



DEAD RIVER CAMPERS NEWS

3RD QUARTER 2015

ISSUED NOVEMBER 2015

ISSUES OF INTEREST

Board Activities: The Board had meetings last quarter on July 15, August 19, and September 16. Several Board members and Fish and Wildlife Committee members toured the Basin with MDNR Fisheries people on August 11. Many thanks to Lee Woods for the use of his pontoon boat for the tour.

What Does Water Elevation 1338 Look Like to Me?

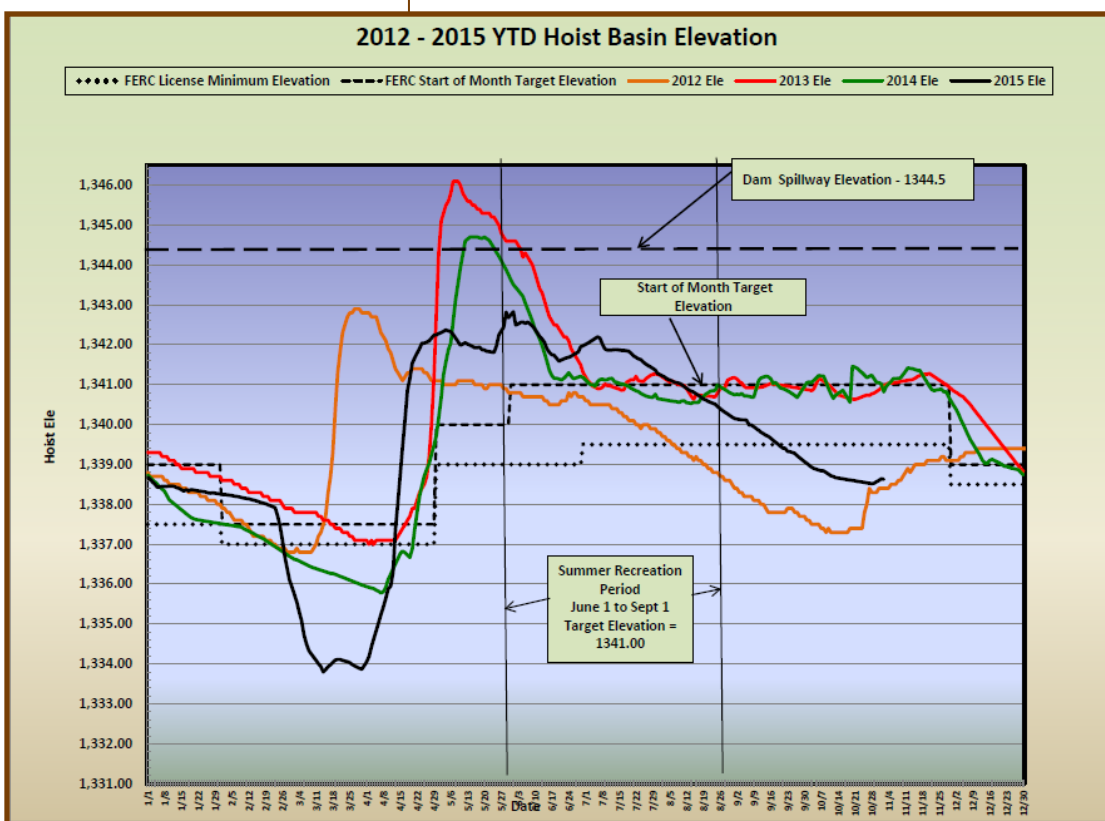
This note is a friendly reminder that 1338 elevation above sea level is approximately where you find your beach view early in November. If your dock and waterfront all look to be secure for the winter close to this water level, please read on.

In the spring, we know that the elevation of the Hoist Basin needs to be at least at 1341 for the summer target level, and historically it has been above that elevation with the accumulated spring water runoff collecting in the Basin.

If your waterfront

items such as recreation toys, docks, rafts, etc., are on the beach and you can keep them dry with at least 3 more vertical feet of water on your beach front, you are trying to be well prepared. If as history indicates for water elevations, and an additional 2 or more vertical feet of water (to elevation 1343 ft and higher) were to be the case in the spring, are your winter stored items still safe as the ice leaves?

Only you can protect your waterfront items, and making them safe for today, may not be the case next spring.



High Speed Internet on the Basin:

As an update to the issue of the Internet quality on the Basin there is a huge merger in the works whereby Charter is looking to merge with Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks.

The Board has approved and sent a letter to the Federal Communications Commission and posted the letter to the FCC site in support of the merger. If this merger were to take place, there are guidelines to this potential merger that would allow Charter/Spectrum to make capital investments in wired cable internet to outlying rural areas.

I was contacted by the Charter officials in the area seeking information and interest levels for improved wired Internet access.

We will definitely keep the residents of the Basin informed on the new high-speed internet possibility.

Would you consider submitting a letter directly to the FCC site via their online portal? It needs to go to the portal to be accepted by the FCC according to our Charter contact person. If you want to submit a letter of support for the merger of Charter with Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks the instructions are below:

Online

1. Click (or copy hyperlink) <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/upload/display> to comment.
2. **Comment Check List** (Complete descriptions below):
 - a. Enter the proceeding number: **15-149**
 - b. Name of Filer (Personal or organization name)
 - c. Email Address
 - d. Type of Filing: **Comment**
 - e. Address
 - f. Upload document containing comment

A copy of the letter sent by DRCI follows for your reference in writing your own letter.



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October 23, 2015

Mr. Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: PROCEEDING NO. 15-149

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

We are writing you with our comments during the comment period in regards to the merger of Charter, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks.

The Board of Directors of Dead River Campers, Inc. represents 397 shareholders in our corporation of lot owners around the Dead River Hoist Basin in Marquette, County in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Our Board unanimously supports this merger with hopes that it brings stronger and faster internet capacity to our rural area. The Hoist Basin area is approximately 10 miles west of Marquette, 5 miles north of Negaunee and 9 miles north of Ishpeming which is our tri-city area. The Dead River System is a series of 5 Hydro-Electric dams and reservoirs along the Dead River of which our Hoist Basin is the largest reservoir.

Internet access for many of our shareholders is very slow and not always reliable through various internet accessibility methods with various internet satellite service providers such as Excede, Hughes Net, etc. Lack of line of sight tower availability, our rough, hilly terrain and forests have required the use of satellite internet at access speeds for connectivity much slower than the more urban areas.

Our Basin area continues to grow and is developing into a small community type setting with new homes that allow our shareholders to enjoy the life style of living on a lake while at the same time being close to the amenities provided by the surrounding communities where many of us work daily. Using the internet for business or pleasure is something that we all do and the need is great, especially with many companies now wanting their employees to be able to have high speed internet communications to effectively communicate either at home or at their businesses.

The merger of Charter with these other companies will allow Charter to make a capital investment in our area and provide us with high speed internet services. We urge you to approve this merger and help us obtain high speed internet service in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Dead River Campers, Inc.

Dr. Bruce Turino, Vice-President

Cc DRCI Board

We Need Photos for the Newsletter. If you have any photos of interesting things around the Basin please send them to us at drcicampers@gmail.com.

Neighborhoods working together:

Congratulations are in order for the Braastad and Tonkin Drive Road neighbors who all worked this summer on improving their areas roads. Significant progress was made in the quality of the road surface by adding road gravel and grading the new material. It is awesome that the neighbors raised thousands of dollars to accomplish the project.

Getting the water to not pool on the roadway is critical to keeping "birdbaths" to a minimum. Very special thanks go out to the neighbors with the equipment to do the grading with their machines. Each in our own way do our best to make the Basin a better place.

The improvement bug must be catching on in that area of the Basin this summer, as the neighbors on Barnhardt and Drobney also really stepped up and completed the connect-or road piece that was started with Board initiation, and then worked Drobney back out to Braastad with a bit of widening and grading too. This is also a situation where the neighborhood raised money in the thousands of dollars range which was used to complete this road project.



