

# Sackett Brook Restoration Project

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# Canoe Meadows

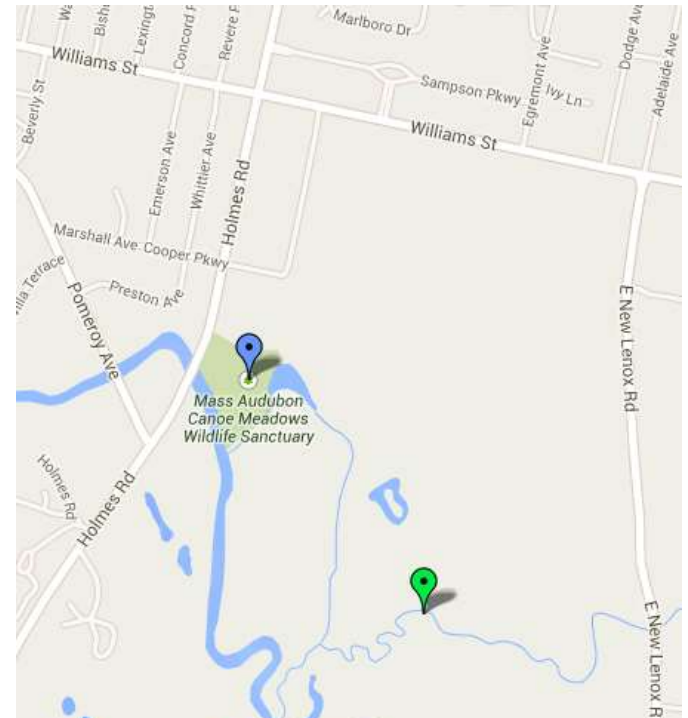
- 285 acres
- Comprises wetlands, meadows, transitional forests
- Located in the Upper Housatonic ACEC





# Sackett Brook

- Feeds to the Housatonic River
- Dammed in early 1930s
- Supports fish, mollusks, reptiles, and riparian species



