

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Breeches Dam Removal

Re: Breeches Dam Removal

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There is going to be terrible bank erosion. I have been doing research at Franklin & Marshall College for the past two years that focuses on sedimentation due to the removal of colonial mill dams. Across the state thousands of dams were built and stored trillions of tons of sediment that erode off the hillslopes during colonial land clearing. Breeching these dams results in massive erosion of the unstable sediments trapped upstream. Eventually the stream will cut down to gravel and then begin to widen. The stream will become shallow and thus raise temperatures once it become too wide. In my opinion, dams should only be removed in conjunction with restoration projects. Otherwise, nothing is ultimately gained. Furthermore, most of our "prestine" restored trout water has been restored in an inefficient matter. The solution is returning the streams to what they were prior to European arrival. For more information go to [www.landstudies.com](http://www.landstudies.com). They are the only restoration company that currently does restoration with the attempt to return streams to natural conditions. Not to be offensive, but I feel that many conservation groups are wasting their money by designing our streams to function like western streams. Anyway, these are my thoughts on the removal of the dam.