

Four Lakes Task Force

Gladwin and Midland Counties' Delegated Authority
of the Four Lakes Special Assessment District

July Monthly Informational Webinar

July 13, 2023



Four Lakes Task Force

This is an Information Session

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- This meeting is being held virtually to accommodate as many people as possible
 - This is not a board meeting or hearing – no formal action will occur
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- Please use the Q&A feature in GoToWebinar or email questions to info@fourlakestaskforce.org and we will answer questions during the meeting and at the end



Communication Meeting Format

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- These meetings are focused on keeping the community informed and providing an opportunity to ask questions
 - ▣ We will have one or two primary subjects
- Today's question: **When will the lakes be restored?**
 - ▣ Permitting, bid letting, contracting
 - ▣ Construction performance
 - ▣ Time to fill the lakes
- At the end, we will leave time to answer questions on other topics



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Lake Restoration Timing

Presenter: Dave Kepler, President

Lake Restoration Objectives and Risks

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□ Four Lakes Task Force restoration objectives:

1. Return all four lakes to their normal (legal) lake levels
2. Put in place a sustainable structure to manage and maintain the four dams to ensure a sustainable lake system
3. Establish an environmental and recreational plan that can be managed by each lake's community

Requires the Four Lakes to be managed as one system

Balancing Project Execution and Risk

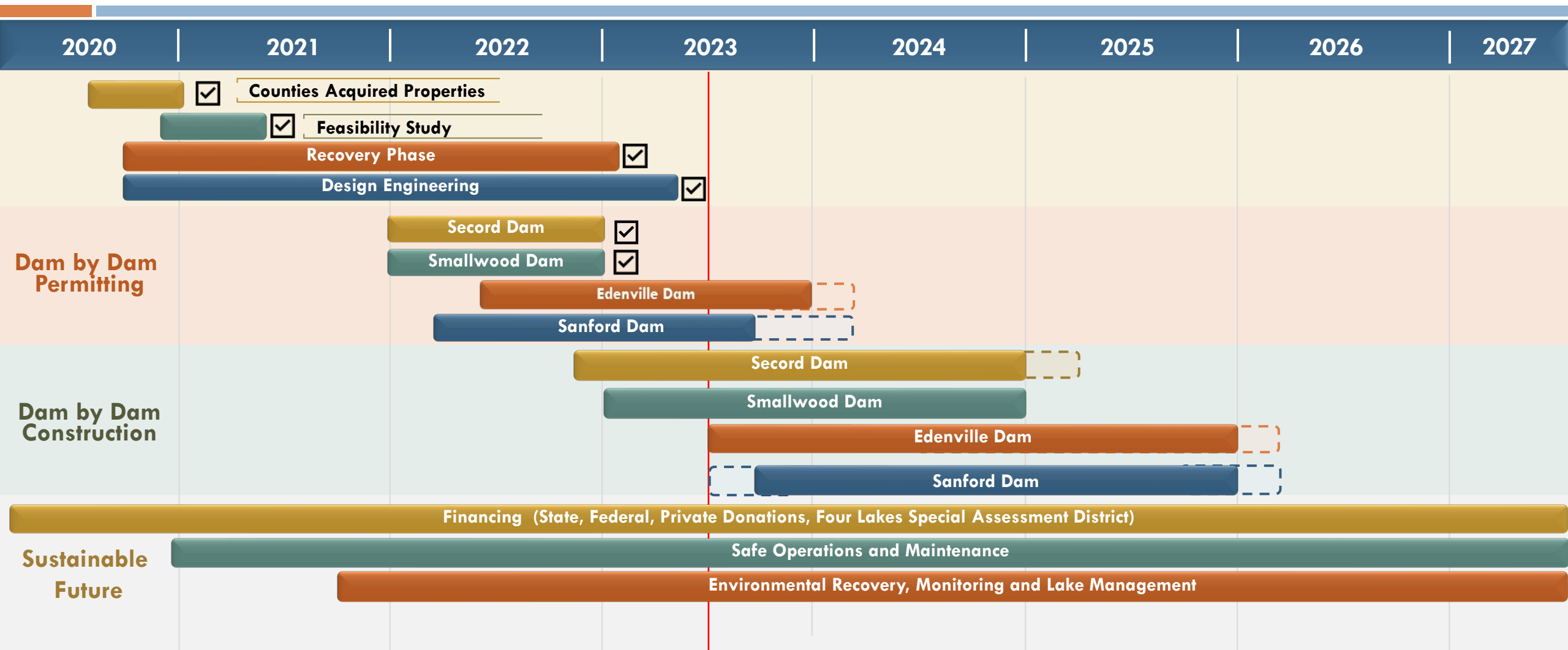
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Project Execution



