

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: August 12, 2008

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Media Advisory

Merrimack Village Dam Removal Ceremony, August 21

Merrimack, NH - On August 21, 2008, the removal of the unused Merrimack Village Dam at the mouth of the Souhegan River will be celebrated in a ceremony hosted by the dam's current owner, Pennichuck Water, and its partners. Once the dam is removed, migratory fish will be able to return to their natural upstream spawning grounds for the first time in nearly three centuries. The restoration work began on July 16, 2008 and is expected to be completed September 2008. The actual breaching of the dam will continue over the next two weeks.

The event will feature a reception at 9:30 AM, followed by comments from several partners. A press briefing and interviews will follow at 11:00 AM. Press kits will be available.

To ensure safety and emergency access for the Merrimack Fire Department, media representatives are asked to park at the rear of the Rite-Aid parking lot south of the dam site. Merrimack Fire Department and Swan Chocolate parking are reserved for fire department personnel only.

WHAT: Merrimack Village Dam Removal Celebration and Press Event

WHERE: Merrimack Fire Station
432 Daniel Webster Highway
Merrimack, NH 03054

WHEN: Thursday, August 21, 2008
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

WHO: Speakers: Pennichuck Water, Inc., National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Town of Merrimack, Souhegan Watershed Association, Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee.
Representatives from the offices of: Senator Gregg, Senator Sununu, Congressman Hodes

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On the Web:

Web cam of the removal process:

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/projects_programs/crp/damcam.html