

# Activity

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## MACTAQUAC DAM



The **Mactaquac Dam** is an embankment dam used to generate hydroelectricity in Mactaquac, New Brunswick.

Opened: **1968**

Height: **55 m**

Province: **New Brunswick**

Owner: **NB Power**

Country: **Canada**

Construction began: **1965**

In recent times throughout New Brunswick, big projects like the **Mactaquac dam** have tried to harness the power of water for hydroelectricity. What are some of the impacts that a big project like this has had? Make a list of some of the impacts from the ideas suggested below;

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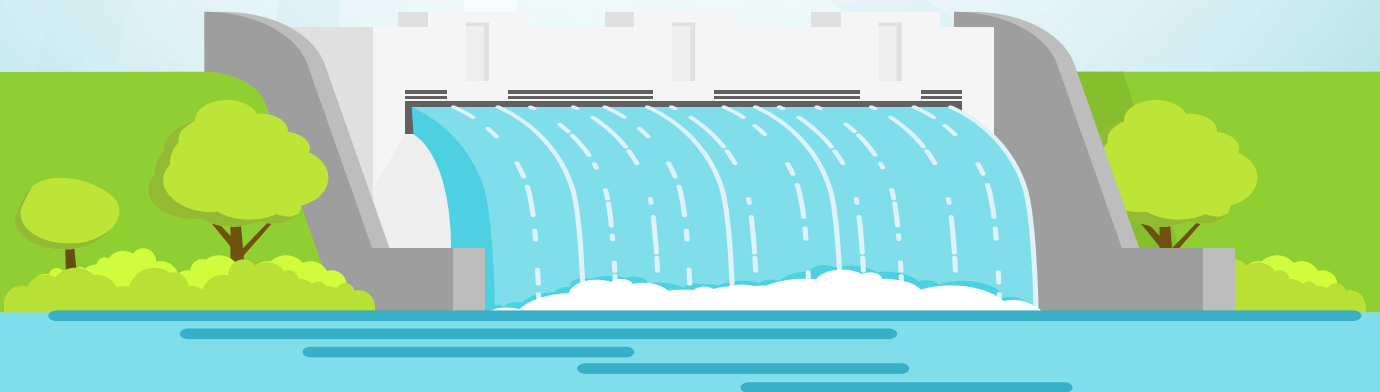
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There are many significant environmental effects when a dam is built. These can include: people had to move, erosion occurred, there is a loss of the fishery, water contamination, hydro- electric power is created, more energy and cheaper cost for consumers, often flooding, and new beaches are created.

What is the difference between a beaver dam and a man-made dam? Which one is better for the environment?

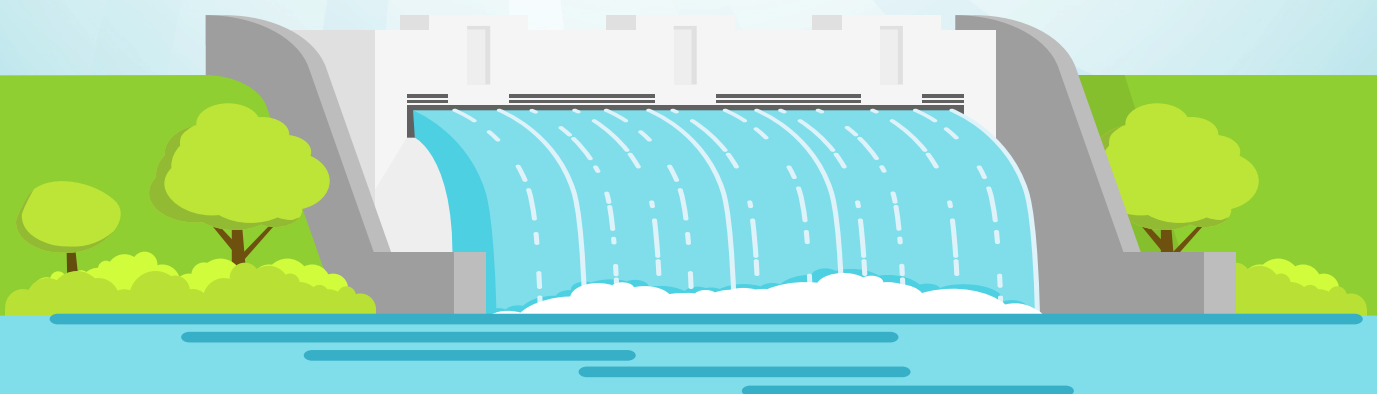
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When the environment is modified there are consequences. Think back to what you studied about **Wolastoq** (Saint John River). A dam could impact Indigenous rights to the waterway which they have used for thousands of years. Why do you think that **Wolastoqewiyik**, **Peskotomuhkati** or **Mi'kmaq** would not want to give up the rights to access or use the river routes?

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