

TOWN OF SPRINGFIELD

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Executive Order: 11988 (Floodplain Management) and 11990: (Wetlands) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) implementing regulations at Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 9, FEMA hereby provides final notice of its decision to provide Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding for an action located in a floodplain and affecting a wetland. Funding would be provided through Vermont Emergency Management to the Town of Springfield, VT for the Springfield Reservoir Dam Removal Project.

The proposed action is located at the Springfield Reservoir Dam in Weathersfield, VT. The project would remove the deteriorating dam impounding the reservoir, which has not served a functional purpose since the Town transitioned to public supply wellfields in the late 1970s. Approximately 67% of the concrete core wall and 87% of the earthen berm would be removed as well as approximately 9,000 cubic yards of accumulated sediment from the impoundment area to create a floodplain bench. The concrete overflow spillway, gatehouse, wellhouse, drainpipes, and remnants of a failed stone culvert would also be removed. A pilot channel would be created through the impoundment area that would evolve naturally over time to restore the stream channel. Approximately 3.9 acres within the former impoundment area would be planted with native vegetation, after which, revegetation would progress naturally.

The project is within a mapped special flood hazard area (100-year floodplain; Zone A), and the impoundment area behind the dam contains a freshwater pond and freshwater emergent wetlands. Removal of the dam would prevent the potential loss of life and property in the event of dam failure and would restore the floodplain, riverine habitat features, and fish passage.

Alternatives considered include full dam removal, several levels of sediment volume reduction, and the No Action alternative. The proposed action was selected because it is the most cost-effective alternative that would still meet the project objectives to improve public safety, restore the stream channel, eliminate maintenance needs of a non-functional dam, and improve aquatic organism passage. Map requests and comments about this project and potential floodplain and wetland impacts should be submitted within 15 days of the date of this publication to:

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