

Exploring the Impacts of Dam Removal on Fisheries Among Northeast U.S. Basins: A Workshop

Workshop Description: This workshop will introduce the concept of removing dams for the benefit of fish populations. An overview of the history of dam removal, the mechanisms for removing dams, and the impacts of dams and dam removal on fish will be given. Participants will hear about case studies of dam removal projects that have benefitted fish populations and discuss considerations for fresh-saltwater exchange of animals, nutrients, water, and climate refuge. Regional efforts to improve river connectivity from Maine to Maryland will be presented. Participants will have the opportunity to learn how research and monitoring impacts and evaluates restoration outcomes and discuss challenges surrounding restoring rivers with practitioners and researchers. Ultimately, workshop leaders hope to initiate a network of communication between inland and marine fisheries folks working on and supporting dam removal.

Workshop Objectives:

- Increase awareness of the impacts of dams and benefits of dam removal
- How to use science to track success of restoration projects
- Raise awareness of basin-scale initiatives on dam removal throughout the Northeast U.S.

Workshop Leaders:

Jessie Thomas-Blate (she/her)
Director, River Restoration
American Rivers

Michelle DiBlasio (she/her)
Freshwater Restoration Manager
The Nature Conservancy

Steve Tuorto, PhD (he/him)
Director of Science and Stewardship
The Watershed Institute

Date and Time*: Tuesday, October 10/29

9:00-10:00 – Plenary Speaker (potentially) and workshop charge

10:00-12:00 – Oral Presentations

13:30-14:30 – Panel Discussion

14:30-15:00 – Synthesis

**Date is set, but specific time frames are still tentative*