

Section 106 Success Story

East Branch Big Creek Dam Removal

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP | OSCODA COUNTY

This undertaking is a good example of multi-agency partnering for a positive outcome. Michigan Trout Unlimited received a grant from the FWS for removal of a dam to benefit wildlife on state land managed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The DNR's cultural team engaged the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in early coordination, knowing that removal of the historic dam and impacts to the surrounding archaeological site would result in an adverse effect. Because of this early coordination, consultation remained on schedule and the executed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to mitigate the effects gave special attention to avoiding negative impacts to the archaeological site. Recordation of the dam was a major component of the MOA. The consulting firm, Terracon, recently submitted the final LiDAR renderings of the dam and they're quite spectacular. The data collected will be incredibly helpful to anyone interested in the dam, and to archaeologists accessing the State Archaeological Site File for future research. The dam will soon be removed, but the data collected will benefit future generations.

LOCATION

Greenwood Township, Oscoda County

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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FEDERAL AGENCY

United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

PROJECT DATE

2024-2026