

Dam Removal Europe

Freeing European rivers



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World Fish Migration Foundation

European Rivers Symposium 26th May 2021

Session 1 - How can the EU Biodiversity Strategy help achieve the WFD objectives, and vice-versa?

THE TEAM



Fun

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Inspire

Connect

Support



WORLD FISH MIGRATION
FOUNDATION

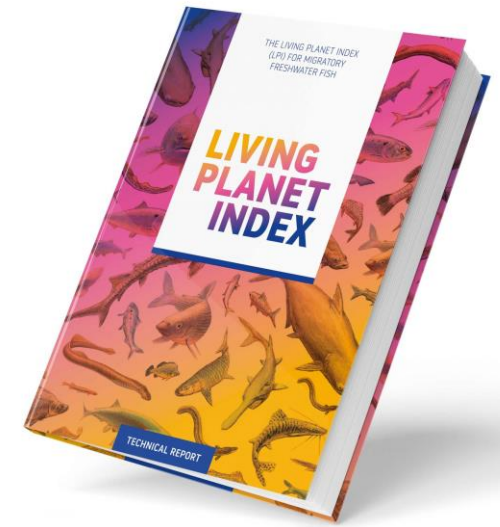
SAVE MIGRATORY FISH IN RIVERS

© Jeremy Shelton



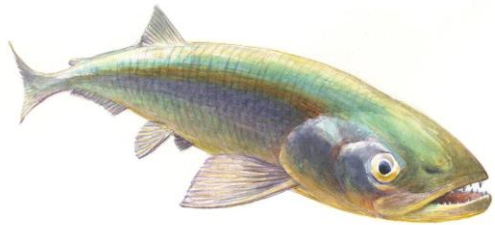
ZSL
INSTITUTE OF
ZOOLOGY

LIVING PLANET INDEX FRESHWATER MIGRATORY FISH

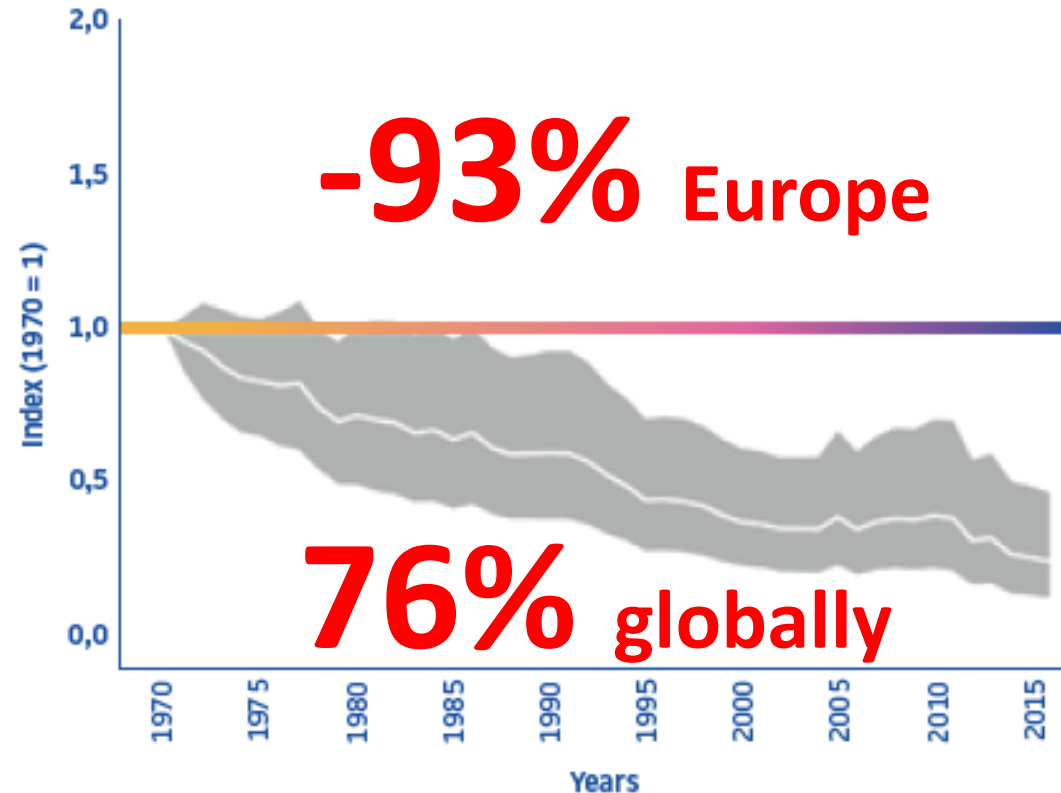


Download:

