

**TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Date: January 6, 2011

SUBJECT: Fain Park/Lake Sedimentation Issue

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation Department

PREPARED BY: Brian Witty, Parks and Recreation Director

AGENDA LOCATION: Comments/Communications , Consent , Work/Study ,
New Business , Public Hearing , Second Reading

ATTACHMENTS: a) Aerial Maps b) Sedimentation Chart

SUMMARY BACKGROUND: Fain Park is a source of natural, historical, and recreational benefit for the community. However, it has also historically been subject to sedimentation and actions were taken by past owners when sedimentation came to a critical point. Conversations with the Arizona Game and Fish Department have made it clear that Fain Lake has again reached a critical point with respect to fish survivability and recreational use.

Fain Lake is a manmade impoundment created in 1927 for purposes of hydraulic mining. It is naturally fed by storm and mountain snow melt runoff. Unfortunately, such runoff by its nature includes a significant volume of sediments. Previous efforts to remove sedimentation include efforts undertaken by the Fains prior to park donation in 1996, and efforts in 2001 by the Town because of a single weather event. This effort was made with support from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Staff has obtained permission from the Army Corps of Engineers to excavate sediment from the lake. Staff is currently in discussions with the Arizona Department of Water Resources Division of Dam Safety to determine whether a significant increase in lake storage potential would require a new breach analysis to determine a new hazard classification for the dam. In the meantime, the Arizona Game and Fish Department will cease stocking the lake in December of 2010 and will remove all remaining fish species in January 2011.

The current Parks Department budget does not provide for sediment removal from Fain Lake, and no other agency appears to have funds to aid such a project. The pending fish removal, anticipated Spring snow melt, and uncertainty about new ADWR requirements suggest a need for a short-term park preservation plan, along with a long-term removal strategy.

OPTION ANALYSIS: For Discussion Only

ACTION OPTION: For Discussion Only

RECOMMENDATION: For Discussion Only



FISCAL ANALYSIS: None of the actions recommended for this current fiscal year anticipate significant costs. Removal costs must be identified and budgeted in a future fiscal year.

REVIEWED BY:

Management Services Director William Kauppi

Town Clerk Liane Russell

Town Attorney [Signature]

Town Manager [Signature]

COUNCIL ACTION:

Approved Denied Tabled/Deferred Assigned to _____