

Comments from Change.org Save Pickpocket

"The pickpocket dam has existed for over 100 years, and the reservoir that it creates is an intrinsic part of the local environment. The wetlands around the reservoir are home to every type of local wildlife. Removing the dam, and essentially eliminating the reservoir, would seriously disrupt this ecosystem."

-John Collins

"THINK OF THE ANIMALS! THINK OF THE COMMUNITY THAT IS ROOTED IN THESE WATERS! DON'T DO IT!!!!"

-Morgan Sanderson

"Removal of this dam will destroy this beautiful ecosystem and ruin the habitat for so many animals . Just look at the habitat damage already done by the dam removal off Mill Road at Fremont / Brentwood boarder . What Exeter is doing is horrible ."

-Phil Allison

Name	City	State	Postal Code	Country	Signed On
James Rice	Acworth	GA	30101	US	1/11/2024
Trevor Nelson	Amesbury	MA	01952	US	1/5/2024
Elizabeth Scalera	Amherst	MA	01003	US	2/28/2024
Andrea Blackburn	Angola	IN	46703	US	5/24/2024
Julian Willis	Atlanta	GA	30309	US	3/4/2024
Dean Stinn	Auburn	NH	03032	US	1/6/2024
luke Almendarez	Austin		78749	US	1/8/2024
Demar Browner	Belleville		48111	US	1/10/2024
Campbell Sanderson	Belmont	MA	02478	US	2/28/2024
Jackson Barb	Boodyville		28233	US	1/13/2024
Caitlin Peterson	Boston		02118	US	1/9/2024
Jason Bosworth	Boston	MA	02118	US	1/24/2024
	مهرداد ظهراىى	MA	02293	US	5/24/2024
Antoine Allanore	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Lori Behm	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Michael Plourde	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Sarah Herrick	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Madhavi P	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Christian LaFreniere	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Annamarie Hussey	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Kristen Chiumiento	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Christopher Chiumiento	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Sean LaPierre	Brentwood	NH	03801	US	1/6/2024
Michael McCary	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Katie Cebula-Frizzell	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/7/2024
Diane Butenas	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/7/2024
Andrew Lundquist	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/7/2024
Brian Nelson	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/7/2024
Paula Agrella	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/8/2024
Meredith LaPierre	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/8/2024
Allison Higgins	Brentwood	NH	03883	US	1/9/2024
Brenda Flanders	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/14/2024
Caroline Lee	Brentwood		37027	US	1/15/2024
John Collins	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/16/2024
Jennifer Sessler Sessler	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	1/19/2024
Alexis Paul	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	2/29/2024
Carrie Allison	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	3/3/2024
Kirk Riden	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	5/24/2024
Collin Webb	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	5/24/2024
Phil Allison	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	5/24/2024
Sevim Perry	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	5/28/2024
Mary-Jo Mohl	Brentwood	NH	03833	US	5/28/2024
Ethan Raynowska	Brentwood NH	NH	03833	US	2/28/2024

Audra White	Brighton	MA	02135	US	1/7/2024
Leighel We b	Brockton	MA	02301	US	5/26/2024
Jon Inwood	Brooklyn	NY	11226	US	1/8/2024
Syed Hamza Shah	Brooklyn		11235	US	1/16/2024
Heidy Bulux	Brooklyn	NY	11219	US	2/28/2024
Oliver Schmoe	Brooklyn	NY	11215	US	3/12/2024
Sam Annable	Brunswick	ME	04011	US	1/18/2024
Adam Kaluba	Burtleson		76028	US	1/8/2024
debra hinesley	Camas		98607	US	1/8/2024
jill angelichio	charlotte		28204	US	1/6/2024
Kittie Curry	Charlotte		28210	US	1/7/2024
Makinzy Alderidge	Charlotte	TN	37036	US	3/11/2024
Gael Delgadillo	Chicago	IL	60614	US	2/28/2024
WIL MIC	Chicago	IL	60657	US	5/25/2024
collin wolff	chico		95988	US	1/8/2024
Elijah Berry	Clark	NJ	07065	US	2/25/2024
Erika Rikhiram	Clermont		34711	US	1/10/2024
Ke'Eyanna Hogan	Columbus		43203	US	1/7/2024
Taliyah Watson	Columbus		43213	US	1/15/2024
Kasey Nappier	Columbus	OH	43204	US	2/26/2024
Juliana Lebron	Cornwall On Hudson		12520	US	1/6/2024
Austin Ward	Corvallis	OR	97330	US	1/11/2024
Carlos Romero	Culpeper	VA	22701	US	3/8/2024
Ralphie Beam	Cumberland	MD	21502	US	5/24/2024
ethan sohn	Dallas		75211	US	1/7/2024
Jack Bergin	Dedham	MA	02026	US	2/29/2024
Ryan Whiting	Derry	NH	03038	US	1/7/2024
Denny Boys	Derry	NH	03038	US	1/7/2024
Lillian Whiting	Derry	NH	03038	US	1/8/2024
Luke Rieder	Dover	NH	03820	US	1/7/2024
Shay Sullivan	Durham	NH	03824	US	2/28/2024
Jacqueline Tobin	Durham	NH	03824	US	2/29/2024
Anna Laidler	East Stroudsburg		18301	US	1/11/2024
Emily Valdez	El Centro		92243	US	1/8/2024
Dakota Barton	Elkton		21921	US	1/12/2024
Ellen Garnett	Exeter	NH	03833	US	12/15/2023
Kathleen Whiting	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/4/2024
Bob Collier	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/5/2024
Catherine Edison	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/5/2024
Samantha Andrews	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/5/2024
Daphne Allanore	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/5/2024
Jason Cohen	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Mark Rieder	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Alan Agrella	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024

