

***City of Tumwater***  
***Barnes Lake Management District***  
***Steering Committee Meeting Minutes***

May 7, 2008  
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**Tumwater City Hall**  
**555 Israel Road SW**  
**Tumwater, WA 98501**

**I. Call to order**

Chair Peterson called to order the regular meeting of the Barnes Lake Steering Committee (BLMD-SC) at 6:00 p.m. on May 7, 2008 at the Tumwater City Hall.

**II. Roll call**

The following members were present: Chair Kathy Peterson, Bill Baxter, Gary Bodeutsch, Bob Hayes, Judith Loft, John Swander, Rosemary Walsh and Staff Representative Smith. Vice-Chair Ron Lumaguip was excused. LMD Member Dana Day and NWA Doug Dorling were also in attendance.

**III. Additions to the Meeting Agenda:** None

**IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

BLMD-SC accepted the April 2008 meeting minutes as written.

**V. Open Issues**

**a) NWA Treatment Options and Upcoming Activities**

Doug Dorling, Northwest Aquatic Ecosystems (NWA), provided an update on the treatment options for 2008, treatment methodologies, considerations for water quality monitoring and treatments for emergent vegetation such as bladderwort.

Dorling stated that the weed growth this year is lagging due to weather conditions. It's been an unusually wet and cool spring and the water temperatures remain low, forcing the plants to mature later in the season. NWA is scheduled to begin the initial survey within two weeks. Dorling stated that the good news is that water levels in the lake are still high, but expects the peak has been reached and they will start to decline. Dorling feels that the Daisy Lane area of the lake is still going to great problems to the very shallow nature in that area. Smith stated that he had difficulty navigating the area in March (during work for the Golder assessment) in a row boat, but the high water did allow for some movement.

Dorling reviewed the issue of floating islands. His preliminary assessment is that the islands appear to be still attached to the bottom and are, in essence, a flocculent mass akin to fine peat moss. He stated that NWA is unable to determine at this point if they are associated with the 2007 treatments, as many of the islands identified are not

in areas that were treated. He feels that there may be some other mechanism involved. Regardless, NWA will consider options for removal.

A question was posed regarding the timeline for removal of the islands – should it happen now or later in the season. Dorling recommended waiting until later in the season to see what develops during this year's treatment cycle. NWA prefers to begin removal processes in the winter, when water levels are at their highest. Dorling will attempt to launch the airboat within the next two weeks to begin the survey and initial vegetation treatment. The airboat also has a high-pressure water hose that he can try to break up the floating islands. He acknowledged that while that work is being tested, the water will be turbid, but the turbidity should settle in time.

Dorling's recent visual survey reflects that the channels treated in 2007 are still visible, suggesting the treatments were successful. In 2008, Dorling will continue treating the vegetation in the same manner, but expanding the areas. He stated that NWA will continue to approach treatments in a conservative manner, and that treating a large section of the lake is still not practical.

The first treatments in 2008 will take place as soon as a majority of the lily pads are present on the surface, possible the first week or so of June. NWA will attempt to launch the airboat at Dana Day's residence. If the boat can be launched successfully, there is a chance that NWA will be able to access the Daisy Lane area of the lake. Treatments in 2008 will be spaced approximately 3-4 weeks apart. Dorling anticipates three treatments in 2008, and also expects that there will be regrowth in the previously treated areas.

Dorling reported that he has revised the survey protocols after discussion with Ecology on how to proceed. This year, they will use a statistical method commonly used in ecological applications. NWA will randomly survey a 1-meter transect at varied locations around the lake and statistically compile the data to get an idea of plant populations and densities.

Dorling reported on the emergent bladderwort, stating that it is not uncommon for this plant to populate areas treated for lily pads. Bladderwort was present in the lake prior, but now has more area to vegetate. All bladderworts (native and non-native) are susceptible to chemical treatment. Flouridone is recommended treatment option, applied into the water column and it will drift throughout the lake. Use of this chemical will increase the risk of floating mats. Dorling recommends waiting until next year so that it can be applied during the first few weeks of June. Flouridone takes up to 10 weeks to be effective and is rated the safest of the chemicals that can be used directly in the water column. There are no wildlife concerns with its use, although restrictions would be applied to use of the water for irrigation. Flouridone costs approximately \$1,800 per gallon. The initial treatment would use approximately 2 gallons, with follow-up applications in the  $\frac{3}{4}$  - 1 gallon range. There would be approximately 3 applications during the season.

