

Mayo Mill Dam Feasibility Study Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 25, 2023

Attending (12): Tom Lizotte, Chris Maas, Cindy Freeman-Cyr, Norton True, Jack Clukey, Alsina Brenenstuhl, Maranda Nemeth, Eileen Bader-Hall, Mike Burke, Lucy Van Hook, Matt Bernier, Dick Swett, Bob Gilbert, William Smith

Call to Order: 5:30 pm

Minutes:

- Maranda provided an overview of the field trip on Tuesday 5/23. Those who attended were able to watch and assist with the fry stocking of Atlantic salmon in Kingsbury Stream.
- Maranda provided an overview of the life cycle Atlantic salmon, and the approximately 280 miles of spawning and rearing habitat within the Piscataquis watershed above Dover-Foxcroft and Guilford.
- Maranda and Mike provided a presentation on different types of fish passages. Discussed were technical and nature-like fish passage along with dam removal, stating pros and cons with the types. Case studies were provided examples from previous projects around the state.
- Eileen noted that TNC and ASF and other partners have been working on undersized road stream crossings that act as barriers to the fish across the tributaries to the Piscataquis for years and the work is ongoing.

Comments:

Chris Maas: We need to be sure we evaluate hydropower potential. Who is doing the study? Answer: Gomez & Sullivan

Dick Swett: Are there any fish we want to exclude from moving upstream? Answer: Brown's Mill has an exclusion barrier for non-native fish such as Northern pike.

Cindy Freeman: This was very helpful to see aerial photos of pre- and post- dam removals or improvements

Maranda Nemeth: The goal for fish passage is to provide safe, timely and effective up and downstream movement. The definition for this is set by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Mike Burke: In answering a group question of what the river would generally look like with dam removal, the river downtown would look similar to the river upstream above the 4-seasons trail.

Communications and Outreach Action Items:

- Jack & Alsina - Kiwanis meeting presentation on June 13th meeting
- Jack – one line ad to be placed on D-F PD sign.
- Alsina – Print and place flyers around town, and provide Facebook ad for Central Hall to share
- Maranda – Presentation at TFL on June 15th 6 pm on Atlantic salmon, smolts (real fish) will be on display for the presentation
- Steering committee- Share public forum information and invite community members to the forum.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Tuesday, June 13th, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Adjournment: 7:10 pm

Submitted by: Alsina Brenenstuhl

Date: 6/8/2023