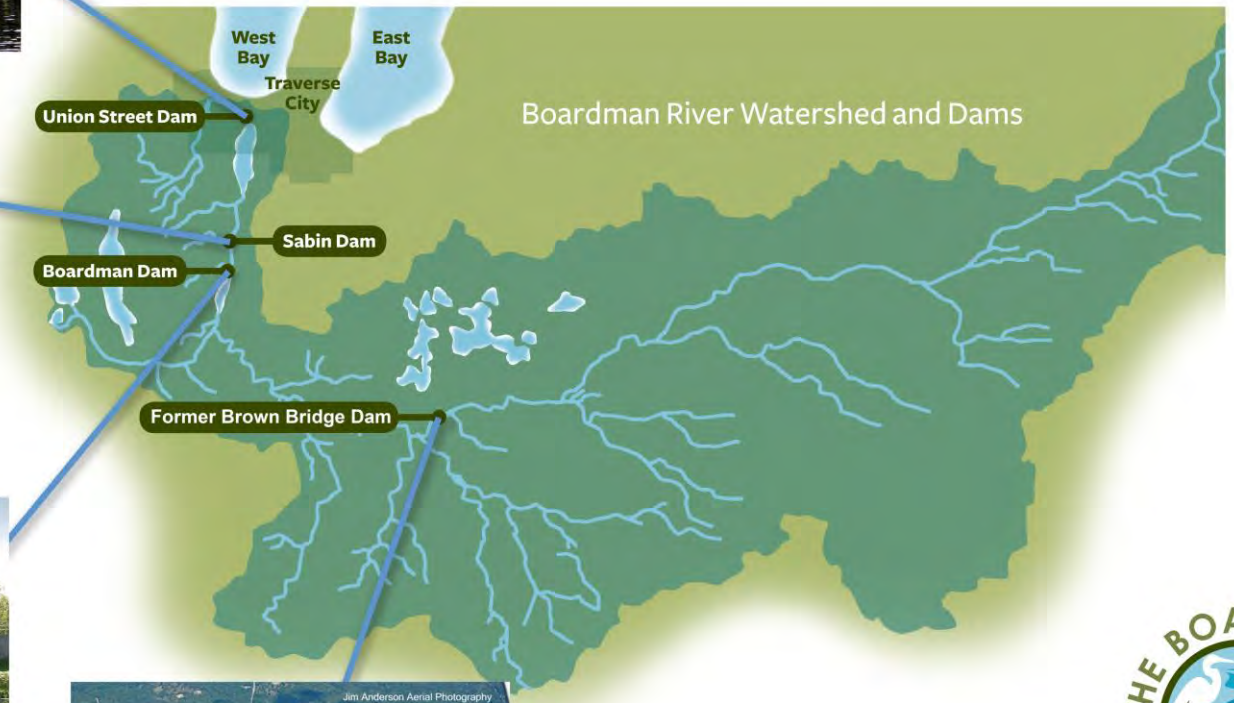
The Boardman: A River Reborn

Removing Dams for a Free Flowing River

Boardman River Dams



THE BOARDMAN
A RIVER REBORN

The Project

- Remove Brown Bridge, Boardman and Sabin Dams, and modify Union Street Dam
- Return the Boardman to a more natural, cold water, free flowing river
- Largest dam removal project in Michigan's history
- Largest wetlands restoration in Great Lakes Basin

Project Team

IT Members

- Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians
- City of Traverse City
- Grand Traverse County
- Michigan DEQ
- Michigan DNR
- Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition
- Traverse City Light & Power
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Ex-Officio IT & Partners

- Conservation Resource Alliance
- Grand Traverse Conservation District
- Grand Traverse County Road Commission
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Watershed Center, Grand Traverse Bay
- Garfield Twp.