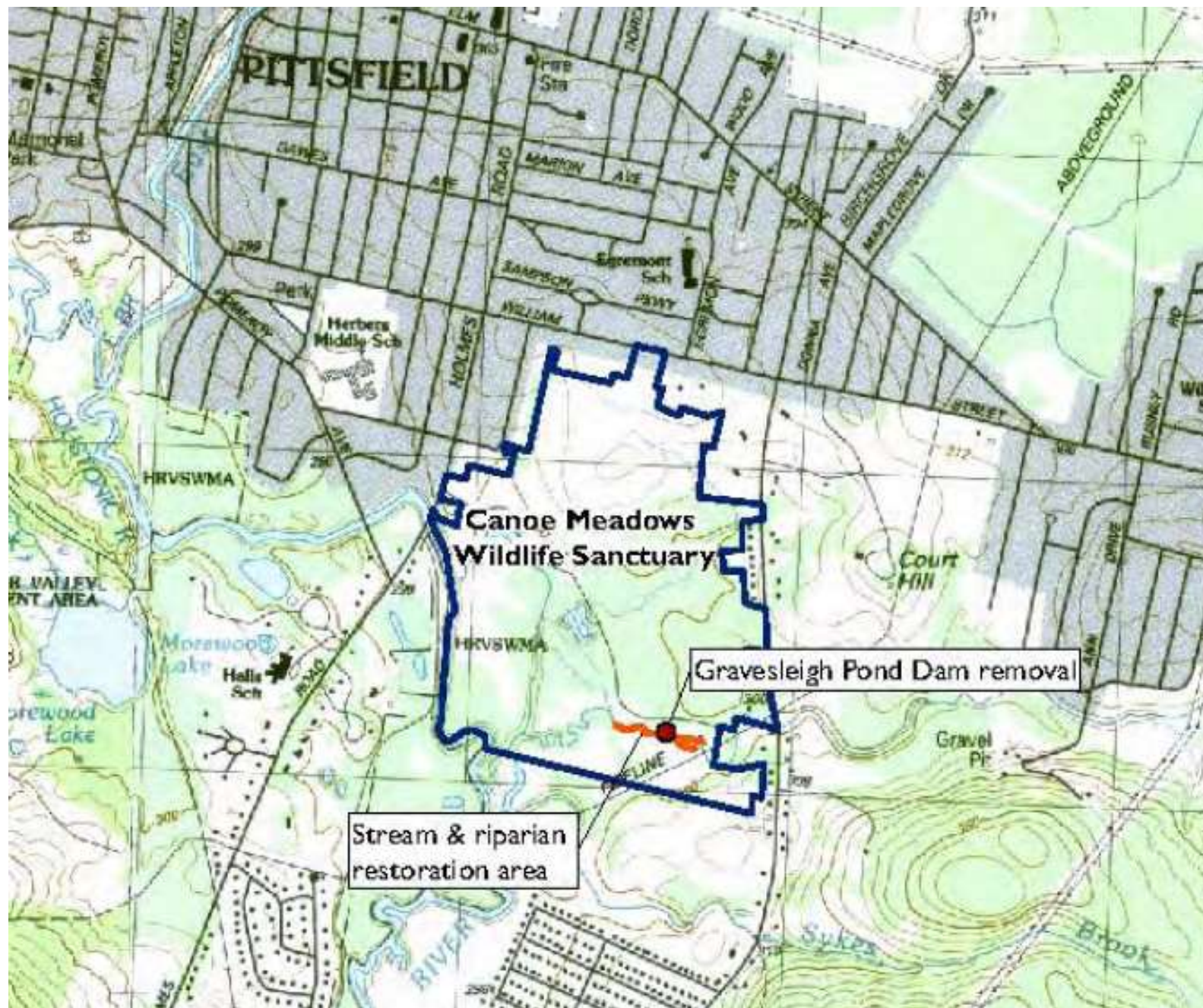
# Project Vision

- Removal of Gravesleigh Pond Dam
  - Aquatic resources and habitat restoration
  - Wildlife resources and habitat restoration
- Deconstruction of Sacket Brook Bridge
  - Restricts brook flow
  - Causes bank erosion and channel scouring
- Restoring Riparian Forest
- Environmental Education and Outreach

