



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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December 11, 2006

Work Group Members

Subject: Draft compromise

Dear Committee Members:

Thank you for attending the committee meeting on November 27, 2006. At that meeting I was directed to summarize a compromise that would allow committee members to resolve their differences so we could move forward with an operating proposal. This proposal would be reviewed by committee members (including DNR) and within 30 days respond back to the department indicating their acceptance or objection to the proposed compromise. We will provide a summary of those positions (including the DNR's) back to all of the committee members.

Although a number of issues were discussed, the major concerns with the current draft operating proposal were:

1. The chain summer operating range of 7'.6" -8'.6".
2. Revisiting the possibility of a reduced winter draw down to provide more storage to help augment flows in the spring and to increase the likelihood that the chain would be filled by July 1st.

In the spirit of moving forward I have drafted the following compromise based on ideas generated by committee members at the November 27th meeting.

1. Maintain a summer operating range between 8'.0-8'.6". The minimum flow of 50 cfs will be maintained until the chain elevation of 8'.0 is reached. At that time the natural inflow would be passed.
2. Reduce the winter drawdown by 6 inches (from 3'.6" to 3'.0). This will provide some winter storage.
3. During spring runoff capture an addition 12 inches of water prior to ice out. This along with number 2 above will provide a total of 18 inches of storage to help augment spring flows and fill the flowage for summer recreation.
4. Target down stream flows of 75-150 cfs during the Lake Sturgeon spring spawning period (~May 1 through June 8) provided there are sufficient flows.

I have incorporated these changes into a new draft proposal (attached). Committee members thought it was important to monitor the results of these changes (provided an agreement can be reached). I agree with this, but I also feel strongly that an adaptive management strategy should be considered. This allows us to determine what is working and what isn't and allows us to address issues from both points of view.

Again, thank you all for sharing your views at our meeting on November 27 and I await your response.

Sincerely

Jim Kreitlow
Project Coordinator

This letter was sent to:

Tom Jerow, DNR

Bob Martini, DNR

John Gozdziwski, DNR

Scott Hassett, DNR

Todd Ambs, DNR

Jeff Roth, DNR

Steve Gilbert, DNR

Stephanie Von Holdt, MW Chamber of Commerce

Judi Schmidt Arnold, MW Alliance

Harland Klagos, MW Alliance

Rob Olson, Xcel Energy

John Hanson, Town of Manitowish Waters

Jack King, MW Lakes Association

Mary Sinkus, MW Lakes Association

Les Jacobson, Friends of the Manitowish River

Helen Townsend, Friends of the Manitowish River

John Bates, Friends of the Manitowish River

Greg Holt, Friends of the Manitowish River

Tom Mowbray, Turtle Flambeau Flowage/Trude Lake Property Owners Association

Mary Ann Brown, Turtle Flambeau Flowage/Trude Lake Property Owners Association

Jim Leever, Turtle Flambeau Flowage/Trude Lake Property Owners Association

Mike Fitzpatrick, Brennan Steil Law Firm

Michelle Wheeler, GLIFWC

Peter David, GLIFWC

Carl Edwards, Lac du Flambeau Tribal Government

Debbie Munson, Lakeland times

Senator Roger Breske

Representative Dan Meyer

Jim Holperin, Wisconsin Department of Tourism

Representative Joe Parisi