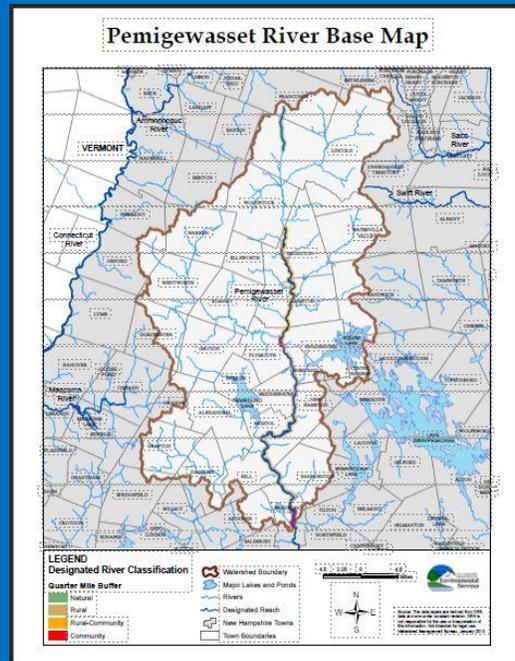


Update of the Pemigewasset River Corridor Management Plan



Project Background



Map of Pemegawasset River

The Pemigewasset River is one of 19 rivers designated under the Rivers Management and Protection Program (RSA 483) in the State of New Hampshire, requiring the development and management of a corridor management plan (for the designated river).

The Pemigewasset River runs from North to South starting in Franconia notch as the outlet of Profile Lake until it reaches its confluence with the Winnepesaukee River to form the Merrimack River in Franklin, NH.

The last revision of this corridor management plan was published in 2013. (Almost 10 years ago).

NHDES has awarded a grant to LRPC to assist PRLAC in updating the current Pemigewasset River Corridor Management plan.



Partners involved with Updating the Corridor Management Plan



Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee (PRLAC)

Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC)

North Country Council (NCC)

Possible Stakeholders including but not limited to:

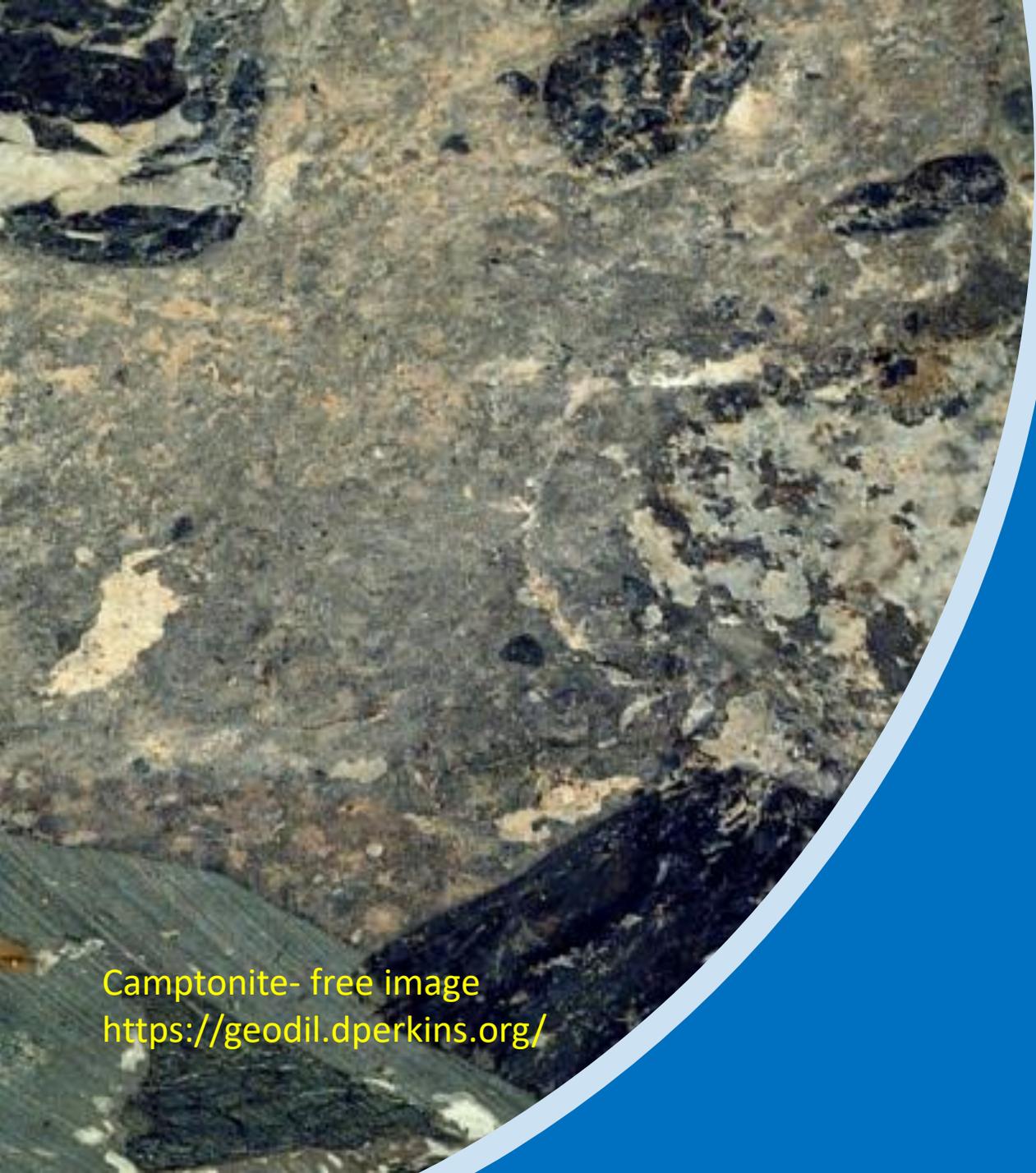
- Residents living on the river
- Planning and zoning boards
- Local river users (fisherman/kayakers)
- NH Fish and Game
- NH DES

