Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

7979 Highway 37, Eveleth, MN 55734



April 29, 2011

To: Pelican Lakeshore Owners Association, City of Orr, Town of Leiding, and all those interested.

UPDATE - DAM REPAIR, PELICAN LAKE #69-0841P, near Orr, ST. LOUIS COUNTY.

St. Louis County Public Works Department (SLC) has the materials needed to repair this dam. In order to facilitate construction we have been waiting for the lake level to drop below top of weir in order to safely and effectively install the repair to this dam. However, those conditions did not develop during 2010 season. SLC had hoped to complete this repair working off the ice during this past winter, however, SLC determined that poor ice conditions would be a safety concern. At this time SLC plans to use a temporary coffer dam installed on the upstream end of one of the three weirs at a time to temporarily block flow during construction; they'll use sand bags as well if necessary. They plan to do these repairs in late May, 2011 as long as outflow conditions allow the work to be performed safely.

This repair consists of adding (welding) flat iron to the weir to raise the top of the runout (weir) to the authorized elevation, which is equal to the old dam. In a July, 2009 survey, elevation of the top of the weirs ranged from 1.0 to 2.5-inches lower than the authorized elevation. The opening in the center weir of this dam will be covered at this time. Future work could include a stream restoration project to improve fish passage. DNR would be the project sponsor. The dam will continue to be monitored.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

DNR Ecological and Water Resources

Amy J. Loiselle

Eveleth Area Hydrologist 218-744-7450 ext. 2222

amy.loiselle@state.mn.us

e-copy:

SLC Public Works, I. Foster, Duluth

North St. Louis SWCD, Virginia

DNR Fisheries, I. Falls

DNR Wildlife, Orr

DNR Forestry, Orr

DNR Enforc., T. Fondie, C.O., Orr

DNR EWR Actg. Assist. Reg. Mgr, M. Peloquin, Grand Rapids DNR Policy & Gov't Relations Director, B. Meier, St. Paul