Don Bekkala appears to enjoy a little handwork with the shovel

Once again neighborhood equipment was used to finalize the project and a huge thank you goes out to those who provided equipment and time.

Both of these situations fall very nicely into the category of making access to our homes and cottages better in all conditions and seasons. As the neighborhoods transition into year round homes, Police, Fire and EMS access becomes extremely important.

The ongoing efforts of the North Basin Drive (NBD) road group also bears mentioning. The NBD group campers have invested over \$80,000 over the years in improvements to North Basin Drive. The photo inserts shows some of the work being done to clean out culverts on NBD.

In the early fall Don Bekkala and Dan Gaboury and others took the time to flush out the culverts on North Basin Drive. Many years ago, the North Basin Drive Road Association obtained a Soil Erosion Permit and developed a culvert and ditch system to drain the hill side and road properly. It has been about 12 years since that was installed and the road was experiencing over the road flooding in the spring. We thought the culverts were freezing and found out actually they were filled with sand and debris. About 2000 gallons later and a really big pump, we now have clean culverts ready to go once again this spring. If you have culverts on your road, you might want to take the time to kneel down and look inside to see what is the status of their ability to flow water.

If your neighborhood has not jumped on the train yet with improvements to your road access situations, please consider banding together and working as a team to help insure that your property is able to be found and accessed when the time comes in a crisis.

Once again, a huge "thank you" to all who are helping make our quality of life better.

Newsletter advertising opportunities:

The Board is constantly looking at ways to trim

expense from our annual budget and has decided that we will be offering businesses in the area the opportunity to advertise in the Newsletter.

Although we do not have all the details worked out concerning the size of ads and the dollar cost to purchase that space, we are sharing this with the Shareholders at this time.



Retired fire chief Dan Gaboury right at home working the hose cleaning a culvert

By the time the next Newsletter comes to you this idea will be up and running and the advertising dollars will be used to offset the price of the creation and distribution of the Newsletter.

Green Timber Tree Farm Day:

Green Timber Consulting Foresters, Inc., our forestry management and logging consultants, held a presentation on the advantages of having a team of professional foresters manage your property. This presentation, held at the Al Quaal recreation area on October 3rd was open to the public and well worth the time people took to

attend. Besides the Green Timber team there were representatives from the MDNR, the Conservation District, American Bird Conservancy, George Lindquist representing several conservation groups and Gary Goodman and Bruce Bussone from Dead River Campers. Gary gave a brief history of DRCI and our common lands management.

There was a very good and informational discussion of all the wildlife habitat improvement grants that are available to land owners. These



us and the wildlife we all enjoy.

Another presentation will be given in the spring, with a walking tour of our latest cutting areas, to better demonstrate the advantages of having a skilled forest-



grants range from \$40 to \$2000 per acre and are well worth our time to look into these opportunities. As we have been replanting areas as needed in the past, doing so with the help of grants will benefit

er advising us. Hopefully more people will be able to attend as it is very informational to both Shareholders and those who want to better manage their own land. Look forward to more information next year.

Winter road plowing is here again. Please remember that plowing snow across the County Road system is dangerous, hazardous, and at great risk to the Road Commission plow drivers. Public Acts of 1949 as amended under section 677a states that it is against the law to deposit, or cause to be deposited, snow, ice or slush on any roadway or highway or shoulder of roadway/highway. When people violate this law it can cause traffic safety problems. This also causes concern for snowplow drivers and has caused damage to snow removal equipment. It is the intent of Marquette County Road Commission to seek enforcement of this law.

The same guidelines apply to the DRCI road system too. If

we expect EMS Services and the Township Fire Departments to come to all of us in time of need, the roads need to be passable, and wide enough for the really big trucks to fit on.

A lot of money has been spent by neighborhood road associations to create proper drainage systems, enhance the roads quality, and control speed. Plowing into drainage ditches is a huge problem in the spring if the ditch is dammed up. Respect for all of our neighbors landscaping, mail boxes and driveways is a very good thing to keep in mind while you plow your roads.

With the use of snowmobiles it is also a great time to remember that speed on our winter roads is a huge potential problem. Being able to stop is critical. Many of our roads have short sight distances, steep hills and very sharp curves. Please prevent accidents by remembering that winter conditions require extra care and focused attention to the road ahead.



Video of the Basin- Check it out. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Fgy_6nt9Ro&feature=share

Forestry Management Update: by Bruce Bussone

Under the direction of Green Timber Consulting Foresters in September we started cutting of Management Unit 2, which is 40 acres near Silver Lake. Harju Logging is doing the cutting of this hardwood stand that is being select cut. We are well pleased with the way Green Timber is managing the cutting operation as Harju reported that this was the best marking of trees and property lines they have seen.

We decided to add a 20 acre lot abutting the original 40 acres to the cutting contract to take advantage of the loggers being in the area. As of October the cutting operation has moved to Management Unit 1, which is an area near Clark Creek. The cutting started on the west side of Clark Creek then will move to the east side. The cutting on the west side is along the Red Road and will reduce danger of power outages by cutting trees near the power lines. Cutting in this unit

is mostly a Jack Pine clear cutting operation of over 100 acres.

The harvesting operation should be completed by the end of the year. After completion of cutting our consultants will advise DRCI as to the best reforestation options. We were fortunate in the timing of signing our contract for cutting because since then the timber prices have declined significantly.

LOGGING ACTIVITIES IN MANAGEMENT UNIT 2

PHOTO BY GREEN TIMBER CONSULTING FORESTERS



FINANCE COMMITTEE: by Steve Gutierrez

The Finance Committee meeting in early June allowed us to review the DRCI investment portfolio

with our Wells Fargo advisors and have a thorough dialogue on our existing investment parameters (Balanced Income Strategy)

and the financial products that may or may not fit our future portfolio requirements.

Our current investments continue to track their benchmarks with gains at about 2% year-to-date, providing us a fairly predictable income stream to help support DRCI budget/project requirements.

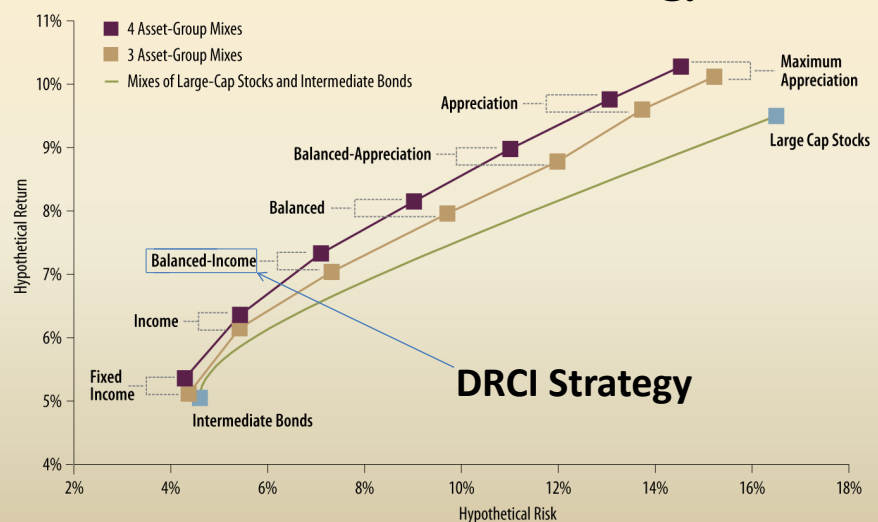
Wells Fargo was clear in their belief that the economy, while growing at a slower pace than the previous few years was still likely to show some positive growth in the months ahead.