THE BOARDMAN
A RIVER REBORN

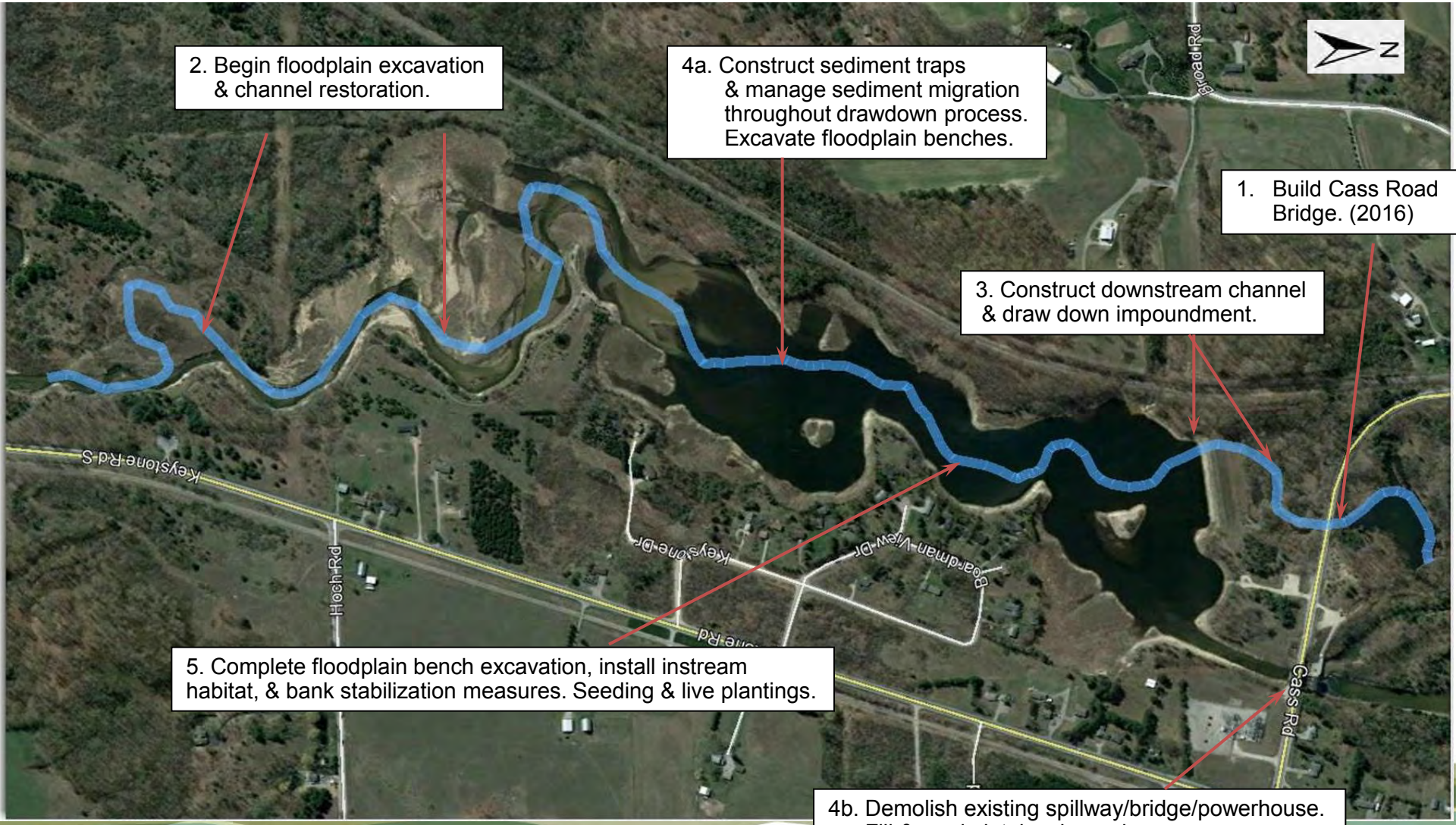
Key Project Goals

- Remove decommissioned, unsafe dams
- Restore over 3.9 miles of cold-water stream
- Reconnect 160 miles of river to the Great Lakes
- Restore wetlands & adjacent upland habitat
- Provide for aquatic coldwater species

