

Torsey Pond Association
c/o Holly Rahmlow
118 Thundercastle Road
Readfield, ME 04355

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Our July 11, 2020 Annual Meeting is a Virtual, Interactive Zoom Meeting.
See instructions inside.



The Torsey Pond Association *Dam Good Supporters*

Torsey Pond Association Dam Repair Donation Statistics

Goal \$75,000 As of 6/1/20 **We've Received \$65,000**

We Received 110 Contributions:

83 Contributions- Camp Owners (We have 160 Camps on Torsey Pond)

27 Contributions- Friends, Non Camp Owners & Anonymous



1 Loon Level \$5000



23 Eagle Level \$500-\$999



3 Osprey Level \$2500-\$4999



48 Mallard Level \$100-\$499



17 Blue Heron Level \$1000-\$2499



17 Other Level up to \$99



1 Torsey Level \$10,000! We Created a New Level as a Special **Thank You** to our **Anonymous Donor** who Generously Contributed to The **TPA Dam Repair Fund**

Only \$10,000 More to Our Goal!

Board Members

(p) indicate year term ends

Andrea Falaguerra, President
(2022), 508-965-4800
2momsroc@gmail.com

Darcy Whittemore, Vice President
(2020), 207-685-3258
darcywhittemore@gmail.com

Keith Coulling, Treasurer (2021)
and Damkeeper, 207-838-5023
keithc@sacoriver.net

Mark Dershwitz, Clerk (2020)
207-685-9373 (camp)
508-653-4450 (home)
Mark.Dershwitz@umassmed.edu

Barry Kutz (2022)
Supervisor of Buoys
781-389-8881
kutz_electric@comcast.net

Judith Beck (2022)
207-685-3281, 631-474-1715
judithbeck@optimum.net

David Gross (2022)
860-227-9153
d.gross200@comcast.net

Alan Howie (2020)
207-685-8167
however2@comcast.net

Mike Pastore (2021)
207-377-8657, tubuch@aol.com

Susan Roberts (2022)
718-517-0807
susan@susanroberts.com

Francis Zambella (2020)
207-685-9148, frananz@aol.com

Andy Zuorski (2021)
Courtesy Boat Inspections
603-930-3705
azuorski@septemberpartners.com

Also serving TPA:

Holly Rahmlow, Newsletter Editor
207-685-3287, holly@tc2.net

Don Rahmlow, Assistant Damkeeper
207-553-3000, don@tc2.net

Visit TPA
at www.torseypond.org
or on Facebook

Fellow Torsey Pond Preservationists,

Our 2019-2020 association season will be one to remember! We've experienced record annual meeting attendances and our highest membership support. We've embarked on an ambitious fundraising campaign to fund the association's largest initiative to date. We've protected our lake from invasive threats. We are now creatively reworking how we've done business as usual for the past 32 years to keep our organization healthy while preserving our pond. We hope you are all well and able to safely enjoy our beautiful pond. Thank you, lake lovers, members and friends for your continued support.

Membership has been at record high levels for the past few years. Last year we had more than 100 memberships. In order to comply with the governor's and CDC orders, we are unable to have our annual July meeting in person as usual. I am sorry to add to all of our COVID-19 disappointments. But I am happy to report, thanks to the diligent work of our TPA officers, we will be hosting an interactive, virtual Zoom meeting at 10 a.m. on July 11! Please refer to the Annual Meeting Instructions within the newsletter.

At our 2019 annual meeting, we kicked off our dam repair fundraising drive. Thanks to TPA members' commitment to the health of our pond and their humble generosity, we have raised more than \$65,000 in 11 months. We are close to our finish line. We only need an additional \$10,000 to reach our goal of \$75,000. A special thank-you to the TPA board members who have worked all year communicating with donors, meeting with engineers, securing contractor bids, finalizing contracts and facilitating our partnership with the town of Readfield to make this project possible. We are on schedule for the dam repair project to begin summer/early fall of this year.

Help keep the TPA membership strong! We need our membership to continue to grow to meet our operating budget. A large portion of the TPA budget is to cover the Courtesy Boat Inspections (CBI) which help protect our pond from invasive aquatic plants. The TPA pays the Friends of Cobbossee who train and employ the inspectors. Our public boat launch has paid inspectors for two 12-hour days on the weekends and some holidays. The cost of this service increases every year coinciding with state minimum wage increases. Please continue to support the TPA by renewing your membership and encouraging your neighbors to join. Please refer to the CBI/Milfoil protection section of this newsletter about additional ways to contribute as a volunteer CBI inspector. We have added a checkoff line to the membership form if you would like to be added to our volunteer list.

