

May 12, 2023

**Brunswick Project**  
**FERC No. 2284-ME**

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

*Via eFiling*

**Subject: Brunswick Project (FERC No. 2284-ME) Upstream Fish Passage**

Dear Secretary Bose,

Brookfield White Pine Hydro LLC (BWPH), owner and operator of the Brunswick Project on the Androscoggin River in Maine, is providing an update on the delayed opening of the upstream fish passage following an email from the Commission on May 12, 2023.

The Androscoggin River experienced high flows from May 1 to May 5, 2023 exceeding many EAP High Flow thresholds with a peak flow on the lower Androscoggin River of approximately 55,000 cfs. While BWPH had made all the necessary preparations for routine operations beginning on the required opening date of May 1, the high flows prevented this. Due to the forecasted storm and predicted high flows, BWPH hydro technicians removed electrical components of the fishway entrance gate as a precaution. Additional staff traveled from other parts of Maine to expedite the process, removing a large amount of saturated woody debris using only hand and power tools for safety and to protect the environment. Preliminary agency data indicates that river flow that high had not been seen in some parts of Maine since the flood of 1987. BWPH notified the agencies on May 1, 2023 that the lower Androscoggin River fishways, including the Brunswick Project, would be shut down accordingly in compliance with the agency approved April 7, 2021 Brunswick Fishway Operations and Maintenance Plan, which requires the fishway to be open May 1 or as “conditions allow”.

While flows came down below the High Flow EAP thresholds for the lower Androscoggin River late last week, the lower portion of the Brunswick fishway still remained inundated until early the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>. BWPH notified the agencies on May 8, 2023 that the debris that resulted from the high flow conditions would prevent the timely opening of the Brunswick fishway and committed to prioritizing the work necessary to reopen.

The Brunswick fishway has no crane or other mechanical assistance for debris removal due to available space and hazards from overhead lines. As a result, all of the debris, the magnitude of which can be pictured in the attached email correspondence, had to be removed by hand and work could commence only once flows receded such that the length of the fishway could be safely accessed, early the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>.

BWPH hydro technicians worked diligently over the course of this week and had the upstream fish passage ready within days. BWPH hydro technicians were able to clear the woody debris, install temporary handrails, reinstall components of the fishway entrance gate, and make electrical repairs by the evening of May 11, 2023. The upstream fish passage was reopened for routine operations in coordination with the Maine Department of Marine Resources on the morning of May 12, 2023. The agencies and upstream dam owners were notified that the fishway was open for the season on May 12, 2023 (please see attached correspondence).

**BROOKFIELD WHITE PINE HYDRO LLC**

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Please contact Adam Brown at (207) 313-1173 or at [Adam.Brown@brookfieldrenewable.com](mailto:Adam.Brown@brookfieldrenewable.com) with any questions.

Sincerely,



Kelly Maloney,  
Senior Manager, Compliance – Northeast

Cc: N. Stevens, A. Brown, S. Michaud, P. McDonough, J. Seyfried, E. Thone; BWPH

C. Clark; MDMR  
M. Buyoff; NMFS  
J. Rosset; USFWS  
J. Pellerin; MDIFW

HSSE SharePoint: 2284|01

## Seyfried, Jason

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**From:** Holly Frank <Holly.Frank@ferc.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 11:08 AM  
**To:** Maloney, Kelly  
**Cc:** Seyfried, Jason; Thone, Eli; Mcdonough, Patrick; Stevens, Nate; Michaud, Steve; Mapletoft, Thomas; Brown, Adam  
**Subject:** RE: To Agencies | Androscoggin Upstream Fish Passage Update

Much appreciated, thank you Kelly. Please file a report to the record providing this information (agency consultation, details about the flow situation and clean-up process) to close the loop on this compliant.

Can you let me know if you also use the number 207-755-5605? That's the number in our records for the Brunswick project so I'd like to update it if needed.

