

Presentation 2, Karina Dailey, Thurs April 8th, 4pm

A Collaborative Approach to Reconnecting Rivers and Restoring Ecosystems

Essential Question:	How can communities come together to restore riparian ecosystems that have been altered by dams and other human development?
Vocabulary:	<i>Riparian Zone</i> – interface between land and a river or stream <i>Connectivity/corridors</i> – areas of habitat that are physically connected to one another, allowing movement of plants and animals <i>Modification/disturbance</i> – some human action that has attempted to alter a river or stream <i>Channelization</i> – process of straightening, deepening, or widening a river, for human use or need <i>Resilience</i> – the ability of a habitat to absorb disturbances and persist despite variability <i>Stakeholder</i> – groups or individuals who have an interest in an issue

- Even after a dam is removed its impact on a riparian (river) ecosystem can remain. What kinds of continuing impacts does Karina Dailey discuss pertaining to environmental effects on an old dam site? In what ways does a dam impact a stream or river over a long period of time?
- There often is not one single effort that can fully restore and reconnect a riparian ecosystem. What kinds of interrelated approaches are necessary to restore these habitats, according to Karina?
- Why is it often important that these efforts are collaborative ones within local communities? What other benefits do people get from working together to improve the health of their local waterways?
- **Reflection:** What other questions or dam related topics did this presentation bring up for you? What kinds of skills are needed to carry out Karina Dailey's work?
- **Extension:** Investigate a local watershed restoration project within your community. Consider participating in the effort in the spirit of stewardship!

Habitat Impacts	B. T. Fitzgerald. "How a Dam Affects a River." VANR Watershed Management Division, April 2010. Accessed 3/23/21. https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/rivers/docs/rvdameffects.pdf
Stream Rehabilitation	"Riparian Area Management Systems." USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service Vermont. Accessed 2/23/21. https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/vt/technical/cp/?cid=nrcs142p2_010555 "River Restoration." Vermont DEC, Vermont Rivers Program. Accessed 2/22/21. https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/rivers/river-corridor-and-floodplain-protection/restoration