# Why do we care?

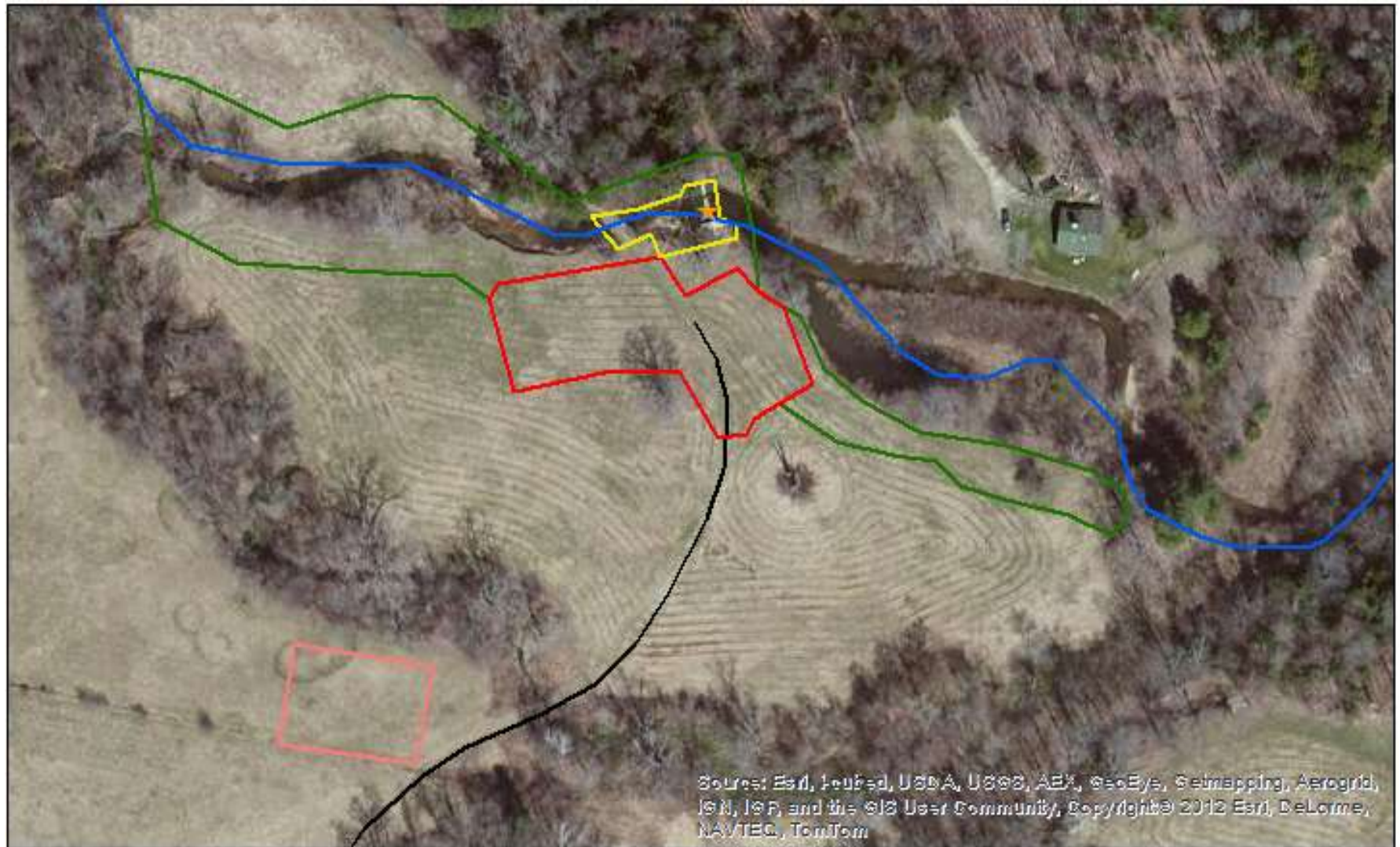
- Gravesleigh Dam is in disrepair
- Dam removal will restore natural brook flow
  - Help facilitate ecological health of waters downstream
- Improve watershed quality for recreational purposes
  - Help sustain Brook Trout populations for fishing
- Riparian restoration provides Wood Turtle habitat







# Sackett Brook Restoration Area, Pittsfield, MA



— Sackett Brook

★ Sackett Brook Dam

□ Dam Removal Area

□ Secondary Construction Staging Area

□ Primary Construction Staging Area

□ Riparian Forest Restoration Area

— Road Access

□ Potential Resediment Area

0 25 50 75 100  
Meters

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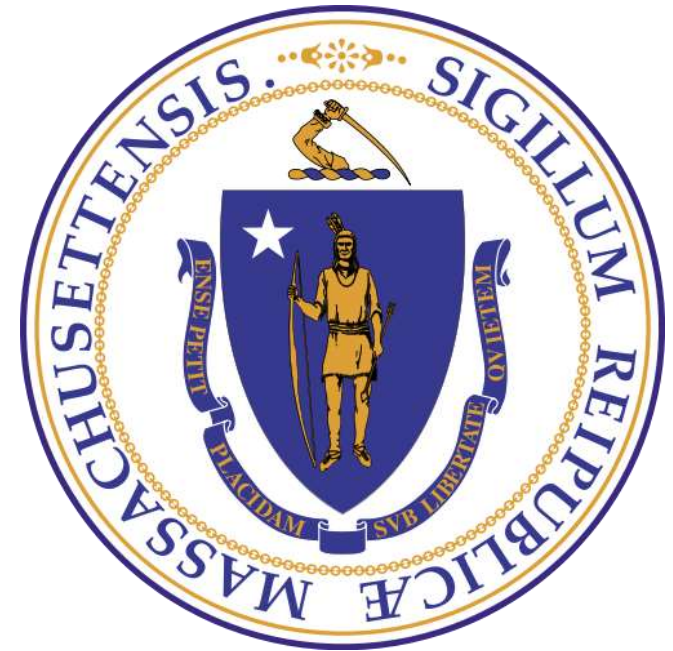
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Meters



