

Mr. Robert Stegemann
Regional Director: Region 5, DEC
232 Golf Course Road
Warrensburg, NY 12885

February 24, 2019

Re: Proposed DEC changes to Hammond Pond Wild Forest Unit Management Plan specific to changes to Eagle Lake (Ticonderoga, NY) boat launch and campsite/beach area.

Dear Mr. Stegemann,

I am concerned that I have not received any communication from DEC regarding proposed changes to the boat launch or beach/campsite area on Eagle Lake. The Hammond Pond Plan referenced changes to Hammond Pond trails and the Frontier Town area. Your announcement on the DEC website came at a time when lake residents are not in the area and further missed any meeting you may have had.

Your consideration of a barrier to be placed across the boat launch creates a hardship for rescue personnel ie: fire, medical and law enforcement as well as elderly and handicapped lake residents. Some of these residents have no other means of access. If in fact, the barrier is proposed as a means to control invasives, it is sure to not be entirely effective. Invasives are carried on kayaks, canoes, fishing equipment and the like. Hopefully, the boat wash station on Route 74 has been helping to clean boats prior to entry into Eagle Lake.

Additionally, lake residents and a few visitors enjoy the privacy of the campsites and small beach area. We educate our visitors and guests, practice carry-in / carry-out, keep the area litter free and the outhouses stocked. There is no need to limit the number of tent sites; the current number is sufficient.

Proposing changes in a timely manner and effectively communicating to those most affected by the changes is certainly key to a good working relationship. I am concerned that neither was done especially in regards to the boat launch area and safety hazards that the barrier will create. For 20 years, my family and I have worked hard to keep Eagle Lake pristine and enjoyable for all. Together, we can continue to practice good stewardship as has been going on for over 100 years by Eagle Lake property owners.

I am enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope with this letter. Please forward a copy of the plans for the Eagle Lake proposal at your earliest convenience. I am looking forward to working with and hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Joseph Giordano
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132 Montcalm Street
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