

August 6, 2019

Christopher J. Skonard  
Administrator/Drainage Inspector  
1030 Front Street, PO Box 40  
Brooten, MN 56316

RE: Pirz Lake Aquatic Plant Management Project Engineer's Report

Dear Mr. Skonard,

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Division of Ecological and Water Resources received and reviewed the Engineer's Report that was prepared for the Pirz Lake Aquatic Plant Management Project. This report describes the goal of the North Fork Crow River Watershed District and the Pirz Lake Association (PLA) to continue to manage curly leaf pondweed, an aquatic invasive plant species that has been managed by the PLA using various methods in the past. The report describes four management alternatives considered, and recommends mechanical harvest as the management plan to move forward. On behalf of the Director of the Division of Ecological and Water Resources, I offer the following comments on the Engineer's Report for the above-cited project, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 103D.711, subdivision 5.

1. The Engineer's Report appears to be complete from a Division of Ecological and Water Resources viewpoint.
2. The Engineer's Report is approved as a practical plan.
3. A soil survey is not needed.

As a reminder, should any plans for your project utilize treatment that will result in changing the course, current, or cross-section of the lake, then a Work in Public Waters Permit would be required from the DNR. Should this be the case, please contact the [local Area Hydrologist](#) (Nicola Blake-Bradley at [Nicola.blake-bradley@state.mn.us](mailto:Nicola.blake-bradley@state.mn.us)) regarding the potential project. Management of invasive aquatic plants such as curly-leaf pondweed that involves mechanical removal of plants requires an Aquatic Plant Management Permit. We recommend the Watershed District review the [DNR's Invasive Aquatic Plan Management website](#) and contact the local Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Specialist (Christine Jurek at [Christine.jurek@state.mn.us](mailto:Christine.jurek@state.mn.us)) for questions or assistance on the project. Using an Integrated Detection, Control, and Management process to identify established, new, or threatening aquatic invasive species is a valid method for identifying the presence of aquatic invasive species within Pirz Lake.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,  
  
Dan Lais  
Regional Manager

Website addresses:

Area Hydrologist Contact Information by County: [https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/dow\\_area\\_staff.pdf](https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/dow_area_staff.pdf)

DNR's Invasive Aquatic Plan Management website: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/iapm.html>

CC:

Nicola Blake-Bradley - Area Hydrologist

Christine Jurek - Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist

Tim Crocker – District Manager

Randall Doneen - Conservation Assistance and Regulation Manager