



An Overview of the 2016 Mooring Petition sponsored by PLPA

- The petition is aimed at addressing public safety concerns at and around the boat launch on Pleasant Lake in Deerfield NH.
Public safety issues may be but aren't limited to the following:
 1. Moorings do not have safe distances between boats within the field to accommodate changing weather conditions.
 2. Moorings are placed far from shore as the field has grown outwardly into standard navigation zones, a particular hazard for night navigation.
 3. Moorings restrict the waiting area for boats using the launch to leave at the end of a day.
 4. Moored Boats are often very near shore, within a few feet of the actual Dam. With a drawdown from the Dam, boats, often inadequately anchored, could be potentially drawn into and collide with the Dam.
 5. Moored watercraft, from pontoon boats to ski boats, have a track record of breaking loose from or dragging their inadequate moorings across the lake. Many times property owners on the lake seek to intercept drifting boats before they do harm to private docks, other watercraft, and shoreline vegetation. If a boat is rescued from crashing ashore, what is the responsibility of a waterfront property homeowner to accommodate a rescued boat until the Marine Patrol arrives? What recourse do waterfront property owners have when an owner does not claim a boat in a timely manner?
 6. No regulation or oversight exists for the current mooring field. It grows at will, without parameters for safety or good practice in an already congested area of boat activity, in an area designated solely for boat launching by virtue of the type of available parking permitted by Fish and Game.
 7. Because there is no parking for mooring field boat owners, along with people who come simply to swim in the launch/dam shoreline, the number of cars parked illegally along the side of Gulf Road, in private roads, driveways, lawns and fields, mooring field proposes a direct threat during key weekends to the safe flow of traffic on Gulf Road and the rights of private citizens to secure their own property.
- The petition is the first step towards a public hearing regarding consideration of making Pleasant Lake a NH lake that requires mooring permits for property owners, thus eliminating the current unregulated mooring field.
- Prior to a formal hearing, the NH Department of Safety requires at least 25 signatures from residents of the towns affected. For Pleasant Lake, this will be residents of Deerfield and Northwood NH.
- Above and beyond the residents, there are other stakeholders concerned with public safety at Pleasant Lake:
Waterfront property owners on Pleasant Lake, Property owners on Gulf Road and all feeder roads to Gulf Road, NH Fish and Game Department, Dam Bureau, Department of Environmental Services, NH Department of Environmental Services (broadly) , the police departments of Deerfield and Northwood, NH, NH Marine, Patrol and the public at large and their right to access the lake.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Tere Bowen-Irish praxiscoachte@comcast.net 6035123399 or Knox Turner elsturner@aol.com 6036086761