

May 9, 2023

Leicester Conservation Commission  
3 Washburn Square  
Leicester, MA 01524

**Re: Request for Extension Permit for Stiles Reservoir – Leicester, MA  
Order of Conditions (DEP File #197-0607)**

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Dear Commissioners:

SOLitude Lake Management has been managing Stiles Reservoir annually since 2017. On behalf of our client, the Stiles Lake Water District, please accept this as our request to the Leicester Conservation Commission that they consider issuing an Extension Permit for the current program. Our records indicate that the current order of conditions is due to expire on **June 19, 2023**. The Aquatic Management Program was presented to the Commission in the NOI as an ongoing maintenance project. Prudent pond management is an ongoing endeavor, requiring constant assessment & monitoring and re-evaluation of the planned chemical tasks.

The goal of the management program is to maintain open water habitat and maintain beneficial algal growth quantities with the use of USEPA/MA DAR registered aquatic herbicides or other Best Management Practices (BMPs). Based on the chemistry of the proposed products, along with the chemical dose, timing, and method of application, these herbicides can be reasonably selective for the targeted plant species with negligible risk to non-target organisms when used in accordance with their USEPA approved labels. The management programs have been developed and reevaluated to be compatible with the goals of the Applicants, keeping in mind the regulatory responsibilities of the Leicester Conservation Commission and the MA DEP.

Since management began, tasks for Stiles Reservoir have included herbicide treatments and algaecide treatments as necessary to reduce the impairments associated with invasive aquatic plant growth and excessive algal growth.

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Utilization of U.S. EPA registered, and state approved herbicides and algaecides has worked well as a management technique.

No significant changes to the program are proposed during the next three-year period. We plan to continue with herbicide/algaecide treatments in mid-summer to mitigate nuisance and invasive plant conditions.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me directly.

Regards,

*Emily Vulgamore*

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