



**SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES (FINAL)**  
**Great Dam Removal Feasibility and Impact Analysis**  
**Exeter River, Exeter, New Hampshire**

Resource	Alternative A Existing Condition/No Action*		Alternative B Dam Removal		Alternative F Partial Removal		Alternative G Stabilize in Place		Alternative H Dam Modification	
Construction Costs	N/A		\$732,150		\$1,338,630		\$418,000		\$1,016,000	
Mitigation Costs	\$550,000		\$512,608		\$912,608		\$565,000		\$795,200	
30-year Operations & Maintenance Costs	N/A		N/A		\$385,170		\$181,894		\$616,724	
<b>Total Direct and Indirect Cost</b>	<b>\$550,000</b>		<b>\$1,244,758</b>		<b>\$2,636,408</b>		<b>\$1,164,894</b>		<b>\$2,427,924</b>	
Achieve Dam Safety?	No		Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes	
Reduce Flooding?	No		Moderate Benefit		Moderate Benefit		No		Moderate Benefit	
Improve Fish Passage?	No		Major Benefit		No		No		No	
Improve Water Quality?	No		Major Benefit		Moderate Benefit		No		No	
Resource/Issue	Negative Impacts	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts	Positive Impacts
Upstream Erosion	Interrupts natural sediment transport processes	Impoundment slows water, limits erosion	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Negligible	-	Minor	Minor
Downstream Sedimentation	Interrupts natural sediment transport processes	-	Moderate	-	Moderate	-	Negligible	-	Minor	-
River Ice	-	-	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
Bridges, Walls, Foundations	-	Impoundment slows water, limits erosion	Minor	-	Minor	-	Negligible	-	Negligible	-
Water Intakes	-	Maintains impoundment for withdrawals	Moderate	-	Minor	-	-	Major	-	Major
Public Wells	-	Impounded river provides 11% more available water	Minor	-	Minor	-	-	-	Negligible	-
Private Wells	No known private dug wells	No known private dug wells	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cultural Resources	-	Dam contributes to surrounding historic district	Major	-	Major	-	Negligible	-	Moderate	-
Recreation	Adversely affects coldwater angling opportunities	Creates flatwater boating environment	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	-	-	-	-
Fisheries	Dam prevents upstream migration of important fish species	Favors warm water species	Negligible	Major	Negligible	Minor	Major	-	Major	-
Wildlife	Dam limits availability of anadromous fish species as food source	Favors species preferring pond/lake environment	Minor	Moderate	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor
Wetlands	-	Artificial water level creates wetlands along river	Moderate	-	Moderate	-	-	Moderate	Negligible	Moderate
Invasive Species	Creates conditions favoring aquatic invasives	-	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor
Rare Species/Exemplary Natural Communities	-	High water supports swamp white oak	Moderate	Negligible	Moderate	Negligible	Negligible	Moderate	Moderate	Negligible
Freshwater Mussels	Dam adversely impacts mussel habitat/ conectivity	-	Minor	Major	Minor	Moderate	Moderate	Negligible	Moderate	Negligible
Visual/Aesthetics	Eliminates views of riffle/pool complexes	Falling water at dam scene and impoundment considered picturesque	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	-	-	Moderate	Moderate

Note: The "No Action" alternative is not feasible due to public safety and regulatory considerations.

**Description of Intensity Levels**

Negligible: Impacts would not be detectable, measurable, or observable.

Minor: Impacts would be detectable, but not expected to have an overall effect on the resource.

Moderate: Impacts would be clearly detectable and could have short-term, appreciable effects on the resource.

Major: Long-term or permanent, highly noticeable effects on the resource.