Honorable Governor Philip Murphy

Office of the Governor

PO Box 001

Trenton, NJ 08625

Date:

Dear Governor Murphy,

This letter’s intent is to call your attention to problems the PUBLIC is having with regards to ACCESS to Greenwood Lake NJ/NY for recreational activities. As an example, anglers have found launch ramps blocked with large equipment or chained denying access. Signs of “No Day Launching” are prevalent around the lake. Marinas who are allowing access are charging exorbitant fees ($40-50) just to launch a boat…and permitting no launching on weekends. This poses a serious problem for the public wishing to use the waterbody on weekends. Fishermen have paid license fees that are used directly in the stocking of fish in Greenwood Lake and are being denied access to the resource they paid for.

We are asking for funding for the installation of a Public Boat Launch ramp on the NJ side of Greenwood Lake. The NJ Fish and Game Council has voted unanimously in favor for a Public Launch Ramp on the lake. In addition Senator Steven Oroho and Assemblymen F. Parker Space and Harold Wirths in a letter to Shawn LaTourrette, Commissioner of the NJ DEP expressed their support: “ We strongly agree that there should be public access to all of our public lakes and hope that the DEP will use this new development as an opportunity to explore all available options to create a boat launch on Greenwood Lake”.

Recently, you signed the “Lakes Bill” S3618/A5778 which would allocate $10 million in grants with priority given to projects improving water quality and INCREASING RECREATIONAL ACCESS. Unanimously passed by the Senate and Assembly, this bill is cosponsored by Senators Joe Pennacchio, Steven Oroho, and Anthony Bucco. One question we have regarding this is how the grants will be awarded: who and what organizations are entitled to apply for the monies? We ask that this particular funding is used for it’s primary purpose as allocated in the bill.

Greenwood Lake had become a “private” waterbody due to private businesses and land ownership and yet it is stocked with fees generated from fishing license sales. This issue has made it to the front page of The Star Ledger and has garnered the support of almost 2,000 individuals on a petition for Public Boat Launches on Greenwood Lake. It is hoped that the funding can be found to finance a Public Boat Launch Ramp on the NJ side of Greenwood Lake such that all the PUBLIC can enjoy this public waterbody.

Respectully,

Name: Phone:

Address: