

217 Mulberry Lane
RR 2
Eganville ON
K0J 1T0



19 March 2018

RE: Recreational Vehicles (RVs) at Lake Clear

Dear Councillors,

Having served on the LCPOA's *Land Use Committee (LUC)* since its inception, and therefore very familiar with its extensive research, I am increasingly concerned with the possible demise of lake trout as a viable species in Lake Clear. My main concern is phosphate levels, which as outlined in LUC's earlier comprehensive submission, are known to be impacted by human habitation. Historically in order to prevent higher phosphate levels, the province greatly restricted further development on Lake Clear, and Sebastopol/Bonnechere Valley Township put bylaws in place to keep buildings, wells and septic tanks at least 30 metres away from the waterfront, a development-free zone often referred to as *The Ribbon of Life*.

Unfortunately at the time of amalgamation, BVT did not address the issue of RVs in its bylaws. As a result it now faces a serious problem, namely the increasing number of unregulated RVs being used in lieu of cottages at the lake, and for which there are no controls over kitchen and washroom discharge, thus threatening acceptable phosphate levels. In addition, many are positioned near or even at the water's edge which increases even further their negative impact on the lake.

We are all aware of environmental threats to polar bears in the Arctic and right-whales in our eastern coastal waters, and citizen groups' ensuing calls for remedial action. Likewise here in BVT, the continued survival of Lake Clear's lake trout should be a top priority... and it's Council alone that has the legal authority to ensure their survival through approval of appropriate bylaws.

If it has not already done so, I strongly encourage Council to invite representation from MNRF in Pembroke to one of its meetings so that Councillors are fully updated on the situation at Lake Clear from the ministry's perspective.

BVT Council now faces an ethical deliberation. Does it, or does it not act to protect a species within its jurisdiction from possible extinction?

Sincerely,

Lorne Monahan