



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
New England District

# PUBLIC NOTICE

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 Navigation Section  
**Date:** March 30, 2026  
**Comment Period Closes:** April 14, 2026

**ALTERATION OF A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS CIVIL WORKS  
 PROJECT PURSUANT TO 33 USC 408: DAM REMOVALS  
 ROYAL RIVER FEDERAL NAVIGATION PROJECT (FNP)  
 YARMOUTH, MAINE**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE) is evaluating plans under 33 U.S.C. 408 (Section 408) to remove two dams in the Royal River proposed by Flycatcher LLC, on behalf of the Town of Yarmouth. The Town is proposing to remove two dams and associated fishways, as well as potentially modify the bed of Middle Falls, in order to restore habitat connectivity and aquatic ecosystem functions and values to the Royal River. A Section 408 review is being conducted to determine if the dam removals will have an impact on the Royal River FNP, which is located downstream from the project sites (Figure 1).

Project Site	Distance Upstream From Royal River FNP (Approximately)
Bridge Street Dam	.48 miles
Middle Falls	.88 miles
Elm Street Dam	1.15 miles

*Figure 1: Distance From Each Project Site to the Royal River FNP*

USACE completed the “Royal River, Yarmouth Maine, Section 206, Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration: Final Integrated Detailed Project Report & Environmental Assessment”, pursuant to Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, P.L. 104-303, as amended. The two Royal River dams and the Middle Falls area were assessed for ecosystem restoration opportunities, as well as other issues including impact to the FNP. It was determined that the total quantity of sediment available to erode as a result of dam removal is approximately 5,400 cubic yards (cy), which is small compared to the 9,500 cy of sediment shoaling in the estuary each year. The last dredge cycle reported 45,000 cy of sediment dredged from the FNP. Considering the 5,400 cy added by removing both the Bridge Street and East Elm Street Dams is a one-time input, it is unlikely that the dam removal would result in measurable adverse shoaling within the estuary as a result of the erosion of sediment in the immediate vicinity of the dams.

This Notice is being issued pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 and USACE Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-220. Section 408 allows USACE to grant permission for the alteration, occupation, or use of a USACE civil works project if it is determined that the activity will not be injurious to the public interest and will not impair the usefulness of the Federal project. USACE has made the preliminary determination that the removal of two dams upstream of the FNP will not have a negative impact on public interest, use, or our ability to maintain the Royal River FNP. The public is invited to provide comment associated with this Section 408 evaluation. To request more information contact: Christina Comeau, New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742, (978) 318-8705, [Christina.M.Comeau@usace.army.mil](mailto:Christina.M.Comeau@usace.army.mil). The comment period will end on April 14, 2026. Letters should be postmarked by this date.