



12 Leach Hollow Road, Sherman, CT 06784
203-885-2318 | www.newenglandaquatic.com

September 6, 2024

Subject: 198 Between the Lakes Road Existing Conditions Report

The following report has been prepared in response to the Cease and Correct Order dated August 1, 2024.

A summary of the activity which has taken place was provided to me by the homeowner. This activity to my understanding was the mechanical removal of Phragmites from approximately 135 feet of the shoreline to the north of the existing dock. The map below shows the estimated work area however this image is 7 years old and an updated photograph of the growth from earlier this year provided by the homeowner shows it extending within the areas outlined. This material was removed from the water and where it had encroached onto the beach and was disposed of at a location off site.

The current existing conditions are stable along the shoreline. This shoreline is an existing sandy beach which would have been disturbed while the work was taking place however no evidence of any significant erosion is present. There is some regrowth of Phragmites which can be seen in the photographs below. There is also an existing pile of sand approximately 25' from the edge of the water however there does not appear to be any evidence of this material eroding due to weather events at this time.



Current Shoreline Condition



Shoreline with Phragmite regrowth



Sand Pile



It is my opinion that there is no remedy for the Phragmites removal. Phragmites are an invasive species so any replanting would be harmful to the lake. The current regrowth is minimal but they will likely grow back as thickly as they had been before if left unchecked. My recommendation to the homeowner would be to institute a maintenance program to regularly hand remove any regrowth before it can expand, however this is not an action I deem as required to ensure the stability of the shoreline. I do recommend the removal of the pile of sand. It is my understanding that the goal was to spread the sand on the existing beach. This type of sand is not the best product to use for this purpose. I would recommend sourcing a “washed” sand, or one more appropriate for spreading near a water body which has been cleaned to minimize the introduction of additional nutrients to the lake.

The findings of this report are based on a site visit conducted on September 6, 2024 which include visual inspection of the site as well as anecdotal evidence provided by the homeowner. I can be reached for additional comment or to answer questions about this report by email at matt@newenglandaquatic.com or by phone at 203-885-2318.

Sincerely,

Matthew Vogt
Owner/President