

-----Original Message-----

From: cboudreau@verizon.net [mailto:cboudreau@verizon.net]

Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2011 1:54 PM

To: Ives, Wayne

Subject: Pawtuckaway Lake involvement with Lamprey River Water management plan

May 18, 2011

To: wayne.ives@des.nh.gov

Regard: Lamprey River Water Management

My family has been part of Pawtuckaway Lake since 1948. I remember when the lake was drawn down each summer for “water rights” even though the mills in Portsmouth no longer used water to make their energy. We were unable to use the lake at all in the summer time—it was a mud puddle. When the water drawn-down stopped, the properties on the lake were developed and the state park came in, which as everyone knows, is a huge asset for southern NH.

A few years ago the town of Nottingham assessed each owner of lake front property a minimum of \$250,000 plus the regular assessment for land. That computes to \$1,000,000/acre since my family has but 1/3rd acre of land on Pawtuckaway Lake. How much do you think the lake front properties are going to be worth if the water is reduced in the summer time to take care of the lower Lamprey? The answer will be zero and the town of Nottingham will be bankrupt.

Pawtuckaway Lake has many wonderful attributes, both for the property owners and the thousands of visitors that come there year round. Destroying this beautiful lake by drawing down the water in the summer to support the lower Lamprey is a crime.

We have already had to deal with a foreign company trying to tap into the water table above the lake to sell commercially bottled water. We have been fighting evasive weeds, farm fertilizer and animal waste contamination, etc. for years to protect this resource.

One responder wrote “let nature take care of its own”. Unfortunately, that true to only a certain extent. Pawtuckaway is a man-made lake. Its’ resources are used (and abused) by many. We need to be good stewards of this asset. Reversing 50 years of policy (no draw-down) for whatever reason, is a very bad idea.

Sincerely,

Claire Boudreau
55 Mooers Road
Nottingham, NH