



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
103 East Plumtree Road
Sunderland, Massachusetts 01375
(413) 548-8002



Mr. Bruce Collingwood, PE
Commissioner of Public Works & Utilities
City of Pittsfield, MA
70 Allen Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201

9/20/2009

Dear Mr. Collingwood,

I am writing to express the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's support for the removal of Upper Hathaway Brook Dam in Dalton, Massachusetts. We applaud the City of Pittsfield's efforts to restore aquatic resources within Hathaway Brook. The brook is a tributary to Sackett Brook which flows into the Housatonic River. The goals and objectives of the project support several U.S. Fish and Wildlife strategic goals including the restoration and enhancement of stream habitats, re-connection of fragmented habitats, improving water quality, and increasing recreational opportunities.

The primary target species, eastern brook trout, is a Federal trust species and one of particular importance to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The removal of Upper Hathaway Dam combined with the already permitted removal of Lower Hathaway Dam will result in immediate and permanent ecological benefits. We join in supporting this project that will permanently restore the geomorphic processes and the biological resources. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact me at (413) 548-8002 ext. 123 or e:mail me at Martha_Naley@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Martha B. Naley
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Restoration Biologist

cc: Doug Gove, Project Manager, AECOM Water, doug.gove@aecom.com
Lisa Pietro, Environmental Scientist, AECOM Water, lisa.pietro@aecom.com



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

RIVERWAYS PROGRAM

Building Partnerships, Protecting Rivers

Tim Purinton, Acting Director

April 28, 2009

Housatonic River NRD Fund – Project Proposal
Stantec Consulting
30 Park Drive
Topsham, ME 04086-1737

Re: Upper Hathaway Dam Removal

Dear MA SubCouncil of the Housatonic River Natural Resource Trustees:

The mission of the Riverways Program (Riverways) is to promote the restoration and protection of the ecological integrity of the Commonwealth's watersheds: rivers, streams and adjacent lands. Riverways was created in 1987 to encourage and support local river protection and restoration initiatives as a vital complement to state action.

I am writing in support of the City of Pittsfield's application for funding to remove Upper Hathaway Dam. The City of Pittsfield is seeking to restore stream connectivity and aquatic biological resource habitat within Hathaway Brook by removing Upper Hathaway Dam located in Dalton, Massachusetts within the Housatonic River watershed. Hathaway Brook is a tributary to Sackett Brook, which in turn is a tributary to the Housatonic River. The deteriorating Upper Hathaway Dam serves to impound Hathaway Reservoir and is part of a water supply for the City that is no longer in service.

Removing Upper Hathaway Dam will restore geomorphic processes, water quality, and species that depend on flowing water, such as brook trout and long-nosed suckers. Removing dams from small coldwater streams such as Hathaway Brook is particularly important as these streams are frequently the last high-quality refugia habitat in the watershed. Furthermore, these streams supply clear, cool water to larger streams. This project will complement the removal of Lower Hathaway Dam, which is being undertaken as a compensatory mitigation project for the repair of Ashley Lake Dam (please note that no Housatonic River NRD Funds are being requested for the removal of the Lower Hathaway Dam).

Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding our support of this project.

Sincerely,

Tim Purinton, Acting Director

CC: Bruce Collingwood, City of Pittsfield

251 Causeway Street • Suite 400 • Boston, Massachusetts 02114 • www.massriverways.org • (617) 626-1540
Riverways Program, A Division of the Department of Fish and Game

Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary
Executive Office of Energy
& Environmental Affairs

Mary B. Griffin, Commissioner
Department of Fish and Game