

# Four Lakes Task Force

Gladwin and Midland Counties' Delegated Authority  
of the Four Lakes Special Assessment District

## Community Information Session: Webinar

### Status Report

May 14, 2024



# This is an Information Session

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- Please use the Q&A feature in GoToWebinar or email questions to [info@fourlakestaskforce.org](mailto:info@fourlakestaskforce.org) and we will answer questions during the meeting and at the end.
- 
- These meetings are focused on keeping the community informed and providing an opportunity to ask questions
  - This meeting is being held virtually to accommodate as many people as possible
  - This is not a board meeting or hearing – no formal action will occur
  - For this meeting, we will answer questions that are related to this content or new subjects
  - Questions that have been asked multiple times before, and are on our FAQ page we will not address but will forward a link to you

# Agenda

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1. Grant Funding
2. Timing
3. Construction Status
4. Questions and Answers



# Appeal Status

Note this is not all the filings by the party

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- **Feb 20** - Heron Cove Associations and its Named Members (HCA)
  - A Claim of Appeal was filed on behalf of (Amended Appeal filed on Feb 21)
- **Feb 27** - Midland and Gladwin Counties and FLTF
  - A Record of Appeal was filed against the FLTF lake level special assessment hearing held on January 15, 2024, and joint meeting of Midland and Gladwin County Board of Commissioners held on February 6, 2024
- **March 26** - HCA filed its Brief on Appeal
- **April 16** - Midland and Gladwin Counties and FLTF filed its Brief on Appeal
- **May 7** - HCA Reply Brief in Opposition
- **May 14** - FLTF filed today its Reply to HCA Brief of Opposition to FLTF lack of Standing
- **May 29** - Oral arguments scheduled

# Requests to the Courts\*

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## Heron Coves Association and Named Members

“...vacate the special assessment rolls....”

## Counties and Four Lakes Task Force

Affirm the special assessment rolls  
Approved by the Counties for the  
Four Lakes Special Assessment  
District

\* Note: These statements are taken from the conclusions of the briefs. To read the entire brief and the conclusions of both parties, refer to the brief.



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## Timing

Dave Kepler, FLTF President

*Pictured: Sanford Dam dewatered. Photo taken by Fisher Contracting.*

# Construction Suspension Schedule

Dam	Suspension Date and Description
Secord	<b>September 2024</b> Shortly after the completion of the auxiliary spillway
Smallwood	<b>September 2024</b> After auxiliary spillway is complete and the low flow outlet is stabilized
Edenville	<b>September 2024</b> The completion of the current embankment improvement project <b>May 2024</b> The final phase of the Edenville Dam, planned to start (pending permit), is now delayed until financing
Sanford	<b>December 2024</b> Completion of the current work near Primary Spillway



# How Will the Delay Impact Project Costs?

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- If project is not funded by September...
  - ▣ Construction will suspend on all four dams and construction can resume on all four dams by April of 2025, if appeal is resolved
  - ▣ There will be a cost increase to the project between \$10.6 - \$19.7 million. It can be managed within the contingency budget and current approved project costs
- The current work plan has been adjusted to keep crews on the projects and contracts in place with no suspension until September
  - ▣ If we can finance by then we will be impacted by 2-3 months
  - ▣ Still in review with Treasury and EGLE on the plan
  - ▣ This is likely \$3 - \$5 million impact



# Current Estimate of Substantial Completion

Assumes Funding Appeal Resolution Q3 2024 to Q1 2025

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Lake	Previously Published Oct. 2023 Estimated Substantial Completion Date	Current Estimated Substantial Completion Date
Secord	September 2025 +/-3 months	November 2025 +/-3 months
Smallwood	March 2025 +/-3 months	May 2025 +/-3 months
Wixom	August 2026 +/-6 months	August 2027 +/-6 months
Sanford	April 2026 +8/-3 months	May 2026 +/-3 months



# Why is Edenville Timing Impacted Most Significantly?

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- Phase V was set to begin by June and that will not occur
  - Insufficient funds to start and finish this phase
  - Will lose summer work conditions
- Required bond financing is available in September
- Must obtain U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service mussel take permit
  - Fall and winter weather dictates how much work can get accomplished during those seasons
- EGLE permit has not yet been approved

