Dam Removal: $$ The Funding Question $$

Chris Smith – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Potential Funding Sources for Dam Removal Projects

Federal Assistance
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center
- US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration

State Assistance
- Agency of Natural Resources – Hydrology Program
- SEP’s

Private Assistance
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- FishAmerica Foundation
- Upper Connecticut River Mitigation and Enhancement Fund
Funding Source Focus

- Ecological Resources
- Recreational Resources
- Landownership
- Geographic Scope
- Ability to produce a deliverable/outcome
- Timeliness
Funding Source - Application and Reporting Requirements

- Deadlines
- Application and reporting formats
- Multiple partners
- Support from local and state partners
- Preliminary data collection/assessments
- One application to multiple applications
Funding Source – Match Requirements

- Eligible match
- Federal vs. Non-Federal match
- The use of in-kind match
- Match eligibility windows
Cox Brook Dam Removal Funding Example

- National Fish Passage Program $$ (NFPP) and Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program
- State of Vermont - Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) in-kind match
- Trout Unlimited (TU) local chapter financial and in-kind assistance with re-vegetation
Cox Brook Dam Removal Funding Example

- ANR with local partners identify viable dam removal project
- ANR application to NFPP through USFWS local office
- Project competes with other regional NFPP projects through USFWS selection process
- $$ for successful projects are allocated to local USFWS offices
- USFWS worked with ANR to develop cooperative agreement which allows ANR to utilize the funds to pay for de-construction cost.
Cox Brook Dam Removal Funding Example

- ANR completes site survey and de-construction design
- ANR reviews design with landowner, local government and other project partners
- ANR takes lead on regulatory process and securing need permits
- ANR puts the project out to bid and develops construction contract with selected contractor
Cox Brook Dam Removal Funding Example

- All partners meet with contractor for pre-construction meeting
- USFWS and ANR assist in construction oversight
- ANR pays contractor for construction services and materials
- USFWS reimburses ANR for construction costs
Questions