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October 9, 2015

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TOWN OF BOLTON
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

Ms. Joyce M. Stille
Administrative Officer
Town of Bolton
222 Bolton Center Road
Bolton, CT 06043

Re: Lower Bolton Lake Winter Drawdown Request 2015/2016

Dear Ms. Stille:

This letter responds to your request to drawdown Lower Bolton Lake by thirty (30") inches during the 2015/2016 winter season. Your request for a drawdown has been reviewed and approved, but with a modification, in accordance with the Department's drawdown policy. The Department understands that the purpose of the requested annual drawdown is to reduce shoreline erosion, prevent ice damage to retaining walls and other water structures, control nuisance aquatic weeds, and lower the groundwater table for the operation of private septic systems.

At this time, the Department is still concerned that an annual winter drawdown of the lake may be causing nutrient releases to the water that have contributed to recent algal blooms and the continued Naiad (*Najas guadalupensis*) infestation. To minimize potential negative environmental effects from the winter drawdown of Lower Bolton Lake, while also protecting shoreline properties from ice damage, the Department approves a **one and one-half (1.5') foot** drawdown for Lower Bolton Lake this winter.

The drawdown will commence on or about October 30, 2015 and will be managed by Dave Buckley from the Salmon River Unit, Marlborough, CT. The drawdown will be managed to restore the normal water surface elevation by April 2, 2016. However, there is always a risk that refilling may not be achieved by the target date due to unusually dry weather conditions.

This drawdown service will be provided on an actual expense reimbursement basis, with an approximate wage rate range of \$60-\$70 per hour plus any additional direct costs incurred. The Department estimates that this service will require no more than 30 hours. A bill for these services will be sent at the end of the 2015/2016 drawdown season. Please note that there have been years when weather has prevented achieving the desired drawdown level, and if this happens, you will be charged for the time that has been spent attempting the drawdown.

Ms. Joyce M. Stille
Town of Bolton

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Questions regarding implementation of this **one and one-half (1.5') foot** drawdown should be directed to Mr. Dave Buckley at (860) 295-9523.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Robert J. Hannon of my staff at (860) 424-3245.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Klee', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert J. Klee
Commissioner

cc: Dave Buckley, Salmon River State Forest
Scott Dawley, DEEP
DEEP Distribution