Dorling reported that they would/could provide water quality monitoring during the use of flouridone. NWA would ensure that the appropriate concentrations are maintained to be effective, stating that if concentrations are not maintained throughout the season, the plants would recover. The half-life of flouridone is 21 days, yet would remain active in the sediments for up to one year. Baxter questioned

how the treatments would impact upland vegetation along the shoreline. Dorling stated that shoreline grasses may turn white and iris plants may turn white around the stems temporarily, however they should recover.

Dorling addressed restrictions on using lake water for irrigation. There are water rights associated with properties around the lake; however it is not known whether they are actively being put to beneficial use. After flouridone is applied to the water, no irrigation is permitted for at least 30 days. As soon as concentrations drop below 10 parts per million, it would be ok to use the water for irrigation. Dorling recommended the use of slow-grow fertilizers during the period of non-use.

Responding to a question regarding NWAs ability to provide lake water quality monitoring services, Dorling stated that they can provide most any service relating to lakes. NWA can provide an assessment similar to that which was completed by Thurston County at the onset of the LMD.

The Steering Committee thanked Doug for his time and look forward to continuing to work with him and NWA this year.

**b) Lake Level Gauge Installation Update**

Staff Rep Smith reported that all the necessary survey information has been gathered and the actual gauge itself is on order. LMD Member Baxter has permitted use of his dock for the installation site. The gauge will be installed at the farthest point along the dock, facing west. Smith will install the gauge when it arrives.

**c) Review Outreach Letter**

The Committee reviewed the outreach letter prepared by Chair Peterson. The letter was accepted as is and directed Staff Rep Smith to distribute once confirmation was made on the accessibility of the Final Parks Plan. Chair Peterson stated that the plan available on the website remains as the draft version, dated 12-13-07, and that the final plan should have certain references to active recreation removed per her discussion with Parks Director Denney. Smith stated he would follow up with Director Denney. The Steering Committee requested that the outreach letter be sent to both owner and tenant.

**d) Budget and Assessment Update**

Smith reported that \$14,876.00 has been received to date from the collection of LMD assessments. There are currently 18 parcels outstanding for 2008, seven of which continue to owe for two or more years. The total amount outstanding for 2008 equals \$2,429.00. Three of the seven properties have had liens filed; the remaining four parcels that owe for the last two years may have a similar action taken toward the end of the year.

Recent expenses include purchase of the lake gauge in the amount of \$83.50. The \$2,000 committed by the LMD to the Golder Lake Assessment project is still in reserve, as an invoice from Golder Associates has not yet been received. The available balance of LMD funds as of May 7 is \$37,553.

**VI. New Issues**

**a) Living With Raccoons**

Smith reported that a question came up via email discussion over the last month relating to potential controls on what appears to be a growing raccoon population. Discussion on interactions with raccoons continued; Smith confirmed that a raccoon was identified on the large island north of WSDOT property, suggesting that they are swimming to the islands in search of food and habitat. Smith stated that the lake exists in a natural setting and that wildlife of all sorts is attracted to it for its habitat value. All wildlife is protected by WDFW to some various degrees, and raccoons may not be removed unless they become a threat to people, pets or livestock.

Smith provided copies of a WDFW handout, "Living With Raccoons". This pamphlet outlines methods to protect the properties, people, and raccoons and limit interactions. If a raccoon becomes abnormally aggressive and exhibits sustained aggression towards people and pets, WDFW may permit removal of the dangerous raccoon. Smith stated that WDFW can provide contact information for local trappers permitted by WDFW to conduct such work.

**b) Steering Committee Absenteeism**

The Steering Committee discussed how to address absenteeism among steering committee members. A motion was made and approved that if a steering committee member ceases communication and misses three consecutive meetings without acknowledging their status, they will be considered voluntarily resigned.

**VII. Adjourn**

Chair Peterson adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. The next steering committee meeting will be held on June 11, 2008, at the Tumwater City Hall.

Minutes submitted by: Dan Smith, Staff Representative

Minutes approved by: Barnes Lake Management District Steering Committee