



- 10:15 a.m. Dam Removal Case Studies: Sediment Assessment & Management**
- Paul Woodworth, Fluvial Geomorphologist, Princeton Hydro, LLC
- 10:45 a.m. Moderated Discussion**
- Panel Moderator:** Amy Singler, American Rivers and The Nature Conservancy
- Panel Members:**
- Michael Chelminski, P.E., Stantec
  - Laura Wildman, P.E., Princeton Hydro, LLC
  - Josh Wilson, P.E., Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.
  - Paul Woodworth, Princeton Hydro, LLC
- 12:00 p.m. Adjourn – Closing Comments – Laura Wildman**

### **PROGRAM CHAIR AND MODERATOR**

**Laura Wildman**, P.E., Director, New England Regional Office  
Princeton Hydro, LLC  
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Ms. Wildman is a practicing fisheries engineer that established and runs the New England Regional Office for Princeton Hydro focusing on ecological restoration consulting for aquatic systems. Her expertise and passion, centers on the restoration of rivers through the reestablishment of natural functions and aquatic connectivity. She is considered one of the foremost nation U.S. experts on barrier removal and alternative fish passage techniques, regularly lecturing, instructing, and publishing on these topics; including assisting with the instruction of courses for the University of Wisconsin for 15 years and Yale University for 10 years. She recently co-wrote the Dam Removal chapter in the book Sea to Source 2.0, in addition to a publication for a special edition of the Journal of Engineering Geology regarding the history and human dimensions of barrier removal projects. She has been involved in hundreds of river restoration, barrier removal, and fish passage projects throughout the U.S.; working on all aspects of the projects from inception through design and construction, both as a licensed professional engineer designing and managing the projects and as a non-profit project partner when she was the Chief Engineer of American Rivers. Ms. Wildman received her bachelor's in Civil Engineering from University of Vermont, her Master of Environmental Management from Yale University, and has conducted 2 years of post-graduate work at the University of Southampton, in England, focusing on international issues relating to the removal of dams and the restoration of aquatic connectivity. Ms. Wildman integrates both engineering and a deep understanding of river science into her restoration work.

### **PANEL MODERATOR**

**Amy Singler**, Director, River Restoration  
American Rivers and The Nature Conservancy  
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Amy works in a shared position for American Rivers and The Nature Conservancy advancing river restoration and dam removal implementation and policy in the United States. She has 20 years of experience developing and managing river restoration projects, as well as coordinating outreach and training programs in New England. Working at the state and national level, Amy identifies opportunities to improve state and federal agency practice and regulatory policy around river restoration, including work on the issues of dam safety and stream mitigation. Amy holds a M.S. in Water Resources Management from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and a B.S. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Rochester in New York.

## **SPEAKERS**

### **Michael Chelminski, P.E., Principal**

Stantec

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Mr. Chelminski, a professional civil engineer at Stantec Consulting Services Inc. in the Northampton, MA office, focuses his work on dam removal and fisheries engineering. Over the past two decades, his work on dam removal projects has paralleled the evolution of sediment management practice in New England from sediment removal towards instream sediment management. He is the engineer-of-record for removal of a dozen jurisdictional dams in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. Completed dam removal projects that he has worked on in New England encompass a diverse range of project settings, including head-of-tide dams in low-gradient systems with accumulated fine sediments to headwater rivers and streams with high gradients and relatively large volumes of coarse sediment. He has also contributed to dam removal and fisheries engineering projects throughout the US and Canada. Following on his work as a third-party reviewer for dam removal studies and designs by others, he has specific experience related to constructability of sediment management schemes as part of dam removal. Mr. Chelminski earned a Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Utah State University and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from the University of Connecticut.

### **Joshua Wilson, P.E., Ecological Restoration Lead**

Fuss & O'Neill, Inc.