Committee Members: Steve Gutierrez, Chairman, Bill Stream, Denise Albrecht, Joe Ervin, Jim Grundstrom, Darryll Sundberg



FROM DRCI FINANCIAL PRESENTATION AT THE 2015 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Balanced-Income Strategy





COMMITTEE REPORTS



FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE REPORT:

By: DAVID LAITINEN, CHAIRMAN



From your Fish Committee:

Beautiful fall weather is here and the colors are always awesome, however, it signals the ending of another fishing season. A report indicate that it was another good year for walleyes. The fish were larger than previous years and in good condition. There are still a lot of northern pike and large bass being caught also. We didn't get any reports on perch or bluegills being caught. If you have any reports to share on them, please let us know. Late fall Walleye fishing should be very good if the weather stays good.

We had several good things happen during the year. We held our annual partnership workshop meeting with the DNR and discussed many topics including fish stocking schedules, potential fish habitat improvement projects, and the long term Basin management plan. It was reported that the DNR walleye rearing program is back to normal and we will be receiving walleye stocking in every "even" numbered year starting 2016.

We continue to do the minnow netting project every year to help us and the DNR in determining what species we have and hopefully an increasing population. The availability of good minnow and small fish habitat along with consistent water

levels continue to be important areas to work on. We are also beginning work on another questionnaire to get members input. It was good news to receive that on June 2nd the DNR planted 13,000 brown trout in Basin, average size 7 inches.

We welcome Lee Woods, Mike Klein, Clayton Johns, Loren Ameen and John Parent to the Fish and Wildlife Committee and thank all those who expressed interest to help on projects we may have.

We held our annual "Kids Fishing Day" on August 15th. As usual, it was a great day. The weather was super, several youngsters caught some nice fish and we had our best turn out so far, over 50 registered. The kids, moms and dads, grandpas and grandmas and all, enjoyed a nice day, lunch and getting together. Thanks to all for registering and coming. Put it on your calendar for next year!

As always thanks to everyone and the Board of Directors for the continued Committee support.

Committee Members: Dave Laitinen, Chairman, Buffy Ervin, Tom Polkinghorne, Chris Blank, Bruce Turino, Gary Goodman, Lee Woods, Mike Klein, Clayton Johns, Loren Ameen, John Parent



HERE'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T SEE EVERY DAY



Eagle on Deck Photo by Linda Larsen



OUR FISH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
DAVE LAITINEN'S GRANDSON WITH
A FINE CATCH.

KIDS FISHING DERBY PHOTOS



LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS FOR 2015 FIREWORKS

Ameen, Loren	Hamari, Ray	Nerenz, Ann
Anderson, Dale	Hammond, Steve	Neumann, Kim
Anderson, Matt	Heino, Paul	Oberstar, Chuck
Blixt, Harry	Jackson, James	Oja, Dan
Bocklund, Dean	Juchemich, Mike	Olds, Ray
Buck, Julie	Kauppila, Vanda	Partanen, Dennis
Bussone, Larry	Kendricks, et al, Law Firm	Pepin, Tim
Butcher, Tom	Ketchem, Lynn	Peterson, Pete
Carriere, David	Kinnunen, Jim	Piggott, Lori
Chinn, Gordon	Kivela, Gary	Poirier, Ann
Connors, Tom	Kivisto, E. J.	Rautio, Wayne
Denofre, Dave	Klein, Michael	Robinson, Dale
Dishnow, Peter	Koskey, Al	St Onge, David
Dix, Charles	LaFayette, Todd	Sundberg, Charles
Dolkey, Gary	LaFayette Collision	Sundberg, Darryll
Duhamel, Don	Laitinen, Dave	Tiseo, Toni
Ervin, Joe	Larsen, Richard	Toms, David
Gagliardi, Tony	Larson, William	Turino, Bruce
Garrett, Bill	Magnuson, Douglas	Unknown Donor
Goodman, Gary	Nardi, Dominic	VanLandschoot, Jim
Grundstrom, Jim	Nardi, John	Waara, Mike
Gutierrez, Steve	Naser, Steve	Wilson, Mike
Hallum, Greg	Nault, Pete	Wolfson, Paul

A big thank you goes out to our campers and friends for their donations to this year's fireworks display. Donations this year were \$2,560.



