

Merrimack Station - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Anadromous Fish  
Restoration  
Program

Kevin Cassidy

to:

John King

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Cc:

Mark Stein, Melissa Hoffer, Tom Irwin

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John,

Per our discussion during our meeting, we have been doing some research into the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's partnership with NH and MA regarding anadromous fish reintroduction into the Merrimack River. While you are probably already aware of this information, we wanted to pass it along in the event you were not.

The plan goes back quite a ways, but the most current version that we could find is available here:

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/cnefro/plan.html>

It's from 1997, so we are continuing to look into what the current state of the program is and will pass that information along as we gather it. Notably, the plan as it appears here does contemplate stocking and releases of anadromous fish and fish larvae above Merrimack Station, in places like Franklin, NH for example. The plan talks about "developing the technologies for improved upstream and downstream fish passage," but it appears to be primarily concerned with the dams.

Although not related to entrainment or impingement, the Statement of Intent for A Cooperative Fishery Restoration Program for the Merrimack

River Basin (dated Sept. 29, 1969, and signed by MA, NH, and the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and Bureau of Commercial Fisheries - apparently some predecessor bureaus to US Fish & Wildlife), contains this statement: "The threat of thermal pollution is a very real one with two fossil-fueled steam electric stations in operation at Bow, New Hampshire. . . . Although subject to future research findings, it appears that any increase in water temperature will seriously hinder salmon and shad restoration in the Merrimack River." (emphasis added). You can find this Statement of Intent in the Appendices of the plan.

Thank you for considering this information. We will let you know if we find other relevant information on this topic.

Best regards,

Kevin

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