[worldfishmigrationfoundation.com
/living-planet-index-2020/](http://worldfishmigrationfoundation.com/living-planet-index-2020/)

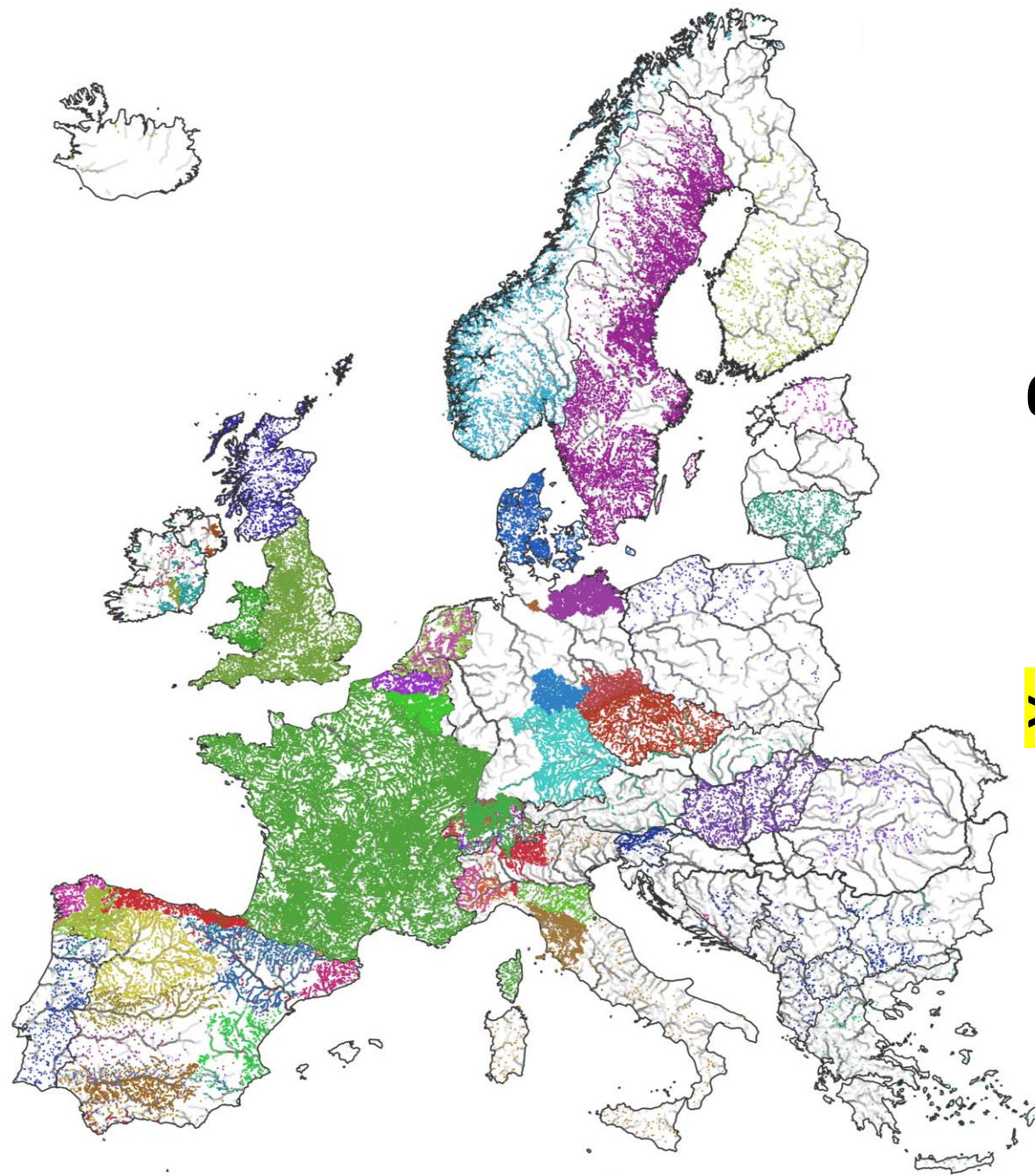


Cambridge
Conservation
Initiative





Funded by the Horizon 2020
Framework Programme of the
European Union



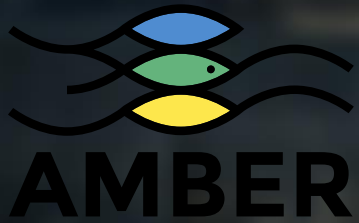
630,000 collected barriers

>1.2 MILLION BARRIERS

>156,000 OBSOLETE

www.amber.international

7,200 BARRIERS COLLECTED



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 689682.

>1,600 USERS

APP STORE: Barrier Tracker

<https://portal.amber.international>

Track barriers
with the barrier tracker
and help reconnect
European rivers

