

ENF

**Environmental
Notification Form**

<i>For Office Use Only Executive Office of Environmental Affairs</i>	
EOEA No.:	<i>14493</i>
MEPA Analyst:	<i>Aisling Eglinton</i>
Phone: 617-626-	<i>1024</i>

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Upper Hathaway Dam Removal Project		
Street: Washington Mountain Road		
Municipality: Dalton	Watershed: Housatonic Watershed	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42.420" N Longitude: 73.198° W	
Estimated commencement date: August 2010	Estimated completion date: November 2010	
Approximate cost: \$850,000	Status of project design: 90 %complete	
Proponent: City of Pittsfield, Bruce Collingwood (Commissioner of Public Works and Utilities)		
Street: Pittsfield City Hall, 70 Allen St.		
Municipality: City of Pittsfield	State: MA	Zip Code: 01201
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Aaron Weieneth		
Firm/Agency: AECOM	Street: 701 Edgewater Drive	
Municipality: Wakefield	State: MA	Zip Code: 01880
Phone: 781-224-6222	Fax: 781-224-5986	E-mail: aaron.weieneth@aecom.com

- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. 14295) No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No
 - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301 CMR 11.09) Yes No
 - a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No
 - a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres): A Housatonic Natural Resource Damages Fund grant application has been submitted for the project.

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify _____) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Dalton Conservation Commission - Order of Conditions; MassDEP 401 Water Quality Certification; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (New England) - Section 404 Permit; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - NPDES Construction General Permit

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i> MA Department of Conservation – Chapter 253 Permit (request for jurisdictional determination submitted 09/04/09); MassDEP – Beneficial Use of Solid Waste Permit (BWP SW 41)
Total site acreage	1.7			
New acres of land altered		0.65		
Acres of impervious area	0.02	-0.02	0	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		See list of wetland impacts in <i>Wetlands</i> section of the EENF		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	0.02	-0.02	0	
Number of housing units	0	0	0	
Maximum height (in feet)	0	0	0	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	0	0	0	
Parking spaces	0	0	0	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	0	0	0	
GPD water withdrawal	0	0	0	
GPD wastewater generation ¹ treatment	0	0	0	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0	0	

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

Yes (Specify _____) No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

Yes (Specify _____) No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

Yes (Specify _____) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (Specify _____) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify _____) No

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify _____) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (You may attach one additional page, if necessary.)

The proposed project involves the removal of the Upper **Hathaway** Dam located at Washington Mountain Road in Dalton, Massachusetts within the Housatonic River watershed. The proposed dam removal site is located in a relatively remote, rural, pristine area (see USGS locus map in Attachment B). The present land use within the project area is predominantly undeveloped forest with a small area occupied by the Upper **Hathaway** Dam including a gatehouse and impoundment area. Dominant canopy vegetation adjacent to **Hathaway** Brook includes Eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) and American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*).

The Upper **Hathaway** Dam is owned by the City of Pittsfield and impounds the **Hathaway** Reservoir. The Upper **Hathaway** Dam and **Hathaway** Reservoir, built in 1908, no longer function as originally intended. Since its use as a water supply was abandoned in the late **1950s**, the dam has severely deteriorated and currently presents a potential hazard to pedestrians and wildlife that encounter it. Brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) have been observed in **Hathaway** Reservoir; however, habitat value has diminished in the vicinity of the **Hathaway** Reservoir impoundment and the stream reach between the Lower and Upper Dams.

A "No Action" alternative would result in no removal or modification of the Upper **Hathaway** Dam. As indicated above, since its use as a water supply was abandoned in the late **1950s**, the dam has severely deteriorated and currently presents a potential hazard to pedestrians and wildlife that encounter it. Also, leaving the dam in place would prevent the extension of environmental benefits, such as restoration of natural stream conditions and stream connectivity within **Hathaway** Brook, initiated by a separate Lower **Hathaway** Dam Removal project. For these reasons, the No Action alternative has been dismissed.

Repair of the existing dam would entail a temporary **drawdown** of **Hathaway** Reservoir to facilitate equipment access, equipment mobilization, and repairs within upland and wetland resource areas, followed by restoration of temporarily impacted areas. The option to repair the existing dam is not prudent since the dam and its use as a water supply was abandoned in the late 1950s (i.e. the dam and reservoir are no longer needed by the City). Also, repair of the dam would not result in any environmental benefits, and the dam would remain as a potential risk and liability for the City and would require continued maintenance and inspections. Therefore, the Upper **Hathaway** Dam Repair alternative has been eliminated from further consideration.

The overall Upper **Hathaway** Dam Removal project goals are to restore connectivity of **Hathaway** Brook to allow migration of brook trout and other aquatic organisms from the Housatonic River to the upper reaches of the brook; restore natural flow patterns; reestablish natural sediment and nutrient transport; improve water quality; and enhance habitat value and long-term sustainable benefits for aquatic organisms.

Please see Attachment A for further details.