

KEY TAKE AWAYS FROM July 15th SLA UPDATE PRESENTATION

As of July 13th, the FLTF indicates Second Dam is on schedule to be completed in late 2024; with a construction or permit uncertainty into first quarter (Jan – Feb – March) of 2025.

Engineers indicate Second Lake will fill in 4 – 11 days within the March to May timeframe. (See Table 1 below).

FLTF is working with EGLE to secure a permit to leverage the auxiliary spillway to allow work on both primary spillways / gates. If approved, this may increase lake level modestly. (See Comments in Section 2 below)

As a contingency to Retake Our Lake, we are creating a sense of urgency to complete work prior to a potential modest rise in water levels in summer 2024. Section 3 below contains the Action Plan to address the Retake Our Lake challenges. To learn more about what property owners can do to help prepare Second Lake to receive water https://www.secordlakeassociation.org/files/ugd/cd86dd_192eb9e8bdcd46659ff5397c3ad16371.pdf

We need your help to spread the word to your neighbors and friends. The SLA plans to conduct a direct mail to property owners to explain the sense of urgency to clear nuisance trees and will conduct additional town hall style meetings to help inform property owners.

Table 1

Estimated Lake Refill Times with 50 Percent Flow Exceedance

Lake	Minimum Days at Median Flows (50% exceedance)	Maximum Days at Median Flows (50% exceedance)	Total Days if Refill Starts Between March and May	Total Days if Refill Starts Between June and October*
Secord	4	27	4 to 11	17 to 27
Smallwood	6	16	6 to 9	9 to 16
Wixom	10	58	10 to 15	29 to 58
Sanford	13	67	13 to 16	31 to 67

*Winter months (October through February) are excluded due to the expectation that environmental concerns will not allow changes in water levels during this period due to concerns related to aquatic life.

Section 2

Situation:

The Secord Lake Association continues to execute a campaign called Retake Our Lake to address nuisance trees and weeds to prepare Secord to safely return to legal lake level when the dam construction is complete. You can learn more about the plan at [Restoring Secord - Weed & Tree Control | Secord Lake Assoc. \(secordlakeassociation.org\)](https://www.secordlakeassociation.org)

Today it's July 2023, as a **contingency** we need to plan for potential modest increased water levels in summer 2024. The FLTF shared they are working with EGLE to seek permits to support a plan for increased water levels in 2024 after Fisher completes the Auxiliary Spillway. It may be used for diverting flows away from the primary spillways as Fisher uses coffer dams to complete the Primary Spillway and Gate project. The FLTF indicates the increased water level at the dam may be around 1 foot.


While we do not know today **IF** the water level will rise, **we believe we need to plan now as if it will**. A modest increase of 1 foot will make an impact on lakebed accessibility. **If some of our Retake The Lake projects are not complete in 2023, and water rises modestly in the March to June 2024 timeframe, we may not be able to access some of the identified areas.** We understand should the water rise a foot as the work is completed, the lake level will remain until construction is complete and EGLE provides the permit to fill Secord to legal lake level.

FLTF Engineers indicate depending on the slope of the lakebed, a modest 1-foot rise in water at the dam would raise the water level about 4 feet closer to shore in some lower or gradually sloped shoreline areas.

One may ask how a modest 1-foot increase may impact the lake? The FLTF advises the increase will be most notable closest to the dam and will be diluted as one moves upstream. The FLTF indicates the increase won't likely expand recreation use too much.

This contingency provides a sense of urgency to complete individual property owner clearing and SLA projects in calendar 2023 or assuming safe ice for some projects over the 2023-24 winter months.

Section 3



Awareness → Sense of Urgency

- Social Media Posts
- Townhall Meetings - - Townships and Lost Arrow
- SLA MEMBER Lake Improvements PERMIT Grant Program
- Neighbor Helping Neighbor
- Neighbor **Telling** Neighbor
- Direct Mail to all Lake Properties
- Property Owner Sense of Urgency

SLA Sponsored Projects

- **Completion by end of 2023**
 - 3 Sand Bars → Stubble & Debris Removal
 - West River Drive → Secord Township Contracted
 - Other?
- Reimburse Captains for Supplies / Materials / Rentals
- Oak Ridge project completed winter 2023-24

"I know a lot has been done but I worry that time is running out faster than we realize and there is still much to be done with a lot of folks still believing or expecting that "someone else" is going to take care of it".

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