location of the powerhouse) and this section of the river extends downstream just under 1 mile to RM 0 to the confluence of the Hudson River. The river in this section is free flowing from the confluence of the Hudson River to the Mt. Ida powerhouse discharge.

**Table 4. Zone 3 – Mt Ida Project Tailrace/Downstream Regulated River Reach Zone Matrix of Alternative Standards**

Criterion		Alternative Standards				
		1	2	3	4	Plus
A	Flow Regimes		X			
B	Water Quality	X				
C	Upstream Fish Passage	X				
D	Downstream Fish Passage	X				
E	Shorelines and Watershed	X				
F	Threatened and Endangered Species	X				
G	Cultural and Historic Resources		X			
H	Recreational Resources	X				

## 4.0 LIHI CERTIFICATION CRITERION

### 4.1 Flow Regimes

The stated Low Impact Hydropower Institute goal for Criterion A – Ecological Flow Regimes is, “The flow regimes in riverine reaches that are affected by the facility support habitat and other conditions suitable for healthy fish and wildlife resources.” Though the Zones of Effect all meet Standard A-2, as discussed below, discussion of the applicable standards for each Zone of Effect is provided in the Sections below as the particular flow operations are unique to each Zone of Effect.

The Project is operated in run-of-river mode, targeting generally stable headpond elevations. The Project bypass reach receives water from spill flows and voluntary minimum flows released from the dam. Because the Project powerhouse discharges to the main river reach, flows downstream of the powerhouse encompass total flows from both the dam and powerhouse.

#### 4.1.1 Zone 1 - Mt Ida Impoundment

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
A	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>The flow regime was developed and is being implemented in accordance with science-based resource agency and, if applicable, science-based or indigenous knowledge-based tribal government recommendations</p>	<p><b>Resource Agency and Tribal Government Recommendation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the proceeding and source, date, and specifics of the agency and any tribal government recommendation applied (NOTE: there may be more than one; identify and explain which is most environmentally protective).</li> <li>• Explain the scientific, technical, or indigenous knowledge basis for the agency recommendation, including methods and data used. This is required regardless of whether the recommendation is or is not part of a Settlement Agreement.</li> <li>• Explain how the recommendation relates to formal agency and tribal management goals and objectives for fish and wildlife.</li> <li>• Explain how the recommendation provides fish and wildlife protection, mitigation and enhancement (including in-stream flows, ramping and peaking rate conditions, and seasonal and episodic instream flow variations).</li> <li>• Explain how flows are monitored for compliance.</li> </ul>

The Mt Ida impoundment is operated in accordance with the FERC Exemption Order to target a stable headpond by passing inflows equivalent to outflows. The exemptee limits impoundment drawdowns to only those necessary for maintenance and repairs.

MTHLLC monitors Mt Ida Project operations, including impoundment elevations and flows as discharged via the powerhouse, in order to maintain compliance with requirements for run-of-river operations and headpond elevations. Maintenance of stable headpond elevations assures compliance with run-of-river obligations wherein to maintain a stable headpond, inflows into the Mt Ida Project are passed downstream into the bypass reach and/or tailrace via the spillway and powerhouse.

Any deviations from run-of-river operations and minimum flows at the Project are reported to FERC. There have been no notices of deviations reported for this Project since the approved amendment was issued in 1995.

Although this Zone of Effect is operated in run-of-river mode with stable headpond elevations and inflows equal to outflows, Standard A-2 applies because this Zone of Effect does have a bypass reach.

4.1.2 Zone 2 - Mt Ida Bypass Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
A	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>The flow regime was developed and is being implemented in accordance with science-based resource agency and, if applicable, science-based or indigenous knowledge-based tribal government recommendations</p>	<p><b>Resource Agency and Tribal Government Recommendation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the proceeding and source, date, and specifics of the agency and any tribal government recommendation applied (NOTE: there may be more than one; identify and explain which is most environmentally protective).</li> <li>• Explain the scientific, technical, or indigenous knowledge basis for the agency recommendation, including methods and data used. This is required regardless of whether the recommendation is or is not part of a Settlement Agreement.</li> <li>• Explain how the recommendation relates to formal agency and tribal management goals and objectives for fish and wildlife.</li> <li>• Explain how the recommendation provides fish and wildlife protection, mitigation and enhancement (including in-stream flows, ramping and peaking rate conditions, and seasonal and episodic instream flow variations).</li> <li>• Explain how flows are monitored for compliance.</li> </ul>

There is no formally prescribed minimum flow into the bypass reach at the Project included in the exemption order pursuant to a WQC. However, the Exemptee provides a 5 cfs minimum flows to support the aesthetic views of Poestenkill Creek Gorge/Mount Ida Falls in compliance with agency recommendations. There is no significant aquatic habitat in this reach, which is delineated by the lowermost falls into a bedrock, high gradient upper falls and the lower portion is backwatered by the tailrace and regulated river reach. Any deviations from run-of-river operations and minimum flows at the Project are reported to FERC.

As a result of the voluntary minimum flow regime and the presence of the bypass reach, Standard 2 applies for the Project’s Bypass Reach Zone of Effect.

4.1.3 Zone 3 - Mt Ida Project Tailrace and Downstream Regulated River Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
A	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>The flow regime was developed and is being implemented in accordance with science-based resource agency and, if applicable, science-based or indigenous knowledge-based tribal government recommendations</p>	<p><b>Resource Agency and Tribal Government Recommendation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the proceeding and source, date, and specifics of the agency and any tribal government recommendation applied (NOTE: there may be more than one; identify and explain which is most environmentally protective).</li> <li>• Explain the scientific, technical, or indigenous knowledge basis for the agency recommendation, including methods and data used. This is required regardless of whether the recommendation is or is not part of a Settlement Agreement.</li> <li>• Explain how the recommendation relates to formal agency and tribal management goals and objectives for fish and wildlife.</li> <li>• Explain how the recommendation provides fish and wildlife protection, mitigation and enhancement (including in-stream flows, ramping and peaking rate conditions, and seasonal and episodic instream flow variations).</li> <li>• Explain how flows are monitored for compliance.</li> </ul>

As discussed above, flows are discharged from powerhouse to the tailrace channel, which discharges to the free-flowing section of Poestenkill Creek, extending approximately 1 mile to the confluence with the

Hudson River. MTHLLC monitors all discharges from the powerhouse and all flows in excess of station capacity, or at times when the station is curtailed or ceases operations or flows are too low to accommodate the minimum capacity of the powerhouse, pass via spill at the dam. Any deviations from run-of-river operations at the Mt Ida Project are reported to FERC. Due to these operations, Standard 2 applies for Zone 3.

