



Secord Lake Restoration Update – Nov 11, 2022

The Four Lakes Task Force (FLTF) received the EGLE permit (issued on November 2, 2022) for the Secord Dam project. This means that final construction to restore the dam can take place. Bidding for final construction will be completed this year. FLTF will continue to work with EGLE throughout the construction process to ensure the project is completed per the permit requirements.

The purpose of this update is to share a high-level view of the next steps.

Recall, the past 2 years we shared to obtain required construction permits, 3 things need to be in place.

- 1) 100% Engineering with detailed construction and regulatory plans, **and**
- 2) Funding for construction, **and**
- 3) A flow of funding in place for long-term operations, repairs, and maintenance.

The required special assessment for operations, repairs and maintenance will appear on the December 2022 tax bill for properties in the special assessment district. This special assessment allows the restoration efforts for all 4 lakes to move forward.

Over the past months, the FLTF proactively prequalified firms for the Secord project. With the Permit approved, the bidding process has begun. As this is a public contract, the normal process of government public bids will be followed. The FLTF plan is to award the Secord project in January 2023.

To obtain the regulatory agreement to fill Secord, at a high-level 3 things need to be completed:

- 1) The length of the Secord Dam earthen embankment needs to be strengthened, and
- 2) An appropriate auxiliary spillway needs to be constructed, and
- 3) The gates need to be upgraded.

The FLTF obtained agreement from EGLE for “pull ahead” projects at Secord. The installation of the rock and steel sheet piling is underway. Once completed, the rock and sheet piling will strengthen the embankment. These steel pieces are 65 feet in length and are being installed by construction engineers into the glacial till below the surface.



At this point, barring raw material or other unforeseen issues, the FLTF and their Engineers project the Secord Dam reconstruction improvements will be completed by Spring 2024.

Due to the number of boat lifts; portable piers and other property that could be damaged by ice, the plan is to allow Mother Nature to fill Secord Lake with the Spring thaws / rains in 2024. This assumes the filling of the lake will meet the required Minimum Flow Requirements.

Secord is on schedule to be returned in 2024 – The Secord Lake Association is beginning to focus on what is needed over the coming months to prepare Secord to return. There is planning work underway on weed / tree control and removal. **We seek volunteers to help prepare the lake for its return.** You can learn more at [Secord Lake | Secord Lake Association | Restoring Secord](#)