Estimated  
substantial  
completion date:  
August 2027



# Edenville Dam – “Take Permit” Update

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- Submitted the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) in April for final review
- USFWS is beginning to draft the Biological Opinion (BO) which is necessary for them to issue the Incidental Take Permit
- FLTF will formally apply for the Incidental Take Permit in May 2024. The HCP being complete is required prior to this application being submitted
- Public comment period is expected to begin in June 2024
- Take Permit is still anticipated to be issued in September 2024. We are hopeful we can get this complete in August 2024



*Embankment Restoration – Looking East*



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## Financing

Kayla Stryker, FLTF Treasurer and Administrator


# State of Michigan (SOM) Funds Remaining

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- FLTF has determined the safest stop points for construction within the limited remaining SOM resources (\$85M)
- Appeal prevents FLTF from acquiring additional financing until it is closed
- FLTF cannot expend all SOM funds until the match is demonstrated, meaning FLTF cannot utilize the full \$85M until financing is demonstrated
- Therefore, there is approximately \$75 million left to utilize on dam construction until financing is secured

# FLTF Funding Sources Secured to Date

- \$220.5 million in State of Michigan funding secured
- \$21.9 million in federal funding secured
- \$5 million in private donations raised
- All funding secured helps alleviate the burden to the FLSAD by offsetting the costs to recover, design and rebuild the dams



<b>Funding Sources - Post May 2020</b>	
<b>State of Michigan</b>	
SOM \$15M Interim	\$ 15,000,000.00
SOM \$2.5M Interim	\$ 2,500,000.00
EGLF Funds	\$ 3,000,000.00
\$200M Restoration	\$ 200,000,000.00
<b>USDA NRCS</b>	
EWP Grants	\$ 20,413,449.62
<b>FEMA HHPD</b>	
FY '21 & FY '22	\$ 702,615.00
<b>USDA Community Facilities</b>	
Boom Grant	\$ 795,000.00
<b>Private Donations</b>	
Just under \$5 million in private donations raised	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 247,411,064.62</b>

# Grant Funding Applications

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## Currently Outstanding Applications

- EPA Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants \$16.8 million
- FEMA HHPD Grant \$5M
- Appropriation applications
  - ▣ \$12M cumulative USDA Community Facilities Application with four offices
  - ▣ \$120M USACE Application

## Denied Applications

- HUD Community Development Block Grant \$10M
- EGLE Dam Risk Reduction Grant program
- DNR SparkGrants for public access
- 2023 and 2024 Dow Championship #Teamup
- Consumer's Energy Planet Awards
- Appropriation of \$50 million recommended by Bill G. Schuette in EGLE budget



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## Construction Status

Warren Miller, Spicer Group, Restoration Project  
Engineer and Controller

*Pictured: Secord Dam*



# Secord Dam

Where We Are Today	Where We'll be at Suspension Point (September 2024)	What's Left to Do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Steel sheet pile cutoff wall installed</li><li>• Auxiliary spillway basin and chute are 95% complete</li><li>• Upstream primary cofferdam being installed</li><li>• Low level outlet under construction</li><li>• Tailrace riprap installed</li><li>• Left embankment complete</li><li>• Right embankment micropiles installed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water will be diverted through auxiliary spillway</li><li>• Phase 1 cofferdam will be installed</li><li>• Primary spillway rollway partially demolished</li><li>• LLO sister wall under construction</li><li>• Right embankment will be stabilized</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete primary spillway</li><li>• Complete right training wall</li><li>• Complete low level outlet</li><li>• Complete controls building</li><li>• Install crest gates</li><li>• Site restoration</li></ul>



# Secord Dam



*Secord Dam – Looking East*



*Upstream Cofferdam Installation – Looking Northwest*

# Smallwood Dam

Where We Are Today	Where We'll be at Suspension Point (September 2024)	What's Left to Do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Auxiliary spillway is complete</li><li>• Phase II upstream and downstream cofferdam are installed</li><li>• Low level outlet (LLO) is under construction</li><li>• Portions of the right embankment are being constructed to final grade</li><li>• Controls building under construction</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bay 1 of primary spillway will be demolished</li><li>• Center pier will be partial constructed not full</li><li>• Phase II cofferdam would be removed</li><li>• Low level outlet will be operational</li><li>• Control building to accommodate controls for LLO</li><li>• Right embankment complete</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete primary spillway in Phase III (bay 2)</li><li>• Complete controls building</li><li>• Install crest gates</li><li>• Left embankment construction</li><li>• Site restoration</li></ul>



