

SPOONER LAKE DRAWDOWN

On August 19, 2019, the Spooner Lake 3-foot drawdown was approved by the Washburn County Highway and Dam Committee. As you know, the Spooner Lake District (SLD) is pursuing a drawdown to kill and remove shoreline nuisance plants and help property owners maintain access to individual access corridors to lake residences. Vegetation grows thick and forms mats limiting or preventing shoreline boating and swimming.

The drawdown will begin no later than September 3, 2019. The 3-foot drawdown should be reached by no later than October 1, 2019. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has stated this timeline is necessary to minimize or eliminate the impacts to the affected wildlife, which would be able to move to another place during the winter season.

Property owners should remove their boat, lift, and dock from Spooner Lake by September 3, 2019, and remind their neighbors. Property owners will be able to manually remove nuisance plants and weeds from the dock and shoreline in an area that is 30 feet or less in width and is not within a designated sensitive area. In a sensitive area, the opening is limited to 25 feet. The Curly Leaf Pondweed may be manually removed beyond 30 feet.

The lake refill process would start when the ice begins to melt away from the shoreline as well as when limbs and stumps protrude through the ice. The water level would be returned to normal pool elevations by May 1, 2020, at the latest, prior to the fishing opener. While a drawdown process is an inconvenience for property owners, this is a short-term problem for a longer-term gain.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 715-939-1127 or mabiplisky@gmail.com.

Michael A. Plisky, Chairman
Spooner Lake District