

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** **President Geoff Harvey**

**Flooding:** Hayden Lake is full and has been full since the thaw in February. As a consequence water has spilled into the Richards' pasture below the lake which prior to the dike construction was part of the lakebed. After the thaw the rain and snow continued through March and April into May. The lake has continued to spill into the pasture to a point where six or seven feet of water has accumulated across the dike from the lake and covered a substantial part of the pasture. Adding to the situation is the fact that the high elevation snowpack continued to build over this period and that snowpack is deep, yet to melt and has a record 56.4 inches of water equivalent as of early May. These facts point to the certainty that lake level will increase. There is a probability that the

water could escape the pasture into the adjacent neighborhoods.

The agencies and local districts met on the situation. Todd Walker, our lake manager and I sat in on the meeting. The highway district wanted to know how high the water could potentially rise, so it could plan protective measures, if required. Some back of the envelop calculations of runoff scenarios assumed the bulk of the melt would come from the snowpack situated on acreage above 4,000 feet elevation in the watershed and the size of the lake including the pasture. The results indicate that only an unlikely rain event that eroded the entire pack would yield sufficient runoff to raise the water high enough to escape the pasture. A more likely scenario is water rising 2-3 feet above its current level of 2239.5

*Flooding in the Richards' pasture in late May at the SW corner of Hayden Lake.*



Photo courtesy of Geoff Harvey

feet (normal summer pool elevation is 2238 feet). Just in case, the recommendation was made that sandbags be readily available if the worst occurred. Both Hayden Lake Recreational Sewer and the City of Hayden have taken no chances and sandbagged their vulnerable sewage lift stations. The other recommendation was that trenches be dug in those parts of the pasture yet to be inundated to hasten infiltration of water to the aquifer. Both sandbag placement and ditch construction have occurred. The Clark Ditch which flanks the East Hayden Lake Road is also a feature to allow infiltration but required maintenance has been neglected since the last flood situation in 1997. Army Corps of Engineers inspectors walked the dike and decided it was in imminent danger of failure due to some wave erosion on its lake side. This contention was not supported by local agency and district personnel who have worked through a few flood events including the last large one in 1997. The sewer district managing on the conservative side bypassed and cleaned out its sewage line that traverses the dike. The county commissioner received a full report and after another huddle opted for a plan in which the Corps will rebuild the dike during the flood event creating a finished product. Some question how this can be achieved with the water so high. After the Corps stated that all the trees must go and Bob Haynes of the Department of Water Resources countered that should the trees be cut the entire dike would require a total rebuild, it is also questionable whether the dike will look the same when the Corps has completed its work. Ironically, the General in charge of the local Corps arrived to tour the dike. Todd tells me that he stated that

there was no imminent danger the dike would fail. In the meantime a no wake zone has been placed in Honeysuckle Bay to limit boat wake erosion and the public has been barred from using the dike. Todd is walking the dike twice daily to look for any signs of failure. So far none are apparent.

Flooding should have little effect on shore property around the lake, because in most places the banks are steep with houses and cabins set back. Houses near Honeysuckle Boat Launch could have some flooding with a two-three feet rise in the lake. On the lake, gangways leading to docks could be displaced. Many owners have removed their gangways until the water recedes. In some cases the water may rise sufficiently high to raise floating docks above their piling allowing docks to float free. If possible docks should be tethered to a piling to keep them from floating off.

**Lake Monitoring:** Based on last year's near shore sediment monitoring effort, the monitoring will be targeted more closely to those areas where the largest amount of accumulation occurred. Sampling devices will be pulled from the low sedimentation areas and moved to new sites. We will be looking for new sites to house samplers once the water goes down sufficient to recover and place the samplers.

KEA will be operating an artificial island designed to remove plant growth nutrients from the lake. The island will be moored in a bay of the lake's northern arm. The Association will work with KEA to help monitor the effectiveness of the device's nutrient removal.

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**TREASURER’S REPORT**  
**By Gloria Lund, Treasurer**

During the month of January I sent out ‘Thank You’ notes to 53 members of the Hayden Lake Watershed Assoc. who had made contributions besides paying their dues. These letters can be used for contribution purposes on your 2010 I.R.S. tax returns. If you did not receive one of these letters, and feel that you should have, please contact me. These contributions have made it possible for us to be able to maintain a ‘Lake Manager’ this past year – which has contributed much to the purpose of our organization of maintaining the quality of our lake. We hope all of our members will be able to contribute to this fund this coming year.

**ISSUES AROUND THE LAKE**  
**by Todd Walker, Lake Manager**  
Lake Cleanup June 16th

Again this year the Association will partner with counselors and managers of Camp Mivoden to help clean up a portion of Hayden Lake. Last year’s effort focused on Mokins Bay and this year some abandoned docks will be removed from Cramps and Bob’s Bays. Litter removal will focus on the shoreline from Sportsmen’s Access and along the northernmost shore of the lake where litter from public use is prevalent. Cleanup efforts give us an opportunity to remove unsightly and potentially harmful debris from the lakeshore. We urge Association members and all friends of the lake to come out on that Thursday and join the effort. We especially need boats able to ferry abandoned docks across the lake to the Mokins Slough dike for removal from the lake. We are limiting the number removed to those marked so the removal

and disposal is not overwhelmed by sheer numbers. We will meet at the Sportsmen’s Access boat ramp at 8 AM on June 16th. Cleanup efforts typically last through the early and mid-morning to no later than noon. Bring your work gloves and wading boots if you have them. For further information contact our lake manager, Todd Walker at 771-0525.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT**  
**By Chris Meyer, Secretary**

**New HLWA website coming soon!**

The Hayden Lake Watershed Association web site has been inactive for the last 18 months or so but plans are in motion for a new and improved version! The Association is working on the construction of a new more interactive website to help with member communications and information about protecting Hayden Lake. When completed, members and the general public will be able to log on to find information on the most recent issues, historical documents concerning lake and

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
*The HLWA annual meeting will be held on July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Hayden Lake Country Club. More details to come soon!*

watershed management, and other pertinent information. Members will also be able to interactively leave messages with comments, questions, concerns and issues. The new interactive nature of the website should allow the lake manager and the Board to more rapidly address your issues with return e-mails. Thanks for your patience and we look forward to rolling out the new site in time for the annual meeting in July!

**Summer road construction updates**

The tentative schedule for a few road construction projects planned for the roads around Hayden Lake:

- The restoration of E. Honeysuckle

road from Honeysuckle to the Dike is planned for late July and early August. Access impacts should be minimal and limited to a few days at a time.

- The new alignment of Lancaster road from Government Way to Ferndale will be constructed this summer. Construction is scheduled to last from July through October.

Contact Eric Shanley at the Lakes Highway District with any questions. 208-772-7527

***Don't forget to join us for the lake cleanup on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Meet at 8am at the Sportsman's Access boat launch and remember to bring your work gloves!***

### **Board member position open**

We have one position open on the Hayden Lake Watershed Association Board of Directors. Any interested parties should send an e-mail to [HLWA@imaxmail.net](mailto:HLWA@imaxmail.net). All inquiries are welcomed!

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Name	_____
Local Address	_____ _____
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Cell Phone	_____
Email Addresses	_____ _____
Dues Payment (\$25)	_____
Donation	_____
Total	_____
Mail To:	HLWAI P.O. Box 3583 Hayden, ID 83835 HLWA@imaxmail.net

*Dreaming of summer on the lake...*

