



HANCOCK LAKE



Volume 3, Issue 1

Spring 2011

Speaking for Lakes 2011 Wisconsin Lakes Convention April 12-14 Green Bay, WI



Breaking news from 93.3 W..A..T..R with special reports from correspondents Bob, Erin, Sandy and Laura. The 2011 Wisconsin Lakes Convention - Speaking for Lakes was held on Tuesday April 12th through Thursday April 14th 2011 at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay, WI. About 500 lake enthusiasts were on hand to see and hear how the collaboration of arts and science can speak for Wisconsin's Lakes. Bob D. Bullfrog and his colleagues G.B. Heron and Tommy Turtle were here to broadcast the "State of Wisconsin Lakes". Methods to control & even eradicate addition aquatic invasive species from our treasured lakes were discussed, according to

continued on page 2 column 1

Message from the Board

The purpose of the Association is to maintain, protect, and enhance the quality of the lake and its surroundings for the collective interests of the members.

Board of Directors:

Dick Statton, President
715-282-7147
(Term expires June 2012)

Bill Tischendorf, V. President.
715-282-5843
(Term expires June 2012)

Mike Powers, Treasurer
715-282-6949
(Term expires June 2011)

Gene Klawikowski, Secretary
715-282-5472
(Term expires June 2011)

Lou Mezei, Director
608-276-5908.
(Term expires June 2011)

Randy Fechter
715-282-7571
(Term expires June 2012)

George Beltz, Director
715-771-9011
(Term expires June 2011)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 33rd Wisconsin Lakes Convention
- 1 Message from the Board
- 2 Water-milfoil Weevil
- 3 Are We Making a Difference?
- 3 Better Budget?
- 4 President notes
- 5 Lake News Tidbits
- 6 Membership Application



Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be held on **June 11, 2011 at 9 am** at the Woodboro Town Hall at the junction of Oneida Lake Road and Old Highway K. The items on this year's agenda included Neighborhood Watch update by Oneida County Sheriff Dept., nominations for Treasurer, Secretary, and two directors, where do we go from here on the AIS issue, fishery committee update, Hancock Lake dam update, .

Lake Association Picnic

The Lake Association's summer picnic will be July 23 held at the Alpine Resort on Oneida Lake. The Association will provided the meat, buns, soda, paper plates, utensils, and everyone should bring a dish to pass.

State of the Lake:

Members of the board have been working with the town

continued on page 2 column 2

Erin W. Milfoil. Sandy Secchi's reports an impressive numbers of statewide volunteers provide valuable water quality data and amazing stewardship efforts & success stories from around the state. All this, according to Laura Lake Leader, were just a few of the sessions to help lake lovers creatively gather the tools to help 'speak for Wisconsin lakes'. For more on these and other reports see the more in depth articles elsewhere in this newsletter. ☺

Wisconsin Lales press release

Water-milfoil Weevil



Here is face only a mother or a lake enthusiast could love. Euhrychiopsis lecontei, this aquatic weevil is a water-milfoil specialist native to Wisconsin. The weevil feeds solely on water-milfoil with northern water-milfoil being its primary native food base. The weevils have also been found to have an appetite for Eurasian water-milfoil. The weevils over-winter in the duff (leaves and debris) on the shore and fly or swim back out to water-milfoil beds in spring. To better define habitat requirements for overwintering success of the milfoil weevil, a study of weevil hibernation habitat on the shorelines of two lakes in Portage County, Wisconsin suggests that higher sites nearer to shore, with more duff material, correlate positively with weevil presence. The weevil's overwintering habitat consists of natural vegetation near the water. It seems most plants will do, but weevil populations are higher where the shoreline includes more than five feet of bushes and trees creating a natural buffer zone to human development. After flying back to the water in spring, the adults feed on water-milfoil leaves and spend the majority of their lives clinging to plants in water. A female weevil lays 1-2 eggs per day on the tips of water-milfoil about 562 eggs in lifetime. The eggs are cream-colored ellipses about 0.5mm long, a pencil tip or half the size of a BB, and are difficult to see with the naked eye. Eggs hatch in 3-6 days in temperatures of 68-77F. Eggs are found in higher percentages in warmer summer temperatures. When eggs hatch into larvae, the larvae feed on the tips of EWM and work their way down the stem feeding on vascular tissues. The larvae look like little grubs. They are only 1/8 inch long and cream colored with a dark head, some may also have a dark body. Weevil larvae will eat the EWM and burrow in and out of top meter (3-feet) of the stem. Larvae will make pin holes in the stem while entering and exiting during feeding. Development of the larvae takes 8-15 days in 68-77F. Weevil feeding behavior makes the stems less buoyant and they eventually wither and collapse. Pupae cannot be seen directly because they are in the lower stem of EWM where

the stem is thicker. The stem will have a dark chamber with something inside. When held up to light, the pupa chamber may seem to contain a dark little worm. This is the pupa. Development in this stage takes 9-12 days at 68-77F. The pupa develops into the adult and the adult emerges from the pupa chamber through a "blast hole." Blast holes are much larger than the larval entrance holes. The complete life cycle of a weevil takes 23-27 days, so three generations may be produced in one summer.

The Citizen Lake Monitoring Network has created the protocols for monitoring the milfoil weevil and the association will start monitoring them this summer. By monitoring we can build a data base of weevil population in the lake and assess if they are having any impact on our EWM. As a land owner you can help the weevil out first by leaving that natural buffer along the shoreline, and second when pulling those floating weed from your shoreline let them set for a day next to the shore giving the weevils time to crawl back into the lake. ☺

Citizen Lake Monitoring Network Manual & Amy Thorstenson presentation

Message from the Board

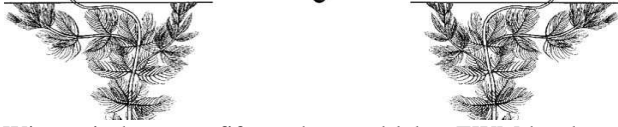
continued from page 1

board to create a "Maintenance Plan" along with a "Disaster Plan" for the dam, this process was completed and the town board accepted the plan. In April members of the Lake Association and Town board completed the spring inspection. With so many lakes at record low levels throughout the northern part of the state we are fortunate that we can maintain a some what constant level. We plan on installing a staff gage on the dam this year and will start recording lake levels to be input into a database currently being created by the USGS and DNR.

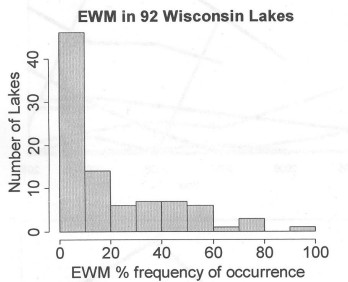
Last summer was one of the best growing seasons for aquatic plants ever recorded. The early ice out and two years of an abnormally clear water column combined to produce an abundance of both the native vegetation, some broke free and created large floating mats, and the invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) both showing up in several new colonies. Members of the board meet with Kevin Gauthier of the DNR to discuss where we go from here. At the Wisconsin Lakes Conference a couple of the presentations dealt with this topic and what works and what does not work. With the aid of the pontoon boat donated by Mickey Ahles last year several members hand pulled a large amount of the EWM, we will be doing so again this year and will welcome anyones help. The direction our lake association will take on this will be on the agenda at our annual meeting on June 11th, I would encourage you to attend we need to here from as many members as possible, if you are unable to attend the annual meeting please feel free to send any comments or concerns to the board prior to the meeting. We hope to see as many of our members there as possible. ☺

Invasive Aquatic Plant Management

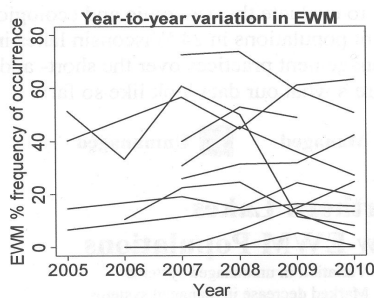
Are we making a difference?



Wisconsin has over fifteen thousand lakes EWM has been documented in 540 of them. What are EWM populations in Wisconsin typically like? Research scientists have surveyed 92 EWM lakes in order to answer that question. That they learned surprised them and challenges some commonly held EWM myths.



