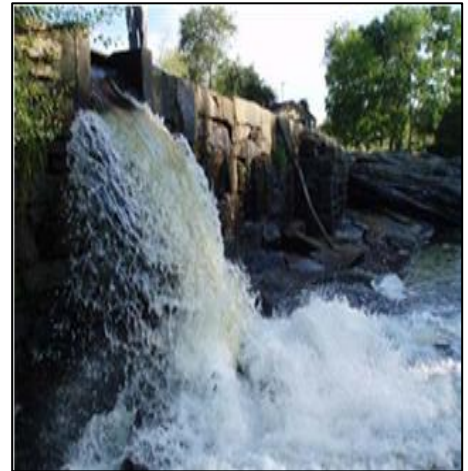


BUILDING STRONG®

Study Purpose and Authorization The authority for this study is Section 206 (Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, as amended, which authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to carry out aquatic ecosystem restoration projects that will improve the quality of the environment, are in the public interest, and are cost-effective. The project could restore the connectivity of miles of river habitat, providing fish access to historic reproductive habitat and nursery areas.

Location of Project The study team investigated a section of the Royal River that runs from the Bridge Street Dam upstream to Baston Park which included the Middle Falls and the first two dams above the head of tide: Bridge Street Dam and the East Elm Street Dam.

Project Description The study team developed an array of plans to support the restoration goals for the Royal River. A cost-benefit analysis was completed to determine which plan provides the greatest benefit per cost. Alewife passage was used to represent units of benefit. The plan that provides the greatest benefit per cost is identified as Tentatively Selected Plan.



TENTATIVELY SELECTED PLAN

Removal of the Bridge Street Dam & Fish Ladder

- Removal of the entire fish ladder.
- Removal of the dam (*excluding penstock/intake structure*)

Removal of the East Elm Street Dam & Fish Ladder

- Removal of the entire fish ladder.
- Removal of 120 linear feet of dam (southern bank).

Increase Water Flow at Middle Falls Side Channel

- Boulders placed upstream of side channel.
- Chipping/light modification of rock ledges to maximize fish passage within the side channel.

Next Steps

Late June/Early July 2024 – Release draft report for a 30-day public review and comment period. A public meeting will be held at the start of the review period.

November 2024 – Report sent to North Atlantic Division for review.

Spring of 2025 – Final Approval of the study report.

Summer 2025 – As funding allows, move into next phase of the project: the final designs & construction.

