

Hi Sharon,

It was good talking to you the other day; it's nice to know that you and the Senator continue to be so supportive of the ELPOI's efforts for control of milfoil. Please accept the following as our initial request for consideration for grant funding in the 2010 budget planning. This request is for \$15,000 and would be used to cover previously unanticipated costs associated with the professional services for completion of both DEC and APA herbicide use permit applications, additional post herbicide amino assay water testing and additional pre and post herbicide plant surveys.

As mentioned in our conversation the APA continues to indicate that curtains will be required for any permit for the use of the aquatic herbicide Renovate within the Park. This position is counter to the NYS DEC position in regards to Eagle Lakes' milfoil situation. In light of this, ELPOI feels compelled to submit a permit application that demonstrates why the APA's position is lacking in scientific basis. Therefore, ELPOI has hired legal counsel to assist it with the permitting process and to ensure that it fully preserves its rights during the permit review process.

The APA indicated at the last Adirondack Lake Alliance (ALA) meeting, in November 2009, that it did not feel curtains would be required forever and that they were interested in finding a "demonstration or test lake". As part of our more comprehensive permit application to be submitted by the Towns of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, we will propose that Eagle Lake be this "demonstration or test lake". It is anticipated that if accepted as a demonstration lake that additional pre and post surveys for water chemistry as well as plant surveys that map both the native aquatic plants as well as the milfoil distribution will be required. Funding requested here would be used to cover some of these as yet to be determined specific costs.

Currently, the Eagle Lake milfoil removal project is funded by a 2007 NYS DEC Invasive Species Eradication Grant. This is a 50/50 matching grant; matching funds for this grant have been covered by the following: local Eagle Lake residents' volunteer in-kind labor, service, and equipment, as well as, direct cash donations, a 2000 Aid to Small Localities Grant, a 2007 Senate Initiative Grant, several International Paper Foundation grants and support services provided by both the towns of Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

To date four certified scuba divers have selectively placed 72,000 square feet of benthic mats, removed over 15,000 pounds of milfoil by hand picking, and have swam and checked over 17,000 feet of shore line. They have logged more than 660 hours of underwater time during the 2008 and 2009 summer seasons. To support the diver's underwater activities an additional 250 hours of topside support has been provided.

A 2003 GPS survey, conducted by surface observation, of milfoil distribution in the lake and patch size showed that Eagle Lake supported milfoil in over fifty locations that covered some 8 acres. A follow-up survey in 2009 showed that several of the original 50 patches had merged together and that many of the isolated beds had expanded by several fold in size and that several new beds had started. As a result of the 2009 follow-up survey, it is now estimated that milfoil covers 75 +/- acres of the lake bottom. A method of eradication beyond matting and hand harvesting is necessary to get this cancer-like invader under control.

Thank you for consideration of this request. Your past and ongoing support is greatly appreciated by the milfoil eradication team, the ELPOI residents and the towns of Ticonderoga and Crown Point.

Rolf Tiedemann
Milfoil Eradication
Project Coordinator