

Quabbin Watershed Advisory Committee
September 21, 2009
7:30 PM

Location: DCR Administration Building Belchertown, MA

Members present: Tom Berube, Tony Brighenti, Art Miner, Elisa Campbell, Larry Gates, William Martell, Dick Woodard, Joe Babineau Dennis Duguay, Tom Lautzenheiser and Craig Cortis

DCR Staff Attending: Bill Pula and Dave Small

Public Attending: list attached

Superintendent's Report

Private Boats and AIS

Bill Pula reported on the ongoing private boat decontamination program. The program has inspected, cleaned and sealed over 670 boats. The cost per boat to DCR and MWRA was about \$85. Once the boats are cleaned and sealed they have been using Quabbin Reservoir on a regular basis. Tony Brighenti asked if anything has been found during the inspections. Bill reported that a part of a Fanwort plant had been found on one of the boats (subsequently two more aquatic invasive plant fragments were identified). Larry Gates asked what DCR was doing about other AIS vectors Bill reported that a risk evaluation was being conducted and recommendations on other controls would be forthcoming. Tony Brighenti made a motion that QWAC supported the continued decontamination and tagging of boats to protect Quabbin from Aquatic Invasive Species. The motion was seconded and passed with two abstentions. Tony wanted to make sure that MWRA and others know QWAC and the fishermen are willing to make sacrifices to protect Quabbin.

Members Comments

Art Miner reported that the Special Olympics fishing tournament went very well. The weather was beautiful and some good fish were caught.

Elisa Campbell as per the green certification report she would like to see forest monitoring and reporting made available to the public. In particular cutting plans should be posted on the DCR website.

Tom Berube is concerned about the Ballot Initiative to restrict all commercial logging on state owned land. Tom made a motion that QWAC oppose the proposed ballot initiative to prohibit commercial logging the motion was seconded and passed with on abstention.

Larry Gates Proposed QWAC conducts a fall Forestry tour as we have in the past. He would like to see one of the moose enclosures and talk about the impact of moose on the forest. A forestry walk was scheduled for October 21, 2009 (the walk was later rescheduled for November 12).

NEXT QWAC MEETING is December 14, 2009 at 7:30 PM the Agenda will include results of the deer hunt, assessing the impact of moose on the watershed, the relocation of the M&M&M Trail and AIS control at Quabbin.