

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE



2017 Webinar Series



THE NEW FRONTIER: AN OVERVIEW OF RECENT POLICY AND REGULATORY CHANGES AFFECTING DAM REMOVAL PROJECTS

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Removing dams and other instream barriers can be one of the fastest, most effective ways of restoring ecological function. However, as more dam removal projects are proposed, many proponents have found that the regulatory environment can be unreasonably complicated, time consuming, and expensive for both the applicant and regulatory authorities. Over the course of the last 18 months, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) have released guidance and completed rulemaking that has a direct bearing on implementation of future dam removal projects and attempts to address some of these challenges. This presentation will provide an overview of these efforts, including the EPA final rulemaking to update the national water quality standards (WQS) regulation (specifically WQS variances); the EPA FAQ on dam removal; and issuance of the new Corps nationwide permit (NWP) 53, Removal of Low-Head Dams.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHY

Serena McClain is a director of river restoration with American Rivers in Washington, DC. She has worked in the river restoration field for more than 15 years, engaging with regional and national stakeholders to demonstrate how to enhance safety, quality of life and economic development by restoring the natural function of rivers. McClain has managed and provided technical assistance to projects around the country, utilizing her communications and policy expertise to ensure that local communities and key decision-makers are aware of the opportunities available to them and are equipped with the tools necessary to aid them in those decisions. She currently leads the program's dam removal practice.

WEBINAR INFORMATION

Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017

Time: 12:00p ET | 9:00a PT

Duration: 60 Minutes

Webinar Platform: Microsoft Lync (call in number will be provided to registrants)

Please RSVP and direct any questions or comments to Erin McCombs at fisheriesengineeringscience@gmail.com

The Joint Committee on Fisheries Engineering and Science is hosting a free webinar series as part of its mission to engage scientists and engineers on topics related to fish passage. The Committee consists of members of the American Fisheries Society Bioengineering Section (AFS-BES) and the American Society of Civil Engineers Environmental and Water Resources Institute (ASCE-EWRI). It was established in January 2011 to foster communication between the two groups, provide opportunities for engineers and biologists to share relevant knowledge and learn from one another, and to collaborate on projects related to fish passage.