#### 4.2 Water Quality

The stated Low Impact Hydropower Institute goal for Criterion B – Water Quality is, “Water quality is protected in waterbodies directly affected by the facility, including downstream reaches, bypassed reaches, and impoundments above dams and diversions.” A discussion of the applicable standards by Zone of Effect is provided in the Sections below.

The Mainstem of the Poestenkill Creek inclusive of Mt Ida Project waters is Class C. According to New York statute, Class C waters must be suitable for the following designated uses: fish, shellfish and wildlife propagation and fishing and primary and secondary-contact recreation, though factors may limit the use for these purposes. Class C waters must have no substances that adversely affect taste, color or odor, have no algal blooms, and no sewage or industrial wastes that cause impairment. The following numeric standards are applicable to Class C waters (NYS, 2025a):

**Table 5. Numeric Water Quality Standards for Class B waters**

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Standard</i>
pH	Shall not be less than 6.5 nor more than 8.5.
Dissolved oxygen (DO)	For trout spawning waters (TS) the DO concentration shall not be less than 7.0 mg/L from other than natural conditions. For trout waters (T), the minimum daily average shall not be less than 6.0 mg/L, and at no time shall the concentration be less than 5.0 mg/L. For nontrout waters, the minimum daily average shall not be less than 5.0 mg/L, and at no time shall the DO concentration be less than 4.0 mg/ L.
E. coli	The monthly geometric mean, from a minimum of five examinations, shall not exceed 200

Source: NYS, 2025a

Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water act designates and requires states to maintain a list of impaired waters, where designated uses are not fully supported. In addition, the state must develop strategies to reduce the specific pollutant(s), such as a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The list of impaired waters is updated every two years by NYSDEC with the most recent issued in 2022. None of the segments of the Poestenkill Creek are identified in New York’s Section 303(d) list of impaired waters (NYSDEC, 2022).

4.2.1 Zone 1 - Mt Ida Impoundment

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
<b>B</b>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>The facility does not alter the physical, chemical, or biotic water characteristics necessary to support fish and wildlife resources or human water uses (e.g., water supply or recreation) in the applicable Zone of Effect</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable / De Minimis Effect::</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Project is operated in run-of-river mode targeting stable headpond elevations and passing inflows as outflows via the spillway and powerhouse. There are no water quality issues or impairments in this reach.</li> </ul>

Historical water quality monitoring by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has shown good water quality and the waters of the Creek are classified as suitable for trout spawning [C(TS)] and capable of supporting a trout fishery [C(T)]. Limited surveys were performed by NYSDEC in 1992, 1998-1999, 2002, 2007-2008, and 2012-2013. Since 1992, biological sampling in the Poestenkill Creek has “consistently indicated good water quality, with minimal impacts to stream health” (OEI, 2019). Biological Assessment Profile (BAP) scores, used to determine a quantitative measure of water quality, “ranged between slightly impacted and non-impacted conditions...with all locations above the biological impairment threshold” (OEI, 2019). Water quality monitoring metrics were all within or above state standards (OEI, 2019).

This section of the Poestenkill Creek is not likely impaired as it is not listed on NYSDEC’s 2020 305(b) report and 303(d) list (NYSDEC, 2022).

Any deviations from run-of-river operations at the Project are reported to FERC.

While the Project does not have a WQC, run of river operations are codified in the Exemption Order. As such, Standard 1 applies for this Zone of Effect.

4.2.2 Zone 2 - Mt Ida Bypass Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
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<p><b>B</b></p>	<p><b>2</b>  The facility is in compliance with all water quality conditions contained in a recent Water Quality Certification or in compliance with facility-specific science-based resource agency and, if applicable, science-based or indigenous knowledge-based tribal government recommendations, that provide reasonable assurance that water quality standards will be met for all waterbodies that are directly affected by the facility. Such recommendations, whether based on a generally applicable water quality standard or one that was developed on a site-specific basis, must include consideration of all water quality components necessary to preserve healthy fish and wildlife populations, human uses, and recreation</p>	<p><b>Resource Agency and Tribal Government Recommendation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a copy of the most recent state and, if applicable, Tribal Water Quality Certificate and any subsequent amendments, including the date(s) of issuance. If more than 10 years old, provide documentation that the certification terms and conditions remain valid and in effect for the facility (e.g., a confirmation letter or email from the resource agency or Tribal Nation).</li> <li>• Identify any other agency recommendations related to water quality and explain their scientific or technical basis.</li> <li>• Identify any tribal government recommendations and explain their scientific or indigenous knowledge basis.</li> <li>• Describe all compliance requirements and activities related to water quality including on-going monitoring, and how those are integrated into facility operations and reported to resource agencies, tribal governments, and FERC, as applicable.</li> </ul>
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This section of the Poestenkill Creek is not likely impaired as it is not listed on NYSDEC’s 2020 305(b) report and 303(d) list (NYSDEC, 2022) and water quality monitoring efforts have been at or above state standards (OEI, 2019).

Any deviations from run-of-river operations and minimum flows at the Project are reported to FERC.

While the Project does not have a WQC, it is operated in accordance with agency recommended minimum flows and run of river operations are codified in the Exemption Order. As such, Standard 2 applies for this Zone of Effect.

4.2.3 Zone 3 - Mt Ida Project Tailrace and Downstream Regulated River Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
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<b>B</b>	<b>1</b> The facility does not alter the physical, chemical, or biotic water characteristics necessary to support fish and wildlife resources or human water uses (e.g., water supply or recreation) in the applicable Zone of Effect	<b>Not Applicable / De Minimis Effect:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Project is operated in run-of-river mode passing inflows as outflows via the spillway and powerhouse. There are no water quality issues or impairments in this reach.</li> </ul>
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As discussed above, the reach of the Poestenkill Creek approximately 1 mile below the Project has been historically monitored and all designated uses were deemed to have been met (OEI, 2019). No impairments were identified for this reach of the Poestenkill Creek in the 2022 303(b) Report (NYSDEC, 2022), as discussed above.

