

# Lake Champlain Aquatic Habitat Connectivity

## Fish Passage in the Boquet River Watershed

Willsboro Dam, Boquet River, Willsboro, New York  
Longitude: -73.3914 Latitude: 44.3664



Before



After

*Left: A view of the Willsboro Dam before. Right: After Dam was removed*

**Site description:** The Boquet River is the longest free flowing river in the Lake Champlain Basin. With 40 miles of stream that originate in the Adirondack Mountains of Upstate New York. The Boquet River is extremely important in our combined efforts to restore a self-sustaining landlocked Atlantic salmon population.

**Problems / history:** The dam does not function due to its deteriorated condition, thereby making the existing fish by-pass obsolete due to lack of attraction flows. The dam has started to break apart creating a flooding hazard.

**Objective and Method:** Removal of this dam will open 124 miles for fish passage and restore the Boquet to its natural down gradient of the stream, improve water quality and create future flood resiliency.

**Additional information:**

**Partners and Funding:** Funding and support for this project came from the Lower Great Lake Fishery Commission (GLFC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Boquet River Association (BRA), Essex County Soil and Water Conservation District (ECSWCD), Greater Adirondack Resource Conservation and Development Council (GARDC), Town of Willsboro and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

<b>Cost:</b>	<u>USFWS</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>GLFC</u>	<u>TNC</u>	<u>BRA</u>	<u>ECSWCD</u>	<u>GARDC</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$200,000	\$37,290	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$303,290