



## FACT SHEET: Funding Sources for Dam Removal

Dam removal projects often require a combination of different funding sources. Funding is usually awarded to projects with multiple partners and strong state support. Staff at Riverways can assist local restoration advocates apply for funding, provide letters of support, and help match federal dollars. Don't hesitate to contact Riverways for assistance in determining which funding source best fits your projects goals.

### NATIONAL SOURCES

#### National Fish Passage Program (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

<http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/FWSMA/FishPassage/fpprgs/GetInvolved.htm>

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Fish Passage Program is a non-regulatory program that provides funding and technical assistance toward removing or bypassing barriers to fish movement. August deadline.

**Contact:** Region 5 – Northeast Dave Perkins 413/253-8405, [David\\_Perkins@fws.gov](mailto:David_Perkins@fws.gov)

#### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners

<http://www.fws.gov/partners/>

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife program offers technical and financial assistance to private (non-federal) landowners to voluntarily restore wetlands and other fish and wildlife habitats on their land. Restoration projects include reestablishing fish passage for migratory fish by removing barriers (dams) to movement.

*Funded Silk Mill dam removal in Becket*

#### National Fish Habitat Initiative

##### Brook Trout Habitat Restoration Program

[www.fishhabitat.org](http://www.fishhabitat.org)

NFHI is a nationwide strategy that harnesses the energies, expertise and existing partnerships of state and federal agencies and conservation organizations. The goal is to focus national attention and resources on common priorities to improve aquatic habitat health. November deadline.

#### General Matching Grant Program (National Fish and Wildlife Foundation)

<http://www.nfwf.org/guidelines.cfm>

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation operates a conservation grants program that awards matching grants to projects that: address priority actions promoting fish and wildlife conservation and the habitats on which they depend; work proactively to involve other conservation and community interests; leverage available funding; and evaluate project outcomes. Funding Range: \$10,000-\$150,000, deadline in September.

*Funded Billington Street dam removal in Plymouth, and Silk Mill dam removal in Becket*

#### Open Rivers Initiative (NOAA)

[http://conservationconference.noaa.gov/case/open\\_river.html](http://conservationconference.noaa.gov/case/open_river.html)

<http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/DOC/NOAA/GMC/>

[NMFS-HCPO-2006-2000405/Grant.html](http://www.nmfs.gov/2006-2000405/Grant.html)

NOAA oversees a competitive grant program focused on community-driven, small dam and river barrier removals in coastal states to help repair vital riverine ecosystems, to benefit communities, and to enhance populations of key trust species. Funding range: \$50,000-\$250,000, January deadline.

#### NOAA/Ocean Trust/National Fisheries Institute

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners/otnfi.html)

[projects\\_programs/crp/partners/otnfi.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners/otnfi.html)

NOAA partners with Ocean Trust to fund habitat restoration projects that enhance living marine resources around the coastal U.S. *The applicant must be an individual, association or company in the fish and seafood industry.* Funding range: \$5,000-\$20,000, deadlines in July and November.

#### The Nature Conservancy/NOAA Habitat Restoration Partnership

<http://nature.org/initiatives/marine/strategies/art9023.html>

NOAA partners with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to fund marine and anadromous fish habitat restoration projects around the coastal U.S. *The applicant must be a TNC local chapter.*

Organizations that have project ideas should contact their local TNC chapter to discuss forming a partnership to apply for project funds under this request for proposals. Funding Range: \$25,000-\$85,000, deadline in March.

stream  
restoration  
through  
small dam  
removal

Deval L. Patrick, Governor  
Timothy P. Murray, Lt.  
Governor  
The Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary  
Executive Office of  
Environmental Affairs

Mary B. Griffin,  
Commissioner  
Department of Fish and  
Game

Joan Kimball, Director  
Riverways Program



The mission of the Riverways Program is to promote the restoration, protection and ecological integrity of the Commonwealth's rivers, streams and adjacent lands.