Any deviations from run-of-river operations and minimum flows at the Project are reported to FERC.

While the Project does not have a WQC, run of river operations are codified in the Exemption Order. As such, Standard 1 applies for this Zone of Effect.

### 4.3 Upstream Fish Passage

The stated Low Impact Hydropower Institute goal for Criterion C – Upstream Fish Passage is “The facility allows for the safe, timely, and effective upstream passage of migratory fish to ensure that migratory species can successfully complete their life cycles and maintain healthy populations in areas affected by the facility.”

As there are no migratory species in the project vicinity, and natural barriers to migration exist downstream of the Project dam, the standard for “Upstream Fish Passage” is discussed collectively for all Zones of Effect.

#### 4.3.1 All Zones – Mt Ida Impoundment, Bypass Reach and Tailwater/Downstream Regulated River Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
C	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>The applicable Zone of Effect does not create a barrier to upstream passage, or there are no migratory fish in the vicinity of the facility. If such species were present historically, the facility did not contribute to the extirpation of such species</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable / De Minimis Effect:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain why the facility does not impose a barrier to upstream fish passage in the designated ZoE. Typically, impoundment zones will qualify for this standard since once above a dam and in an impoundment, there is no additional facility barrier to further upstream movement.</li> <li>• Provide available fish distribution data showing the absence of migratory fish species in each ZoE.</li> <li>• If migratory fish species have been extirpated from the facility area, explain why the facility is not or was not the cause of the extirpation</li> </ul>

There are no anadromous or catadromous species in the vicinity of the project area (OEI, 2019), though American eel are present in the Hudson River and traverse the regulated river reach of Poestenkill Creek downstream of the Project and Poestenkill Creek Gorge/Mount Ida Falls. Brown trout are stocked into the Poestenkill Creek in areas upstream of the Project (NYSDEC, 2025c).

During surveys conducted in 2017 and 2019, nine species were collected within the impoundment including brown bullhead, rock bass, yellow perch, white sucker, bluegill, spottail shiner, pumpkinseed, largemouth bass, common shiner, and long nose dace (OEI, 2019).

The American Eel (*Anguilla rostrata*), while documented from the lowest portion of the river nearest the mouth, is not found in significant numbers above Poestenkill Creek Gorge/Mount Ida Falls (OEI, 2019). While dams have historically presented barriers to migration for eel, the abundance of other natural

barriers downstream of the Project dam are expected to be the predominant influence on eel populations.

#### **4.4 Downstream Fish Passage**

The stated Low Impact Hydropower Institute goal for Criterion D – Downstream Fish Passage is “The facility allows for the safe, timely, and effective downstream passage of migratory fish. For riverine (resident) fish, including resident potamodromous fish, the facility minimizes loss of fish from impoundments and upstream river reaches affected by facility operations. Migratory species can successfully complete their life cycles and maintain healthy populations in the areas affected by the facility.”

As there are no migratory species in the project vicinity, and natural barriers to migration exist well downstream of the Project dam, the standard for “Downstream Fish Passage” is discussed collectively for the Bypass Reach and Tailrace Zones of Effect and are the same for all Zones of Effect. The Project has no downstream fish passage facilities.

4.4.1 Zone 1 – Mt Ida Impoundment

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
D	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>The applicable Zone of Effect does not create a barrier to downstream passage, or there are no fish present at the facility that require downstream passage to complete their life cycle. If such species were present historically, the facility did not contribute to the extirpation of them and the facility does not contribute adversely to riverine fish populations or to their access to habitat necessary for the completion of their life cycles.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable/De Minimis Effect:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain why the facility does not impose a barrier to downstream fish passage in the designated ZoE, considering both physical obstruction and increased mortality relative to natural downstream movement (e.g., entrainment into hydropower turbines). Typically, tailwater/downstream zones will qualify for this standard since below a dam and powerhouse there is no additional facility barrier to further downstream movement.</li> <li>• Bypassed reach zones must demonstrate that flows in the reach are adequate to support safe, effective, and timely downstream migration.</li> <li>• For riverine fish populations that are known to move downstream, explain why the facility in the designated ZoE does not contribute adversely to the species populations or to their access to habitat necessary for successful completion of their life cycles; or</li> <li>• Document available fish distribution data and the lack of fish species requiring passage in the ZoE; or</li> <li>• If migratory fish species have been extirpated from the area, explain why the facility is not or was not the cause of the extirpation</li> </ul>

Only resident species persist in reach of the Poestenkill Creek that includes the project impoundment as discussed above. Although the dams are operated in run of river mode, the impoundment is very small and backwatered to the decommissioned remnant Ida Lake Dam.

4.4.2 Zones 2 and 3 – Mt Ida Project Bypass, Tailrace and Downstream Regulated River Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
D	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>The applicable Zone of Effect does not create a barrier to downstream passage, or there are no fish present at the facility that require downstream passage to complete their life cycle. If such species were present historically, the facility did not contribute to the extirpation of them and the facility does not contribute adversely to riverine fish populations or to their access to habitat necessary for the completion of their life cycles.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable / De Minimis Effect:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain why the facility does not impose a barrier to downstream fish passage in the designated ZoE, considering both physical obstruction and increased mortality relative to natural downstream movement (e.g., entrainment into hydropower turbines). Typically, tailwater/downstream zones will qualify for this standard since below a dam and powerhouse there is no additional facility barrier to further downstream movement.</li> <li>• Bypassed reach zones must demonstrate that flows in the reach are adequate to support safe, effective, and timely downstream migration.</li> <li>• For riverine fish populations that are known to move downstream, explain why the facility in the designated ZoE does not contribute adversely to the species populations or to their access to habitat necessary for successful completion of their life cycles; or</li> <li>• Document available fish distribution data and the lack of fish species requiring passage in the ZoE; or</li> <li>• If migratory fish species have been extirpated from the area, explain why the facility is not or was not the cause of the extirpation</li> </ul>

This Zone of Effect free flowing to the base of the Project dam though the 30 ft tall (max single drop 118 total ft) Mount Ida Falls present a natural barrier to migration. As discussed above, American eel are found in the regulated river reach downstream of the Project but not above the falls in any significant numbers.

