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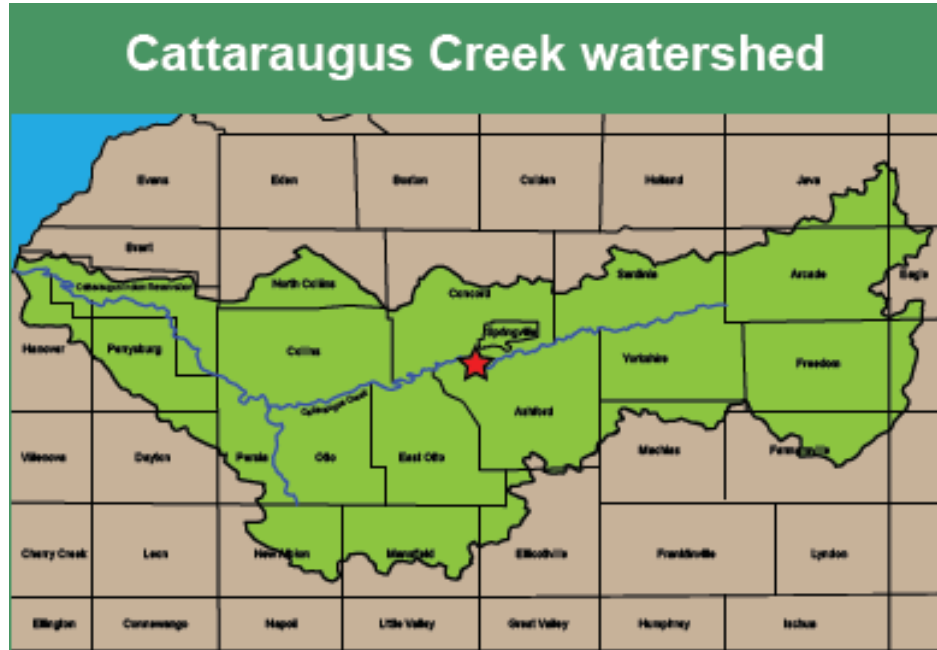
Springville Dam, Cattaraugus Creek, NY

Great Lakes Fishery & Ecosystem Restoration

Section 506, Water Resources Development Act of 2000

Project Location: Also known as Soby Dam, this dam is located on the Cattaraugus Creek, in the Village of Springville, Erie County, NY.

Description of Problem: The Cattaraugus Creek watershed is split into upper and lower sections because of the Springville Dam, located approximately halfway up the 70 mile creek. This separation denies fish communities increased richness and abundance. The dam does benefit by blocking invasive sea lamprey from the ability to spawn in the upper watershed.



Partners and Collaboration: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and Erie County. There is collaboration with the US Fish & Wildlife on preventing sea lamprey access to the upper watershed.

Proposed Project: Restore ecological connectivity between the upper and lower Cattaraugus Creek watershed while maintaining a barrier to sea lamprey by (a) lowering the dam spillway to approximately 13 feet, (b) installing a denil vertical slot fishway around the power house that contains trap and sort mechanisms in the fishway and at the downstream entrance.

