



MANITOWOC COUNTY LAKES ASSOCIATION

"The Manitowoc County Lakes Association will protect and enhance the quality of area lakes and watersheds for the benefit of all."

General Membership Meeting

4/27/2023 – 6:30pm

Room 300, Soil and Water Conservation Building
4319 Expo Drive, Manitowoc, WI 54245

2022-2023 Officers:

President: Jerry Corfman

Vice President: Maria Lynch

Treasurer: Marcia Salm

Secretary: Scott Umland

Press Secretary: Hanna Edelglass

Past Presidents:

Tom Ward, Gene Weyer,
John S. Durbrow

Lake Directors

Bullhead Lake
Ron Gerrits

Carstens Lake
Brian Robley

Cedar Lake
Josh Knuth
alts: Phil Knauf, Richard Jens

English Lake
vacant

Gass Lake
Richard Blashka

Harpts and Tuma Lakes
Dan Dufek

Hartlaub Lake
Gene Weyer

Horseshoe Lake
Robert Christian

Lake Michigan
John S. Durbrow

Long Lake
Chuck Kiehn

Pigeon Lake
Jerry Gospodarek

Silver Lake
Jaret Paltzer

Spring Lake
vacant

Wilke Lake
Fred Ruszkiewicz

MEETING MINUTES:

Called to order by Jerry Corfman, President

Introduction of guest speaker, Jason Breeggemann and Mel Mohr, DNR Fisheries.

Program by Jason Breeggemann and Mel Mohr, DNR Fisheries

- Jason has 20 years in fish biology at multiple locations.
- Lake surveys use fyke nets close to ice out. Mainly for walleye and northern.
- Lake surveys use electro fishing in May when water temperatures are between 60 and 70 degrees. Mainly for bass and pan fish.
- Net nights and electro fish miles are used.
- Pertinent information is collected on fish.
- Fish scales have rings and fish age can be determined by rings.
- All information is analyzed to make fish management decisions.
- Goal is to have a balance fish population. Large and small fish.
- Silver Lake is undergoing fyke nets and electro fishing in 2023.
- Rockville flowage is undergoing electro fishing in 2023.
- 8" to 10" of Rainbow trout have been stocked in Horseshoe lake.
- Experimental pan fish regulations are in effect until 2026

Cedar Lake comprehensive fish survey

- 20 net nights, 686 fish, 12 species.
- 2½ miles of electro fishing includes 1 mile dip all fish and 1½ miles dip game fish only.
- 189 fish and 8 species collected.
- Good pike population with size mostly 16" to 23".
- Pike growth rate lower than average for males and females.
- Crappie had a moderate catch rate. Average size crappie was 8.3".
- Crappie growth rate was slightly less than state average.
- Bass had a good electro fishing catch rate.
- Bass had good size structure.
- Bass growth rate was very close to state average.
- Bluegill had moderate electro fishing density range.
- Bluegill growth rate were a little lower than state average.
- Fyke net produced 6 walleye, all over 23".

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Cedar Lake comprehensive fish survey (continued from page 1)

- Last walleye stocking was in 2018.
- Possible recommended regulation change for northern pike would be to have a 25" to 35" protected slot size and harvest of 2 outside of the slot size.
- Possible recommended regulation change for pan fish would be a reduced bag limit. Possible 15 total, 5 anyone species.
- No change for bass regulations.

Long Lake comprehensive survey

- 15 net nights, 1454 fish, 15 species.
- 2½ miles of electro fishing includes 1 mile dip all fish and 1½ miles dip game fish only.
- 295 fish and 11 species caught electro fishing.
- Northern pike had high catch rate and good help.
- Northern pike average size was 26" and largest fish was 35".
- There is a good population of legal northern pike.
- Northern pike growth rate is above the state average for male and female fish.
- Walleyes had moderate catch density.
- Walleyes had good size.
- Crappies had very abundant catch rate.
- Crappies had decent size structure. With average being 7½" to 9½".
- Crappies growth rate was good but slows after 4 years.
- Bass had good catch rate and healthy population.
- Average size bass was 13.9" with the largest being 19½".
- Bass growth rate is similar to state average.
- Bluegill had moderate to high catch rate.
- Average size bluegill was 6".
- Bluegill growth rate is better than statewide average.
- No regulation recommendation changes.

Update Carsten's Lake project: Jim Kettler-LNRP, Sarah Majerus-Stantec, Aaron Volkening-Stantec, Jesse Haen-NRCS

- Per Jim Kettler, total grants for the project are approximately \$450,000.
- Per Jesse Haen, there will be a sediment scrape to increase retention time and increase watershed capacity.
- Per Jesse Haen, this will be good for habitat and for animals.
- Per Aaron Volkening, design is updated, scrapes are east of pine creek, basin west of pine creek. Diverting high water events of pine creek into basin. Outlet structure hopes to have slag filters to capture phosphorous. Still working on how slag will be held. Ordinary high water work has been established. This is good for permitting and how to catch more water.
- Project is hoping to reduce 20% of phosphorous from coming in. This could be improved if more water can be treated. Hoping slag will help improve also. This project, if successful, will hopefully help other lakes in the future.
- Six interns are being hired to collect samples on pine creek this summer. They will test for E. coli phosphorous and other items.

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General Business Meeting

- **Secretaries Report** - Reading of the last meeting minutes waived. They are on the MCLA website. Motion to accept by Gene Weyer, seconded by Dan Dufek, all approved.
- **Treasures Report**
 - o \$ 8,866.21 balance in general account
 - o \$13,281.15 balance in grant account
 - o \$ 5,000.00 was paid to LNRP-Stantec on 12/15/2022 for Carsten's Lake Project.Motion made to accept by Dan Dufek, seconded by Dave Pozorski, all approved.
- **Newsletter** – Per Dave Pozorski, the newsletter is filled. Copies will be sent and should go out shortly.
- Introduction of Dave Wetenkamp and Eric Oppermann from Soil and Water.
- Annual Meeting is set for 10/13/2023. Larrabee Sportsmen Club will sponsor. The annual banquet is to be held at Larrabee Sportsmen Club located on Harpts Lake. 6:00pm Cocktail, 7:00pm Dinner
- Dave Pozorski pointed out that there are no nominees for the county stewardship awards.
- Dave Pozorski discussed field tiling practices that are currently taking place.
- Gene Weyer would be happy to discuss tiling with Dave and others.

LAKE REPORTS:

Bullhead Lake: No Report

Carsten's Lake: No Report

Cedar Lake: Wake surfing is a concern. Kayakers got swamped and other safety issues.

English Lake: No Report

Gass Lake: No Report

Harpt Lake: No Report

Hartlaub Lake: No Report

Horseshoe Lake: No Report

Kasbaum Lake: No Report

Lake Michigan: No Report

Long Lake: They have a wake height ordinance that may impede wake surfing.

Pigeon Lake: No Report

Little Pigeon: No Report

Shoe Lake: No Report

Silver Lake: No Report

Spring Lake: No Report

Sy Lake: No Report

Tuma Lake: No Report

Twin Lake: No Report

Weyers Lake: No Report

Wilke Lake: Many weekends had overnight ice fishing camping. This was new this year.

Motion was made by Scott Umland and seconded by Phil Knauf to adjourn the meeting. All Approved.

Respectfully Submitted
Scott Umland, MCLA Secretary