



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

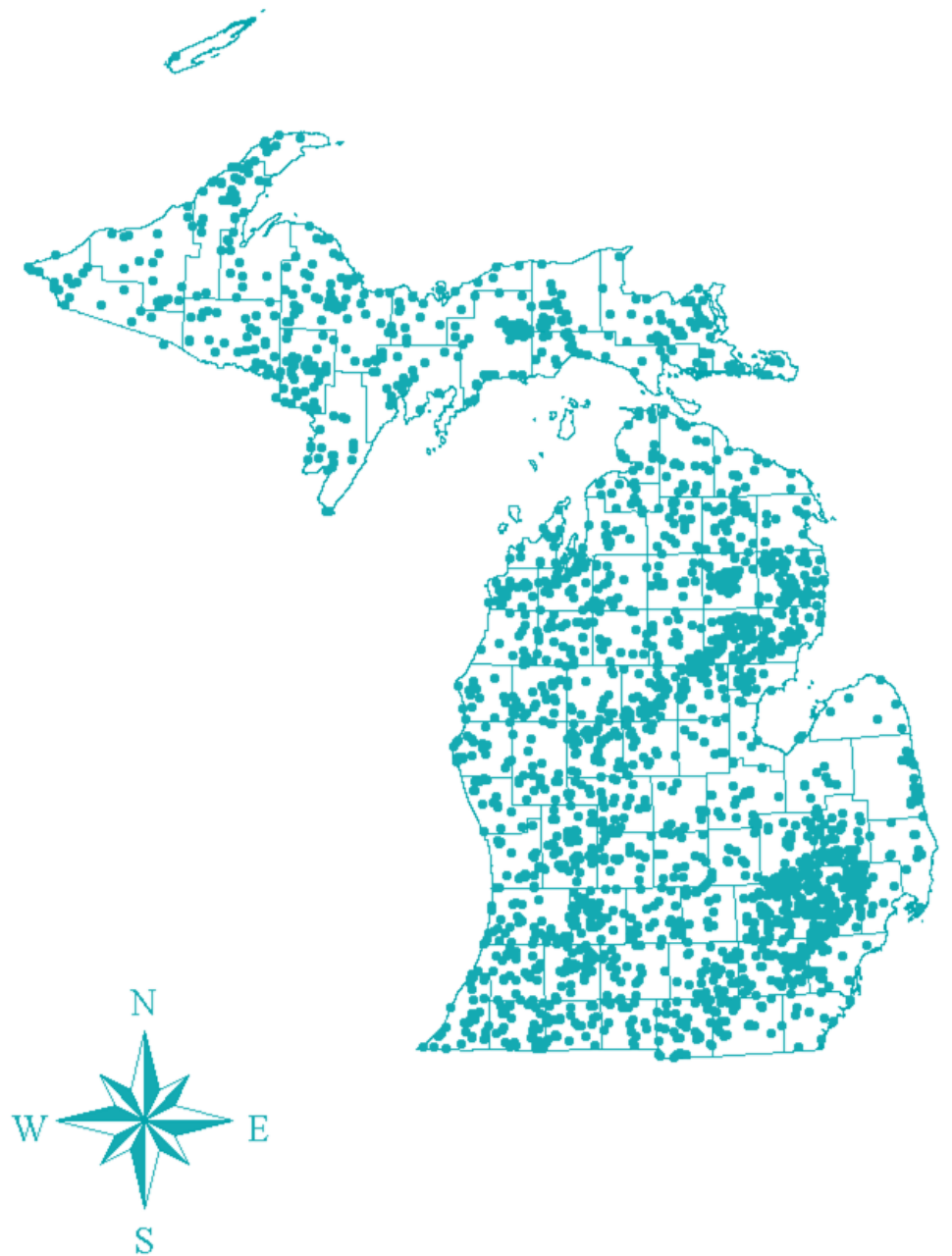
Dam Safety Program Updates

MARCH 19, 2024

Dams In Michigan

Over 2,500 Dams

- 1,059 State Regulated Dams
 - Ownership: 75% Private, 25% Public
- 92 FERC Regulated Hydropower Dams
- Roughly 1,370 Unregulated
 - Too Small To Meet Part 315 Size Requirements



State Regulated Dams

FERC Roles:

- No Involvement Or Regulatory Authority

MDNR Roles:

- Coordinate With EGLE Staff On Permit Applications
- Act As State Experts In Aquatic Organisms, Terrestrial Wildlife, Stream Function, Etc.

