

Soil & Water Conservation Society of Metro Halifax (SWCSMH)

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Ref.: NWCC_clarification (4 pages)
To: **Chair & Members, North West Community Council, HRM**
From: S. M. Mandaville Post-Grad Dip., Professional Lake Manage.
Chairman and Scientific Director
Date: March 06, 2013
Subject: Your minutes of February 11, 2013, and an archive on Papermill Lake,
Bedford

(Kindly pardon any typos/grammar.)

Please refer to page-4 of the NWCC's approved minutes with the URL of
<http://www.halifax.ca/Commcoun/central/documents/130211.pdf>

In §8.1.1., to cite verbatim, "Councillor Dalrymple advised that the letter was also before the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee and had been forwarded to staff for review." This was pursuant to a submission we had made to your NWCC with the title, "Stressors and selective removals: Part 1".

To avoid any potential misunderstandings, we want to inform you all that we have not made duplicate submissions in this regard, to date.

Our recent formal or informal submissions to the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainability (ESSC), and to any Community Councils (CCs) are on different aspects.

But they do fall mostly in the specialty of the science of limnology, with focus on applied limnology. Limnology means the scientific study of freshwaters and applied limnology means the practical applications of limnology, to state in simple terms.

The aforementioned submissions on 'stressors' depict the export coefficients of various stressors in a wide range of jurisdictions across North America. We did not update those tables with our own local values in HRM since the latter fall within the ranges published, mostly by the vast USEPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency).

As needed, we have carried out occasional sampling at the outfalls of storm sewers, mostly in the urban areas of Dartmouth, Cole Harbour, and Lower Sackville as representative outfalls in purely urban residential areas.

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Our sampling was not on phosphorus (TP) alone, but on a wide range of variables. Regarding phosphorus export coefficients, we did add a separate table there. We have conducted lot more but did not get around to formalizing in tabular format yet.

Important: The aforesaid stressor sampling is a small part of our lake studies all across HRM, and its adjoining municipalities. Our priority has always been the biology of the open waters as well as of the bottom sediments. HRM has never studied the latter.

No staff member of the HRM or Halifax Water or the Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) has conducted such necessary sampling based on our repeated inquiries. We are also unaware of any independent scientific group or local universities conducting same since we have no interest in duplicating the efforts of other agencies as long as they are conducted on an intense scientific level based on leading published scientific protocols.

Kindly note: During the past, we had invited most local universities (the relevant department heads), the HRM, the provincial Environment Dept. (NSE), the federal DFO, the federal Environment Canada, and all three of your watershed advisory boards to participate with us on a scientific level. Most entities never responded to our emails.

One exception was the former Bedford Waters Advisory Committee (BWAC): Our scientific group did receive a fabulous letter from Mr. Clarke Bedford when he was Chair of the said BWAC during 1996. Kindly see next page (#3) to read his official letter to your NWCC.

On page-4 here, please read the minutes of your community council from November, 1996. Those should be self explanatory. There was never any follow up at all. We had made phone inquiries with the Office of the Municipal Clerk for a few years following 1996, but they informed us that there were no further discussions at the NWCC.

Incidentally, Dr. Sandy Ray PhD (formerly of the DFO in Newfoundland), a long time member of the BWAC/present BWAB consulted with me personally as needed on multiple aspects. He must have retired from the BWAB since his name is no longer on the HRM's BWAB web page.

HRM's phosphorus threshold value for Papermill Lake, Bedford: Staff of HRM will probably inform you that they subsequently set a phosphorus (TP) threshold of ten (10) µg/l for this lake. Any independant non-bureaucratic and credible limnologist may advise you that the said 10 µg/l value was not derived from the pre-cultural value, hence not based on the CCME's phosphorus policy at all; in simple language, it is too high (kindly refer to the federal CCME's policy (<http://documents.ccme.ca/download/en/205/>)).

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If you further recall, I had explained the CCME's phosphorus policy in great detail during the public hearing on the River-Lakes Planning Strategy (i.e., the Shubenacadie area planning strategy) at the Regional Council, and ran out of time to explain other aspects of lake management. The Mayor then was His Worship Peter Kelly.

Appendix-A:

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
BEDFORD WATERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

North West Community Council
November 28, 1996

TO: North West Community Council
FROM: Clarke Bedford, Chair, Bedford Waters Advisory Committee
DATE: November 20, 1996
SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE FROM SHALOM MANDAVILLE RE A POLICY
FOR PAPER MILL LAKE

The Bedford Waters Advisory Committee, at its meeting of November 13, reviewed the concerns related to Paper Mill Lake, as outlined in correspondence from Shalom Mandaville, Soil & Water Conservation Society of Metro Halifax dated July 27th and September 15th, 1996.

The Committee wishes to advise the Community Council that the Committee, in the past, has recommended the minimum water quality of Paper Mill Lake conform to the C.C.M.E. guidelines for recreational water and the Committee agrees with Mr. Mandaville's conclusions and thank him for his input.


Clarke Bedford,
Chairman,
Bedford Waters Advisory Committee

c.c.: S. M. Mandaville

Appendix-B:

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL 7 November 28, 1996

Councillor Kelly clarified that he understood there was an overflow of staff in one area which could be reallocated to ease the load in the Central Region. Reallocation, therefore, could be considered before additional staff were hired.

Councillor Rankin pointed out that the community of Hammonds Plains was eager to see the completion of the Plan Review for the former Districts 15/18/19 and additional staff would be able to assist with this Plan Review.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10.2 Bedford Waters Advisory Committee

10.2.1 Paper Mill Lake Policy

A Memorandum dated November 20, 1996 from Bedford Waters Advisory Committee was before Community Council.

Mr. Bob Kerr, Bedford Waters Advisory Committee provided information on testing being carried out on Paper Mill Lake, particularly with regard to the developer having an agreement to test and reports to the former Town of Bedford. Mr. Mandaville had provided a scientific report which indicated that the status of Paper Mill Lake should try to aim for the year 2050 to be in a certain specific state. Bedford Waters Advisory Committee agreed with Mr. Mandaville's report and felt it was a good policy to keep the lake as pristine as possible. He requested that Community Council support the approach for the area. As well, there was a consistent policy required for all the area served by North West Community Council.

MOVED by Councillors Kelly and Mitchell that the process commence and that this matter be referred to staff. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Thank you kindly and wish you all a fruitful 2013,

