



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

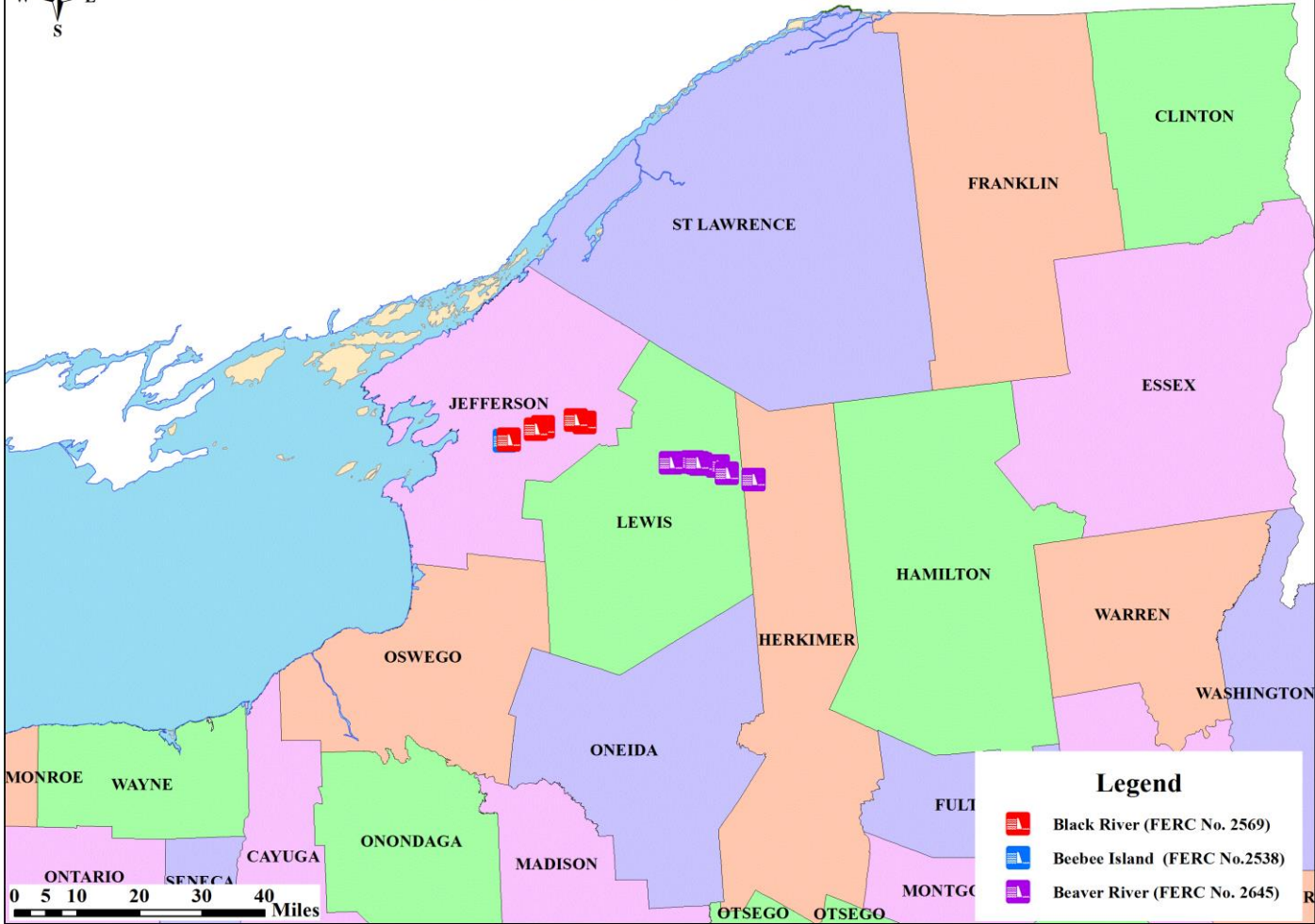


The Role of River Advisory Councils Within the Black River Watershed

By
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NYSDEC Aquatic Biologist

June 8, 2016

Black River Hydropower Projects



Legend

-  Black River (FERC No. 2569)
-  Beebee Island (FERC No. 2538)
-  Beaver River (FERC No. 2645)

Beaver River Advisory Council (BRAC-1)

- Established through the Offer of Settlement for the Beaver River Project (FERC No. 2645) on February 7, 1995.
- Amended on March 8, 1995.
 - The goal of a Settlement Agreement is to provide for power generations plus long-term protection of, mitigation for damage to, and enhancement of the Beaver River's fish and wildlife resources as affected by the hydropower developments.
- The Beaver River Project (FERC No. 2645) consists of eight (8) developments; the Moshier, Eagle, Soft Maple, Effley, Elmer, Taylorville, Belfort, and High Falls facilities.



