

***Fort Meadow Commission***

**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release  
March 20, 2015

Contact:  
Lee Thomson – Chairman Ft. Meadow Commission  
508-481-0590

Priscilla Ryder Marlborough Conservation Officer  
508-460-3768

**Ft. Meadow Reservoir ice NOT SAFE.  
Spillway closing Friday March 20, 2015, lake will refill**

All Ft. Meadow Reservoir users in Hudson and Marlborough should be aware that the spillway will be closed on Friday, March 20, 2015 to begin refilling the reservoir. With the warmer weather and snow melt occurring, the ice is not safe, therefore all “on ice” activities including fishing, snowmobiling and walking on the snow covered reservoir should stop. The water level will begin to rise as snow melts and rain falls to refill the reservoir to its full capacity.

Everyone needs to be aware of the changing ice conditions during this refilling and as always use caution and check conditions. The ice around the edge of the reservoir will be thinner than in the middle as the reservoir refills and the ice floats on the water.

The reservoir drawdown in the past has been successful in reducing the shoreline spread of Eurasian Watermilfoil, the non-native weed which has been invading the reservoir. This spring the reservoir will be surveyed again to determine what additional treatment will be required to keep the invasive weeds Eurasian watermilfoil and Fanwort in check. We remind users of the reservoir that these invasive plants will grow very thick and cause problems with boating and swimming within a few years if not controlled. They are easily spread from lake to lake by small pieces that are broken off from the stem. These small pieces of the plant can cling to boats and propellers, therefore, careful cleaning of boats to limit the spread of these weeds is required.

### END ###