**4.5 Shorelines and Watershed**

The stated Low Impact Hydropower Institute goal for Criterion E – Shoreline and Watershed Protection is “The facility has demonstrated that sufficient action has been taken to protect, mitigate or enhance the condition of soils, vegetation, and ecosystem functions on shoreline and watershed lands associated

with the facility.”

The project area includes the waters of the impoundment, the tailrace and the 0.25-mile-long bypass reach. The Project effectively has very little uplands within the project area mainly consisting of a small portion of lands on which the project powerhouse exists. As such, this standard is discussed collectively for all Zones of Effect.

There are no significant natural communities, special protection areas, or unique geological features identified for this section of Poestenkill Creek (NYSDEC, 2025a).

Wetlands within and immediately adjacent to the project area are shown in Figure 7. The dominant wetland type of the project area is permanently flooded riverine habitat (USFWS, 2025b). There is one palustrine wetland located adjacent to the bypass reach. This palustrine wetland type is a seasonally flooded wetland dominated by flat-leaved deciduous trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, emergent mosses or lichens.

Figure 11. Wetlands within and surrounding the Project Area



USFWS, 2025b

4.5.1 All Zones – Mt Ida Project Impoundment, Bypass Reach, Tailrace and Downstream Regulated River Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
<b>E</b>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>There are no lands associated with the facility under the direct or indirect ownership or control of the facility owner that have been identified as having significant ecological value for protecting water quality, aesthetics, or low-impact recreation, and the facility is not subject to any Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) or similar protection plan.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable/De Minimis Effect</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there are no lands with significant ecological value associated with the facility, document and justify this (e.g., describe the land use and land cover within the FERC project or facility boundary, and absence of critical habitat for protected species).</li> <li>• Document that there have been no Shoreline Management Plans or similar protection requirements for the facility</li> </ul>

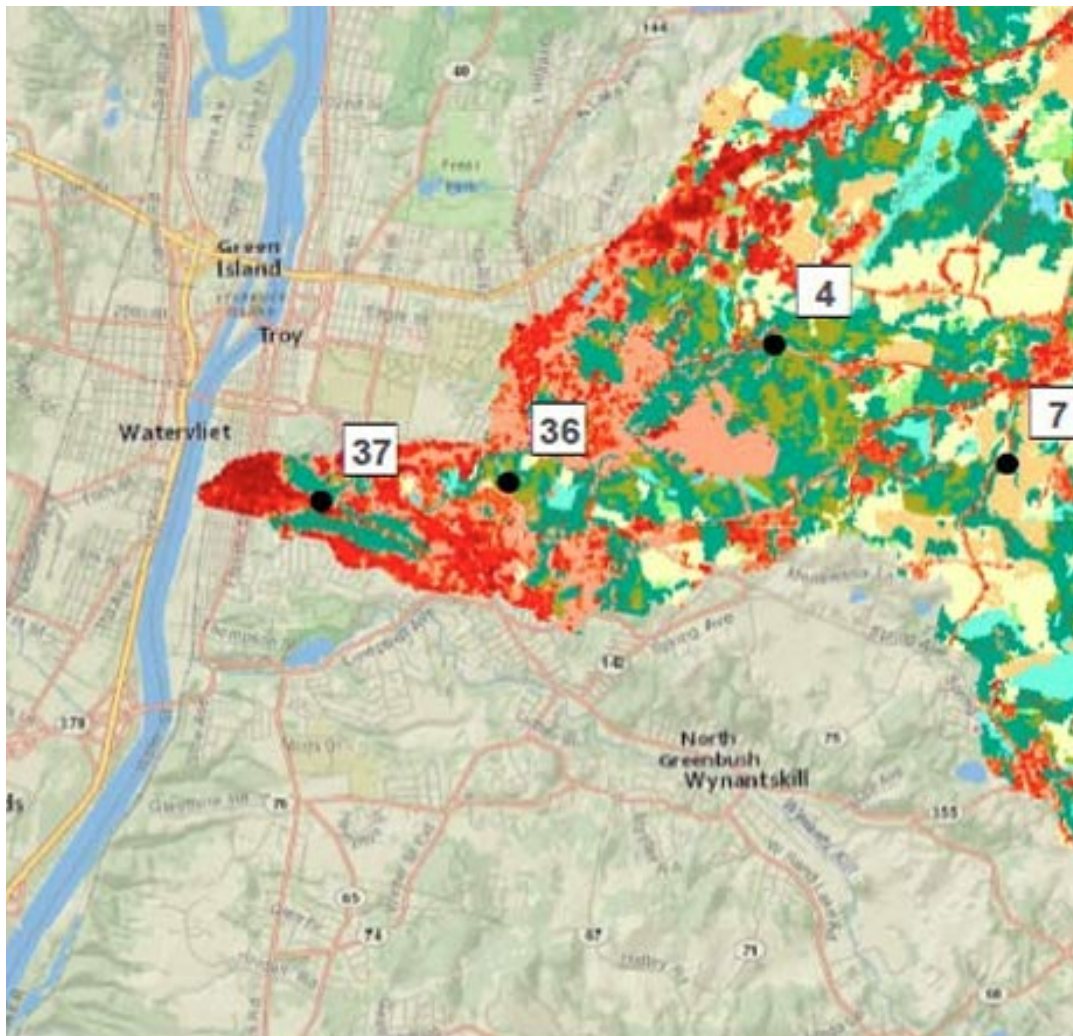
The current project area includes the dam and powerhouse and impoundment to the upstream extent of the decommissioned Ida Lake Dam. A small parcel of uplands located at the powerhouse is vegetated, consisting of trees, grass and underbrush, as well as a portion of maintained lands along the access road to the powerhouse. There are no other shoreline lands within the project boundary in the tailrace nor within the bypass reach.

Several state laws and local regulations are designed to manage land development in the vicinity of the Project area in accordance with certain objectives. Any development or ground disturbance on private lands adjacent to the Project requires the appropriate permits and must adhere to the design and development standards of the appropriate town zoning regulations. The Project is not required to have a Shoreline Management Plan, pursuant to its FERC Exemption.

