

ROGER ZBEL's RESPONSE TO THE DNR-PPRP document

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From: **Roger Zbel** <precisionrafting@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Apr 22, 2014 at 8:37 PM

Subject: Re: Comments to the Subcommittee regarding draft proposals

To: Mike Bilek <jmikebilek@gmail.com>,

Hello All

This is a follow up on Comments from April 21 concerning the issues to be voted on and added as subcommittee recommendations. Again I feel that most of the recommendations are opinions from lake interests that are trying to add more water to the lake in dry years at the expense to Whitewater interests, and the town of Friendsville, as well as jeopardize the health of the trout population.

I agree with the Versar's report and inland fisheries that the proposed water budget will not be helpful and difficult to write and appropriations permit around and inflows and out flows do vary so much from year to year.

The TER's could be tweaked a bit with use of local information and fresh data input each time the protocol is run through out the day, this will help save water in the dry years.

The trickle theory that Morgan Franz is proposing will not work and was proven by testing done by DNR when it was first written. Also to drastically change the TER's will have huge negative impacts on the Town of Friendsville as well as the whitewater industry as a whole. We depend on these releases when we are in drought times to stay alive, The impact is far greater then the small decrease in lake levels. At the beginning of Sept, 2010 when the lake experienced the least amount of precipitation in recorded history we were just under the lower rule band at the beginning of September. Showing how this budgeted the water fairly evenly. Everyone shared the pain of this historic drought. But in the end there was still a lot of water in the lake for lake users to enjoy.

Whitewater interest can not support the changing of the lower rule band and the exception of the one day a week whitewater release. Again this is how we survive in a dry years.

With this said I can not support the additional recommendations and feel that we are being used as a rubber stamp to get a few inches of water into places that can't be helped in the driest of summer months. Please put this in the record.

Respectfully yours

Roger Zbel

Commercial Whitewater Outfitters