Silk Mill Dam, Becket, MA April 2000

### Trout Unlimited/NOAA Partnership

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects\\_programs/crp/partners/troutunlimited.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners/troutunlimited.html)

Provides matching grants that require 1:1 match from a non-federal source or sources. Typical awards are from \$10,000 to \$100,000, and can cover any aspect of a habitat restoration project, including construction, engineering, planning, or outreach. There is no formal application process. Project must be sponsored by a TU chapter or State Council, or by TU staff.

### NOAA Community-Based Habitat Restoration Project Grants

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects\\_programs/crp/partners\\_funding/callforprojects.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners_funding/callforprojects.html)

The program invites the public to submit proposals for available funding to implement grass-roots habitat restoration projects that will benefit living marine resources, including diadromous fish, under the NOAA Community-based Restoration Program. Funding range: \$50,000-\$200,000, October deadline.

*Funded Silk Mill dam removal in Becket*

### Conservation Law Foundation Estuary Restoration

<http://www.clf.org/programs/cases.asp?id=531>

CLF launched this program to distribute funds for estuary restoration projects to communities in New England. Partners in this venture include Restore America's Estuaries, the NOAA Restoration Center, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the New England states. Winter deadline.

### Community-Based Restoration (NOAA/ American Rivers)

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects\\_programs/crp/partners/americanrivers.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/partners/americanrivers.html)

NOAA partners with American Rivers to fund voluntary dam removal and fish passage projects. Funding range: \$5,000-\$25,000, November deadline.

### FishAmerica Foundation/NOAA

<http://www.fishamerica.org/faf/projects/noaa.html>

FishAmerica, in partnership with the NOAA Restoration Center provides funding for on-the-ground, community-based projects to restore habitat for marine and diadromous fish in the United States. Funding Range: \$5,000-\$50,000, January deadline.

*Funded Billington Street dam removal in Plymouth*

### Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (Natural Resources Conservation Service)

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/>

Funding awarded to projects that work to establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat. Contact local USDA Service Center for more information.

*Funded Billington Street dam removal in Plymouth*

### Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (CWRP)

<http://www.coastalamerica.gov/text/cwrp.html>

CWRP leverages the collective resources, skills and processes of the private and public sectors through

dam removal and river projects such as fill removal, channel clearing and enlarging, fish passage construction, and replanting.

*Funded Ballou dam removal in Becket*

### U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

<http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/pserVICES/206.htm>

Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration – Section 206, Water Resources Development Act of 1996. Funds from this program can be utilized to remove lowhead dams as a way to improve water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. This funding source is listed under the Continuing Authorities Program.

### Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson Act) Dept. of Interior-Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://federalasst.fws.gov/wr/fawr.html>

The purpose of this Act was to provide funding for the selection, restoration, rehabilitation and improvement of wildlife habitat, wildlife management research, and the distribution of information produced by the projects. **Contact:** The Division of Federal Assistance, [FederalAid@fws.gov](mailto:FederalAid@fws.gov)

## STATE SOURCES

Funding for dam removal in Massachusetts would be determined on a case by case basis. Interested proponents should consult with the Riverways Program.

<http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/river/programs/riverrestore/riverrestore.htm>

## LOCAL SOURCES

Funding for fish passage and dam removal on municipal owned land may be funded through the Community Preservation Act (CPA). Check with your local planning department or Conservation Commission, or contact the Community Preservation Coalition.

<http://www.communitypreservation.org>

## ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

*American Rivers's Paying for Dam Removal: A Guide to Selected Funding Sources*

<http://www.americanrivers.org/site/DocServer/pd-color.pdf?docID=727>

*EPA Catalog of Funding Sources for Watershed Protection*

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/funding.html>

Wisconsin River Alliance's list of resources (scroll down to view Private funders):

<http://www.wisconsinrivers.org/index.php?page=content&mode=view&id=8>

The River Network list of Funding Sources

[http://www.rivernetwork.org/library/index.cfm?doc\\_id=114](http://www.rivernetwork.org/library/index.cfm?doc_id=114)



Yokum Brook two years after Silk Mill Dam removal, October 2005



### River Restoration

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