

October 2009

All Rural Municipalities and Resort Villages south of the NAD

Dear Sir/Madame:

We are writing to advise that the Ministry of Environment will no longer assume responsibility for permitting improvements (structures) situated on Crown foreshore (lakefront) in front of public reserves or environmental reserves administered by rural or urban municipalities. Inquiries will be directed to the municipality that administers the ER or MR, and it will be up to the responsible municipality to regulate docks, boathouses, etc. as they see fit.

However, an aquatic habitat protection permit must still be obtained through our Ministry for any work within 5 meters of the boundary of a water body or water course measured upland from the surveyed boundary of the water body or water course. The "boundary" is legally determined through plan of survey and can be further defined in general terms as a line where there is a notable change in soil type or a notable change from aquatic to terrestrial vegetation.

"Work" includes:

- altering the bed, bank or boundary of any water body or water course, or;
- removing or adding any material to the bed, bank or boundary of any water body or water course, or;
- removing vegetation from the bed, bank or boundary or any water body or water course.

We will continue to issue Crown foreshore permits in Provincial Park subdivisions that occupy Park land or public or environmental reserves held under the administrative authority of The Ministry of Environment or The Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sports. Local municipalities are best positioned to plan and regulate lake front developments in accordance with *The Planning and Development Act, 2007*.

If you have any questions about this position, please feel free to contact the MoE Lands Manager in your area:

Gil Happ, Meadow Lake - (306) 346-7551
Corinne Kulyk, Prince Albert – (306) 953-3363
Kevin Krakowski, La Ronge – (306) 425-4253
Jamie Seiferling, Nipawin – (306) 862-1791

Sincerely,

Rick Sanden

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