



Penobscot River Restoration Great Works & Veazie Dam Removals Sedgeunkedunk Steam Restoration

Thursday, August 8, 2013
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

\$35.00 ELA & SER Members - \$40 Non-Member

The Penobscot River Restoration Project (Penobscot Project) is an unprecedented collaborative effort that will rebalance fisheries restoration with hydropower production in the largest watershed within Maine and result in the ecological restoration on the Penobscot River. Major partners in the project include hydropower companies; federal, state, and tribal governments; the Penobscot River Restoration Trust (Penobscot Trust); and conservation groups. After several years and considerable work, the Penobscot Trust purchased three dams from the PPL Corporation (the hydropower company) in order to remove the two most seaward dams—Great Works and Veazie and to pursue a fish bypass around the Howland dam. As part of the arrangement, PPL Corporation received approval to increase generation at six existing dams and will improve fish passage at four additional dams.

The largest river in Maine, the Penobscot River and its tributaries flow from near Mount Katahdin in the North Woods through the heart of Maine to Penobscot Bay. As a model for cooperative conservation, the Penobscot Project provides numerous benefits while maintaining hydropower generation. The Penobscot Project:

- Provides access to habitat for Atlantic and Shortnose sturgeon as well as striped bass.
- Improves access to nearly 1,000 miles of habitat for endangered Atlantic salmon and other species.
- Restores ecological functions to benefit native plant and animals in the river, estuary, and Gulf of Maine.
- Leads to a cleaner, healthier, more resilient river.
- Revitalizes culture and traditions for the Penobscot Indians, ancestral home for more than 10,000 years.
- Offers new opportunities for economic and community development in riverside communities.
- Enhances outdoor recreation such as fishing, paddling, and wildlife watching.

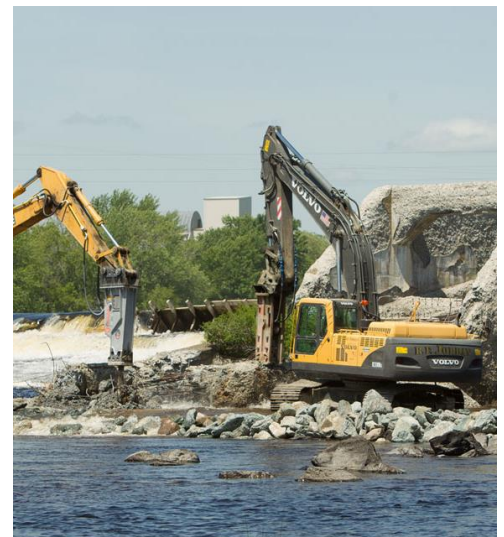
The Great Works Dam removal was completed in November 2012—you can see the restoration of the river rapids in the *before-and-after* photo above. The Veazie Dam removal will begin in July (after the typical peak of salmon returns on the river) and will be underway during this tour.

Join tour guides Steve Shepard and Sarah Watts for a unique opportunity to see this historic restoration project in process. The tour will begin with a project overview and then carpool to the two dam removal sites. After viewing Great Works and Veazie projects, an optional tour will be conducted to the Sedgeunkedunk Steam Restoration where one dam was removed and a second dam was converted to a nature-like, rock ramp for fish passage.

Bring Your Brown Bag Lunch

Registrations are limited - Use This Link to Register Online Now.

For more information: ela.info@comcast.net or (617) 436-5838





Steve Shepard is a Fish and Wildlife Biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Maine Field Office. He is a Certified Fisheries Professional with 28 years of experience in aquatic ecology and fisheries science. He has a MS in Zoology from the University of Maine and a BS in Fisheries Science from the University of Washington. He has applied his training and experience to conducting scientific studies, preparing state and federal environmental license applications, and conducting license compliance studies. Steve has specific expertise in hydroelectric project impact assessment and fish passage, particularly related to the restoration and management of Atlantic salmon.

Sarah Watts is an Operations/Project Manager and wetland scientist at Tetra Tech, Inc., Portland, Maine. She has been a Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) member since 1998, and SER New England Chapter Board since formation in 2006, currently Maine State Director. She has more than 15 years professional experience in wetland ecology and management, water resources planning, and wetland restoration and mitigation planning. She holds a Master of Environmental Management (MEM) from Duke University Nicholas School of the Environment, concentration in Wetland Resource Ecology, and Bachelor of Science in Biology and Environmental Studies from Tufts University. Sarah's background includes wetland delineations; State and Federal environmental permitting packages; habitat evaluations and wetland functional analyses; and, planning, designing, or monitoring wetland restoration projects.

CEUs are being sought for this presentation.