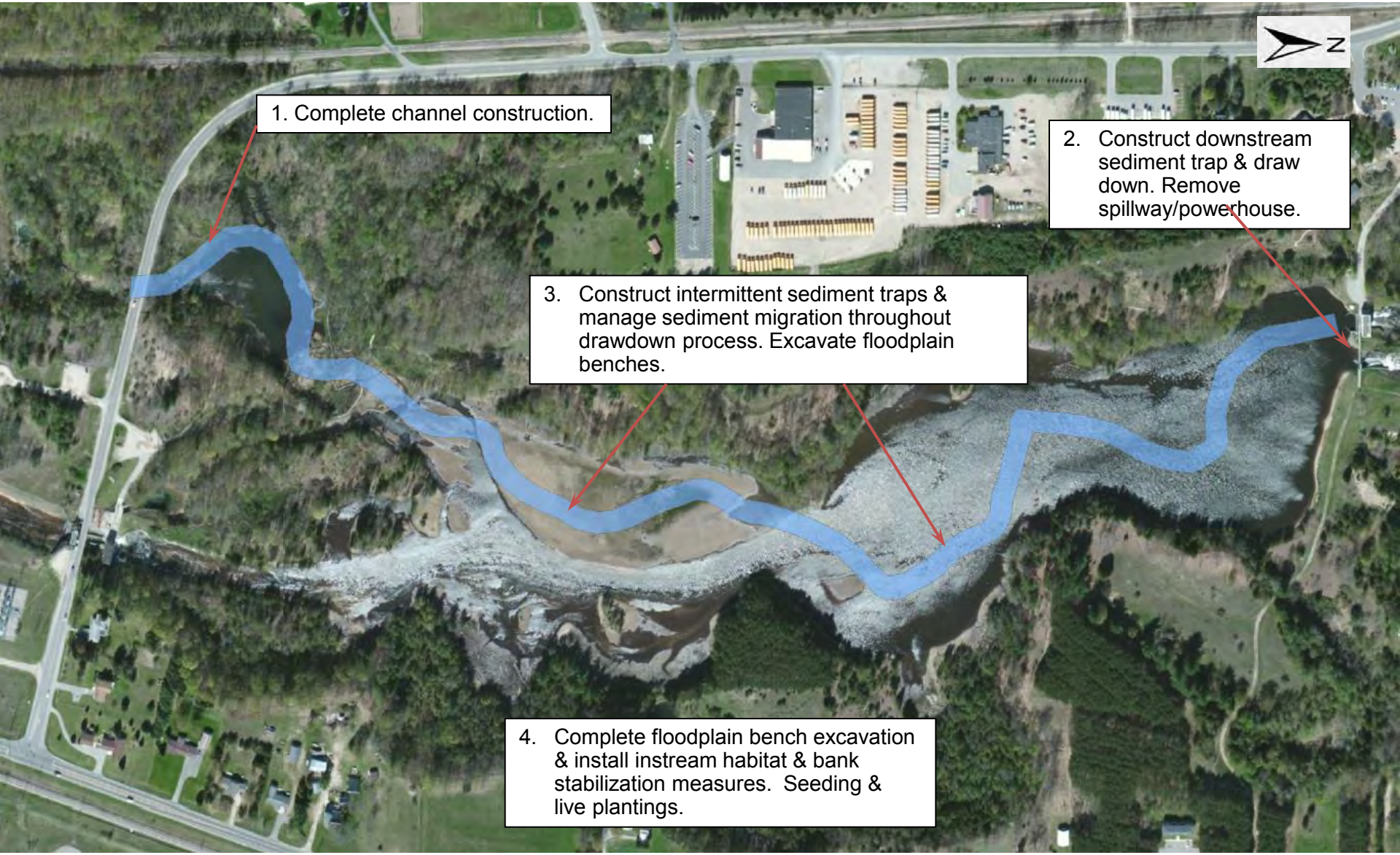
Design Status

- $1,266,000 in federal, tribal, state & foundation grants
- Design & permits for Cass Bridge are complete
- Design for Boardman Dam removal is 90% complete
- Joint permit application upcoming
- Design for Sabin Dam removal is 30% complete & pending