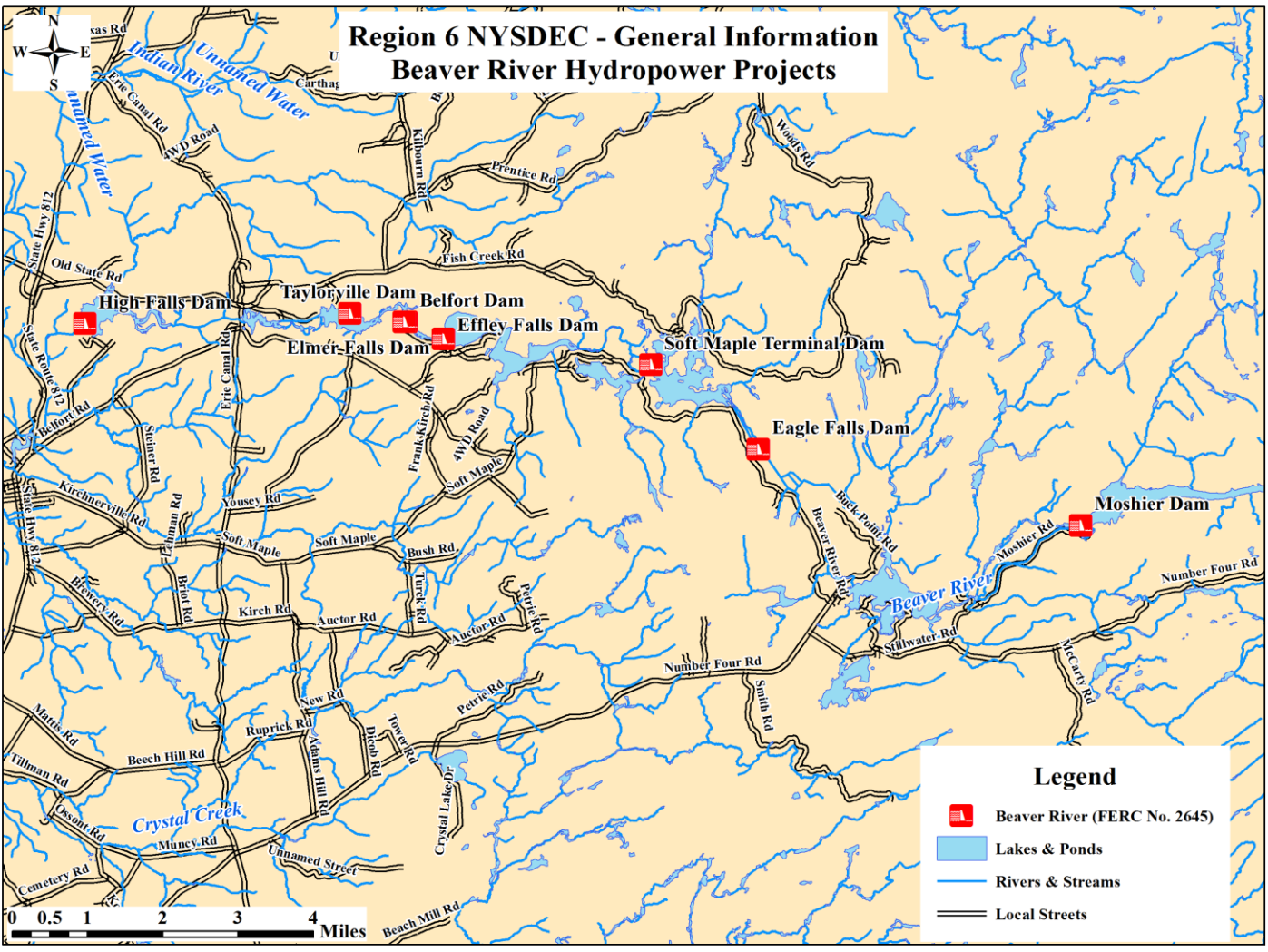
Beaver River Advisory Council (BRAC-1)

- The High Falls facility is located at river mile 11 and the Moshier facility is located at river mile 29 as measured from the confluence with the Black River.
- The Moshier facility is located in the Town of Webb, Herkimer County and the Eagle Development is in the Town of Watson, Lewis County.
- The remaining facilities are in the Town of Croghan, Lewis County.