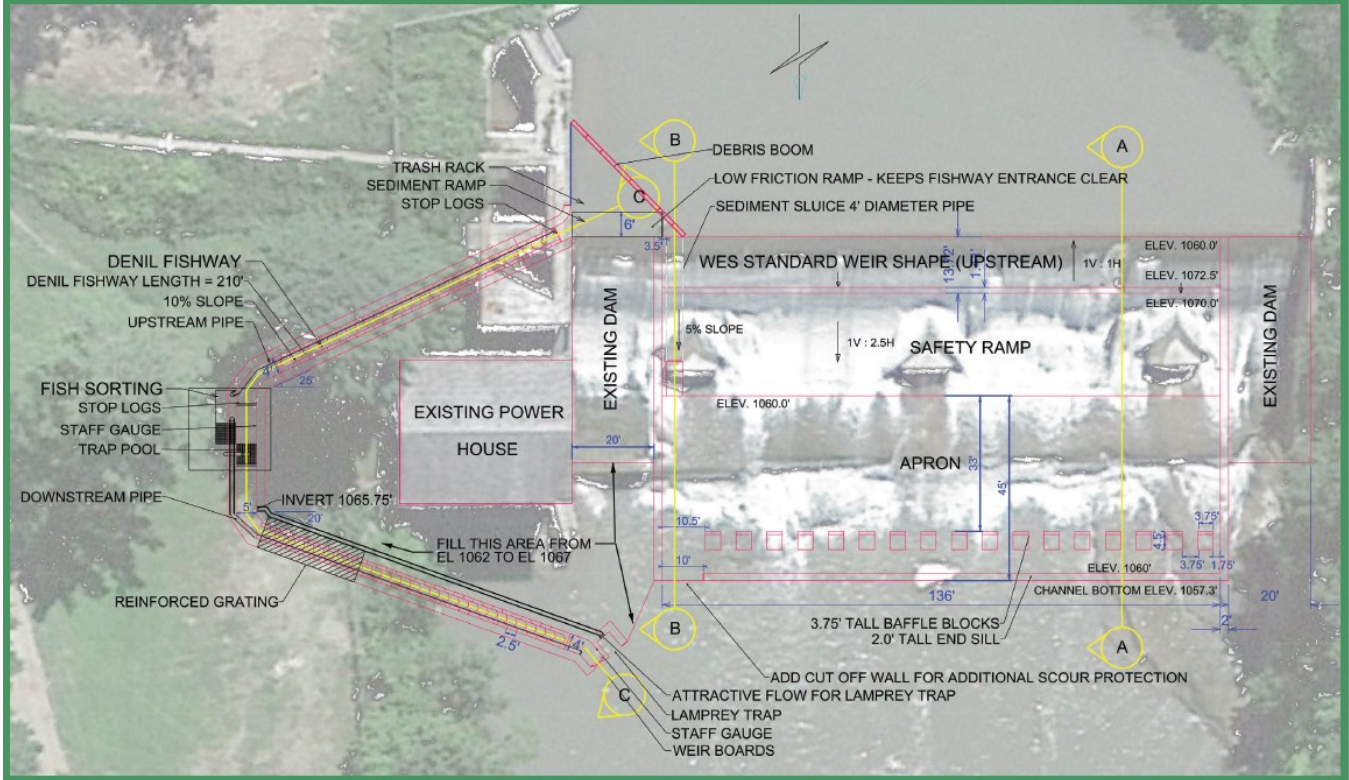
Project Benefits: The split watershed results in fish and aquatic species living in lower quality habitat areas found downstream of the dam. They are isolated from high quality habitat in the upper watershed. Benefits will accrue to both native and high value naturalized fish species.

Denils have demonstrated passage efficiency for salmonids, alosines, and other species. Therefore, a denil design compliments the desired objectives of this project; to maximize passage of steel head, while providing opportunities for local and migratory species to find passage, utilizing a small construction footprint, and providing a cost efficient solution to the objective. This plan provides 82.67 net average annual habitat units and will reconnect approximately 572 miles of tributary stream in the upper watershed with the lower watershed and Lake Erie.

Project Status: The Springville Dam Ecosystem Restoration team was concluding preconstruction engineering and design plans, working through real estate, and budget needs when the pandemic hit Western New York putting a strain on limited resources. At this time, the project team's resources and focus have shifted to overcoming the impacts of COVID-19. The project has remained on indefinite hold since March of 2020, however monthly

coordination continues with the NFS to determine a path to restart. As of February 2022 a Value Engineering review of the design has concluded and proposals to mitigate cost and real estate obstacles are being explored with the NFS.

Fish passage design plan view

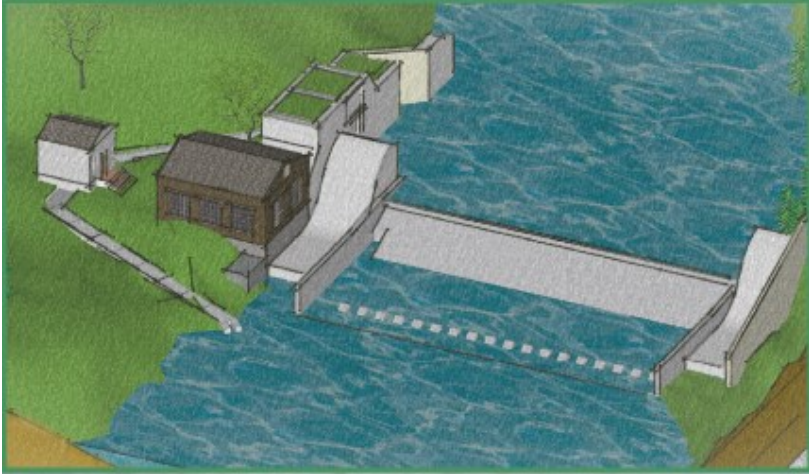


Project Milestones	
Detailed Project Report and Environmental Assessment	Aug 2015
Partnership Contract Completed	Aug 2017
Project IDLED	Mar 2020
PROJECT STARTUP	TBD
Construction Award	TBD

Estimated Project Costs	
Federal	\$10,000,000
Non-Federal	\$8,200,000
Total	\$18,200,000

Federal Project Budget	
FY 2021	\$0
FY 2022	\$0
FY 2023	TBD

Artist's rendering of fish passage around dam.



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