

Key Points:

- The Bloede Dam will be removed using a passive sediment management approach, releasing up to 312,000 cubic yards of sediment downstream. This is similar to the approach used for Simkins dam, which released about 88,000 cubic yards.
- Short-term impacts associated with the sediment release could be severe immediately below the dam, with sediment deposits up to 7 feet high.
- Although there is about twice the amount of sand in the Bloede impoundment compared to the Simkins impoundment, the higher volume of sediment does not result in twice the deposition depths downstream.
- The river channel behind the dam will recover more quickly. The material behind the dam could be evacuated in 1 to 7 months, while areas downstream may take 6 to 10 years to fully recover.
- Sections of both the 42" sewer line which runs through the dam, and a 12" sewer line that crosses the river through the reservoir deposit in the Bonnie Branch area will be relocated prior to the dam removal. Once the dam is removed, the sediment will erode and the sewer lines will be compromised if no action is taken.
- The 42" sewer line will be relocated under the Grist Mill Trail. This means the trail will need to be closed for approximately one year while the work takes place. The trail is expected to be closed from Illchester Road to the dam beginning in winter 2015.