West Battle Lake Lakeshore Association

Date: September 6, 2016

From: Jerry Horgen, WBLLA

Re: Zebra Mussels in West Battle Lake

The intent of this memo is to update you on the recent findings of zebra mussels in West Battle Lake. Please note the attachment from the DNR on their findings.

The executive board of West Battle Lake Lakeshore Association has met on the 3rd of September at 8 a.m. in the LACC to hear from Barry Stratton, DNR representative on the findings of zebra mussels in West Battle. Your “Executive Board” will work with the DNR to resolve the issue as best we can. You will receive updates in regards to any important news we receive on our website.

I spoke with Moriya Rufer (biologist) from RMB Labs and she indicates the following: “If the zebra mussels are found in one isolated spot, treatment may be possible. If they are wide spread in the lake, then treatment would likely not be effective. Usually, it takes about two years after a new infestation until people start seeing the zebra mussels everywhere. So people may not see them in West Battle Lake until next summer or the one after.” Barry Stratton indicated that the DNR will check those same spots to determine the level of zebra mussels in the spring of 2017.

So what do we do in the meantime? We do the following:

When removing boats, docks, lifts and other water related equipment from our lake, carefully inspect everything to make sure there are no aquatic invasive species such as zebra mussels or Eurasian watermilfoil. Look at the posts, wheels, and underwater support bars of docks and lifts, as well as any parts of boats, pontoons, and rafts that may have been submerged in water for an extended period. If you suspect aquatic invasive species, please call: Mark Ranweiler (DNR) at 218-739-7576 ext 254.