

## **Orland Dam Committee Report 2015**

The Orland Dam Committee continued meeting during the winter of 2014/15. Representatives from NOAA and the Nature Conservancy and the Dam Committee discussed the results of the initial Feasibility Study (<http://www.orlandme.org/Orland%20Dam.html>) and some of the questions that needed further investigation. NOAA has funded the Nature Conservancy to investigate some of these questions. As a result of the NOAA funding Stantec Consulting has been working on the following tasks this past summer:

Task 1 – Determining the effect on the Narramissic River as a result of Verso’s discontinuing water withdrawals from Alamoosook Lake Dam. This task was not funded but remains to be answered.

Task 2 – Determining the effect of Tidal Water surface elevation on the River upstream from the dam.

Task 3 – Determining the elevation of bedrock between the dam and the Castine Road.

Task 4 – Topographic survey of the area between Upper Falls Road and Duck Cove Road.

Task 5 – Sediment Probing and Bathymetric mapping in the Narramissic River Downstream from Upper Falls Road and Whites Brook between the Narramissic River and Duck Cove Road.

Task 6 –Revise hydraulic model and simulations for existing and dam removal conditions.

Task 7- Assess the effect dam removal would have on scour at State Route 175 and US Route 1 bridges.

Task 8 – Develop maps of potential water supply for firefighting.

Task 9 – Develop photo simulations of multiple sites should the dam be removed.

Another task that we will be looking into is the question of possible mercury contamination and the effect that dam removal could have on contaminated sediments.

Our plan is to provide the results of all of these studies and information on future costs, funding sources and impacts for each of the alternatives . The major issue to decide is will the Town keep the dam or should we look toward removal.

Informational meetings will be schedule this winter and spring. We will be asking the Citizens of the Town to vote on the future of the dam at the next town meeting.

John Barlow, Chair  
Orland Dam Committee