

# Dam Removal Support Programs

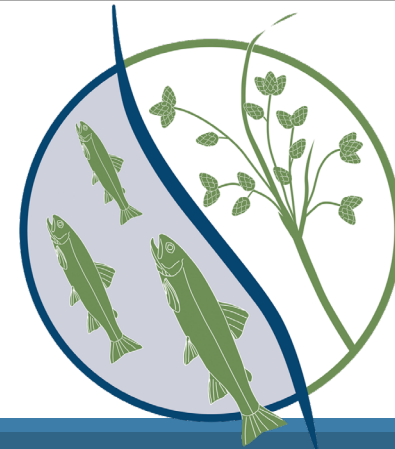
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*Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game*

**Division of  
Ecological  
Restoration**

*Invested in Nature and Community*

# DER Support Opportunities

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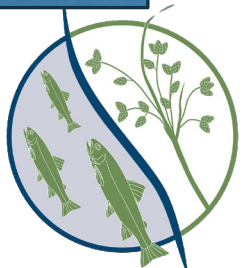
## Preliminary Design Studies



## Priority Projects Program



## Partnerships Program



# Preliminary Design Studies

- **Award Amounts:**
  - ~\$50,000
- **Cadence:**
  - Annual
- **Key Requirements:**
  - Applicants must be municipalities
  - Municipalities can apply on behalf of a private owner
- **Program Goals:**
  - Help dam owners in the early planning phase to assess risks and opportunities of dam removal
  - Build a solid design foundation to pursue dam removal
- **Type of Assistance:**
  - Selected projects are eligible for engineering services contracted and managed directly by DER
- **Tips for Successful Applications:**
  - Public safety and climate change resilience benefits prioritized



# Priority Projects Program

- **Award Amounts:**
  - Varies based on program budget and project need
- **Cadence:**
  - ~Every 2 years
- **Key Requirements:**
  - Dam owner must be committed to dam removal

- **Program Goals:**
  - Restore riverine function, Improve climate change resilience, eliminate public safety risks
  - Assist dam owners to remove unwanted dams
- **Type of Assistance:**
  - Technical Assistance and Financial Assistance (grants and direct contracts) for all phases
- **Tips for Successful Applications:**
  - Demonstrate both environmental and community benefits
  - Demonstrate community or partner support



# Partnerships Program

- **Award Amounts:**
  - \$100,000 - \$200,000 per partnership organization per year
- **Cadence:**
  - Expansion planned for 2026/27
- **Key Requirements:**
  - Applicants must be a 501c3 or Regional Planning Agency

- **Program Goals:**
  - Building regional capacity and implementing restoration projects
- **Type of Assistance:**
  - Capacity building funding and project implementation funding
- **Tips for Successful Applications:**
  - Regional based and long-term restoration and resiliency focused
  - Action oriented organizations
  - Collaboratively and equitably governed

