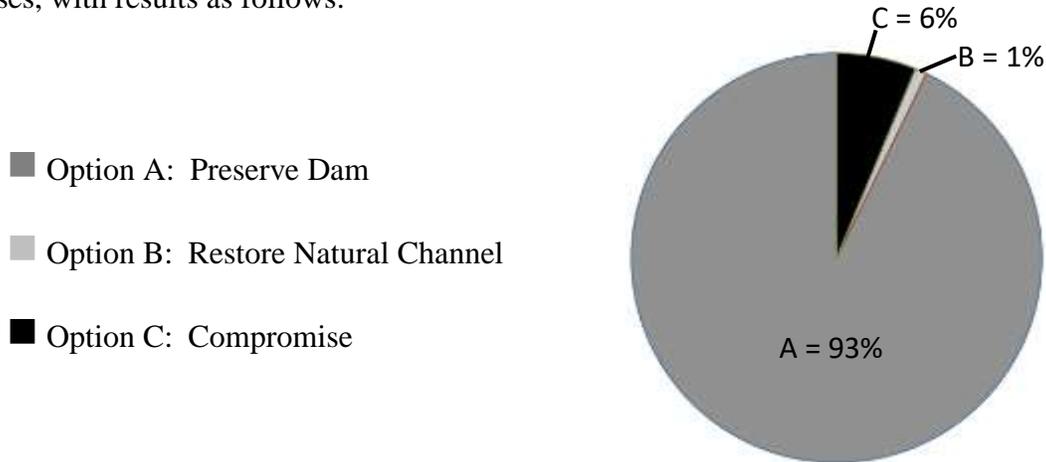


Results of the Mon/Maq Dam Survey

*conducted by the Jones County Historic Preservation Commission
with assistance from local volunteers, July 1-14, 2017*

The survey presented arguments for and against three possible courses of action with respect to the dam. The full text of the survey is appended to this report (p. 5). We received a total of 436 responses, with results as follows:



- Option A: Preserve Dam
- Option B: Restore Natural Channel
- Option C: Compromise

Residence	Option A	Option B	Option C	Total
Monticello	314	3	20	337
Rest of Jones County	45	1	4	50
Surrounding Counties	46	0	3	49
Total	405	4	27	436

If it is assumed that the sample was representative, the Jones County results can be generalized (with 99% certainty) to all county residents with a margin of error of $\pm 3.3\%$.

Comments

Survey participants were invited to include comments on their response forms, and 89 did so. These comments are grouped below according to respondents' preferences for Options A, B, or C, but otherwise in no particular order.

Option A

Monticello does not need or want more water trail. Dam removal will drain the wet lands. We need more wet land not less. Keep the dam.

I have been fishing this dam since I was young and have loved it. Destroying this dam would erase memories that I have had and will continue to have.

My opinion is if the dam is removed it would disrupt the river environment I have known all my life with no benefits

I am in favor of saving the dam
Leave the Dam as is.
It's too pretty to take out!!
Leave the historicness as is or repair.
Used to live in Monti. I think it should stay
I don't want them to tear it out. They could fix it a lot cheaper and it will work a lot better.
Don't mess with nothing
Leave it Be. My grandfather help build the dam. So leave it alone.
Needs to stay
Fish all the time there
The dam should stay or our fishing will be gone
Leave as is please!
Love to fish at the dam
It's the best fishing around. It can't get any better.
This would be the worst mistake to Monticello residents.
Keep the damb
NO
Terrible waste of money.
Fishing well be gone
Hometown enjoyment – Keep it!
Leave it!!
Leave it alone!!!!
I love coming back to town to fish at the dam.
I like it
Save the dam
Fishing will be gone
I work in Monticello & enjoy going to the dam on my lunch break
It is a waste of money
Leave like it is
Keep the dam, leave it alone.
Its fine the way it is
Very important to deal with the true facts of any change!
Waste of money
Love fishing above the dam.
Seem like a big waste of money. I love the dam the way it is.
Its beautiful leave it alone!
Enjoy the view during summer
No advantage to taking it out. Leave it alone
Leave it alone!!!!
It is all good
Just fine like it is!
I like fishing down there
It's beautiful, leave it like it is.
Love the dam just as it is, make repairs and leave it alone
I enjoy it as Is! Thank you!
Historic preservation

In other areas the removal of dams have negatively impacted sports fishing and altered the eco-structure of surrounding wetlands.

Why remove a dam that is in good condition. Small benefit to aquatic life does not justify spending 1.5 mil Leave dam alone for future generations to enjoy

Leave it alone.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this survey. I appreciate the fact you wanted this information from the public.

I'm 79 years old. I started fishing at the dam when I was 7 or 8 years old.

I have fished the dam since I was a kid. It is part of the community. They have wedding and graduation pictures there every year. It is traditional in town

I fish here and bring my nephew from Cedar Rapids. We both love it. He would rather fish at the dam, then going to the fair.

I enjoy visiting the dam it's only ¼ mi. from my house.

This has been a spot that has only held memories for years. Please leave this piece of History for more to enjoy

As you probably know if not, I'm from Monticello and I enjoy going down to the dam area for remembrance of years back.

