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Shore owners not treated as partners

Sawyer County Record

Wednesday, May 23rd, 2007 09:45:18 AM

Editor:

I am in support of the recent letter Mic Isham sent to the Sawyer County Record.



It is my opinion that Ms. Riedmann, Sawyer County Board Representative of District 7, has not only not listened to the LCO Tribe, but she has also not listened to the Round Lake property owners. Last fall the Round Lake owners asked the county to have SEH determine the normal and maximum lake elevations. There is a new 100 year proposed flood level from SEH, but there are not recommendations for what a new regulating order should be or what is the normal Round Lake level considering all factors concerning ecology, property values and access, etc.

I support the Tribe's position of not removing beaver dams upstream of Highway NN because the SEH engineering study of March 2007 says that with boards in the Carlson Dam at 1345.0 feet the dam is "the hydraulic control for all flows" and "no other controls in the system impacts the Round and Little Round elevations." The current legal Round Lake elevation is 1344.75 feet to 1345 feet and this is actually below what the lake has been for the last 25 years on the average. Thus these beaver dams upstream of NN have no effect if the Round Lake elevation is managed to the high point

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of the 1941 PSC order or to what Round Lake has been over the last 25 years on the average.

The beaver dams upstream of NN should not be removed as they provide additional low water protection for Osprey Lake and Round Lake in addition to other benefits.

Mic Isham is right that the county did not study all of the options because the "natural" southeast drainage channel from Little Round Lake was not adequately evaluated by the SEH study. If the county has their way and the Carlson Dam is abandoned, what will happen to the Round Lake system is not known.

It is my opinion that Ms. Riedmann has not been responsive to the LCO Tribe or the Round Lake property owners and that the whole Round Lake Task Force has been poorly managed in a biased matter. The engineering work that has been done is OK but incomplete because of poor county management.

The LCO Tribe and Round Lake owners have not been true partners in this long process.

Alan J. Reinemann

Round Lake

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Sawyer County Record
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