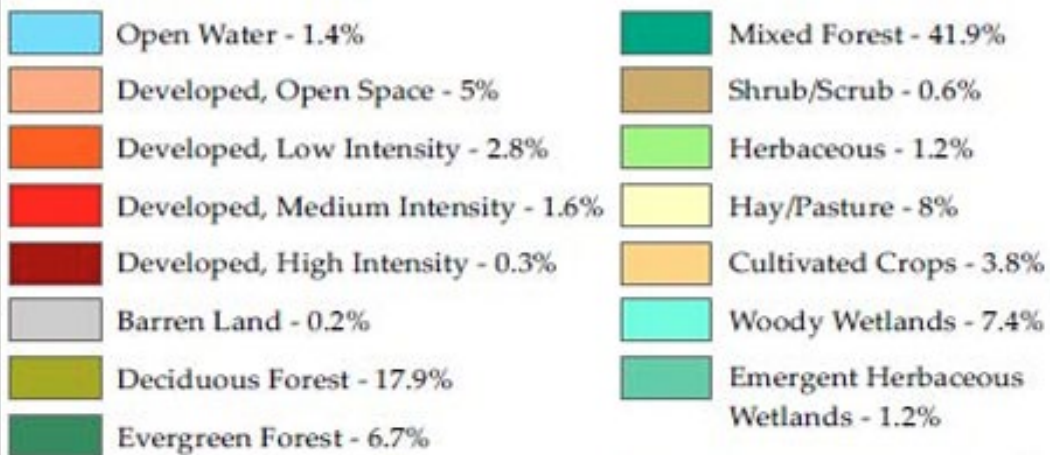
As shown below in Figure 7, lands surrounding the project boundary are largely the developed areas of adjacent municipalities, road networks, and commercial sites. Some forested areas exist to the north and south of the project boundary, but they are generally managed lands and are bifurcated by roads and development.

Run of river operations are supportive of wetlands persistence as a result of stable headpond elevations, minimum bypass reach flows and inflows passed as outflows which mimic the natural hydrograph.

Figure 12. Land Cover Types of Adjacent Lands



**Land Cover - 2016**



Source: OEI, 2019 and MRLC, 2024

#### 4.6 Threatened and Endangered Species

The Low Impact Hydropower Institute goal for Criterion F – Threatened and Endangered Species Protection is, “The facility does not negatively impact federal or state listed species, or tribal trust species.”

An Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) report and USFWS Official Species List were developed for the Project. No federally listed species were identified for the project area (USFWS, 2026). Atlantic and short-nose sturgeon would have the potential to occur in the Hudson River but are not reported for the reach of the Poestenkill Creek including the project area and downstream. No other state listed species were identified within the project vicinity (NYSDEC, 2025a).

The applicable standards are consistent within the Zones of Effect. As such, this Criterion is discussed by species collectively for all Zones of Effect.

##### 4.6.1 All Zones – Mt Ida Project Impoundment, Bypass Reach, Tailrace and Downstream Regulated River Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
F	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>There are no listed or tribal trust species documented to be present in the vicinity of the applicable Zone of Effect, and the facility was not responsible for the extirpation of such species that historically were present;</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable / De Minimis Effect:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document that there are no listed or tribal trust species in the designated ZoE;</li> <li>or</li> <li>• If listed or trust species are known to have existed in the facility area in the past but are not currently present, explain why the facility was not the cause of the extirpation of such species.</li> <li>• If the facility is making significant efforts to reintroduce an extirpated species, describe the actions that are being taken.</li> </ul>

As discussed above, there are effectively very uplands within the project boundary and operations are run of river. No federal or state listed species are identified for the project area and immediate vicinity, including the downstream regulated reach of Poestenkill Creek (USFWS, 2015a and NYSDEC, 2025a).

#### 4.7 Cultural and Historic Resources

The stated Low Impact Hydropower Institute goal for Criterion G – Cultural and Historic Resource Protection is “The facility does not adversely impact cultural or historic resources associated with the facility’s lands and waters, including archaeological sites, historic era sites, traditional cultural landscapes, traditional cultural properties, and other tribal trust resources.”

Given the limited extent of the project boundary, the relative lack of uplands, and that project structures are located within an historic district that includes the project structures, this standard is discussed collectively for all Zones of Effect.

4.7.1 All Zones – Mt Ida Project Impoundment, Bypass Reach, Tailrace, and Downstream Regulated River Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
<b>G</b>	<b>2</b> The facility is in compliance with approved state, federal, and recognized tribal plans for protection, enhancement, or mitigation of impacts to cultural or historic resources affected by the facility.	<b>Approved Plan:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide documentation of all approved local, state, federal, and recognized tribal plans for the protection, enhancement, and mitigation of impacts to tribal, cultural and historic resources affected by the facility.</li> <li>• Document that the facility is in compliance with all such plans.</li> </ul>

Project-related ground-disturbing activities could affect potential archaeological and historic resources as would modification of project structures but, given the project’s inclusion in the NRHP-listed historic district, would be conducted in consultation with SHPO. Stable headpond elevations ensure limited shoreline erosion along the small project impoundment.

A CRIS inquiry has been submitted to the New York State Historic Preservation Office (NYS, 2025a). The submission has not been accepted or reviewed by the SHPO to date.

**4.8 Recreational, Public and Traditional Cultural Resources**

The stated Low Impact Hydropower Institute goal for Criterion H – Recreation Resources is “The facility accommodates recreational activities on lands and waters controlled by the facility; and provides recreational, public, and traditional cultural access to its associated lands and waters without fee or charge.”

4.8.1 Zone 1 - Mt Ida Impoundment

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
<b>H</b>	<b>1</b> The facility in the applicable Zone of Effect does not occupy lands or waters to which the public or tribal members can be granted safe access and does not otherwise impact recreational opportunities in the vicinity.	<b>Not Applicable / De Minimis Effect:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document that the facility does not occupy lands or waters in the designated ZoE to which public or Tribal member access can be safely granted, and that the facility does not otherwise impact recreational or access opportunities in the facility area.</li> </ul>

There are no project recreation facilities on project lands nor access to project waters of the impoundment for safety reasons. The impoundment is bookended by dam infrastructure and is quite small, making recreation somewhat impractical and largely unsafe. There is no informal egress to the impoundment as only businesses exist adjacent to the northern shoreline and a cemetery largely comprises lands to the south. A small enclave of residences is located at the southern end of the impoundment along the southern shore and adjacent to the dam. However, shorelines are precipitously steep along both sides of the impoundment and access is impractical.

