

Site 6: Livezey Dam

Site Information

Livezey Dam is located approximately 3.6 miles above the confluence of Wissahickon Creek with the Schuylkill River, and on the creek's mainstem.



Problems, Opportunities & Constraints

Siltation, habitat alteration, and limitation on resident fish passage are major problems associated with the Livezey Dam project site. Restoration opportunities include decreasing sedimentation and water impoundment behind the dam to create adequate aquatic habitat and improving resident fish passage. However, there are a few constraints associated with these opportunities. Further evaluation will be needed to assess the quantity and quality (e.g., chemical constituents adsorbed to the sediment) of the sediment behind the dam.

Major Problems	Opportunities	Constraints
Siltation Habitat alteration Impediment to resident fish passage	Improve resident fish passage Decrease sedimentation to create aquatic habitat Reduce impoundment behind the dam	Dam is a historical and cultural feature Unknown quantity and quality of sediment behind the dam

Alternatives

Alternative	Overview
1: No action	The dam would remain an impassable barrier to fish movement and continue to trap sediment, and poor habitat conditions would persist. The structure will likely exceed its design life within 50 years and require extensive renovation or replacement.
2: Dam removal	Alternative #2 consists of the removal of the existing dam and accumulated sediment upstream, thereby improving fish passage and promoting the most significant improvements to aquatic habitat.
3: Partial dam removal	Alternative #3 would lower part of the existing dam to allow fish passage, locally improve aquatic habitat, and maintain some sensitivity to historic/cultural resources.
4: Installation of rock ramp over existing dam breach	Alternative #4 would construct a rock ramp over the existing dam breach to allow fish passage and maintain some sensitivity to historic/cultural resources.