- 1) EWM populations are often small in scale. While there are lakes with populations of 70% to 100%, half of the lakes with EWM have populations under 10%.
- 2) Higher EWM levels tend to occur in:
 - a) Southern Lakes
 - b) Reservoirs Instead of lakes
 - c) Lakes with lower water clarity
 - d) Drainage lakes
- 3) EWM has been shown to displace natives species but in some cases it may simply be taking advantage of an altered environmental conditions.



- 4) EWM population may vary over time in unmanaged lakes.
- 5) Early response can help keep populations low.
- 6) EWM can exist at low levels in certain lakes for many years random events (floods or nutrient surges) can cause a sudden increase.
- 7) Eradication is most often an unrealistic goal.

Over the past several years, there has been increased interest (and available funding) to more aggressively manage aquatic invasive plants (EWM & CLP) in lake ecosystems to achieve long term and whole-lake control. At the same time, there are many questions about the potential consequences of this approach for native plants,

water quality, fish and wildlife, and human health, in addition to long-term financial costs. Despite the increase in resources to control EWM, we lack the basic information necessary to set reasonable management expectations. Although EWM control efforts are often designed to “restore” an ecosystem, we have yet to demonstrate how this may be accomplished and we have yet to evaluate the economic and ecological cost. Thus, the DNR is monitoring EWM and native plants in 24 lakes some being managed and some unmanaged, in three eco-regions in order to assess the impact of best management practices over the short- and long term. Looking at what the Northern lakes data shows so far. Lakes managed with large scale treatments showed a marked decrease in EWM, variations in unmanaged lake ranged anywhere from, a steady increases in frequency to a noticeable decline.

Large-Scale Treatment Research in Wisconsin

Research scientists with the DNR and US Army Corps of Engineers have been working to evaluate large to whole-lake scale early spring herbicide treatments for managing aquatic plants. Multi year monitoring of 2,4-D for EWM and Endothall for CLP are on going, and evaluations have been completed of Fluridone for EWM. A brief summary of what has been learned so far from the monitoring.

- 1) Herbicides can dissipate to untreated lake areas quite rapidly.
 - a) This rapid dissipation into untreated water means that the concentrations in the treated areas may be lower that needed.
 - b) Granular formulations have been observed to dissipate lake wide similarly.
- 2) Degradation of 2,4-D occurs slower than once believe.
 - a) Under certain conditions concentrations above 100ug/L may be present well past the guidelines of 21 days.
- 3) Effects on targeted invasives.
 - a) Seasonal control can accomplished at concentration levels below suggested label rates.
 - b) Low dose early season Endothall treatments repeated for 3-5 years can reduce CLP.
- 4) Effects on native plants
 - a) Large scale treatments can result in significant damage to native plant
 - b) Long term management of EWM is dependent on the native plant population recovering faster than the EWM.
 - c) Whole lake treatment tend to result in temporary reductions in water clarity. ©

DNR research data sheets

A BETTER BUDGET?

The Governor’s budget bill proposed a disturbing rollback of the regulations that went into effect in November of 2010 establishing standards on how much phosphorus can be allowed to run off into our lakes, rivers and wetlands. This provision would remove an innovative collaborative

continued on page 4 column 1

framework that allows municipalities, businesses and farmers to work together to create the most efficient, cost-effective way to reduce phosphorus levels, and prohibit Wisconsin from enacting standards stricter than any neighboring state. Wisconsin Lakes and others have been working hard on this issue, talking to legislators, the Governor's office and DNR, and these discussions appear to be moving in the right direction. While we are not out of the woods yet, it seems the Governor's office has been willing to listen to our issues, and has requested changes to the phosphorus provision in the original budget proposal. These changes, made through a "budget errata letter:

- Removing the reference to neighboring states,
- Keeping the current rules intact,
- Delaying the effective date to allow more time for implementation

While a delay in implementation would be better than a wholesale change in the rules, the rules already went into effect and presumably all the interested parties should be working on their implementation. We also continue to believe that non-fiscal items such as this (items that don't involve a budget appropriation) do not belong in a budget bill. YOU can help as well, by voicing your opinion to your elected officials on the issue. You may also want to drop Cathy Stepp secretary to the DNR an e-mail and ask her to standup for Wisconsin's lakes, dnrsecretary@wisconsin.gov ©

President Notes, To Hancock Lake Association Members

As spring comes to the northwoods, we once again see the sandhill cranes, ducks, geese, loons and many other birds return. Winter wants to hang on this year and the ice is still on the lake as of 4-18-11, while the waterfowl wait patiently for the ice out.