“Bullwinkle” is on North Basin Drive and walked from the pavement to the west end. Where is his pal “Rocky”

REMINDERS

Water Surface Elevation. If you are interested in the water surface elevation, log onto <http://www.wisconsinpublicservice.com/news/hydro/hydrodata.asp> or get to this same website via the DRCI website link for current information. We thank UPPCO for making this information available to us.

Tree Removal Issues. If you have trees to remove please fill out a cutting permit and send it in to DRCI or contact Bruce Bussone at 485-5901 or 362-2325. In an effort to maintain some control on time limits, the Board has put a limit of 1 year from date of issue for tree cutting permits. Each Shareholder is responsible for any trees cut by contractors you have hired. You are reminded that tree cutting on common /CFR lands is prohibited.

Road Improvements. Shareholders are reminded to get permits from the Board for road improvements. This would include any changes to current roads as well as tree removals to widen access. Each Shareholder is responsible for roadwork done by any contractor you have hired. Be mindful that changes to a road easement, or adding a new road easement within a plat, must be done in compliance with the Michigan Land Division Act provisions for plat changes and DRCI Rules. Many of our access roads are also dirt County Roads and may need a permit from the Road Commission for any maintenance. See the web page for more information. This also applies to utility easements within a plat.

Bridges. DRCI committed to maintain two bridges in our original documents; they are located on North Basin Drive and Three Mile Road. Please report any bridge damage you observe to the Board immediately.

Stock Certificates. You are reminded to update your stock certificate ownership and addresses when something changes that

would change those certificates. This would include a death, divorce, move, etc. There is no charge to change the certificate and it can be done easily by sending the certificate to DRCI with supporting documents for the change. Please let new Shareholders know that they should submit a copy of their recorded deed and obtain a stock certificate upon purchase of their camp. Additionally, the corporate bylaws, declarations, rules and regulations can be found at our webpage at www.deadrivercampersinc.com

Utility Easements: Please keep all utility easements such as overhead power-line areas clear of boats, trailers and other items so that UPPCO has clear access to the easement areas at all times. This is especially important during the winter months when they may have to get in an easement area to repair power lines or transformers.

Zoning Violations. Shareholders should report perceived zoning violations to their respective townships. These violations would include multiple camps on single lots and excessive blight or junk. The townships can be contacted at; Ishpeming Township-485-5411, Negaunee Township-475-7869 and Champion Township-339-2920.

Renting of Shareholder Single Family Residences. DRCI Declaration Section 4.1 reads “Lots shall be used solely for the construction of one single-family residence and structures and outbuildings incidental to the use of it (including, without limitations, barns, stables and garages for private, and not public or commercial, use) and shall be limited in use to single-family residential

purposes and incidental uses.” This declaration prohibits the rental of any Shareholder single family residences on the Basin.

Use of Shoreline. As most shoreline is privately owned, when someone is in the need of bathroom facilities while out on the water please respect that you may be using one of our Shareholder's beachfronts to do so.

Submerged Hazards. When water levels are low please take extra caution to avoid submerged hazards while boating. We should all try to mark hazards as they are found, but safety is still up to the operator.

Reward The Board continues to offer a \$1,000 reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of any illegal activity on camper's property.

DRCI Website: Visit our website for other areas of interest such as Dam Safety and Inspection, Climate Prediction Center and Interactive Snowfall Information and many more. www.deadrivercampersinc.com

Plowing Snow Across Public Roads- Marquette County Road Commission reminds us that Public Act 300 of the Public Acts of 1949 as amended under section 677a states that it is against the law to deposit, or cause to be deposited, snow, ice or slush on any roadway or highway or shoulder of roadway/highway. When people violate this law it can cause traffic safety problems. This also causes concern for snow-plow drivers and has caused damage to snow removal equipment. It is the intent of Marquette County Road Commission to seek enforcement of this law

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