4.8.2 Zones 2 and 3 - Mt Ida Bypass Reach, Tailrace and Downstream Regulated River Reach

Criterion	Standard	Supporting Information
H	<p><b>1</b> The facility in the applicable Zone of Effect does not occupy lands or waters to which the public or tribal members can be granted safe access and does not otherwise impact recreational opportunities in the vicinity.</p>	<p><b>Not Applicable / De Minimis Effect:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document that the facility does not occupy lands or waters in the designated ZoE to which public or Tribal member access can be safely granted, and that the facility does not otherwise impact recreational or access opportunities in the facility area.</li> </ul>

There is no access to the bypass reach nor tailrace and the reach of the regulated river downstream would be accessible from the water via the confluence with the Hudson River though this reach is narrow and short. The steep upper gorge consists of multiple significant drops and has been deemed unsafe for recreation, particularly in light of multiple unfortunate fatalities occurring in the vicinity of Mount Ida falls. There is one recreation site providing land-based opportunities adjacent to the project bypass reach: Poestenkill Creek Gorge Park. The Park provides parking, a walking trail and scenic views of the Poestenkill Creek Gorge and Mount Ida Falls.



## 5.0 ATTESTATION AND WAIVER FORM

All applications for LIHI Certification must include the following sworn statement before they can be reviewed by LIHI:

### SWORN STATEMENT

*As an Authorized Representative of Mt Ida Hydro LLC, the Undersigned attests that the material presented in the application is true and complete.*

*The Undersigned acknowledges that the primary goal of the Low Impact Hydropower Institute's certification program is public benefit, and that the LIHI Governing Board and its agents are not responsible for financial or other private consequences of its certification decisions.*

*The Undersigned further acknowledges that if LIHI Certification of the applying facility is granted, the LIHI Certification Mark License Agreement must be executed prior to marketing the electricity product as LIHI Certified® (which includes selling RECs in a market that requires LIHI Certification).*

*The Undersigned further agrees to hold the Low Impact Hydropower Institute, the Governing Board and its agents harmless for any decision rendered on this or other applications, from any consequences of disclosing or publishing any submitted certification application materials to the public, or on any other action pursuant to the Low Impact Hydropower Institute's certification program.*

**Company Name:** Relevate Power

**Authorized Representative:**

**Name:** Kelly Maloney

**Title:** VP, Regulatory Compliance

**Signature:** 

**Date:** September 5, 2025

## 6.0 CONTACTS FORM

### 6.1 Applicant Related Contacts

<b>Facility Owner: Mt Ida Hydro LLC</b>	
Name and Title	Kelly Maloney, VP, Regulatory Compliance
Company	Relevate Power
Phone	207-233-1995
Email Address	<a href="mailto:Kelly.maloney@relevatepower.com">Kelly.maloney@relevatepower.com</a>
Mailing Address	230 Park Ave, Suite 447, New York, NY 10169
<b>Facility Operator (if different from Owner):</b>	
Name and Title	
Company	
Phone	
Email Address	
Mailing Address	
<b>Consulting Firm / Agent for LIHI Program (if different from above):</b>	
Name and Title	
Company	
Phone	
Email Address	
Mailing Address	
<b>Compliance Contact (responsible for LIHI Program requirements):</b>	
Name and Title	Allison Frechette, Manager, Compliance
Company	Relevate Power
Phone	(207) 320-1440
Email Address	<a href="mailto:af@relevatepower.com">af@relevatepower.com</a>
Mailing Address	PO Box 1086, Wilton, ME 04292
<b>Party responsible for accounts payable:</b>	
Name and Title	Monte Kaiser
Company	Relevate Power
Phone	(303) 615-3103
Email Address	<a href="mailto:monte@relevatepower.com">monte@relevatepower.com</a>
Mailing Address	230 Park Ave, Suite 447, New York, NY 10169

## 6.2 Federal, State and Local Resource Agency Contacts

<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows __, Water Quality <u>x</u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources __, Watersheds __, T/E Spp. __, Cultural/Historic Resources __, Recreation __):	
Agency Name	New York Department of Environmental Services
Name and Title	Jessica Hart, Region 6
Phone	(315) 785-2245
Email address	Jessica.hart@dec.ny.gov
Mailing Address	317 Washington St, Watertown, NY 13601
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows __, Water Quality __, Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>x</u> , Watersheds __, T/E Spp. __, Cultural/Historic Resources __, Recreation __):	
Agency Name	New York Department of Environmental Services
Name and Title	Scott Wells, Aquatic Biologist Region 4 Fisheries, Division of Fish and Wildlife
Phone	
Email address	Scott.Wells@dec.ny.gov
Mailing Address	65561 State Highway 10, Suite 1, Stamford, NY 12167
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows __, Water Quality __, Fish/Wildlife Resources __, Watersheds __, T/E Spp. __, Cultural/Historic Resources <u>x</u> , Recreation __):	
Agency Name	New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Name and Title	Daniel Mackay, Deputy Commissioner
Phone	(518) 268-2171
Email address	Daniel.Mackay@parks.ny.gov
Mailing Address	PO Box 189, Waterford, NY 12188
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows __, Water Quality __, Fish/Wildlife Resources __, Watersheds __, T/E Spp. __, Cultural/Historic Resources __, Recreation <u>x</u> ):	
Agency Name	U.S. National Park Service
Name and Title	Kevin Mendik, ESQ. NPS Hydro Program Coordinator
Phone	617-223-5299
Email address	<a href="mailto:kevin_mendik@NPS.gov">kevin_mendik@NPS.gov</a>
Mailing Address	15 State Street 10th floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02109
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>x</u> , Water Quality __, Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>x</u> , Watersheds <u>x</u> , T/E Spp. <u>x</u> , Cultural/Historic Resources __, Recreation __):	
Agency Name	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Name and Title	Arianna Ramirez
Phone	(607) 526-2024
Email address	<a href="mailto:Arianna_ramirez@fws.gov">Arianna_ramirez@fws.gov</a>
Mailing Address	3817 Luker Rd, Cortland, NY 13045

