

SILVER CREEK LAKES ASSOCIATION FISH COMMITTEE MINUTES 2026

The SCL Fish Committee met for our annual meeting on January 21st, 2026 @ 4:00 p.m. Members present were Dennis Cuchiara, Joe Bower, Les Anderson, Rocky Mangini, and Mark Kennedy. As there were three executive members present, the first discussion focused on the main property gate, its effectiveness and problems, the general winter snow conditions, and the roadways on the property. The gate continues to operate properly, with very few issues reported. As a reminder, the gate will close by itself after about 30 seconds. Do not attempt to close it.

The first discussion after that issue was the weed treatment used last year. Joe Bower arranged for a spraying crew and equipment to come to the property in early summer to spray the lakes and ponds. It is our general consensus that we know what to use and when to use it, but getting the assistance (people & equipment) to apply it has been difficult. All of us agreed that the treatment went great last year. Joe Bower will be working to set up applications. The entire committee members present felt that this direction has a much higher probability of success than relying on a single “professional” solution. Our usual cost to do this, prior to last year, is normally in the \$5,000 to \$6,000 range. Because of low snow falls, if this continues, earlier application may be necessary.

Next, we discussed the fishery and our stocking needs. We have generally tried to stock 2-3lb rainbows over the years, sometimes introducing additional brookies and browns when we can locate a hatchery that has them. Finding fish that we want, and availability when we want them, is certainly not getting any easier. Through our regular channels, Dennis Cuchiara has located our fish needs. We agreed to keep our rainbow stocking at last year’s levels, approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000 for our May stocking. This continues to mean fewer fish each year as prices continue to increase. Proper catch and release is essential to the survival of our fish population. It was commented on that our fish donation goal would be similar to the prior year, which was \$4,800 from members and even guests. As usual, you can rely on your Fish Committee’s donations to start this off. Lastly, we discussed the need for more fish food, which we do apply by hand in early spring and late fall, as discussed in the Cabelas report that we have used for many years. Dennis Cuchiara will assess that need.

As a final discussion, with no total agreement, it was discussed that we consider dredging the upper ponds where we have easy roadway access, all the way down to ‘Joels’ Pond, leaving material stand for the winter, hauling it of in the spring.

The meeting adjourned @ 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully,

Mark Kennedy – Fish Committee Member & President Silver Creek Lakes HOA