This is my hometown, we enjoy bringing our kids down to the dam to look on the overlook & fishing with the family

I have a friend that fishes there and he said if the dam goes so do my fish.

I lived in Monticello for years & floated the river weekly.

We fish there all the time they removed Hopkinton Dam & ruined the fishing. Leave Monticello the way it IS fishing is good Repairs are minimal & everybody I know loves it the way IT IS!!!

Please keep the dam. I enjoy fishing & the sun out there. The only fishing place in Monticello, Thank you.

Love the sounds of the cascading waters the birds and the turtles. Rock hunters paradise

I feel the removal of the dam is mainly wanted by the people at Lake Delhi & they don't care about the historic preservation of the dam.

We enjoy coming back to our hometown & enjoy fishing @ the damn & using the new boat ramp (that would be under water if taken out)

That's my hometown. We use for canoing fishing & back ground is beautiful for pictures Don't screw with "OUR" Dam!!! REPAIR: At minimal cost EASY CHOICE GUYS!! NO BRAINER!!

Poor use of tax dollars, negative impact on wetlands above dam, Riverside gardens. Dam is in good condition, safety not an issue, minimal effect on flood events, destroy ecology below dam—30 ft portage around south end of dam.

I was on the MonMaq committee. I do not feel they listened to what we thought or told us what they were doing at the dam or Pic. Rocks

If we leave the dam now, it costs nothing. If we remove the dam and later regret it – it would cost that much more to replace it. Best case scenario: leave it alone.

Good fishing as is!

Will we continue to spend millions on a "potential for heritage tourism"? The DAM IS HERITAGE. This will not guarantee survival of fish species note the oceans populations of natural species numbers—even mammals! Really – for recreational river traffic –

we're talking 1.5 million! QUIT PAYING \$ after \$ on POTENTIAL return inquiry/
research to implement year after year
Lets start saving some of Monticello's history
Dumb asses!
Don't waste money!
Knowing it has 50-100 yr lifespan & kayak waters are not an option.
Leave it alone!

Option B

I would love to see recreational opportunity similar to that in Manchester, IA

Option C

The dam is an important place for this community and the best place to fish in town.
I've been fishing here since I was a kid Always been a great place
Why destroy the dam when so many people enjoy the value that it brings. My kids love to picnic
there and watch its beauty.
Before I could commit to "C" I would have to know the impact. — Riverside Gardens wetland
area will suffer greatly with plan "B." Water level will drop 4 feet.
River needs to be dredged for larger capacity so flooding isn't so likely.
River needs to be dredged so that flooding doesn't occur
I do not feel Option B would even be an option at this point.
Make a separate channel for fish & canoeists.
Add separate channel for fish and canoeists. Is it possible?

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE WITH THE MON/MAQ DAM?

Three options are on the table. Option A is to leave the dam as it is (with maintenance and repairs as needed). Option B is to restore the natural river channel by removing 90% or more of the dam, leaving a remnant near the old mill site a historical marker. Option C is to leave the dam essentially as it is but make minor modifications (e.g. a fish ladder) to allow some fish passage.

Please review the pros and cons of each option, listed below, and indicate which option you would most prefer as well as what your second choice would be (if any). The Jones County Conservation Board plans to make a final recommendation at its public meeting on July 17.

<p>Option A: Preserve Dam</p>	<p>Option B: Restore Natural Channel</p>	<p>Option C: Compromise</p>
<p>Arguments For:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the dam makes possible several current uses of the site, including fishing, swimming, and enjoyment of the unique setting • the need for portage around the dam helps keep river traffic at manageable levels • heritage tourism can be promoted (the dam and old mill site are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, thanks both to the dam’s unusual construction and the site’s importance in local history) • none of the existing fish or mussels species whose habitat is restricted by the dam are endangered; their populations have been stable <p>Arguments Against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conditions for aquatic wildlife, while stable, are not optimum • the need for portage would remain for canoeists, inner-tubers, etc. 	<p>Arguments For:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fish populations above and below the dam could mix (while many of the same species live in both river segments, there are approximately fifteen species that have been found in only one segment) • with more of the river accessible to individual fish, their habitat would improve • movement of fish across the current dam site might help revive mussel populations (mussels “hitch rides” on fish early in their life cycles) • recreational river traffic could pass without the need for portage <p>Arguments Against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fishing at the dam site would not be as good as at present; new prime fishing spots might come into being, but they would probably be more difficult to access • scenery at the site would no longer be unique, and swimming there would be no different from elsewhere along the river • increased river traffic would result in more littering, parking difficulties, and greater inconvenience for riverside residents (who are often asked to rescue paddlers who overestimate their stamina) 	<p>Arguments For:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing uses of the dam site could continue; the potential for heritage tourism would remain • there could be some mixing of aquatic wildlife populations above and below the dam • the need for portage would continue to moderate river traffic <p>Arguments Against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no site-specific study for this option has yet been conducted; it is not known what exactly could be done to improve fish passage while maintaining existing human uses of the dam site • most fish in the Maquoketa River are not able to use a fish ladder • the benefits to wildlife would in any case not be as significant as with Option B • canoeists, boaters, kayakers, etc. would still have to portage