Region 6 NYSDEC - General Information

Beaver River Hydropower Projects



Legend

-  Beaver River (FERC No. 2645)
-  Lakes & Ponds
-  Rivers & Streams
-  Local Streets

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles

Beaver River Advisory Council (BRAC-1)

- Purpose:
 - In order to keep abreast of changing conditions that may affect river flows and management objectives, an Advisory Council representative of the various interests in the Beaver River corridor will be formed as more specifically detailed in Attachment 2.
 - A river fund will be established as described in Attachment 2.



Beaver River Advisory Council (BRAC-1)

- The Beaver River Fund
 - Established through the Offer of Settlement.
- Purpose of the Beaver River Fund
 - The Beaver River Fund will be used within the Beaver River basin for projects and services designated by majority vote of the council for purposes of ecosystem restoration and protection, natural resource stewardship, public education, facility maintenance, and applied research necessary to accomplish these projects and provide these services and additional public access to outdoor recreational resources not currently agreed to by Niagara Mohawk as its commitment to these purposes.



Beaver River Advisory Council (BRAC-1)

- Purpose of the Beaver River Fund (continued)
 - The fund is not intended for any of the parties to carry out any obligations under the new FERC license or any amendment thereto.
 - Furthermore, the fund is not intended for any person or party to discharge any legal or statutory obligations.



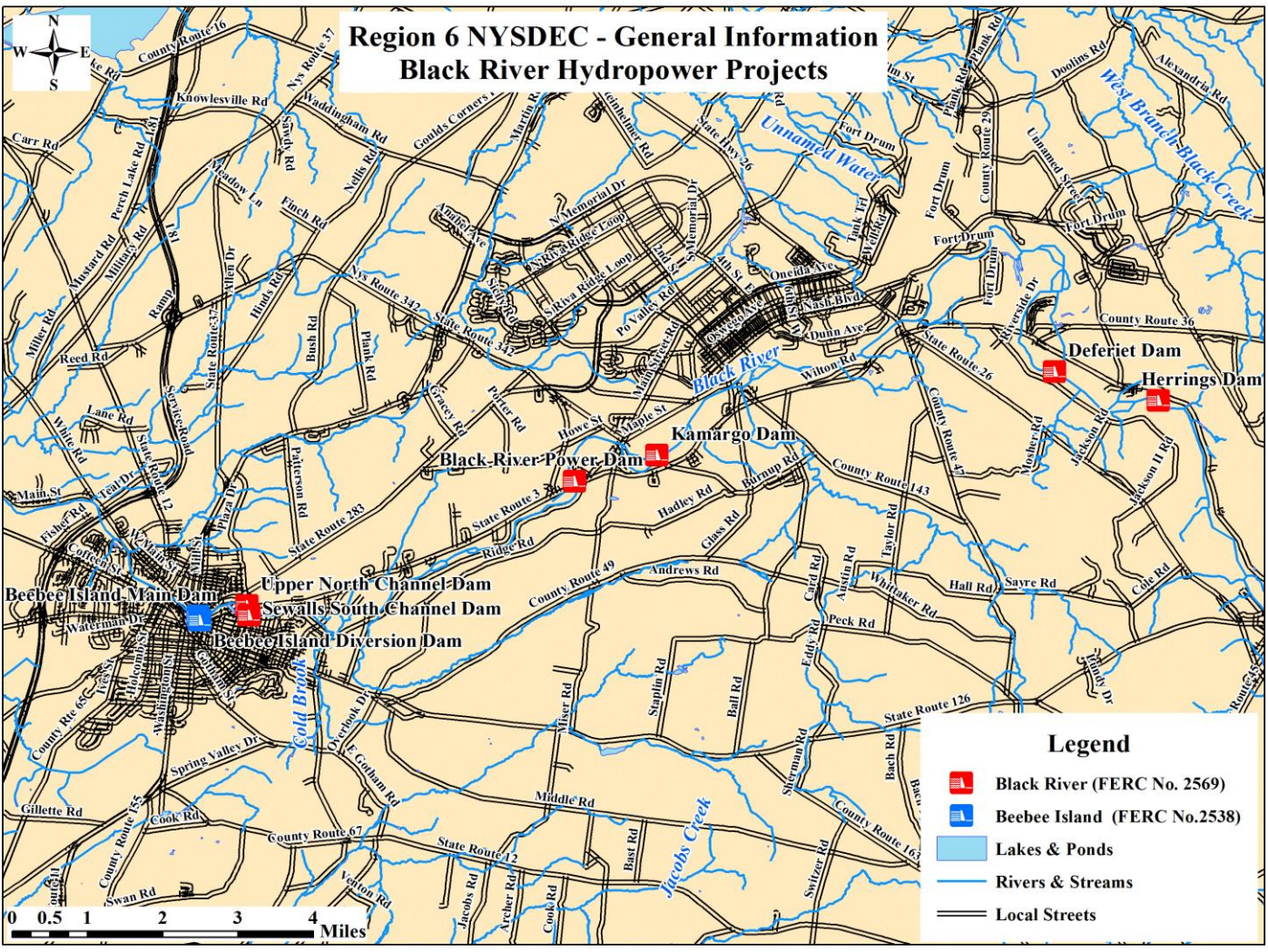
Black River Advisory Council (BRAC-2)