What is the corridor management plan ?

- Inventory of resources within the watershed:
 - Geology
 - Water resources
 - Plants and wildlife
 - Land use and development
 - Historical
 - River corridor and watershed planning
- Description of Laws and Regulations governing the watershed
 - Federal and state
 - Local land use controls
- Community input towards managing the watershed
 - Community survey results
- Recommendations made by PRLAC representatives
 - Concerns and recommendations
 - Implementation

Profile Lake, NH
Photo by Matt Rose





Resources- Geology Examples

- ❖ Volcanic activity occurred at times to create granitic and volcanic rocks found in the White Mountains
- ❖ Unique metamorphic rock called (Camptonite) was discovered in 1879 at Livermore Falls in Campton, NH
- ❖ Sand, gravel and silt adjacent to most of the Pemi contain aquifers. Wells in these aquifers provide municipal/household water for many communities along the river.

Camptonite- free image
<https://geodil.dperkins.org/>



Resources- Water Resources

Background: Volunteer River Assessment Program (VRAP) volunteers conduct water tests from April-September annually in the Pemi. The Pemi is a class B water quality. Water testing allows for a continued monitoring of the water quality for maintaining our



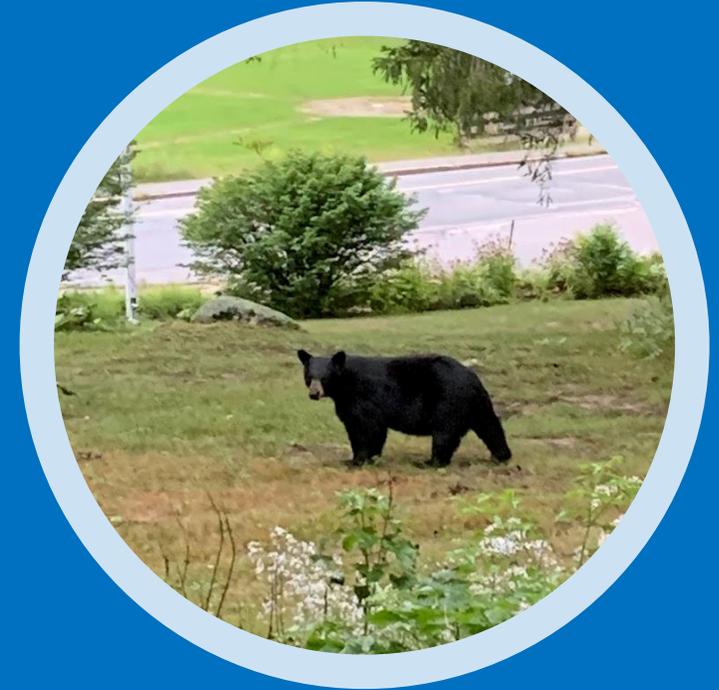
Lake Winnepesaukee
Photo by Matt Rose

Testing elements considered to be key indicators of river health:

- A) Dissolved oxygen (mg/L)
- B) Specific conductance (ms/cm)
- C) Turbidity (NTU)
- D) pH level
- E) Temperature (degrees C)
- F) E.coli (Cts/1,000 mL)
- G) Total phosphorus (mg/L)



Resources- Plants and Wildlife of the Pemi Corridor



Habitat types along the Pemi:

- Hemlock-hardwood-pine
*south of Campton
- Northern hardwood (sugar maple)-conifer *north of Campton
- Flood plain forests

Birds along the Pemi:

- Migratory waterfowl (Geese, Ducks)
- Migratory songbirds (Blue Jays)
- Wild eastern turkey

Mammals along the Pemi:

- Black Bear
- White tail deer
- Moose
- Bobcat
- Porcupine
- Coyote



Resources- Recreational Resources



Resources- Land Use and Development

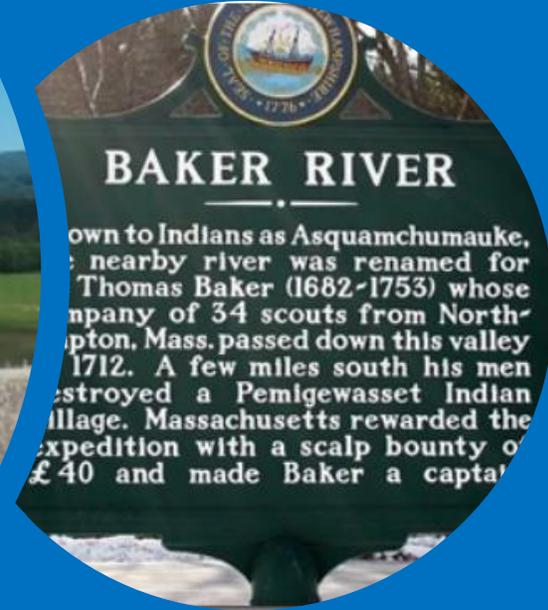
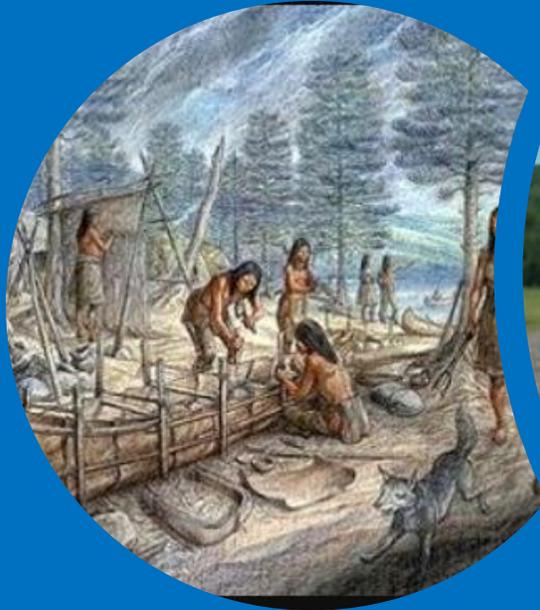
Land uses along the Pemigewasset River consist of:

- Agriculture
- Residential
- Recreational
- Industrial uses

❖ From 1970 to 2010 the population of the Pemi corridor had increased by 12%. Between 2010 and 2022 The State of New Hampshire experienced an increase of over 11,000 residents. Has the Pemi corridor population increased as well??



