

**TOWN OF LINCOLN
62 QUAKER STREET
LINCOLN, VERMONT 05443**

SELECTBOARD

802-453-2980

admin@lincolnvermont.org

April 6, 2021

Vermont Dept. of Environmental Conservation
Watershed Management Division
ATTN: Bethany Sargent
1 National Life Drive – Davis 3
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3522

Re: Reclassification of Blue Bank and Alder Brooks

Dear Ms. Sargent,

This will inform you that yesterday, April 6, 2021, the Lincoln Selectboard was contacted by Ellen Forshaw, owner of property in Ripton that borders Blue Bank Brook. Ms. Forshaw alleges that the petition put forth by the Ripton Conservation Commission for reclassification of Blue Bank and Alder Brook, was unknown to her and perhaps other affected property owners, particularly those in Lincoln, until they received the VT DEC Notice of Public Meeting to be held on March 30. Ms. Forshaw, who also owns property in Lincoln, but lives in Ohio, asserted that COVID-19 restrictions on travel prevented her from gathering evidence in Vermont to support her objection to the proposed reclassification.

On April 6, the Lincoln selectboard, at Ms. Forshaw's request moved to send this letter to DEC to suggest that the process might be paused until it is certain that all interested parties were, in fact, notified and provided full opportunity to comment and present evidence viz. the reclassification petition, particularly taking into consideration impediments that COVID restrictions may have imposed.

Our action is taken simply to convey Ms. Forshaw's concern and should not be construed as any change in the Town of Lincoln's support for the reclassification. Our letter of support, dated October 7, 2019 remains in place as part of the public record in these proceedings.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



William H. Finger, Chair
Lincoln Selectboard

Cc: Ripton Selectboard & Conservation Commission
Ellen Forshaw