Boardman Dam Removal Construction Sequence



Sabin Dam Removal Construction Sequence



Bridge Update – 2016 Construction

- MDOT signed contract with Davis Construction $2,873,000 (Engineer's estimate was $2.9m)
- GTC Road Commission fulfilling 5% local construction match
- GTC Road commission fulfilling staking & construction engineering costs

Today…

Future…

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN RENDERING OF RELOCATED CASS ROAD CROSSING OVER THE BOARDMAN RIVER

Grants Invested

- ✓ $5,728,547 for Brown Bridge Dam removal
- ✓ $674,000 in IT member grants for non-construction items
- ✓ $1,266,000 for current design phase
- ✓ $3,100,000 + CE/staking for Cass Road Bridge
- ✓ $2,500,000 in IT member grants for next phase

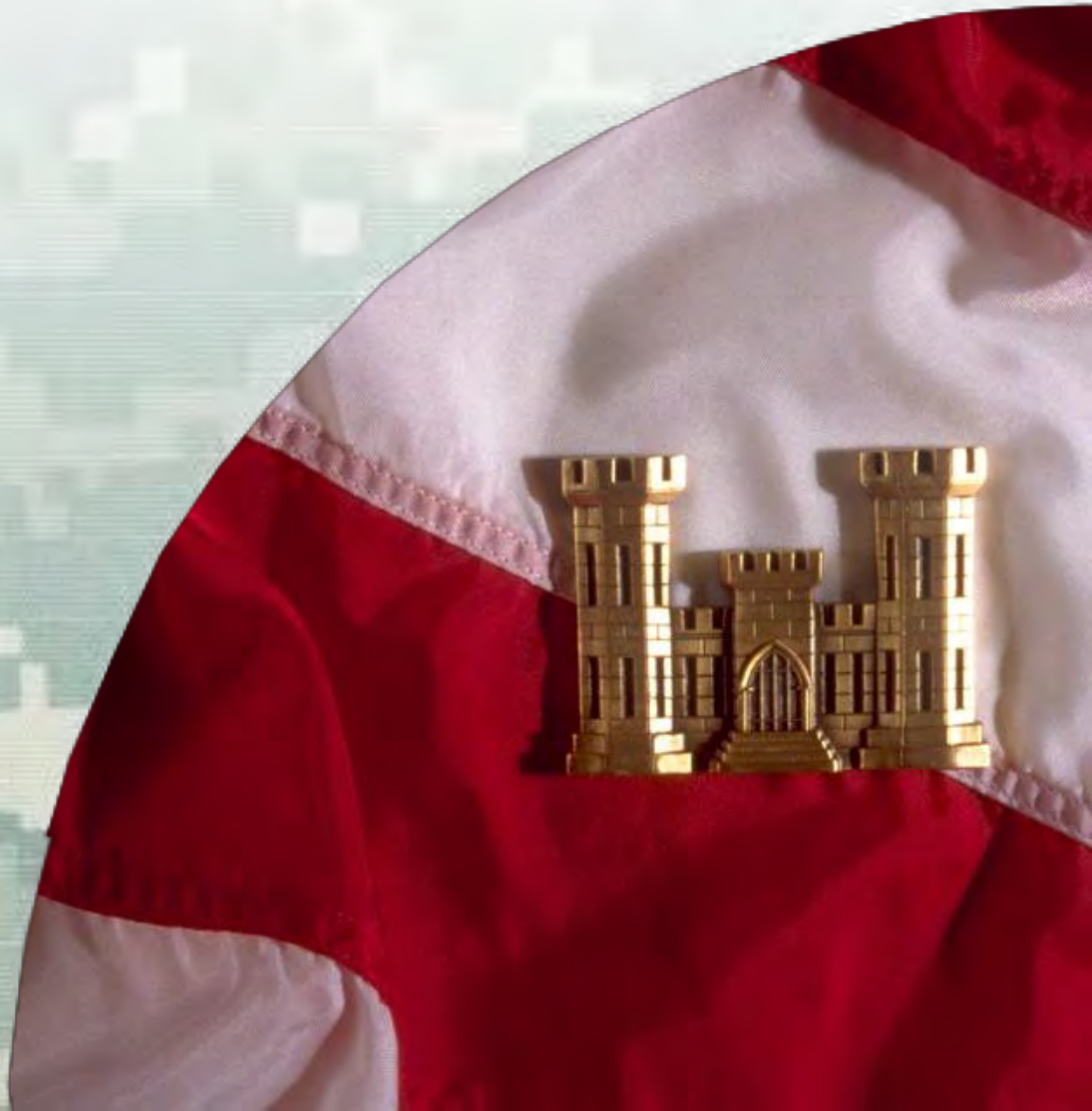
Information & Updates

www.theboardman.org

Boardman River Ecosystem Restoration Project, Grand Traverse County/Traverse City, MI

Carl A. Platz, P.E.
Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Detroit District

October 2015



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®

Agenda

- USACE involvement
- USACE Authorities
- Project Status and Timelines
- Project Funding
- Owner/Non-Federal Involvement
- Future Direction
- General Discussion

USACE Involvement

- Began in 2005 per County/City request
- Initially involved with preliminary screening of potential options and conceptual designs of entire project
- Detailed feasibility study commenced in 2010 upon receipt of Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funding

USACE Involvement

- Recommendation made in 2014 to remove Boardman and Sabin Dams and modify Union Street Dam
- Completing entire project would provide the ecosystem benefits necessary to justify cost of overall project
- Approximately $2.0M expended to date by USACE

Project Authority

- USACE is authorized to plan, design, and construct projects under various ecosystem restoration authorities
- Majority of work to date has been conducted under the Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration (GLFER) authority
- Majority of funding to date has been provided by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

Project Authority

- The Boardman River project remains a top priority to USACE and EPA as we carry out the GLRI
- Although implemented in phases, work throughout the Boardman River has been and continues to be viewed as one large project under the GLRI

GLFER Authority

