

Draft Meeting Agenda
Bristol Mills Dam Advisory Committee
March 28, 2017 5:30-8pm

Meeting Purpose and Main Topics:
Pemaquid River freshwater fish communities

5:30pm – Meet with Parks and Recreation Commission

- Discuss the rationale for initiating the feasibility study, progress of the study to date, and that it's already been determined that water levels upstream of the old stone arch at Benner Road will remain unchanged.
- Discuss that partial and full dam replacement concepts may lower water depths in the area of the swimming hole, and so Wright-Pierce may explore other options for swimming. One possibility would be to explore the feasibility of enhancements to Ellingwood Park. The intent would be to establish a safer and more user-friendly bathing area. Funds for enhancements would not come from Parks' budget. Another swimming option would be to configure the nature-like water control structures to retain some bathing usage at the current swimming hole site.
- Parks is considered important to the process and any thoughts they have on these ideas, as well as improving the process and coordination are appreciated.

6pm - Bristol Mills Dam Advisory Committee

- Discussion, revision, and approval of meeting minutes from Feb. 28
- Discussion and acceptance of March 28 Meeting Agenda

6:15pm - Presentation: Jason Seiders, Regional Biologist, Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

- Mr. Seiders will provide information to the group about freshwater fish species and habitat, likely species to be found in the Pemaquid River, and these species habitat needs.

6:45pm – Presentation: Karen Wilson, University of Southern Maine

- Dr. Wilson will present information about diadromous fishes in Maine, their habitat needs, and their spawning migrations.

7:15pm - Questions for speakers and Committee discussion of topics presented

7:40pm – Committee discussion, and identification of further questions and needs for information

8pm - Adjourn

2) Presentation topics for meetings: (these do not include all presentations by Wright-Pierce)

Below is a list of all currently identified presentation topics for the committee. Topics that have been presented to date are noted in *italics* and the date provided when the presentation/discussion occurred.

Background topics:

- *History of the Pemaquid alewife run and recent efforts to improve fish passage (Presenter: Slade Moore, Bristol Fish Committee). Jan. 10, 2017*
- *Riverine ecology: How dams influence different aspects of river ecology and wildlife (Presenter: Jed Wright, US Fish and Wildlife Service). Jan. 10, 2017*
- *Impoundment and Lake Water Levels (Presenter: Joe McLean, Wright-Pierce) - How much do they currently fluctuate and how much are they influenced by the dam? Jan. 24, 2017*
- *Pemaquid River, Impoundment wetland, and bird and wildlife (Presenter: Danielle D'Auria, Maine IFW) Feb. 28, 2017*
- *Pemaquid River freshwater fish communities (Presenter: Jason Seiders, IFW Regional Biologist) March 28, 2017*
- *Diadromous (sea-run) fish communities (Presenter: Karen Wilson, University of Southern Maine) March 28, 2017*
- Pemaquid Lakes Water Quality (TBD – Maine DEP, Pemaquid Watershed Association/Lake Volunteer Monitoring Program)
- Perspectives from other communities – how have nearby towns worked with their rivers and fish passage? (Presenters: Deb Wilson, Damariscotta Fish Ladder Project, TBD – members or selectmen from the towns of Whitefield (Coopers Mill project) and Alna (Head Tide Dam project)).

Presentations of study results:

- Access to firefighting water supplies - current reserves and potential engineered enhancements (To be scheduled later in the process once options from the Feasibility Study have been identified)
- Infrastructure with relationship to the river (bridges, utilities, and shorelines): Review of inventory and assessments of the various options (To be scheduled later in the process once options from the Feasibility Study have been identified)
- Pemaquid River recreation values and how they may be affected by different options (To be scheduled later in the process once options from the Feasibility Study have been identified)
- What changes can we expect to wildlife and waterfowl habitat? (To be scheduled later in the process once options from the Feasibility Study have been identified)
- Financial considerations of different options (To be scheduled later in the process once options from the Feasibility Study have been identified)
- Inputs from representatives of our neighboring towns that will benefit from/be affected by the outcome of our work and understanding the economic factors regarding the results of our work and Bristol's and neighboring towns' residents, businesses, and town revenues.