

Eagle Lake Newsletter – June 2010

1907- 2010 Celebrating 100 plus years of responsible lake stewardship

Dear Friends and Residents of Eagle Lake,

While the winter came and went without too much snow, there was still plenty of ice. The warm weather took the ice off the lake earlier than normal. Many lakes in the area set a record for the earliest ice out date. If anyone has compiled data of ice in and ice out dates we would like to hear from you.

APA Approves Permit for use of Renovate OTF

On February 11th the APA approved a permit for Lake Luzerne to apply Renovate OTF in a portion of their lake. (DEC also signed off on this permit application) It was a conditional approval that required the use of sequestering curtains. The curtain would create an 11 acre lake within a lake setting. The curtain test section for their lake is approximately 200 hundred feet long (across the channel) and less than 10 feet deep. Curtains are feasible in this situation. For additional information see the article appearing in the Post Star at http://poststar.com/news/local/article_e4bea9d4-176d-11df-9bbb-001cc4c03286.html

While this bodes well for our overall process, the issue of curtains remains a problem for us. Eagle Lake's milfoil is spread over some 15 sites totaling 70 plus acres. To treat these using curtains would require several thousand feet of curtains that drop to depths of 25 plus feet. There has been some limited talk of purchasing curtains by the Adirondack Council. If this happens, they would be available to lakes for the management of milfoil. Transported curtains would of course need to be adequately cleaned prior to a "redeployment" to prevent an unwanted introduction from the previous lake.

Lake Luzerne Treated/ Early Report

On May 17th the licensed applicator Aquatic Control Technologies (ACT) applied Renovate OTF to an 11 acre sequestered area of Lake Luzerne. ELPOI Vice President Steve Stubing was present for the application. He reports that the application was also observed by members of the APA, DEC, news media and local residents. Using an air boat the application took about 1 hour to complete. Notification signs were posted all around the lake to alert lake residents and transient lake users to the application and any lake use restrictions it imposed. The initial cost of this application was approximately \$1,300 per acre. This is significantly less than the costs associated with previous hand harvesting and

matting. The Post Star covered the event, their article is at http://poststar.com/news/local/article_4f72e46c-6204-11df-ae85-001cc4c002e0.html

An email speaking to the initial success of this treatment was received by Eagle Lake Project Coordinator Rolf Tiedemann. It is quoted here

*"Earlier this week, 3 weeks after the application, I snorkeled the **untreated** side of the sequestering curtain, through waving fields of milfoil, bright green stems and leaves, pretty little red tips almost to the surface. Not a hell-of-a-lot of bass weed – some P. Crispus. Same-old, same-old.*

Then I flopped over the curtain, and snorkeled through the south cove. The south cove is free of growing milfoil, totally free. I've never seen that part of the lake with large areas of clear water. I've never seen the many beds of bass weed without milfoil intermingled. I've never seen all kinds of natives that, even while they must have been there before, are now bright green among the rapidly decaying milfoil stems. We could have done the same thing with 1200 benthic mats, although we would have killed everything underneath them.

I really had no idea what "milfoil control" might achieve. Seeing is believing."

Happy Earth Day from Eagle Lake



Tonya Condon completed her 100th Adopt-A-Highway Program roadside clean-up! Thank You to Tonya and the many others who have kept this section of road looking good!! This year marks her tenth year. The DOT took away about 150

pounds of garbage. Please offer your assistance by joining her in the formal effort or by picking up trash in front of your own place.

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DEC Geese Management Meeting



Pat & Dave Hyde attended the DEC Geese Management meeting held in Lake George on April 8th. The meeting discussed various ways of dealing with

nuisance geese populations. We have scanned the handouts from the meeting and they are posted on our web site. (Go to <http://www.eaglelake1.org> and click on the ELPOI tab, additional information can be found on the Environmental Issues page under nuisance species) A permit from DEC to remove the geese if desired can also be obtained online. Remember that DEC recommends that you do not feed the wildlife.

Summer Meeting & Picnic

Save the date for the Annual Meeting and picnic, July 10th, 2010. Meeting will be held at the Chilson Community Center, Putts Pond Road. Business meeting to start at 10:00 AM with social picnic to start at noon.

