From: Bradford Kral
To: DNR ESTABROOK
Subject: Estabrook Dam Restoration Draft EIS
Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 3:08:53 PM

03-23-2016
Response to Estabrook Dam DNR EIS Draft Report Meeting 03-22-2016
Attn: Kristina Betzold, Department of Natural Resources
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I have reviewed the Draft EIS found on line. For the record I am in favor of restoration of the pre-drawdown water level through repair of the dam with the addition of a passive fish passage as proposed in the report. My family has lived along the banks of the Milwaukee River in the affected areas extending from just south of Silver Spring Drive to the north and as far south as within the present park itself off Green Bay Road dating back to 1927.

The usability of the river for recreation beginning with the drawdown in 2008 has been seriously affected, not in a favorable way. Fishing along the banks has disappeared due to difficult access. Canoeing and kayaking bottoms out in low flow summer months when such recreation is most desirable.

Aesthetically the River has been reduced to something approximating a poorly managed drainage ditch. The riverbed, of the “lagoon” or as some have dubbed the “lake” and other areas beginning near Silver Spring Drive, below the planned water mark have become a tangle of brush, small trees and other invasive growth over the past eight years. If this opportunistic growth is left in place when the impound is flooded to level, river flow, usability and aesthetics would be problematic.

My Question to you is as follows:

Does the proposal to restore the dam and its impoundment include removal, by some practical means, the invasive plants from the now exposed riverbed before inundation?

If so, unless I missed something, no mention is made of this remedial activity in the report.

Thank you for your consideration,

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