

SPECIAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 17, 2002

PRESENT: Eric Herrle, Douglas Foglio, Sr., Willis Lord, Ken Laughlin, Martha Hamilton, Stephen Foglio, Richard Nass, Frank Tarazewich, Mike McAlevey, Diane Herrle, Tammy Wells, John McPhredan from DEP, Francis Brautign from DIFW, Phil Bozenhart from DIFW, 3 residents of Limerick and 6 members of LAC Friends Group.

Douglas Foglio opened up the meeting and then turned the meeting over to Willis Lord due to Willis called this meeting. Willis called this meeting to try to come up with some compromise on the draw down of the water in Ossipee River/Flowage. John McPhredan informed the Board that the approval of a 2-foot drawdown for 2 weeks starting in 3 days has been approved. Residents of Lake Arrowhead will be doing hand harvesting during this 2-week period. After the 2-week period, the water will come up to the regular water level. DEP would like data on pre and post drawdowns and feels that management does not include winter drawdown. It is too late in the season to be able to get the pre draw down data for a winter drawdown to evaluate and then the post drawdown data to see what affect the draw down will have on milfoil and on other fauna in the area. Ken Laughlin explained that in the letter from Comm. Kirkpatrick, it states that the milfoil growth is between 4 to 5 and 8 to 9 feet so a 2 foot draw down will do nothing. John McPhredan explained that the 4-5 and 8-9 foot range is where the initial survey shows where the milfoil is. Martha Hamilton asked if there is any information from any survey. John McPhredan responded that DEP did not do a scientific study. Martha Hamilton asked if it was better to remove the milfoil and see what happens to other plants or wait until milfoil takes over the plants. John McPhredan explained that the department hired Gerry Smith from Aquatic Control Technology Inc and he looked at the lake and feels it is not appropriate tool for a draw down of the water. Willis Lord asked if the milfoil is not removed won't it eventually kill off other plants that the fish eat? Mike McAlevey asked if there was any data on drawdowns and John McPhredan responded that there was no Maine data. John also stated that there is not enough capability to draw down enough to get the milfoil in the deep area. DEP will not do the study. Mike McAlevey asked who owns the water and John McPhredan replied the state. Mike McAlevey stated that then it is the states problem. John McPhredan did say that funds would be available next year that possibly would take care of 50% of the costs of the study. Carolyn MacDougal spoke that in 1980-1982 there was a 4-5 foot drawdown each year until 1985. That draw down each year managed problems that came about in the water. Ada Guarino told DEP that it was always from day one a request for a 4-foot draw down, the cost of the study was \$24,000.00 and there was no money this year. Never agreed to a 2-foot draw down. When the dam naturally broke, the state did not seem to have a problem now that the dam is re-enforced and there is no drawdown the problem has blossomed. Willis Lord told DEP that one of the state agencies fought for not installing the new boards on the dam, and now they don't want the drawdown. Francis Brautigan from DIFW stated that the dept. needs to know what effects of the drawdown will be and is still willing to work. Larry Jacobsen asked about the condition of the water and Francis Brautigan responded that the fishing is good. He has contacted other states to see what effect milfoil has on the fish and was told in some areas, the Bass flourished in the milfoil. Do not know what

