

August 1999

John Cahill, Commissioner
Department of Environmental Conservation 50 Wolf Road
Albany, New York 12233

Re: Your letter of 27 July 1999

Dear John:

Thank you for your comments concerning the Milfoil Demonstration Project on Eagle Lake. Your letter arrived in time to be shared with Bo Bums, Aquatic Plant Specialist for SePro Corp., Jim Sutherland and Scott Kishbaugh at our Lake Association round table discussion on 5 August. We greatly appreciated Bo's, Jim's and Scott's input at this ELPOI meeting. Approximately 20 of our members learned a great deal about milfoil and its status in Eagle Lake. I believe this meeting resulted in a much more united ELPOI position in support of the Demonstration Project.

As you are probably aware, the ELPOI request for \$109,000 in State funding, through Senator Stafford, was not approved in this year's Budget. This certainly was disappointing to us all. My review of past correspondence indicates the DEC and others had agreed to initiate the Sonar application this year.

It is very frustrating for me and ELPOI members to know that, as your letter points out, we are only \$90,000 short of being able to complete this essential Project. Every passing day means that Eagle Lake becomes more and more a mono-culture of aquatic plant life. This also means that Eagle Lake is a "carrier" of milfoil for other New York State lakes. Surely, DEC's charter for monitoring New York State lakes includes lake preservation and restoration.

As President of ELPOI, I can assure you that the Association will continue to support DEC's efforts to obtain the necessary funds for the Demonstration Project. Our Association has pledged approximately \$22,000 of our own money and contributed many volunteer hours to assure the success in the battle against milfoil. We have recently completed 9011/o of "volunteer" septic dye testing and learned that this is not contributing to the lake's problem. Our Association will continue to work to minimize DEC costs in the Project through pre- and post- application monitoring and water testing. We will resubmit the Project budget required by the November deadline to keep the ball rolling.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding the status of DEC explorations for funding.

Sincerely,

Rolf Tiedemann, President ELPOI

Cc: Lloyd Burroughs, Vice President, ELPOI Bo Bums, SePro
Jim Sutherland, DIEC Demonstration Project Liaison