The Lake Association board have been planning for the ANNUAL MEETING and SUMMER PICNIC which are on different dates this year. Our meeting will be SATURDAY JUNE 11 AT 9 AM at the WOODBORO TOWN HALL, and our annual picnic will be SATURDAY JULY 23, 12 NOON at the ALPINE RESORT & BAR on Oneida Lake. Please plan to attend both as we have much information about weed growth and management as well as nomination of officers. There will also be information on the condition of our Lake Dam and maintenance being done. Please plan to attend and be part of the discussion and decision making process.

The picnic will offer food and drink, door prizes and raffles and the atmosphere that the Alpine Resort & Bar on Oneida Lake has to offer.

Thanks and see you at the annual meeting and picnic.
Dick Statton

OFFICER ELECTION.

The terms of office of Secretary, Treasure and two at-large directors expire this year, the board will be looking for nominations for these offices at the annual meeting. Anyone is interested in running for one of these offices and is unable to make the annual meeting may submit there name by mail.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

PLACE WOODBORO TOWN HALL

TIME 9 AM JUNE 11, 2011

Annual meeting and the nomination of officers.

HANCOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL PICNIC

PLACE ALPINE RESORT ONEIDA LAKE

TIME 12 PM JULY 23, 2011

CBCW WORKSHOPS

PLACE ONEIDA COUNTY UW-EXTENSION BUILDING

TIME 9AM-12 PM MAY 25, 2011

Contact UW-Extension, 715-365-2750

PLACE MINOCQUA MUNICIPAL BUILDING (3RD FLOOR)

TIME 9AM-12PM JUNE 15, 2011

Contact UW-Extension, 715-365-2750

BOATERS SAFETY CLASSES

PLACE MHLT ELEMENTARY 7450 TITUS DR, MINOCQUA, WI

TIME 4PM MAY 17-MAY 21, 2011

CONTACT: JOANNE TO REGISTER 715-356-5206 EXT. 2123

Comment: You will be required to provide your DNR ID number to the instructor.

Boaters Safety Course is also available online at:
<http://www.boaterexam.com/usa/wisconsin/>



Clean Boats, Clean Waters
- Help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in Wisconsin!



Wisconsin Lakes Partnership

Come on out, join your friends and neighbors at the Hancock Lake Annual Picnic, July 23rd, 12 p.m. at The Alpine Resort, Oneida Lake. Everyone is welcome.



Our Chef

The meat, buns, condiments, soda, paper plates, and utensils, will provided by the Hancock Lake Association. You are asked to bring a dish to pass, other drinks of your choice, and folding lawn chairs.

This year we will again have a few door prizes and a silent auction of some donated items. If anyone would like to donate items for the silent auction, please call Jerry Sheehan at 715-282-6665 or bring them to the picnic, and if anyone would like to volunteer to help plan the picnic, please also call Jerry Sheehan.



Checking out the silent auction

Come meet your neighbors, swap fish stories of the ones that got away and those that didn't., or other stories about the lake.

Lake News Tidbits

Pat & Bob Thostenson report a mother bear and her four cubs have been visiting them on a regular basis. Lou & Sue Mezei took some nice pictures of the cubs visiting their home one afternoon.



On April 14th Bill & Sherry Tischendorf saw the loons for the first time, Bill was only able to get the bands from one leg which were green/silver. An e-mail from Walter Piper confirms this to be last year's new male, banded yellow/red right leg, green/silver left leg. Let us hope they have better success in their nesting endeavors this year. With the spring peepers already out singing Bill & Sherry will be doing the frog and toad counts again this year, going out in the evening and listening for their calls. This year they will be surveying the bat population on the lake as well. As the white-nose-syndrome is killing millions of cave bats in the Eastern States and moving west, the state is beginning a program to monitor our bat population.

Gene & Sally Klawikowski have sent us a picture of a fifty-five pound beaver trapped near their home last year. It had been causing a lot of damage it their neighborhood.



Looks like this guy could do in a few trees and shrubs in short order.