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Mr. Wilson is an experienced field scientist in the disciplines of soil science, botany, wildlife biology, and wetland ecology with over 20 years of experience. He serves as Fuss & O'Neill's senior wetland ecologist and certified soil scientist. He is responsible for assisting clients identify opportunities to address climate change through nature-based solutions. He is also responsible for performing and overseeing staff and projects as it relates to natural resource restoration and enhancement, wetland and watercourse delineations, vegetation surveys, and ecological surveys – all in accordance with applicable State and Federal regulations and guidelines. He prepares and manages local, state and federal permitting for various projects throughout New England for a wide range of projects including linear utility, site development and ecological restoration. Mr. Wilson is also responsible for coordinating and conducting ecological risk assessments at Fuss & O'Neill. He has completed numerous ecological risk assessments in support of various projects such as site investigations and remediation, brownfield investigations and landfill compliance. His specialties include: Wetland and terrestrial ecological assessments; ecological risk assessments; wetland delineations (State - CT, MA, RI, NY - and Federal); wetland and stream mitigation and restoration; dam removal feasibility studies; sediment assessment and management; local, state and Federal permit preparation and technical representation.

**Paul Woodworth**, Fluvial Geomorphologist  
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Mr. Woodworth is the primary fluvial geomorphologist at Princeton Hydro and applies his extensive expertise to a range of projects involving dam removal and the assessment, management and restoration of streams, large rivers, floodplains, and wetlands. Mr. Woodworth has been involved with well over 60 barrier removals while at Princeton Hydro. He has completed detailed studies that demonstrate dam removal feasibility and identify project constraints and special considerations for engineering designs including bank erosion and infrastructure protection. In the planning and design phases, Mr. Woodworth assesses and anticipates channel adjustment processes, samples substrates and impounded sediments, conducts topographic survey of channels, and supports bathymetric survey of impoundments. Mr. Woodworth applies field data, geomorphologic principles, analytical techniques and hydraulic modeling to assess and design for sediment stability and mobility, and the potential for channel adjustments (degradation, aggradation) following dam removal or other significant disturbances. Mr. Woodworth has conducted multi-year, repeat geomorphic surveys to monitor the performance of stabilized banks and grade controls, to track bank erosion and upstream movement of headcuts, and to monitor changes in grain size of stream substrates. Mr. Woodworth lead a multi-year data collection effort focused on tracking changes in stream substrates and channel conditions for a controversial mountain-top development. Mr. Woodworth has utilized widely-used geomorphic assessment protocols, such as the Vermont Stream Geomorphic Assessment Protocols, to assess the geomorphic condition of rivers, and has adapted and synthesized such practices in the development of a unique stream functional assessment protocol for the NJ Highlands Commission. Mr. Woodworth's work on dam removal designs involve the responsible management of sediments, restoration of channel-forming processes, enhancement of in-stream habitat and restoration of riparian plant communities. In addition to removal of obsolete barriers, Mr. Woodworth has worked on more complex removal or modification of active dams, to design creative solutions balancing river connectivity and aquatic organism passage with existing dam services.

## UPCOMING EBC PROGRAMS

### FEBRUARY 2020

February 25 – Emerging Contaminants Conference: PFAS Life Cycle  
February 28 – Climate Adaptation Forum – Insurance

### MARCH 2020

March 4 – Annual “Talking Trash” Conference – Southern New England  
March 5 – Site Remediation Program: Professional Life Lessons for the Ascending Professional  
March 10 – NH TSCA Program: PCB Cleanup in the Northeast – Case Studies  
March 11 – Water Resources Program: MS4 – Year Two and Lessons Learned  
March 17 – Energy Resources Program: Update from MassDOER Leadership  
**March 18 – Dam Management Program: Construction Dewatering**  
**March 19 – Connecticut Program: Contaminated Soils, Now What?**  
March 24 – Ocean & Coastal Resources: Coastal Construction Conference  
March 26 – Evening Program: MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg

### Save the Dates:

**April 24 – Leadership Program with CT DEEP Commissioner and EPA Region One RA**  
**June 8 – Dam Management Committee Program Planning Meeting**  
**June 24 – Connecticut Chapter Program Planning Luncheon**