the effects will be on a yearly drawdown. Not opposed, just need data to see if there would be any adverse effects. Doug Foglio spoke and can draw down 10 –15 feet, roads in Arrowhead was built with what was dug out of the bed. It was drained so that there was just a brook there. Along the New Dam Road, it would be dry and the rest would be a stream. The mistake was made when DEP had water rights; the municipalities of Waterboro and Limerick need to get back the water rights. Bass fishing is the biggest violators of milfoil. Has not seen anyone checking the boats that go from one lake to another during the night. Water was drawn down many years ago and a 2-foot draw down will not to anything need a 6-foot drawdown. Francis Brautigan stated that the biggest problem is the concentration of fish in one area that takes place with a draw down. Steve Foglio stated that during the ice storm, DIFW had a sharp shooter there to try to cut the cable for a draw down. Doug Foglio told Francis that he would be in favor of a new to keep the fish. A resident from Limerick spoke and feels that the state is not starting with a neutral playing field the state already has their minds made up that the draw down will not work. John McPhedran stated that DEP needs scientific study. Ada Guarino spoke and stated that they have been told not in favor of a drawdown since day one and would like to know where the negative attitude comes from. Eric Herrle spoke and can't prove the effects without a base line test but can't get the testing done this year. The proposed 2 feet will not do anything. Draw down to the bottom of the boards comeback next Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> and start the base line study. Next spring when funds from the state and towns are available, prepare a plan. There was concern if postponed to next year, what would be the population of the milfoil. Willis Lords stated that last year there was 25 acres and this year there is over 200 acres of milfoil. Eric Herrle reiterated, that don't want to destroy data, but 2 feet is not going to work. Steve Foglio asked what has happened to the money that was collected for milfoil stickers, approximately \$11,000. was sold between the two towns. John McPhredan passed out a handout and told Steve that DEP is not sure where they stand on funds because DIFW is going electronic and there has been no figures given on the revenue. Martha Hamilton told DEP that the towns need to do something, and something is going to happen to let the public know that the state is willing to wait. Need a strong stand. Ken Laughlin agrees and need possible legislation. DEP has flipped flopped on this problem. Was told by DEP concerning Sokokis Lake the best manage of milfoil was winter draw down. He was taught by DEP in great detail on a winter draw down. The milfoil is much better because it is being managed. No one asked for a study and it has worked. Need representatives in Augusta to help us. The state has built a new boat ramp, and no one in the 9 years has complained about the fish. Phil Bozenhart from DEP spoke and a 2-foot draw down for 2 weeks would be ok for the fur bearing animals. A 2-foot winter draw down this time of year would have a serious effect on the fur bearing animals. 2 feet with drop 50% of the water. If the draw down were earlier enough, it would allow fur-bearing animals to acclimate. Martha Hamilton asked what sort of guarantee if the study is done, that the draw down of 4-6 feet will take place. DEP or DIFW cannot commit. Both depts. agree to a 2-foot winter draw down on condition that data is gathered this next summer. John McPhedran told the Board that DEP has no record of milfoil in Sokokis Lake and need to know if variable milfoil is in Sokokis. Eric Herrle told everyone that a long-term plan is needed and would like a 4-foot draw down. Also look at a 9 foot draw down. Take a year to come up with a plan. John McPhedran told the Board that DEP does not have the staff to do the study or

develop a plan. Doug Foglio spoke of relocating of fur bearing animals and ask why not a 4-foot drawdown could walk out and use a GPS to monitor the lake. Also could use aerial photographs. Once established could tell how many acres will be effected and could look at the other plants growing also A draw down of 4-5 feet would allow a bigger area buffer between the shore and the deep water. Steve Foglio asked why no workshops were held in York County for Boat Inspection training and Plant Patrollers training. John McPhedran told Steve that if there were an interest in any association for workshops then they would do one. Martha Hamilton told DEP that the two towns need to get control back of the dam. Eric Herrle added whatever action both towns will have to take will be taken. Richard Nass spoke and said that it is to late this season and should take what you can get, referring to the 2 foot draw down for 2 weeks. There will be funds available next year and will not get the requested 4 foot. Need to go through the legislature. Doug Folio spoke and so far there has been no problem with milfoil in Ossipee Lake. Will be going to the voters and will gate off the public access to the lake. There is a better pay off of the town stocking the lake themselves rather than have milfoil take over the lake. The lake will be available for the public, and if a tournament is held there will be someone there to inspect the boats. Will be manned for 10 hours a day. John McPhedran told the Board that there would be grant money available next year for local inspection programs. Doug Foglio told them that the town is not going to stop the public just want to make sure no milfoil gets into the lake.