



AECOM  
250 Apollo Drive  
Chelmsford, MA 01824  
aecom.com

April 7, 2025

Project Abutter Name  
Parcel Owner Address

Dear [Abutter]:

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Office of Dam Safety (ODS) has engaged the services of AECOM to evaluate six abandoned dams in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As part of the Abandoned Dams Program, DCR is seeking to address safety concerns pertaining to abandoned dams, one of which is the Bel Air Dam, located within the City of Pittsfield directly east of Wahconah Street and approximately one and a half miles north of the city center. A preliminary investigation and analysis led DCR, in partnership with the City of Pittsfield, to conclude that the dam should be removed. A more detailed history is available at the project webpage, [www.belairdamremoval.com](http://www.belairdamremoval.com).

This letter is to inform you that the project is entering the construction phase and construction is expected to start in Spring 2025. Sumco Eco-Contracting has been selected as the construction contractor. Construction hours are anticipated to be Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. The overall construction will include three components:

- 1) preparing the site for the removal of the dam,
- 2) removing the dam, and
- 3) regrading and restoring areas within the site after the dam is removed.

DCR anticipates that construction will span the 2025 construction season (spring, summer, and fall) and a portion of the 2026 construction season.

Initially, the contractor will be on site preparing the construction area including installing erosion control barriers, clearing and grubbing necessary areas for construction, and installing erosion blankets along the cleared embankments. Dewatering and removal of sediments will then take place, followed by the dam removal. The site will then be backfilled, and restoration will take place including seeding within the restoration areas, planting shrubs, and removing the erosion control barriers.

The final grading plan (Sheet C-103), dated November 2024, for the Bel Air Dam removal project is included with this letter; this shows the site conditions after all construction is completed. As part of this project's design process, DCR engaged a survey firm to research and locate private property lines on the west side of the project site. This final grading plan shows the limit of project work and individual private property lines, illustrating that work will not occur on private property.

As a result of the proposed work, the impounded water upstream of the Bel Air dam will be changed from a pond to a stream, and as a result the area in the project vicinity regulated as 200-foot riverfront area under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (MA WPA) regulations will expand. Abutters with a change in regulations have received a separate notification with details and contact information.

If you have questions about the planned project work, please contact either AECOM Project Manager Jennifer Doyle-Breen, at the phone or email noted below, or James McGrath, Park, Open Space, and Natural Resource Manager for the



City of Pittsfield at [jmcgrath@cityofpittsfield.org](mailto:jmcgrath@cityofpittsfield.org). Project and construction updates will be regularly posted on [www.belairdamremoval.com](http://www.belairdamremoval.com), and we anticipate holding a public informational meeting prior to construction starting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Doyle-Breen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Doyle-Breen, PWS  
Associate Vice President

[Jennifer.doyle-breen@aecom.com](mailto:Jennifer.doyle-breen@aecom.com)