- Managing project risks
 - No tolerance for catastrophic failure
 - Worker and public safety
 - Protecting the environment
 - Affordable long-term cost of ownership
- Headwinds
 - Inflation of materials
 - Interest rates
 - Construction market
 - Complex regulatory environment
- Tailwinds
 - Leveraging of regional resources
 - Federal (U.S. Army Corps) loan opportunity
 - Alignment with the community, county and government stakeholders and representatives

Dam Restoration Timeline



— Where we are now

Shaded rectangle indicates uncertainty in permitting and contracting

Lake Refill Durations

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- Dependent on river flows, season and weather conditions
 - ▣ Wetter years = quicker refill which will reduce the **maximum** length of time to achieve the permitted lake levels **but will not reduce the minimum** days to refill as that rate is based on a permit requirement to limit refill to 1 foot per day
 - ▣ Dryer years may extend the time to refill beyond what is reported in the table
- Estimated times depend on differences in each lake's inflow, storage capacity, and minimum permitted flows required to pass through the reservoir while refilling

Estimated Lake Refill Times with 50 Percent Flow Exceedance

Lake	Minimum Days at Median Flows (50% exceedance)	Maximum Days at Median Flows (50% exceedance)	Total Days if Refill Starts Between March and May	Total Days if Refill Starts Between June and October*
Secord	4	27	4 to 11	17 to 27
Smallwood	6	16	6 to 9	9 to 16
Wixom	10	58	10 to 15	29 to 58
Sanford	13	67	13 to 16	31 to 67

**Winter months (October through February) are excluded due to the expectation that environmental concerns will not allow changes in water levels during this period due to concerns related to aquatic life.*

Permitting and Milestone Updates

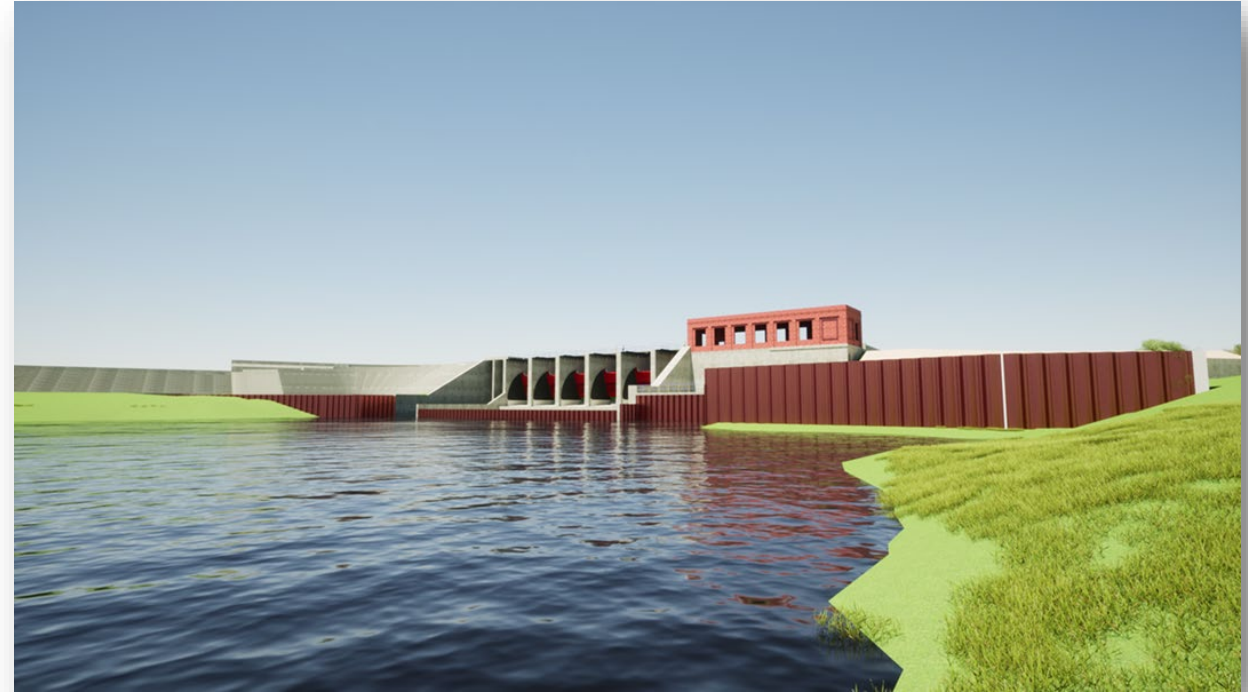
Presenters: Adam Heinrich, Program Director, and Ron Hansen, Spicer Group, Owner's Engineer

