FAQ Aesthetics

What will the river look like during bridge construction?
There is not expected to be any major changes in the appearance of the river during bridge construction.

What will the river look like during dam removal?
The river will temporarily experience an increase in turbidity, or cloudiness. This is caused by the disturbance of moving surrounding earth which suspends sediment into the water often giving the water a muddy appearance. This will be most noticeable downstream of Boardman Dam to Sabin Dam. Sediment will continue to settle downstream of Sabin Dam to Boardman Lake and the river will gradually clear when the dam removal is complete. Turbidity levels will be monitored by the project team.

What will the land near the river look like after construction?
Depending on the soils present, the land near the river, or “bottomlands,” are expected to re-vegetate over several growing seasons. Grasses, shrubs and trees will establish quickly in the majority of newly exposed bottomlands while other mineral-heavy, sandier soils will take longer to establish new growth. Partners will actively manage invasive plant species. Native trees and other woody material will also be placed throughout the bottomlands and along the river’s edge to stabilize riverbanks and to create habitat for fish and wildlife.

FAQ Access and Recreation

Where will visitors and recreationists access the river during bridge construction and dam removal?
During bridge construction, Cass Road is closed south of Broad Road and west of Keystone Road and both the Boardman Pond and Beaver Pond trailheads are closed. Paddlers are advised to conclude float trips at the Lone Pine trailhead. During dam removal, trail access and parking will be available at the Lone Pine trailhead. River traffic will be closed from Beitner Road downstream to Sabin Dam. Cass Road will also be closed south of Broad Road and west of Keystone Road. Both the Boardman Pond and the Beaver Pond trailheads will be closed.

How will the future use of this area including recreational trails and public access be decided?
The construction access road along the west side of the new river channel is planned to be a recreational trail after dam removal. Project partners are continuing to work to identify plans to determine recreational use and public access. To stay up-to-date, please email info@theboardman.org to receive project updates.
Boardman Dam Removal

Existing Conditions

View from Lone Pine Trail looking north

During Construction

One to Two Years Post Dam Removal

Ten Years Post Dam Removal