# Purpose

- Fulfill the permit required by the Massachusetts Historical Commission
  - Sackett Brook is located in Native American historical region
- Requires archeological assessment



# Public Archeology Laboratory (PAL)

- Conducted assessment between 7/8/13 and 7/12/13
- Peter Mair II, Senior Archeologist
- Team (left to right): Melissa Wales, Shawn Joy, Amelia Bidwell, Michael Duffin





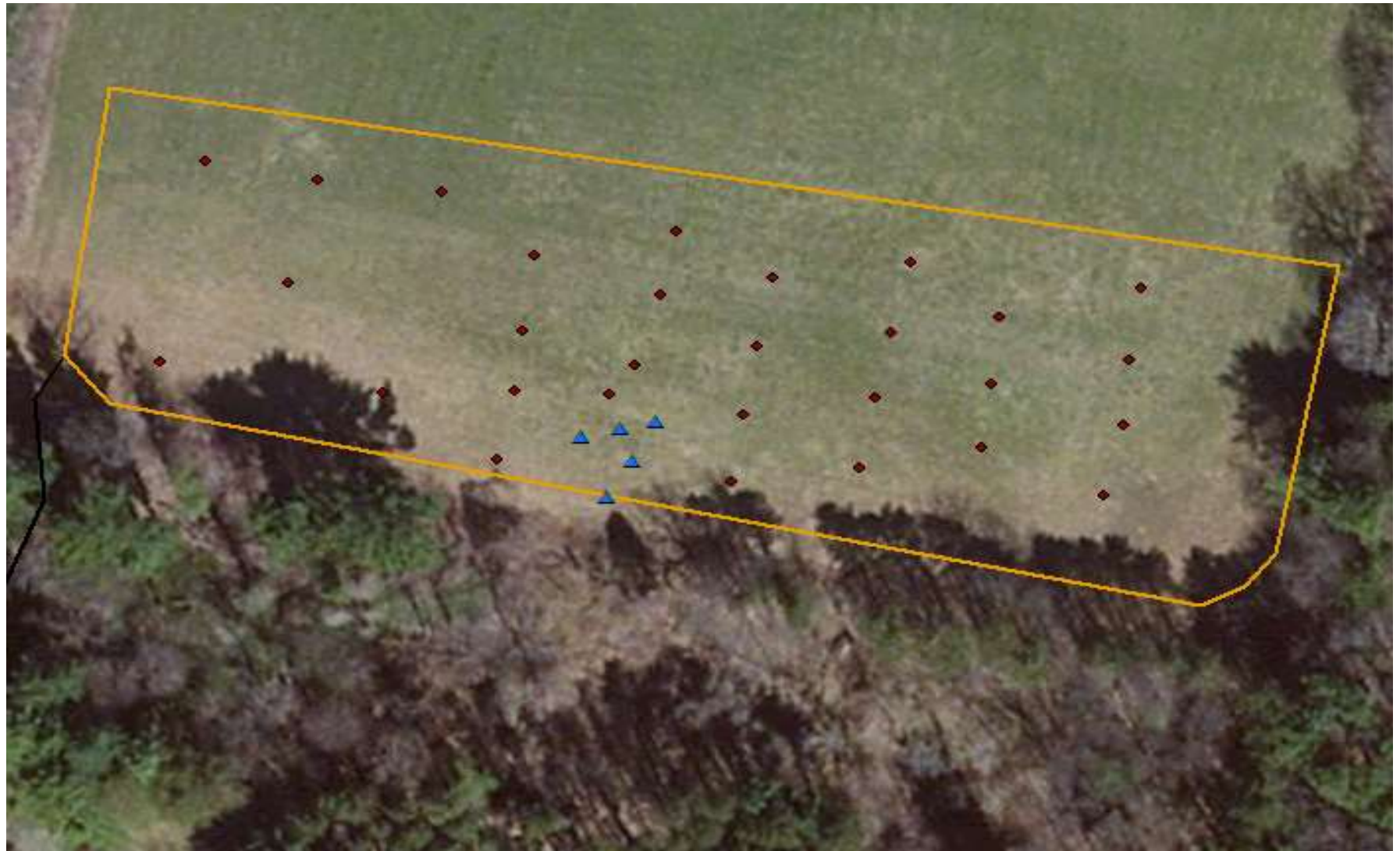
# Sackett Brook Restoration Test Pits, Pittsfield, MA