With all of our accomplishments and TPA success stories, our association has also experienced a great loss. Our clerk and steward of our beloved pond, Sandra Gorry, passed away unexpectedly in December 2019. She was a brilliant, humorous good human, passionate about the preservation of Torsey Pond. I can picture her in her bright yellow CBI T-shirt at the boat launch of the heavens.

I am proud to share the helm of this wonderful association. The TPA has been recognized as the model of membership and volunteer support of our watershed. I have enjoyed working with and especially learning from our caring board. I am inspired by our members' devotion, and I truly love our pond.

Send in memberships today or renew on our website, Torseypond.org. I'll see you July 11 at the virtual meeting and around the pond. Please feel free to reach out to me with any comments or questions.

— Andrea Falaguerra, TPA President

Invasives Program Update

Torsey Pond means different things to different people. To some it is the source of cherished memories of fun times with friends and family. To others it is a special place for watching wildlife and listening to the mournful call of the loons. Others, still, may enjoy it as a place to swim, boat and fish. And to others, it may be an economic engine that supports commercial interests. Regardless of how you view Torsey, the thing all have in common is how vulnerable this beautiful gem is to invasive species that have the power to change life on the pond forever.

Torsey ranks high on the state's vulnerability list due to the composition of the pond and its proximity to infested water bodies like Cobbossee and Annabessacook lakes. Progress is being made in containing the Cobbossee infestation by the state, Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed and the local lake association. The infestation in Annabessacook (Winthrop), however, is extensive and containment has been and continues to be a struggle. Containment efforts for both will run into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

To protect Torsey as a first line of defense, Courtesy Boat Inspectors (CBI) began shifts on Memorial Day Weekend and will continue through Labor Day. Protocols will be different this year due to COVID-19, but coverage will be provided.

In a few short months, life has changed for all of us. We have had to change the way we live, the way we interact with others and, perhaps, restructure our priorities. I hope protecting Torsey and keeping it the beautiful place it is for future generations will be a priority for you during these challenging times and you will support our invasives program by going to the TPA website and making a donation and/or signing up to be a volunteer.

Thank you. Be safe and be well.

— Andy Zuorski, CBI Program Director

Annual Meeting July 11 to be Virtual, Interactive via Zoom

All members are welcome to attend our virtual meeting at 10 a.m. July 11. Here's how do it:

1. Renew your membership by returning enclosed form and your check in preaddressed envelope OR renew online torseypond.org.
2. Include/Update your email address on renewal form.
3. Check the line "Receive an Invitation to Attend the TPA Virtual, Interactive Zoom Meeting" on the renewal form.
4. TPA will email you an invitation to attend. The invite will include a direct live link to the Zoom meeting.

VOTING will be conducted during the Zoom meeting and will include Elections of Directors and Officers, Approval of 2020-2021 Budget, Approval of 2019-2020 Treasurer's Report and Approving directors to identify and potentially purchase liability insurance to protect the organization.

PROXY VOTING: If you cannot attend the Zoom meeting on July 11, you have the option to designate a proxy vote. Complete, sign and return the proxy form with your membership dues. If you choose to renew or join online at torseypond.org and want to designate a proxy vote, please send the signed proxy form by regular mail or email to keith.coulling@torseypond.org.

Please respond by July 4. Only current 2020 members can receive an invitation.

AGENDA:

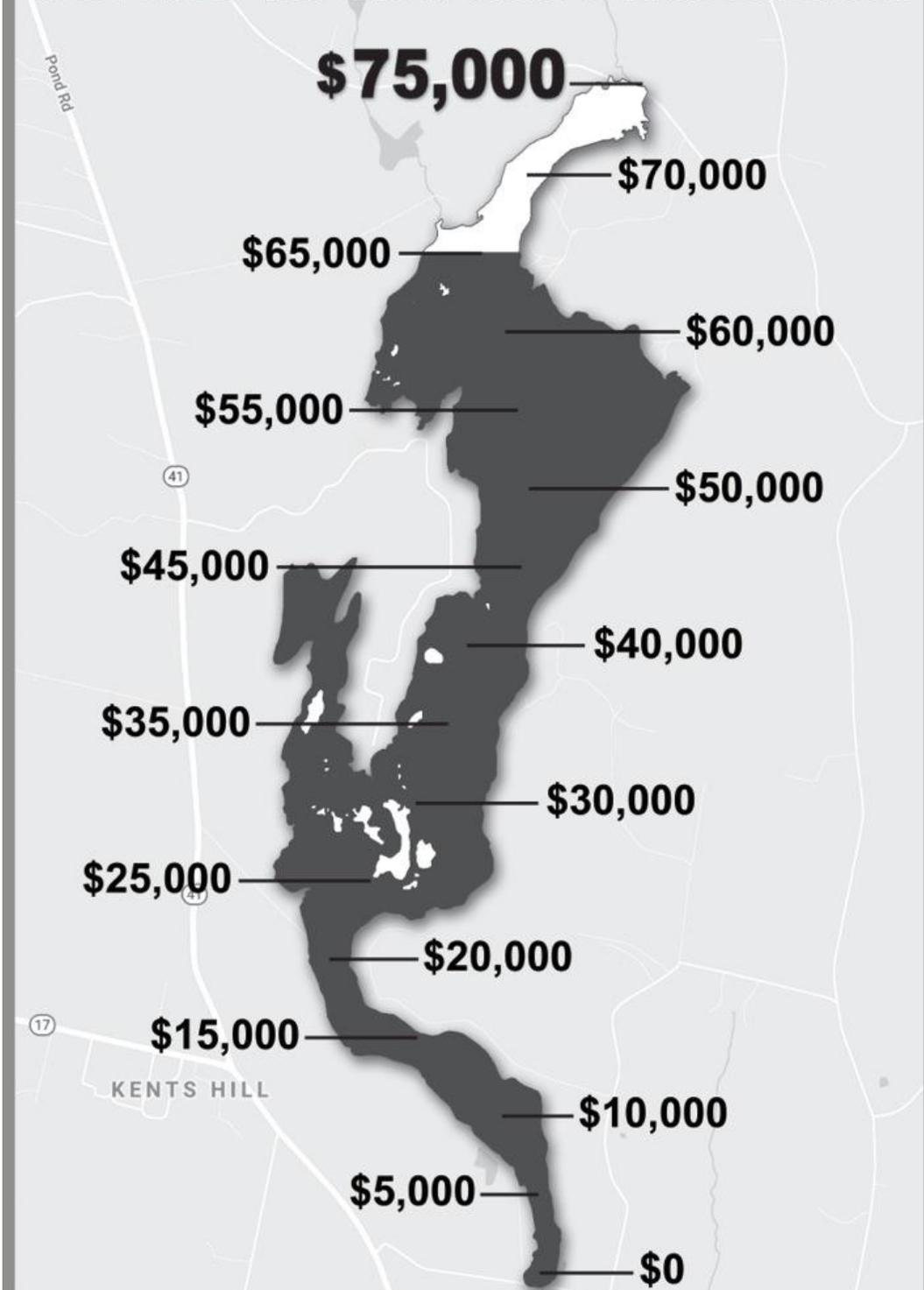
- 2019 Minutes Approval
- Dam Fundraising Report**
- Dam Condition Report
- Milfoil Prevention / CBI Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Insurance
- Officer Elections
- Q & A

You can visit our website for further meeting information, agenda update and additional instructions: torseypond.org



Help us Fill the Pond!

Torsey Pond Association Dam Repair Fundraising Goal
Our Dam is Leaking. It Needs Repairs!
If it FAILS We Won't Have This Launch!



Become a *Dam Good* Supporter!
Donate Today! Torseypond.org

Dam Facts

Day-to-day operation of the dam continues well. Winter drawdown was pushed out to the end of October due to Maranacook Dam work. The lake was fully ice covered by Dec. 7. The maximum ice thickness measured this winter was 18 inches. Normally we see about 24 to 26 inches of ice. The ice went out rather early on April 4.

As reported last year, I have noticed more and more degradation of the concrete behind the dam. This spring, the situation has gotten worse. Please see color pictures on the back of this page. The arrow is pointing to a crack that has gotten much bigger and now has water flowing through at a slow rate. This degradation is due to the freeze-thaw cycles we experience in the winter.

As discussed and approved at last year's annual meeting, we continued the quoting process on the dam-restoration project, which will include the demolition and resurfacing of the deteriorated concrete (including the rebuilding of the concrete guides). The second round of quoting had three valid quotes. We selected the low bidder (Callahan Associates). The work is scheduled to start at the end of this summer (2020).