- Established through the Offer of Settlement for the Black River Project (FERC No. 2569) and the Beebee Island Project (FERC No. 2538) on September 14, 1995.
- The Black River Project (FERC No. 2569) consists of five (5) developments; the Herrings, Deferiet, Kamargo, Black River, and Sewalls facilities.
- The Beebee Island Project (FERC No. 2538) consists of the Beebee Island facility only.
- The Herrings facility is the furthest upstream and is located at river mile 27.5 and the Beebee Island facility is the most downstream facility located at river mile 9.5 as measured from the confluence of the mouth of the Black River and Lake Ontario's Black River Bay.



Region 6 NYSDEC - General Information

Black River Hydropower Projects



- Legend**
- Black River (FERC No. 2569)
 - Beebe Island (FERC No. 2538)
 - Lakes & Ponds
 - Rivers & Streams
 - Local Streets

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles

Black River Advisory Council (BRAC-2)

- Purpose:
 - In order to keep abreast of changing conditions that may affect river flows and management objectives, an Advisory Council representative of the various interests in the Black River corridor will be formed as more specifically detailed in Attachment 1.
 - A river fund will be established as described in Attachment 1.



Black River Advisory Council (BRAC-2)

- The Black River Fund
 - Established through the Offer of Settlement.
- Purpose of the Black River Fund
 - The Black River Fund will be used within the Black River basin for projects and services designated by majority vote of the council for purposes of ecosystem restoration and protection, natural resource stewardship, public education, facility maintenance, and applied research necessary to accomplish these projects and provide these services and additional public access to outdoor recreational resources not currently agreed to by licensees.



Black River Advisory Council (BRAC-2)

- Purpose of the Black River Fund (continued)
 - The fund is not intended for any of the signatories to carry out any obligations under the new FERC license or any amendment thereto.
 - Furthermore, the fund is not intended for any signatory to discharge any legal or statutory obligations.



Signatories to the Settlement Agreements

Beaver River Settlement

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
 NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
 Adirondack Council
 US Fish and Wildlife Service
 American Whitewater Affiliation
 Adirondack Park Agency
 New York Council, Trout Unlimited
 New York Rivers United
 National Audubon Society
 New York State Conservation Council
 American Canoe Association
 The Association for the Protection of the
 Adirondacks
 Adirondack Mountain Club
 American Rivers

Black River Settlement

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation
 Beebee Island Corporation
 NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
 US National Park Service
 US Fish and Wildlife Service
 Adirondack Mountain Club
 New York Council, Trout Unlimited
 New York State Conservation Council
 New York Rivers United
 American Whitewater Affiliation
 Natural Heritage Institute
 American Rivers
 National Audubon Society



Current Members of the BRACs

Brookfield Renewable Power
NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Adirondack Council
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Board of Hudson River – Black River Regulating District
American Whitewater
Adirondack Park Agency
New York Council, Trout Unlimited
National Audubon Society
New York State Conservation Council
Adirondack Mountain Club
Lewis County
Towns of Croghan, New Bremen, Watson, & Champion
US National Park Service
City of Watertown



The BRACs

- Meet as a combined group on the last Wednesday of April
 - Next meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2017
- Recent Project Contributions
 - South Main St. Trailhead Project – Village of West Carthage (River Bend Park – Boat Launch Ramp)
 - Beaver Camp attendance by; Carthage, Lowville, Beaver River, and South Lewis Schools
 - Beaver and Black River Early Warning Flood Detection System
 - Black River Watershed Conference



Thank You

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