**Holly Frank** (she/her)  
Fishery Biologist, FERC DHAC  
(202) 502-6833

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**From:** Maloney, Kelly <Kelly.Maloney@brookfieldrenewable.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 10:21 AM  
**To:** Holly Frank <Holly.Frank@ferc.gov>  
**Cc:** Seyfried, Jason <Jason.Seyfried@brookfieldrenewable.com>; Thone, Eli <Eli.Thone@brookfieldrenewable.com>; Mcdonough, Patrick <Patrick.McDonough@brookfieldrenewable.com>; Stevens, Nate <Nathan.Stevens@brookfieldrenewable.com>; Michaud, Steve <Stephen.Michaud@brookfieldrenewable.com>; Mapletoft, Thomas <Thomas.Mapletoft@brookfieldrenewable.com>; Brown, Adam <Adam.Brown@brookfieldrenewable.com>  
**Subject:** FW: To Agencies | Androscoggin Upstream Fish Passage Update

Holly,

Please see below. The Androscoggin River experienced high flows from May 1 to May 5, 2023 exceeding many EAP High Flow thresholds with a peak flow on the lower Androscoggin River of approximately 55,000 cfs. We notified the agencies on May 1 that the lower Androscoggin River fishways, including the Brunswick Project, would be shut down accordingly.

While flows came down below the High Flow EAP thresholds for the lower Androscoggin River late last week, the lower portion of the Brunswick fishway still remained inundated until early this week. We notified the agencies on May 8 that the debris that resulted from the high flow conditions would prevent the timely opening of the Brunswick fishway and committed to prioritizing the work necessary to reopen.

The Brunswick fishway has no crane or other mechanical assistance for debris removal due to available space and overhead lines. As a result, all of the debris, the magnitude of which can be readily seen in the Friends of Merrymeeting Bay filing, has to be removed by hand and only once flows recede such that the length of the fishway can be safely accessed.

Brookfield employees worked diligently throughout this week to clear the debris and I am happy to report that the Brunswick fishway was cleared last night and put into operation this morning.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

Thank you,

**Kelly Maloney**  
Senior Manager, Compliance – Northeast

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**From:** Seyfried, Jason <[Jason.Seyfried@brookfieldrenewable.com](mailto:Jason.Seyfried@brookfieldrenewable.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, May 12, 2023 7:53 AM

**To:** Dan Tierney - NOAA Federal <[dan.tierney@noaa.gov](mailto:dan.tierney@noaa.gov)>; [julianne\\_rosset@fws.gov](mailto:julianne_rosset@fws.gov); [Dwayne.J.Seiders@maine.gov](mailto:Dwayne.J.Seiders@maine.gov); Pellerin, James ([James.Pellerin@maine.gov](mailto:James.Pellerin@maine.gov)) <[james.pellerin@maine.gov](mailto:james.pellerin@maine.gov)>; Clark, Casey <[casey.clark@maine.gov](mailto:casey.clark@maine.gov)>; Olcott, Kyle <[kyle.olcott@maine.gov](mailto:kyle.olcott@maine.gov)>; [matt.buhyoff@noaa.gov](mailto:matt.buhyoff@noaa.gov); James Lyons <[James.lyons@ferc.gov](mailto:James.lyons@ferc.gov)>; Katherine Adnams <[Katherine.Adnams@ferc.gov](mailto:Katherine.Adnams@ferc.gov)>

**Cc:** Bernier, Kevin <[Kevin.Bernier@brookfieldrenewable.com](mailto:Kevin.Bernier@brookfieldrenewable.com)>; Mapletoft, Thomas

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**Subject:** To Agencies | Androscoggin Upstream Fish Passage Update

Good morning, I'm emailing to notify your agency that the Brunswick Project (FERC No. 2284-ME) and Pejepscot Project (FERC No. 4784-ME) upstream fish passages will be opened this morning. Thank you.