Ed Wong	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Julie Ford	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Deb Giles	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Erin Cohen	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Mike Oconnell	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Amy Nelson	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Andy Herrick	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/6/2024
Alison Carroll	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/7/2024
Patricia Boyd-Robertson	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/8/2024
Moe Shore	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/10/2024
Barbara Swasey-Keir	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/11/2024
Petra Porter	Exeter	NH	03833	US	1/20/2024
Irina Serebryakova	Exeter	NH	03833	US	2/24/2024
Cindy Strowman	Exeter	NH	03833	US	2/27/2024
Morgan Sanderson	Exeter	NH	03833	US	2/28/2024
Val Borges	Exeter	NH	03833	US	2/29/2024
Kendyl Silverwood	Exeter	NH	03833	US	2/29/2024
Milena Woods	Exeter	NH	03833	US	2/29/2024
Dylan Aviles	EXETER	NH	03833	US	2/29/2024
Dylan Drunsic	Exeter	NH	03833	US	2/29/2024
Gina Giarrusso	Exeter	NH	03856	US	3/21/2024
Joanna Petro	Exeter	NH	03833	US	4/17/2024
Lynne Bohley	Exeter	NH	03833	US	4/18/2024
Marisa Grandmason	Exeter	NH	03833	US	4/20/2024
Sarah Palmer	Exeter	NH	03833	US	5/24/2024
Wendy McGonigle	Exeter	NH	03833	US	5/24/2024
Jason Webb	Exeter	NH	03833	US	5/24/2024
Courtney Smith	Fairfax	VA	22031	US	2/28/2024
Ann Edison	Fairport	NY	14450	US	1/5/2024
Ross Edison	Fairport	NY	14450	US	1/8/2024
Marilyn Hall	Florence		85132	US	1/8/2024
Jonathan Miller	Fort Wayne	IN	46808	US	3/3/2024
Angelina Andrade	Fort Worth		76112	US	1/10/2024
Jennifer Whiting	Fresno	CA	93711	US	1/7/2024
Elizabeth Meshell	Fuquay Varina		27526	US	1/8/2024
Elijah Betancourt	Garden City	MI	48135	US	3/1/2024
Matthew Humbert	Gloucester	MA	01930	US	1/21/2024
Paul Markillie	Grand Blanc Township		48439	US	1/7/2024
Tonya Hawkins	Greenville	SC	29605	US	3/10/2024
Susan Summering-Clark	Hampton	NH	03842	US	1/5/2024
Kendrick Collins	Harrisburg	PA	17112	US	3/10/2024
Caspar Stinn	Haverhill	MA	01830	US	1/6/2024
Mike Shields	Henderson	KY	42420	US	1/10/2024
Keira Jones	Henrico		23231	US	1/8/2024

