

# Response Summary for Lake Encroachment Denial Decision



VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
**WATERSHED**  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
LAKES & PONDS PROGRAM

<p><b>Applicant(s):</b> Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund</p> <p><b>Waterbody:</b> Lake St. Catherine, Lily Pond, Little Lake</p> <p><b>Decision Number:</b> 2015-005</p>	<p><b>Project Description:</b> Dredging through the use of a hydrorake</p> <p><b>Project Address:</b> Identified locations throughout Lake St. Catherine, Lily Pond, and Little Lake; in Poultney and Wells, Vermont</p>
<p>The above referenced Lake Encroachment Denial Decision 2015-005 denies the activity of dredging through the use of a hydrorake.</p> <p>The application was placed on public notice between March 20, 2015 and March 30, 2015. Public comments were received during the notice period.</p> <p>The following is a summary of the comments and the Department’s responses to those comments. Some of the comments were paraphrased and edited for clarity and combined where appropriate.</p>	
<p><b>1. Comment:</b> The Trustees [of the Lake St. Catherine Association] feel that the west side of Cones Point is one of the cleanest areas on LSC. While there is [Eurasian] milfoil, which the Lake St. Catherine Association regularly monitors and addresses, we are not sure what else one might find. We would hope that the Watershed Management Division would check the area around [proposed dredging location at the] Pascerella's on the West side of Cones Point, just to be sure hydroraking is warranted. While the depth of the lake does shallow as you reach the south west corner of Cones Point, [Eurasian] milfoil is sometimes the most obvious concern.</p> <p><b>1. Response:</b> The Department surveyed each proposed dredge location on June 18, 2015 and those results may be viewed within the denial decision under Appendix 1. At each location, water depth was recorded to assess the extent to which access and use was impeded due to the accumulation of sediment. Notes on aquatic plant populations and fish and wildlife habitat were also recorded. The results of the survey were considered in the Department’s denial decision.</p> <p><b>2. Comment:</b> In regards to the attached letter I have no objection to anyone trying to clean up the Little [Lake &amp;] Lake St. Catherine. At least someone is trying to get something done on this dying lake. I have lived on the lake many years and have seen a steady decline of this lake. I applaud trying to get some action to clean up this lake. I would think the state would want its waters to be clear to attract tourists as there isn’t much industry here.</p> <p><b>2. Response:</b> The Department acknowledges concerns to potential impairments of public use in a waterbody. Lake Encroachment permit application 2015-005 was reviewed under the provisions of 29 V.S.A. Chapter 11. The Department surveyed each proposed dredging location on June 18, 2015 and those results may be viewed within the denial decision under Appendix 1. The reasons to deny the dredging project may be found within the denial decision.</p> <p><b>3. Comment:</b> Received your Notice of Application and as one of the potential recipients of the hydroraking I do want to tell you that this process for many of us on the Lily Pond is essential in order to maintain main lake access and prevent the creation of swamp at the west side of Lily Pond where there previously was lake. I have lived at this site as a vacation camp since the early 1970s. The property up until about 10 years ago was accessible from the north, south and west the southern access around the small island is no longer passable and the only reason we can still access the property from the west or north is that</p>	

hydoraking has been accomplished over the past 15 years or so. Needless to say I support this application as an essential component of maintaining the lake as a lake rather than as a silt filled swamp. Thanks for your help in maintaining the environment we have come to love here in Vermont.

**3. Response:** Please note the Department's response to **2.** above.