

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Dam removal.

Re: Dam removal.

Author: : troutbert

Date: : 2013/10/3 18:12:27

URL:

Quote:

RyanR wrote:

Quote:

troutbert wrote:

Where a plunge pool was formed below a dam, and you remove that dam, the plunge pool will disappear.

Unless there is something else going on there to create and maintain the pool, for example if the bridge abutments are influencing the flow in a way to maintain a pool there.

But generally speaking when you remove a dam, the plunge pool will disappear. That's predictable. The mechanics of it are very straightforward.

Okay, so an artificial plunge pool is removed. I understand your explanation but I don't see your point other than implying that removing the dam and all the well-known problems that causes is less preferable to keeping the dam in place in order to preserve the small, artificially created habitat of the plunge pool?

I didn't say, or imply, that removing the dam was a bad thing.

The point is that pool habitat should be considered an integral part of the whole process.

That should be evaluated in advance, and designed for, and funded, as part of the project.

Otherwise, either the work doesn't get done at all and the result is a long stretch of permanently poor habitat.

Or people are left trying to scramble around to get grants once again. And maybe the grants come through or maybe not.

~~It would be better to incorporate the planning, designing and funding for the resulting habitat into the whole job.~~  
In many cases this is has not been done. But could be done in the future.

This info may be helpful for someone planning a future dam removal.

For example, I read that many dams will be taken down on Bushkill Creek. Will these projects be simply dam removals? Or will they be designed (and funded) to ensure then when the project is done that there will be good habitat for trout?