



The Petrifying Springs Park Dam



The proposed bridge design

Petrifying Springs Park Pike River Fish Passage Dam Removal Design & Engineering Project

Made possible by a grant from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation Fund for Lake Michigan

With the 2004 removal of the dam at the Kenosha Country Club, the Petrifying Springs dam is the last remaining physical impediment to fish passage along the Pike River. Removal of the dam at Petrifying Springs Park will provide passage of fish upstream in the Pike River watershed. The irrigation impoundment created by the dam is approximately three acres in size during low-flow conditions. The impoundment has served no functional purpose since 1976 and has become filled with silt. During springtime high-flows and other moderate to severe storm events, the river frequently over-tops the roadway and silt from the impoundment is released into downstream waters, contributing to elevated suspended sediment levels and water quality impairments.

As an important tributary to Lake Michigan, the Pike River holds great potential for seasonal migrations of diadromous Chinook salmon, Coho salmon and steelhead. It is one of few rivers in southeastern Wisconsin providing a migratory resource for these species. The Pike River also provides habitat for native game fish such as northern pike and largemouth bass. In addition, brook, rainbow, and brown trout are regularly stocked at Kenosha Harbor and run up the Pike River as far as they are able. The remaining 22 miles of stream beyond the dam is inaccessible to these migratory fish species. Removal of the dam will provide access to this stretch of stream to the fish and hundreds of other aquatic species, and improve the overall ecological health of the system.

This grant will provide the funds for data gathering, design, and engineering tasks, from concept to final design specifications, to facilitate stream restoration and removal of the last obstruction to fish movement on the Pike River from Lake Michigan to its headwaters in Southeast Wisconsin. Kenosha County intends to remove a pedestrian bridge, an earthen dam topped by a roadway, and a non-functional box culvert control structure.

After removal, the impediments will be replaced by a bridge designed to accommodate vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic with no restriction of stream flow.

• Fish of the Pike River •



Yellow Perch



Blacknose Dace



Creek Chub



Fathead Minnow



Coho Salmon



Chinook Salmon



White Sucker



Bluntnose Minnow



Brook Stickleback



Golden Shiner



Yellow Bullhead



Steelhead



Black Bullhead



Largemouth Bass



Rainbow Trout



Longnose Dace



Common Shiner



Bigmouth Shiner



Green Sunfish



Crappie



Bluegill



Brook Trout



Brown Trout



The Pike River's Threatened Species



Least Darter
THREATENED



Skipjack herring
ENDANGERED



Blanding's Turtle
ENDANGERED