Sanford Dam

Next Major Milestone: Permitting

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- Permitting – expected this quarter (July-September)
- Contracting
 - ▣ Bids received were unacceptable
 - ▣ New bid process with Spence Brothers and Fisher Contracting
- Construction estimated to start this quarter
 - ▣ Five months late



Sanford Dam

Permitting – Overall Restoration

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Administratively Complete

- ✓ Sanford Dam EGLE permit initially submitted in November 2022
 - ✓ Dam safety / flood permitting
 - ✓ Environmental mitigation
- ✓ EGLE permit application deemed administratively complete
- ✓ Mitigation projects to address Part 301 impacts due to lake refill have been approved by EGLE
 - ✓ Fish spawning area downstream of dam
 - ✓ Shoreline enhancements upstream of dam
 - ✓ Culvert replacement

Final Steps

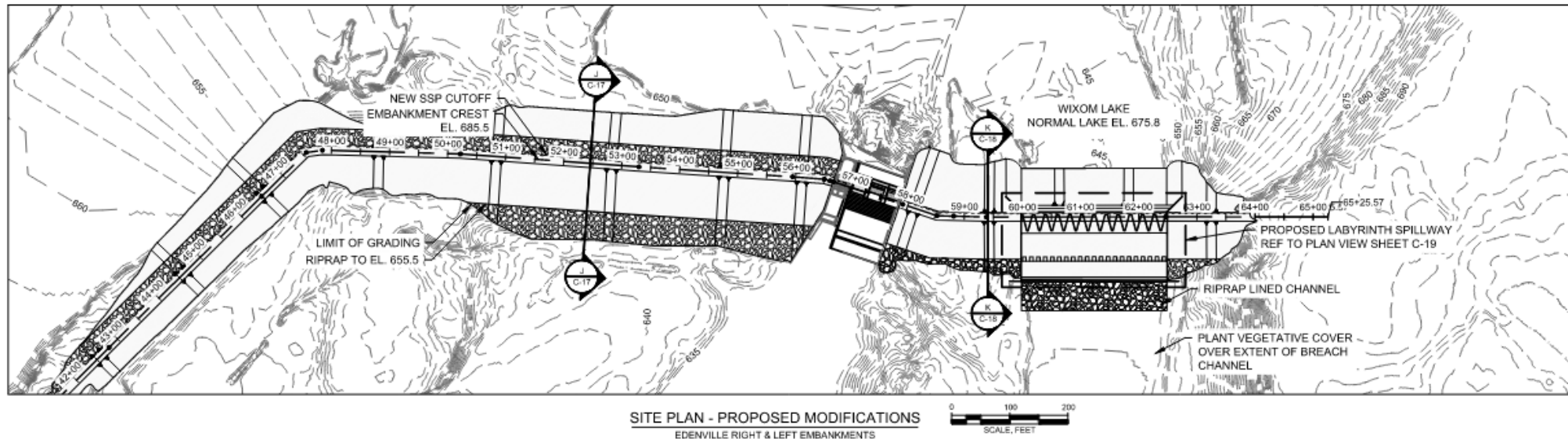
- ✓ Public notice began June 5th
- ✓ EPA review of permit began June 13th
 - ✓ EPA has 90 days to review and comment
- ✓ Public hearing requested by FLTF
 - ✓ Conducted on July 5, 2023
 - Public comment period open until July 15th
- Next Steps:
 - Complete mitigation plan with EGLE and MDNR
 - Address any comments received from public notice and public hearing
 - Address EPA comments once received
- Expect permitting in 3rd quarter