Resources- Historical Site



Along the river corridor there are many historical sites where Algonquin Native Americans (indigenous people) lived. Another historical sites is the Franklin Falls Dam constructed by the Army Core of Engineers.

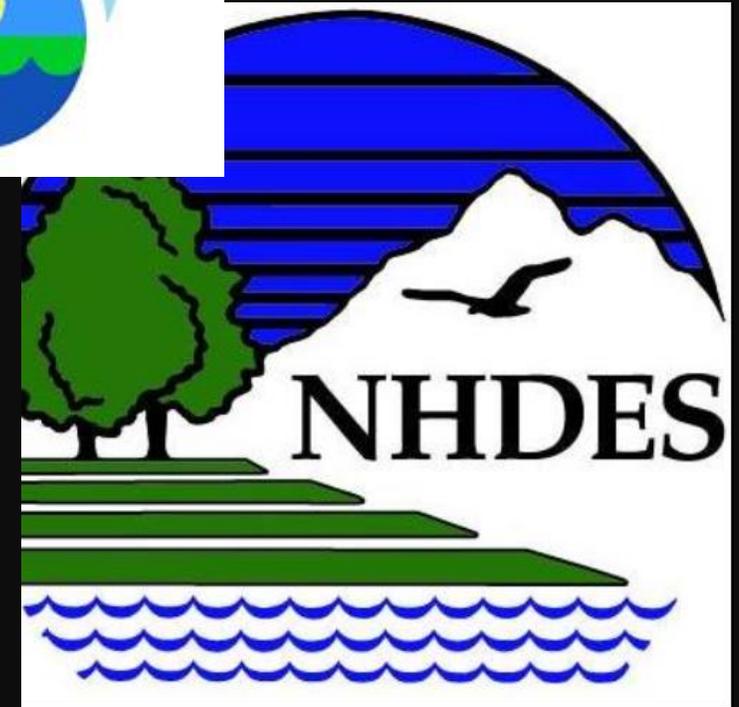


River Corridor and Watershed Planning

- There are 14 communities in the Pemi River corridor.
- 40 municipalities within the watershed.
- What happens in one community can impact people, property, and the water in other communities.
- PRLAC representatives are volunteers who are nominated by their communities.



Existing Laws and Regulations of the Pemigewasset River



Federal Clean Water Act

- In place to restore and maintain the chemical, biological, and physical integrity of U.S. waters
- Regulates pollution discharge, construction along the river corridor, and permitting for construction of dams/bridges



Federal Power Act

- Every hydroelectric project on a navigable stream requires a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission permit

Dam below First Connecticut Lake, Pittsburg
Photo by Matt Rose



State Shoreland Protection

In the State of New
Hampshire

- ❑ All lakes/ponds (greater than 10 acres)
- ❑ All rivers/streams (greater than 4th order)



Subject to the Shoreland
Water Quality Protection Act



Formerly the “old man in the mountain”
Photo by Matt Rose



State Wetlands

- ❑ Established to protect public trust (lands) and other interests of the State of New Hampshire

A photograph of a waterfall cascading over mossy rocks in a forest. The water is clear and white with foam as it falls. The surrounding rocks and ground are covered in vibrant green moss. A fallen branch lies on the mossy ground to the right of the waterfall. The scene is set in a lush, wooded area with some fallen leaves visible on the left.

State Alteration of Terrain

- Permits issued by NH DES to protect NH's surface water, drinking water, and ground water
- This is to control soil erosion and manage stormwater runoff from developing areas along the river

What is the purpose of updating the Pemigewasset Corridor Management Plan?

To provide relevant research and planning for the watershed.

Update implementation status of actions recommended in the 2013 plan.