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**From:** Seyfried, Jason

**Sent:** Monday, May 8, 2023 12:12 PM

**To:** Dan Tierney - NOAA Federal <[dan.tierney@noaa.gov](mailto:dan.tierney@noaa.gov)>; [julianne\\_rosset@fws.gov](mailto:julianne_rosset@fws.gov); [Dwayne.J.Seiders@maine.gov](mailto:Dwayne.J.Seiders@maine.gov);

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James Lyons <[James.lyons@ferc.gov](mailto:James.lyons@ferc.gov)>

**Cc:** Bernier, Kevin <[Kevin.Bernier@brookfieldrenewable.com](mailto:Kevin.Bernier@brookfieldrenewable.com)>; Mapletoft, Thomas

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**Subject:** To Agencies | Lower Kennebec and Androscoggin Upstream Fish Passage Update

Good afternoon, I'm emailing to notify you that the Lockwood Project (FERC No. 2574-ME) upstream fish passage is back to normal operations this morning on the Kennebec River. We anticipate at least a week to safely address woody debris removal, inspect and repair the Brunswick Project (FERC No. 2284-ME) and Pejepscot Project (FERC No. 4784-ME) upstream fish passages. Some components of these fishways are covered with debris so the full scope of work is unknown, however, maintenance and repairs are a priority as river conditions safely allow. Brookfield Renewable will provide an update when normal fish passage operations resume at these Projects. Please let me know if you have any questions.





The Brunswick Project vertical slot upstream fish passage pictured above.

Thank you,

**Jay Seyfried**

Compliance Specialist

**Brookfield Renewable**

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**From:** Seyfried, Jason

**Sent:** Friday, May 5, 2023 11:16 AM

**To:** Dan Tierney - NOAA Federal <[dan.tierney@noaa.gov](mailto:dan.tierney@noaa.gov)>; [julianne\\_rosset@fws.gov](mailto:julianne_rosset@fws.gov); [Dwayne.J.Seiders@maine.gov](mailto:Dwayne.J.Seiders@maine.gov); [James.Pellerin@maine.gov](mailto:James.Pellerin@maine.gov); [casey.clark@maine.gov](mailto:casey.clark@maine.gov); [matt.buhyoff@noaa.gov](mailto:matt.buhyoff@noaa.gov)

**Cc:** Bernier, Kevin <[Kevin.Bernier@brookfieldrenewable.com](mailto:Kevin.Bernier@brookfieldrenewable.com)>; Mapletoft, Thomas

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**Subject:** Update - Lower Kennebec and Androscoggin Upstream Fish Passage Notification

Good morning, I'm emailing to notify you that the nighttime shutdowns for downstream fish migration at the Hydro Kennebec Project (FERC No. 2611-ME) resumed last night. Thanks for your time and have a good day.

---

**From:** Seyfried, Jason

**Sent:** Monday, May 1, 2023 11:15 AM

**To:** [dan.tierney@noaa.gov](mailto:dan.tierney@noaa.gov); [julianne\\_rosset@fws.gov](mailto:julianne_rosset@fws.gov); [Dwayne.J.Seiders@maine.gov](mailto:Dwayne.J.Seiders@maine.gov); [James.Pellerin@maine.gov](mailto:James.Pellerin@maine.gov); [casey.clark@maine.gov](mailto:casey.clark@maine.gov); [matt.buhyoff@noaa.gov](mailto:matt.buhyoff@noaa.gov)

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<[Nathan.Stevens@brookfieldrenewable.com](mailto:Nathan.Stevens@brookfieldrenewable.com)>

**Subject:** Lower Kennebec and Androscoggin Upstream Fish Passage Notification

Good morning, I'm emailing to notify you that the upstream fish passages at the Lockwood Project (FERC No. 2574-ME), Pejepscot Project (FERC No. 4784-ME) and Brunswick Project (FERC No. 2284-ME) are closed due to high flows exceeding operational thresholds. Additionally, nighttime shutdowns for downstream fish migration at the Hydro Kennebec Project (FERC No. 2611-ME) will not be implemented beginning tonight to aid in flood control and dam safety. The USGS is predicting the Kennebec River will reach approximately 65,000 cfs through Skowhegan and the Androscoggin River will reach approximately 50,000 cfs through Brunswick. Brookfield Renewable will provide an update(s) when normal fish



passage operations resume at these Projects, including the nighttime shutdowns. We anticipate nighttime shutdowns at the Hydro Kennebec Project resuming later this week. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

**Jay Seyfried**

Compliance Specialist

**Brookfield Renewable**

150 Main Street, Lewiston, Maine, 04240

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