



## Facebook Nonsense Continues . . . December 28, 2024



We are disappointed with the continued spread of misinformation by some on Facebook. Most of the people spreading FALSE INFORMATION do not have property on Secord. Sadly, some on Secord willingly participate.

From past updates provided by the FLTF and Secord Lake Association:

### **Facebook claims the permitting challenges with Edenville are the reason for the suspension of construction at Secord, Smallwood, and Sanford.**

**FALSE** - The Facebook FAKE NEWS posts just 2-pages of a 7-page letter from the MI DNR with their claim. This letter provides the DNR recommendations to address that the Edenville challenge with endangered freshwater mussels has **NOTHING** to do with Secord, Smallwood or Sanford.

FLTF has been transparent regarding the permitting challenges with Edenville due to EGLE permitting and the USFWS permitting for the endangered species. Construction on Edenville that was permitted was suspended first ahead of the other dams, and the remaining work on Edenville is stopped until at least April 2025.

**The permitting at Edenville has NO IMPACT on Secord, Smallwood, or Sanford.** All three of these dams are fully permitted for construction by EGLE and the other required regulators. It is the HCA appeal and lawsuits that are impacting construction on all four dams.

### **Facebook claims the denial of the loan by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) impacted construction at Secord / Smallwood.**

As this is a new federal loan program with FLTF led to believe they would qualify, we are disappointed in the final decision by the USACE. <https://www.four-lakes-taskforce-mi.com/updates/us-army-corps-denies-four-lakes-restoration-project-low-interest-loan-request>

We shared this over one year ago → “The USACE Loan program has stringent requirements to qualify. **As stand-alone projects, both Secord and Smallwood would not qualify for the USACE loan program.** The projects need to utilize all US materials (no foreign made steel for instance) and meet the requirements of the Davis-Bacon Act direction to the US Department of Labor to determine locally prevailing wage rates.”

**This is the reason FLTF indicated more than one year ago the need to issue municipal bonds to fund the completion of Secord / Smallwood.** FLTF indicated late last year municipal bonds required in June 2024 timing to fund completion of Secord / Smallwood. The USACE decision has no bearing on the ability of FLTF to secure funding via municipal bonds.

The permitting challenges with Wixom have **NO IMPACT** on the construction schedule / permitting at Secord, Smallwood, and Sanford nor the ability of FLTF to issue municipal bonds to fund the completion of construction.

In closing, while people are entitled to their opinions, presenting false information is disingenuous at best as there is enough uncertainty regarding the completion of the 4 dams. We continue our commitment to provide updated, accurate information to the Secord Lake community. < END >