Prioritizing River Bains and Dams for Restoration and Protection

FreeFlow Conference 2024, Groningen, the Netherlands

Purpose: Explore and discuss methods to prioritize connectivity restoration from continental to basin-scale *and to* understand participants needs for prioritization tools/metrics in barrier removal and what gets in the way of progress.

Outcomes:

Understanding connectivity restoration goals at different scales. Review helpful tools, who is making them, Techniques experts have or are developing Better understand how best to share (platforms?), Best data practices/uses, Generate ideas for cross-pollination & collaboration to raise all boats.

MentiMeter





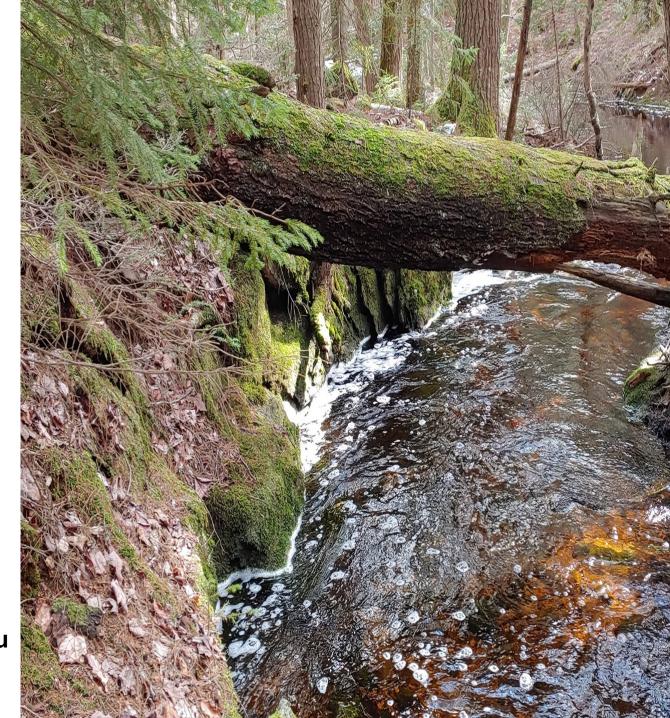
Short Presentations on Prioritization Tools, Opportunities, and Troubles

- Prioritizing Basins for Biodiversity & Water Security (Josh)
- Finding ripe barrier removal opportunities (Carlos)
- Optimization tools for maximizing efficiency (Jesse)
- RivConnect intensive assessments of barrier data (Paulo)
- WWF developing country-wide tools in Germany (Ruben)
- Confounding Factors to barrier plans (Geoff)

MENTIMETER QUESTIONS

- 1. What's your favorite species of fish?
- 2. What are your primary drivers/goals for barrier removal? Rank from highest to lowest priority of the list.
- Reconnection of river
- Flood risk reduction
- Species or guild habitat needs
- Increase biodiversity
- Fish passage
- Management costs
- Public safety
- Other*
- * If "other", we will discuss and hear your "other" during the session.

3. What IS your biggest obstacle to barrier removal? You can provide up to three words, if you have multiple big obstacles



Discussion: ALL - (30 min)

What scale do they and their partners need prioritization?

(Josh - Show of hands)

What are your most urgent data needs and gaps? (Paulo)

Who needs to have/use a prioritization tool(s)?

(Jesse) e.g. you!, EU, RBM Planners, future river champions?

What types of collaborations around some key basins / barriers would help our efforts? (Carlos)

What are overall impediments to you or your agencies using these tools? (Ruben)

Next steps with brief wrap up discussion (Josh)

