

2024 POND LEVEL MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE

1. AUTHORITY

This regulation is adopted by the VDOE Annual Meeting 2024 Legislative Body pursuant to RSA 52:1 and RSA 675:3.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to ensure balanced pond water level standards for managing Pea Porridge Pond dam gate levels for all users.

The 7 Guiding Principles of the NH Department of Environmental Services COMPREHENSIVE SURFACE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT document were followed where applicable.

<https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/comprehensive-surface-water-resource-management.pdf>

3. REGULATIONS

The VDOE Board of Commissioners manages the dam at Little Pea Porridge Pond and follows the following guidelines:

- 3.1 The VDOE is to have one 5-inch board (cap) and four 11-inch boards (or varying sizes for an equivalent height of 49-inches of boards).
- 3.2 Ponds are kept as close to the top of the concrete of the dam as possible from June 10th to October 10th.
- 3.3 The lowest pond level adjustment will not be lower than the dry hydrant intake pipe opening on the bottom of Little Pea Porridge Pond
- 3.5 The Fall Pond Level Drawdown shall be performed prior to October 15th, as recommended by the NH Department of Environmental Services.
- 3.6 The VDOE Board of Commissioners shall follow water resource emergencies by developing avoidance strategies. (NHDES Guiding Principle #7)
- 3.7 In emergencies, potentially hazardous situations, and dam failure, the VDOE will follow the dam's Current Emergency Action Plan.

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The VDOE Board of Commissioners may amend this ordinance after proper public hearings.

This 2024 Pond Level Management Ordinances replaces all previous versions of Pond Level Management Ordinances in their entirety.

Adopted March 23, 2024, at the Annual Meeting by the Legislative Body