

Adam Riggsbee: President RiverBank Conservation LLC

Adam Riggsbee is founder and President of RiverBank Conservation LLC, based in Austin, TX. RiverBank is a mitigation and conservation banking firm, specializing in new and emerging markets in Texas and the West. RiverBank sponsors several stream mitigation banks and permittee-responsible mitigation projects in Texas and is actively developing stream and wetland mitigation banks in Colorado, California and West Virginia. In addition to their Clean Water Act work, RiverBank is a partner in two conservation banks for the Lesser Prairie Chicken in West Texas and eastern New Mexico.

Adam's dam removal experience dates back to 2002 when he started graduate school in Environmental Science and Engineering at the University of North Carolina. While at UNC, Adam studied sediment and nutrient dynamics associated with dam removal. The two dams he studied for his dissertation were removed by Restoration Systems, a North Carolina based mitigation banking firm. Adam later worked for Restoration Systems before striking out on his own to start RiverBank. Although Adam left Restoration Systems in 2009, he has continued assisting them from time to time with some of the more complicated aspects of their dam removal efforts, some of which he will discuss with us today.

Aside from leading RiverBank, Adam is also active in the policy and practice literature as a frequent collaborator with various academics in the ecosystem services areas of research. His past works have investigated the influence of national regulations and regional policies on private investment in mitigation banking and the effects of ad hoc policy decisions by the US Fish and Wildlife Service within conservation banking markets. His current research examines the role of regional mitigation policies in reducing impacts and encouraging stream/wetland restoration.