AMBER Citizen Science project
LET IT FLOW





MOVEMENT TO SUPPORT

PRACTITIONERS


SUCCESSFUL CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN



Crowdfunding campaign 2018-2020

- 1899 funders
- **15 Dams** crowdfunded
- 88,869€ from **18 countries**

✓ Target reached



Lostunets-dam in Ukraine

€ 16.045 raised (100%)

[View >](#)

✓ Target reached



Brazuole-dam in Lithuania

€ 15.195 raised (101%)

[View >](#)

✓ Target reached




Removal Danube Delta Dams, Ukraine

€ 14.086 raised (100%)

[View >](#)

✓ Target reached



Removal Crosthwaite culvert, Lake District UK

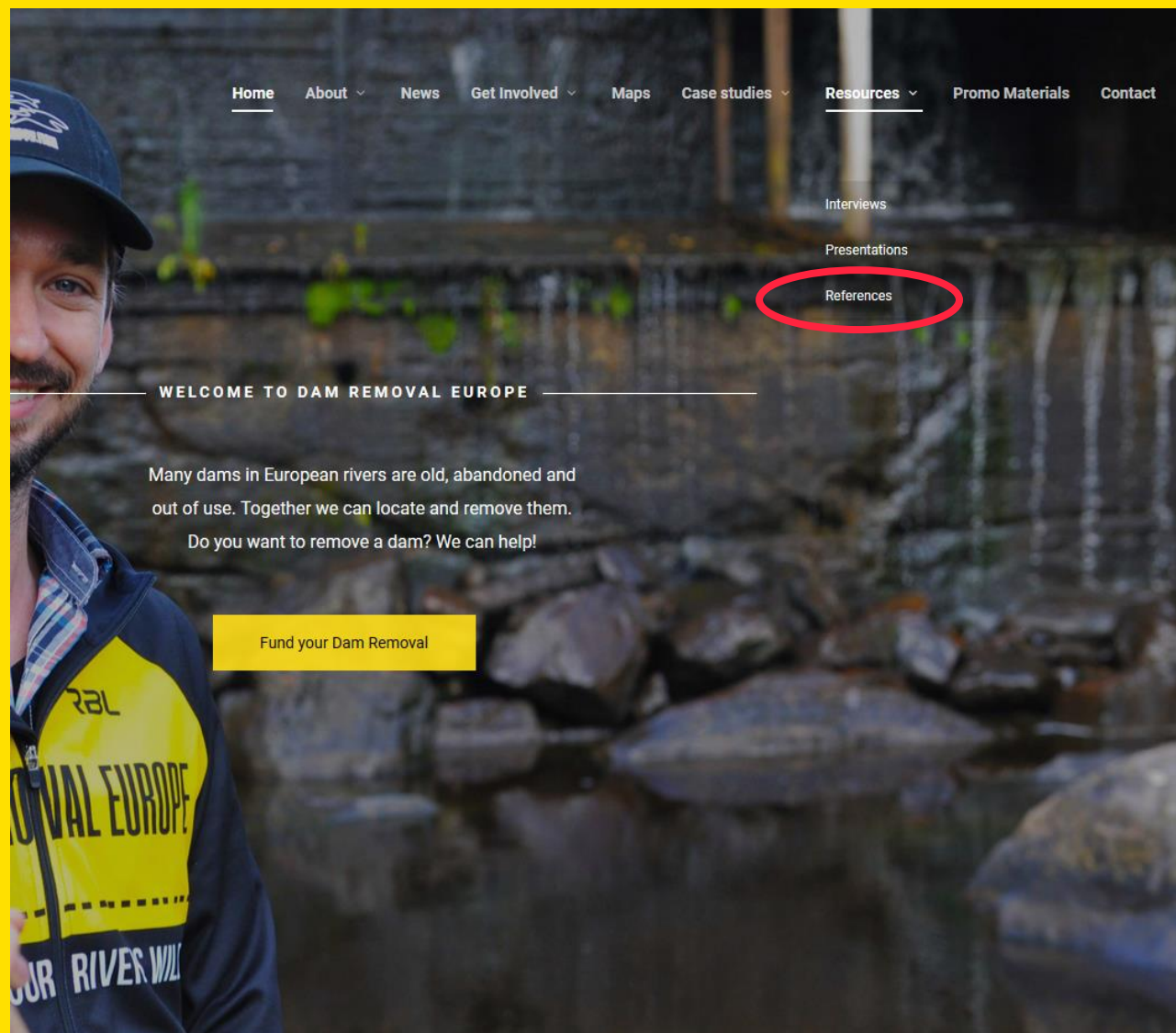
€ 10.004 raised (100%)