Edenville Dam

Next Major Milestone: Embankment Construction

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- Embankment restoration
 - ✓ EGLE permit received June 30, 2023
 - ▣ Scope seepage cutoff wall, embankment widening and drainage system
 - ▣ Work only involves construction impacts from the dam footprint
 - ▣ Construction to begin this month
- Restoration permit targeted for this year
 - ▣ CLOMR (Conditional Letter of Map Revision)
 - ▣ Endangered species
 - ▣ Inland streams mitigation
- Construction
 - ▣ Bid letting by end of 2023



Edenville Dam

Permitting – Overall Restoration

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Federal Permitting

- CLOMR - FEMA requirement on permitting:
 - ✓ A Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) between Edenville and Sanford has been submitted
 - ▣ FLTF, FEMA and EGLE meet monthly to obtain FEMA approval in 4th quarter 2023
- Endangered species
 - ✓ Snuffbox mussels found in upper Wixom Lake
 - ▣ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service take permit or authorization required
 - Habitat conservation plan (HCP)
 - Agency and tribal coordination
 - NEPA – environmental assessment
 - ▣ Next steps to be completed before lake fill

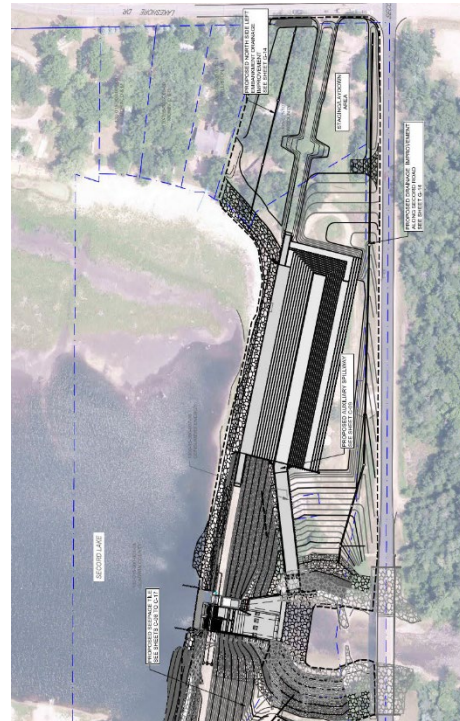
EGLE Permitting

- ✓ Edenville Dam EGLE permit initially submitted in December 2022
 - ✓ Dam safety / flood permitting
 - ▣ Environmental mitigation
- FLTF currently working on addressing Part 301 impacts due to lake refill. Projects likely to consist of:
 - ▣ Fish spawning areas
 - ▣ Natural shoreline enhancements
 - ▣ Culvert replacements
 - ▣ Filter strips
- EGLE permit will require EPA review and comment
- Target to complete by 4th quarter

Secord Dam

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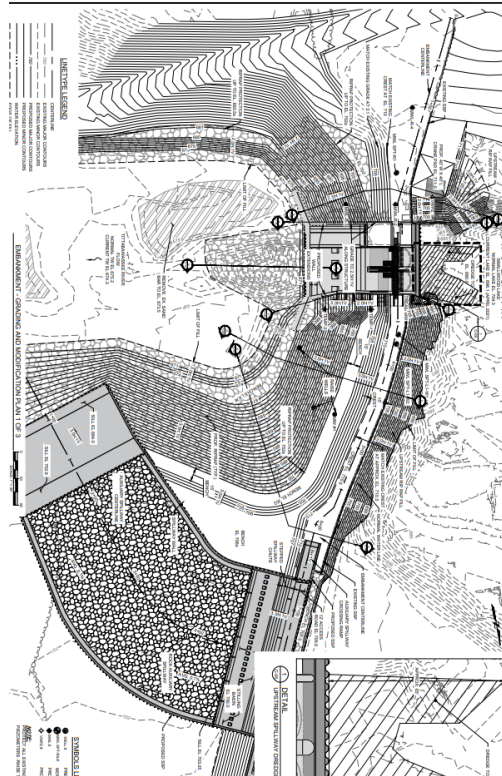
- ✓ Permitted
- ✓ Contracted
- Construction status:
 - ▣ Auxiliary spillway is 30% complete
 - ▣ Excavation dewatering has delayed the project four months
 - ▣ Schedule mitigation plans are being developed



