

September 10, 2017

TO: Town Board Members, Town of Fort Ann, Washington County, New York

FM: Joseph F. Loszynski, Park Manager, Lake Hadlock Park District

SUBJ: Monthly Progress Report

MATTERS PENDING FROM LAST PROGRESS REPORT:

1. The mechanical harvester program during the month of August operated nine days, bringing the total days of operation to twenty three. It was projected that the lake would require substantial more days of operation but due to a number of different circumstances this has changed dramatically. The control of native and invasive vegetation growth through the use of the harvester has been sufficient enough to permit excellent recreational use of the lake and at the same time has also promoted a good fish habitat through the selective cutting of native plants. This approach will continue through the remaining part of the harvester season, always keeping a close eye on invasive plants and making sure that the lake has not been subjected to a new invasive plant. The harvester trainee completed his 15 days of training and will be available next year as needed. The harvester continues to operate in an excellent manner with no mechanical breakdowns recorded for this reporting period. Two additional days of operation is scheduled for the month of September and the program is scheduled to end on September 12th. All collection boats are scheduled to be removed during the week of September 18th, as well as the removal of the mechanical harvester during the same period. MATTER REMAINS PENDING THROUGH THE END OF SEPTEMBER, 2017.
2. During this reporting period, the hand harvesting divers worked for three days during the month of August. The areas of concentration was the southeast end of the lake in front of the Hadlock Inn, continuing north on the east shore to a point just north of Lindsay Carte's dock facing west. Several thousand plants were picked, reaching a total weight of harvested plants of approximately 10,700 lbs for the 17 days of operation. During the harvesting, curly leaf pond weed was also identified and harvested which is also an invasive plant in our lake. The divers are scheduled to work the remaining two weeks of diving schedule starting on September 18th and concluding on September 28th. MATTER REMAINS PENDING DURING THE SUMMER HARVESTING SEASON.
3. It doesn't appear as if the i mapping will be launched this year on Lake Hadlock or any other lake in the Adirondack Park. It is hoped over the winter months that the APA can secure the necessary funds to continue with this project next year. Until I hear something different this matter will be closed and not reported on in future progress reports.
4. A verification team consisting of the park manager and two volunteers from the Lake Hadlock Association, conducted their work during this reporting period. An underwater camera was used to examine the areas identified by AIM as being harvested by their group. Most of the areas showed a substantial reduction of milfoil, with just a few plants remaining from previous

operations. There were three areas on the east shore that contained a volume of milfoil not expected from designated areas harvested by AIM. These findings were discussed in a face to face meeting with the owner of AIM and the designated areas will be examined during the week of September 18th and hand harvested as required. A revised operational strategy is being designed so the expectation's on the part of the town is consistent with the capabilities on the part of the AIM divers. An acceptable level of performance will be established for this discipline so there is checks and balances for services performed versus expected outcomes/results. Due to this being the first year that the town has used this diving group, there is a lot of uncharted territory between the park manager and AIM management. It can reasonably be expected that things will improve going forward and outcomes/results will get better with time. Verification will continue to ensure that the work performed by AIM either meets or exceeds our expectations and overall, improves the condition of the lake considerably. MATTER IS PENDING.

5. As reported last month, shoreline development continues to be a problem and the problem continues to grow due to inadequate controls and oversight on the part of the town and county. During this reporting period, another property was identified as possibly being in violation of APA shoreline restrictions and is now subject of an investigation by the APA. Discussions continue to take place as to how to reverse this path of shoreline altering/destruction but nothing substantive has been agreed upon to thwart this behavior on the part of lake owners, however, a meeting has been scheduled with the town supervisor and Mr. Mark Miller, Code Enforcement Officer on September 14, 2017, , to discuss ways to prevent this behavior from occurring time after time and discussion will begin concerning the implementation of new protocols that will enhance the verification process at the town level. MATTER REMAINS PENDING UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
6. The algae blooms referenced in last month's report have both shown to be non-toxic and not harmful to human beings or animals. I would like to thank Salvatore Riccardone of LHA for his assistance with the securing of samples and submission to the appropriate laboratories. Sal through the CSLAP program has registered each sample with the Department of Environmental Conservation who is the state registry for algae blooms throughout the Adirondack Park and beyond. Due to our exposure this year to these blooms and the classroom training many of us have received on this subject matter, I feel very confident that we are well positioned to deal with any algae bloom problem that might develop. MATTER IS CLOSED.
7. As indicated in last month's progress report, a representative from Caroga Lake will be visiting us on Tuesday, September 12th, to observe the operation of the mechanical harvester and the work of the surface collection detail. I am extremely pleased and proud that the APA identified us as a leading management group in this particular discipline. I will report on the results of this visit in next month's progress report. MATTER REMAINS PENDING.

NEW BUSINESS SINCE THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD:

1. During this reporting period, attended a lake symposium sponsored by the Adirondack Lake Alliance at Paul Smith College. Attending with me was three representatives from the Lake Hadlock Association. The conference focused primarily on developing a watershed

management plan and developing a sustainable shoreline. The attendance at this symposium was very timely considering current developments on Hadlock pertaining to illegal use of the shoreline. Substantial information was obtained from the lectures which will be helpful with developing a strategy for Lake Hadlock that is effective with sustaining a shoreline that helps reduce contaminants from reaching the lake, prevent sediment filling, minimize nutrient loading and curb shoreline erosion due to irresponsible development. A sufficient amount of benchmarking occurred at the conference which is very helpful in developing a watershed plan that is a good fit for the dynamics of Lake Hadlock. MATTER IS CLOSED.

2. The Lake Hadlock Association held a post briefing and discussion after the symposium. I attended this, along with all LHA representatives that attended the conference. Due to the complexity of a watershed management plan, an in-depth discussion took place as to the issues confronting Lake Hadlock and what our approach should be moving forward with developing a full fledged watershed management plan. Assignments were made to each attendee to start the process of gathering data for evaluation and assessment to determine the proper course of action to take as it concerns a watershed management footprint. This research will take months to complete if done properly and consistent with the issues confronting Lake Hadlock. MATTER IS PENDING.
3. During this reporting period, a recommendation was sent to the town supervisor to improve signage in the area around the bridge on the north end of the lake. Individuals continue to congregate in this area creating a safety hazard for the motoring public and the subjects involved. Additionally, numerous kayaks and canoes are being launched from this location and it is unknown as to the origin of these vessels. This creates a substantial risk of new invasive plants/animals being introduced to our lake. This has to be prevented in the future through measures put in place by town management. MATTER IS PENDING.

END OF REPORT