

Resolution No. 2015-3

Town of Edgewater in Sawyer County

Whereas studies done on Lake Chetac, including a paleo ecological study, aquatic plant inventory, nutrient budget and management data analysis report, and a comprehensive lake management plan, recommend prevention and alternative non-chemical options for weed and phosphorus management, and

Whereas the DNR acknowledges herbicide drift of 1.6 and 2 miles beyond the permitted 90 acres in 2013 and 2014, respectively, killing a significantly larger area of native and invasive plants which had provided critical fish habitat. Chemical drift for 2015 is still unknown.

Whereas the three local units of governments representing property owners and residents on the Big Chetac and Birch Lakes chain have passed resolutions in opposition to chemical treatments and requested public meetings with the DNR so that all affected parties may voice their concerns and request conditions be placed on permits

Whereas petitions circulated in 2013, 2014 and 2015 demonstrate significant opposition to chemical treatments by riparian owners, fishermen and other lake users

Whereas local tourism and real estate businesses are reporting loss of business due to customer objection to, and avoidance of, chemically treated waters

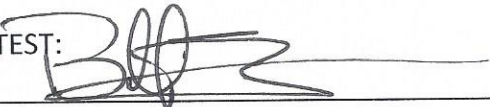
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the 8th day of September 2015, that the Town of Edgewater Board opposes chemical treatments in the Big Chetac and Birch Lakes chain;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Edgewater Board urgently requests the DNR:

1. Study, analyze and document habitat, fish populations and water quality for three years post-2015 treatment,
2. Support a five year moratorium on permitting any chemical treatments in the Chetac chain,
3. Provide technical support for non-chemical on-shore and lake management alternatives,
4. Require joint public meetings with the three local units of government and the public prior to any DNR consideration of lake management plan changes and for all permitting related to chemical treatments and other management practices,
5. Stop grant funding of herbicide and alum treatments in the Chetac and Birch Lakes chain.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this 8th day of September, 2015.

ATTEST:



Town Chairman

Town Supervisor



Town Clerk ~ Treasurer