

May 16th, 1969.

New York State Conservation Dept.,
Water Resources Commission,
State Campus,
Albany, N. Y. 12226

Gentlemen:

I am informed that application has been made to your Department by one Harland H. Stubing for a permit to construct some 150 feet of wood cribbing in the waters of Eagle Lake, Town of Ticonderoga, Essex County, and to fill the thus created enclosure with some 1000 yards of dirt fill. I am also told that notice of this application was printed in a recent issue of the 'Ticonderoga Sentinel'.

As I understand it, the alleged purpose of this crib and fill is to fill erosion holes and to cover debris and rubbish which has been discarded into the lake at the area in question.

To identify myself, and my interest, let me say that I have been spending vacations and other times at Eagle Lake since early childhood - 1906 in fact. I have owned a cottage and some 16 acres there since 1938.

With the advent of the Thruway and the more recent Northway, members of my family spend not only vacations at Eagle Lake but many other periods from April thru October. In other words, we are not 'absentee' property owners. On the contrary, we actively participate in its use and we are most certainly seriously concerned with the welfare of the Lake and surrounding area.

It seems fair to assume that Mr. Stubing hopes that we summer residents would not learn of his application, and his good faith is immediately open to question.

I do not know Mr. Stubing, but I note that he lists a telephone at Eagle Lake, hence he must know that the great majority of property owners on Eagle Lake are summer residents, hence could almost surely be depended on not to see a legal notice printed in the 'Sentinel' during the winter.

It would have been a very simple, and far more honest approach, to have reached all concerned thru the Eagle Lake Property Owners Assn.

N.Y.State Conservation Dept.,
May 16th, 1969.

I examined the area in question when at Eagle Lake two weeks ago. I could not find any erosion holes, while the debris and rubbish to be covered consisted essentially of beer and beverage containers, food cartons, wrappers etc.

All of these could be cleaned out in a few hours work.

Covering such trash is certainly not an answer, and provides absolutely no assurance that the same thing will happen all over again at the edge of the proposed fill. *not*

Does Mr. Stubing then expect to build another crib and fill in more of the Lake - ad infinitum ?

The true fact is that this debris is created by customers of the adjoining bar-room who use the existing parking lot. Likewise, the true end purpose of the fill would be a larger parking lot, and more cars and more people would hardly reduce the trash build-up.

The owner of this facility has made no effort to control the disposition of waste by providing litter cans, or even by posting notices.

Another highly undesirable feature of this proposed fill would be that it would further reduce a fairly narrow water passage between the parking lot and an island, and would fill in shallow waters where reed growth provides spawning ground and shelter for newly hatched fish. The present parking lot, a fill made without proper authority, already encroaches on the shallow area.

It should also be considered that this parking lot is entirely for the benefit of patrons of the bar-room. It serves no need for the residents of the lake, few of whom ever patronize the facility in question.

The business it enjoys is essentially transient and unfortunately, too many such people are indifferent to the beauty and cleanliness of an area in which they have no interest. The increasing pollution and unsightliness caused by throwing waste and trash into the water is meaningless to them. The rest of us fish out drifting cans etc etc from all over the lake.

In contrast to the obvious draw-backs and increased danger of pollution and depredation which this fill would create, the project does not offer one single advantage or benefit to Eagle Lake, as such, or to its residents.

N. Y. S. Conservation Dept.,
May 16th, 1969.

While the proposed fill - i.e. parking lot - serves no vital need, the adjoining tavern falls into the same classification as comparable services are easily available but a short distance in either direction in the villages of Ticonderoga and Schroon Lake.

This application, instead, is solely for individual profit and gain. It utterly disregards the unanimous desires of the majority to whom the lake is a place of refreshing beauty and loveliness to be kept as close to its natural richness as is possible in these times.

I ask and sincerely trust that your office will refuse to grant Mr. Stubing's application.

Sincerely yours,

EAB/HS

Edwin A. Buechner