Membership Renewal/ Application

A membership renewal reminder letter is included with this newsletter. It is not too late to join the ELPOI. There are two levels of membership. Full memberships are for property owners with land that abuts or has a right of way to the lake, Associate memberships are for anyone who does not own land on the lake but is interested in becoming involved with our cause. We value your opinions and would like to grow our membership! Please complete the attached application or go to <http://eaglelake1.org> for more information and to print an application. Your membership dues as well as any other donations made to the ELPOI are tax deductible. The officers of the ELPOI serve in a voluntary capacity and all dues collected are used for lake management issues. Thanks to everyone who has pledged support in the past.

NEAPMS Conference

Chris Hyde, Rolf and Michael Tiedemann attended the 2 day Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Conference (NEAPMS) in Saratoga

held in January. This conference brings folks interested in lake issues together from all around the east coast. This year approximately 150 people from government, academia, product manufacturers, applicator/lake managers as well as lake association members were in attendance. Topics covered a large gamut related to lake management; most pressing however is issues on invasives. Several sessions this year dealt with the prior applications of Renovate in regional lakes including last year's first time application to Cazenovia Lake. Attendance at this conference provided a wealth of useful information and allowed ELPOI members to dialog directly with those involved with planning and decision making as they relate to Eagle Lake.

Milfoil Project Update

The milfoil project team has stayed vigilant through the off season in working the issues related to obtaining a permit for the use of Renovate. These issues center around the APA's additional requirement for curtaining off a treatment area, costs and logistics associated with this, as well as several other permit requirements. As was reported in the Fall newsletter, an attorney has been hired to help with this process. The attorney has provided significant guidance and leg work for putting together a permit that is based on sound, solid and previously accepted statewide science. In doing their home work related to the use of Renovate they have accumulated a stack of supportive evidence several inches tall. (The milfoil team as well as the Attorney are closely monitoring the issues related to Lake Luzerne as reported previously.) They are hopeful that as a result of a successful application on this lake that reason and science can be brought to obtain permits for Eagle Lake in 2011. The Attorney has provided several thousand dollars of comp time towards this project, indicating that it is "an interesting topic". This said however, there are still several thousands of dollars that have been paid for their expertise. These somewhat unexpected expenses have so far been covered under the Invasives Speciecs Grant (ISG) obtained by the Town of Crown Point with assistance of ELPOI. See *Additional Funding Sought*.

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Summer of 2010 ISG milfoil work plans were originally slated to have an herbicide treatment with some follow-up hand harvesting and matting, the herbicide portion of this is not going to happen. The milfoil team is still optimistic that permits can be obtained for 2011 however, this change has necessitated other plans for 2010 to also change. The milfoil team has decided to try to reserve the maximum amount of funds for an herbicide treatment in 2011, hence removing the maximum amount of milfoil in the most cost effective and environmentally friendly manner. In order to accomplish this and complete the NYS requirement to get all of the mat material out of the water by grant completion, the dive team plan for this year is to pull up most of the mats, redeploy a select amount, wait and see what happens with Lake Luzerne and continue to work the permit issues. If individual homeowners are interested in completing a self deployment using the “stored” mats for milfoil control in front of their own places, contact Rolf Tiedemann at camptouchstone@yahoo.com. All materials used in the mats are recycleable and at the end of the project will be seperated for appropriate disposal, unless someone else is interested in their use.

The original scheduled end date for the ISG obtained by CP is November 2010. There is a prevision in the grant however to obtain a one year no cost extension. Work will take place with CP to exercise this option.

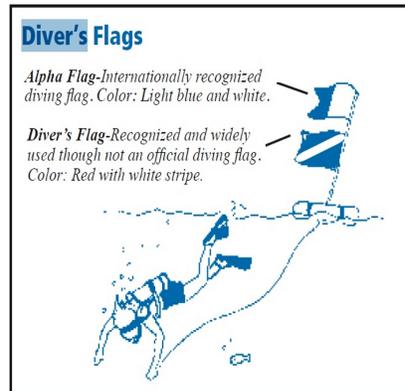
An interesting observation was made this February while looking through the almost crystal clear ice over one of the milfoil patches, strands of the milfoil could be seen locked in the almost one foot thick ice. It was very clear from this that the milfoil does not die back in the fall/winter as most native vegetation does. This gives it the jump on growing as soon as the ice is out in spring.

