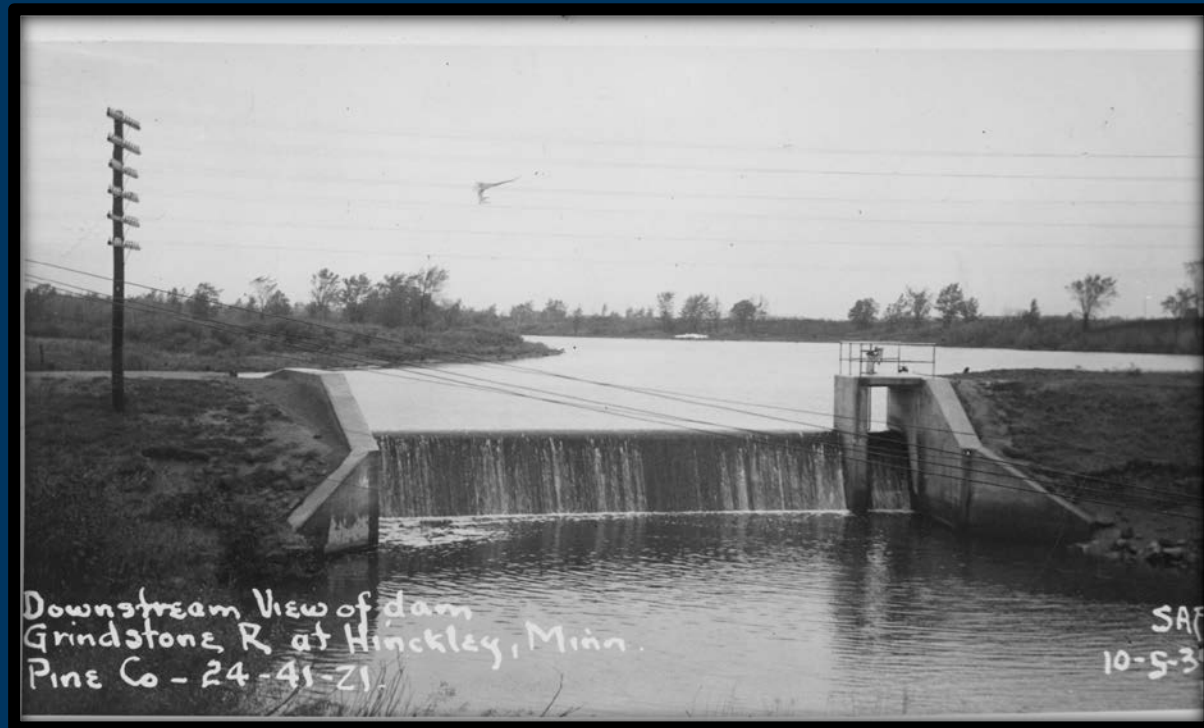


# Grindstone River Dam



Hinckley Community Room

December 20, 2018



DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

# Tonight's Agenda

## Updating the local community

6:00 – 6:10	Welcome, tonight's purpose, agenda, facilitator
6:10 – 6:30	Presentation: How did we get here and what now?
6:30 – 8:00	Open house: Conversations with staff, committee sign-up
8:00	Closing – thank you and how to obtain updates

# The dam's function

The dam was constructed  
by the Department in 1931



The reservoir provides a water  
source for fish rearing ponds



## “General use” Aquatic management Areas (AMAs)

Managed by DNR Fisheries  
to provide non-boat access  
to water resources.

Allowable public uses - ‘light,  
non-motorized’ include:

- Hunting
- Fishing
- Trapping
- Hiking
- Wildlife observation

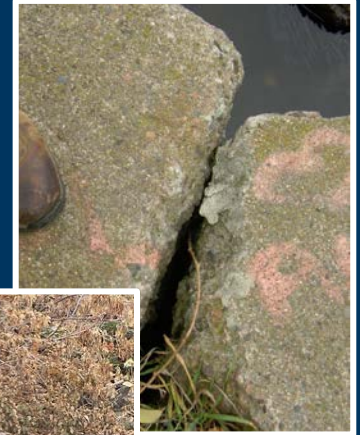


# Structural issues and safety concerns

Repairs of varying magnitude have been made over the years, 2 failures (1944, 1954)

Recent inspections have given the dam a 'poor' rating (instability, inability to pass flood)

Two documented fatalities have occurred immediately below the dam



Department must  
address dam,  
funding secured

# What has happened between Public Meeting #1 and today?

September 2017, Hinckley Community Center

Informational presentations (background, alternatives)

Q & A, small group discussions

[All materials and summaries available on Hinckley Fisheries website]

React to City and public concerns, desires and questions raised

Work to explore alternatives:

Information gathering

Hydraulic modeling

Local conversations



# Department decision: **move forward with dam removal**

The alternatives were compared across 6 categories

*From a fiscal, environmental, feasibility and public safety standpoint, moving forward with removal of the dam is the most responsible option for the Department.*

1941



1944



View looking north. Note marking of dyke section on back of end wall before failure.



# Now what?

Intensive permit process to navigate

Timeline 'known' = expiration of some funds June 2020





# Open House

## Conversations with Department Staff



*Wide variety of staff present*

Stations representing  
evaluation criteria

Opportunities to stay actively  
involved

Committees – historical preservation,  
recreation, volunteer habitat work

# Thank You!

## Hinckley Area Fisheries website

Summary of public meetings

Project status updates

Office phone: 320-384-7721

**mn** DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Search for...

RECREATION DESTINATIONS NATURE EDUCATION & SAFETY LICENSES, PERMITS & REGULATIONS EVENTS & SEASONS ABOUT DNR

Home > Area offices > Fisheries > Hinckley > Rivers >

**Hinckley Area Fisheries Office**

Main page

Grindstone Dam

Lakes

Rivers

Special regulations

Trout streams

**Fishing**

Main page

Seasons

Regulations

Tournaments

Licenses

Fish consumption advisory ⓘ

Fish diseases

Fishing Education

Fishing in the Neighborhood (FiN)

LakeFinder

**Grindstone River**

**Hinckley dam**

**November 2018 update:** DNR will move forward with plans to remove the Grindstone River dam at Hinckley. A meeting is scheduled at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 20, in the Community Room at the Hinckley City Hall and Public Library, 106 1st St. SE.


The Department of Natural Resources conducted a public meeting on Sept. 26, 2017, at the Hinckley Community Center to share information and answer questions regarding plans to address concerns with the Grindstone River dam located in Hinckley.

In its most recent inspection by DNR dam safety engineers, the structure received a rating of "poor". Unfortunately, there have also been two documented fatal incidents related to the dam. In this case, the status quo isn't acceptable so a project at this location has been considered for some time.

DNR staff from different divisions and with various expertise were present and shared information that has been considered to arrive at the current preferred alternative, which is to remove the dam and restore the river.

Department staff stressed that this is not a fixed decision and is subject to change, based on the input received and DNR's ability to address the issues. The final decision about the course of action to take with the dam will be made by DNR leadership sometime during winter 2017-18 the summer of 2018.

The evening's discussions and comments received will inform the DNR's plan moving forward. We are committed to addressing the concerns identified by the



**Meeting materials**

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/hinckley/rivers/grindstone.html>