T: 978-905-2968

cc: W. Salomaa, DCR ODS



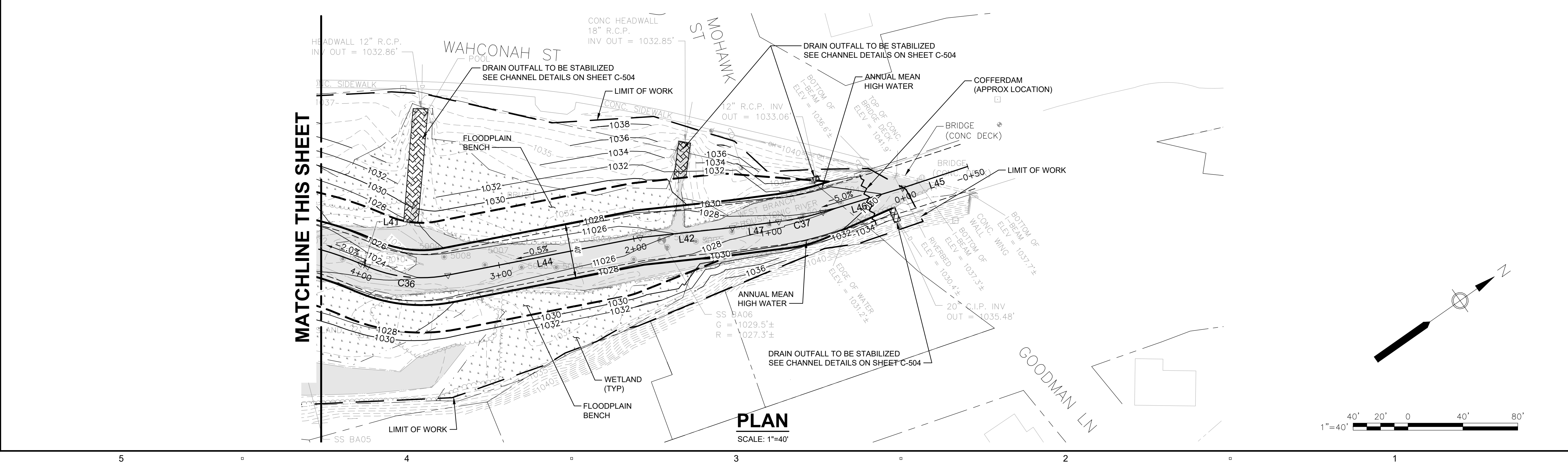
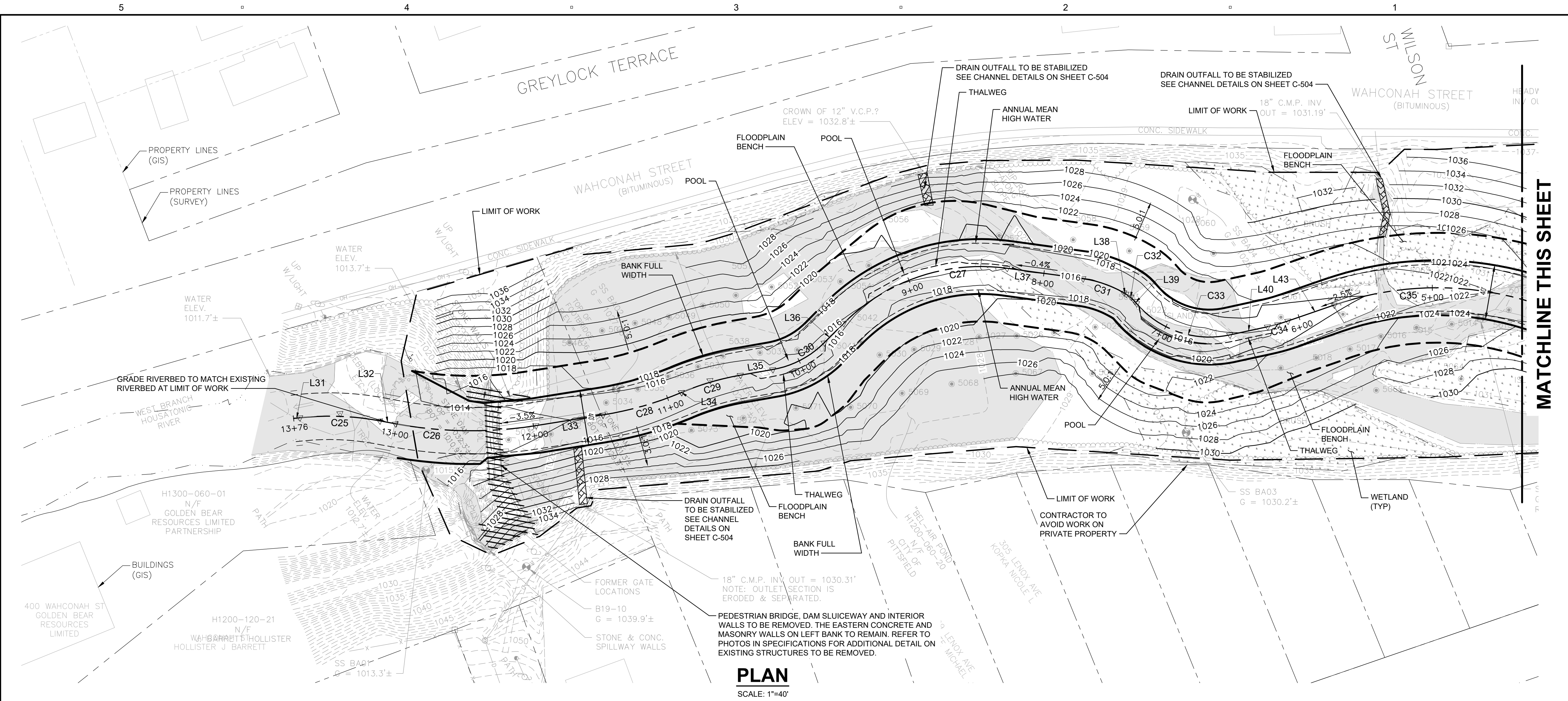
**ISSUE/REVISION**

I/R	DATE	DESCRIPTION
2	10/31/2024	CONSTRUCTION BIDDING
1	10/17/2024	PITTSFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION ORDER OF CONDITIONS
0	9/26/2024	CHAPT 253 PERMIT ISSUANCE

**PROJECT NUMBER**  
 60604936

Designed By:	JPM
Drawn By:	SN
Dept Check:	CB
Proj Check:	D. GOVE
Date:	OCTOBER 2024
Scale:	AS NOTED

**DISCIPLINE**  
 CIVIL  
**SHEET TITLE**  
 BEL AIR DAM REMOVAL  
**PROPOSED CHANNEL**  
**GRADING PLAN**  
**SHEET NUMBER**  
**00 C-103**



PATH: \\AECOM\PROJECTS\MASSDCR\60604936 - MASSDCR SIX ABANDONED DAMS\SHEETS\CIBEL\_AIR00 C-103-104 BEL.DWG  
 LAST UPDATE: Friday, November 1, 2024 12:07:54 PM  
 PLOT DATE: Friday, November 1, 2024 12:05:56 PM