

Minutes
Friends of Show Low Creek Watershed and Rainbow Lake Coalition Special Meeting
Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall
1:00 PM, Wednesday, 22 June 2011

The meeting as called to order at 1:02 PM. There were 18 people present. Ian Cormican with AquaTechnex was contacted by speaker phone.

The primary objective of this meeting was to move forward with the spot treatment of Rainbow Lake of missed areas of Eurasian Milfoil *and* simultaneously eradicate (reduce) the coontail which remains in the lake. Likewise, Ethan Ellsworth from the Show Low Irrigation Company (sic) was present to ensure that full coordination and disclosure was made.

The minutes will consist primarily of decision points and information.

Schedule for Treatment:

1. Ian will arrive in the area on Friday, 8 July.
2. Treatment should be complete by late afternoon Saturday, 9 July.

Herbicide:

1. The herbicide to be used in the treatment is Solera[®] - a formulation of Diquat Dibromide - a contact herbicide (see product label, distributed)
2. This herbicide will kill both Eurasian Milfoil and coontail with uptake in 45-90 minutes.
3. The herbicide will *not* be used in a systemic manner as was done last year with the Sonar[®].
4. The herbicide kills the plants within 45-90 minutes and generally dissipates with 48 hours.
5. The coontail dies and drops to the bottom of the lake.

Irrigation:

1. Generally, irrigation water should not be used for 48 hours after the final treatment.
2. With proper planning (a major purpose of the meeting), Ethan Ellsworth indicates that notice can be given and irrigation water *not* released for 5-6 days.
3. For complete security, irrigation water will not be released for an additional 24 hours after the initial 48 hour period (48+24 = 72) or late Tuesday afternoon, July 12.
4. Much of this dissipation depends on the weather conditions and other factors beyond the control of AquaTechnex.
5. There are two greenhouse irrigation customers. There should be no effect on their plants.

Public Issues:

1. The product label indicates *no* issues with fish kill or swimming; however, for safety's sake, it was decided to ask Game and Fish to post the Public Dock Saturday, 9 July during treatment.
2. Doris Morin will contact the Bass Club and advise of the treatment.

Draft Minutes and Decisions, Rainbow Lake Treatment, Friends of Show Low Creek Watershed and Rainbow Lake Coalition Meeting, Wednesday, 22 June 2011, Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall, 1:00 PM.

3. David Newlin will contact Mike Lopez with AZGF and advise of the treatment.
4. Dave Roberts, Editor of the *White Mountain Independent*, was at the meeting and will try to get an article out in an early edition of the paper.
5. There is a heavy growth of algae in the lake in the past week. The herbicide will reduce oxygen levels in the lake but this should not have a significant impact on fish nor existing plants.

Process:

1. Ian will have his own boat and equipment. No assistance is needed.
2. Curious onlookers should be advised in advance to give way and not impede treatment (this is not anticipated).

Anticipated kill:

1. The kill rate is expected to be approximately 80%, however...
2. ...this can be expected for only 12-20 weeks and...
3. ...the lake will have to be treated next year and annual for coontail; however...
4. Under the right circumstances (future efforts), milfoil and coontail can be treated early in the season simultaneously. NOTE: The previous milfoil reduction is expected to last 2-3 years.
5. Much of the kill rate depends on the weather conditions and other factors beyond the control of AquaTechnex.

Contract:

1. To be developed ASAP between the Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D and AquaTechnex and reviewed by attorneys involved and other committee members.
2. Basis for sample contract is June 2011 template submitted by AquaTechnex.

Area to be covered and cost:

1. The colored map included with the technical data will be the general base for treatment.
2. The area covered in this map is approximately 57 acres.
3. The contract will call for 60 acres of treatment.
4. The price per acres will be \$200.
5. Issues which may affect treatment area include:
 - a. Low water levels – stirring of sediment and muck negatively affects the herbicide. Areas which are very low may not be able to be accessed by boat; however, the spray from the boat, both off the side and to the rear, may cover many of these areas.
 - b. There is a great need to kill the coontail near and around the Shores dock (shown as lower red arm area in the map) because the pump in that area is in danger of clogging.
 - c. Spread of the coontail towards the middle of the lake since the survey was taken on 7 June.

Liability:

1. As last year, Attorneys must clarify the liability issues.

2. The AquaTechnex contract needs to be reviewed by the Irrigation firm legal counsel.
3. The contract is between the Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D and AquaTechnex; however the beneficiaries of the treatment are clearly spelled out in the June 2011 draft contract.

The motion was made to contract with the RC&D and AquaTechnex to treat Rainbow Lake for coontail with the herbicide indicated at a cost of \$200 per acre not to exceed 60 acres.

The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted;

David M. Newlin
Co-Chair/Acting Secretary