Ireland Koski	Hibbing	MN	55746	US	3/11/2024
kellie nelson	Indian Land	NC	29707	US	3/11/2024
Katie Mefford	Indianapolis		46260	US	1/7/2024
Brenda Rogers	Indianapolis	IN	46229	US	3/9/2024
Amy Ford	Indianapolis	IN	46260	US	5/28/2024
Demoman Demoman	Irvine	CA	92602	US	5/28/2024
Shardul Sigdel	Jackson Heights		11372	US	1/11/2024
Kate Burson	JONESBORO	AR	72401	US	1/6/2024
Sequoia bell	Kalamazoo		49009	US	1/7/2024
Maria Faraz	Katy	TX	77494	US	3/12/2024
Julie McGuinness	Keene	NH	03431	US	1/5/2024
Stephen Arata	Kingston	NH	03848	US	1/13/2024
Lance Allison	Kingston	NH	03848	US	2/28/2024
Wieke Fiset	Kingston	NH	03848	US	5/24/2024
John Madelung	Kittery	ME	03904	US	1/5/2024
Rodney Martin	La Mesa	CA	91941	US	2/27/2024
Carol Ann Kulis	Laconia	NH	03246	US	1/7/2024
Jack Kuruvilla	Lake Mary	FL	32746	US	5/28/2024
Matthew Meier	Lancaster		14086	US	1/10/2024
Gloria Navan	Lawrenceville	GA	30042	US	1/11/2024
Cynthia Allen	Lawrenceville	GA	30043	US	1/14/2024
Aidan Heifner	Lebanon		65536	US	1/10/2024
Alan A	Lexington		40505	US	1/11/2024
Christina Garcia	Long Beach	CA	90806	US	5/27/2024
Andrea P	Los Angeles	CA	90060	US	1/7/2024
Cindy Contreras	Los Angeles	CA	90011	US	2/27/2024
Jiaying Li	Los Angeles	CA	90017	US	3/11/2024
Megan Waddell	Louisville	KY	40299	US	5/26/2024
Zachary Tino	Macomb		48044	US	1/7/2024
Jake Orfano	Malverne	NY	11565	US	2/24/2024
Alivia Henderson	Mansfield		44907	US	1/11/2024
Raylene Charest	Marblehead	MA	01945	US	2/24/2024
Marleen Diaz	Massapequa		11758	US	1/10/2024
Shufang Lin	Matawan		07747	US	1/11/2024
Isis Martinez	McAllen	TX	78504	US	2/27/2024
Rosalba Copado	Mckinney		75070	US	1/8/2024
Thaaa Biggestt	Memphis		38111	US	1/7/2024
Jeffrey Miller	Methuen	MA	01844	US	5/24/2024
Ozzie Diaz	Miami		33102	US	1/5/2024
Anthony Contino	Milford	PA	18337	US	5/26/2024
Rebecca Miller	Minneapolis	MN	55413	US	3/11/2024
Deborah Mclaughlin	Montgomery	AL	36107	US	3/4/2024
Money man	Mount Laurel		08054	US	1/9/2024
Abigail Whitw	Mount Union	PA	17066	US	3/9/2024

