From: Beth Stapleton
To: DNR ESTABROOK
Subject: A river doesn"t run through it.
Date: Monday, March 28, 2016 5:07:47 PM

My name is Beth Stapleton, and I am in favor of the Estabrook Dam repairs.

It saddens me that this issue has become a political hot potatoe with misleading statements about who wants the dam, and that every other week some group files yet again another lawsuit to prolong the inevitable repair of the dam. Since 1998 we have lived along the Western oxbow of the Milwaukee River which is in the heart of this magnificent system of the three major parks. The end of our backyard is enhanced by this western estuary of the Milwaukee River, We have been more amazed by the beauty after the completion of the river restoration to the western and eastern estuaries and all along the Milwaukee river. The water has provided all of us this unique environment shared by wildlife and humans. We embrace the usage of the river by all who kayak or canoe their way through the winding, tranquil western water way. We especially embrace the wildlife inhabitants along this unique area. The parks are so full of life because of the WATER. On any given weekend in summer through fall you will see hundreds of people utilizing the parks and enjoying what they have to offer The Milwaukee River and her estuaries to the East and the west is a historic, iconic gem that binds all communities that surround her. If the dam is not repaired you will see a huge decline in the precious and fragile ecosystem that the Milwaukee River provides. With today's technology, a new dam will be more effective and efficient. With the River clean up of the pcp's, and the sedimentation clean up, I believe the risk of flooding will be considerably less. With automation the cost to run the dam should be a lot less. I am all for the Dam repair and I look forward to the start of the repair process. I have attached a photo of a group enjoying the estuary to the west and what she has to offer. Without the dam we have little to no water, muck,weeds, and the usual garbage such as shopping carts, car tires, plastic grocery bags flapping around in stead of the wildlife that embrace the area. I DO NOT want to be attending meetings five years from now against the latest proposal for a conversion of the river beds to a bike/run-walk path.

Thank you for your time
Beth Stapleton
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