Boating and Diver Safety

The past 2 years of diving have seen a couple of instances where curious boaters have come over to see what all the equipment and activity is about around the pontoon work boat. They have had to be reminded that divers are working in the area and that boat traffic is not welcome for safety reasons. The NYS Boater Guide posts the following

information related to divers and boaters. Please give the divers and the above water dive tender the space they need so that everyone can stay safe.

“All motorboat operators should be aware of the two flags



which indicate the presence of divers in the water. The official flag, Alpha, is the internationally recognized indicator for all dive operations. Any vessel displaying the Alpha flag is to be considered restricted in its ability to maneuver and should be afforded the right

of way. The other flag, “diver down”, which is prescribed by the state, is a red flag with a white diagonal stripe. The prudent mariner should afford the same privileges to vessels displaying this flag as would be afforded a vessel displaying Alpha.

Under no circumstances should a vessel approach within 100 feet of any craft or object displaying either flag.”

Both flags are flown on the work boat.

ELPOI Members meet with newly Elected Town Supervisors

As reported in the last newsletter two new Town Supervisors, Debra Malaney, Ticonderoga and Bethany Kosmider, Crown Point were elected to represent and guide our towns. Steve Stubing along with Rolf and Dianne Tiedemann spent several hours with each of them in February. First welcoming them to their new positions and second spending considerable time getting them up to speed on what the milfoil issue was, what each town had offered in the past and the direction that was being sought to move forward. Both Supervisors expressed great interest and had already had some idea of what the situation was. Both thanked us for undertaking this important project and offered their assistance. If you have an opportunity, stop in to see either of these folks and introduce yourself.

Additional Funding Sought

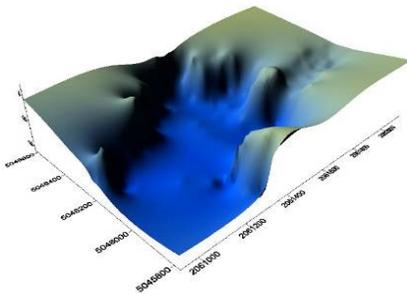
A letter of application was sent to Senator Little's office requesting consideration for funding in the NYS 2010 budget. Request for funding was to cover the unanticipated attorney costs and the cost associated with dealing with the APA and their

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interest in having curtains used for herbicide treatments. As of this writing the State is still without a budget and it does not appear that any funding will be available for this year. Discussion has however been started indicating that the real need for the funds would be in 2011 were an herbicide application to take place. In the mean time the Senator continues to monitor progress on this project through her Legislative Aid, Sharon Henderson. Thank you Senator Little for all your interest in this issue.

Benthic mapping started



As part of the herbicide use permit application, the DEC and APA need accurate depth measurement profiles of the water at the milfoil sites. Comparing

the currently available bathymetric maps of Eagle Lake with diver swim over profiles, there are significant differences at some locations. As part of a Fall course that diver Amy was completing using GPS data gathering and mapping, she undertook a revision of mapping for the depth of Eagle Lake. Pictured above is a 3D plot of Ti Bay and some of the area leading into it. Amy hopes to continue gathering additional data this summer so that the map can be expanded.

Around The Lake

Forest Fire



On the Sunday of Memorial day weekend, smoke was seen all around the lake. After calling the Fire Department we were told that there were two

causes for the smoke. First there were several forest fires in southern Quebec. The smoke was drifting down over a large portion of the Adirondacks. Second there was also a small forest fire about one half mile west of the causeway. From

Rt. 74 the fire damage was not visible but it can be seen from the lake. Thanks to the Fire Fighters for their prompt and professional response to this emergency



We would like to remind everyone to be careful when having a fire and to review open burning laws as they

have change significantly in the past year. Please see the DEC website for more information. <http://www.dec.ny.gov/> Or contact the respective Town Clerk.