- ◆ Sackett Brook Test Pits
- ★ Sackett Brook Dam
- Sackett Brook
- Dam Removal Area
- Secondary Construction Staging Area
- Primary Construction Staging Area
- Riparian Forest Restoration Area
- Road Access

0 25 50 75 100  
Meters

# Sackett Brook Resediment Area Test Pits, Pittsfield, MA



- ▲ Flakes Found
- ◆ Sackett Brook Test Pits
- Potential Resediment Area
- Road Access

0 10 20 30 40  
Meters



# Archeological Process

- Land surveying using test pits
  1. Design transects
  2. Dig test pit
  3. Sift soil for objects
  4. Classify soil
  5. Refill test pit
  6. Record test pits using GPS











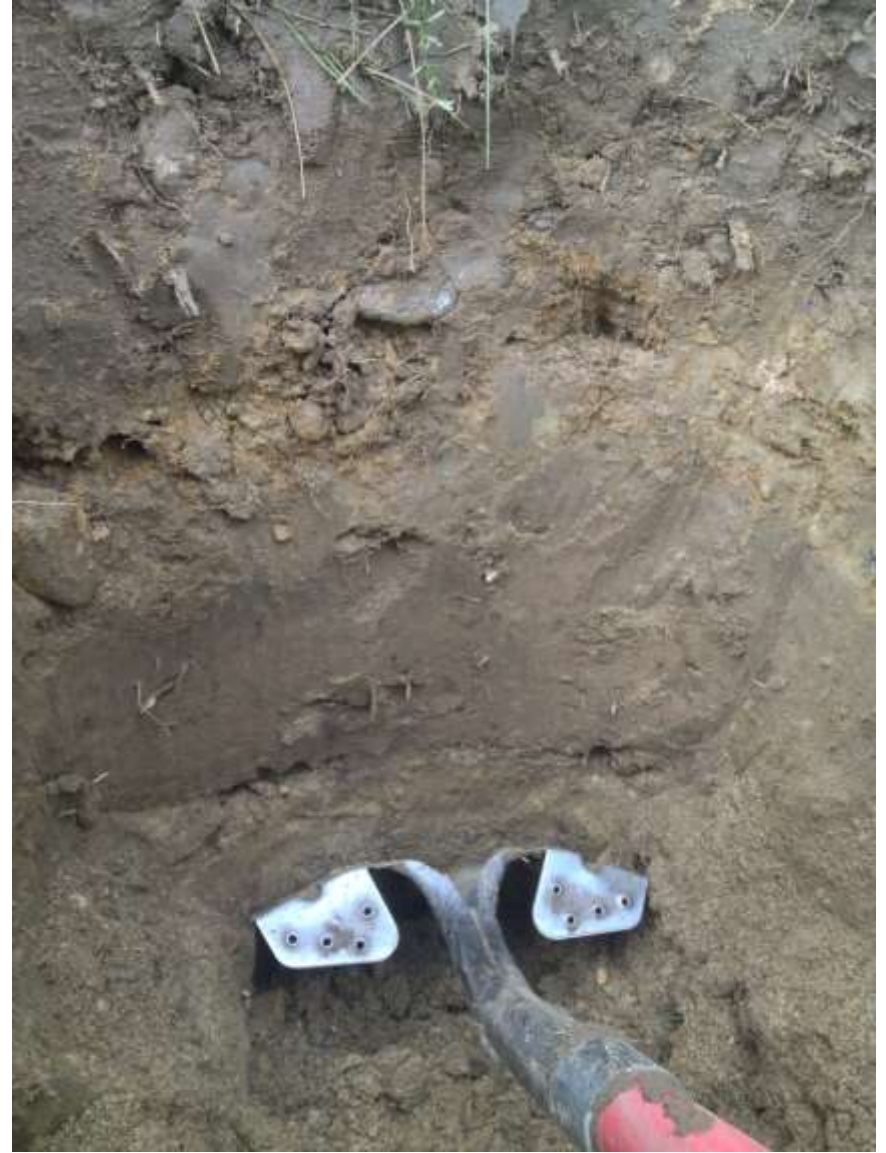












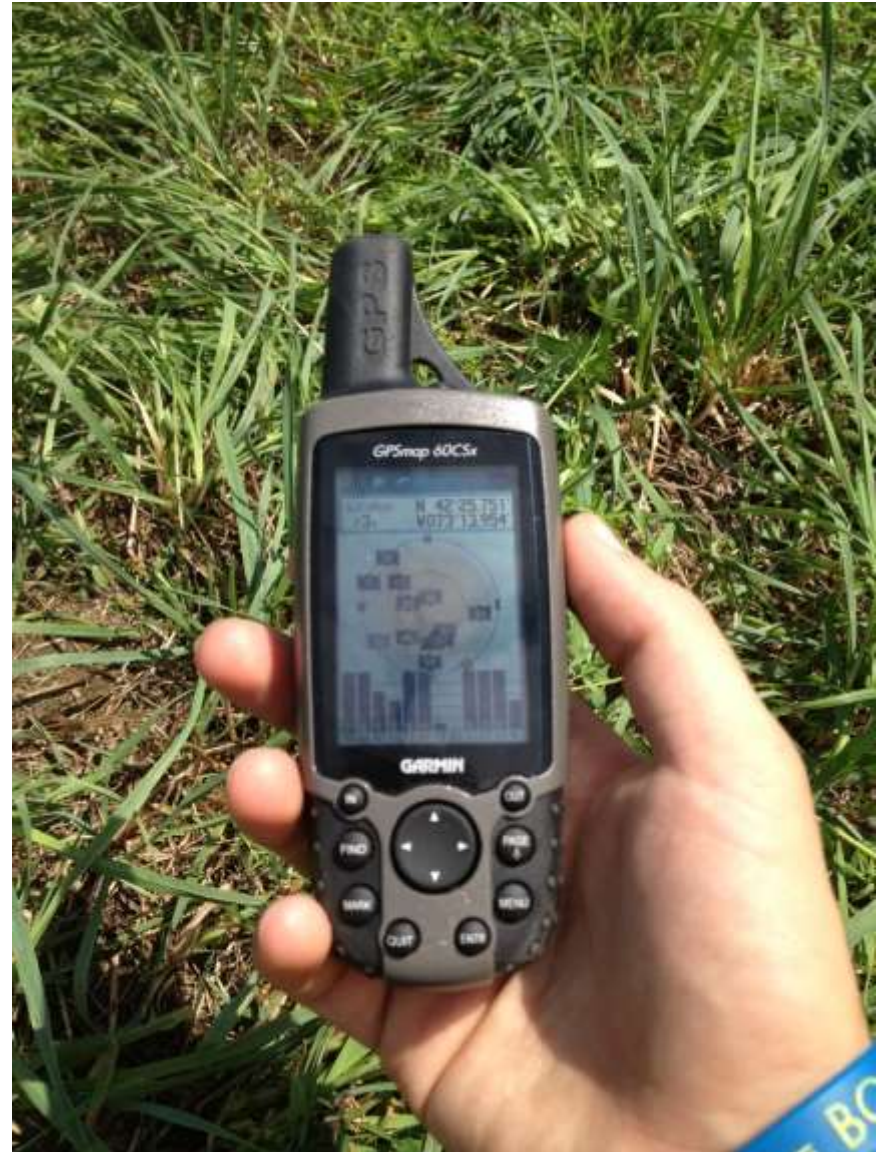
















# Conclusions and Next Steps

- Support for ecological and recreational activity in Canoe Meadows and Sackett Brook
- Awaiting final report from PAL
- Removal of Gravesleigh Dam
- Deconstruction of Sackett Brook Bridge
- Continuing community and classroom education programs