[View >](#)



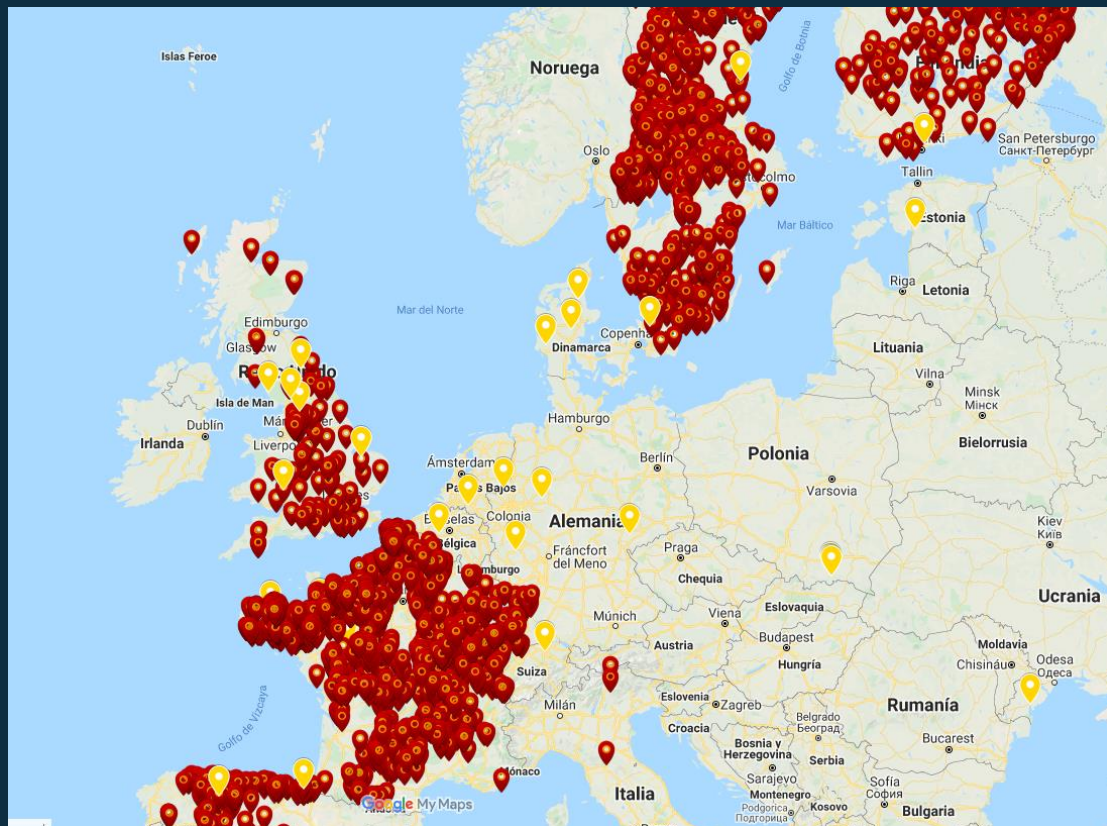
www.damremoval.eu

Dam Removal Policy Report





<https://damremoval.eu/>



Source: Dam Removal Europe Map

*** Collapsed + man removed**

FRANCE	>2.400*
SWEDEN	>1.600*
FINLAND	>500
SPAIN	>300
UK	>200
NETHERLANDS	>50
ESTONIA	>5
ITALY	3
SWITZERLAND	1
GERMANY	hundreds (no inventories)
DENMARK	hundreds (no inventories)

Scotland: Water Environment Fund (WEF)

WEF is an annual fund of around £2-3million coming from the Scottish government and administrated by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)



Tarff Creamer Weir, Scotland, UK

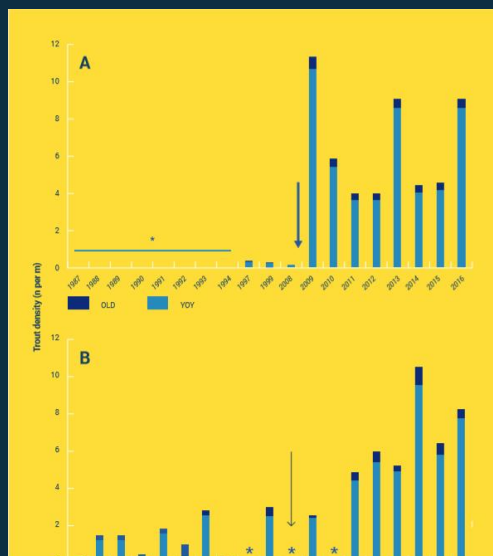
- Built in 1920
- Almost 5m high