New Posters for Boat Launch and Beach Sign Board

Several new posters for the boat launch and beach areas have been obtained. These posters were provided by the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program and by Allied Biological, at no cost to us.

Safe Boating

Included with this newsletter is a shortened copy of the NYS safe boating rules & regulations as they might apply to Eagle Lake. This stems from a continuation of the issues talked about at the annual meeting last year. Please post this at your property and review it with any new guests that visit this summer.

If you or any of your guests use your/ their boats in other lakes please be sure the trailers are free of milfoil, livewell(s) and bilge are rinsed and dried and the bottom of the boat has been washed. Engines can also hold lake water and should be flushed for ten minutes. This procedure should be used anytime a boat is taken from one lake to another. The largest vector for the spread for aquatic invasives is by boat transport. Many of the invertebrate invaders can live for several days or more in the smallest amounts of trapped water that is transported when boats are moved. If you need additional assistance about how to correctly accomplish any of the above tasks and/ or how to apply them to your boat please ask a Board Member.

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Beavers and Lake Level

The beavers are not posing a problem at this time. The overall lake level is slightly low for this time of year. Winter snow melt was minimal. It is slowly filling back up to normal seasonal levels. Thanks again to Paul Burroughs and the rest of his crew for their efforts in maintaining the delicate balance between snow melt, rain fall, hot dry days /weeks, beaver dams and lake uses interest in a “perfect lake level”. Remember lake level is dynamic and that ranges of +/- 2 inches are normal and often greater swings are possible. Please offer to help Paul with the placement/ removal of boards at the spillway and removal of any beaver debris that should accumulate there.

Sightings of Interest:



As many of you may know the Champlain Bridge was deemed unsafe last fall and was demolished in late December 2009. The final bridge design has been selected and is

shown in the photo above. As a result of no longer having a bridge, the State has offered a free ferry from Crown Point to Chimney Point. Click here to see the ferry schedule: <http://www.ferries.com/>

Official ground breaking for the bridge was June 11th and the new bridge is scheduled to be completed in late 2011.

ELPOI's New Web Site Launched!

Check out the “new” ELPOI web pages. After more than a year of data collection, old record scanning and coding ELPOI webmaster Michael Tiedemann with assistance of Rolf Tiedemann took the wraps off a completely updated web page. There are hundreds of pieces of information that relate to Eagle Lakes management, specific information is available about milfoil and herbicide issue as well as current events, local happenings, maps of the lake for various information, photos of past events, historic ELPOI meeting records, newsletter archives and much more. A copy of this newsletter in full color, the boating safety information and more will also be posted there.

A stat counter has been built into the ELPOI page and is reporting 150 or so hits ever month. These have come from all around the world, with a surprisingly large number from Europe and beyond. Thanks to ELPOI member Carlos Alden for his continued offer to pay for the hosting of this page. If you know of current events/ happenings or have historical pictures or records that would be appropriate for posting please contact Michael at theatertech87@yahoo.com

History Corner from the Web Page

Listed here is an interesting link pulled from the Eagle Lake web page. It relates to a letter from former long time ELPOI member Carolyn Harris written in 1901. There was some controversy over the naming of the lake. It seems that it took a battle of words to settle on the current name. Other suggestions were Chilson Lake and Long Pond. See the letter for all the details.

http://eaglelake1.org/archives/documents/naming_of_eagle_lake.pdf

Email List/ Communications

Do we have your email address? We would like to keep you informed in a timely fashion and email is a great way to do that.

Would you rather receive this newsletter by email? Please email Chris Hyde at Cdhyde@nycap.rr.com to get on the list.

Look what's coming in the Next Issue

*Lake Luzerne – Treatment results
Eagle Lake Fish stocking results*

Thank you for taking the time to read this information and keeping up to date on the news around the lake.

Written on behalf of the ELPOI Board by, Chris Hyde.

Supporting information and milfoil project information written by, Rolf Tiedemann.