### 6.3 Tribal Government and Tribal Agency Contacts

<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
Name and Title	Harold Peterson
Phone	(615) 564-6838
Email address	<a href="mailto:Harold.peterson@bia.gov">Harold.peterson@bia.gov</a>
Mailing Address	Eastern Regional Office, 545 Marriott Dr, Suite 700, Nashville, TN 37214
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Cayuga Nation of New York
Name and Title	Clinton Halftown, Nation Representative
Phone	(315) 568-0750
Email address	
Mailing Address	2540 State Route 89, PO Box 803, Seneca Falls, NY 13148
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Delaware Tribe Historic Preservation Office
Name and Title	Susan Bachor, Historic Preservation Representative
Phone	(539) 529-1671
Email address	<a href="mailto:sbachor@delawaretribe.org">sbachor@delawaretribe.org</a>
Mailing Address	126 University Circle, Stroud Hall Rm 437, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs
Name and Title	
Phone	
Email address	
Mailing Address	346 NY-37, Akwesasne, NY 13655
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Seneca Nation of Indians
Name and Title	David Shongo, THPO
Phone	(716) 945-1790
Email address	<a href="mailto:David.Shongo@sni.org">David.Shongo@sni.org</a>
Mailing Address	90 Ohi:yo' Way Allegany Territory Salamanca, NY 14779
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Oneida Indian Nation
Name and Title	Ray Halbritter, Nation Representative
Phone	(315) 829-8900
Email address	
Mailing Address	2037 Dream Catcher Plaza, Oneida, NY 13421

<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Onondaga Nation of New York
Name and Title	Anthony Gonyea, THPO
Phone	(315) 469-0302
Email address	admin@onondaganation.org
Mailing Address	PO Box 319-B, Nedrow, NY 13120
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
Name and Title	Darren Bonaparte, THPO
Phone	(518) 358-2272
Email address	<a href="mailto:darren.bonaparte@srmt-nsn.gov">darren.bonaparte@srmt-nsn.gov</a>
Mailing Address	71 Margaret Terrance Memorial Way Akwesasne, NY 13655
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Office Onõhsagwë: De' Cultural Center
Name and Title	Dr. Joe Stahlman, THPO Director Tribal Historic Preservation
Phone	
Email address	
Mailing Address	82 W. Hetzel Street Salamanca, NY 14779
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Seneca-Cayuga Nation
Name and Title	William Tarrant, THPO
Phone	(918) 787-5452
Email address	wtarrant@sctribe.com
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 453220 23701 S. 655 RD Grove, OK 74344
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Shinnecock Indian Nation
Name and Title	Rainbow Chavie Director, Shinnecock Cultural Resources Department
Phone	
Email address	culturalresources@shinnecock.org
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 5006 Southampton, New York 11969
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians
Name and Title	Jeff Bendremmer Tribal Historic Preservation Manager
Phone	(413) 884-6029
Email address	thpo@mohican-nsn.gov
Mailing Address	86 Spring Street Williamstown, MA 01267
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <u>  x  </u> , Water Quality <u>  </u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>  x  </u> , Watersheds <u>  x  </u> , T/E Spp. <u>  x  </u> , Cultural/Historic Resources X <u>  </u> , Recreation <u>  </u> ):	

Tribe/Agency Name	Tonawanda Band of Seneca, Tonawanda Reservation Historical Society
Name and Title	Roger Hill, Chief
Phone	(585) 542-2481
Email address	
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 516, Basom, NY 14013
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , Water Quality <input type="checkbox"/> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , Watersheds <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , T/E Spp. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , Cultural/Historic Resources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , Recreation <input type="checkbox"/> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Tuscarora Nation of New York
Name and Title	Rene Rickard, Director Tuscarora Environment Office
Phone	
Email address	rrickard@hetf.org
Mailing Address	5226 Walmore Rd.Lewistown, NY 14092
<b>Agency Contact</b> (Check areas of responsibility: Flows <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , Water Quality <input type="checkbox"/> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , Watersheds <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , T/E Spp. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , Cultural/Historic Resources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> , Recreation <input type="checkbox"/> ):	
Tribe/Agency Name	Unkechaug Indian Nation
Name and Title	Harry Wallace, Chief
Phone	(631) 281-6464
Email address	
Mailing Address	207 Poospatuck Lane Mastic, NY 11950

**6.4 Currently Engaged External Interested Party Contacts**

<b>Stakeholder Contact</b> (Check areas of interest: Flows __, Water Quality __, Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>X</u> , Watersheds __, T/E Spp. __, Cultural/Historic Resources __, Recreation <u>X</u> ):	
Stakeholder Organization	American Whitewater
Name and Title	Bob Nasdor, NE Stewardship Director
Email address	
Phone	
Mailing Address	365 Boston Post Road Suite 250 Sudbury, MA 01776
<b>Stakeholder Contact</b> (Check areas of interest: Flows <u>X</u> , Water Quality <u>X</u> , Fish/Wildlife Resources <u>X</u> , Watersheds <u>X</u> , T/E Spp. __, Cultural/Historic Resources __, Recreation <u>X</u> ):	
Stakeholder Organization	Troy, NY
Name and Title	City Clerk
Phone	518-279-7134
Email address	<a href="#">v</a>
Mailing Address	433 River Street, 5th Floor, Troy, NY 12180

## 7.0 FERC AND REGULATORY INFORMATION

Major exemption and compliance documents are provided in hyperlinks below.

### 7.1 *FERC Exemption and Amendment Applications Orders*

- Application for exemption of small hydro power project from licensing for Mt Ida Project under P-5465. May 6, 1982. Accession No: 19820507-0334.  
<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filedownload?fileid=3EFAF44F-5F30-C416-8B9E-978EE2A00000>
- Order issuing exemptions from licensing for Mt. Ida Project under P-5465. October 20, 1982. Accession No: 19821025-0064.  
<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filedownload?fileid=067D086B-C16B-C56C-85C2-93B248500000>
- Order approving run of river operations plan re: Mt Ida Project P-5465. March 14, 1994. Accession No: 19940324-0112.  
<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filedownload?fileid=000C8C52-66E2-5005-8110-C31FAFC91712>
- Order amending exemption for Mount Ida Assoc's Mount Ida Project (P-5465). Authorized capacity is 2,920 kW. March 16, 1995. Accession No.: 19950324-0119.  
<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filedownload?fileid=3008028>
- Order Amending Exemption to Change Exemptee Name re Ampersand Mount Ida Hydro, LLC et al under P-5465. January 11, 2023. Accession No.: 20230111-3036.  
<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filedownload?fileid=CFDF3CD0-925E-C6D3-977D-85A22E200000>

### 7.2 *Exemption Compliance (2015 – 2025)*

- Compliance filings for the previous 10 years have been limited to dam safety filings such as ODSP, DSSMR, DSSMP and inspections filings.