Carrie Riden	Nantucket	MA	02554	US	5/24/2024
Susan Wilkinson	Nashua	NH	03062	US	1/7/2024
Sophia Martineau	Nashua	NH	03063	US	1/12/2024
Emma Morrow	New Braunfels	TX	78130	US	3/1/2024
Bill Rousseau	New Hampshire	NH	03833	US	2/28/2024
Eileen McDonald	New York		10029	US	1/11/2024
Tyler Abrahamson	Newfields	NH	03856	US	1/5/2024
Meghan Abrahamson	Newfields	NH	03856	US	1/5/2024
Lukas Hartwell	Newfields	NH	03856	US	1/6/2024
Brennan Giles	Newington	CT	06111	US	1/6/2024
John Staton	Newton Falls	OH	44444	US	2/28/2024
Creed Young	North Fork	CA	93643	US	1/7/2024
William Harris	Oliver Springs	TN	37840	US	3/8/2024
Meagan Rousseau	Orono	ME	04473	US	2/28/2024
Cora Merrill	Park City	UT	84060	US	5/24/2024
Bonnie Succi	Pawtucket	RI	02860	US	1/6/2024
Paige Plourde	Pawtucket	RI	02860	US	1/6/2024
Joshua Bertoulin	Pawtucket	RI	02860	US	1/7/2024
Joshua Curphey	Peterborough		PE7	US	1/16/2024
Rowan Schaible	Philadelphia		19142	US	1/8/2024
Elen Duenas	Phoenix	AZ	85028	US	3/1/2024
Madisyn Camire	Plymouth	NH	03264	US	2/28/2024
Ryan Odonnell	Portland	ME	04103	US	1/5/2024
Kaye Roye	Portland		04756	US	1/8/2024
Lydia Hoyt	Portsmouth	NH	03801	US	2/29/2024
Terri Stinn	Providence	RI	02909	US	1/6/2024
Etza Silva	Providence	RI	02909	US	1/6/2024
Juliana Vitelli	Providence	RI	02908	US	5/23/2024
June Taylor	Punta Gorda	FL	33950	US	1/7/2024
Sara Linan	Queens	NY	11355	US	5/26/2024
Devorah Neuman	Randallstown	MD	21133	US	3/12/2024
Charles Kamon	Raymond	NH	03077	US	1/6/2024
Jennifer Jicha	Reno	NV	89508	US	2/25/2024
Vikki Personius	Reston	VA	20191	US	2/24/2024
Ojulu Ojulu	Rochester	MN	55901	US	5/24/2024
Ryan Hand	Rye	NH	03870	US	1/5/2024
Sema Zor	Sacramento	CA	95823	US	5/24/2024
Nicholas Lyon	San Antonio		78108	US	1/5/2024
zartoshtkamil4@gmail.com kamil	San Francisco	CA	94124	US	3/12/2024
Thalia Rangel	San Jose		95136	US	1/15/2024
Christine Salmo	San Jose	CA	95136	US	2/27/2024
Karen Huang	San Jose	CA	95108	US	3/9/2024
Laura Leifer	Santa Maria		93455	US	1/13/2024
Emily Felton	Seattle		98112	US	1/6/2024

Isom Mcgallion	Silsbee	TX	77656	US	3/8/2024
Sabrina Calvente	Silver Spring		20903	US	1/7/2024
Robert Span	Somersworth	NH	03878	US	1/6/2024
Laura McPhee	Somersworth	NH	03878	US	1/6/2024
Debbie Gaab	St louis	MO	63126	US	3/1/2024
Joan Molner	Stuart	FL	34994	US	1/5/2024
Joseph Soto	Sugar Land		77479	US	1/9/2024
Alana Preziosi	Swedesboro		08085	US	1/8/2024
Gionte Sandifer	Tallahassee	FL	32301	US	2/28/2024
Elaina Beaulieu	Tallahassee	FL	32301	US	3/11/2024
jayla green	Tallahassee	FL	32303	US	5/27/2024
Elias Mowrey	Tooele	UT	84074	US	3/5/2024
Vicki Vidarte	Torrance	CA	90503	US	5/24/2024
Helen Haver	Tucson		85790	US	1/8/2024
Sam New	Tucson	AZ	85710	US	2/25/2024
Anastasia Lakin	Tucson	AZ	85716	US	3/8/2024
Thao T.	Tulare	CA	93274	US	1/8/2024
Kira Thomas	Upper Marlboro		20772	US	1/9/2024
Janina Walsh	Voorhees Township NJ		08043	US	5/27/2024
Mario Chun	Washington		20019	US	1/6/2024
Sonia Hernandez	Washington	DC	20002	US	3/8/2024
Amanda Kushner	West Chester		19380	US	1/10/2024
Linda INFANTE	West Granby		06090	US	1/8/2024
Erica Blake	Wethersfield	CT	06795	US	3/10/2024
Cathy Morrison	White Haven	PA	18661	US	3/10/2024
Monique Leon	WINSTON SALEM		27107	US	1/14/2024
w shanice	Woodland Hills	CA	77777	US	2/24/2024
Matthew Waldschlagel	Worcester	MA	01604	US	1/6/2024
Janet Mak	York Village	ME	03909	US	1/5/2024
Jaye Garnett				US	12/15/2023
Cheryl Gilman				US	12/15/2023
Sachet Ohio				US	1/5/2024
Andrew Floyd				US	1/6/2024
bob yeeterman				US	1/10/2024
Larry Calloway				US	3/4/2024
boom stick				US	3/10/2024
Azaria Major				US	3/13/2024
PEAK		LA	110054	US	5/28/2024

Donald Lateiner  
1 Split Rock Road  
Exeter NH 03833 USA

25 May 2024

Select Board of Exeter Township NH  
River Advisory Committee  
Save the Pickpocket Dam Committee  
cc: Citizens of Exeter Township

Dear Fellow Townspeople:

I write to request that your two committees **vote to leave our Pickpocket Dam standing**. I cannot attend the meeting next week because of a prior obligation, but as a resident of Exeter and a neighbor of this defining landmark on the river that shares the name of Exeter town, I think it is important that you know how those who live on or nearby this hidden gem feel about it. My property abuts Pickpocket Road on the land side.

