

DATE: September 8, 2015 FILE REF: 55.01

TO: Aaron Mason – Willow River State Park

FROM: Michael Rogne – Eau Claire Service Center  
Bill Sturtevant, P.E., - WT/3

SUBJECT: Little Falls Dam, Plan Approval for Breach of a Department Owned Dam in St. Croix County

**Project Name and Location:** Little Falls Dam Breach, a large dam on navigable waters, located in NE ¼ of the SW ¼, Township 29 North, Section 8, Range 19 West, of St. Croix County, Wisconsin.

**Description:** To prevent future rain events causing backwater, refilling the impoundment, and suspending sediment, the Little Falls Dam will be breached to complete the full drawdown and pass base flow of Willow River.

Breach Specifications \*Arches and Gates numbered from left to right looking downstream

Arch 4 and Right Buttress: Width = 23.5 ft., Top elevation of walkway = 743.6 ft.,  
Bottom of breach at riprap behind arch approximate elevation = 724.6 ft.

Arch 5 and Gate 1 Left Pier: Width = 27.2 ft., Top Elevation = 743.6, Bottom of breach varies from 722.6 ft. to 721.6 ft.

Gate 1 Bay, Gate 1 Right Pier, and Switchgear Platform: Width = 36.6 ft., Top Elevation of Gate 1 = 740.6 ft., Bottom of breach = 716.6 ft. (Match invert of Low Level Sluice Gate)

**Approval:** The project has been reviewed and found to be consistent with the standards of Chapters 1.11 and 31, Wisconsin Statutes and Chapters 103 and 333 of Wisconsin Administrative Code.

**Conditions:**

- 1) The breach shall be completed within 30 days of the date of this approval. Should any unforeseen circumstance prohibit the completion of the breach within 30 days, please contact Michael Rogne at least 48 hours before the 30 day deadline.
- 2) The sponsor shall implement and maintain proper soil erosion and sediment control best management (BMPs) practices during construction of the project. Erosion and sediment control BMPs shall be accomplished using the guidelines in the Wisconsin Stormwater Technical Standards available via the internet at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stormwater/>. BMPs shall be properly installed, inspected, and maintained to function as intended until the project site is stabilized. All temporary erosion and sediment control practices (e.g. silt fence, etc.) shall be removed once the construction site has undergone final stabilization.
- 3) Any material removed as a result of the project shall be deposited in a suitable location such as to not impact wetlands, floodplains, or obstruct waterways.
- 4) The breach shall be completed in a controlled manner as to reduce the sediment discharge as much as possible.
- 5) The breach area shall not contain hazards to the waterway, such as rebar or any navigational obstructions.

- 6) All operational gates must remain open through the remainder of the drawdown, including the low draw sluice gate.

All necessary local, state, and federal permits shall be obtained prior to starting the project.

Please notify Michael Rogney at [Michael.Rogney@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Michael.Rogney@wisconsin.gov) or 715-839-3735 at least 72 hours prior to the start of the construction and when the project has been completed.

The below approval authorizes this Department of Natural Resources project according to Manual Code 3565.1.

**APPROVED:**

  
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Michael R. Rogney  
Water Management Engineer  
Eau Claire Service Center

9/8/15  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Cc: Bill Sturtevant, P.E., WDNR State Dam Safety Engineer  
Dan Baumann, P.E., WDNR Secretary's Director  
Gordon Stinson, P.E., WDNR, Construction Engineer  
Paul Bruggink, WDNR, Northern District Land Representative  
Ben Bergey, WDNR, Parks & Recreation Supervisor  
Missy Vanlanduyt, WDNR, Capital Development  
Dave Pericak, WDNR, Basin Supervisor  
Cameron Bump, WDNR, Parks & Recreation  
Mark Harings, WDNR, Water Management Specialist  
Marty Engel, WDNR, Fisheries Biologist