

Hagerty, Karen H MVR

GP 40

From: BettyHyd@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2003 8:12

To: Hagerty, Karen H

Subject: Camp Daybreak

Please read the attached letter regarding our concerns.

Tom and Betty Hyde

2020 Scales Bend Road

North Liberty, Iowa 52317

Phone 319 626-6694

Kenneth A. Hubel, M.D.
2562 Oak Circle N.E.
North Liberty, IA 52317-9376
Khubel@southslope.net

December 2, 2002

Karen Hagerty
Department of the Army
Planning, Programs and Project Management Division
Clock Tower Building - PO Box 2004
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004

Dear Ms. Hagerty,

I appreciated your returning my telephone call so swiftly this morning.

Enclosed is my letter regarding the potential leasing of the former Camp Daybreak land to the Muslim Youth Camps of America by the Corps of Engineers. My concerns are not limited to the environmental aspects of the potential lease but concern additional issues of leasing land to an exclusive religious group and the effects on land use planning in Johnson County. I would appreciate your directing these concerns to the appropriate office.

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,



Kenneth A. Hubel

2020 Scales Bend Road N.E.
North Liberty, IA 52317
January 2, 2003

Department of the Army
Rock Island District
Corps of Engineers
Clock Tower Building
P. O. Box
Rock Island, IL 61204-2004
Attn : Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division (Karen Hagerty)

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to document our serious concerns with the draft Finding Of No Significant Impact ~~for~~ the proposed lease by the **Muslim** Youth Camps of America of the former Camp Daybreak

9-1 [Specifically, we are concerned with information in Section 5.12 Terrestrial Ecology of the Environmental Assessment of Proposed Lease At Coralville Lake, Johnson County, Iowa. **This** section states that 403 trees will be removed from the site, including 103 hickory, 46 honey locust, 49 oak, and 59 elm ~~from~~ the site. According to the 1999 study, the trees to be removed included 12 oaks and 15 others larger than 16 inches DBH (diameter at breast height). **Now**, more of the 403 trees planned ~~for~~ removal would be in this large tree size.]

When we purchased our land in 1978 and built our home in 1981, we wanted to maintain the natural wooded environment that **is** distinctive to the area. We placed the house in an existing clearing and removed only dead trees. Our contractor was instructed -- **kill** a tree and you replace it. The majority of our property is untouched **and** serves **as** habitat ~~for~~ varied wildlife. Our appreciation **of** the natural environment continues to grow **as** we observe this on a daily basis.

7-7 [Sometime ago, we and other neighbors were warned by the Corps not to mow or clear brush from adjoining Corps property. The Corps then noted it was wildlife refuge and encouraged to promote wildlife habitat. Now the Corps finds no impact from permanent, mass habitat destruction -- removing trees, wildlife, and recreational use from the same area.]

We are also concerned about

- 13-2 [the lessee's responsible management of the large amount of waste water that will be produced;
- 6-17 ▪ [the lessee's purposes -- conferences, business retreats, and wedding receptions -- appear to be commercial uses rather than those fitting to this wildlife area;]
- 22-5 ▪ [increasing traffic and safety problems which Johnson County and the City of North Liberty must address.]
- 21-1

3- [How will the Corps manage this lease to insure the environmental impact is no greater than that outlined in the environmental assessment? After the lease expires, who maintains the property? Who is responsible to demolish abandoned buildings and restore the area

9-3- The removal of more than 400 trees is only one indicator of the inappropriateness of this project to the natural environment. If the Corps allows this habitat to be destroyed, it can never be restored.

2-5- [This 20-year lease is restricted for exclusive purposes, The consequences of improper environmental management are permanent for all.]

30-3- B

Elizabeth L.L. Hyde

Thomas E. Hyde
2020 Scales Bend Road N.E.
North Liberty, IA 52317
319-626-6694

cc. Congressman James Leach, Senator Charles Grassley, Senator Tom Harkin