

## Mlsna Dam Removal Public Notice

The Mlsna dam was breached during the August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 flood. Since then, we have entered a watershed study with the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). The preferred alternative from the study was dam removal due to foundation bedrock instabilities. The dams no longer meet the cost benefit ratio for the reinvestment of federal funds.

Vernon County has decided to move forward with the Mlsna dam removal design plan with Ayres and Associates. The design plan removal proposes notching the dam and blending fill into the hillside and the existing western breach area. The valley will be graded and returned to its natural setting.

As part of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI DNR) design plan approval there is an opportunity to submit written comments or request a public informational hearing. Please see the attached Notice from the WI DNR.

This letter is being sent to nearby and downstream landowners within the breach route and local government officials.

Respectfully,

Mark Erickson  
Vernon County LWCD  
220 Airport Rd  
Viroqua, WI 54665  
[merickson@vernoncounty.org](mailto:merickson@vernoncounty.org)

11/9/2023

cc: Nearby and downstream landowners

Local County and Township officials

**RECEIVED**

NOV 14 2023

\*on 12-13-23 ToC Board Mtg Agenda  
Notice shared at above Mtg

Notice of Pending Application for Proposed Dam Abandonment and Stabilization Structure Placement

The Vernon County Land and Water Conservation Department, 220 Airport Rd, Viroqua, WI 54665 has applied to the Department of Natural Resources for a permit to abandon the Mlsna Dam and place habitat and streambed stabilization structures in its place. The project is located in SE 1/4, SE 1/4, Section 05 Township 14N, Range 03W located in Town of Clinton, Vernon County.

The Department will review the proposal provided by the applicant and any information from public comments. The Department will determine whether the proposal complies with ss. 1.11, 30.12 and 30.208, 31 Stats., and ch. NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code, and ensure that the required mitigation meets the standards in s. 281.36(3r), Stats. if the project impacts wetlands.

The Department has made a tentative determination that it will issue the permit for the proposed activity.

If you would like to know more about this project or would like to see the application and plans, please visit the Department's permit tracking website at <https://permits.dnr.wi.gov/water/SitePages/Permit%20Search.aspx> and search for Erickson.

Reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be provided for qualified individuals with disabilities upon request.

Any person may submit comments and/or request a public informational hearing by emailing [Jeff.Schure@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Jeff.Schure@wisconsin.gov), over the phone at (608) 228-8107, or writing to Jeff Schure, 3911 Fish Hatchery Rd, Fitchburg, WI 53711 by U.S. mail. If you are submitting general comments on the proposal, they must be emailed, verbalized, or postmarked within 30 days after the date this notice is published on the Department's website.

The final decision may be appealed as indicated in the decision document.

Docket Number IP-WC-2022-63-05032, IP-WC-2022-63-01669

**STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

For the Secretary

BY: *Jeff J. Schure*

Jeff Schure  
Water Management Specialist

October 31, 2023  
Date