Interstate 93 near Woodstock, photo by Matt Rose

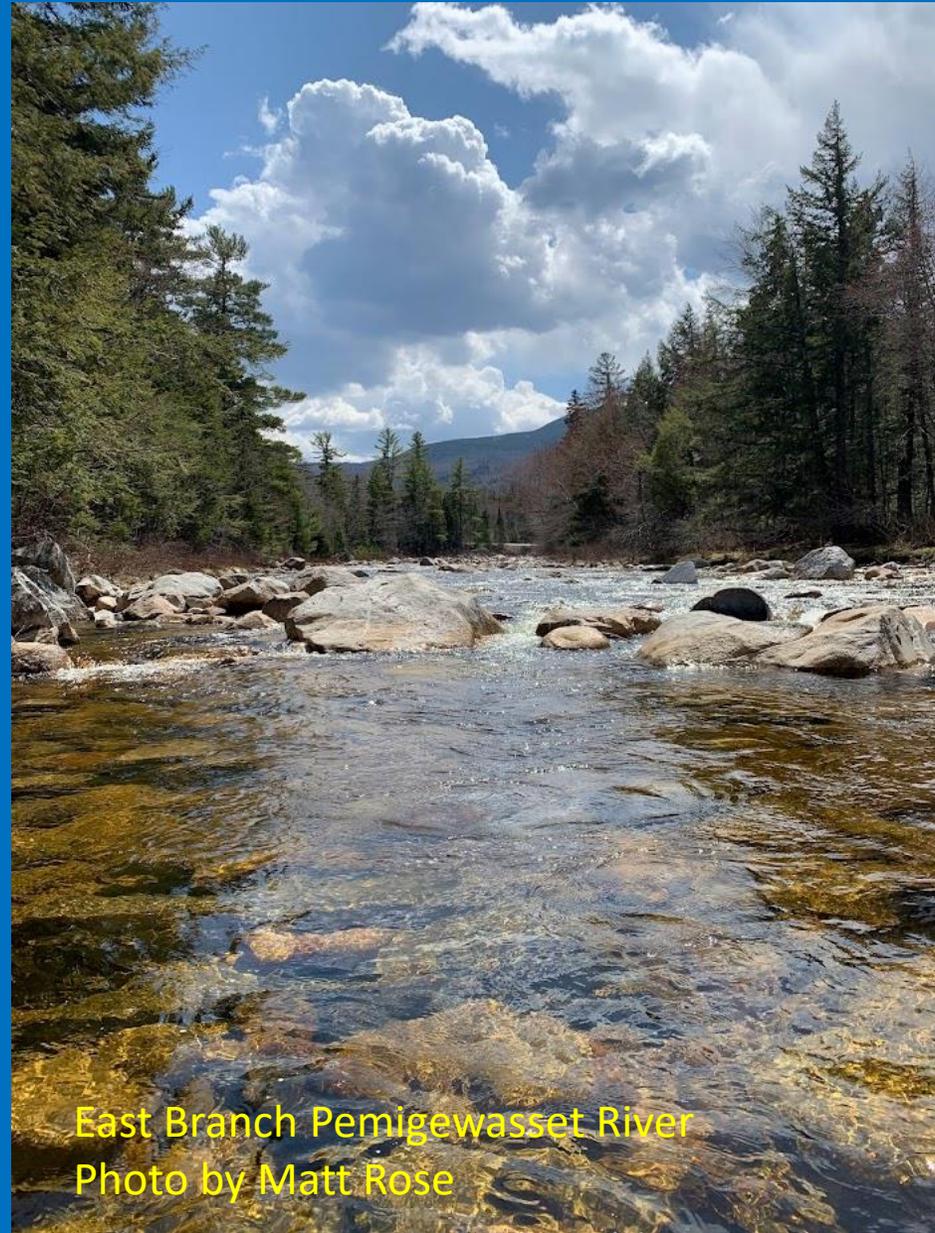
Update of any changes to the river.

483:10 River corridor management plans section updated with two new sections since 2016: State-owned lands and fluvial geomorphology



Possible changes to the watershed since 2013.