My wife and I and my grandchildren love to go down to the dam to play in the small but grassy and tree-shaded park at Pickpocket Dam. We dangle our feet in the water above the dam and below it. On hot days (and they are getting more frequent), it is a place of recovery and relaxation. I dream of kayak paddling from the dam upriver and from Haigh Road down. If you have not enjoyed this seasonal thrill, I recommend it. If you have not sat on the bench at the dam park, come on over and try it out.

Many reasons argue for leaving this dam in place, among them: **archaeological value** (300 years of mills—part of race and stone structures still extant) and native Americans before that), **aesthetic value** (the pleasant churn of water after still above and rushing below, the thrum of its cascade in two levels), the **recreational value** of the river-lake above the dam), and the **fishing opportunities** above and below the dam itself.

I find your present haste to approve a major change in our fragile Pickpocket ecology deplorable, especially the feeble justification offered by state agencies that there may be one flooded basement in a 1,000 years' flood. Really? What did the basement owner say? I think the haste has another reason (see below).

The argument that fish are prevented from getting upstream seems particularly weak, because a) there are varieties of fish up above the dam, and b) the fish now going beyond the falls downtown have more than six miles to swim in before they reach Pickpocket dam. The birds, the turtles, and four-footed critters, now there, will will lose their homes. Finally, as a historian, I always ask *cui bono?*, who benefits?, AKA "Follow the money"? The question led me to suspect that career dam-busters are purveying the fallacy that others will pay for it. Those who push the argument that it won't be Exeter \$\$, appeal to the fallacy (*argumentum ex lucro*) that someone else will pick up the tab. Who are these Mr. Moneybag philanthropists? The state and federal governments? Since I pay taxes to New Hampshire and to the Federal Government, and so do you, such federal \$\$ are our \$\$, too. They should not be wasted on unnecessary destruction. The immediate supporters seem to be the businessmen and bureaucrats that profit



from demolition-promoting, dam-condemning, and dam-busting. I believe those who benefit by dam removal have sold you—our representatives—a bill of goods and put a “now or never” date of decision over your heads. I ask you to resist the temptation. There is no free lunch for the citizens of Exeter or the birds and amphibians.

If the dam needs attention, as your report states, **several other solutions come to mind.** It is not clear to me, however, why the dam needs “improvement.” It is not that your report states that it is weakening, or about to collapse. Indeed, the previous report stated that the dam is in good shape. But, if you must do something, consider these ideas. The floodgates can be regularly monitored and used, should heavy rainfall require releasing more water quickly, at once. They were built to be used for just that purpose, and still work. If they need a new motor to raise the gates, or a remote activator, that replacement would cost less than the \$1 Million figure that I saw for demolition. The fish-ladder can work as a sluice gate also, or another sluice could be installed around the dam. Somehow, to your voters and the public, it seems as if the million dollar carrot has short-circuited Yankee ingenuity and inventiveness to solve this state-issued death sentence for our lovely river, falls, dam, and lake behind it.

Shouldn't this Exeter town issue not be a warrant article, before you cast any vote? Those nearest the dam and impoundment treasure it. Finally, few of your fellow voters are adequately aware of this permanent change proposed for our namesake river. Now that there is no town-newspaper or town-crier, how many people have been notified or know that the issue exists? I know the multi-hundred-page report is on the website, but step out of your office, and ask the next ten or hundred passers-by, **“What do you know about the issues and solutions for Exeter River's Pickpocket Dam?”** My own poll shows minimal awareness among townsfolk. We of Exeter need a better information-sharing system. An informed township is a happier and better township.

Thank you for listening, and **please vote ‘no’ to removing Pickpocket dam.**

Sincerely,

Donald Lateiner, Exeter Voter

16 Redden Street  
Dover, NH 03820  
28 May 2024

Dear Select Board of Exeter,

I am writing to you in support of your thoughts of removing the Pickpocket Dam. I am a person with indigenous heritage in four Northeastern Woodlands Tribes. I am also a biologist and ecologist. I cannot stress enough the great importance of returning the river to its natural state by removal of the dam. I strongly urge you to take this action.

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen Blake