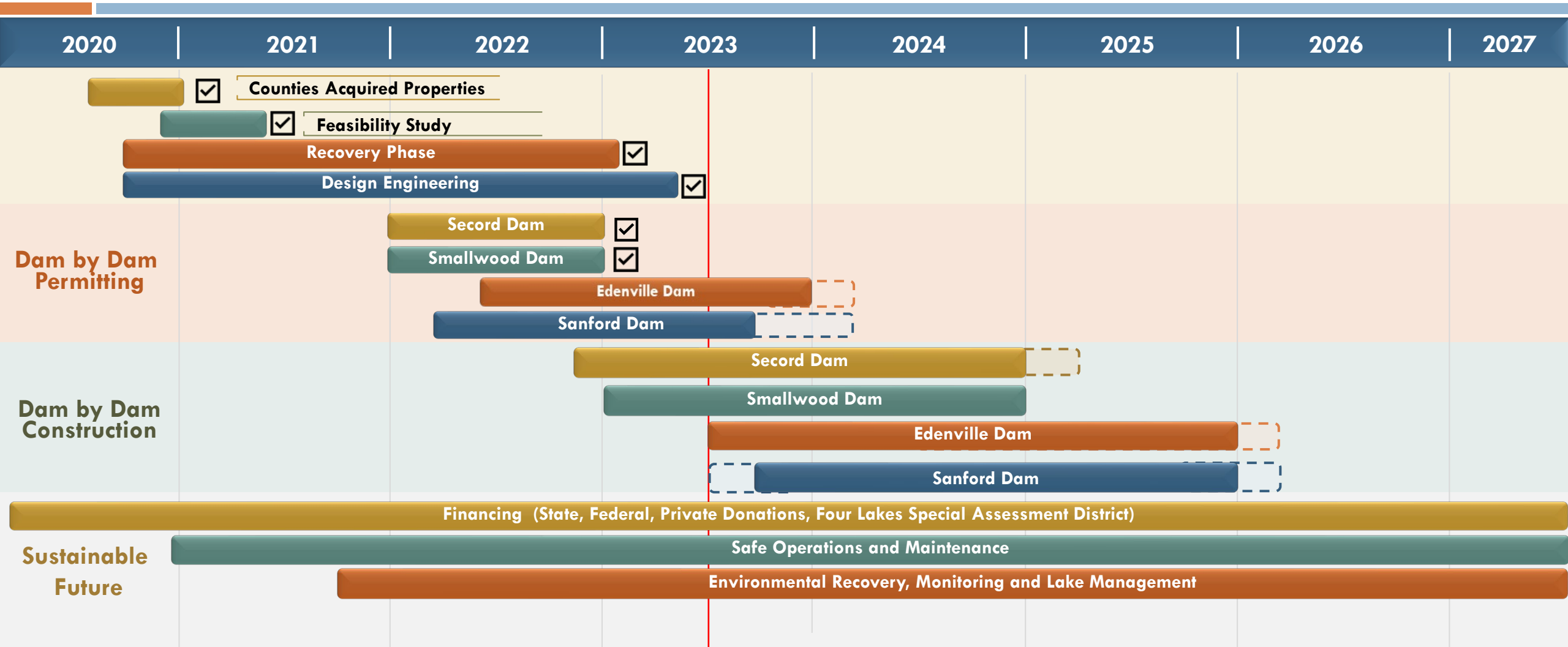
Smallwood Dam

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- ✓ Permitting
- ✓ Contracted
- Construction status:
 - ▣ Project is on schedule
 - ▣ Overall project is 25% complete
 - ▣ Auxiliary spillway is 50% complete
 - ▣ Powerhouse demo is near completion



Dam Restoration Timeline



— Where we are now

Shaded rectangle indicates uncertainty in permitting and contracting

General Questions and Answers

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Thank you

Coming Up

- July 25th board meeting
- August 10th informational webinar on costs and financing