EGLE Roles:

- Administer Parts 307, Inland Lake Levels, & Part 315, Dam Safety, Of The NREPA
- Permitting For Dam Work
- Inspections
- Permitting Support For Other Programs



Hydropower Dams

FERC Roles:

- Oversee All Operational & Dam Safety Requirements
- Coordinate With Dam Owner, State & Federal Agencies, Tribes, & Public On Licensing & Operations

MDNR Roles:

- Provide Recommendations To FERC
- Represent State's Interest

EGLE Roles:

- No Dam Safety Authority (Exempt From Part 315)
- Provide Section 401 Water Quality Certifications
- Issue Permits For Activities Impacting Inland Lakes & Streams, Floodplains, & Wetlands



Edenville Dam Failure



Sanford Dam Failure



1

Investigate Cause(s) &
Contributing Factors To
The Failure Of The Two
Dams

2

Perform A Full Evaluation
Of The Dam Safety
Program & Overall Safety
Of Dams In Michigan

3

Report Back To
Governor's Office On
Findings Of Both

Directive To EGLE

Independent Failure Investigation

Work Began Late August 2020 & Final Report Issued: 5/4/2022

- Cause Of Failure - Edenville Dam: Static Liquefaction
- Cause Of Failure - Sanford Dam: Overtopping Resulting From Failure Of Upstream Edenville Dam

Dam Safety Program Evaluation

ASDSO Peer Review Final Report Submitted: 9/4/2020

19 Member Michigan Dam Safety Task Force Inaugural Meeting: 9/8/2020

Final MDSTF Report & Recommendations Submitted To Governor: 2/25/2021

Task Force Recommendations

Report Included

86

Recommendations

Number Of Recommendations	Category
7	Funding Opportunities For Dam Owners & The Dam Safety Program
11	Legislation & Authority
16	General Dam Safety Improvements
6	Compliance & Enforcement
7	Emergency Response
33	Dam Safety Program Management & Funding
2	Safety & Security At Dams
4	Public Outreach & Awareness

Dam Safety Program Improvements

- Staff Expansion
- Updated Review Standards
- Increased Public Outreach & Awareness
- Risk Informed Decision Making/Prioritization
- Progressive Compliance & Enforcement
- Grant Program
- Emergency Fund

Dam Safety Program Changes

2006 - 2020

Dam Safety Staff

www.mi.gov/damsafety

To Report Dam Safety Emergencies to EGLE:
800-292-4706 (from within Michigan)
517-373-7660 (from outside Michigan)

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www.michigan.gov/wrd ↔ 517-284-5567 7/3/2019

2021

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Now

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Michigan.gov/WRD ↔ 517-284-5567 3/31/2024

Dam Risk Reduction Grant Program

Funded At \$13M (PA 87 Of 2021) &
\$28.2M (PA 53 Of 2022)

2022-2023 Inaugural Cycle

- Received 57 Pre-proposals
 - Total Of \$51.1M In Funding Requests
- Invited 23 Applicants To Submit Full Applications
 - \$26.5M In Funding Requests
- Awarded \$15.3M From PA 87 & PA 53 Funds
- 16 Total Project Funded
 - 6 Dam Removals
 - 4 Dam Repairs
 - 6 Engineering Studies

Dam Risk Reduction Grant Program

2023-2024 Cycle

- Received 64 Pre-proposals (12% Increase)
 - Total Of \$68.4M In Funding Requests (39% Increase)
- Invited 29 Applicants To Submit Full Applications
 - \$33M In Funding Requests
- Full Applications Currently Under Review
 - Anticipate Announcing Awards In April
- Planning To Award \$14M

Future Cycles

- \$14M In Remaining Funds (2024-2025 Cycle)
- Future Appropriations Needed

Dam Safety Emergency Action Fund

Funded At \$6M In PA 87 Of 2021

DSP Is Currently Completing Two Emergency Dam
Removal Projects

Expected Expenditures Of Approximately \$3M

Future Appropriations Will Be Necessary To
Replenish Funds Expended

Dam Safety Statute Reforms

Draft Reforms Started In 2021

Based On ASDSO/MDSTF Recommendations

Some Legislative Activity But No Amendments Have
Been Made To This Date

Reforms Are Necessary To Protect Public Safety &
Ensure That Dams Are Maintained According To
Modern Standards As Outlined In The
Recommendations Of ASDSO/MDSTF

Michigan Department of
Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

800-662-9278

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