

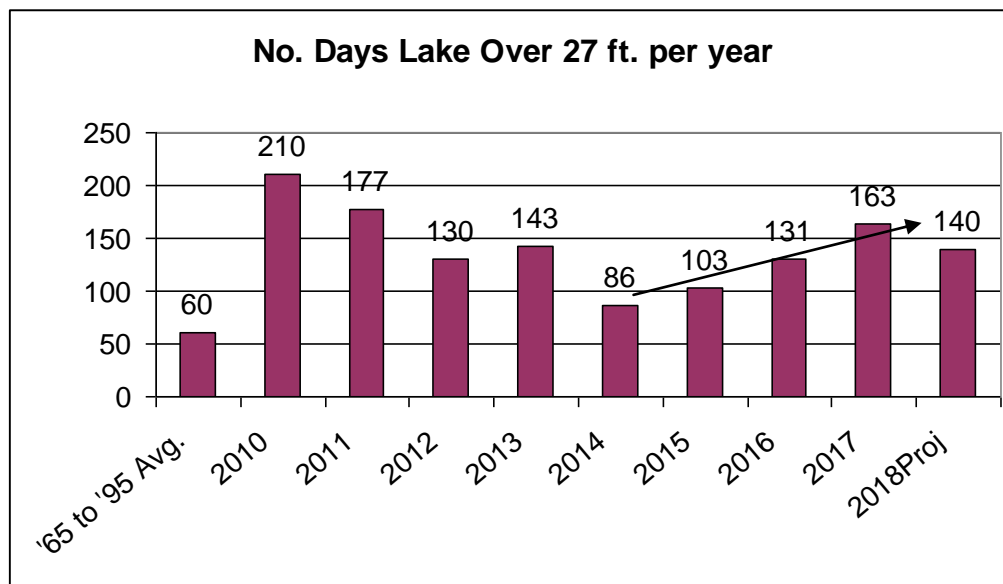
**RE: Willowmoor Project Consultant Efforts**

Thanks for agreeing to meet with several of us living on Lake Sammamish shorelines. Our reason for asking for the meeting, as you know, is the Willowmoor project and more specifically, several concerns we have with the intentions reflected in the consultant scope of work. To focus our meeting, I'll summarize our major concerns here, but also supply a copy of our earlier communiqué to County staff.

**Need to Coordinate with Corps**

The Corps' liaison to the flood control project, including Willowmoor, has informed me that he has repeatedly requested the County to work closely with the Corps. A primary reason to do so is that the entire flood control project was inactivated in 2008. I think you'll agree this increases the County's liability. So, the basic question is, *"Why would the County undertake design of a project without assuring re-activation of the flood control system?"*. Without dealing with this broader issue, those of us on Lake Sammamish will suffer damages from continued raised water levels.

To support that last statement, and to emphasize the need to include focus on lake water levels, here is a diagram of the number of days each year the lake has exceeded the Corps' design for lake levels.



Data Source: USGS Lake Sammamish Water Level Gauge

The Willowmoor consultant is directed to only compare to recent flow conditions in the Transition Zone (TZ). But, as pointed out above, we know the TZ is not delivering as needed and as designed. We are still some 50 days per year above the County target adopted in the first phase of Willowmoor (i.e., 90 days per year) and we're more than 2 times the days witnessed in the first 30 years of the TZ when the Corps' 27 ft. level was exceeded only 60 days per year.

### **Need to Assure Proper Analysis Framework**

The myopic direction given the consultant veers off course in several other areas.

Static approach downstream - the consultant is advised of Bear Creek's recent planning effort, but there is no indication that Bear Creeks' flows might be regulated/coordinated with lake outflows to optimize use of the limited river capacity downstream. Thus, the river will back up into the lake.

Alteration of previous findings - also, the direction to the consultant appears to call for them to repeat an earlier analyses that found fault with the County vegetation placed in the TZ. What's unacceptable here is that this effort is not to be documented.

### **Need to Assure Public Awareness**

Finally, we reiterate concerns expressed to staff that the consultant was only required to notice residents living within 1 mile of the TZ of the results of their efforts. Far more than just these people need to be notified when the findings are produced. Everyone downstream in the floodplain should be alerted, but, most assuredly, all properties on Lake Sammamish must be notified.

### **Summary**

The combination of tasks charging the consultant effort reflects a lack of concern by County staff for the impacts that continue to be imposed on shoreline property owners from artificially raised lake levels. Unfortunately the County contracting process prevented us from review and comment on the draft agreement. But, our prior comments to staff have made them aware of these concerns.

Council Member Lambert, thank you for agreeing to meet with us. We look forward to receiving your guidance on how to deal with this matter.

Respectfully,



Martin Nizlek  
Lake Sammamish Resident  
Member, WA Sensible Shorelines Assoc. (WSSA)

CC: R.Brockway, S. Sheffield, J. Mackey, D. Martin, G. Pauley, N. Myers - Residents  
C. Ifft, ACOE  
Board, WSSA