# Smallwood Dam



Forming downstream baffle blocks in Bay 1 of Primary Spillway



LLO slice gate installation

# Edenville Dam

Where We Are Today	Where We'll be at Suspension Point (September 2024)	What's Left to Do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Phase III, soil cement bentonite (SCB) wall is installed</li><li>• Tittabawassee right embankment drain, filter and common fill placement is complete</li><li>• Steel sheet pile cutoff installed on Tobacco right and left walls to tie to SCB wall</li><li>• Filter construction beginning on Tobacco right embankment</li><li>• Phase V project (spillways) bid out and awarded</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Phase IV embankment work completed for Tobacco embankments and Tittabawassee right embankment</li><li>• Phase V permit issued</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete restoration scope Tobacco Spillway and LLO</li><li>• Complete restoration scope for Tittabawassee Spillway and LLO</li><li>• Complete restoration scope for auxiliary spillway</li><li>• Site restoration</li></ul>



# Edenville Dam



Sheet Pile Installation – Looking North on Tobacco Spillway



Phase IV – Embankment Restoration – Looking West

# Sanford Dam

Where We Are Today	Where We'll be at Suspension Point (December 2024)	What's Left to Do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Upstream and downstream cofferdams in place</li><li>• Existing primary spillway demolished</li><li>• Excavation on-going for low level outlet (LLO)</li><li>• Left floodwall concrete complete</li><li>• Concrete features, pier and walls starting for primary spillway</li><li>• Powerhouse lower level filled with concrete</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Primary spillway piers complete</li><li>• Primary spillway right wall constructed</li><li>• Tailrace area complete</li><li>• LLO constructed and operational</li><li>• Controls building finished, mechanical component not installed</li><li>• Breachway would remain open but water would be shifted back to primary spillway</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Install crest gates</li><li>• Construct auxiliary spillway</li><li>• Site restoration</li></ul>



# Sanford Dam

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*Upstream Spillway Area for Construction Logistics – Looking Northwest*



*Primary Spillway – Forms Being Placed For Piers – Looking North*



In summary:

## The Best Alternative is to Restore the Dams

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- A strong construction team in place
- We continue to work to lower the costs of the projects and seek grants
- FLTF has followed the law and recognizes there is a right to appeal the rolls
  - ▣ But it does add time and money
  - ▣ Its an appeal of the roll not of the project!
- We are still waiting for Treasury's Confirmation

The Best Alternative is to Restore the Dams and Lakes



*Secord Dam – Looking East*

## Questions and Answers

Please use the Q&A feature in GoToWebinar or email questions to [info@fourlakestaskforce.org](mailto:info@fourlakestaskforce.org) and we will address as many questions as we can

We will not answer questions related to the Heron Cove Association or legal matter's related to its appeal.

# Upcoming Meetings

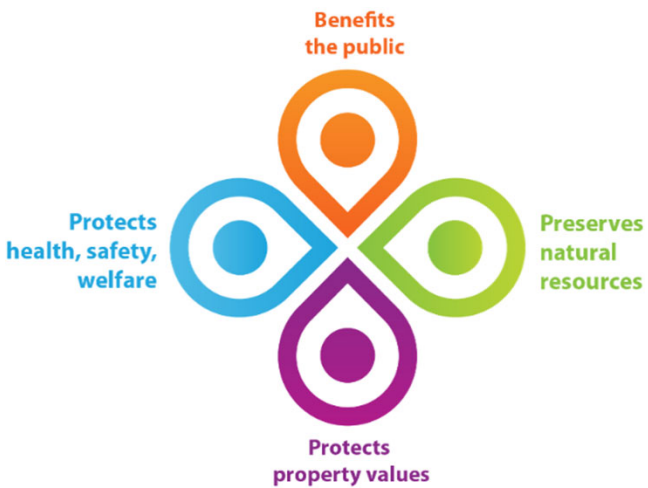
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## Board Meetings (12:00 – 2:00 pm)

- May 16
- July 16
- October 15
- December 10

## Informational Sessions (5:00 – 7:00 pm)

- July 10
- October 9
- December 4



## Four Lakes Restoration Plan