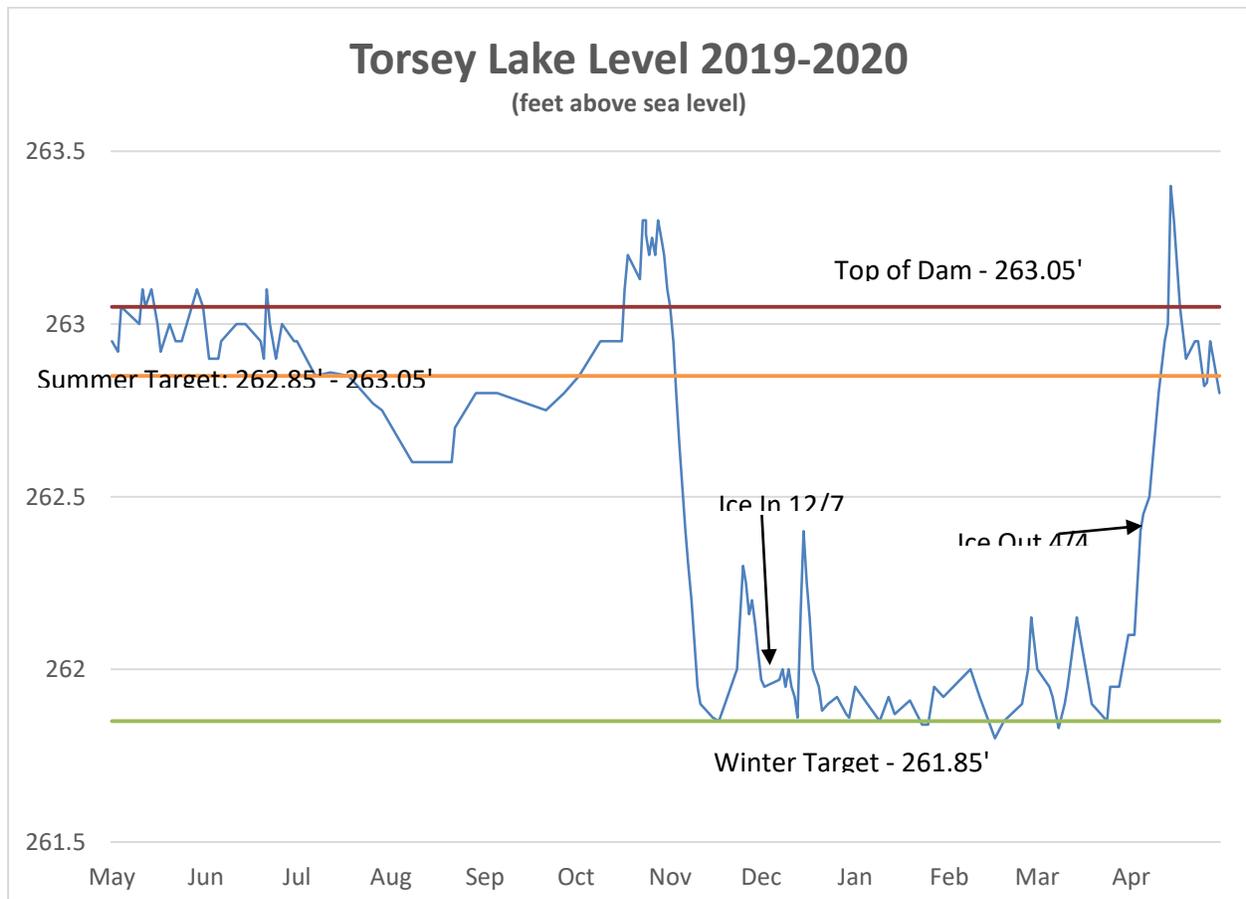
We have partnered with the town of Readfield, since they own the concrete abutment further downstream (4 feet) from the dam, along with the bridge. By doing this together we will save money by sharing the costs of the coffer dam and common work between both parties.

Our cost for this project is \$75,000. The monies will cover:

- Our share of the coffer dam, removal and reinstallation of the dam plate, and the dam concrete refurbishment.
- Steel dam plate sandblasting and epoxy painting.
- Upgraded bevel gear assemblies for raising and lowering gates.
- Repainting of steel work above dam.

Feel free to contact me at keithc@torseypond.org with any questions/concerns about the dam.

— Keith Coulling, Damkeeper



Here is the east concrete guide on April 14, 2019:



Here is the concrete guide on April 26, 2020:



Degradation much larger with water leaking through at a slow