

March 11, 1991

Mr. Michael Connery
Supervisor
Town of Ticonderoga
Ticonderoga, NY 12883

Dear Supervisor Connery:

The purpose of this letter is to solicit your support in our Association's efforts to combat the Eurasian Milfoil problem that exists in Eagle Lake. Eurasian Milfoil was discovered in Eagle Lake in the summer of 1989.

This past summer our Association has met with the other Lake Associations in our area to form a coalition in order to more effectively lobby the Department of Environmental Conservation to approve the use of "sonar" in controlling the Milfoil problem. As you know, Eagle Lake is a rather small lake and if something is not done soon, the eastern end or Ti Bay will be overgrown with this weed. A visual survey conducted by our Association last summer revealed a significant increase in the number of beds populating the lake, particularly the Ti Bay area.

The Warren County Board of Supervisors have been very supportive of the efforts of the Lake George Association to pressure the Department of Environmental Conservation to develop a solution to this problem. It is my understanding that the Warren County Board of Supervisors are on record favoring the use of "sonar" in combating Eurasian Milfoil.

The only methods being promoted to date by the Department of Environmental Conservation are:

1. The installation of "mats" placed over the Milfoil beds.
2. Hand harvesting

According to the Lake George Association, both methods have been used in that lake and neither method has proved effective. In fact, according to the enclosed article which appeared in the December 1, 1990 issue of the Glens Falls Post Star, Warren County has decided not to allocate any funds for 1991 to control Milfoil in Lake George because they claim the methods used are a waste of money. The article continues on to say that so far \$240,000.00 has been spent on this problem with little or nothing to show for it.

Supervisor Connery
March 11, 1991

The Eagle Lake Property Owners Association respectfully request that you, as our Town representative at the County level, introduce a resolution to the Essex County Board of Supervisors supporting the use of "sonar" to combat Milfoil in our area lakes.

Since Milfoil has been discovered in Schroon Lake, perhaps Supervisor Kelly would co-sponsor such a resolution with you. I should add that the Schroon Lake Association is in favor of the use of "sonar".

In conversations that I have had with both the Lake George and Schroon Lake Association officials, it is our belief that the Department of Environmental Conservation will not consider the use of "sonar" unless forced to do so. Essex County needs to be heard from concerning this matter and a resolution in support of "sonar" forwarded to the Department of Environmental Conservation and State Officials would be a positive step in that direction.

In advance and on behalf of the Eagle Lake Property Owners Association, I thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully yours,

William R Allen
President
Eagle Lake Property
Owners Association

cc: Mr. Alvin Jacob
Vice President
Schroon Lake Association

Enc: (1)

Maker of milfoil herbicide

By Janet Marvel
Correspondent

Post Star
Dec. 1, 1990

The maker of the controversial aquatic herbicide, Sonar, announced Friday it has requested the state Department of Environmental Conservation's Bureau of Pesticides to show why it has denied its registration application to use the chemical in New York lakes. Some have advocated the use of Sonar to rid lakes such as Lake George of milfoil, a fast-growing aquatic plant.

Indiana-based Dowelanco, which manufactures herbicides and insecticides, has requested the state convene a public hearing before an administrative law judge to determine why that state has not registered Sonar. Warren County officials, state Sen. Ronald B. Stafford and the Lake George Association, an environmental watchdog agency, support the use of Sonar to

treat the milfoil, now growing in Lake George. Milfoil also grows in Lake Luzerne, and on Friday was announced that milfoil had been found in six of Brant Lake in the Warren County town of Horicon.

At Friday's meeting of the Lake George Association Committee of the Warren County Board of Supervisors, committee members bowed to a request by Mayor Arthur Beebe, executive director of the lake association, to offer sympathetic support to Dowelanco's challenge to use the chemical in New York.

"We'll support Dowelanco's public hearing 100 percent and will draft a letter" to them, said Bolton to Supervisor Frank Dagles, who chairs the lake association committee.

Beebe asked county committee members to write Dowelanco expressing concern for the milfoil growing in Lake George and in other lakes, and to state that Sonar is a solution to control milfoil growth.

Company asks for DEC hearing

Dowelanco applied in 1986 to the bureau of pesticides to allow Sonar in the state. The herbicide is approved for use by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is allowed in several states, said Dan Barber, manager of state registrations for Dowelanco.

The application included data supplied to the EPA. The state has denied the permit and requested additional data, which was supplied, Barber said.

"We've been supplying for some time. The bottom line is that over four years of providing data to the state, it hasn't not yet provided clear guidance regarding the decision to reject" the application, Barber said.

Environmental studies using Sonar in Florida and Massachusetts show that Sonar does not constitute an environmental risk when used according to label directions, Barber said.

The state Bureau of Pesticides received Dowelanco's

letter in May, responded in June and Dowelanco answered in July, said Stephanie Zarpas, spokeswoman for the DEC. The bureau is studying Dowelanco's request and will prepare an answer "shortly," Zarpas said.

Along with the LGA and Warren County, Stafford, R-Plattsburgh, introduced bills in the 1988 and 1989 sessions of the Senate to allow the use of Sonar, but the bills have died in the state Assembly.

The new push for registration of Sonar comes at a time when Warren County has stopped its measures to control the growth of milfoil in Lake George. The county has not allocated funds to control milfoil growth with mechanical procedures in 1991.

"We've studied milfoil to death and it is still getting away from us. We've spent \$240,000 and we still haven't gotten rid of it. It's time to do something different and get the use of Sonar approved," Dagles said.