



### **Ponds Update – Report after initial meeting with DHM design**

Hi All,

Tony and I had a good meeting with Stephen from DHM Design. We can share more in our next meeting, but I'm writing to provide a quick summary of the discussion. Stephen had visited LEC in the past and had provided a proposal for pond maintenance at our request, but the board at the time never followed up. He seems very knowledgeable, is the director of ecology at DHM, and is doing other work related to ditches and ponds in the capital creek valley. He also validated what we have heard elsewhere about the new water commissioner being strict and by the book (he called her "Green and by the book.")

For now we have asked him to develop a proposal for us to review on pond maintenance and wildlife habitat restoration. This would be for basic annual service and would remove nuisance aquatic vegetation, enhance beneficial vegetation, and consider ways to increase the habitat value of the ponds.

We also asked him to outline and estimate a budget for a more involved engagement could include things like infrastructure assessment and upgrades, safety reviews, compliance evaluation, lidar mapping etc. This estimate will be less detailed, as Stephen indicated a full proposal would require a big lift on his part and he wants to gauge our interest before investing that time and effort.

Clay