



Removal of the Embrey Dam – AP Photograph

Announcing the Unveiling of the

Clearinghouse for Dam Removal Information

It is Up & Running!

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Early photo of Embrey Dam - source: National Parks Service

The **Clearinghouse for Dam Removal Information** is the result of a 5 year joint effort by the Aspen Institutes Dialogue on Dams and Rivers - Clearinghouse Task Committee and the University of California - Berkeley's Water Resources Center Archives (WRCA). The creation of a neutral clearinghouse to centralize and improve access to information on dam removal was recommended as part of two years of dialogue on Dams and Rivers that resulted in the publication of the Aspen Institute report, *Dam Removal: A New Option for a New Century*.

Where is the Clearinghouse housed?

The Clearinghouse for Dam Removal Information has been developed by and is housed at the University of California - Berkeley's Water Resources Center Archives and can be found at:

<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/WRCA/damremoval/>

Click on the Clearinghouse link above now and download a **FREE copy** of the NOAA Restoration Center's video **"Relics and Rivers: Dismantling Dams in New England"**



Anaconda Dam, Naugatuck River, CT - before & after, 1999 - source: L. Wildman

What is the Clearinghouse?

The Clearinghouse is an unbiased living receptacle of information about technical, fiscal and social aspects (pro and con) of dam removal, including cases where a decision is made to retain the dam. The purpose of the Clearinghouse is to allow all parties involved in dam removal decisions to share experiences, learn successful techniques and avoid repeating mistakes. In particular, it is trying to capture the "gray literature" that is transiently available when a dam removal is taking place or being considered.

How can the Clearinghouse help you?

If you are working on a dam removal project and are looking for information to help guide you, such that you can learn from other projects and find hard-to-find references to ensure the quality of your project, then the Clearinghouse was developed specifically for you. The Clearinghouse will help keep you up-to-date on the state-of-the practice and state-of-the-science regarding the removal of dams.

The goal of this clearinghouse is to serve as a repository of literature and a place to access electronic information and resources for those making decisions about, or carrying out, a dam removal. The Clearinghouse also provides resources, such as an ongoing compilation of related Web sites, Case Studies, and Priority Issues. The Clearinghouse has been designed to eventually serve as a platform for posting events and become a forum for carrying on discussions for those interested in dam removal issues.

What type of information is available?

The Clearinghouse allows users to find and submit summaries/case studies of completed or proposed projects, lessons learned, engineering design plans, dam removal estimates and final costs, permitting documents/applications, monitoring plans and results, modeling data and analyses, scientific studies, project reports, images, conference/symposium/workshop announcements and proceedings, presentations, papers, and more.

How can you help build the clearinghouse?

The Clearinghouse is merely a repository. It needs help from you to become the largest source of published and "gray" literature on dam removal in the world. We are already well on our way to making this happen, and submissions made by you will help make the difference. Please submit any dam removal project information that you feel may be valuable. In addition help keep the Clearinghouse managers informed of upcoming events, conferences, workshops and courses that relate to the removal of dams, so that these can be posted on the site.

What The Experts Are Saying-

"Dam removals provide an extraordinary opportunity to learn from our interventions in rivers.

The Clearinghouse can play a vital role in making these experiences accessible to researchers and practitioners broadly, and thereby contribute to greatly improved understanding of the science and practice of dam removal and river restoration generally."

- G.M. Kondolf

"I would like to congratulate you on a successful launch of the dam removal clearinghouse. I am sure the clearinghouse will be of great value to federal, state, local, and private interests, and I will help populate it with current and future Bureau of Reclamation dam removal projects."

- Tom Hepler, Chairman of the USSD Dam Decommissioning Committee

"Removing dams and subsequent ecological restoration efforts are based upon a combination of scientific knowledge and empirical observations that need to be documented. The Clearinghouse for Dam Removal provides a centralized archive for valuable technical, social, and economic information plus post construction monitoring data that will help guide future decision making."

- Jim MacBroom
Vice President Milone & MacBroom



Casacade Dam, CA – before during removal, 2004 - source: S. Rothert