

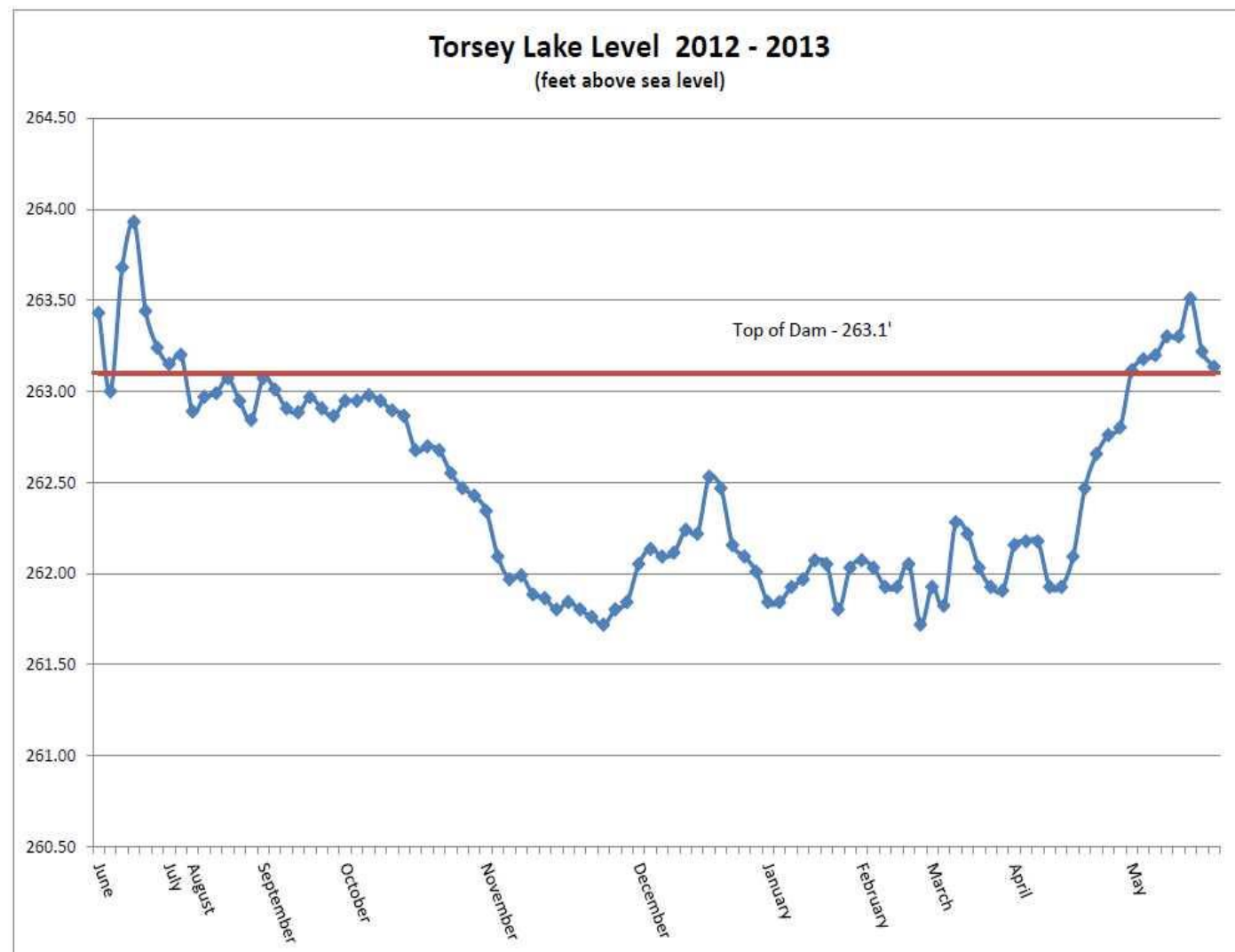
Dam facts

The Torsey Pond dam continues to work well. The past year was pretty routine, except for a beaver that did not want any summer water flow! He left the dam alone after I started the fall drawdown.

We also had a professional engineer inspect the dam for any potential problems. He stated that “the dam has been maintained well over the years and is in good and sound condition.” His only suggestions were to fill any cracks with epoxy and possibly putting some larger rip-rap directly below the dam to keep the footing from ever being exposed. I will be looking for a vendor to quote the epoxy injection of existing cracks.

Feel free to contact me at keithc@sacoriver.net with any questions about the dam.

— *Keith Couling, Damkeeper*



The 2012 Torsey Pond Association meeting was the first held at the Readfield Town Office. The 2013 meeting will also be at the Town Office at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 13.

Torsey Pond Association
c/o Holly Rahmlow
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Board Members

(parentheses indicate year member's term ends)

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Hello, everyone.

Thanks goodness the Mayan calendar was misinterpreted and we will have another year to play in, on and around Torsey Pond.

Last year was somewhat quiet as far as projects undertaken by the TPA. We did locate a couple of buoys that had broken loose from their anchors. Barry Kutz returned them to their proper locations.

Be assured that the association will continue to keep close tabs on the clear-cutting done by Belle Vue Farm on Route 41. Last year several board members were in contact with the Readfield selectmen and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. We are trying to find out if the farm obtained the proper permissions. It is a big job to find out just what is happening, but there are board members who are very tenacious and will do everything possible to keep Torsey safe from this farm's runoff.

This year's annual meeting will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 13 in the Readfield Town Office. There will be the annual election of board members, and a new president will be selected. If you misplace this newsletter, you can always check out the meeting date on the Torsey Pond website. Chip Stevens has created a site everyone can be proud of at www.torseypond.org.

No speaker for the annual meeting has been selected, but as soon as one is confirmed that information will be posted on the website.

One of the major threats to Torsey Pond continues to be the problem of invasive plants. Thanks to Andy Zuorski, there are no invasives at this time. Any help you can give, either by a financial donation or volunteering as courtesy boat inspector, helps to keep our lake free of those nasty invasive plants.

I think we've lost the fight with the northern pike. But it is still recommended that if you catch one please don't return it to the lake alive. I have heard that some people have caught twenty-pounders.

Please remind your guests about the regulations regarding no wake zone on the lake. The reason for these zones is not to spoil anyone's fun but rather to protect the fragile shoreline from unnecessary erosion.

Have fun, and please come to the annual meeting.

Linda Lally, TPA President

Invasive Aquatic Plant Update

It's spring and once again courtesy boat inspectors wearing bright yellow T-shirts will be at the launch preventing the introduction of invasive plants in Torsey. They will be on guard every weekend from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Most of these resources are contracted through the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed, but we also have a great core of volunteers who give up their time to take two-hour shifts at the launch on weekends. These folks are our first line of defense against invasive aquatic plants entering Torsey Pond.

The treat to Torsey is very real. Maine has more than 5,000 lakes and ponds, and there are fewer than forty confirmed infestations. The bad news is there are ten confirmed infestations (Great Pond, Great Meadow Stream, Messalonskee Lake, Belgrade Stream, Messalonskee Stream, Pleasant Pond, Cobbossee Stream, Horseshoe Pond, Purgatory Stream and Salmon Lake) in the Belgrade and Cobbossee watersheds. All are within close proximity to Torsey.

Everyone, regardless of age, can help protect Torsey.

1. Before putting your watercraft in Torsey, please inspect it (hull, trailer, prop, fishing tackle, anchors, water skis, tubes, etc.) for plant fragments.
2. Become familiar with what aquatic invasive plant species look like. The Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program Interactive Field Guide is a great resource and can be found at www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org/mciap/herbarium.
3. If you spot a suspicious patch of weeds while recreating on the pond, take a sample for further analysis. Early detection of an infestation is our second line of defense and one in which everyone can participate.

If you would like to learn more about our efforts to protect Torsey, stop by the launch for a chat with one of our CBI's in a bright yellow T-shirt. He or she will be happy to answer your questions.

— Andy Zuorski

Please visit our website at www.torseypond.org!

If you would like to be added to an email distribution list for the association, please email your newsletter editor at holly@thundercastle.com. She promises not to spam you! You will be notified only about issues affecting Torsey Pond directly.

Don't miss the Torsey Pond Association Annual Meeting! Join your neighbors in preserving our lake at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 13, at the Readfield Town Hall.

If you can't attend, please still send in your dues and proxy.