



Native Fish Coalition

www.NativeFishCoalition.org

MA@nativefishcoalition.org

April 7, 2022

Kathleen Theoharides

MA Energy Efficiency Advisory Council

Dear Ms. Theoharides:

The Massachusetts chapter of [Native Fish Coalition](#) (NFC) joins the Charles River Watershed Association (CWRA) in calling for the immediate removal of Watertown Dam. [Native Fish Coalition](#) (NFC) is a non-profit grassroots conservation organization whose mission is to protect, preserve, and restore wild native fishes. We are a 501(c)(3) national organization with state chapters in ten states including Massachusetts.

NFC's mission is especially relevant to the Charles River watershed since our focus is not limited to native salmonids but includes all our freshwater and diadromous native species, such as short-nosed sturgeon, American eels, river herring, American shad, lamprey, redbfin pickerel, and darters to name just a few. We concur with the CWRA position below that removing Watertown Dam would:

...[have] the potential to welcome migratory fish populations back to an additional forty miles of the Charles River ecosystem, restoring life to our river and healing historic wrongs. Removal also offers the opportunity to improve habitat, transform water quality, restore native plants, and remediate contaminated sediment, increase climate resilience for future extreme weather events, and protect downstream areas from future flooding.

We urge the Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Council to support the immediate removal of the Watertown Dam.

Sincerely,

Bob Dalton, MA NFC Chair

Will Friedland, MA NFC Vice Chair

John Strucker, MA NFC Board Member at Large

CC: MA NFC Board

National NFC Board