



PUBLIC MEETING

Toddy Pond Dam, Alamoosook Lake Dam, & Silver Lake Dam

November 14, 2024

Agenda

- Introductions
- Brief History of Dams
- Overview of the Lakes & Dams
- Current Management
- MDEP Process for Petition of Abandonment
- Next Steps

Introduction

- **David Bryant, Project Manager**

BRIEF HISTORY

The three dams and the associated water rights are owned by Bucksport Mill LLC.

These dams include:

- Toddy Pond Dam (Orland Dam)
- Alamoosook Lake Dam
- Silver Lake Dam

BRIEF HISTORY

- The water rights to Alamoosook Lake and Silver Lake were purchased by the mill owners in the 1930s
- The water rights to Toddy Pond were purchased in 1965
- Successive owners have operated and maintained these dams to support the operations of the papermill, and supply water to the Town of Bucksport, as well as manage water levels in the lakes enhancing lakeshore properties.
- Bucksport Mill LLC has operated and maintained these dams as required by the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) consistent with historical operations managed by predecessor owners

Overview Of The Lakes & Associated Dams





TODDY POND DAM (ID#111)

- Hatchery Road Orland
- Constructed in 1921 to support paper mill needs
- Last significant repairs in 1947
- Regulates lake levels in Toddy Pond and Alamoosook Lake
- Composite earth/concrete/masonry dam with concrete fishway
- Regulated lake levels in Toddy Pond and preserves flows in Toddy Pond Stream for migrating alewives



ALAMOOSOOK LAKE DAM (ID#110)

- Soper Road Orland
- Constructed in 1930 to support paper mill operations
- Regulates lake levels in Alamoosook Lake.
- An on-site pump station was used to transfer water to Silver Lake through a 3-foot diameter steel aqueduct during low water conditions.
- Concrete mass gravity dam with concrete fishway



SILVER LAKE DAM (ID#105)

- Mill Street Outlet
- Constructed in 1930
- Extensive repairs in 1984
- Regulates levels of Silver Lake which served as a primary water supply for the former paper mill. The lake currently serves as water supply for the Town of Bucksport and provides raw process water for the power plant operating on the former mill property.
- Zoned earth embankment dam with concrete core wall

MANAGEMENT

- Bucksport Mill LLC has continuously operated and maintained these dams, including completion of routine inspections and maintenance.
- Bucksport Mill LLC has worked with MEMA to comply with emergency management requirements including updating and implementing EAPs, and O&M plans for each dam.
- During a recent call with MEMA representatives to discuss the current status of the dams, MEMA stated “AIM has done everything MEMA has asked them to do” in reference to dam management.
- Currently there is not an on-going industrial use for these three dams

CURRENT

- With the exception of supplying water to the Town of Bucksport, and limited use of raw water for the power plant, there are no other apparent commercial uses for the impounded water
- Bucksport Mill LLC has not been able to identify potential interested parties to take over the dams
- Because efforts to identify new owners have not been successful, Bucksport Mill LLC has opted to petition the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) to “abandon” the dams in accordance with 38 MRS Chapter 5 § 901.

38 MRS Chapter 5 § 901 Process

Maine law allows dam operators to petition the MDEP to divest of ownership of a dam. The statute outlines **a four-step process**

1. Petition and notice
2. Consultation to find a new owner
3. Agency assessment of public value
4. Order for release of water

Currently Bucksport Mill LLC is completing step 1.

Thank you