- USACE completed a detailed Feasibility Study and Environmental Assessment under the GLFER Authority in 2014
- Total cost of entire project was estimated to be $15.2M (including Boardman, Sabin, Union Street components)

GLFER Authority

- GLFER requires 65% Fed / 35% non-Fed cost share
- Non-Federal cost under this scenario approx $5.3M to address Boardman, Sabin, Union Street components
- Understandingly difficult for local entities to raise this amount of non-Federal funds

Federal Involvement

- Given the priority of this project, EPA recently agreed to use a direct GLRI funding mechanism for a portion of the overall project
- Remaining project is now proposed to be implemented as follows:
  - Boardman Dam component (using up to $8M Federal funding)
  - Sabin/Union Street Dam components (following GLFER process)

Federal Involvement

- Provides up-front financial relief for owners
- Continues to utilize non-Federal funds to leverage Federal investment in the overall project
- Ensures entire project is completed in phased manner to achieve desired ecological benefits
- Federal USACE contracts to complete construction

Boardman Dam

- Design currently 90% complete
- Final design expected Oct 2015
- All required permits expected Spring 2016
- Construction contract award expected Summer 2016

- Estimated Cost to Complete: $8.0M

Sabin Dam

- Design currently 30% complete
- Final design expected Fall 2016
- All required permits expected Spring 2017
- Construction contract award expected Summer 2017

- Estimated Cost to Complete: $2.7M (cost-shared)
  - Federal Share (65%): $1.755M
  - Non-Federal Share (35%): $945K

Union Street Dam

- Conceptual design only to date
- Final design TBD
- All required permits TBD
- Construction contract award TBD

- Estimated Cost to Complete: $1.5M (cost-shared)
  - Federal Share (65%): $975K
  - Non-Federal Share (35%): $525K

Cost Sharing Summary

	Est. Total	Federal	Non-Federal
Boardman Dam[a]	$ 8,000,000	$ 8,000,000	$ 0
Sabin Dam[b]	$ 2,700,000	$ 1,755,000	$ 945,000
Union St. Dam[b]	$ 1,500,000[c]	$ 975,000	$ 525,000
Current Investment[d]	$ 2,000,000	$ 1,300,000	$ 700,000
TOTAL	$ 14,200,000	$ 12,030,000	**$ 2,170,000**[e]

[a] Per USACE/EPA interagency agreement
[b] Per USACE/Owner project partnership agreement
[c] Per alternative in USACE Dec 2014 Feasibility Report
[d] 2005-2015 USACE costs for Feasibility Study, NEPA, etc.
[e] May be further reduced via in-kind crediting, etc.

