



April, 29<sup>th</sup> 2021

Patrick Shehan  
Special Projects Ranger  
Story County Conservation  
56461 180<sup>th</sup> St.  
Ames, IA 50010

Dear Mr. Shehan,

This letter is written to offer our full support to the Story County Conservation Board for their efforts in restoring McFarland Park Lake. As a Fisheries Biologist for the Iowa DNR, I see significant value in improving this particular pond. The pond and park provide a great “escape” from the City for local residents and students at Iowa State University. This pond has the potential to provide improved shoreline angling, outdoor education opportunities, water quality, and reservoir fish habitat.

The Iowa DNR Fisheries Bureau and Story County Conservation have a great working relationship, and we look forward to our continued partnership on the proposed project. Story County Conservation was an excellent partner on the Hickory Grove Lake restoration project, which was completed in 2020. Story County Conservation staff understand the various components that are necessary for a successful restoration.

The Iowa DNR Fisheries Bureau recently finished collecting field data that will be used to create an updated bathymetric map of McFarland Pond. This map will be used to quantify sediment volume for removal estimates. Iowa DNR Fisheries will assist SCC as they review and score proposals submitted by consulting firms. Furthermore, the Iowa DNR Fisheries Bureau will continue to provide technical guidance and assistance throughout the planning and implementation process. The Iowa DNR will also restock the lake with several species of fish, and provide post-renovation sampling to confirm survival and adequate growth of stocked fish.

We ask that you give your full financial support for the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ben Dodd'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ben Dodd  
Iowa DNR Fisheries Bureau