

Resolution 2026-001

A resolution to formally request the DNR to approve a minimum 50 acres of weed harvesting on Long Lake in Orleans Township, Ionia County for 2027, as has been the practice for years and decades prior to 2026

Whereas the Long Lake Improvement Board is responsible for the weed management program at Long Lake via Progressive AE; and

Whereas the limitation of weed harvesting to 10 acres by the DNR in 2026 due to the existence of the pug nosed shiner species caused: the majority of the lake to be not navigable by boats, caused considerable boat motor damage and repairs due to excessive weeds, prevented residents from gaining ingress/egress to the lake from their docks, caused a concentration of boat traffic in a small percentage of the lake increasing boater safety concerns, and restricted the general use of Long Lake by residents and the public;

Whereas Long Lake has been harvesting approximately 50 acres on Long Lake for more than 40 years with no known or documented detrimental effects on any fish species and their population, including the pug-nosed shiner;

Whereas, the DNR, nor any other agency, has provided any statistics, data, studies or reports that weed harvesting has harmed, or has had

any adverse effects on, the pugnosed shiner's existence, population and spawning habitat in Long Lake;

Whereas, The Long Lake Improvement Board recognizes the need to not weed harvest, nor disturb the areas where the DNR has previously found pugnosed shiners.

The Long Lake Improvement Board therefore resolves for Progressive AE to request weed harvesting on a minimum of 50 acres of Long Lake in 2027 as part of our permitting process. Priority would be a wide navigation route around the lake as well as the southwest corner of Long Lake and the East End of the lake, excluding the Flat River area in the "cove."

The Long Lake Improvement Board invites the DNR and Progressive AE to monitor the weed harvesting in 2027, and the weeds removed from the lake, if it desires, to determine if any pugnosed shiners are affected or removed from the lake in the process.

Adopted and approved on October 26, 2026 at the Long Lake Improvement Board Meeting

Motion Made by: Paul Knoerl

Supported by: _____

Ayes:

Nays: