

12.14.17

Chairman Nixon and CPC committee members,

Greetings,

As you deliberate on Hinckley's pond please consider the following. Only my family reunion has kept me from attending this important meeting.

In the town's presentation to have CPC fund the Hinckley's pond alum treatment they mentioned the urgency factor of a fish kill. I called the State's Department where fish kills are reported. The fish kill in Hinckley's was a brown bull nose, or basically a catfish. The kill was caused by a naturally occurring disease. I asked specifically if it could be because of pollution or degraded pond he repeated that it was a naturally occurring disease process.

Please consider these additional thoughts.

The old study of Hinckley's pond is now about 6 years old. That study mentioned these issues as leading to the Pond's degradation.

1. Cranberry bogs nearby. This entails fertilizer and pesticide runoff with manipulation of the water flow that can cause degradation of water quality.

2. The closeness of the septic systems to the pond, and the question of their maintenance leading to degradation of water quality.

3. The concern regarding the path of the herring. Currently herring must go through a culvert under the road to get to Hinckley's. The Herring are a vital source to the health of the ponds and the flow of the water and the dimensions of the culvert can be a hindrance. (NOAA fisheries has funded such projects)

None of these top 3 critical issues have been addressed. Those issues will continue to erode pond health even if there is an alum treatment.

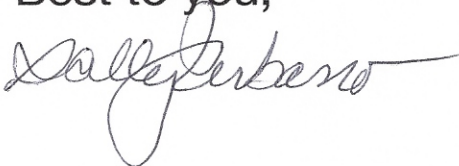
I cannot find a recent study on Long Pond after its alum treatment. However a month after treatment the parameters rose to near pre-treatment levels which was a surprise to them. I would like to have seen the results of a later follow up study as an indicator for further use of alum treatments.

I would advocate that if we spend the money from CPC to fix Hinckley's Pond, then the Alum treatment should not be the only treatment considered. Alum needs to be repeated and the length of time between is often short. It's a band-aid not unlike maintenance vs. Preservation.. CDM Smith while able to do Alum treatments does not apparently do a reclamation process. There are several local businesses that are EPA approved to do reclamation but the one I know of is Ocean Ark's International out of Wood's hole.

<http://www.oceanarksint.org>

Why not invest in preservation/restoration of Hinckley's pond and not just a maintenance treatment with alum?

Best to you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sally Furber".