- Removed in September 2016 thanks to WEF fund
- Opened up 10km of river
- **Monitoring after removal: salmon, sea trout, eel and lamprey are back**



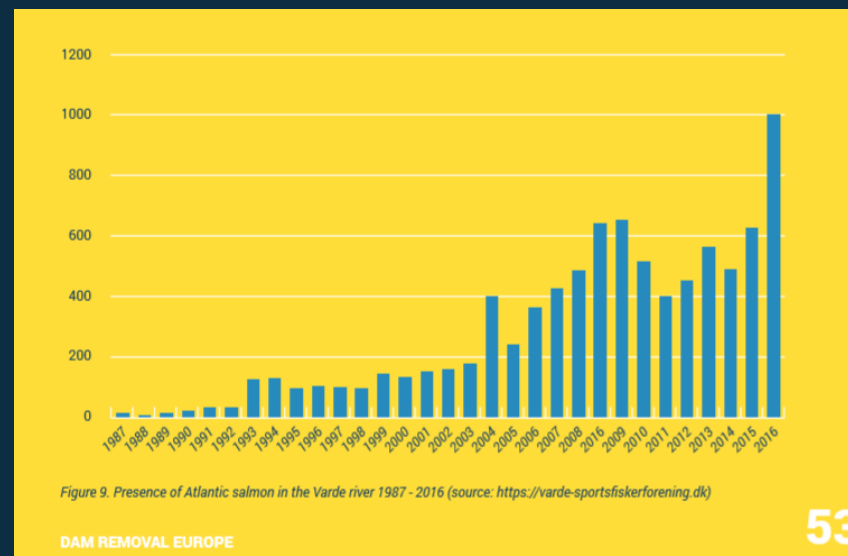
Source: <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/salmon-return-stewartry-burn-after-12155644>

Denmark

Vilholt Dam, Gudenå River



Removal of dams in Varde River



<https://damremoval.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/DRE-policy-Report-2018-digitaal-010319.pdf>

Dam Removal Europe resources: <https://damremoval.eu/references/>

France

Vezins Dam (Selune River)



Source: <https://www.ern.org/en/selune-libre/>

France

Vezins Dam, Selune River

[VIDEO FROM VEZINS DAM REMOVAL](#)