- Regulatory changes
- Flood impacts
- Physical changes (wash outs)
- Zoning changes
- Development impacts
- New public recreation sites
- Wildlife habitat



East Branch Pemigewasset River
Photo by Matt Rose



How are we going to update the Corridor Management Plan?

Scope of work for the Corridor Management Plan update

Objective 1

Conduct a Kick-Off meeting involving stake holders and the general public.

Objective 2

Update the 'Resources' section and corresponding appendices of the Corridor Management Plan.

Objective 3

Update information on "Corridor Protections"- federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and zoning pertaining to land & water use and water quality in the Pemi River corridor.

Objective 4

Update, draft, and review the "Recommendations and Actions" section of the plan.

Objective 5

Compile, edit with stakeholder input, publish, and publicize the plan. This will include a presentation of the final draft plan for adoption by PRLAC.



Timeline of Objectives

Objective 1

Kickoff meeting in the Pemi River Corridor, Completion by September 27, 2022; (LRPC and PRLAC)

Objective 2

Update of 'Resources' section, Completion date TBD; (LRPC, NCC, PRLAC)

Objective 3

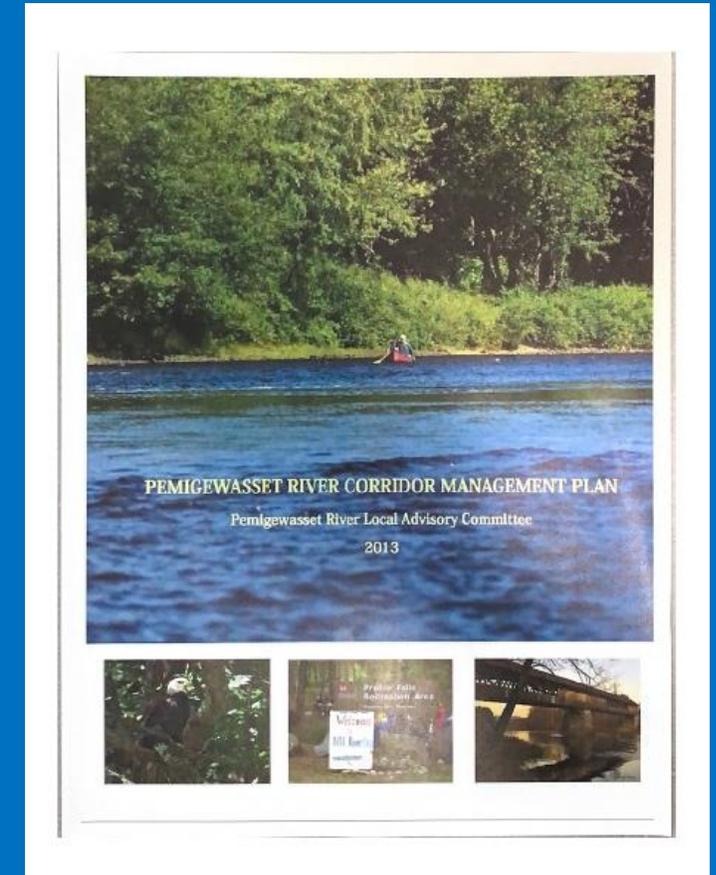
Update information on 'Corridor Protections' Completion by March 31, 2023; (LRPC, NCC, PRLAC)

Objective 4

Update, draft, and review the 'Recommendations and Actions' section of the plan, Completion by June 30, 2023; (LRPC, NCC, PRLAC)

Objective 5

Complete the new Pemigewasset River Corridor Management Plan Completion by March 31, 2024; (LRPC, NCC, PRLAC)



Link to current management plan:
<https://www.lakesrpc.org/PRLAC/files/PemiCorrMgmentPlan2013.final.pdf>

2013 Version



Questions??

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Link for current 2013 corridor management plan-
[https://www.lakesrpc.org/PRLAC/files/PemiCorrMg
mentPlan2013.final.pdf](https://www.lakesrpc.org/PRLAC/files/PemiCorrMg
mentPlan2013.final.pdf)

PRLAC website:
<https://www.lakesrpc.org/prlac/prlacindex.asp>

