From: Barbara Messick
To: Johnson, Elaine M - DNR
Subject: Fox River Drawdown Additional Comments
Date: Monday, June 01, 2015 2:00:03 PM
Attachments: Elizabeth Joseph DNR letter.pdf

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1. I would like to take a moment and express my concerns about the annual draw down. I currently own property on the Fox River in between Rochester and Waterford. My children and visiting friends and family enjoy the wildlife and fishing opportunities as well as canoeing the river. If any of this is jeopardized (short or long term) by the annual draw I would like the records to show that I do not support this on any level. We purchased the house and property, in part, because of the healthy ecosystem behind the house. When we decided to move to Waterford it was based in part because of our desire to be in a small community. I work in Waukesha and my wife works in Racine so it was a good compromise. The same compromise could have been made to move to Franklin or other surrounding suburb of Milwaukee. My wife and both have professional careers which puts us in a high tax bracket and large contributor to state taxes, property taxes, and money spent in the community. Should the value of our house or the health of the system behind our house change significantly, we will likely decide to move out of the city and perhaps out of the state, as neither of us have family ties to the state of WI. Realizing this email is a bit harsh, I do hope that you understand that those in the community love the area and want it maintained as such. Anything less would be irresponsible.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss.

Randy and Janel Schneider; 262-565-8560

2. The annual water drawdown is having a negative effect with all the wildlife along the Fox River. We discourage any further annual drawdown on a permanent basis.

Thank you, James, Marcia, and Amanda Byrd

3933 Marco Polo Street, Verona, WI 53593

608-228-4493; blashshabl@yahoo.com

Comment from Elizabeth Joseph, 604 Mink Ranch Road, Rochester (Mailing address, Burlington, 53105); Phone 414380-4557
Re: Racine County Farm Drainage District and the drawdown of the Fox River to a

minimum of three feet during winter.
"Due to hospitalization, I was not able to attend the DNR's May (sic) meeting regarding the water drawdowns from the Fox River, in my area. I understand 130 citizens in the Village of Rochester signed a statement to oppose such action. Had I known about it, I, too, would have signed that statement.

My property's north boundary is the Wind Lake Canal with a marsh 15 feet from the canal. Last year the Fox River's flow was lowered during a long construction project. Since then the marsh, behind my home, has become a a very large mud hole and breeding ground for mosquitos. the Green-backed Heron and Kingfisher as well as other ducks and birds are no longer seen in the marsh. Water from rainfall remains in the marsh about two days before the marsh again returns to mud. The marsh has become a lost wild life habitat. Prior years frog sounds were continuous from spring through summer. That is no longer the case. It was normal to see large numbers of painted turtles sunning on fallen logs in the marsh. Now I might see one or two. A muskrat family that kept cat tails under control was lost. This winter I watched as a fox walked up to their lodge and destroyed it.

There is also concern for wells and drinking water and cancer. My husband Jim Joseph died from cancer exactly three years ago on this date, May 26th. I now buy bottled water for drinking.

For these reasons, I am not in favor of a yearly water drawdown of the Fox River between the months of October 1 and March 1." (handwritten letter with signature is attached)

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Barbara Messick, Administrative Analyst
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