Photo: Roberto Epple - European Rivers Network

Spain

Robledo de Chavela Dam, Madrid Region

<https://damremoval.eu/portfolio/robledo-de-chavela/>



USA

Edwards Dam 1837 (Kennebec River, Maine)

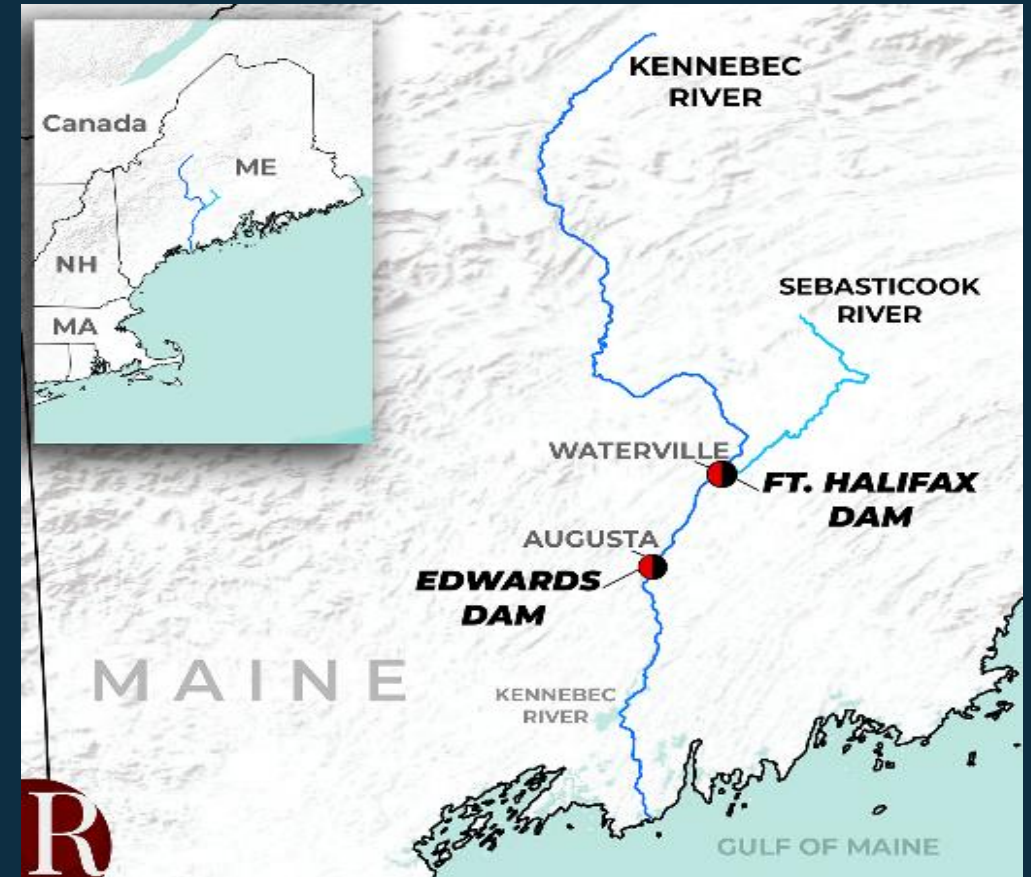
- Before construction:
 - Salmon catch per season: 500
 - Sturgeon catch per season: 320,000 pounds
 - Shad industry
- After construction:
 - Salmon catch per season (1850): 5
 - Sturgeon catch per season (1880): 12,000 pounds
 - Shad industry: closed (1867)



Free river after 160 years

- Alewives returning to spawn jumped **from 78,000 in 1999 to 5.5 million in 2019**
- Benton Town locals, **harvested 350,000 to 500,000 alewives**
- The town typically nets about **\$20,000** during alewife harvesting
- Alewives return **has benefited** the rest of the state's fish population, **especially coastal cod and haddock.**

1999 - Edwards Dam removal
2007 - Fort Halifax Dam removal



New concept “**Restoration economy**”

Restoration projects generate **equal to or greater economic benefits** than other types of projects such as **road and bridge construction**.”

THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS
OF
ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION IN
MASSACHUSETTS



September 2011

Thank you very much!!



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