### 7.3 *Supporting Documentation for this LIHI Certification Application*

- Cornell University Geospatial Information Repository (CUGIR). 2016. NLCD Land Cover, New York. URL: <https://cugir.library.cornell.edu/catalog/cugir-009031>
- Gwizdala, Michael. 2021. "Collar City officials announce planned decommission of former Ida Lake Dam". The Troy Record. URL:

<https://www.troyrecord.com/2020/07/20/collar-city-officials-announce-planned-decommission-of-former-ida-lake-dam/>

- Mercer Companies. 1993. Filing in response to NYSDEC and USFWS requirements for minimum flows and headpond elevations. URL: <https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filedownload?fileid=00B633D4-66E2-5005-8110-C31FAFC91712>
- Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium (MRLC). 2024. Land Cover Map. URL: <https://www.mrlc.gov/viewer/>
- National Park Service (NPS). 2025. National Register of Historic Properties. URL: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm>
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). 2025. Essential Fish Habitat Mapper. URL: [https://www.habitat.noaa.gov/apps/efhmapper/?page=page\\_3](https://www.habitat.noaa.gov/apps/efhmapper/?page=page_3)
- New York State (NYS). 2025a. Cultural Resource Information System. URL: <https://cris.parks.ny.gov/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>
- New York State (NYS). 2025b. Codes, Rules and Regulations, 6 NYCRR, Parts 701.6, 701.7, and 701.8.
- New York State (NYS). 2025c. New York State Inventory of Dams. URL: <https://data.gis.ny.gov/datasets/nysdec::dams/explore?filters=eyJSSVZFUI9TVFJFQU1fTkFNRSI6WyJQTOVTVEVOS0IMTCBDUkVFSyIsIlBPRVNURU5LSUxMliwiUE9FU1RFTiBLSUxMlI19&location=42.721710%2C-73.646041%2C11.62>
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). 2025a. Environmental Resource Mapper. URL: [https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/erm/?\\_gl=1\\*qt22ap\\*\\_ga\\*MTYyMzc5NzYwNC4xNzUwMzQxOTA4\\*\\_ga\\_QEDRGF4PYB\\*cze3NTA0MzkyMTMkbzUkZzAkDE3NTA0MzkyMTMkajYwJGwwJGgw](https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/erm/?_gl=1*qt22ap*_ga*MTYyMzc5NzYwNC4xNzUwMzQxOTA4*_ga_QEDRGF4PYB*cze3NTA0MzkyMTMkbzUkZzAkDE3NTA0MzkyMTMkajYwJGwwJGgw)
- NYSDEC. 2025b. Water Quality Monitoring. URL: <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/monitoring/monitoring-program-design>
- NYSDEC. 2025c. Spring 2025 Trout Stocking for Rensselaer County. URL: <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/stocking/spring-trout-stocking/rensselaer-county>
- NYSDEC. 2022. Final 2020/2022 NYS Section 303(d) List. URL:

[https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/fs/projects/cleanwateract/nys\\_section303\(d\)\\_list.xlsx](https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/fs/projects/cleanwateract/nys_section303(d)_list.xlsx)

- Onondaga Environmental Institute. 2019. An Assessment of Water Quality in the Poesten Kill Watershed. URL: [https://oei2.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/POESTWatershedPlan\\_MERGE.pdf](https://oei2.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/POESTWatershedPlan_MERGE.pdf)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2026. IPaC Environmental Review Project Planner. URL: <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/location/M7ITVUQZ5FBL3NSBPLYDYJ73JQ/resources>
- USFWS. 2025b. National Wetlands Inventory (NWI). URL: <https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/>
- USGS. 2025. National Water Dashboard. URL: <https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/app/nwd/en/?region=lower48>
- Warren, John. 2021. The Poestenkill: Mountains, Waterfalls and Waterworks. URL: <https://www.newyorkalmanack.com/2021/09/the-poestenkill-mountains-waterfalls-and-waterworks/>

## USFWS IPaC Report

# Endangered species

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

Additional information on endangered species data is provided [below](#).

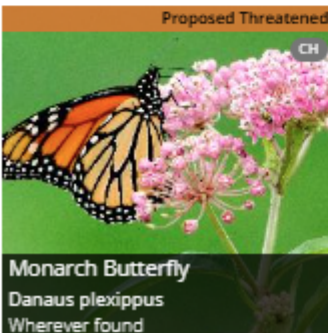
The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

THUMBNAILS  LIST

## Mammals



## Insects



## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

## Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act <sup>1</sup> and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) <sup>2</sup>. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

### RELATED LINKS

- [Eagle Management](#)
- [Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds](#)
- [Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds](#)

There are Bald Eagles and/or Golden Eagles in your [project](#) area.

### Measures for Proactively Minimizing Eagle Impacts

For information on how to best avoid and minimize disturbance to nesting bald eagles, please review the [National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines](#). You may employ the timing and activity-specific distance recommendations in this document when designing your project/activity to avoid and minimize eagle impacts. For bald eagle information specific to Alaska, please refer to [Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity](#).

The FWS does not currently have guidelines for avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting Golden Eagles. For site-specific recommendations regarding nesting Golden Eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

If disturbance or take of eagles cannot be avoided, an [incidental take permit](#) may be available to authorize any take that results from, but is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. For assistance making this determination for Bald Eagles, visit the [Do I Need A Permit Tool](#). For assistance making this determination for golden eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

### Ensure Your Eagle List is Accurate and Complete

If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area in IPaC, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the [Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#), to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to bald or golden eagles on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these bald or golden eagles are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

### Review the FAQs

The FAQs below provide important additional information and resources.

☰ THUMBNAILS
☰ LIST

☰ PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