Note: All costs are estimated and are subject to change

U.S.ARMY
BUILDING STRONG®

Next Steps

- Owners provide letter of intent to complete project
- USACE/EPA execute Interagency Agreement which will provide Federal GLRI funds to remove Boardman Dam
- USACE/Owners execute local agreement to provide real estate, long-term O&M, etc. for Boardman Dam
- USACE/Owners execute Project Partnership Agreement for Sabin/Union Street Dam components of the project

With the USACE option, where do we utilize current grant funding*?

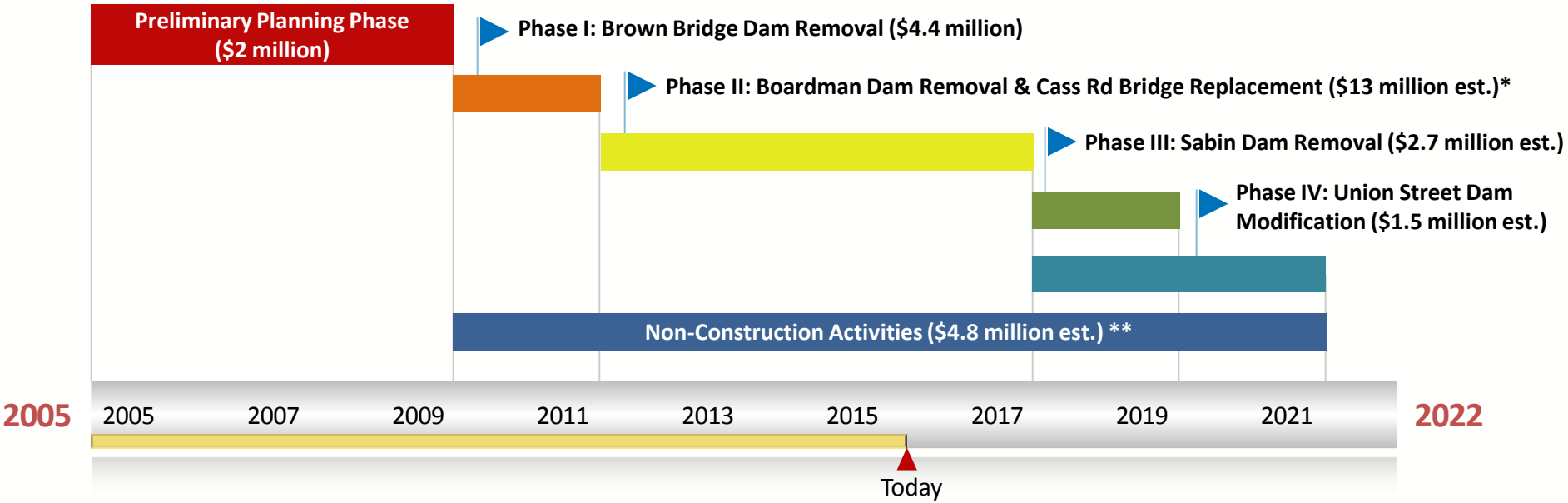
- ✓ Boardman Dam Phase (permitting, implementation)
- ✓ Sabin Dam Phase (design/permitting, implementation)
- ✓ Non-construction items (annual project management, monitoring, communications TBD)
- ✓ Union Street Phase

**Eligibility is dependent on timing & type of grant.*

The Boardman: A River Reborn
Funding Overview

Updated 9/30/15

Project Costs



** Phase II estimate does not include final Cass Road Bridge construction engineering costs or additional Army Corps design costs*
*** Non-Construction activities include project management, grant administration, monitoring, communications & outreach*

NOTE: Cost estimates for each phase will evolve until a construction bid is selected